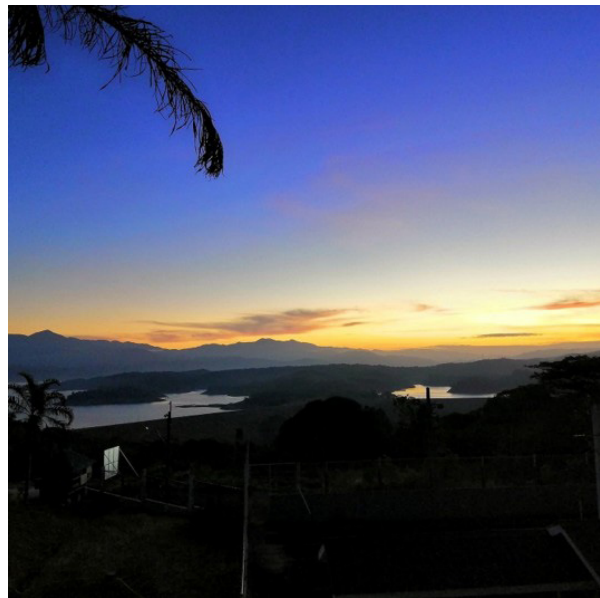


A QUIET ESCAPE ABOVE PANTABANGAN LAKE



At NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel, visitors discover a quieter side of Nueva Ecija, framed by mountains, water and the history of Pantabangan.



The scenic surroundings of NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel offer visitors a different view of Nueva Ecija beyond its familiar agricultural landscapes. Photo: Ms. Flordalie Pagente of JRMP II, via Tripadvisor.

There is a point on the road to Pantabangan when Nueva Ecija begins to look different. The familiar agricultural landscape gradually gives way to winding roads, wooded hills and glimpses of water between the mountains. The change in scenery is a reminder that there is another side of the province waiting beyond its rice fields and busy highways. Set in Barangay Fatima, Pantabangan, NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel offers visitors a place to experience that quieter landscape. Surrounded by the scenery of the Pantabangan Dam and reservoir, the hotel is suited to travelers who would rather slow down than fill every hour of a weekend with activities. Sometimes, after all, the view is enough.

A Place With a Story

The property itself has a history. Formerly known as the Pantabangan Guesthouse, it eventually returned to the management of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA). After undergoing major renovations, it was formally inaugurated as NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel in 2019.

Its location connects the hotel closely with the story of Pantabangan. The nearby dam and reservoir are not simply tourist attractions. They form part of a water-resource system that supports irrigation and power generation in the region.

Over time, the vast reservoir and surrounding moun-

tains have also created a landscape that attracts visitors looking for nature, open spaces and a break from city life. The hotel provides a base from which to experience it.

Letting the Landscape Lead

NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel offers accommodations and amenities that include a swimming pool, restaurant and spaces for families and groups. But its greatest attraction is something that cannot be added through renovation: its surroundings. Mornings can begin quietly, with the mountains and water in the distance. An afternoon can be spent swimming, resting or exploring the roads around Pantabangan. Toward evening, the changing light over the hills provides its own entertainment. For families, the resort offers room to spend time together. Groups can use the property for gatherings and events, while couples and individual travelers can simply enjoy a change of scenery. The experience can be as active or as unhurried as visitors want it to be.

Discovering Another Nueva Ecija

For travelers who know Nueva Ecija mainly for its agricultural communities, Pantabangan can come as a pleasant surprise. Mountains surround stretches of water. Roads climb through greener countryside, and viewpoints reveal scenes far removed from the flat landscapes usually associated with the province. A stay at the resort can be paired with a visit to the Pantabangan Dam area and a leisurely drive around the reservoir. The trip does not need an elaborate itinerary. Stop when the scenery catches your attention. Take photographs. Find somewhere to eat. Spend some time looking across the water before continuing down the road. Pantabangan is better appreciated without watching the clock too closely.

A Reason to Slow Down

Perhaps that is what makes NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel appealing. Its character comes from its location and the slower rhythm that naturally follows. Wake up surrounded by mountains. Have breakfast without hurrying. Spend the afternoon with family or friends. Watch the light change across the landscape as another day ends. For travelers searching for somewhere different without leaving Central Luzon, Pantabangan offers an opportunity to see a less familiar side of Nueva Ecija. Sometimes a memorable trip simply requires finding the right place to stop.

NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel | Barangay Fatima, Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija
For current room rates, reservations and visitor information, contact the resort directly or visit its official Facebook page.

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DA-ATI CALABARZON TRAINS EXTENSION WORKERS ON COCONUT PRODUCTION



SAN JUAN, Batangas — The Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) CALABARZON, in partnership with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) IV-A, is strengthening the capabilities of Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) through the fourth batch of its basic coconut production training.

The five-day “COCO 101: Basic Coconut Production Training for Agricultural Extension Workers” is being held from September 28 to October 2 at Don Leon Nature Farms in San Juan, Batangas. The training aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of AEWs on key aspects of coconut production, enabling them to provide farmers in their respective areas with appropriate information, technologies and extension services.

