

A Taste of Community Living at Westwind Inside Lancaster New City

Families searching for a home today look beyond a beautifully designed space—they also consider the people they will call kapitbahays and the kind of community they will become part of. It's about finding a place where daily life feels warm, vibrant, and connected. At Westwind, future homeowners can look forward to exactly that kind of experience, made even more meaningful by its location within the already thriving and dynamic Lancaster New City community.

A Landmark That Testifies to Community Vibes

Serving as one of the condo community's defining features, Westwind's entrance statement reflects the kind of lifestyle residents can expect the moment they come home. More than just an architectural landmark, it has evolved into a welcoming hub where families, neighbors, and visitors gather to share meaningful moments and community experiences.

Among these are GalingPinas' signature events, such as the Kids and Family Fair and the

Bida Hero Caravan. Most recently, the Westwind entrance statement also served as a venue for the celebration of Global Astronomy Month. Through events like these—organized by GalingPinas youth volunteers—the space comes alive with interaction, participation, and a strong sense of neighborhood spirit.

Even before future residents move in, the area already radiates the energy and warmth of a well-established and vibrant community.

A Taste of Westwind's Future

Children can often be seen enjoying activities alongside fellow residents, while parents and families spend quality time together in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. These moments bring to life the kind of everyday community living that future homeowners can look forward to—where connections are nurtured not only within the home, but also in shared spaces



thoughtfully designed to bring people closer together.

The Lancaster New City Factor

Being situated within an established master-planned community gives Westwind a distinct advantage. Future residents

won't have to wait for a neighborhood to take shape around them—instead, they can immediately enjoy the vibrancy of an active, well-developed environment where lifestyle, accessibility, and social connections already thrive.

A Statement in Its Own

Right
The entrance statement itself has become a symbol of this lifestyle—a space that not only welcomes residents coming home, but also hosts meaningful experiences that deepen a sense of belonging. It reflects how thoughtfully designed environments

can encourage interaction and transform everyday living into something more connected and enriching. More than just a residential address, Westwind offers the opportunity to be part of a condo community that already feels vibrant, familiar, and genuinely welcoming.

NLEX and Pampanga Provincial Government bolster disaster preparedness



NLEX Corporation and the Provincial Government of Pampanga have joined forces to strengthen the province's disaster resilience as the rainy season approaches.

Some 40 participants from key provincial departments, including the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, and the Provincial Health Office, attended a two-day Policy-Making on Disaster Management Workshop facilitated by the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF). The

primary goal of the session was to identify critical safety gaps and ensure that the province's disaster management protocols are robust enough to protect residents during a disaster.

Workshop participants posed for a photo with (L–R, front row) PDRF Center Director Arnel Capili, Pampanga PDRRM Officer Janica Mikhail Yam-bao, NLEX Government Relations Manager Kiko Dagohoy, and MPT South Stakeholder Engagement Assistant Manager Mhan-ny Agosto.

Pampanga has demonstrated resilience through various natural

events in its history, including the 1990 earthquake and the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption. As a rapidly growing economic hub, the province continues to strengthen its disaster preparedness and resilience efforts to help protect communities, sustain economic activity, and support long-term growth.

and well-being of communities while maintaining the reliability of this vital transport corridor that supports regional growth and connectivity," said NLEX President and GM Luis S. Reñon.

Second District Board Member Atty. Claire Lim emphasized that the priority remains the safety



"Pampanga serves as one of the vital links between Metro Manila and Central and Northern Luzon. Through this initiative, we aim to help strengthen disaster preparedness and resilience, ensuring the safety

of her constituents and the protection of their homes. "In situations where the lives and livelihoods of Kapampangans are at stake, we welcome this help because even if we are resilient, we still need outside assistance," she



said.

First District Board Member Cherry Manalo also expressed her gratitude for the collaboration and the dedication of the provincial staff. "We are grateful to NLEX and PDRF for helping up-skill our frontliners. This workshop demonstrates our shared commitment to strengthening the province's disaster management and ensuring we are better prepared to protect every Kapampangan," she noted.

By ensuring seamless coordination between the government and NLEX, the partnership

aims to keep the province's main transit routes open for emergency services and the delivery of basic goods.

PDRF Center Director Arnel Capili underscored that a proactive mindset is key to saving lives, stating that true disaster management must strike a balance between immediate response and long-term climate change adaptation.

NLEX Corporation is a subsidiary of the Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the toll road arm of the Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). **PR**

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491 residents benefit from Medical and Dental Mission in Carmona

Megaworld's Q1 reservation sales up 10% to almost P30B

Dishes on screen
CARD **RBI**

Ito ang bangko natin.



CARD MRI Hijos Tours partner head chef Procy Balasoto styling dishes on a film set.

From supplying food tours across the country to styling dishes for a film set, this is Procy B. Balasoto, 53, from Sta. Cruz, Laguna. Cooking for her was once just a way to make ends meet. But today, it became her pathway to opportunities she never thought were within her reach.

