

cavite takes spotlight in MPTC's Bivaheng South Experiential Tour 2025

Cavite took the spotlight in the recently concluded Bivaheng South Experiential Tour 2025, featuring top destinations made more accessible through Metro Pacific Tollway Corporation's (MPTC) expressways—CAVITEX and CALAX. Successfully hosted by MPT South, a subsidiary of MPTC, in partnership with the Department of Tourism Region IV-A (DOT IV-A) and the Cavite Tourism Office, the tour highlighted the province's rich blend of history, culture, and culinary delights. Co-presented by mWell (by Metro Pacific Health Tech Corporation), the tour also highlighted wellness on the road, with participants wearing mWell watches to track their health and activity throughout the journey.

The Ka-Biyaheros, composed of influencers and media partners, enjoyed a seamless and immersive two-day experience aboard stylish and comfortable Chery Tiggo vehicles such as the Chery Tiggo Cross HEV, Chery Tiggo Grand Tour, and the newly introduced all-new Chery Tiggo REV LE, thanks to Chery Philippines, the tour's official mobility partner. Every stop—from museum and scenic views to must-visit local dining spots—was made smoother and more memorable by the reliable ride. The event was also made possible through the support of Quest Hotels, Profriends, Coffee Builders, and SkyRanch Tagaytay.

Immersing in Cavite's History, Flavors, and Fun

The adventure began with a scenic drive along the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), giving participants a firsthand look at how the expressway makes Southern Luzon more accessible. The first destination was Coffee Builders in Silang for breakfast, a café known for its artisan brews and cozy atmosphere. Participants indulged in some of the house favorites, which are beef salpicao, salted egg chicken, and fish and chips, paired with their signature drinks.

Following the hearty breakfast, the participants then had the opportunity to have a special look at CALAX Governor's Drive Interchange in General Trias, Cavite, which is set to open this 2025. This new segment will expand CALAX's operating section all the way to General Trias, providing motorists with faster, more convenient routes, easing congestion on Cavite's major roads.

Next on the list was the Geronimo Berenguer De Los Reyes (GBR) Museum in General Trias, a cultural gem dedicated to preserving and promoting the country's rich history and heritage. Upon entering, the group was immediately immersed in a powerful display of the Cavite Mutiny of 1872, one of the most relevant events in Philippine history. Among the museum's exhibits, the World Aviation History Exhibit stood out, featuring remarkable replicas such as the Wright Brothers' "Flying Machine" and NASA's Lunar Roving Vehicle. Afterward, Ka-Biyaheros enjoyed lunch at Cabezera Ridge View Restaurant in Tagaytay City, a dining spot that pairs Cavite flavors with sweeping views of Taal Lake.

Fun and excitement awaited the Ka-Biyaheros at Sky Ranch Tagaytay, one of the city's most popular leisure destinations. Participants enjoyed a mix of thrilling rides and family-friendly attractions like the Sky-Eye Ferris Wheel, Drop Tower, and Cartoonville, Sky Ranch's newest attraction. The day closed with a comforting hotpot dinner at Nabe Hotspot, a local favorite for its warm flavors and cozy vibe.

The participants then went to check in at Quest Hotel, a top choice for travelers seeking accessibility and convenience in the city. The group settled into modern, cozy rooms before indulging in treats at Baker J Café, the hotel's signature French-inspired bakery known for its pastries and artisanal breads, before unwinding in the outdoor pool. With its modern facilities, panoramic views,



Ka-Biyaheros with Chery Tiggo vehicles as the tour's official mobility partner



Ka-Biyaheros visited the construction of the CALAX Governor's Drive Interchange in General Trias



Ka-Biyaheros posed at the facade of Quest Hotel Tagaytay



Ka-Biyaheros enjoying Cartoonville and other rides at Skyranch Tagaytay

and exceptional service, the hotel offered a warm and relaxing stay for the Ka-Biyaheros.

Discovering Tagaytay's Natural and Cultural Charm

The second day opened with breakfast at Quest Hotel. Energized for the day ahead, the group's first stop was People's Park in the Sky, one of Tagaytay's most iconic landmarks. Perched at the highest point in the city, the park offered a sweeping 360-degree view of Taal Lake and Laguna de Bay. Lunch was served at Siglo Modern Filipino, a restaurant that pays homage to the country's rich culinary traditions with unique takes on

classic Filipino dishes.

In the afternoon, the tour shifted to a different kind of discovery with a one-of-a-kind Lancaster Community tour by Profriends. Participants were given closer look at key landmarks inside the township. These include St. Edward School, showcasing the academic and sports achievements of its youth, and where the Galing LNC youth volunteers are nurtured. The community tour included the site where Westwind is being constructed, the commercial hub which is The Square, and the spiritual hub, the Parish of the Holy Family.

Arlette V. Capistrano, Vice President



Ka-Biyaheros as they listen to the history of the GBR Museum



Ka-Biyaheros with their MWell smart watch



Biyaheros visited the vast Lancaster Estates by Profriends



Coffee Builder's refreshments and Chery Tiggo vehicles



Coffee Builder's refreshments and Chery Tiggo vehicles

for Communication and Stakeholder Management of MPT South, said, "This tour is a celebration of what Cavite has to offer. Through the Bivaheng South Experiential Tour, we are not only showcasing Cavite's diverse attractions but also reinforcing our commitment to support local tourism and communities."

About Metro Pa-

cific Tollways Corporation MPTC is the leading toll road developer and operator in the Philippines and the holding company of premier tollways including NLEX, SCTEX, CAVITEX, CALAX, NLEX Connector, and CCLEX in Cebu.

