

SMC employees plant nearly 100,000 trees nationwide to help restore forests, protect communities from flooding



San Miguel Corporation's Team Malasakit volunteers trek to Mount Purro in Antipolo City on Saturday, June 21, to plant at least 2,000 seedlings of native tree species.

Employees of San Miguel Corporation (SMC) have so far planted or donated a total of 98,296 seedlings across the country, in support of the company's continuing efforts to help reduce flood risks, improve air and wa-

ter quality, and revive critical forest areas. Since 2024, 2,457 SMC employees have joined tree-planting activities in 48 locations in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, through the company's Team Malasakit pro-

gram — which engages employees in community and environmental initiatives throughout the year. The latest activity, in celebration of Team Malasakit's 10th year and Philippine Arbor Day, was held at Mount Purro Na-

ture Reserve (MPNR) in Antipolo City. Some 225 SMC employee-volunteers planted seedlings of narra, lawaan, banaba, coffee, and other native trees, bringing SMC's total trees planted in the area to 4,600.

Mount Purro is

part of the Sierra Madre mountain range and helps protect Metro Manila and Rizal from flooding.

At the same site last year, trees planted by SMC volunteers recorded an 80% survival rate.

"Tree planting, when done consistently and at scale, makes a big difference. I'm grateful to our people for continuing to take part in this effort," said SMC President and CEO Ramon S. Ang.

For the rest of the year, SMC has scheduled 21 volunteer-led activations involving 1,351 employee volunteers who are expected to contribute over 4,000 hours planting at least 7,675 seedlings across multiple provinces.

These employee-led efforts complement SMC's larger reforestation program, including San Miguel Global Power's Project 747, which has al-

ready planted over 6.5 million trees and mangroves in various forestlands and coastal areas in the country, with a survival rate of 91% for upland trees and 89% for mangrove propagules.

The project is now on track to exceed its original target of planting 7 million trees over 7 years, covering both land and coastal ecosystems.

In addition to planting activities, SMC's San Miguel Properties Inc. (SMPI) has pledged to donate 80,000 seedlings to support reforestation in Bataan.

"We are thankful that we now have San Miguel with us, because we are not just planting trees — we are planting love for the environment. We don't just plant and leave.

We plant and return," MPNR founder Alberto "Toto" Malvar said.

Senator Pia Cayetano Takes Oath for Fourth Senate Term



Senator Pia S. Cayetano took her oath of office before Chief Justice Alexander Gesmundo on Thursday, June 26, 2025, during a ceremony at the new Taguig City Hall. She was joined by her children, Mayor Lani Cayetano, Senator Alan Peter Cayetano, Senate President

Francis Chiz Escudero, and invited guests.

As she enters the 20th Congress, Senator Cayetano reaffirmed her commitment to championing key legislative priorities, including education, health, energy reform, and the policies for the betterment of Filipino families.

Taguig City Mayor Lani Cayetano also took her oath of office on the same day, marking the start of a new term in local governance. The occasion brought together leaders from both local and national levels, grounded in a shared commitment to public service.

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PNPA CADETS PAY COURTESY VISIT TO BACOR CITY MAYOR

CAYETANO ENDS 19TH CONGRESS WITH LANDMARK LAWS, EDUCATION PUSH, AND CALL FOR 'WISDOM'

Calabarzon DRRM authorities step up preparedness for rainy season

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BLESSING OF NEW SUPER HEALTH CENTER IN BACOR CITY'S BARANGAY MALIKSI 2



Bacoor City, June 26, 2025 – Bacor City celebrated the opening of its eighth rural health unit today with the blessing of a new Super Health Center in Barangay Maliksi 2.

The ceremony was attended by Mayor Strike B. Revilla, Vice Mayor Rowena Bautista-Mendiola, Congress-

woman Lani Mercado Revilla, Board Member Alde Pagulayan, several city councilors, SK President Palm Angel Buncio, PLT-Col John Paulo Carracedo, and Bishop Benedict Santos. Special guests included Senator Christopher "Bong" Go, Mr. Philip Salvador, and Assistant Regional Director Voltaire Guadalupe of DOH Calabarzon.

Barangay officials, health workers, and OCHS staff were also present.