First opportunity

cont. on page 4

BACOR CITY AND BIOTEN ENERGYT SIGN AGREEMENT FOR USED COOKING OIL RECYCLING PROGRAM

'TUPAD MADE EASIER': DOLE CALABARZON LAUNCHES TUPAS BIOS

IMUS CITY BRIGADA ESKWELA 2026



Nakibahagi kamakailan sa taunang Brigada Eskwela kasama sina City Mayor Alex L. Advincula kasama sina School Division Superintendent Lito Palomar, Assistant School Division Superintendent Glenda Catadman, at mga konsehal ng lungsod bilang pakikiisa sa paghahanda ng ating mga paaralan para sa panibagong taon ng pag-aaral. Kasabay nito, nagkaloob din ang siyudad ng Imus ng 100 E-learning Interactive Display para sa mga Kindergarten teachers, at binigyang pagkilala ang mga nagwagi sa 2025 Regional Schools Press Conference, at pinangunahan ang ribbo cutting at blessing ng bagong conference hall

BRIGADA ESKWELA 2026 SA GMA, CAVITE



Pinangunahan ni Cong. Roy M. Loyola ang pagkakaisa at pagtutulungan ng mga school heads, guro, mga magulang, organisasyon, at iba pang katuwang sa komunidad para sa Brigada Eskwela 2026 sa bayan ng GMA, Cavite. Kasama sina BM Ivey Reyes, Councilor Ona Virata, Councilor G-ca Abueg, Former Councilor Mike Virata, at Former Councilor Al Abueg, gayundin ang The Fraternal Order of Eagles, Inc. – GMA Masayahin Bayanihan Lady Eagles Club at GMA Masayahin Riders Eagles Club, sa pagsusulong ng temang "Bayanihan sa Paaralan: Nagkakaisa para sa Kaayusan at Kaalaman."



Inflation is under control

From Last week issued

how many pages of the Bible I read each day. All God cared about was me. He wanted to know me, and in order to do that I had to talk to him and tell him what I was feeling and what I needed. It was that simple. Armed with this revelation, I returned to church with a shift in perspective: I was no longer there to fulfill some obligatory duty put forth by Catholic leadership, but to be with God and feel his presence in a peaceful place. In this way, I was now in it for God, not some religious label. My mistake? I misconstrued religion for faith. I thought religion alone was enough and ignored a relationship with God as a result. Religion is meant to be a supplement to your faith; it is not meant to be a replacement. Religion, by definition, brings together groups of people who share a set of beliefs in some higher power. Consequently, religion is inherently a collective experience you share with such a group. Faith, on the other hand, is an individualized experience, an exploration of a personal relationship with said higher power. Religion is thus incapable of giving you the intimacy required by faith. Instead, you must establish a personal relationship with your God — on your own. I find going to church and prayer to be ways in which I can strengthen my faith and relationship with God. Maybe you're conventional too. Or maybe you go on hikes to appreciate nature or lock yourself in a pitch-black room to bask in the peace of silence and stillness. Whatever your modus operandi is, do it. The stipulations of a religion are not worth following if doing so harms your relationship with your God. Give yourself the freedom to pursue your relationship, your way. When you do, I promise you will be filled with a deeper sense of faith and belief that goes beyond the teachings of any religion.

PGCECC Celebrates 23rd Anniversary

The Provincial Government of Cavite Employees and Community Multipurpose Cooperative (PGCECC) marked its 23rd Founding Anniversary on May 26, in their new office at the Old Cavite Government Center in Trece Martires City, bringing together officers, members, and guests in a celebration of the cooperative's achievements and continued commitment to serving its members.

A highlight of the celebration was the blessing of the cooperative's new office, symbolizing another milestone in PGCECC's journey of growth and development. The blessing ceremony was attended by cooperative officials, members, and invited guests who witnessed the inauguration of the new facility, which is expected to further enhance the delivery of services to its members.

Since its establishment, PGCECC has remained dedicated to promoting financial empowerment and providing accessible services and opportunities to its growing membership. Through various programs and initiatives, the cooperative

Pag-IBIG Fundraises housing loan limit to 10M to serve more Filipino workers

To further widen the reach of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s flagship Expanded Pambansang Pabahay para sa Pilipino, or Expanded 4PH Program, and help address the oversupply of available housing inventory, Pag-IBIG Fund has raised its maximum housing loan amount per borrower to ₱10 million, providing middle-income and higher-earning Filipino workers access to affordable long-term home financing, particularly in Metro Manila and other highly urbanized areas, top officials announced on May 26.

The higher loan ceiling complements the program's ongoing subsidized 3% housing loan rate for qualified buyers of socialized housing, enabling Pag-IBIG Fund to serve more members seeking homes beyond the socialized housing segment through affordable long-term financing.

DHSUD Secretary Jose Ramon P. Aliling, who also chairs the Pag-IBIG Fund Board of Trustees, said the increase is part of the government's broader effort to make homeownership more accessible to Filipino workers across income segments.

"With the higher ₱10-million loan ceiling, Pag-IBIG Fund can now serve more members, especially Filipino workers who seek homes in higher price segments but still

require long-term and affordable financing to own homes near their workplaces, schools and sources of livelihood. This move allows Pag-IBIG Fund to widen access to home financing across more income segments, in line with the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to make decent and affordable housing more inclusive and accessible to more Filipino families," Aliling said.

Aliling said the move also supports efforts to improve the take-up of available housing units, particularly in Metro Manila and other urban centers where there is an oversupply of ready-for-occupancy condominium units. He said the higher loan ceiling, combined with Pag-IBIG Fund's long-term home financing, can make the purchase of these units more affordable for qualified members.

"This is also our call to developers: let us make the numbers meet. Pag-IBIG Fund is expanding the financing available to qualified borrowers. We urge our developer-partners to recalibrate their prices, offer reasonable packages and help bring their available units within the reach of Pag-IBIG Fund members. When housing prices, borrower capacity and affordable financing meet, more Filipino workers can finally own homes of their own," Aliling said.

Pag-IBIG Fund

Chief Executive Officer Marilene C. Acosta said the increase in loan ceiling reflects Pag-IBIG Fund's mandate to serve Filipino workers from all income segments.