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ISSN NO. 2619-8185



VOL. XXII > No. 27 > Oct. 06-12, 2025 > P10.00

DSWD extends PHP 4.99-M aid to Calabarzon families affected by 'Opong'

Oversea Builders Center opens flagship store in Cavite as part of Southern Luzon expansion



DOST Cavite restrengthened ties with LGU-Naic's new administration

Matagumpay na Lakbay Aral ng CARD Bank sa Oriental Mindoro



Calapan, Oriental Mindoro – Sa kabila ng pananalasa ng Bagyong Opong na tumama sa probinsya, matagumpay na naisagawa ng CARD Bank ang Lakbay Aral sa Oriental Mindoro na dinaluhan ng mga miyembro ng media at kinatawan ng iba't ibang kumpanya sa ilalim ng CARD MRI.

cont. on page 7



More than a coffee shop

Marianne Agutaya and Moreen Agutaya from Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, stand proudly at MoreDan Coffee's second branch in Sta. Maria Village. It is a thriving family business built on love, collaboration, and a shared passion for quality.

story on page 5



Cayetano: 'Justice, not vengeance' sa pagpasa ng Senado ng resolusyon sa ICC

SSS Launches LoanLife Powered by Union-Bank to Empower Members with Accessible Credit and Protection Against Loan Sharks

DTI Rizal, LGU Baras, and DOST Empower Young Entrepreneurs Through K-Negosyo 2.0: Kabataang Entrepreneur 2.0



Make a wish and hold on tight as Disney On Ice presents Magic in the Stars brings cherished Disney stories to life at the SM Mall of Asia Arena! Be one of the first to see this all-new show from December 20 to January 4. Tickets are on sale now: <http://smtickets.com/tickets/DOI2025>

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EDITORIAL: When it rains

Severe tropical storm Opong, like many before it, caused deaths, injuries, and displacement. It also wrought great damage to property, livelihood, and infrastructure in many places in the central Philippines.

As of press time, the full extent of the devastation has yet to be estimated, as power lines and communication signals make it difficult to send information from the places that were battered by the storm. The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said the province of Masbate bore the brunt of the damage.

And that was just the most recent instance. Just a few days before, it was Northern Luzon that was battered by super typhoon Nando.

It is during these instances that the effects of the flood control mess, brought about by revelations of systemic corruption and unabated greed, are felt viscerally by the people. The outrage is much too real.

Days of congressional hearing streamed online have enabled ordinary Filipinos to peek into the underbelly of appropriations – a measly portion of it in projects, yes, but the greater part for distribution among public officials and private contractors. With every session, new facets of the convoluted process are exposed, showing just how much corruption has been part of “normal.” These so-called public servants have appropriated the people’s money for their own enjoyment.

Thus, many Filipinos have grown to be skeptical of their leaders, whatever political color they may sport. After all, political affiliations have been proven to be shaky, at best, with convenience and practicality being the determining force instead of core principles.

Those now under investigation and those about to be indicted will profess innocence and feign their own outrage. They bank on the people’s history of having a short memory. With the next news cycle, they say, this would soon blow over. In a few weeks or months, especially with the frenzy of the coming Christmas season, this would be forgotten. Perhaps one or two will go to jail, just to appease the public’s hunger for accountability, but like all the other scams before this, all will be relegated to history in no time.

We should let these officials know that this time is different. Flooding claims lives and livelihoods. It forces people away from their homes and makes them insecure about access to basic necessities for any human being. Contrast this with the excesses of those profiting from what is supposed to be public service.

The people will not forget the shamelessness. Every time it rains, every time it looks like the streets would be flooded anew, we will remember: we cannot do anything about living in a country prone to typhoons and storm surges, but we can take control of our own destiny by denouncing corruption, making these despicable officials pay, and rejecting them in the next elections.

CAVITE MARKS LINGGO NG KABATAAN WITH PROVINCIAL CELEBRATION

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer (OPSWDO), spearheaded the Linggo ng Kabataan Provincial Celebration on September 24, 2025, at the New Provincial Government Center, Trece Martires City.

The event gath-

SSS...

The Social Security System (SSS) proudly announces the launch of SSS LoanLite, a groundbreaking micro-lending program powered by Union Bank of the Philippines. This initiative is designed to provide accessible, secure, and affordable credit to millions of SSS members, especially those vulnerable to predatory lending practices.

During Serbisyon NextGen – Celebrating 40 Years of SSS and UnionBank Partnership held at NuStar Hotel and Resort, Cebu last 17 September 2025, SSS President and CEO Robert Joseph Montes De Claro and UnionBank

President and CEO Ana Aboitiz Delgado led the ceremonial unveiling of SSS LoanLite.

“We’ll be launching something new – a micro loan program for our members powered by UnionBank. This will really help each Filipino, members of SSS, not to fall victims to loan sharks,” De Claro said in his Keynote Message at the event.

UnionBank President and CEO Delgado talked about the partnership highlights between the two institutions and looked forward to future collaborations. “We are also proud to be the first banking partner for SSS’ upcoming micro loan

program – a short-term, socially-responsive loan designed to support members in times of financial need,” Delgado said in her Keynote Message at the event.

SSS LoanLite offers short-term loans with tenors ranging from 15 to 90 days, tailored to meet the urgent financial needs of Filipino workers, including Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). The program is part of SSS’s broader digitalization and financial inclusion strategy, ensuring that members can access credit without falling prey to loan sharks. The plan is to grow the loan book for SSS LoanLite to P40-B within the next two (2)

years.

“Through our partnership with UnionBank, we are taking a bold step toward protecting our members from exploitative lending and enhancing their access to responsible financial services,” De Claro added. “SSS LoanLite is more than just a loan—it’s a lifeline for our members during times of need.”

Key Features of SSS LoanLite:

Loan amounts tailored to member needs (range between P5,000 to P20,000) 15 to 90-day repayment terms 8% interest rate per annum plus reasonable service fee Fully digital application and approval process Direct crediting to UnionBank accounts or MySSS Card Protection against informal lending and loan sharks The launch of SSS LoanLite marks a significant milestone in the public-private collaboration between SSS and UnionBank, reinforcing their joint vision of inclusive, tech-enabled financial services for all.

