

ENCHANTED KINGDOM WELCOMES CHRISTMAS WITH ITS ENCHANTING SEASON OF FAMILY CAMPAIGN

Enchanted Kingdom, the first and only world-class theme park in the Philippines, invites Filipinos to experience even more magic during the holidays with the launch of its Enchanting Season of Family campaign this December.



As part of EK's 30th anniversary, this year's campaign highlights the family as the heart of every Filipino's Christmas tradition. Apart from its over 30 rides and attractions, the month-long festivities offer exciting holiday experiences, including new seasonal shows, festive displays, and breathtaking spectacles that will allow countless Filipino families to create even more forever enchanting memories together.

The magical pre-Christmas event on November 29 set the festive mood through the carol performances by invited guests and choir. This magical celebration was also graced by the presence of Santa Rosa City Vice Mayor Arnold B. Arcillas, who encouraged everyone to embrace hope and joy this holiday season.



Park guests had a magical time singing their favorite Yuletide carols, trying out exciting activities, and winning enchanting prizes at the Caroloke Christmas Caravan, a special holiday truck brought by Coca-Cola at the Spaceport Grounds.

EK Storyverse characters joined in the festivities as they greeted guests in front of Eldar's Theater prior to the annual lighting of EK's 22-foot Grand Parol. Aside from this, 100 other colorful parols lit up the AGILA The EKsperience: SARIBUHAY.



EK also introduced Eldar's Evergreen Topiary, a never-been-seen greenery installation featuring the iconic figure of EK's jolly and wise wizard. Set to become a year-round attraction, this one-of-a-kind display is a part of EK's ongoing efforts to create magical and sustainable experiences at the Park, especially during seasonal celebrations.

Eldar the Wizard topped off the night with the Forever Enchanted Fireworks Show, synchronized to the tune of EK's 30th anniversary theme song written and sung by the theme park's homegrown P-pop girl group, SMS.

MORE HOLIDAY MAGIC THIS DECEMBER

Filipinos can create even more enchanting memories with their loved ones this Christmas as the Park opens daily starting December 13, 2025 until January 4, 2026.

Guests can continuously enjoy EK's over 30 rides and attractions, including the iconic Space Shuttle and AGILA The EKsperience: SARIBUHAY, which were relaunched as part of EK's 30th anniversary last October.

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Aside from the vibrant decors and displays, EK will continue to bring enchantment through its new zone shows and other special Christmastime performances around the Park this December.

Nighttime at Brooklyn Place will come to life with colorful lights dancing to the tune of popular Christmas songs at Eldar's Symphony of Lights and Sounds.

Ultimately, Echoes of Enchantment Parade is set in making its return with a holiday twist, leveling up the in-park night experience through a series of vibrant floats accompanied by the EK Storyverse characters as it makes its



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ELDAR THE WIZARD

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PHILIPPINE FLAG SOARS AS CAVITE'S YOUNG INNOVATORS SHINE IN WORLD ROBOTICS GAMES 2025 Turn on page 2



CAVITE CAREER CARAVAN BRINGS JOB OPPORTUNITIES TO BACOR DURING DOLE ANNIVERSARY JOB FAIR Turn on page 5



CAYETANO TO GOV'T, SENATE: ASSURE BATO OF DUE PROCESS Turn on page 3



THE TRUE MEASURE OF HEROISM Turn on page 2

The simultaneous, nationwide blood donation activity conducted by the Philippine Army Reserve Command (RESCOM) on December 14, 2025, in connection with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Founding Anniversary, serves as a powerful reminder of where true national strength lies: in selfless service.

The event, aptly themed "Dugong Buhay Aming Alay Bilang mga Makabagong Bayani Tun-go sa Matatag na Sandigan ng Bagong Pilipinas" (Our Blood is Our Gift as Modern Heroes Towards a Strong Foundation for a New Philippines), clearly signals that our military reservists view their commitment not just through drills and defenses, but through life-saving civic action.

At the Reserve Command in Camp Riego de Dios, Tanza, Cavite, and presumably in sites across the country, we see a potent mix of duty and humanity. Reservists, alongside community partners, gathered not to take, but to give the most valuable resource: life itself. The images show scenes of meticulous medical screening and the quiet, solemn act of donation

itself. This is the essence of a modern, relevant fighting force—one that is as prepared to respond to a medical crisis or a humanitarian need as it is to a security threat.