The new facility represents a significant step forward in improving healthcare access for residents of Barangay Maliksi 2 and the wider Bacor City community.

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TODAY'S NEWS AND BEYOND

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CARD RBI plants 200 trees in Laguna for environmental sustainability



The CARD RBI team, with the members of the Barangay Kapatalan Council and a DENR representative, carried out a tree planting activity, reinforcing their commitment to environmental protection and conservation.

As part of its commitment to envi-

ronmental sustainability, CARD MRI Rizal Bank, Inc. (CARD RBI), a microfinance-oriented rural bank, conducted a tree planting activity in Barangay Kapatalan, Famy, Laguna, on April 5, 2025.

The activity, themed "Planting Trees Together", was held in partnership with the De-

partment of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Famy, and the Barangay Council of Kapatalan, led by Barangay Chairman Anselmo Coronoda.

A total of 200 native trees were plant-

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DSWD's Bahay Tuluyan aids recovery, reintegration of abused children



10 practical health tips to help you start off towards healthy living in 2025.

6. Check your blood pressure regularly

Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is called a “silent killer”. This is because many people who have hypertension may not be aware of the problem as it may not have any symptoms. If left uncontrolled, hypertension can lead to heart, brain, kidney and other diseases. Have your blood pressure checked regularly by a health worker so you know your numbers. If your blood pressure is high, get the advice of a health worker. This is vital in the prevention and control of hypertension.

7. Follow traffic laws

Road crashes claim over one million lives around the world and millions more are injured. Road traffic injuries are preventable through a variety of measures implemented by the government such as strong legislation and enforcement, safer infrastructure and vehicle standards, and improved post-crash care. You yourself can also prevent road crashes by ensuring that you follow traffic laws such as using the seatbelt for adults and child restraint for your kids, wearing a helmet when riding a motorcycle or bicycle, not drinking and driving, and not using your mobile phone while driving.

8. Take antibiotics only as prescribed

Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest public health threats in our generation. When antibiotics lose their power, bacterial infections become harder to treat, leading to higher medical costs, prolonged hospital stays, and increased mortality. Antibiotics are losing their power because of misuse and overuse in humans and animals. Make sure you only take antibiotics if prescribed by a qualified health professional. And once prescribed, complete the treatment days as instructed. Never share antibiotics.

9. Clean your hands properly

Hand hygiene is critical not only for health workers but for everyone. Clean hands can prevent the spread of infectious illnesses. You should hand-wash using soap and water when your hands are visibly soiled or handrub using an alcohol-based product.

10. Have regular check-ups

Regular check-ups can help find health problems before they start. Health professionals can help find and diagnose health issues early, when your chances for treatment and cure are better. Go to your nearest health facility to check out the health services, screenings and treatment that are accessible to you.



DSWD'S...



CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — As part of its continuing efforts to uphold children's rights, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in Calabarzon provides care, protection, and recovery services to children who are victim-survivors of various forms of abuse —through holistic programs at its 'Bahay Tuluyan' facility in Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

Bahay Tuluyan, a government-managed foster care facility established by the DSWD, serves as a safe haven for girls aged 5 to 17, who have experienced different forms of violence, including neglect, sexual exploitation, and maltreatment.

The center not

only supports survivors in rebuilding their resilience but also works to reunite and strengthen family ties.

Aside from providing shelter and rehabilitation, the center also equips residents with skills training to prepare them for reintegration into their families and communities, the DSWD said.

“As part of the interventions inside the center, residents are provided with skills training that they can use while undergoing rehabilitation, and also once they are reintegrated into their families and communities,” DSWD IV-A said in a statement.

The agency reported that 17 girls residing in the facility recently earned their National

Certificate II in Bread and Pastry Production.

In addition to livelihood interventions, the Pediatric Department of the De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute (DLSMHSI) also conducted free health checkups and shared educational sessions focused on child safety.

According to Joie Asutilla Ballo-Allo, nurse at Bahay Tuluyan ng mga Bata, these activities are vital in the children's recovery and reintegration process.

“This support from partner organizations is very helpful in improving the children's physical, mental, and emotional well-being as part of their healing and recovery,” Allo

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noted.