SSS members are encouraged to stay tuned for the official rollout (targeted by end-2025) and application details via the SSS website and UnionBank Online App.

From Page 1



Social Security System (SSS) President and CEO Robert Joseph Montes De Claro (right) and Union Bank of the Philippines (UnionBank) President and CEO Ana Aboitiz Delgado (left) at ceremonial unveiling of SSS LoanLite during Serbisyon NextGen – Celebrating 40 Years of SSS and UnionBank Partnership held last 17 September 2025 at NuStar Hotel and Resort, Cebu.

Haidah P. Sadang, Social Welfare Officer III, warmly welcomes the participants, she expressed her gratitude for the unwavering support of the youth, emphasizing that the success of the event was a testament to their commitment and enthusiasm.

One of the highlights of the program was an informative talk of Ms. Haydelisa De Taza Maderazo, HIV-AIDS Provincial Coordinator, from Office of the Provincial Health Officer, provided insights on the current HIV situation among the youth and shared practical prevention strategies and health measures to empower

young people in making informed decisions about their well-being.

The program also celebrated the contributions of outgoing Provincial Federation officers and welcomed a new set of leaders through a formal oath-taking ceremony. Followed by an impressive showcase of talents of the participants.

The Linggo ng Kabataan Provincial Celebration reflected Cavite’s continuing commitment to empowering its young leaders and strengthening their role in building a healthy, proactive, and united community.— R. Tanael



DATELINE Weekly Newspapers has its principal business editorial office at 2F #025 Coastal Green St., P. F. 1 Espiritu, Bacoor City Cavite with all the required BIR, DTI (CR#01576397), Barangay and City business permits Tel Nos. (046)476-7611/(0955)1552764; datelineweekly@gmail.com / heidelitalat@yahoo.com



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ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL ----- P200/col.cm

LEGAL/NOTICES ----- P160/col.cm

Font Size:

Heading : 10

Body Text : 8

Space : Single space

MATAGUMPAY...

Sa isang press briefing, ipinaliwanag ni Mr. Jeffrey Tandingan, Head ng CARD MRI Publishing House ang misyon at mga kumpanyang kabilang sa CARD MRI. Isa-isa niya itong ipinakilala bilang bahagi ng mas malawak na layunin ng organisasyon na palawakin ang kaalaman tungkol sa kanilang mga programa at serbisyo.

Ayon kay Ms. Myrtle Angel, Area Manager ng CARD Inc., patuloy ang kanilang adbokasiya na bigyan ng puhunan at pagsasanay ang mga kababaihan, partikular ang mga nanay, upang sila ay mapamagat sa makapagsimula ng negosyo. Dagdag pa niya, lingguhan ang pagpupulong ng mga miyembro upang maghulog ng bayad at tumanggap ng gabay sa tamang paghawak ng pera.

Binigyang-diin naman ni Mr. Rhey Mark Mapalad, Provincial Manager ng CARD MBA, ang kahalagahan ng insurance. Sa halagang ₱20, may benepisyo nang natatanggap ang mga miyembro, at maaari pang i-upgrade para sa mas malawak na proteksyon. Ibinahagi rin ni Ms. Mary Grace Manga, Branch Head ng CARD Bank Calapan Branch, na bukas ang CARD Bank sa lahat basta may kakayahang

magbayad at handang matuto sa pagnenegosyo. Aniya, prayoridad nila ang mga PWD, senior citizens, at buntis upang mas mabilis na maasikaso sa kanilang transaksyon, kabilang na ang paggamit ng Konek2CARD.

Nagpasalamat naman si Katrin Silaan, isang miyembro mula sa Iraya Mangyan Tribe, sa CARD Bank dahil nakapagsimula siya ng sari-sari store at nakapagpundar mula sa paglala ng mga basket. Sa tulong ng CARD Bank, nakahanap sila ng merkado at dumamini ang kanilang mga customer.

Samantala, ibinahagi ni Marianne Agutaya, may-ari ng MOREDAN Coffee at hulos isang dekada nang miyembro ng CARD Bank, ang kanyang tagumpay sa negosyo sa tulong ng kanilang suporta. Hinihikayat niya ang mga maliliit na negosyante, lalo na ang mga nagsisimula pa lamang, na lumapit sa pinakamalapit na CARD Bank upang matulungan sa kanilang puhunan at paglago ng negosyo.

Sa kabuuan, ang matagumpay na Lakbay Aral ay nagpatibay ng layunin ng CARD Bank na patuloy na magsilbing katuwang ng bawat pamilyang Pilipino tungo sa kaunlaran at mas maunlad na kinabukasan.

Tagaytay Tourism Council Joins Clean-Up Drive at People’s Park in the sky

Earlier today, the Tagaytay Tourism Council took part in a community clean-up drive at the iconic People’s Park in the Sky, one of the city’s most visited landmarks. The activity brought together council members, volunteers, and partners who share the same commitment to keeping Tagaytay clean, green, and welcoming for both tourists and locals.

The clean-up drive focused on proper waste collection, segregation, and clearing of areas to ensure the park remains safe and enjoyable for visitors.

Tagaytay Tourism Council highlighted the importance of sustainability in tourism, empha-

sizing that keeping destinations clean is a shared responsibility. By taking small steps such as reducing litter and participating in activities like these, everyone contributes to preserving the charm and cleanliness of the city.

The council encourages residents, business owners, and tourists alike to practice responsible tourism by disposing of waste properly and supporting eco-friendly initiatives.

This clean-up drive is just one of many efforts aligned with the city’s vision to make Tagaytay not only a premier travel destination but also a model for sustainable and responsible tourism.