During the opening program, PCA Cavite/Batangas Division Chief I Alexis P. Mojica highlighted the important role of agricultural extension workers in connecting government programs and services with coconut farmers.

Mojica also emphasized the need to continuously improve the knowledge and capabilities of extension workers to help them respond more effectively to farmers' needs and developments in the coconut industry.

The training features a series of lectures, hands-on activities and knowledge-sharing sessions covering essential concepts and practices in coconut production. Participants are also given opportunities to relate their lessons to actual situations encountered in their work with farmers.

Through the program, DA-ATI CALABARZON and PCA IV-A aim to develop better-equipped extension workers who can contribute to improving coconut production and strengthening support services for coconut farmers in the region.



ATI CALABARZON

For we walk by faith, not by sight

2 Corinthians 5:7

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SSS PAYS TRIBUTE TO PENSIONERS WITH ANNUAL PENSIONERS' DAY

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CALABARZON JUVENILE COUNCIL CALLS FOR STRONGER REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR CICLS

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna — The Regional Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (RJJC) CALABARZON called for stronger coordination among local agencies to ensure that Children in Conflict with the Law (CICLs) receive timely, appropriate and child-sensitive interventions. The call was made

during the council's 3rd Quarter Monitoring and Facility Visit on September 8, covering selected police stations and local government offices in Laguna. The activity assessed the handling of CICL cases and identified concerns involving referrals, documentation, coordination and intervention. In Pakil, the monitoring team emphasized

the need for police and barangay personnel to promptly coordinate CICL cases with the appropriate social welfare office. DSWD IV-A Social Welfare Officer II August E. Perpetua also stressed the importance of complete case documentation, including medical certificates and other

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PHILHEALTH, PATULOY NA PINALALAKAS ANG YAKAP AT GAMOT

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ARE WE READY FOR A VERY STRONG EL NIÑO?

After months of floods, heavy rains and typhoons, Filipinos may soon find themselves confronting the opposite problem: too little rain. PAGASA has warned that the ongoing El Niño could develop into a very strong event before the end of 2026 and persist into the first half of 2027. Prolonged dry conditions could mean water shortages, damaged crops and greater pressure on communities already struggling with rising costs. The question is no longer whether we have been warned. We have. The question is whether the government—and the Filipino people—are prepared. El Niño is more than uncomfortable heat. Reduced rainfall can affect irrigation, agricultural production and water supplies. Farmers are particularly vulnerable when crops fail, but the consequences eventually reach consumers through reduced

food supply and potentially higher prices. Government preparations are underway, including measures aimed at protecting agriculture and managing water resources. But preparation must go beyond announcements and contingency plans. Assistance must reach farmers before crops begin to wither, while communities vulnerable to water shortages should be identified before reservoirs and wells reach critical levels. Local governments also have an important role. Water systems should be inspected, leaks repaired, alternative sources identified and conservation measures prepared. Farmers must receive timely information on planting schedules, suitable crops and available government assistance. Citizens, too, have responsibilities. Conserving water should not begin only when shortages are declared. Fixing household leaks,

avoiding unnecessary water use and storing water responsibly are simple measures that can make a difference when practiced across communities. The Philippines has experienced severe El Niño events before. We already know what prolonged drought can do to farms, water supplies and household budgets. Past experience should therefore serve as preparation, not merely as a memory of another crisis survived. Government cannot make the rain fall, but it can manage available resources wisely, protect food production and ensure that assistance reaches vulnerable communities before losses become disasters. The coming months will test whether we learned from previous droughts. El Niño is already here. This time, there should be no excuse for being caught unprepared.

- Ang Kabitenya

CALABARZON...

records needed by social workers in assessing a child's circumstances. The council likewise reminded frontline workers to use child-sensitive approaches during interviews and assessments, particularly in cases involving possible abuse or violence. In Kalayaan, discussions with the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office highlighted the role of barangays and the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children in facilitating referrals and providing community-based interven-

tions appropriate to a child's age and situation. Meanwhile, Lumban police reported ongoing initiatives such as regular patrols, coordination with barangay Violence Against Women and their Children desks, and school lectures on anti-bullying and the Safe Spaces Act. The need for suitable temporary shelters that keep children separate from adult offenders was also discussed. The monitoring team, composed of representatives from the JJWC, DSWD, Philippine Information Agency

CALABARZON and DILG IV-A, also encouraged continuing training for barangay personnel and preventive programs such as school visits, anti-bullying activities and community education. RJJWC CALABARZON stressed that an effective referral network among barangays, police, schools, social welfare offices and other agencies is essential to ensure CICLs receive appropriate services focused on their protection, rehabilitation and welfare. — PIA CALABARZON

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BACoor...