"At Pag-IBIG Fund, our mandate is to serve all Filipino workers. This means serving first-time homebuyers and members who need subsidized support, as well as middle-income and higher-earning members who also need affordable long-term financing to buy homes for their families. Because of our strong financial position, we are able to offer a higher loanable amount while keeping our housing loan rates not only affordable, but among the lowest in the market. With the higher loan ceiling, qualified borrowers now have even better access to home financing payable for up to 30 years, with interest rates that may go as low as 5.75% a year depending on their chosen fixing period. More importantly, this allows us to widen the reach of the Expanded 4PH Program so that more members, across more income segments, can gain access to decent and affordable homes, while eligible socialized housing borrowers continue to benefit from the 3% subsidized rate," Acosta said.

Acosta said the broader Pag-IBIG Housing Loan Program is intended

Officials said the higher loan ceiling strengthens Pag-IBIG Fund's role in bridging available housing supply to actual homebuyer capacity, while encouraging developers to offer homes at prices that better match the income and financing ability of Filipino workers.

(PAGIBIG FUND)

June 10-16, 2026

First Agriculture and Fishery Provincial Forum Strengthens support for Cavite farmers and Fisherfolk

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist headed by Engr. Anna Pamela Nova-Cruz, successfully conducted the 1st Agriculture and Fishery Provincial Forum with the theme, "Sama-samang Paghabi ng Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran para sa Mag-sasaka at Mangingisda ng Cavite," on June 2, at the New Provincial Government Center in Trece Martires City.

The forum gathered farmers, fisherfolk, agricultural stakeholders, and representatives from various government and financial institutions to strengthen collaboration and provide information on programs and services aimed at improving the livelihood and productivity of Cavite's agriculture and fisheries sectors.

Present during the event were Governor Francisco Gabriel Remulla and 8th District Board Member Jasmin Maligaya-Bautista, who both conveyed their messages of support and reaffirmed the Provincial Government's commitment to advancing the welfare of farmers and fisherfolk.

They emphasized the importance of strengthening partnerships among government agencies, financial institutions, and local communities to ensure sustainable agricultural and fisheries development in the province.

One of the highlights of the forum was the presentation of various programs, projects, and services available to farmers and fisherfolk from

organization of lawyers to improve support systems for PhilHealth members, particularly in addressing concerns related to healthcare benefits, patient rights, and access to information.

Under the partnership, PhilHealth and the IBP will work together to promote greater awareness of members' rights and entitlements under the UHC Act through joint information and education campaigns.

The two institutions will also collaborate on policy initiatives that seek to enhance patient welfare and improve the delivery of healthcare services.

The agreement also covers collaboration in health law and policy development, capacity-building programs, continuing legal education for PhilHealth lawyers, and fraud preven-

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participating agencies. Resource representatives from the Agricultural Training Institute, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region IV-A, Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture Region IV-A, Department of Trade and Industry-Cavite, Department of Labor and Employment - Cavite, Philippine Coconut Authority, Land Bank of the Philippines – San Agustin Branch, Rural Bank of Angeles – Trece Branch, Office of the Provincial Veterinarian, and the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist discussed their respective initiatives, technical assistance, financing opportunities, and support services designed to enhance agricultural productivity and livelihood opportunities.

Following the presentations, participants were given the opportunity to directly consult with representatives from the concerned agencies. The consultation session allowed attendees to raise concerns, seek technical guidance, inquire about available assistance programs, and establish connections with agencies that could support their agricultural and fisheries endeavors.

The forum served as a valuable platform for information sharing, collaboration, and stakeholder engagement, further reinforcing the Provincial Government of Cavite's dedication to empowering farmers and fisherfolk and fostering inclusive growth and development within the province's agriculture and fisheries sectors. — OPIO

ARANGKADA Program in Maragondon



Today, June 04, 2026, the PGC's Arangkada Program makes its way to Maragondon, bringing compassion and the much-needed financial support to Caviteño tricycle and jeepney drivers. Governor Abeng Remulla and Vice Governor Ram Revilla Bautista lead the event, reaffirming their commitment and dedication in uplifting the transportation sector across the province. With them are Mayor Lawrence "Umbe" Arca and the Sangguniang Bayan members of Maragondon.

Imus Hosts National Flag Day Rites, Opens 128th Independence Day Celebration



Government officials, educators, students, and members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines gathered at the Dambana ng Pambansang Watawat in Alapan, Imus City on May 28 to commemorate the National Flag Days and formally launch the nationwide observance of the 128th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence.

Carrying the theme, "Kalayaan. Kinabukasan. Kasaysayan" the ceremony highlighted the enduring significance of the Philippine flag as a symbol of unity, patriotism, and national identity.

Leading the

event were Cavite Governor Francisco Gabriel D. Remulla, Imus City Mayor Alex L. Advincula, Senator Joseph Victor "JV" Ejercito, Congressman Adrian Jay C. Advincula, DILG Secretary Juanito Victor C. Remulla, and National Historical Commission of the Philippines Chair Regalado Trota Jose Jr., among other dignitaries.

The ceremony also featured cultural performances, messages from national and local leaders, and a wreath-laying activity, underscoring the province's historic role in the country's struggle for freedom. — OPIO

REP. KIKO BARZAGA EXPELLED FROM HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MANILA, Philippines — The House of Representatives on Tuesday voted to expel Cavite 4th District Representative Kiko Barzaga, with 265 lawmakers voting in favor of his removal, 14 voting against, and eight abstaining.

Barzaga, the son of the late Elpidio Barzaga Jr., won the congressional seat in 2025, succeeding his father as representative of Cavite's 4th District. The expulsion comes after a series of disciplinary actions by the House, including two separate 60-day suspensions imposed in December 2025 and February 2026 over findings by the Com-

mittee on Ethics and Privileges related to alleged disorderly conduct and controversial social media posts.

Prior to the vote, Barzaga had publicly stated that he was unfazed by reports of a possible expulsion and maintained his criticism of the House leadership. The House has yet to release the full details of the resolution adopted by the chamber and the next steps regarding representation of Cavite's 4th District following Barzaga's expulsion. Further details are expected as they become available.