From Page 1

DSWD...

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) continues to provide support to local government units affected by recent severe weather disturbances, with more than ₱4.99 million worth of assistance already extended to affected families in the region. According to DSWD IV-A, a total of 24,814 families have been affected in Calabarzon by Typhoon

Opong, as well as previous weather disturbances Mirasol, Nando, and the southwest monsoon. Of these, more than 16,000 families remain in 795 evacuation centers across the region, most of which are located in Quezon province. In Laguna, over 300 families received family food packs during a distribution activity held in Sta. Rosa City on September 27, 2025. These families,

who are currently staying at the evacuation center in Barangay Sinalhan, were displaced from their homes due to Typhoon Opong.

The food packs are part of the more than ₱800,000 worth of assistance provided by the DSWD to Sta. Rosa City. According to the local government’s report to DSWD Field Office IV-A, more than 1,000 families were affected by the re-

cent typhoon in the city as of 4:00 PM, September 27, 2025.

The agency assured that it will continue working with local government units to address the urgent needs of affected families, especially those still staying in evacuation centers. The Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council Calabarzon is currently assessing the impacts of Typhoon Opong in the region.

From Page 1

CAYETANO...

Ipalinaliwanag ni Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano nitong Miyerkules ang kanyang boto pabor sa Senate Resolution No. 144 na humihiling sa International Criminal Court (ICC) na ilagay sa house arrest si dating Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte para sa humanitarian reasons.

Ang resolusyon, na inaprubahan nitong October 1, ay pinasa sa boto ng 15 senador na pabor, tatlong tumutol, at dalawa ang nag-abstain.

Isa si Cayetano sa mga orihinal na may-akda ng katulad na panukala, at ayon sa kanya, nakabatay ang kanyang pagsuporta sa prinsipyo ng hustisya at makataong pagtrato.

“Iba ang vengeance sa justice. Ang vengeance is an emotional impulse of someone who is a victim of injustice. In Tagalog, gusto niyang gantihan. Ang justice, hustisya, ay well-defined sa international community and I know that as a former Secretary

of Foreign Affairs,” wika ni Cayetano.

Binigyang diin niya na hindi ito tungkol sa muling pagbubukas ng usapin sa war on drugs kundi para tiyakin na mayroong patas na proseso para sa lahat, alinsunod sa mga kasunduang pangkarapatang pantao na nilagdaan ng Pilipinas.

Ayon kay Cayetano, mahalagang bahagi ng hustisya ang makataong pagtrato at due process. “Ang hustisya po ay bulag. Nakat-

akip po yung mata para nga walang makita [at maging patas,] dagdag pa niya.

Nilinaw din ni Cayetano na bagama’t maaaring magpatuloy ang mga debate sa war on drugs, ang resolusyon ay nakatuon sa pagrespeto sa hustisya at pagpapanatili ng mga pamanatayang pandaigdig.

“I vote yes Mr. Cayetano and I thank our colleagues for putting this on the floor,” wika ng senador.

From Page 1

PH gov’t reaffirms commitment as host country for ASEAN centre for Biodiversity

MUNTINLUPA CITY (PIA) – The Philippine government, through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), has reaffirmed its commitment to work closely with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in safeguarding the nation’s rich biological heritage for future generations.

During the ACB’s 20th founding anniversary celebration in Muntinlupa City on September 25, DENR Undersecretary for Legal and Administration Ernesto Adobo Jr. said the Philippines “takes great pride” in being a partner of the Centre since its establishment.

“We reaffirm our commitment to work closely with the Centre and with our fellow ASEAN member states to ensure that the biological heritage of our region—one of the most diverse on Earth—remains protected for generations to come,” Adobo said.

He emphasized that the ACB plays a critical role in uniting the region to address pressing environmental challenges such as biodiversity loss, climate change, and unsustainable resource use.

“For the past twenty years, the ACB has stood as a unifying platform for ASEAN member states, policymakers, scientists, communities, and development partners. Together, you have nurtured partnerships that remind us that the conservation of biodiversity is not the work of governments alone, but a shared responsibility across sectors,” the undersecretary added.

The ACB dates back to 1998, when the 10 ASEAN Member States, including the Philippines, launched the ASEAN Regional Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (ARC-BC) Project with funding support from the European Union. Recognizing its potential to sustain gains and respond to regional

biodiversity challenges, the member states agreed to establish the ACB in 2005.

“The Philippines will chair ASEAN next year. We are preparing for this to support the country and to be an important partner of the government as it takes on the ASEAN chairmanship,” said ACB Executive Director Dr. Jerome Montemayor in an interview with the Philippine Information Agency CALABARZON.

Montemayor highlighted the ASEAN Summit as a key platform for the ACB to engage member states and development partners in advancing biodiversity conservation, promoting sustainable use of biological resources, and ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from biodiversity.

“The participation of the ACB in ASEAN bodies has been vital in promoting and reporting the Centre’s programs

and accomplishments, which further inspires our ASEAN member countries to strengthen and expand their biodiversity initiatives,” he said.

Over the past two decades, the ACB, through its partnerships with governments and private institutions, has restored and protected 108,879 hectares of forest, implemented 29 conservation projects worth USD 59.5 million since 2014, and invested more than USD 22 million in biodiversity conservation and livelihood programs.

It also oversees 69 ASEAN Heritage Parks—national parks and nature reserves recognized for their outstanding wilderness and biodiversity values—14 of which are located in the Philippines.

Montemayor expressed optimism that ACB’s multi-sectoral approach on mainstreaming biodiversity bears a more progressive and greener ASEAN region.

SMC restarts cleanup of Tullahan River to ease flooding in Metro Manila

San Miguel Corp. (SMC) is restarting cleanup of the Tullahan River, three years after it completed the P1-billion effort.