BACoor CITY, Cavite (PIA) — Touted to improve connectivity, ease traffic congestion and cut travel time from CALABARZON to Metro Manila, the City Government of Bacoor assured that proper measures will be put in place to minimize inconvenience to the public as the construction of the LRT Cavite Extension Project continues. In a September 17 meeting with the Light Rail Transit Authority and JGHM, Mayor Strike Revilla assured that authorities will ensure that areas surrounding the construction project will not be significantly affected. Revilla underscored that the city govern-

ment will carefully plan routes and will be in close coordination with authorities to minimize inconvenience to the riding public. "[While] the Niog Station is being constructed, proper measures will be put in place to ensure traffic flow in Niog and neighboring areas will not be significantly affected. Careful planning and close coordination will be observed to minimize inconvenience to residents and commuters." "The City Government remains fully committed to delivering these vital infrastructure projects." Once completed, the Niog Station Intermodal Facility and the LRT Line South Extension

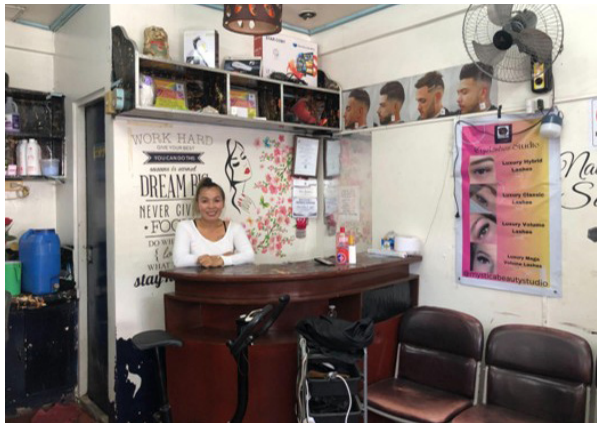
will improve connectivity, ease traffic congestion, and provide modern, efficient public transportation for thousands of Bacooreños. Expected to be completed between 2028 to 2031, the LRT Line South Extension Project will significantly improve connectivity, ease traffic congestion and provide modern, efficient public transportation. Known as a "bedroom" city along with its neighbor Cavite City, Bacoor is home to thousands of commuters and employees who commute to Metro Manila and other neighboring areas daily. **(PB-PIA CALABARZON, with reports from City Government of Bacoor)**

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ANCIENT HEALING
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DRIVEN BY DEDICATION, POWERED BY POSITIVITY



Maria Teresa Layron, an entrepreneur and proud CARD client from Malolos, Bulacan, proved that no matter how hard life's challenges may be, success is attainable through dedication and optimism.

Maria Teresa Layron of Malolos, Bulacan, has built a successful beauty salon from the ground up, embodying the power of hardwork, resilience, and a positive mindset. Her journey inspires aspiring entrepreneurs and anyone chasing their dreams, no matter the obstacles life throws their way. A Humble Start Driven by passion, Maria's business journey began in her home in Cofradia, Malolos, Bulacan, where she initially ran a simple parlor and often offered home beauty services. Determined to hone her skills, Maria enrolled in a TESDA-accredited beauty cosmetology course, allowing her to expand her services by adding manicure and pedicure services. In 2006, Maria became one of the pioneering clients

of CARD, Inc. (A Microfinance NGO) where she started with small loans ranging from PHP 1,500 to PHP 4,000. As Maria's financial needs grew, she was transferred to CARD MRI Rizal Bank, Inc., a microfinance-oriented rural bank, where her loans gradually

reached up to PHP 200,000. Her loans played a crucial role in helping her meet family needs, grow her business, and improve her home. "As a client, I make sure my loans are used efficiently, especially in running my business," Maria says. Overcoming Challenges Running a business is never without its challenges. Maria acknowledges the common struggles that business owners face, like the so-called "ghost month," when sales and customers tend to dip. Despite these struggles, she has always maintained a positive outlook. The stability of her family life and the success of her business eventually allowed Maria to focus on her salon full-time. "Despite life's challenges, I stood tall and remained strong, making sure to provide for my family," she reflects. Her resilience and determination in the face of adversity have allowed her to navigate tough times, always finding new ways to keep her business growing. "Resilience and dedication are important, but it is just as essential to understand the business you are into. This helps you manage effectively, even if your staff isn't around," Maria shares. A Partnership with CARD Maria's partnership with CARD MRI Rizal Bank

has been about much more than just financial assistance—it has been a steady source of support throughout her journey. "With CARD RBI, my journey is more than just financial help—it's the source of inspiration and motivation to keep going, to continue dreaming of a better life, and to successfully manage my business," she says. The bank has provided her with essential financial tools and guidance, empowering her to manage and grow her business. But perhaps most importantly, it has been a source of unwavering support, helping her stay focused on her long-term goals. Words of Wisdom for Aspiring Entrepreneurs Maria's journey is a powerful reminder that starting a business requires more than capital—it takes dedication, resilience, and a strong will to succeed. "Business isn't always about profit. There will be ups and downs, but a positive mindset and determination can lead you to success," she said. Through her salon business, Mystica Beauty Studio and Barbershop, Maria created a livelihood and built a stable foundation for her family. The salon now caters to both men and women, offering a wide range of services, including haircuts, coloring, manicures, pedicures, hair treatments, and more. Maria's story is one of persistence and unwavering belief that anything is possible, no matter the obstacles. Her journey proves that with dedication, resilience, and a positive mindset, success is always within reach.