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NFPA, Philhealth Seal Deal to Advance RPRH, UHC

Pasig, 01 June 2026 The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in the Philippines, the UN's sexual and reproductive health agency, and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) ink a partnership to improve maternal health, family planning, and access for millions of Filipino women and families.

This major agreement comes right after PhilHealth expanded its maternity benefit packages in April, which now covers the recommended number of prenatal and postnatal check-ups and almost tripled the coverage for normal and cesarean births, showing a strong commitment to better health for women, adolescents and indigent Filipinos.

The agreement sets a long-term plan for both UNFPA and PhilHealth combining their expertise to support the realization of Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health law (RPRH), Universal Healthcare Coverage (UHC), and the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, focusing on reducing maternal mortality, improving access to sexual reproductive health, including family planning through smart investments and innovative solutions.

"The PhilHealth is an indispensable partner for making universal healthcare a reality in the country," says Neus Bernabeu, UNFPA Country Representative.

"This partnership is about expanding access to quality care, supporting healthier communities, and securing the lifelong wellbeing of every Filipino family. It is more than just reducing out-of-pocket costs, it's for a life-saving cause," she adds.

Philhealth President and Chief Executive

Officer, Dr. Edwin M. Mercado, emphasizes the corporation's dedication to making healthcare easier to access for every Filipino, particularly those who need it most. "Our ultimate goal is to remove costs and financial barriers, within reach, for every Filipino," Dr. Mercado states.

"Through this partnership with UNFPA, and alongside our expanded maternity benefits, we are making healthcare more inclusive so that financial hardship never stops a mother from getting proper medical care."

UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Director, Aleksandar "Sasha" Bodiroza, witnessed the signing ceremony and congratulated the Philippines for its landmark achievement, acknowledging that it is a powerful example in the region of how working together can turn good policies into a life-saving reality on the ground.

Under this renewed partnership, UNFPA and PhilHealth work together to ensure health policies actually reach patients and benefit communities. The agencies will strengthen ties with healthcare providers and local government units (LGUs) to encourage effective and smart investment of local funds into sustainable health programs.

At the same time, the agencies are designing more affordable health packages to make maternal care easier to access, while integrating family planning and counseling into training programs for health workers. This partnership is a major step forward in protecting the health, dignity, and rights of Filipino women, moving the country toward a fairer future. *PR*

A single mother of three, Procy had no steady source of income and was looking for ways to support her family. In 2013, Procy became a client of CARD MRI Rizal Bank, Inc., a microfinance-oriented rural bank under CARD MRI. Through business guidance in their center meeting and her first loan, she began a small charcoal and rice supply business. But even then, her passion for cooking was already simmering in her ways. She prepared home-cooked dishes and placed them in front of their house to offer them to neighbors and passersby. To augment her earnings, she also became a reseller of personal care products. But she didn't stop there. Procy also attended livelihood seminars where she learned to make home-made products that she sold personally. During weekly center meetings, she would bring her cooked dishes and offer them to fellow clients and their Account Officer. Drawn by their good taste, her co-clients showed their support by consistently buying her products. After the meetings, she would continue selling house to house. She didn't mind this routine. For her, as long as she was able to cook and sell her products, and as long as it sustained her family's needs, everything

was worth it. A table of new possibilities In 2023, the CARD MRI Hijos Tours offered a culinary scholarship to micro-finance clients. Because Procy's cooking is known in their area, their Account Officer referred her to Hijos Tours. Without hesitation, Procy seized the opportunity and enrolled in the program, completing her culinary studies within the same year. This training opened doors she had never imagined. She began preparing food for Hijos Tours' participants during various activities and tours. With the guidance of a chef specialist, she was able to contribute to menu formulation for the Kasadya Fine Dining food tour experience and served as a food stylist for food tours. Her role allowed her not only to cook but also to present Filipino dishes in ways that showcased their heritage and appeal. More than enhancing her cooking skills, Procy felt a strong sense of community. Through joining the tour company as a cook, she met people from different backgrounds, which helped her develop confidence, social skills, and adaptability. Interacting with diverse groups also deepened her appreciation for the wide variety of Filipino culture. By the following year, she was appointed as Hijos

Tours' head chef partner in Laguna. The role enabled her to learn heritage recipes from different regions in the country. Among her most memorable experiences were learning to cook the dishes of other regions in the country and preparing meals for events serving more than a hundred participants. Through her travels, she gained not only culinary knowledge but also a deeper understanding of simplicity and resilience in life. Despite her growing career, Procy remains deeply committed to her role as a mother. She makes it a point to stay closely involved in her children's studies and personal struggles, even when her work requires her to travel for tours. Reaching the screen This year, another shift in her journey occurred. After being busy during one of Hijos Tours' events, she was tapped as a food stylist assistant for the film production of Bente Productions, a multimedia company under CARD MRI. The film highlights the story of a blind cook, so it features food and culinary culture, making the assistance of chefs and food stylists on set crucial. The opportunity came as a surprise, but Procy accepted it with gratitude and excitement, carefully preparing and styling every dish for the film set.