The officer interviewed emphasized the "relevance of the training". Blood donation is not merely a charitable act; it is the practical application of discipline, organization,



## CHRISTMAS IN THE TIME OF HARDSHIP: FILIPINOS' RESILIENT SPIRIT SHINES THROUGH 2025

As December unfolds across the Philippines, the familiar glow of parols, twinkling lights, and the aroma of bibingka and puto bumbong remind us that Christmas is near. Yet, for many, the celebrations this year are tempered by the tragedies that have marked 2025—typhoons that devastated communities, economic challenges that tightened household budgets, and losses that have left families mourning.

Despite these hardships, Filipinos continue to demonstrate an extraordinary resilience that has long defined the nation's holiday spirit. Christmas in the Philippines has never been just about material gifts; it is a celebration of family, faith, and hope. Even in times of adversity, people find ways to share joy—whether through simple gatherings, communal prayers, or acts of generosity toward those in need.

Communities have shown remarkable solidarity this year. Neighborhoods damaged by storms have come together to rebuild, sharing resources and lending hands. Families affected by economic difficulties have found creative ways to celebrate: hand-made decorations, potluck-style Noche Buena meals, and heartfelt exchange of homemade gifts are common, emphasizing that thoughtfulness often outweighs expense.

Religious traditions, too, have taken on deeper meaning in 2025. The nine-day Simbang Gabi, carol singing, and midnight Masses are not just rituals—they are beacons of hope, offering comfort to those who have endured loss. For many, faith remains the anchor that sustains them through uncertainty, and the Christmas season

serves as a reminder of resilience and renewal.

This year's celebrations underscore a vital truth: the Filipino Christmas spirit is unbreakable. It is a spirit that finds light in darkness, hope in despair, and community in isolation. While the tragedies of 2025 have tested the nation, they have also highlighted a timeless lesson—that joy can coexist with hardship, and compassion often shines brightest when most needed.

In celebrating Christmas this year, Filipinos remind the world that even in difficult times, the essence of the holiday endures: togetherness, generosity, and unwavering hope. Amid sorrow, the nation's heart continues to beat with the rhythms of resilience, lighting up homes, streets, and spirits with the enduring magic of Christmas.

## THE...

and a deep sense of responsibility to the nation's health infrastructure. It is the clearest way for the "Makabagong Bayani" (Modern Heroes) to build a "Matatag na Sandigan" (Strong Foundation) for the Philippines. The success of such an endeavor relies heavily on collective effort, and the long list of recognized Community Partners—including civic groups like

## PHILIPPINE...

**TRECE MARTIRES, Cavite (PIA)** — Cavite's young tech talents once again took the global spotlight as the Salty Bots Club proudly waved the Philippine flag at the recently concluded World Robotics Games (WRG) 2025 in Taiwan, where more than 500 participants from around the world gathered to compete in this impressive event.

The Cavite-based student robotics team delivered an outstanding performance, bringing home an impressive collection of medals that underscored the capability, creativity, and determination of Filipino youth on the international stage. Organizers, coaches, and fellow competitors alike witnessed how these students—armed with courage, talent, and an unwavering fighting spirit—held their own in one of the world's most challenging robotics arenas.

Behind each victory were months of preparation marked by late-night debugging sessions, repeated trial runs, and meticulous strategy-building. Despite juggling aca-

Rotary and media organizations like ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya—underscores that national resilience is a team sport. The military provides the structure and the manpower; the community provides the crucial partnership and support. This blood drive is a symbolic statement: in an era defined by complexity, the most immediate and profound impact a public ser-

vic demic responsibilities, the young innovators proved that age and circumstance are no barriers to achieving world-class excellence.

Carrying the banner of Caviteño brilliance, the team secured multiple honors: Gold Award: Kelvin Caissier D. Javier — iBeam SR; John Macklein D. Valdez — iBeam SR; Andrei Jiggerson Samaniego — iBeam SR, Silver Award: Bryzen Villanueva — iBeam SR; Kylie Mathew M. Gaudiel — iBeam SR; Claude Ron R. Abriol — iBeam SR, Bronze Award: Kelvin Caissier D. Javier — PLT SR; Kiesha Veras — iBeam JR, Copper Award: Solenn Quejado — iBeam SR; Kylie Mathew M. Gaudiel — Beam Battle; Fiona Nathalie J. Rosga — Beam Battle, and Merit Award: Sean Adrienne Santos

For the students, these medals represent more than triumph, they symbolize the growing presence of Filipino talent in global innovation and tech-driven competitions. The team credited part of their success to generous sponsors whose support ensured that

vant can make is through simple, selfless giving. The blood collected today is not just a unit of life for a patient in need; it is tangible proof that the spirit of heroism is alive and well, pulsating through the veins of our reserve forces and their dedicated community allies. It is a powerful foundation upon which the future Philippines must be built.

the young competitors had the tools, training, and confidence needed to excel.