BANDA KAWAYAN PILIPINAS RETURNS TO BALI FOR INTERNATIONAL RHYTHM COMPETITION



MANILA, Philippines — Banda Kawayan Pilipinas (BKP) returns to Bali, Indonesia, to represent the Philippines at the Bali International Rhythm Competition (BIRC) 2026, taking place from September 27 to October 1, 2026, in Nusa Dua, Bali.

With the theme "Harmony in Diversity as a World Cultural Heritage," BIRC brings together performing groups from different countries in a celebration of music, rhythm, dance, and cultural expression. Beyond competition, the gathering promotes cultural exchange, friendship, and meaningful connections among artists from different traditions.

Banda Kawayan Pilipinas is the Philippine participating group in this year's international gathering, joining ensembles from Poland, Italy, and India,

alongside performing groups from Indonesia. Established in 1973, BKP is known for performing Filipino and international music using instruments handcrafted primarily from bamboo. Through generations of musicians, the ensemble has continued to develop and promote the distinctive sound of Filipino bamboo music on stages in the Philippines and abroad.



BKP's participation in BIRC 2026 continues its commitment to bringing Philippine culture to international audiences while building friendships through music. More than five decades since its beginnings, the ensemble continues to demonstrate the versatility of bamboo instruments and the richness of Filipino musical artistry.

As Banda Kawayan Pilipinas returns to Bali, it carries with it a musical tradition shaped across generations and a distinctly Filipino sound—once again bringing the sound of Philippine bamboo to the international stage.



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PR_DTI RIZAL HIGHLIGHTS MSME DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, AND MARKET ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES AT HANDOG NG PANGULO 2026



ANTIPOLO CITY, Rizal – The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Rizal Provincial Office participated in the Handog ng Pangulo 2026 held at the Ynares Event Center and Sumulong Park in Antipolo City last September 14, 2026, bringing government programs and services closer to the public while providing local entrepreneurs with valuable market and business development opportunities.

The event gathered thousands of Rizaleños and featured the participation of various National Government Agencies (NGAs), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), local government units, and private sector partners. Attendees were able to access a wide range of services, including medical and dental missions, job hiring and recruitment assistance, livelihood and skills development opportunities, social services, and information booths.



A key highlight of DTI Rizal's participation was the recognition of beneficiaries of the Kapatid Mentor ME-Money Market Encounter (KMME-MME) Program and One Town, One Product (OTOP) Philippines 2026. Certificates of Completion were awarded to entrepreneurs who successfully completed the programs, recognizing their commitment to enhancing their entrepreneurial competencies and strengthening their enterprises.



To further support aspiring and existing entrepreneurs, DTI Rizal established business consultancy booths that provided free business advisory services, entrepreneurship guidance, information on DTI programs, Business Name Registration assistance, and consultations on enterprise development opportunities. These services enabled participants to access practical assistance for starting, improving, or expanding their businesses.

Conducted alongside the Handog ng Pangulo celebration was the Kadiwa ng Pangulo, organized by the Department of Agriculture (DA) in partnership with DTI Rizal, the Local Government Unit of Antipolo City, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). The initiative provided local micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with a platform to showcase their products and connect with a wider customer base.



A total of 18 DTI-assisted MSMEs participated in the Kadiwa ng Pangulo activity and generated P40,459 in sales from their locally produced goods and products. Through the initiative, entrepreneurs gained additional market opportunities and increased product visibility, while community members benefited from access to quality and affordable locally made products.

The event was attended by distinguished government officials, including Nina Ynares, Governor of Rizal; Larry Gadon, Presidential Adviser for Poverty Alleviation; Philip Conrad "Dok Bong" Marrero Acop, Representative of Antipolo's Second District; members of the Rizal Provincial Board; local chief executives; and representatives from various government agencies. Their presence underscored the government's commitment to delivering meaningful programs and services directly to communities.

Through its participation in Handog ng Pangulo 2026 and Kadiwa ng Pangulo, DTI Rizal reaffirmed its commitment to fostering entrepreneurship, expanding market access opportunities for MSMEs, and making government services more accessible to the public. The successful conduct of the activities reflects the continuing collaboration among government agencies and local partners in building resilient, innovative, and globally competitive Rizaleño entrepreneurs.



BAKOOD FESTIVAL 2026 HIGHLIGHTS PHILIPPINE MARCHING BAND HERITAGE



BACOR CITY, Cavite — Some of the country's top marching bands and color guard groups showcased their skills during the Drum Line Battle and Color Guard Battle, among the main attractions of the annual Bakood Festival held in Bacoor City on September 25.

The competitions brought together marching bands and performers from different parts of Cavite, Tagkawayan, Antipolo City, Parañaque City and Manila, highlighting the talent, precision and artistry associated with the country's marching band tradition.

More than commemorating the founding of Bacoor, the Bakood Festival celebrates the city's rich musical heritage while promoting Filipino arts and culture through various activities and performances.

In an interview with PIA CALABARZON, City Information and Community Relations Department head Kristine Evangelista said the festival also attracts visitors from different parts of the country, contributing to the growth of Bacoor's local tourism and economy.

The participation of judges from different parts of the world also provides an opportunity to introduce Bacoor City and its marching band tradition to a wider audience.