The company said its regular LIDAR monitoring, which uses laser technology to map river depth, showed that silt and waste had again accumulated, limiting the river's ability to drain floodwaters into Manila Bay.

The 27-kilometer river, which runs through Quezon City, Caloocan, Valenzuela, Malabon and Navotas, was the first focus of SMC's Better Rivers PH program that was launched in 2020. By 2022, the company had cleared 1.12 million metric tons of waste and silt from a 10.9-kilometer stretch near the North Luzon Expressway.

SMC Chairman

Ramon S. Ang said the return to Tullahan reflects the company's long-term commitment to mitigating flooding through river cleanups. "It is not unexpected that silt and garbage have re-accumulated. Heavy rains have brought more erosion, and waste dumping continues. That's why we really need to go back," he said.

Since 2020, Better Rivers PH has removed 8.6 million metric tons of silt and waste from 165 kilometers of waterways at no cost to government. Beyond the Tullahan, SMC has undertaken cleanups in the Pasig, San Juan, Bulacan, Pampanga, Parañaque and Laguna river systems, and recently began work on the Alabang and Las Piñas rivers.

In Quezon City, SMC is working with the

local government under a memorandum of agreement to clear obstructions along the river's easements and restore its natural width. Mayor Joy Belmonte said the initiative complements the city's flood-control and waste-management programs.

Meanwhile, Valenzuela City Mayor Wes Gatchalian and Navotas City Mayor John Rey Tiangco have also asked SMC to extend cleanup to their sections of the Tullahan and its tributaries.

Initial work has started at the river's mouth in Manila Bay and shallow channels in Valenzuela and Malabon. SMC also plans to extend cleanup upstream to La Mesa Dam and widen sections of the San Juan River and its tributaries.

"For five years now, we have been cleaning rivers because flooding disrupts lives and the economy," Ang said. "This is our way of contributing to long-term solutions that affect millions of Filipinos."

This coincides with World Rivers Day, observed by more than 100 countries to promote protection of natural waterways. PR



SMC's river cleanup initiative has returned to Tullahan River to restore its depth and carrying capacity for floodwater.

DOST...

On September 8, 2025, the Department of Science and Technology – Provincial S&T Office of Cavite (DOST Cavite), led by Provincial Director Gilda S. De Jesus, paid a courtesy call to the office of the newly elected mayor of Naic, Cavite, Hon. Rommel Anthony V. Magbitang.

This visit aimed to introduce DOST's programs and services, as well as explore potential collaborations between the agency and the local government unit (LGU) to further enhance the municipality's development.

During the meeting, Mayor Magbitang highlighted the urgent need for Science and Technology (S&T) inter-

ventions, particularly in the area of solid waste management.

Recognizing the challenges faced by the community, the mayor emphasized that S&T solutions could play a pivotal role in addressing environmental concerns and

improving waste management systems in Naic.

Both parties expressed optimism for a strengthened partnership, with DOST offering its support to help drive innovative and sustainable solutions for the municipality's pressing issues.



From Page 1



Abiding with Caviteños

By Abigail C. Gomez

Demanding Accountability while Guarding our Voices

Trust is an invisible thread that keeps a community together. Yet for weeks now, our Facebook feeds have been flooded with stories of flood-control controversies, plunder cases, corruption allegations, and ghost projects. Opinions collide, tempers flare up, and cursed words fly. Our trust in the local government is declining and wearing thin. It seems that every time we see a pothole, a clogged canal, every peso of tax collected is quickly being

equated to expensive cars, a luxury yacht, or a helicopter. We begin to see taxes not as tools for public service, but as symbols of excessiveness. An extreme display of status in contrast to poverty. Beneath all this noise, however, the real issue remains: accountability and justice—justice for taxpayers and a conscience for those who have betrayed the public trust.

As taxes rise, so does our collective anger. As corruption proliferates, emotions escalate. We watch arrogance unfold among one another, and we imagine masterminds moving unpunished. And while trust declines, frustration only grows stronger. These emotions are valid. After all, these are the taxes we worked hard to pay, only to see them seemingly squandered.

Amidst all these, may this column serve as a gentle precaution: when we become too hyped by what we see online, we tend to lose control. We post without thinking, react immensely, point fingers, and act as if we are the judiciary, passing judgment without due process.

This unchecked reaction can backfire. Reckless posting can lead to cyber libel, and in our passion to demand justice, we may find ourselves unintentionally breaking the law. The Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012 (Republic Act 10175) defines cyber libel as any libel committed through a computer or social media platform. Libel itself is a public and malicious imputation of a crime, vice, or defect that causes dishonor or discredit to a person. No matter how angry you are, remember that the penalty is also serious: prision correccional in its minimum and medium periods or a fine ranging from PhP40,000 to

PhP1,200,000. Even a single post, comment, or share that maligns a person can be used as evidence.

Raising our voices is important, but so is remembering that freedom of speech is not freedom from consequence. Criticize issues and policies if you must, but always base your words on facts, cite credible sources, and always avoid personal attacks. Mind your tone. Choose words that illuminate rather than inflame. When outrage overwhelms us, let us channel it through the proper avenues—file complaints with agencies like the Ombudsman, Civil Service Commission, rather than vent recklessly online.

Trust in our government institutions may be shaken, and our anger may be real, but our duty as citizens remains clear. We must demand accountability from those in power, yes—but equally, we must embrace the accountability and responsibility of our own words online. Let the voices of Caviteños inspire meaningful action toward a more just and transparent community.

Trust in our government institutions may be shaken, and our anger may be real, but our duty as citizens remains clear. We must demand accountability from those in power, yes—but equally, we must embrace the accountability and responsibility of our own words online. Let the voices of Caviteños inspire meaningful action toward a more just and transparent community.

From Page 1



CARBANK...

Marianne Agutaya, 50, embodies the values of perseverance, passion, and unwavering entrepreneurial spirit. Her life is a journey of resilience, transformation, and the determination to create a better future, not only for herself but for her entire family.