Equally vital were the dedicated coaches—Ma'am Cyra, Ma'am Jhing, Ma'am Amy, Kuya Justin, and Sir Rolan—whose guidance and tireless mentorship shaped the team's discipline and technical mastery from the brainstorming stage to the final match.

The victory of the Salty Bots Club extends beyond their school or province. It echoes the aspirations of countless Filipino children who dream of building, competing, and innovating at a global scale. Their achievement stands as a powerful reminder that with support, passion, and courage, excellence knows no age.

As they look toward future international challenges, the young robotics champions carry with them the proud message of a new generation of innovators: "Filipinos can do it. Youth can do it. We can do it anywhere in the world." /PR

## CARD Bank opens 2nd Islamic banking branch in Marawi City



CARD MRI Founder and CARD Bank Chairman Dr. Jaime Aristotle B. Alip, BSP Senior Assistant Governor Atty. Arifa Ala, Bangsamoro Board of Investment Chairman Mohamad Omar Pasigan, CARD MRI Managing Director Aristeo Dequito, CARD Bank President and CEO Marivic M. Austria, CARD MRI advisers, executives, staff, and clients, graced the opening of the new Islamic banking branch along Narciso Ramos Highway, Biaba Damag, Marawi City. The branch aims to provide Shari'ah-compliant services to promote financial inclusion among Muslim communities in the region.

CARD Bank officially opened its second Islamic banking branch in Marawi City, Lanao del Sur, on November 24, 2025. The Marawi Islamic branch is designed to provide financial services accessible to all, in accordance with Shari'ah principles, and to address the needs of Muslim communities. The opening of this branch follows the successful establishment of CARD Bank's first Islamic banking branch in Cotabato City on January 22, 2024, which paved the way for broader financial inclusion in areas with significant Muslim populations. According to CARD MRI Founder and CARD Bank Chairman Dr. Jaime Aristotle B. Alip, "The opening of this branch is more than just the construction of a bank. It is proof that every corner of the country deserves services that meet the dreams and needs of its communities. In BARMM, we have witnessed the courage, faith, and hope of our Muslim brothers and sisters. It is only fitting that we bring services here that foster development rooted in their culture and beliefs." Shari'ah-compliant services

The branch will strictly implement Shari'ah guidelines to ensure that every transaction aligns with religious principles. It offers various Wadiah deposit accounts for safe, transparent, and reliable savings, including Wadiah Basic Savings, Wadiah Regular Savings, and Wadiah ATM Savings. To meet livelihood needs, the branch provides Shari'ah-compliant financing products, including Murabahah, Mudarabah, and Musharakah for Micro-Agri and Micro-Enterprise, as well as Murabahah 2 for Supplemental Commodity Financing. Ijarah is also offered for motorcycle and vehicle leasing. All products are designed to support clients' livelihoods without conflicting with their religious beliefs.

Underscoring the significance of this expansion, Bangsamoro Board of Investments Chairman (BBOI) Mohamad Omar Pasigan emphasized,

"The opening of the second Shari'ah-compliant branch in BARMM is clear proof that there is space for services that truly respond to the needs of the Muslim community. It creates greater opportunities for families and entrepreneurs in the region." Expanding financial inclusion in Muslim communities

CARD Bank's move into Islamic banking responds to the call of Muslim communities for financial services that reflect their faith. In BARMM, many families remain unbanked due to the lack of culturally and religiously aligned services. Through Shari'ah-compliant banking, women, small entrepreneurs, and Muslim households gain equal access to safe, fair, and affordable financial services. It is a crucial step toward more resilient and sustainable livelihoods in the region.

To ensure the proper and sensitive implementation of Islamic banking, CARD Bank collaborated with Islamic finance and Shari'ah advisory experts. With their guidance, the services are reliable, compliant, and respectful of clients' culture and beliefs. This collaboration is part of the bank's long-term goal to provide community-centered services. The Islamic Banking branch began operations with 1,307 clients, of whom 1,246 have financing. These clients were originally CARD, Inc. Paglambao clients, who later transitioned to Islamic banking. According to CARD Bank President and CEO Marivic M. Austria, "This second Islamic banking branch proves that inclusive development is possible when services are brought closer to communities. By engaging with leaders and families in BARMM, we believe that every Filipino, regardless of religion or origin, has the right to progress. It is what we continue to advocate."