Through the annual festival, the city aims to preserve its musical and cultural heritage while attracting greater interest from tourists, investors and musicians from the Philippines and abroad. — PIA CALABARZON



SSS...

Social Security System (SSS) Executive Vice President for Branch Operations Sector Antonio S. Argabioso (2nd from left) explains the rationale behind the SSS' conduct of Pensioners' Day activities at various venues nationwide during the Pensioners' Day at NCR North Division held at the SSS Main Office in Quezon City on 11 September 2026. Also in the photo are Social Security Commissioner Roy G. Padiernos (3rd from left), SSS Senior Vice President for NCR Operations Group Benjamin M. Dolindo Jr. (right), and SSS Senior Vice President for Fund Management Group Rentony C. Gibe (left).

QUEZON CITY, 18 September 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) honored nearly 4,000 pensioners at its annual Pensioners' Day celebration on 11 September 2026, held in 19 selected venues nationwide as part of the pension fund's 69th anniversary. SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said the event recognizes pensioners' years of hard work and contributions to the Philippine economy.

"We institutionalized this activity as an expression of gratitude to them for their significant contribution to our society," de Claro said, describing pensioners as pillars of nation-building. The celebration carried the anniversary theme, "Bawat Isa Protektado, Bawat Bukas Sigurado", which underscores the SSS' commitment to protecting workers, members and pensioners against life's uncertainties while helping secure their families' future. Pensioners urged to avail of Pension Loan Program

De Claro encouraged retiree and surviving spouse pensioners to avail of the Pension Loan Program (PLP) to help meet their immediate financial needs. The SSS launched the PLP in September 2018 to provide retiree pensioners with access to low-interest loans without requiring ATM cards as collateral. In September 2025, the program

was expanded to include surviving spouse pensioners, giving them access to safe and affordable credit. "The SSS pension loan is a secured cash loan with a transparent interest rate of 10% per year, computed based on a diminishing principal balance," de Claro said. Qualified retiree pensioners may borrow an amount equivalent to three, six, nine, or 12 times their Aggregate Monthly Pension, subject to a maximum loan amount of P300,000. Available repayment terms are six, 12, and 24 months.

"For qualified surviving spouse pensioners, the loan amount is equivalent to 50% of their Aggregate Monthly Pension multiplied by three, six, nine, or 12 months, subject to a maximum of P150,000. Available loan terms are six and 12 months," he added.

The Aggregate Monthly Pension consists of the basic monthly pension and the P1,000 additional benefit. A dependent's pension is excluded from the computation.

He said the SSS ensures that pensioner-borrowers retain a net take-home pension of at least 40% of their Aggregate Monthly Pension once monthly loan amortizations begin.

Eligibility and application Retiree pensioners applying for the loan must be registered on the SSS website with updated contact information and an enrolled disbursement account. They must be 85 years old or younger at the end of the loan term, have no deductions from their monthly pension and have no existing advance pension under the SSS Calamity Loan Package.

They must also have been receiving an active monthly pension for at least one month and must not have been disqualified because of fraud committed against the SSS.

Surviving spouse pensioners must have an SS number and be registered on the SSS website with updated contact information and an enrolled disbursement account. Those who are not

SSS members must secure an SS number as a surviving spouse pensioner before registering online.

They must be at least 18 years old when applying and no older than 85 at the end of the loan term. They must have no pension deductions, no existing advance pension under the SSS Calamity Loan Package, and must have been receiving an active monthly pension for at least one month. Surviving spouse pensioners must also be the sole payee of the death benefit and must not have been disqualified because of fraud committed against the SSS. De Claro said that PLP applications can be filed either over-the-counter through the E-Centers of any SSS branch/service office, through E-Partners or online using the My.SSS account.

"Pension loan proceeds will be credited to the borrower's existing pensioner disbursement account or to another account enrolled through the Disbursement Account Enrollment Module," he added. #

CAYETANO...

Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano on Friday called on the Supreme Court (SC) to immediately resolve the issue concerning the number of votes required to convict an impeached official, saying the country is already facing several other pressing problems. "At this time, there's an economic difficulty. There are still continuing questions about flood control. It's a disservice to our nation if there are uncertainties," Cayetano said in an interview on September 25, 2026. This followed the filing of two petitions questioning or seeking clarification on the required number of votes after the Senate lowered the two-thirds threshold from a fixed 16 votes to 14. Under the new computation, only senators who are legally and actually able to participate at the time of

judgment are counted. According to Cayetano, it would be better for the issue to be resolved immediately because it could affect not only the current impeachment proceedings but also other functions of the Senate. "The earlier that the Supreme Court decides, the better, because those numbers are applicable to many things," he said. Among the matters that could potentially be affected, Cayetano said, are the Senate quorum, ratification of treaties, amendments to the Constitution, and disciplinary action against senators. Cayetano also emphasized that the issue is particularly sensitive because both legal and political considerations are involved in impeachment proceedings. Nevertheless, he said senators remain confident in the legal system, although it re-

mains unclear when the Supreme Court will act on the matter. "We're confident in our legal system. But no one really knows the timing or the pace," he said. Meanwhile, Cayetano clarified that the Minority Bloc remains intact despite differing positions among its members on certain issues concerning the impeachment proceedings. According to the senator, the seven minority senators continue to work together on legislation and other Senate matters. However, when voting as members of the impeachment court, each senator will make an independent decision. "The seven of us in the Minority are working together, and there is no animosity. There is no minority or majority when it comes to the impeachment court," Cayetano said.