She admits that seeing her food featured on screen is something she never imagined for herself. "Ang laki po ng tuwa, sobrang galak na galak, kasi syempre, bilang simpleng nanay, hindi ko akalain na aabot sa ganito ang kayahan ko at yung nilulu to ko," she shared. "Hindi kayang presyohan ang saya." Procy plans to continue dedicating her time and skills to preparing food that promotes Filipino cultural heritage. She remains committed to improving her craft and serving others through her cooking. To fellow cooks, Procy offers simple yet heartfelt advice: "Do not be afraid to try and discover new things and potentials." For her, cooking is not only about following recipes but about embracing creativity, being open to learning, and finding beauty even in the simplest dishes. From selling food in front of her home, Procy never thought that she would one day be styling dishes to be shown on screen. This experience reflects how determination and a passion for one's craft can open unexpected doors. When paired with community support, even the most modest beginnings can grow into a journey filled with meaningful opportunities. *PR*

LANDBANK waives fees for online gov't payments

In response to ongoing global economic pressures, LANDBANK is waiving its fees on select online government payments, enabling Filipinos to transact with government agencies more conveniently and at a lower cost. From 01 June 2026 to 31 December 2026, LANDBANK will implement zero fees on eligible person-to-government (P2G) transactions made via QRPh, as part of the Bank's ongoing efforts to make everyday banking more affordable. LANDBANK's move also supports the National Government's whole-of-government response to rising costs and the global economic challenges, while expanding access to affordable financial services under the

Unified Package for Livelihoods, Industry, Food, and Transport (UPLIFT) Program. The fee waiver covers transactions completed through three QRPh-enabled payment channels: (1) LANDBANK Link.BizPortal via QRPh option; (2) QRPh standees at participating government institutions; and (3) government agencies' websites where LANDBANK fee waiver and shall remain in effect. Eligible payments include fees to participating government institutions — such as select national government agencies (NGAs), government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), local government units (LGUs), water districts, and state

universities and colleges (SUCs) — supporting faster and more convenient payments for police clearance, real property taxes, business permits, apostille certificates, and other dues. Payment channels other than QRPh, as well as charges imposed by merchants or other service providers, if any, are not covered by the LANDBANK fee waiver and shall remain in effect. "LANDBANK's zero convenience fees for online government payments provides convenient access to essential public transactions at no additional cost. Transacting with government agencies online is now more affordable. This initiative is part of our continuous efforts to bring government services closer to the people," said Finance Secretary and LANDBANK Chair Frederick D. Go.

L A N D B A N K President and CEO Lynette V. Ortiz said that the initiative aims to make government transactions more convenient and affordable amid economic challenges, while promoting greater digital banking adoption. "LANDBANK is waiving fees for online government payments to make services more accessible, while bringing more Filipinos into the digital financial ecosystem. This supports our broader goal of advancing financial inclusion and delivering services that are more responsive to the needs of the public," said LANDBANK President and CEO Ortiz.

The rollout of free government payment services complements LANDBANK's efforts to lower transaction costs, including the recent reduction of InstaPay transfer fees from ₱15 to ₱8, effective 21 May 2026. As the country's leading government bank, LANDBANK continues to drive a more inclusive and cash-lite economy by making digital transactions simpler, more accessible, and more affordable for all. (LANDBANK)

June 10-16, 2026

DOE, PNOC Secure State-Procured 21,000 Metric Tons (MT) Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)

The Department of Energy (DOE) and the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC), under the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., have secured 21,000 metric tons of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) to reinforce the country's fuel reserves and help ensure a stable supply for millions of Filipino households. The shipment, consisting of refrigerated propane and butane sourced from the United States, arrived on 30 May 2026 at the SPI Terminal in Calaca, Batangas. Procured under the DOE's Emergency Energy Security Program, the cargo forms part of the government's continuing efforts to strengthen energy security and safeguard consumers from potential supply disruptions amid ongoing volatility in global oil markets. "What this government has accomplished reflects President

PGC Delivers Healthcare Services to the People of Naic

On May 26, the Provincial Government of Cavite, through its Medical and Dental Mission Team, participated in the People's Caravan organized by the National Housing Authority (NHA) at Malainen Bago Integrated School, bringing essential healthcare services closer to the residents of Naic. The Office of the Provincial Governor Team, under the supervision of Mr. Gerry Olaes, also distributed prescribed medicines and vitamin supplements to help address the health needs of the patients. Eighth District Board Member Jasmin Maligaya-Bautista, Naic Mayor Rommel Magbitang and Punong Barangay Lito Catibayan attended the caravan and expressed their appreciation for the services extended to their constituents. The People's Caravan offered a wide range of government services, transforming the venue into a hub of hope, assistance, and opportunities for the residents of Naic. — OPIO

June 10-16, 2026

EDITORIAL: Safer cities

EARLY this month, the Department of the Interior and Local Government announced stricter implementation of the ban on alcohol and gambling in public areas under its Safer Cities program. Interior Secretary Jonvic Remulla said the program will initially be piloted in Metro Manila before expanding to other major urban centers nationwide. Acting on the DILG order, the Philippine National Police (PNP) reported that more than 48,000 violators were apprehended during the first three days of the program in Metro Manila. Of this total, some 7,389 violators were fined, 403 were charged, while 15,584 were warned and released. Drinking and smoking in public places were the most common violations with 7,300 apprehensions. This was followed by individuals outside their homes without shirts, curfew violations involving minors, and videoke or karaoke beyond allowed hours. According to PNP Chief Police General Jose Melencio Nartatez Jr.: "Let's follow simple rules, avoid violations, and respect others. Small things are a big help in ensuring public order." But the Safer Cities project should be evaluated not only in terms of the number of people apprehended for various violations but also across several policy dimensions: effectiveness, legality, governance, fiscal sustainability, and civil liberties. First of all, what problems will the project hope to solve? Will it target street crime, drug-related offenses, terror threats, or urban disorder? Or maybe all of the above? The project implementation should rely on evidence such as crime data and urban risk mapping. It should be aligned with clearly defined and empirically validated risks rather than broad, vague goals like "peace and order" without measurable targets. Most Safer Cities programs in other countries involve such tools as expanded CCTV surveillance, increased police visibility, 'smart' technologies as facial recognition, and community policing. But these tools must be proven to reduce crime. Heavy reliance on surveillance, for instance, can produce a perception of safety without addressing root causes like poverty or weak prosecution systems. The DILG must work closely with various local government units (LGUs), so implementation quality will vary. Do LGUs have the technical capacity to operate and maintain surveillance systems? Are accountability mechanisms clearly defined? After all, a structurally sound policy can still fail if local execution is weak. We must also point out the legal and civil liberties implications. The program should comply with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and uphold civil liberties guaranteed by our fundamental law. The DILG's Safer Cities project should be considered positive if it is evidence-based, has clear accountability mechanisms, and avoids over-reliance on surveillance as a substitute for systemic reform. However, it becomes problematic if it centralizes surveillance without oversight, burdens LGUs without capacity support, and prioritizes visibility over actual crime reduction. What is important is to maintain the balance between public order and civil liberties at all times.