The branch's opening was highlighted by an opening prayer and ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by CARD MRI Founder and CARD Bank Chairman Dr. Jaime Aristotle B. Alip, BSP Senior Assistant Governor Atty. Arifa Ala, Bangsamoro Board of Investment Chairman Mohamad Omar Pasigan, CARD MRI Managing Director Aristeo Dequito, CARD Bank President and CEO Marivic M. Austria, consultants, institutional heads, staff, and clients.

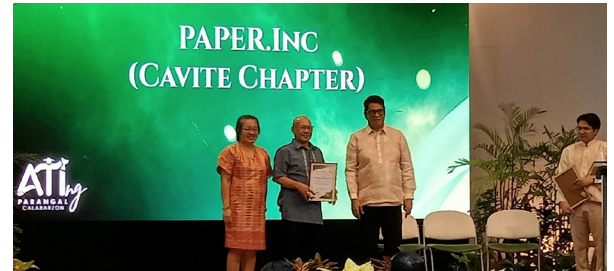
The new branch is located along Narciso Ramos Highway, Biaba Damag, Marawi City. Aside from Islamic financing, CARD Bank continues to provide not only financial products in its conventional banking branches but also access to microinsurance, business development, marketing support, education, health programs, and other services for Filipino families.

For more information, visit CARD Bank's official website at [cardbankph.com](http://cardbankph.com).



Bukas, para sa lahat.

## ATI CALABARZON Honors Extension Partners at ATIng Parangal 2025, Recognizes Media's Role in Agricultural Development



**LOS BAÑOS, Laguna** — The Department of Agriculture–Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) CALABARZON recognized the invaluable contributions of its partners in delivering quality agricultural extension services during the triennial ATIng Parangal 2025, held on December 12 at the SEARCA Auditorium, University of the Philippines Los Baños.

Anchored on the theme "Pagkilala sa Kahusayan, Pag-saludo sa Serbisyo," the awarding ceremony highlighted the collective efforts of national government agencies, local government units, state universities and colleges, private institutions, civil society groups, and media organizations that have strengthened agricultural and fisheries extension in the region from 2023 to the present.

In his message, ATI CALABARZON Center Director **Dr. Rolando V. Maningas, RAgr**, underscored that the Center's milestones would not have been achieved without the unwavering dedication of its partners. He expressed heartfelt gratitude for their continued support in advancing the shared goal of "Masaganang Agrikultura, Maunlad na Ekonomiya."

Among the awardees, **Prime Alliance of Publishers, Editors, and Reporters (PAPER PH) Inc.** was recognized as one of ATI CALABARZON's Media Partners, highlighting the vital role of responsible journalism and information dissemination in promoting agricultural programs, innovations, and success stories across CALABARZON. Through its consistent coverage and advocacy, PAPER PH has helped bridge the gap between government initiatives and farming communities, ensuring that timely, accurate, and relevant agricultural information reaches farmers, fishers, and stakeholders.

ATI CALABARZON also honored partner provincial agriculture and veterinary offices, state universities and colleges, national government agencies, farmer organizations, private extension service providers, learning sites for agriculture, and outstanding agricultural extension workers across various programs, including rice, coconut, livestock, high-value crops, organic agriculture, and urban agriculture.

The event served not only as a recognition of excellence but also as a celebration of collaboration—acknowledging that effective agricultural extension is the result of shared commitment across sectors. Through initiatives like ATIng Parangal, ATI CALABARZON continues to strengthen partnerships that build a more resilient, competitive, and prosperous agriculture and fisheries sector in the region.



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Kawit LGU Shows Support for Solo Parents Through Orientation and Aid Distribution



**KAWIT, Cavite** — Ipinamalas ng Pamahalaang Bayan ng Kawit ang pusong malasakit nito sa mga solo parent sa isinagawang Single Parent Orientation na pinangunahan ng Municipal Social Welfare and Development (MSWD) nitong Biyernes. Bukod sa pagbibigay ng gabay at mahahalagang impormasyon, isinabay din sa aktibidad ang pamamahagi ng subsidiya para sa mga rehistradong solo parent. Layunin ng programa na magbigay-suporta sa kanilang pangangailangan at kilalanin ang hamon na kanilang hinaharap bilang nag-iisang tagapagtaguyod ng pamilya. Ayon sa MSWD, mahalagang mabigyan ng sapat na kaa-laman at tulong ang mga solo parent upang mas mapal-akas ang kanilang kakayahang tugunan ang pang-araw-araw na pangangailangan ng kanilang mga anak, lalo na sa harapngdoblengresponsibilidadatemosyonalnahamon. Binigyang-pugay ng lokal na pamahalaan ang katatagan at sakripisyo ng mga solo parent at tiniyak ang patuloy na suporta ng pamahalaang bayan sa pamamagitan ng mga programang naglalayong pangalagaan ang kapa-kanan ng kanilang pamilya.