CAVITE COMMEMORATES 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 13 MARTYRS



CAVITE CITY, Cavite — Cavite commemorated the 130th anniversary of the execution of the Thirteen Martyrs of Cavite on September 12, honoring their sacrifice and contribution to the country's struggle for freedom. The 13 Caviteños were executed by Spanish colonial authorities on September 12, 1896, after being accused of involvement in the Philippine Revolution. Their deaths became an enduring symbol of patriotism and resistance in the province. The commemoration highlighted the values represented by the martyrs, including courage, integrity, unity and service to the country. Their story continues to remind succeeding generations that patriotism is demonstrated not only through words but also through

actions and commitment to the common good. As the country faces various challenges and divisions, the occasion also served as a reminder of the importance of standing for truth, doing what is right and placing the welfare of the nation above personal interests. While Filipinos today may not be called upon to make the same sacrifice as the 13 Martyrs, their legacy can be honored through responsible citizenship and by dedicating time, talent and service to communities and the country. The commemoration emphasized that the freedom secured through the sacrifices of the nation's heroes also carries the responsibility of protecting and using that freedom wisely for future generations.



CAVITE ADVANCES TO FINAL JUDGING OF 2026 MOST BUSINESS-FRIENDLY LGU AWARDS



TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite — The Provincial Government of Cavite has advanced to the final judging of the 2026 Most Business-Friendly Local Government Unit (LGU) Awards – Province Level, organized by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI). Cavite is among the Top 5 finalists in the provincial category, together with Camarines Sur, Davao del Norte, Iloilo and Tarlac. The final judging was held on September 23 at the PCCI Office in McKinley, Taguig City. The Office of the Provincial Cooperatives Development Officer (OPCDO), serving as the province’s MBF LGU Team Leader, coordinated Cavite’s participation and worked with other provincial offices in preparing the requirements and presentation. During the final judging, the province presented its programs and initiatives supporting local enterprises and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), improving public services and promoting local economic development. Cavite submitted an audio-visual presentation and participated in an interview before the panel of judges. The delegation was led by Cavite Governor Francisco Gabriel D. Remulla and Provincial Board Member Aidel Paul G. Belamide, together with officials and representatives from the OPCDO, Office of the Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator, Office of the Provincial Information Officer and Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager. The PCCI’s Most Business-Friendly LGU Awards recognize local governments for initiatives in good governance, ease of doing business and economic development. Cavite’s inclusion among the finalists highlights the provincial government’s continuing efforts to strengthen services, support businesses and MSMEs, and create an environment conducive to sustainable economic growth.

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PHILHEALTH, PATULOY NA PINALALAKAS ANG YAKAP AT GAMOT

Mas pinalalawak ng PhilHealth Regional Office IV-A (PRO IV-A) ang paghahatid ng serbisyong pangkalusugan sa mga komunidad sa pamamagitan ng patuloy na pagpapalakas ng Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP) at Guaranteed and Accessible Medications for Outpatient Treatment (GAMOT).

Sa ilalim ng PhilHealth YAKAP, maaaring makatanggap ang mga miyembro at kanilang dependents ng primary care consultation at assessment mula sa Primary Care Doctor ng kanilang napiling YAKAP Clinic. Kasama rin sa package ang iba

‘t ibang laboratory at screening services na mahalaga sa maagang pagtukoy at pagiwas sa mga sakit. Kabilang dito ang 13 basic outpatient laboratory tests, gaya ng Complete Blood Count (CBC), lipid profile, fasting blood sugar, HbA1c, creatinine, chest X-ray, ECG, urinalysis at iba pa.

Mayroon ding anim na anti-cancer screening tests para sa maagang pagtuklas ng ilang uri ng cancer. Sa kasalukuyan, may 53 accredited facilities na nagbibigay ng mga serbisyong ito, kabilang ang breast ultrasound, mammography, alphafetoprotein, liver ultrasound, colonoscopy, at low-dose chest CT scan, depende sa pangangailangan at assessment ng pasyente.

Samantala, sa ilalim ng GAMOT, maaaring makatanggap ang bawat kwalipikadong miyembro ng hanggang P20,000 halaga ng essential medicines kada taon. Saklaw nito ang 54 na klase ng mahahalagang gamot para sa iba’t ibang kondisyon, kabilang ang hypertension at cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, asthma at COPD, dyslipidemia, at iba pa. Ang 21 essential medicines ay maaaring makuha sa napiling YAKAP Clinic, habang ang mga gamot na may GAMOT coverage ay maaaring i-dispense sa mga accredited GAMOT Providers.