A tough beginning

Marianne had to grow up quickly. While many of her age were focused on finishing their studies and discovering their paths, she was already raising a child and working to support her family. With so many responsibilities on her shoulders, she was unable to complete her college degree, managing to finish only up to her third year.

At 16, she took her first steps into entrepreneurship by making her own barbecue food business, and this early exposure to business shaped her business path.

Although she was raised in a family with stable careers, Marianne never relied on privilege. Instead, she chose to carve out her own way through hard work, grit, and determination.

After separating from her legal husband, with whom she had three children, Marianne began a new chapter in life with her partner, Ismael, a man whose talent and passion for cooking perfectly complemented her business mindset. Together, they started a modest food business from home, aiming to meet the growing needs of their blended

family, which also included her two children from her previous marriage to Ismael — one in college and another in senior high school.

As support for their income, Marianne opened a small convenience store at home. However, she eventually decided to close it so she could focus entirely on their growing food business. They began preparing rice meals and offering them for schools, companies, and community events. The industry is primarily promoted through online platforms and word of mouth, which has gained momentum quickly.

The birth of MoreDan Coffee

Marianne's business mindset was passed down to her children, especially her daughter, Moreen Agutaya, 30, who holds a degree in Business Administration. In 2023, Moreen and her husband, Daniel, an IT professional, officially launched MoreDan Coffee, a name inspired by the combination of their first names.

MoreDan Coffee is a family collaboration that blends Marianne's well-loved rice meal products with Moreen's specialty waffles, cakes, pastries, and a variety of refreshing drinks, creating a unique menu that reflects their shared passion and creativity.

As a business-minded person like her mom, Moreen first became a client of CARDBANK, Inc., a microfinance-oriented rural bank. She began with a personal

loan. For over 10 years, as a client, she has responsibly managed her finances to help expand the business and support her family's needs.

Afterwards, inspired by Moreen's clientship, Marianne was encouraged and also became a client of the bank. She currently holds an active loan of PHP 30,000, which she reinvested into the family business and used to support her children's education and other daily needs.

MoreDan Coffee soon evolved into more than just a café. It became a symbol of family unity and entrepreneurship, offering a well-loved menu that includes rice meals, flavorful drinks, and their signature waffles. Their customer base initially included students from nearby schools. Still, as the business grew, they began serving corporate employees as well, many of whom placed online and advance orders, particularly those working night shifts.

Even amid intense market competition and the effects of inflation, the Agutaya family stayed true to their values. They remained committed to affordability, consistency in quality, and warm, personalized service. These principles helped them earn customer loyalty and solidify MoreDan Coffee as a trusted name in Calapan City's local food and beverage scene.

Looking Ahead Thanks to their dedication, life for the Agutaya family has become more stable and

From Page 1

comfortable. But Marianne isn't content to stop there. She now envisions transforming the rooftop of their home into an air-conditioned VIP dining space. It is a dream that would allow them to accommodate more customers and elevate their service.

Today, with regular staff and part-time workers helping with day-to-day operations, MoreDan Coffee has grown beyond its initial vision, built on years of hard work, sacrifice, and family unity.

MoreDan Coffee has grown into a two-branch operation in Calapan City. One in Bulusan, managed by Moreen and her husband, and another in Sta. Maria Village, managed by Marianne herself. Both branches are open for bulk and advance orders, either for pick-up or delivery. Their customers can reach them and place their orders through their official FB pages @MoreDan Coffee SMV and @MoreDan Coffee-Bulusan.

Marianne and her family's story is a reminder that success does not happen overnight. It is built on patience, resilience, and a deep love for the work you do. Their journey proves that no matter how humble the beginning, progress is always possible for those who believe in their dreams and dare to keep going.

As Marianne shares, "Venturing into business is no easy feat. You will face countless challenges, but with passion and perseverance, anything is possible."

Republic of the Philippines
Fourth Judicial Region
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE JUDGE
Bacoor City, Cavite
email: rtc1bcrocc@judiciary.gov.ph
contact no.: 0927-370-7489

IN RE: PETITION FOR NOTARIAL COMMISSION FOR THE PROVINCE AND CITIES OF CAVITE,

App. No. 2025-20

ROGER A. LUNAR,
Petitioner.

X-----X

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a summary hearing on the Petition for Appointment as Notary Public shall be held on **October 14, 2025 at 09:00 in the morning**. Any person who has any cause or reason to object to the grant of the petition may file a verified written opposition thereto, received by the undersigned before the date of the summary hearing.

Let this notice be published once in the newspaper of general circulation in the Cities and Province of Cavite at the expense of the petitioner.

City of Bacoor, Cavite. September 17, 2025.

(SGD)AMALIA S. GUMAPO-SRICABLANCA
Executive Judge

Copy furnished:

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DATELINE WEEKLY
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DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:
October 06, 2025



emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship, innovation, and community development for building a more prosperous society.

In closing, participants expressed their gratitude to the Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer (OPCDO) and Board Member Chelsea G. Sar-

no, Sangguniang Kabataan Provincial Federation President, for organizing the event and helping them realize they are on the right path. The collaboration between OPCDO, government agencies, and expert speakers marked a significant step toward empowering Cavite's youth. — F. Tamio



The Senate recognized and commended Padel Pilipinas following its landmark victory at the 2025 Asia Pacific Padel Cup (APPC) in Selangor, Malaysia. The national team swept through the tournament with an impressive record, defeating powerhouse teams from Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand, South Korea, Pakistan, Singapore, and India, to emerge as champions of the region.