Located in Dasmariñas City, Cavite, Bahay Tuluyan ng mga Bata stands as a refuge for young girls who are victims of violence, helping them regain confidence, rebuild their lives, and, where possible, reconnect with their families.

Through these initiatives, the DSWD remains steadfast in contributing to the broader government effort to protect children's rights and respond to cases of abuse and violence against children.

These initiatives reflect the Marcos administration strong commitment to its promise that “Bawat Buhay, Mahalaga sa Bagong Pilipinas.”

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on the latest weather analysis and rainfall data from selected DOST-PAGASA stations.

The state weather bureau added that monsoon breaks, periods of little to no rainfall lasting several days or even weeks, may still occur.

REMULLA REPORTS SIGNIFICANT DROP IN FOCUS CRIMES IN FIRST HALF OF 2025

Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Jonvic C. Remulla reported a significant drop in focus crimes, including rape, physical injuries, and robbery, from January 1 to June 6 this year, compared to the same period last year.

Focus crimes are considered serious offenses that occur frequently and directly impact public safety.

During the 1st Joint National Peace and Order Council and Regional Peace and Order Council (NPOC-RPOC) Meeting, Remulla said rape incidents went down by 31.85%, physical injuries by 30.21%, and robbery by 26.47%.

Remulla, who is also the NPOC Chairperson, highlighted that the campaign against loose firearms resulted in the confiscation of 12,891 illegal firearms and the arrest of 5,314 individuals, 4,096 of whom are now facing charges in court.

“Rest assured,

July 02-08, 2025

Go Negosyo Holds First-ever Entrepreneurship Event for Creatives



BUILDING A CREATIVE ECONOMY. Go Negosyo founder Joey Concepcion and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Sec. Cris Roque rallied Filipino creatives to persevere and hone their entrepreneurship skills in the country's first Creative Entrepreneurship Summit, held last May 31, 2025 at the Ayala Malls Manila Bay in Parañaque City. With them are Sec. Dante “Klink” Ang II of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas; Hon. Christopher “Toff” V.P. De Venecia, Chairman of the Special Committee on Creative Industries, House of Representatives; Parañaque City Mayor Eric L. Olivarez; Engr. Lilian Salonga, Director IV of the DTI's Bureau of Competitive Development; Kaye Tinga, President of the Cultural Center of The Philippines; Marla D. Rausch, President of Sikap - Creative Content Creators Association of the Philippines, Inc.; Junie Del Mundo, Chairman & CEO of Eon Inc.; Womenbiz President Rhoda Caliwara, and officers of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry – Parañaque. The event honored 11 Filipino Creative Icons/Entrepreneurs, including Ramon Orlina, Wawi Navarroza, Kenneth Cobonpue, Liwayway Magazine (represented by Sonny Coloma), Julie Lluch (represented by Sari Dalena), BBDO Guerrero (represented by Alexandra Guerrero), Brillante Mendoza (represented by Krisma Fajardo); and (not in photo) Kenneth Cobonpue, Apo Whang-Od, Ricky Lee, and Michael Cinco.

Professionals in the creative industry received support from the entrepreneurship advocacy organization Go Negosyo as the non-profit held its first Creative Entrepreneurship Summit last May 31, 2025 at the Ayala Malls Manila Bay in Parañaque City.

“For Filipino creatives to thrive and continue pursuing their path, they need to be empowered through entrepreneurship,” said Go Negosyo founder Joey Concepcion. “By providing access to mentorship and through knowledge-sharing sessions that can help them transform creative ideas into viable business ventures, we can pave the way for the Philippines to realize its aspirations of becoming a leading economy in the region.”

The Creative Entrepreneurship Summit is a first of its kind for Go Negosyo, which advocates entrepreneurship for Filipinos. The broader goal of the event is to facilitate discussion, explore synergies, and spark meaning-

ful collaborations across the country's various creative sectors.

The event saw industry experts and professionals share their insights on the prospects of the creative industry in the Philippines, including actors Iza Calzado-Wintle and Dingdong Dantes, Actor PH President and Chairman, respectively. Several successful creatives also gave talks to share their experiences of how they turned their passion into profit. Complementing these plenary discussions and forums were mentoring sessions that offered feedback and actionable guidance for participants looking to start or grow their creative businesses.