Patuloy din sa pagpapalawak ng network ng mga pasilidad upang mas maraming residente sa Cavite, Laguna, at Quezon ang magkaroon ng mas madaling access sa mga benepisyong ito. Sa kasalukuyan, mayroon nang 285 YAKAP-ready facilities na nakatugon sa itinakdang readiness requirements ng PhilHealth.

Samantala, may 286 PhilHealth GAMOT Providers ang rehiyon na handang mag-dispense ng covered medicines sa mga miyembro.

I-scan ang QR code para matiyak ang availability ng mga kailangang gamot sa malapit na GAMOT pharmacy sa inyong lugar.

Para sa karagdagang impormasyon at updated na listahan ng YAKAP at GAMOT Providers, maaaring bisitahin ang opisyal na website ng PhilHealth sa www.philhealth.gov.ph o makipagugnayan sa pinakamalapit na PhilHealth Local Health Insurance Office. ###(JNBC)



PhilHealth
YAKAP
PARA MALAYO SA SAKIT

GAMOT List

Anti-microbials (gamot sa impeksyon)

- Albendazole
- Amoxicillin
- Azithromycin
- Cefixime
- Cefuroxime
- Ciprofloxacin*
- Clarithromycin*
- Clindamycin
- Clotrimazole
- Cloxacillin
- Co-amoxiclav*
- Co-trimoxazole* (Sulfamethoxazole+ Trimethoprim)
- Doxycycline
- Erythromycin
- Fluconazole
- Ketoconazole
- Mebendazole
- Metronidazole
- Nitrofurantoin*
- Oseltamivir
- Tobramycin

Anti-thrombotics (gamot laban sa pamumuo ng dugo)

- Clopidogrel
- Aspirin

Anti-asthma and COPD (gamot sa hika at sa may Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)

- Budesonide + Formoterol
- Fluticasone + Salmeterol*
- Ipratropium
- Montelukast
- Prednisone*
- Salbutamol*
- Ipratropium + Salbutamol
- Tiotropium

Supportive/Other Therapy

- Aluminum Hydroxide + Magnesium Hydroxide
- Butamirate
- Celecoxib
- Cetirizine
- Colchicine
- Chlorphenamine*
- Diphenhydramine
- Ferrous Salt (Iron Preparations)
- Folic acid + Iron Ferrous
- Ibuprofen
- Lagundi (Vitex Negundo)
- Loratadine
- Mefenamic Acid
- Naproxen
- Omeprazole
- Oral Rehydration Salts*
- Paracetamol*
- Zinc

Anti-diabetics (gamot sa diabetes)

- Dapagliflozin
- Gliclazide*
- Metformin*

Anti-dyslipidemia (gamot sa mataas ang kolesterol)

- Atorvastatin
- Fenofibrate
- Rosuvastatin
- Simvastatin*

Anti-hypertensive and Cardiology (gamot sa altagpresyon at sa puso)

- Amlodipine*
- Atenolol
- Captopril
- Clonidine
- Diltiazem
- Enalapril*
- Enalapril + Hydrochlorothiazide
- Hydrochlorothiazide*
- Isosorbide Dinitrate
- Isosorbide Mononitrate
- Losartan*
- Methyldopa
- Metoprolol*
- Tamsulosin
- Telmisartan
- Telmisartan + Hydrochlorothiazide
- Valsartan
- Valsartan + Hydrochlorothiazide

Nervous System

- Gabapentin

*Maaaring pang makuha sa YAKAP Clinic sa taong 2026

Para sa lokasyon ng mga accredited YAKAP Clinics at GAMOT, at listahan ng mga available medicines sa GAMOT Providers, i-scan lang ang QR Code.



CALABARZON...

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — Aiming to strengthen emergency response and enhance the safety of learners and school personnel, the Philippine National Police Regional Office Calabarzon has rolled out a new school alert system that enables schools to quickly notify the nearest police personnel during emergencies and incidents through a simple swipe or tap on a mobile application. During the initial installation of the application at Jose Rizal Memorial School in Calamba City, Laguna, on Monday, September 21, PRO Calabarzon Regional Director Police Brigadier General Dominic Baccay emphasized the importance of having a fast and reliable alert system to ensure the immediate deployment of police personnel to schools in need, particularly during incidents involving crime, disasters, violence, and other emergencies. The mobile application, dubbed as the B.E.S.T. School Alert and Rapid Response System, which stands for Build Partner-

ship, Early Detection, Swift Alert, and Tactical Response, was developed to promptly address safety and security concerns in schools and help protect learners, teachers, and the wider school community. “Nais nating maging mas handa, mabilis, at maayos ang ating pagtugon kapag may seryosong banta o emergency sa loob o paligid ng paaralan. Ngunit nais kong linawin: hindi ito sistema para tayo ay matakot. Ito ay sistema para tayo ay maging handa at kumilos ng mabilis,” Baccay said. As part of the program, PRO Calabarzon demonstrated the B.E.S.T. alert system, highlighting how the application can swiftly transmit emergency alerts to the nearest police personnel and station with just a single swipe on their phones, enabling them to promptly respond to incidents and situations within the school premises and its surrounding areas. Baccay said, “Sa ating mga estudyante, huwag kayong mangamba sa presensya ng mga pulis. Narito kami hindi lamang kapag may krimen, kundi upang tumulong, makinig, guma-