Senator Pia Cayetano, founder of Padel Pilipinas, delivered an omnibus sponsorship speech commending the athletes and coaches, and recognizing standout players Joanna Tao Yee Tan and Johnny Arcilla, who were named Female and Male MVPs of the APPC. The Senate also adopted resolutions congratulating Tan and LA Cafizares for their Mixed Pro title at the APPT Kuala Lumpur Open, as

Veloso to Senate: GSIS fund growing strong, managed with discipline

Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) President and General Manager Wick Veloso assured senators and members on Tuesday that the state pension fund is “safe, secure, and continues to grow,” citing robust fund performance and responsible investment practices.

Speaking at the Senate Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises inquiry, Veloso emphasized that GSIS invests with discipline, not speculation. “We do not gamble with our members’ hard-earned funds. Our approach is anchored on transparency, research, and a clear vision for long-term growth. Every decision is carefully vetted to ensure safety and sustainability,” he said.

Veloso reported that the GSIS fund expanded from ₱1.54 trillion in 2022 to ₱1.88 trillion as of June 2025, an increase of more than ₱300 billion in just three years. In the first half of 2025 alone, the pension fund earned ₱172.7 billion, with ₱77.82

billion in net income, 30 percent higher year-on-year. The fund’s actuarial life now stretches to 2058, securing benefits for decades to come.

He highlighted that this growth is already improving the lives of members:

₱413 billion in low-interest loans have helped 1.9 million members escape predatory lending;

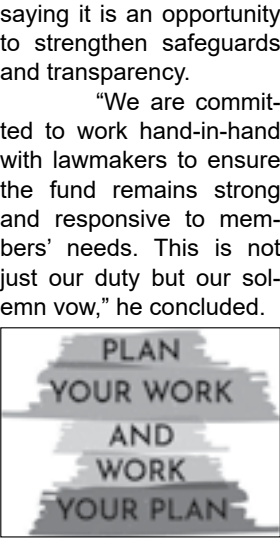
4,547 families now own homes through GSIS housing initiatives;

₱29.5 billion in emergency loans were released to more than 1 million members in times of need; and

99.6 percent of transactions are now digital, cutting queues and paperwork.

“These are the real dividends of GSIS fund growth: peace of mind for our members, dignity for our retirees, and better opportunities for government employees and their families,” Veloso said.

Veloso also welcomed the legislative review of the GSIS Charter,



DOLE, NGO partner to implement livelihood projects in Calabarzon

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) in Calabarzon has partnered with the Ynnielove Foundation for the implementation of ₱75 million worth of livelihood programs across the region.

According to DOLE Calabarzon, the livelihood programs to be implemented include rice retailing, carpentry, garment production, and dishwashing projects, aiming to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for workers, families, and as-



LESgoPositive Cavite

By: Leslie Anne Gatdula

A Valued Life

Philippines ranks sixth in World Population review of Facebook Users by Country 2025. Giving the figures of 102.3M, 53% of which are female users and 47% are male users, show that Filipinos are very much inclined in the use of social media platforms with various reasons behind. Others are looking for news to be informed, some are shopping, searching for jobs or trying to check the latest trend that might be interesting at some point.

We are aware that Facebook is considered as ‘part’ of one’s way to communicate. It is an aid for us to know the world in an easier way or manner. It has a good objective from the start and hopefully retains its real purpose until today. But here is one point I want to give attention to, how this platform can affect one’s life:

Most people nowadays seek their worth from other’s “comments or reactions”. Some expresses their point of views and emotions through these electronic and mediated platforms which lead to both positive

and negative effects. We have been hearing different news about Filipinos being known or popularized through social media- Ninong Ry, Cong TV, Viy Cortez, Esnyr to name a few. But we are also aware of some negative effects of these mediated platforms; cyber bullying, love scam, harassment and even depression and anxiety which may lead to more serious problem.

September is known as the suicide prevention awareness month. Different institutions support this awareness and campaigns. As a concern citizen and I also wonder, what brings this thought to someone and entertains this behavior?

Belongingness- a word that most people nowadays seek for, the questions like “Where should I be?”, “Whom should I be with?” “What do I want?” “Who am I?”.

These questions are common but with deeper meaning and serious answers. Filipinos are known to be happy people and resilient, yet are not exempted from trials, pains and hardships. But are these reasons enough to make thoughts of getting down and lonely? Are these enough bases to

be rejected and judged by the society? Luke 12:6-7 say “‘Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” A sweet and true reminder that we are worthy, our lives are valued and have an impact to others too. No room to frown nor be depressed and weak. Live life with a light heart despite the pains and trials you feel and experience.

Facebook remains in the top 3 among other social media platforms, boasting 3.07 billion monthly active users, (N. Kumar, 2025) which is a strong proof that whatever posted and seen in this platform may still influence one’s mind and behavior. Instead of boosting negative points over social media, use it to bring “life” and be the bearer of goodness and express that our lives matter and we are all valued and loved. Remember that we are all fearfully and wonderfully made.

and livelihood needs in disadvantaged communities.

Meanwhile, Regional Director Erwin Aquino assured the public that these livelihood projects will be carried out with “utmost transparency and accountability, underscoring the agency’s commitment to ensuring that funds are properly managed, liquidated, and monitored at every stage.”

Ynnielove Foundation President Aref D. Usman expressed his gratitude for the trust and confidence of DOLE, un-



Establishment of nuclear regulatory framework expected to ease concerns over safety use — Gatchalian

The enactment of a measure that would establish a regulatory framework for nuclear power is expected to ease safety concerns over its use, Senator Win Gatchalian said.

“The way to enhance public confidence in nuclear use is to ensure that mechanisms for its safe utilization are in place. With the measure’s enactment, we are confident that it will address concerns over the risks and hazards of using nuclear power,” said Gatchalian, referring to the recent signing into law of Republic Act 12305, or the Philippine National Nuclear Energy Safety Act, which establishes the Philippine Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority (PhilATOM). Gatchalian is a co-author of the measure.