During the event, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Cris Roque expressed

the government's support for the creative industry, saying, “This is aligned with the President's directive, and the DTI is taking this mission seriously.” She said that in 2024, the country's creative industry generated Php1.94 trillion and created 7.51 million jobs for Filipinos. She also shared that the DTI recently launched the Malikhaing Pinoy website, where Filipino creatives can connect with peers and find collaborative opportunities.

The Creative Entrepreneurship Summit also became the venue to honor 11 Filipino Creative Icons/Entrepreneurs, including Ramon Orlina, Julie Lluch, Kenneth Cobonpue, Wawi Navarroza, Apo Whang-Od, Ricky Lee, Brillante Mendoza, BBDO Guerrero, Ryan Cayabyab, Michael Cinco, and Liwayway Magazine.



CARD RBI...

ed during the initiative, including Duhat (Java plum), Kaimito (star apple), Mabolo (Velvet apple), and Kampitan (Kampit Tree).

The planting of these native trees supports environmental conservation in Famy, Laguna, while providing sustainable resources for the local community, strengthening ecosystems, and enhancing soil fertility.

The activity was

attended by 57 individuals, composed of 46 CARD RBI staff, 10 members of the Barangay Kapatalan Council, and one DENR representative. CARD RBI President and CEO Lyneth Derequito said the initiative is part of the bank's broader mission to go beyond financial services.

“CARD RBI is committed not only to financial inclusion but also to environmental sustainability and community

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development. By planting trees, we help strengthen ecosystems and create a sustainable future for all,” said Derequito.

From 2023 to 2024, CARD RBI planted 6,300 trees nationwide.

Looking toward 2025, the bank aims to conduct cleanup drives and plant an additional 5,000 trees across the country to further its environmental and community development goals



SM City Dasmariñas went full tail-wag mode during the Super Pets Academy: Obedience Training Caravan last June 21! Fur babies showed off their smarts, skills, and sass—earning treats and tail wags all day long!

Want more paw-some moments like this? Join the pack on Facebook! www.facebook.com/groups/smsuperpetsclub

PHILHEALTH REGIONAL OFFICE IV-A, NAKIBAHAGI SA BRIGADA ESKWELA 2025 NG DEPED



Universal Health Care (UHC) at PhilHealth Konsulta Orientation na isinagawa ng LHIO Calamba para sa mga guro at kawani ng DepEd Division ng Calamba noong Hunyo 9, 2025 kasabay ng kanilang Brigada Eskwela 2025 Kick-off program.

Bilang suporta sa Brigada Eskwela 2025 ng Department of Education (DepEd), nagsagawa ang mga Local Health Insurance Offices (LHIOs) ng PhilHealth Regional Office IV-A (PRO IV-A) ng serye ng aktibidad sa iba't ibang bayan at lungsod sa rehiyon. Layon ng mga aktibidad na ito na palakasin ang kaalaman ng publiko tungkol sa PhilHealth at Universal Health Care (UHC), at mapalapit ang mga serbisyong pangkalusugan sa mga komunidad, lalo na sa mga paaralan.

Sa pagbubukas ng Brigada Eskwela na may temang, "Sama-Sama Para sa Bayang Bumabasa," nagsagawa ang LHIO Calamba ng oryentasyon hinggil sa PhilHealth Konsulta Package at First Patient Encounter (FPE) para sa mga guro at kawani ng DepEd sa mga lungsod ng Sta. Rosa at Calamba.

Samantala, aktibong lumahok ang LHIO Gumaca sa Brigada Eskwela Kick-Off sa Danlagan Elementary School, Padre Burgos, Quezon. Tampok sa aktibidad ang pagpapaliwanag ukol sa UHC, mga benepisyo ng PhilHealth, at proseso ng pag-avail ng Konsulta Package. Namahagi rin sila ng mga registration forms, flyers, at iba pang impormasyon. Isinabay ng Rural Health Unit (RHU) ng Padre Burgos ang onsite Konsulta registration at FPE para sa mga magulang at mag-aaral na dumalo.