ENSURING MISSION READINESS: 5FAB CAPS GUNNERY PROFICIENCY TRAINING WITH LIVE FIRE EXERCISE



**TANAY, RIZAL** – The 4th Howitzer Platoon, Bravo Battery, 5th Field Artillery Battalion, Artillery Regiment, Philippine Army culminated its Field Artillery Gunnery Proficiency Training (FAGPT) through a Live Fire Exercise (LFE) at Doña Josefa Firebase, Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija on 13-14 December 2025. The 2-week training aimed at sharpening the knowledge and skills of the 4th Howitzer Platoon’s gun crew, further evaluating their technical proficiency based on their respective designations in the gunnery team. They demonstrated their enhanced skills as they efficiently delivered fire missions during the LFE.

Japanese company’s Project Build Up to help PWDs in Batangas



**BATANGAS CITY** — A total of 100 Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) from the municipality of Malvar, Batangas are set to benefit from Project Build Up, a livelihood and entrepreneurship initiative of Japan Tobacco International (JTI) in partnership with ASSIST (Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation) and the local government of Malvar.

The project was officially launched on December 5, 2025, at the San Pedro I Gymnasium in Malvar as part of JTI’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs, which aim to expand opportunities for PWDs in communities where the company operates.

According to Franz Rana of ASSIST, Project Build Up is designed to uplift PWDs by providing them with skills training, livelihood support, and employment opportunities. He explained that the program

has three key objectives: to engage 100 PWD participants, select at least five business teams for intensive training and mentoring, and provide cash grants or livelihood assistance to qualified business plans.

ASSIST will conduct screening to identify PWDs with existing enterprises or PWD-led groups with promising business ideas. Selected finalists will undergo training and mentorship covering business modeling, product development and costing, financial literacy, bookkeeping, branding, and digital marketing. Participants will later pitch their business proposals to qualify for cash grants to support their start-ups.

Faith Mondejar, JTI Community Investment Manager, emphasized that all participants are already considered beneficiaries of the program, noting that the skills and knowledge gained through training and mentorship have long-term value beyond financial assistance.

“We are teaching them to become entrepreneurs. Even those who may not receive grants will already have the capacity to start a business and improve their lives,” Mondejar said.

Malvar Mayor Artemio Abu welcomed the initiative, expressing gratitude to JTI for bringing the program to the town. He highlighted the program’s positive impact not only on the local economy but also on promoting inclusivity and empowering the PWD sector.

Following the launch, JTI and the Malvar LGU will conduct community briefings and coordination activities until January 2026, with screening and profiling of participants scheduled by mid-month. An Entrepreneurial Bootcamp and weekly mentorship sessions will run from February to April 2026, while business plan finalization and pitch coaching are set for May 2026.

The program will culminate in a PWD Enterprise Day in June 2026, featuring final business pitches, a PWD Livelihood Fair, and an awards and product showcase.

Annaliza Bagtingon, head of the Malvar Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO), expressed full support for the initiative, underscoring its importance in advancing the welfare and economic empowerment of PWDs in the municipality.

NOTICE

AFFIDAVIT OF SOLE ADJUDICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the funds of the late ERLINDA GUILLERMO TECALA from BPI and Metrobank has been solely adjudicated by her sole heir, Atty. Inocentes A. Tecala, of legal age, widower, Filipino, and with residence and postal address at Unit 28A/B DV Palazzo Condominium, Eastwood, Bagumbayan, Quezon City, Metro Manila, as per AFFIDAVIT of SOLE ADJUDICATION executed and notarized on December 12, 2025 at Kavite, Cavite before Notary Public, ATTY. ANDRES JOSE M. ALBA, PTR No. CAV 9424808, under Doc No. 393, Page No. 80, Book No. CXIV, Series of 2025.

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CAYETANO...

Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano on Tuesday urged the government to assure Senator Ronald “Bato” dela Rosa of his rights and due process amid reports of his impending arrest by the International Criminal Court (ICC). “Napaka-importante kasi na may sistema tayo ng hustisiya sa bansa at ang korte ang nakakasakop... Ang gobyerno dapat ina-assure si Senator Bato na merong proseso,” he told reporters on the sidelines of the December 2 plenary session. Cayetano was responding to a question on what the Minority Bloc intends to do regarding the continuing absence of dela Rosa from the Senate since session resumed on November 10, 2025. Ombudsman Jesus Crispin Remulla had earlier announced that the ICC had issued an arrest warrant against dela Rosa in relation to his role as Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief in implementing the Duterte administration’s war on drugs. To date, the ICC has yet to confirm reports it had

issued an arrest warrant for the senator. “Wala akong problema kung sasabihin ng gobyerno na, ‘Kapag hinuli iyan, pwede siyang pumunta ng korte.’ Kami mismo sa Minority, at least ako, hahamunin ko siya. ‘Pumasok ka, responsibility mo iyan,’” the Minority Leader said. He also called on the Senate leadership to stand up for dela Rosa in ensuring legal protection. “I’ll make it simple: Kung may lumabas na warrant of arrest against a senator, dapat niyang harapin iyon... But this is a different case. This is a case where the Senate itself – the leadership at kaming lahat sa minority at majority – should stand up for a senator and ask, ‘Is he getting the legal protection that every Filipino should get?’” he said. Cayetano said this uncertainty is likely the reason dela Rosa has yet to attend the Senate session. “Hindi siya makatapak dito (sa Senado) kasi walang guarantee na hindi siya aarestuhin at ide-deport sa The Hague na walang say ang Philippine courts. Ang hinihin-

gi lang ni Senator Bato ay katiyakan na kung may warrant of arrest, makapunta muna siya sa ating courts,” he said. The senator also dismissed the possibility of an ethics case being filed against dela Rosa in relation to his absences. “Napaka-illogical na mag-prosper y’ung ethics case. Kung mag-file pwede. Lahat naman ng klase na mag-file, pwede. Ang question, may ground ba? May threat siya against his liberty,” he said. Earlier this year, former President Rodrigo Duterte was arrested by Interpol on an ICC warrant for crimes against humanity after returning from Hong Kong. Without intervention from local courts, Duterte was immediately flown to The Hague, Netherlands. Cayetano cited this precedent in urging the government to assure dela Rosa of a fair legal process. “Personal kong pananaw ito, hindi pa namin pinag-uusapan sa Minority... Kasi kung sasabihin na any time pwede kang damputin at

From Page 1

dalhin sa ibang bansa... When your life and liberty are threatened, you really think of options,” he said. Cayetano said the question is not why dela Rosa is absent but “why there is no assurance from the government that his rights will be protected.”

As a lawyer, he stressed the need to elevate the stature of local courts more than international ones in resolving such cases.

“Baka sa kanila, ang view nila ay pwedeng dalhin sa The Hague. Abogado ako. Never ko pwedeng maging view na inutil ang Philippine courts. Wala pa akong nakikitang treaty o batas natin na pwedeng damputin ka na lang. Kahit doon sa mga treaties natin na pagka may crime dito or doon, pwede ka munang dumulog sa korte natin,” the senator said. “That’s my personal opinion that the leadership of the Senate should protect the rights of every single Filipino,” he added. ###

Bacoor Honors Barangay Tanod in “Tanod Day 2025” Celebration



**BACOOR CITY** — The City Government of Bacoor paid tribute to the dedication and service of its Barangay Tanod during the celebration of “Tanod Day 2025” held on December 16 at the STRIKE Gymnasium.

The event was led by Mayor Strike B. Revilla and Vice Mayor Rowena Bautista Mendiola, in coordination with the LigangmgaBarangayheadedbyLnBPresident BM Rafael Paterno III, with support from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

Mayor Revilla was joined by Ms. Memviluz Baurile (DILG-CLGOO), LnB Vice President Randy Francisco, Councilor Noly Galvez, Councilor Karen Sarino Evaristo, and Mr. Lawrence San Jose, head of the Business Permits and Licensing Department (BPLD), along with other city and barangay officials.

The “Barangay Tanod Day” aims to recognize the vital role of Barangay Tanod in maintaining peace and order within local communities. As part of the program, cash incentives were distributed to Barangay Tanod from all 47 barangays of Bacoor City.

Barangay Captains, barangay officials, and staff were also present to show their support, underscoring the city government’s appreciation for the Tanod’s unwavering commitment and invaluable service to the people of Bacoor. /PR

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Bacoor City Government Distributes Family Food Boxes to Fire Victims



mula Sitio Bulate at isang pamilya o tatlong indibidwal mula Camella East ang nakatanggap ng tulong.