“The implementation of the measure would hopefully lead to the integration of nuclear power into the country’s energy mix. It will be an additional carbon free source of electricity in the country to meet growing demand,” said Gatchalian.

“Hindi pa talaga natin nasusubukan ang nuclear technology sa bansa at mahalaga na may institusyon na namamahala para masigurong ligtas ang bawat hakbang na gagawin at maayos ang posibleng paggamit nito,” he added.

DTI...

Baras, Rizal – The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Rizal, through Negosyo Center Baras, in partnership with the Local Government of Baras and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Rizal, successfully conducted the K-Negosyo: Kabataang Entrepreneur 2.0 Training and Seminar on Branding and Packaging Skills for Youth Merchants last August 18, 2025.

The training focused on helping young business owners in Baras strengthen their branding and improve product packaging to make their enterprises more market-ready.

Two speakers shared valuable insights during the program. Ms. Rachel Leones, Co-owner of Creativly Studio, delivered an engaging talk on branding and packaging strategies, emphasizing the importance of storytelling, creativity, and building strong brand identities that connect with customers.

She encouraged participants to embrace innovation and utilize branding as a tool to differentiate their products.

On the other hand, Mr. R-Jay Salabao from DOST Rizal discussed the technical aspects of branding and packaging, including design elements, materials, and product presentation. His talk highlighted how science and practical innovation can enhance product quality and market competitiveness.

The program opened with Councilor Bien Garrovillas, who assured the continued support of the LGU in guiding the youth toward successful entrepreneurship.

Through this initiative, DTI Rizal, LGU Baras, and DOST Rizal reaffirm their shared mission of empowering young entrepreneurs with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to grow their businesses and contribute to the local economy.

Programang YFC ng DA-4A, ipinakilala sa mga estudyante ng Cavite State University

Ipinakilala sa labing-pitong estudyante ng Cavite State University sa pamamagitan ng isang oryentasyon ang programang Young Farmers Challenge (YFC) ng #DA-Calabarzon Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division noong ika-8 ng Setyembre sa Indang,-Cavite.

Inilahad sa mga kabataang kumukuha ng kursong agrikultura ang kabuuan ng programa kabilang ang tatlong kategorya na Start- Up sa Provincial Level at Upscale at Intercollegiate naman sa Regional Level na maaari nilang salihan. Tinalakay din ang mga kinakailangan at kwalipi-

kasyon sa pagsali at ang estudyanteng premyo na maaaring matanggap ng mga mananalo.

Ang YFC ay programa ng Kagawaran para sa mga kabataang nagnanais magtayo ng negosyong pang-agrikultura na magbibigay suporta sa pamamagitan ng financial grant sa mga mananalo. Binigyang-diin ni Agricultural Programs Coordinating Officer, Ruben Perlas ang malaking parte ng mga Kabataan sa pagpapaunlad ng sektor ng agrikultura. Aniya, ang kanilang pagtahak sa larangan ng agrikultura ay isang mahalagang hakbang na para rito. Hinikayat din nya ang



mga estudyante na palawakin pa ito sa pamamagitan ng pagsubok na mag-ing mga agri-preneurs.

Nagpahayag naman ng interes si Jay-Ron A. Bosito na isa sa mga dumalo. Aniya, handa syang ibahagi sa kapwa nya mag-aaral ang magandang oportunidad na YFC Program para sa

kanila. Para sa mga nais sumali, maaaring makita ang detalye at kinakailangang dokumento sa link <https://tinyurl.com/YFC2025Requirements> at magpasa ng aplikasyon hanggang ika-23 ng Setyembre 2025 sa amad4a.yfc@gmail.com. PR

Manila Teachers Gain AI Training from Aboitiz, TELUS

Aboitiz Foundation, Inc., the corporate social responsibility arm of the Philippines’ first techglomerate, and TELUS Digital Philippines Community Board, the foundation arm of TELUS Digital Philippines, conducted a three-day workshop on artificial intelligence (AI) in education for public school teachers under the program Empowering Educators Year 2.

The workshop “Empowering Educators: Harnessing AI for Future-Ready Teaching” equipped teachers with practical AI skills through lectures, interactive sessions, and hands-on training led by Google for Education experts. Educators learned prompt engineering, explored AI tools, and applied solution-building approaches—all in celebration of National Teachers’ Month.

Guided by TELUS Digital’s ‘We give where we live’ philosophy, we are committed to supporting educators who shape tomorrow’s leaders. Teachers deserve strong partners as they navigate the digital transformation of education,” said Phoebe Carrera, CSR Senior Manager at TELUS Digital Asia Pacific.

The training concluded with teachers presenting capstone projects



showcasing AI-powered solutions to improve lessons, streamline school operations, and build future-ready learning environments. Ginggay Hon-tiveros-Malvar, Aboitiz Foundation President, emphasized,

“When teachers are equipped with the right tools and knowledge, they can transform classrooms and intelligent tutoring to uplift entire communities.” The program gained strong partner support, with Ronald McDonald House Charities providing meals and Converge ICT ensuring reliable connectivity. The

Department of Education–Manila also affirmed its full backing, highlighting the critical role of digital transformation in public schools.

“AI is no longer science fiction — it is already shaping our classrooms, lesson planning, and student tools. From personalized learning and intelligent tutoring to automated grading and predictive analysis, AI is transforming education,” said Nerissa R. Lomeda, Officer-in-Charge, Schools Division Superintendent.

Now in its sec-

ond year, Empowering Educators builds on its 2024 launch, continuing the Aboitiz Foundation–TELUS Digital Philippines Community Board partnership. The program reaffirms their shared commitment to equip teachers with innovative tools, enabling them to prepare students for success in a fast-changing world.

Bringing AI to the Classroom. Google for Education facilitates guided teachers through hands-on AI applications and interactive sessions, culminating in capstone project presentations.