Nagbigay rin ng oryentasyon ang LHIO Gumaca sa mga magulang, guro, at stakeholders sa Maligaya Integrated National High School sa Atimonan, Quezon noong araw ding iyon. Nakibahagi naman ang LHIO Lucena, katuwang ang FOD Membership

Section at PCARES, sa Division Brigada Eskwela Kick-Off ng City Schools Division sa Kalumpang Elementary School, Lucena West I Elementary School at Quezon National Highschool sa Lucena City, Luis Palad Integrated High School sa Tayabas City, Lutucan Integrated National High School sa Sariaya, Quezon at Dapdap Integrated School, Tayabas City para sa bayang oryentasyon tungkol sa pagiging miyembro ng PhilHealth, mga benepisyo, proseso ng pag-avail, at Konsulta Package para sa mga magulang, mag-aaral, punong-guro, at opisyal ng Division Office. Nagsagawa din dito ng onsite registration, updating ng records, at pamamahagi ng Member Data Records (MDRs) at PhilHealth IDs.

Samantala, lumahok ang LHIO San Pablo City sa Joint Region IV-A CALABARZON at Schools Division Office (SDO) sa Luisiana Town Plaza, Luisiana, Laguna at sa pagbubukas ng Brigada Eskwela sa Unson Elementary School in Pagsanjan, Laguna. Dito ay isinagawa ang oryentasyon at walkthrough ukol sa PhilHealth Konsulta upang lalong mapalalim ang pag-unawa ng mga kalahok sa kahalagahan ng kalusugan at serbisyong pangkalusugan.

Nakipagpulong ang LHIO Dasmariñas City sa School Principals ng New Era National High School at Paliparan National High School para sa Learner's Registration Activity kasabay ng Brigada Eskwela dito, gayundin sa City Schools Division ng Bacoor para sa pagpapalaganap ng impormasyon ukol sa PhilHealth Konsulta Package. Ang LHIO Trece Mar-

tires City naman ay nakipag-usap na kanilang DepEd Division Offices para sa pagsasagawa ng katulad na mga aktibidad.

Cayetano...

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano capped the 19th Congress with a legislative track record that reflects his priorities on digital governance, disaster preparedness, and education reform, setting the stage for the next half of his Senate term.

Cayetano, who returned to the Senate in 2022, filed a total of 45 bills during the 19th Congress, 28 of which he principally authored. He also sponsored a total of 20 bills on the Senate floor.

Three of these have already been enacted into law, including Republic Act No. 12180 or the PHIVOLCS Modernization Act, which seeks to enhance the agency's capacity to detect seismic activity by upgrading equipment, increasing the number of seismic stations, and improving the salaries and training of personnel.

"This modernization bill is about how we can mitigate disasters, risks, how we can prepare, and how we can also take care of our nature better," Cayetano, who chairs the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, said.

Landmark bills on science and digital governance

Five more proposed measures Cayetano either authored or sponsored were ratified by Congress before the last session day on June 11 and are now up for the President's signature:

The Konektadong Pinoy Act, which



Nakipagpulong ang LHIO Dasmariñas sa pangunguna ni Ma. Obelia Fontanilla, LHIO Head sa principal ng Paliparan National High School noong May 28, 2025.

Ibinahagi rin nila ang mga pinakabagong impormasyon tungkol sa UHC at mga benepisyo ng handog ng PhilHealth.

Sa kabuuan, pinagtibay ng mga gawaing ito ang layunin ng PhilHealth na mapalawak ang saklaw ng serbisyo at

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Spiritual guidance for the present and next Congress

Cayetano also took the floor during key moments to offer prayers, opening both the first and last regular sessions of the 19th Congress with calls for wisdom and unity.

"Sa pagkakaisa, lahat ay dapat magambag sa [paghanap ng solusyon] sa problema ng sobrang kahirapan, na malabanan ang mataas na presyo, kakulangan ng trabaho, at mababang kita," he said in his 2022 prayer at the start of the Congress. "In this last day of session of the 19th Congress,... we pray for the next Congress.

Help us to know what is important and what is urgent," he prayed on June 11, 2025. Cayetano, whose term runs until 2028, is expected to continue focusing on education, good governance, values, and economic empowerment in the 20th Congress.

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PNPA...

