Mt. Kamhantik Archaeological-ecological Tourism Site sa Mulanay, inilunsad katuwang ang DA-4A

Pormal nang inilunsad ang Mt. Kamhantik Archaeological-ecological Tourism Site Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP) sa bayan ng Mulanay, lalawigan ng Quezon katuwang ang Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) noong ika-11 ng Agosto.

Ayon kay Punong Bayan ng Mulanay, Hon. Jay Castilleja, ang Mt. Kamhantik ay itinuturing na lokal na yamang-kultura ng mga mamamayan at siya ring pinakamataas na bundok sa ikatlong distrito ng Quezon. May laki itong humigit-kumulang 300 ektarya na nagtataglay ng likas na yaman at pinagkukuhanan ng kabuhayan lalo na sa larangan ng agrikultura.

Sa tulong ng CADP ay inaasahan ang pagkakaroon ng mas progresibong mga estratehiya, programa, aktibidad, at mga proyektong magpapaunlad sa lugar habang isinusulong ang responsableng paglinang o paggamit ng likas na yaman sa Mt. Kamhantik.

Ipapatupad ito sa pagkakaisa ng DA, Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), at Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), katuwang ang lokal na pamahalaan ng Mulanay at lalawigan ng Quezon.

Bilang tanda ng opisyal na paglulunsad ay nagkaroon ng ribbon cutting, presentasyon ng CADP, mensahe ng mga opisyal, at pagpirma sa commitment wall kasama ang mga lider at representante ng mga kabilang na ahensya.

Si Brgy. Captain Felix Aguirre mula sa Buenavista ay ikinatuwa ang proyekto bilang isa ang barangay nila sa mga makikinabang sa pagpapaunlad ng convergence area.

Aniya, marami sa kanila ang mga magsasaka na umaasa rito ng araw-araw na ikinabubuhay kaya malaking tulong ito sa kanilang komunidad. *(Danica T. Daluz, DA-4A RAFIS)*

Cayetano team naghatid ng tulong sa mga evacuee sa Bacolor

Nagtungo ang Emergency Response Team ni Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano sa Bacolor, Pampanga nitong Miyerkules, August 19, para maghatid ng tulong sa mga pamilyang nananatili sa evacuation centers dahil sa ilang araw nang pagbaha.

Namahagi ang grupo ng daan-daang hot meals sa Bacolor Integrated School kung saan kasalukuyang nakasilong ang 204 pamilya o 779 indibidwal, at sa Bacolor Mini Convention na tinutuluyan naman ng 49 pamilya o 220 indibidwal.

Ilan sa mga evacuee ay siyam na araw na sa evacuation centers habang patuloy na binabaha ang ilang lugar sa bayan.

Isinagawa ang operasyon katuwang si Bacolor Mayor Eduardo “Diman” Datu. Nagpasalamat si Datu kay Cayetano sa patuloy nitong pag-alalay sa Bacolor nang hindi na kinailangang hingan ng tulong.

Batay sa datos ng munisipyo, mahigit 3,000 pamilya na ang naapektuhan ng baha sa Bacolor habang higit 400 pamilya ang kasalukuyang nasa evacuation centers.

Wala namang naitalang nasawi o nasugatan sa bayan matapos magsagawa ang lokal na pamahalaan ng mga paunang hakbang para mailikas ang mga residenteng nasa peligro.

Dumating ang relief operation habang patuloy ang pag-ulan sa Luzon dahil sa southwest monsoon o habagat.

Ayon sa PAGASA, inaasahang magpapatuloy ang malalakas na pag-ulan sa malawak na bahagi ng Luzon at ilang lugar sa Visayas hanggang Huwebes, August 20.

Patuloy ding mino-monitor ng PAGASA ang dalawang low-pressure area, kabilang ang isa na nasa labas at isa pang nasa loob ng Philippine Area of Responsibility.