Ang bawat Family Food Box ay naglalaman ng anim na kilo ng bigas, 10 lata ng canned goods, at 10 sachets ng drink mix o soup, na magsisilbing pangunahing suplay ng pagkain ng mga apektadong pamilya.

**BACOOR CITY** — Patuloy ang agarang pagtugon ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Bacoor sa mga pamilyang naapektuhan ng sunog sa Sitio Bulate, Barangay Du-long Bayan, at Camella East, Barangay San Nicolas 2, sa pamamagitan ng pamamahagi ng Family Food Boxes noong Disyembre 15 sa Bacoor City Hall Lobby.

Sa pangunguna ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla, katuwang ang Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Region IV-A, tiniyak ng lokal na pamahalaan na may sapat na pagkain ang mga residenteng pansamantalang nanunuluyan sa mga evacuation center. Sa kabuuan, 88 pamilya o 298 indibidwal

Tiniyak ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Bacoor na magpapatuloy ang pagbibigay ng pagkain, pangunahing pangangailangan, at iba pang anyo ng suporta habang isinasagawa ang patuloy na monitoring at validation sa mga lugar na naapektuhan ng sunog.



## CAVITE...

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## Cavite Aligns MSME Programs With MSMED Plan 2025–2028 to Drive Inclusive Growth



**REECE MARTIRES CITY** — The province of Cavite took a major step toward strengthening support for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as key stakeholders convened for a consultative meeting on aligning local programs with the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (MSMED) Plan 2025–2028 on December 4 at the New Provincial Government Center.

Organized by the Office of the Provincial Cooperatives Development Officer (OPCDO), the day-long activity, titled “Forging Synergies for Inclusive Growth,” gathered 48 participants from 32 agencies, including local government units, provincial offices, national government agencies, and non-government organizations. The broad participation reflected a shared commitment to coordinated, inclusive, and future-ready MSME development in Cavite.

In her welcome remarks, OPCDO Officer-in-Charge Myrachel P. Cuadra emphasized that sustainable MSME growth is best achieved through strong inter-agency convergence. Messages of support were also delivered by Sheryll S. Loyola, OPCDO Livelihood Division Head and Chairperson of the PGCECC Multi-Purpose Cooperative, and DTI Cavite OIC Provincial Director Lilibeth R. Chavez, both underscoring the need for resilient and inclusive MSME programs.

Providing direction for the discussions, Liza C. Gabatan, OPCDO Entrepreneurial Division Head, outlined the objectives of the meet-

ing and highlighted the importance of translating policy into concrete, on-the-ground impact.

A key highlight of the morning session was the presentation of the MSMED Plan 2025–2028 by Susan Mae Salonga, Assistant Director of the DTI–Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development (BSMED). Her presentation of national MSME priorities was followed by an interactive discussion, enabling participants to identify opportunities for alignment at the provincial and local levels.

Stakeholders also reviewed existing MSME programs and services collated by OPCDO, promoting transparency and identifying areas for complementation. In the afternoon, participants engaged in workshop sessions to align local initiatives with national strategies and develop actionable plans.



The consultative meeting concluded with the presentation of a harmonized Cavite MSME Development Plan, identification of convergence opportunities, and a Pledge of Support and Commitment, reinforcing the collective resolve of partner agencies to work in synergy rather than in silos.

The activity marked a significant milestone in institutionalizing program convergence in Cavite, ensuring that MSME interventions are coordinated, inclusive, and responsive—paving the way for sustained and shared economic growth across the province. /PR

## PGC Honors BHWs and BNS with Incentive Distribution in Tanza



**TANZA, Cavite** — Ipinahayag ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ng Cavite ang pagkilala at pasasalamat nito sa mga frontliner ng serbisyong pangkalusugan at nutrisyon sa pamamagitan ng Distribution of Incentives for Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) at Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS) na ginanap noong Disyembre 10 sa Tanza Convention Center.

Sa kabuuan, 921 Barangay Nutrition Scholars ang tumanggap ng insentibo na nagkakahalaga ng P9.384 milyon, habang 2,400 Barangay Health

Workers naman ang nabigyan ng P24.48 milyon bilang pagkilala sa kanilang mahalagang papel sa paghahatid ng pangunahing serbisyong pangkalusugan at nutrisyon sa mga komunidad sa lalawigan.