bay, at kayo ay protektahan. Kapag may emergency, manatiling kalmado, sundin ang inyong mga guro, at humingi agad ng tulog.” To ensure that alerts are generated only by authorized and reliable sources, the application is accessible to teachers, school principals, security personnel, and other designated school staff. The initiative will be expanded beyond Jose Rizal Memorial School, with the B.E.S.T. school alert system set to be installed in all schools across the region. The wider rollout aims to strengthen schools’ capacity to promptly report incidents, enhance coordination with police authorities, and facilitate a more coordinated and rapid response to emergencies, including active shooting, illegal possession of firearms, armed riot, and other safety concerns. The police director then emphasized that maintaining a safe and secure learning environment is not the sole responsibility of law enforcement authorities but a shared re-

sponsibility among local government units, barangay officials, school authorities, parents, and the community.

He stressed that their collective vigilance, cooperation, and timely action are essential in protecting learners and ensuring that schools remain safe and conducive spaces for learning and development. “Hindi kayo nag-iisa. Kasama ninyo ang paaralan, ang barangay, ang LGU, ang komunidad, at ang Philippine National Police sapagkat ang kaligtasan ng ating mga anak ay responsibilidad nating lahat. Kailangan nating makinig, mag-report, at kumilos bilang isang komunidad.” Meanwhile, the Unified 911 emergency hotline remains a key channel for immediate assistance, while the B.E.S.T. alert system provides schools with a direct link to police authorities, enabling verified alerts to reach the nearest police personnel for faster response. (COP/PIA CALABARZON)

IMUS LGU OFFERS FREE ANTI-RABIES VACCINATION, PET SERVICES ON WORLD RABIES DAY



IMUSCITY, Cavite — The City Government of Imus offered free anti-rabies vaccination, deworming and microchipping services for pets on September 28 as part of the observance of World Rabies Day 2026.

Through the Office of the City Veterinarian, the activity was conducted at Golden City MRS Phase 1 in Barangay Anabu 2-F from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with services made available to Imus residents and their pets. The initiative aimed to protect the health of companion animals while helping prevent the transmission of rabies within the community. Anti-rabies vaccination remains an important preventive measure against the disease, while microchipping can assist in the proper identification of registered pets.



The city government encouraged responsible pet owners to take advantage of the free veterinary services and ensure that their dogs and cats receive appropriate preventive care. The activity was offered on a limited-slot basis as part of the city’s continuing efforts to promote responsible pet ownership and strengthen rabies prevention in Imus communities.

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NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF ROMEO B. MIRANDA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the intestate estate of the late **ROMEO B. MIRANDA**, who died on October 3, 2025 at San Juan de Dios Educational Foundation, Inc. Hospital, Pasay City, has been the subject of an EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE executed by and among his lawful heirs, covering the following properties: A HOUSE AND LOT situated at Brgy. Bayanan, Bacoar City, Cavite, covered by **Transfer Certificate of Title (TCT) No. T-1234364**, containing an area of FORTY-EIGHT (48) SQUARE METERS; and One (1) **HYUNDAI EON 0.8 GLX 5MT** motor vehicle, bearing Plate No. DAC9395, Engine No. G3HAHMS39241, Chassis No. MALA251AAJM581580, and MV File No. 040100000656650. Under the said settlement, the motor vehicle was adjudicated to **MARY ANNE RIANO MATERA MIRANDA**, while the estate pertaining to the house and lot shall be shared equally among the lawful heirs, namely **MARY ANNE RIANO MATERA MIRANDA, ANDREW MATTHEW MATERA MIRANDA, CHARLES JOHN MATERA MIRANDA, and ISAIAH FRANCIS MATERA MIRANDA**, pursuant to Section 1, Rule 74 of the Rules of Court, as evidenced by an Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate, executed on May 13, 2026, before Notary Public Atty. **Ma. Sigrid R. Pinlac**, PTR No. 2933715, under Doc. No. 289; Page No. 59; Book No. III; Series of 2026.

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NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH ABSOLUTE SALE ZENAIDA M. MADLANGBAYAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the estate of the late **ZENAIDA M. MADLANGBAYAN**, who died single and intestate on January 6, 2023, consisting of a parcel of land with improvements situated at 264 Brgy. Daang Amaya 3, Tanza, Cavite, containing an area of SIXTY (60) SQUARE METERS, has been extrajudicially settled by her sole heirs, namely: **ANGIELYN M. PULIDO, ANGELO M. PULIDO, JEFFSON M. PULIDO, and JELLYFLOR M. PULIDO**, with DEED OF ABSOLUTE SALE in favor of **ANGELO M. PULIDO**, married to **MARICEL D. PULIDO**, for the consideration of P150,000.00, pursuant to Section 1, Rule 74 of the Rules of Court, as evidenced by an Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate with Deed of Absolute Sale, executed on September 25, 2026 Atty. **Rizaldy M. Ferrer**, PTR No. 9832692 under Doc. No. 491; Page No. 99; Book No. LXII; Series of 2026.

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