June 10-16, 2026

SSS begins early June rollout of 2026 pension hike, citing need for early relief for pensioners

QUEZON CITY, June 2, 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) today begins the early rollout of the second tranche of the Pension Reform Program (PRP) to 4.1 million pensioners, advancing the originally scheduled September pension increase to provide SSS pensioners with earlier financial relief. Under the second tranche of the PRP, retirement and disability pensioners will receive a 10% increase in their monthly pensions, while death and survivor pensioners will receive a 5% increase. "We recognize that rising prices and economic uncertainty continue to place pressure on Filipino families and businesses," de Claro added. "Through the PRP, SSS ensures that our pensioners have access to timely, affordable and reliable financial support when they need it most." The PRP is the first-ever multi-year pension increase in SSS history. Under the program, pensioners will receive annual increases in their pensions every September from 2025 to 2027. *PR*

als from GEAMH and CarSiGMA District Hospital, with assistance from barangay health workers. The event was graced and supported by 5th District Board Member Ivey Jayne Reyes and Punong Barangay Joelito A. Generoso, together with other local officials, underscoring strong collaboration between local leaders and health partners in bringing accessible healthcare services to residents of Silang. — *OPIO*

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TUPAD...

Making TUPAD implementation faster, easier, and more efficient for both implementers and beneficiaries, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) CALABARZON officially launched the TUPAD Biometrics Integrated Online System (TUPAD BIOS) on June 2, 2026, at the DOLE IV-A Regional Office Training Center in Calamba City, Laguna. Developed as a major innovation initiative of DOLE CALABARZON, the TUPAD BIOS is designed to streamline and modernize the implementation of the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged (TUPAD) Workers program through a centralized and automated platform for beneficiary verification, attendance monitoring, and records management. By utilizing biometric technology, the system minimizes manual paperwork, reduces encoding errors, strengthens monitoring mechanisms, eliminates duplication, and facilitates more efficient program administration across the region. Assistant Regional Director Nicanor V. Bon, meanwhile, highlighted that the initiative reflects DOLE CALABARZON's continuing commitment to innovation, accountability, and excellence in public service. He noted that while digital transformation is an evolving journey, the TUPAD BIOS brings the agency closer to a more streamlined, transparent, and efficient implementation of the program, ultimately improving service delivery for workers and communities. The launch of the TUPAD BIOS marks another milestone in DOLE CALABARZON's efforts to make government services more accessible, responsive, and citizen-centered. The initiative also aligns with the directive of newly appointed Labor Secretary, Francis N. Tolentino to continuously improve the delivery of government services through innovation, efficiency, and responsive programs that directly benefit workers and their communities. *PR*

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FROM PAGE 01

abilis po ng proseso. Nakapag-register po kami agad at lumabas kaagad ang impormasyon namin sa system," she remarked, highlighting how the innovation simplifies participation in the program. In his message, Regional Director Atty. Erwin N. Aquino emphasized that the launch of TUPAD BIOS marks another important step in the continuous transformation of public service delivery in DOLE CALABARZON. He underscored that the system strengthens beneficiary validation, improves monitoring mechanisms, minimizes duplication, and enhances program integrity, ensuring that government assistance reaches the rightful beneficiaries efficiently and with accountability. Through innovations such as TUPAD BIOS, the agency continues to advance a more modernized and data-driven implementation of employment programs across the region. Assistant Regional Director Nicanor V. Bon, meanwhile, highlighted that the initiative reflects DOLE CALABARZON's continuing commitment to innovation, accountability, and excellence in public service. He noted that while digital transformation is an evolving journey, the TUPAD BIOS brings the agency closer to a more streamlined, transparent, and efficient implementation of the program, ultimately improving service delivery for workers and communities. The launch of the TUPAD BIOS marks another milestone in DOLE CALABARZON's efforts to make government services more accessible, responsive, and citizen-centered. The initiative also aligns with the directive of newly appointed Labor Secretary, Francis N. Tolentino to continuously improve the delivery of government services through innovation, efficiency, and responsive programs that directly benefit workers and their communities. *PR*



PhilHealth, IBP..

tion efforts.

These initiatives are expected to strengthen PhilHealth's ability to deliver responsive services and ensure that members receive the benefits and protections they are entitled to under the law.

A key feature of the agreement is the provision of free legal aid activities for qualified PhilHealth members, particularly those who are indigent or marginalized, on matters related to healthcare benefits and claims.

PhilHealth will support these initiatives by providing the necessary information and documentation to facilitate legal assistance.

The partnership will likewise support the enhancement of existing dispute resolution mechanisms within PhilHealth to further improve service delivery and ensure that member concerns and benefit-related issues are addressed in a timely, fair, and efficient manner.