Bacoor City, June 26, 2025 – Cadets from the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) "SANDIRANGAN" paid a courtesy visit to Mayor Strike B. Revilla yesterday at his office.

The visit, organized by the Bacoor PNP led by PLtCol John Paulo Carracedo, Bacoor PNP Chief, was a gesture of respect and to inform the Mayor of their presence in Bacoor City.

The PNPA cadets presented gifts as a token of appreciation for the warm welcome they received in the city.

Upon completion of their training, these cadets will be commissioned as officers within the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Mayor Strike expressed his gratitude for their visit and extended his support to the future officers.

EDITORIAL:

HOPES are high the newly transitioned Western Naval Command, from the old Naval Forces West, would be able to address transforming security challenges in the West Philippine Sea.

Under the changeover, the Western Naval Command is tasked with intensifying maritime security operations and asserting a proactive defense posture across the country's western maritime frontier, included in the archipelago's 1,850-km stretch from Mavulis island up north to Tawi-Tawi down south.

The West Philippine Sea is on the western side of the Philippine archipelago, specifically within the Philippines' 200-mile exclusive economic zone, in the area of the South China Sea that lies west of the Philippines, extending from the Batanes Islands in the north to the western coast of Palawan in the south.

This includes the Luzon Sea and the waters surrounding the Kalayaan Island Group and Bajo de Masinloc, also known as the Scarborough Shoal.

Coping with security challenges

This week, the Philippine Navy launched its new command that deals with developing security problems in the West Philippine Sea, underlining what President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. repeatedly said in recent months this country of 117 million people would never retreat in defense of its 2.26 million square kilometers of land and sea territory.

The 69-year-old President has time after time said Filipinos should solely benefit from the country's marine resources.

We note that recently two Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy ships and a China Coast Guard vessel carried out aggressive and unsafe maneuvers against Philippine vessels near Bajo de Masinloc.

Philippine Navy's BRP Emilio Jacinto was conducting routine and maritime patrol operations in support of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the Philippine Coast Guard on May 5 when China's J-16 fighter jets and two Chinese Navy frigates with bow numbers 554 and 573

and CCG vessel 5403 pushed belligerent and risky maneuvers.

We have faith in what the Philippine Navy said the strategic realignment positions with its vision "to maintain a credible defense force capable of responding to emerging security challenges."

New command chief Commodore Vincent Sibala underscored the unity and resolve required for this new chapter.

"As we embark on this new chapter, let us lead with unwavering courage and steadfast conviction-standing united as one force, ready to confront every challenge with resilience and determination," new command chief Commodore Vincent Sibala said.

"Together, we embody the strength of our solidarity and the unbreakable commitment to defend what is rightfully ours and secure a prosperous future for our nation."

DOST-CALABARZON, DOST-SEI successfully concluded 2025 Exit Conference for 344 graduate scholars

The Department of Science and Technology-CALABARZON (DOST-CALABARZON), through its Scholarship Unit, successfully conducted the 2025 DOST-SEI Exit Conference on June 20, 2025, in partnership with the DOST-Science Education Institute (DOST-SEI). This annual activity aims to guide graduating scholars as they transition into the professional world and fulfill their roles as future science and technology professionals.

The Exit Con-

ference serves as a platform to renew scholars' commitment to the terms of their scholarship agreement, particularly their return-of-service obligation. This year's conference emphasized not only the value of honoring these commitments but also provided graduating scholars with valuable insights into career opportunities in research and development (R&D) and graduate scholarship programs offered by DOST-SEI.

The event included a re-orientation session on scholarship policies, re-

inforcing the responsibility of scholars to contribute meaningfully to national development through service in science, technology, and innovation (STI)-driven sectors.

Adding inspiration to the program were success stories from former DOST scholars, including Dr. Lloyd Balinado, Chairperson, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Cavite State University; Mr. Jayson Aguila, Planning Officer, Planning and Project Management Division, Philippine Space Agency; and Ms. Shinah Jasmin Recena-Miranda, MAT, Special Science Teacher I, Santa Rosa Science and Technology High School.



In the afternoon, participants also took part in a Gender Sensitivity Training facilitated by Mr. Ristian Aldrin Calderon of the DOST-CALABARZON Gender and Development (GAD) Secretariat, further

promoting inclusive and equitable values as scholars enter the workforce.