Dumalo at nagbigay ng mensahe ng pasasalamat sina 7th District Representative Ping Remulla, 7th District Board Members Aldrin Anacan at Camille Del Rosario, at Tanza Mayor Archangelo “SM” Matro, na kapwa nagpahayag ng kanilang papuri sa dedikasyon at walang sawang paglilingkod ng mga BHW at BNS, lalo na sa pagsusulong ng kalusugan sa antas-barangay.

Binigyang-diin sa aktibidad ang patuloy na suporta ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan sa mga manggagawang pangkalusugan, at muling pinagtibay na ang sakripisyo at dedikasyon ng mga BHW at BNS ay nananatiling haligi ng epektibo at tumutugong serbisyong pangkalusugan sa buong Cavite.

## CAVITE...

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## Cavite Empowers 525 Student Innovators at 2025 Entrepreneurship Students Conference



**BACOR CITY** — In line with the celebration of the 92nd Anniversary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Cavite Career Caravan successfully brought employment opportunities closer to jobseekers during a job fair held on December 11 at SM City Bacoor.

Organized by the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OP-ESM), the activity served as a one-stop venue where applicants could explore job openings and access essential government services. A total of 116 jobseekers participated in the fair, with 31 companies offering 5,913 job vacancies across various industries.

The initiative proved effective, with 21 applicants hired on the spot, demonstrating the program's impact in directly connecting employers with qualified candidates.

Several national government agencies also

took part in the event, providing on-site assistance and information. These included the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Social Security System (SSS), and the Office of the Provincial Legal Officer (OPLO), ensuring a comprehensive and supportive experience for jobseekers.

The job fair was also graced by Board Member Chelsea Sarno, SK Federation President, who expressed her support for initiatives that make employment opportunities more accessible to the public.

Through the Cavite Career Caravan, the Provincial Government of Cavite continues to strengthen employment generation and reaffirm its commitment to empowering the local workforce through inclusive and accessible job facilitation programs. /PR

## PGC Brings Comprehensive Healthcare to GMA Residents



**GENERAL MAXIMO GOMEZ (GMA), Cavite** — The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) reaffirmed its dedication to community health through a medical and dental mission held on December 9, 2025, in Brgy. Poblacion 4, benefiting 277 residents.

Spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Governor – Medical Mission Team, the initiative provided a wide range of essential healthcare ser-

vices. Among the beneficiaries, 227 residents received medical consultations, 50 underwent dental extractions, 13 availed of x-ray services, and 14 accessed ECG examinations, highlighting the comprehensive nature of the mission.

5th District Board Member Aidel Paul Belamide attended the activity, expressing support for the province's ongoing efforts to make quality healthcare accessible, especially in communities with limited medical services.



The mission was carried out with the professional expertise of the General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH) medical and dental teams, who collaborated closely with barangay health workers. Their coordinated efforts ensured the mission was orderly, responsive, and efficiently addressed the immediate health needs of residents. This initiative underscores PGC's commitment to delivering vital healthcare services directly to communities across the province.

**IMUS CITY** — A total of 525 students from 30 schools across Cavite gathered at the City of Imus Sports Complex on November 27 for the 2025 Cavite Entrepreneurship Students Conference, a province-wide initiative aimed at preparing young Caviteños for the future of business and innovation.

Organized by the Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer (OPCDO), the conference carried the theme “Empowering Future Entrepreneurs through Digitalization, Sustainability, and Innovation.” Provincial and local leaders opened the event with messages underscoring the vital role of youth in driving economic growth and community development.

A major highlight of the conference was the keynote address of Senator Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, who encouraged students to pursue entrepreneurship grounded in creativity, social responsibility, and innovation.

Participants took part in a series of learning sessions led by industry experts and academic leaders. Dr. Leo Manansala, Vice Dean of the College of Professional

Dr. Leo Manansala, Vice Dean, College of Professional and Graduate Studies, DLSU-D, on the Start-Up Mindset

Mr. Julius Tibayan, Owner of Cocidado con el Corazon, on Sustainable Entrepreneurship

Prof. Ronilo M. Balbieran, Vice President of Research and Institutional Development Foundation, on Digital Transformation in Entrepreneurship

The conference concluded with the Search for the Most Innovative and Sustainable Products, recognizing student-led business concepts that exemplified creativity, eco-consciousness, and market viability. Swizzle Sparks of the City College of Tagaytay won first place, Peelicious of De La Salle University–Dasmariñas took second, and Tamies Brites of Cavite State University Imus Campus placed third.

The 2025 Cavite Entrepreneurship Students Conference underscored the province's commitment to nurturing young innovators and fostering a community of future-ready entrepreneurs dedicated to sustainable development. /PR