Through this partnership, PhilHealth reaffirms its commitment to protecting the interests of its members and advancing

Universal Health Care by ensuring that every Filipino not only has access to health insurance coverage, but is also equipped with the information, support, and legal safeguards needed to fully enjoy their healthcare rights. PR

Grand Ease of Doing Business Fair in Cavite delivers gov't services to 1,700 clients

TAGAYTAY CITY, Cavite (PIA) — Featuring services from 26 national government agencies, including those from the city government of Tagaytay, the Grand Ease of Doing Business (EODB) Fair underscored the vital role of citizen participation in improving public services.

Led by the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA), the Grand EODB Fair last May 28 gathered various national government agencies to provide essential services, including license renewals to registration, official registrations, and e-government services to over 1,780 clients.

Chrishnalyn Castro travelled all the way from Isabela to renew her license from the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) for the very first time at the EODB Fair. "Very efficient and convenient. Napabilis ng registration for renewal. Napakasulit dahil galing pa kaming Isabela at pumunta kami dito para mag-renew ng aming ID." Josephine Basio, a stay-at-home mom, also found the services carried by the EODB Fair incredibly convenient. Aside from bringing essential government services under one

roof, Basio also lauded for patiently answering her queries.

"Malinaw naman. Magaling silang mag-assist at sumagot. Less hassle lalo na sa mga busy mom na katulad ko. Malaking tulong na inilapit nila sa masa ang mga ito."

Undersecretary Juabilly Racho, ARTA Deputy Director General, emphasized that working closely constituents to improve public services delivery are key in driving job creation and access to business opportunities.

As the primary clients of government services, Racho urged the public to remain vigilant and report bureaucratic delays and excessive processes that prevent access to action.

"Kapag nakakita kayo ng hindi normal sa inyong pagpila sa mga tanggapan ng gobyerno, abisuhan ninyo ang inyong mayor at munisipyo. Humingi po kayo ng tulon kasi sila rin, ayaw rin na kayo ay naghihintay at naa-abala. Kapag may red tape, magsabi po kayo sa inyong munisipyo. Ginawa po ang ARTA upang ang mga ganyang bagay na inyong pino-problema ay ma-address."

Continuing to outperform amid industry challenges, the Megaworld Group recorded P29.7-billion in reservation sales during the first quarter of the year, up 10.4% from the same period last year, driven by resilient demand for its residential developments across Metro Manila and even in the provinces.

Out of this total, property giant Megaworld remained the Group's primary growth driver, contributing around 71% of total reservation sales, equivalent to P21.2-billion. Driving this performance was the company's 54-story Uptown Modern in Uptown Bonifacio, which generated P3-billion in sales during the quarter. Also performing significantly well during the first three months of the year

are other Megaworld properties such as Park McKinley West at McKinley West in Taguig City; One Crown Suites at Winford Resort Estate in Manila; as well as the company's provincial properties like Ilocandia Beach Village at Ilocandia Coastown in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte; Maple Grove Park Village at Maple Grove in General Trias City, Cavite; Santé Residences Palawan at Paragua Coastown in San Vicente, Palawan; Firenze at Iloilo Business Park in Iloilo City; and La Victoria Global Residences at The Mactan Newtown in Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu.

"Our residential business continues to show strong resilience, led by steady sales across our Metro Manila developments and growing demand for our provincial



In support of the SM Cares Brigada Eskwela 2026 program, employees, agency personnel, and security guards from SM City Dasmariñas, SM Marketmall, and SM City Trece Martires participated in volunteer activities at Bautista Elementary School in Dasmariñas City and Aliang Elementary School in Trece Martires City.

The team worked together in cleaning, painting, and conducting minor repair works to help prepare the schools for the upcoming academic year. Cleaning materials were

also donated to further support the schools in providing a safe, clean, and conducive learning environment for students and teachers.

Through initiatives such as Brigada Eskwela, SM Cares and SM Supermalls remain committed to empowering communities through education, volunteerism, and meaningful partnerships, helping create better opportunities and a brighter future for Filipino learners.

#Empowering-Communities #SMCares #SMSupermalls #BrigadaEskwela2026



properties. Even amid a challenging business environment, we remain focused on accelerating growth across our portfolio and creating lasting value for our stakeholders. More importantly, the sustained performance of our residential developments reflects the enduring strength of the township model that Megaworld pioneered—an integrated, lifestyle-driven approach that continues to provide us with a distinct competitive advantage and remains aligned with the evolving needs of the market," says Lourdes T. Gutierrez-Alfonso, President and CEO, Megaworld.

Megaworld accelerated its expansion in key provincial growth areas during the first quarter with the launch of two landmark residential developments: the 14-story Santé Residences Palawan, the Philippines' first WELL-registered residential development with projected sales of P6.5-billion, and the 19.4-hectare Ilocandia Beach Village, a

beachfront estate poised to contribute P4-billion in sales.

Earlier this year, Megaworld also announced that it is developing the 97-hectare The Sugartown in Talisay City, Negros Occidental, the company's 37th township development and its third within the Negros Island Region.

This June, Megaworld celebrates its 37th year in the Philippine real estate industry as it continues to uplift lives, impact society, and help shape the nation through its 37 townships across the country spanning more than 7,000 hectares of land from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

Today, Megaworld remains to be one of the Philippines' biggest property giants today with over 800 residential developments spread across the country, and it remains to be the largest office landlord and the largest hotel operator in terms of room keys in the Philippines.

BACOR..

The City Government of Bacoor and BioTen Energy Inc. officially signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on June 1, 2026, at the Strike Conference Room, marking a major step toward environmental sustainability and responsible waste management in the city.

The signing ceremony was organized by the City Government of Bacoor through the Office of the City Legal Service headed by Atty. Kim Nyca Lofranco. Present during the event were Mayor Strike B. Revilla, Atty. Khalid Atega Jr., SP Secretary, and Mr. Klan Alison, Chairman and Founder of BioTen Energy Inc.