Through this initiative, DOST-CALABARZON and DOST-SEI reaffirm their commitment to developing not just

academically excellent graduates, but also socially responsible and values-driven professionals ready to contribute to the country's scientific and technological advancement.

TURN OVER CEREMONY OF OUT-GOING CITY OFFICIALS TO NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

The City Government of Dasmariñas formally conducted the turnover ceremony today, June 25, 2025, at the 4th Floor Session Hall of the Socio-Economic Building.

Outgoing Vice Mayor Rex Mangubat formally handed over his responsibilities to Vice Mayor-elect Third Barzaga, marking a transition of leadership. Mayor Jenny Austria-Barzaga took



her oath for another term of service, reaffirming her commitment to lead the City of Dasmariñas with integrity, transparency, and dedication.

Also sworn into office were the members of the Sangguniang Pan-

lungsod, namely: Hon. Rudy Lara, Hon. Rey Canaynay, Hon. Robin Cantimbuhan, Hon. Daisy Lyn Alvarez, Hon. Kevin Tapawan, Hon. Jeg Gonzales, Hon. Roderick Atienza, Hon. Glenn Malihan, Hon. Azlie Guro, Hon. Jorge

Magno, Hon. Fernando Laudato, and Hon. Resty Encabo. City department heads were also present to witness the ceremony and express their support for the incoming administration.

Enchanted Kingdom celebrates 11 years of supporting Brigada Eskwela

Enchanted Kingdom, the country's first and only world-class theme park, marked its 11th year of participation in the Department of Education's Brigada Eskwela program by turning over two adopted kindergarten classrooms to Caingin Elementary School in Santa Rosa, Laguna. This is part of EK's School of Enchantment program which aims to provide fun and unique learning experiences by blending entertainment and education.

Brigada Eskwela is a nationwide school maintenance program that engages all education stakeholders to contribute their time, efforts, and resources in ensuring all public schools are all set in time for class opening. This year's theme is "Sama-sama Para sa Bayang Bumabasa."

Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, this is the 11th year that EK is supporting the said program inline with its commitment to nation-building and education. Since 2012, EK has turned over a total of 14 refurbished kindergarten classrooms in nearby schools, ensuring that students have access to fun, safe, and magical learning environments.

The premier theme park's very own maintenance personnel repaired and upgraded the lighting and electrical system of the classrooms as well as added furniture and shelves; while their visual artists brightened the atmosphere by painting EK's beloved characters and core values into the classroom walls.

EK President and Chairman Cesar Mario Mamon expressed their commitment not only to expand their reach for Brigada Eskwela, but also to bring even more magical and educational experiences that go beyond the four corners of the classroom.

"Education is vital in our future plans



because we want to provide an alternative classroom—that when you go to Enchanted Kingdom, students will be able to appreciate and learn about different subjects," he shared.

In a separate meeting with Department of Education Secretary Sonny Angara, Mayor Arlene Arcillas, and officials from the Schools Division Office of Santa Rosa City,



EK affirmed their support to all of DepEd's plans and programs.

The turnover ceremony was graced by Santa

Rosa City Vice Mayor Arnold Arcillas with Schools Division Superintendent (SDS) for Santa Rosa Hereberto Jose Miranda, CESO VI; Education Program Supervisor (EPS) for Kindergarten and Special Education (SPED) Maribel De Vera; Cluster III Public Schools District Supervisor (PSDS) Soledad Baylon; Barangay Caingin Captain Edwin Servo; Caingin Elementary School Principal III Guadalupe Factoriza; School

Parent-Teacher Association (SPTA) President Josephine Mandala, teachers, parents, and students. For more information and updates regarding these along with EK's other upcoming events and offers, visit <https://www.enchantedkingdom.ph> and EK's official social media accounts @enchantedkingdom.ph for Facebook and Tiktok, and @ek_phippines for Instagram.

DTI, IPO PHL Champion MSME Empowerment and Agricultural Excellence at the 2025 Calauan Business Growth Summit

Calauan, Laguna— The 2025 Calauan Business Growth Summit, held 15 May 2025 at the Municipal Conference Hall in Brgy. Silangan, brought together local leaders, entrepreneurs, and government agencies in a powerful show of unity and support for the micro, small, and medium enterprise (MSME) sector. With the theme "Empowering Local Businesses for a Stronger Economy," the summit underscored the vital role of MSMEs in driving inclusive growth and sustainable development in the region.