The partnership aims to establish a city-wide used cooking oil and grease waste collection program for households, residential communities, and food establishments. Collected waste oil will be processed and converted into high-quality biodiesel fuel, helping reduce environmental pollution while promoting renewable en-

ergy solutions.

Under the agreement, the City Government of Bacoor will implement policies requiring food businesses to properly dispose of used cooking oil through accredited collectors and will work closely with homeowners associations to establish collection points within subdivisions. These efforts will help address clogged drainage systems, blocked sewers, and flooding caused by grease buildup.

Meanwhile, BioTen Energy Inc. will fund, build, and operate the conversion facility at no cost to the city or residents, provide free collection containers and regular pick-up services, and process the collected oil into biodiesel that meets Philippine standards.

This innovative partnership reflects Bacoor's commitment to environmental protection, sustainable development, and cleaner communities for future generations.

PICTO Facilitates briefing on DICT National Programs and ICT Council Creation for Cavite LGUs

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Provincial Information and Communications Technology Office (PICTO), facilitated a Briefing on the DICT National Programs and Creation of ICT Council for Local Government Units (LGUs) on June 1, at the New Provincial Government Center in Trece Martires City.

The activity gathered ICT and planning officers and representatives from the different cities and municipalities of Cavite to strengthen collaboration and promote digital transformation initiatives across local government units.

Ms. Annie Q. Tacazon, PICTO officer in charge, formally welcomed the participants and acknowledged the presence of the attendees, emphasizing the importance of a unified approach in advancing information and communications technology initiatives in the province.

One of the highlights of the event was the presentation of Provincial Ordinance No. 511-2026, entitled "An Ordinance Mandating All Cities and Municipalities in the Province of Cavite to Create Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Councils."

The ordinance was presented by 7th District Board Member Camille Lauren V. Del Rosario, principal author of the measure. During her presentation, she underscored the vital role of ICT Councils in fostering digital governance, innovation, and sustainable development among local government units. Likewise, she discussed the functions of the local ICT council.

Meanwhile, Ms. Jerica Dalisay, Project Development Officer II of the

Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Region IV-A, discussed the establishment of ICT Councils and provided guidance on their structure, functions, and significance in advancing local digital transformation efforts.

The discussion on Building Cavite's ICT Transformation Roadmap was led by Mr. Bonifacio Belen, Founder-Convenor of the National ICT Confederation of the Philippines (NICP), who shared strategies in charting a shared direction for the province's digital future aimed at strengthening the province's digital infrastructure, enhancing public service delivery, and fostering innovation-driven governance.

Representatives from the DICT led by Ms. Dalisay and Engr. Kenneth Benedicto, DICT-Cavite Provincial Officer, also presented various national programs available for LGUs, highlighting initiatives that support digitalization, connectivity, cybersecurity, and capacity-building efforts for local governments.

The briefing concluded with an inspiring message from Ms. Teresita Leabres, President of the Cavite ICT Council, who encouraged the participants to actively support the establishment of ICT Councils in their respective localities and work collectively toward achieving a digitally empowered Cavite.

The activity served as a significant step toward strengthening partnerships among stakeholders and advancing the province's vision of a more connected, innovative, and technology-driven future.— *OPIO*

Republic of the Philippines
Fourth Judicial Region
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
City of Bacoor
Email: rtc1bcrocc@judiciary.gov.ph
Telephone No. 09273707489

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK,
Mortgagee.

-versus- Foreclosure No. 2026-69
For: Extra-Judicial Fore
closure of
Real Estate Mortgage

SPS. LHARRY S. STA. ROSA AND CRISTINA
G. STA. ROSA,

Mortgagors.

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE

Upon Extra-judicial Petition for. Sale under Act 3135 as Amended by Act 4118 filed by the mortgagee, **PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK**, at PNB Financial Center, President Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay City, and against the mortgagors **SPS. LHARRY S. STA. ROSA AND CRISTINA G. STA. ROSA** at Blk. 2 Lot 40 Lessandra Buhay na Tubig, Imus Cavite and Block 2 Lot 31 Phase 2 Bellazona-Aragon, Brgy. Molino III, Bacoor, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgagee indebtedness which as of April 30, 2026, amounts to **ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY THOUSAND FORTY NINE PESOS & 02/100 (P1,770,049.02)**, Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest and penalty charges but exclusive of other fees incident to this foreclosure, the undersigned or her duly authorized representative will sell at the public auction on **July 14, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, the main entrance** of the Hall of Justice of Bacoor City, Cavite, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit;

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. (057-2019004478) 167-2020010523

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 31, BLK. 2, OF THE CONS.-SUBD. PLAN, PCS-04-020084, BEING A PORTION OF THE CONS. OF LOT 5517, IMUS ESTATE AND LOT 5515-B-2, PSD-04- 089803, L.R.A. REC. NO.), SITUATED IN THE BRGY OF MOLINO, MUN. OF BACOR, PROV. OF CAVITE. X X X, CONTAINING AN AREA OF NINETY THREE (93) SQUARE METERS."

"All sealed bid must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date."

"In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on July 21, 2026, without further notice."

Prospective buyers or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances, if any there be.

City of Bacoor, June 1, 2026.

{sgd) **MELY C. HERMOSURA-VISTA**
Clerk of Court VI

By: **LUIS ANTONIO V. PONS**
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:
POMPEYO P. MAYNIGO
JRDC Building 117 Sen Gil J. Puyat Ave., Pasay City

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK
5th Floor PNB Financial Center, President Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay City

SPS. LHARRY S. STA. ROSA AND CRISTINA G. STA. ROSA
Blk. 2 Lot 40 Lessandra Buhay na Tubig, Imus Cavite