A key highlight of the event was the message delivered by DTI Regional Director Marissa C. Argente reaffirming the agency's commitment to uplifting local enterprises. The DTI em-

phasized its ongoing collaboration with the local government of Calauan and other national agencies to create a thriving business environment for MSMEs.

The summit also spotlighted the success of local businesses, which have benefited from access to broader markets and mentorship programs such as Kapatid Mentor Me and One Town, One Product (OTOP). These initiatives aim to build capacity, foster innovation, and ensure long-term sustainability for MSMEs.

The summit featured messages from key government officials and representatives from development partners such as Mr. Joel Caalam of IPO PHL who shared discussions on intellectual property and Geo-



graphical Indication (GI) opportunities, and the BPLO on the recognition of top business taxpayers further enriched the program.

At the heart of the Calauan Business Growth Summit 2025 was a renewed focus on leveraging local agricultural strengths particularly the town's renowned pineapple industry. Experts and stakeholders agree on the potential of securing a Geographical Indication (GI) status for

Calauan pineapples—a move that could elevate the fruit's market value, protect its unique identity and open new export opportunities. With its distinct sweetness, aroma and cultivation methods rooted in Calauan's rich soil and microclimate, the pineapple stands as a symbol of the town's agricultural heritage and economic promise.

In closing, the DTI encouraged MSMEs to continue their journey with courage and pur-

pose: "You are not alone. The local government is with you—investing in your growth, opening doors to opportunity, and celebrating every milestone you achieve."

The 2025 Calauan Business Growth Summit through the renewed leadership of Municipal Mayor Roseller G. Caratihan, stands as a testament to the power of collaboration in building a resilient and prosperous local economy. **(Tawin-gan TF, DTI Laguna PO)**

CAVITE ELECTED OFFICIALS TAKE OATH AT THE HISTORICAL SAN AGUSTINE CHURCH



The newly elected officials of Cavite, led by Governor-elect Francisco Gabriel "Abeng" Remulla, Vice Governor-elect Ramon Vicente "Ram" Revilla Bautista, and 7th District Congressman Crispin Diego "Ping" Remulla, formally took their oaths of office in a grand ceremony at the historic Diocesan Shrine of San Agustin (Holy Cross Parish) in Tanza, Cavite on June 25, 2025.

Also sworn in were the Board Members from Cavite's eight districts, Tanza Mayor-elect Archangelo "SM" Matro, and the newly elected Municipal Councilors.

The oaths were administered by distinguished officials:

DILG Secretary Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Remulla for Tanza's local officials, Prosecutor Vivian Monzon-Rojo for the Board Members, Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla, Jr. for Vice Governor-elect Revilla, and DOJ Secretary Jesus Crispin "Boy-ing" Remulla for Congressman Ping Remulla and Governor-elect Abeng Remulla.

Prior to the formal ceremony, a Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Virgilio Mendoza, parish priest of San Agustin Church, offering prayers

of guidance, thanksgiving, and hope as the new leaders prepared to begin their term of service.

Adding both solemnity and resonance to the event, the renowned Imusicapella delivered stirring performances.

Their heartfelt renditions of inspirational songs enriched the atmosphere and underscored the gravity of the officials' pledge to serve with honor and dedication.

Set against the backdrop of San Agustin Church – a revered landmark that has witnessed Cavite's rich history – the ceremony embodied a blend of solemn duty, civic



pride, and shared hope for the province's future.

In their messages, Governor Abeng Remulla and Vice Governor Ram Revilla called for servant leadership, inclusive governance, and sustained progress.

Governor Remul-

la, representing a new generation, pledged to lead an open and proactive government that listens to all sectors and leaves no community behind.

Vice Governor Revilla affirmed that public office is a sacred responsi-

bility – to lead with integrity, serve with compassion, and act with conviction.

United in vision, both leaders vowed to work with the Sangguniang Panlalawigan to build a just, inclusive, and resilient Cavite for all. - E. Reyes