Bukod sa Bacolor, nagpapatuloy rin ang pagtulong ng Cayetano team sa iba pang mga lugar sa Luzon na tinamaan ng baha, kabilang ang pamamahagi ng pagkain at iba pang pangunahing pangangailangan sa mga komunidad na patuloy na apektado ng pag-ulan. PR

ISSN NO. 3028-1954

STRAIGHT NEWS PUBLISHING

TODAY'S NEWS AND BEYOND

VOL. IV • NO. 9 • August 26-Sept. 01, 2026 • P 20.00

SSS offers existing Emergency Loan Program to members affected by Tropical Storm Maymay, Habagat

DTI highlights trade expo among key platforms in promoting local coconut products

Silang town touts health programs in State of the Municipality Address

CARD RBI, kinilala sa Gawad TANYAG Awards 2026 ng LANDBANK

Tinanggap ni Lyneth Derequito, Pangulo at CEO ng CARD RBI (pangalawa mula sa kaliwa), ang Gawad Partner Financial Institution sa ginanap na LANDBANK Gawad TANYAG 2026.

Story on page 2

Medical and Dental Mission brings essential health services to Pasong Kawayan II

The Provincial Government of Cavite continued to bring accessible healthcare services closer to communities as a medical and dental mission was conducted on August 5, 2026, in Barangay Pasong Kawayan II, City of General Trias, benefiting a total of 573 residents.

The activity provided community members with essential medical and dental services through the of doctors and healthcare professionals from the General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH) and the AMIGA District Hospital, with the assistance of barangay health workers (BHWs).

The health mission offered residents an opportunity to avail medical consultations and dental services without having to travel far from their community.

Board Member Kerby Salazar was present during the activity, demonstrating support for initiatives that promote accessible and responsive healthcare services for Caviteños. — OPIO

POINT OF VIEW

Sa Panahong Lahat ay Lumuluhod, Kanino Tayo Tumitindig?

By: Glen Obias-INTERN

"Every knee shall bow." Isang simpleng mensahe, ngunit may malalim na paalala sa isang mundong unti-unting nalulunod sa kayabangan, kapangyarihan, at pansariling interes. Sa gitna ng makukulay na ilaw at malalaking entablado, ang mga salitang ito ay nagsisilbing hamon sa bawat isa: may hangganan ang lakas ng tao, at darating ang araw na ang lahat ay yuyuko sa harap ng mas dakilang kapangyarihan.

Sa kasalukuyang panahon, tila mas madalas nating sambahin ang kasikatan kaysa sa katotohanan, ang pera kaysa sa prinsipyo, at ang sariling kapakanan kaysa sa kapwa. Marami ang naniniwalang sapat na ang impluwensya, posisyon, o yaman upang maging makapangyarihan. Ngunit ipinapaalala ng mensaheng ito na walang sinuman ang mananatiling nasa tuktok habang-buhay.

kaysa sa ating sariling kagustuhan. Ang tunay na lakas ay hindi nasusukat sa dami ng tagasunod o laki ng tagumpay, kundi sa kababaang-loob, integridad, at pananampalatayang nananatili kahit walang nakakakita.

Sa isang lipunang puno ng ingay, kompetisyon, at paghahangad ng pansamantalang tagumpay, mahalagang itanong natin sa ating sarili: Kanino ba talaga tayo lumuluhod? Sa salapi? Sa kapangyarihan? Sa opinyon ng iba? O sa mga prinsipyong nagbibigay ng tunay na direksyon sa ating buhay?

Ang mensaheng "Every Knee Shall Bow" ay hindi lamang panawagan ng pananampalataya. Isa rin itong paalala na ang bawat tao mayaman man o mahirap, sikat man o hindi ay pantay-pantay sa harap ng katotohanan at pananagutan. Walang katayuan ang makapagliligtas sa sinumang namuhay nang walang malasakit, katapatan, at pagpapakumbaba.

Sa huli, ang tanong ay hindi kung kailan luluhod ang tao. Ang tunay na tanong ay: Habang may pagkakataon pa, pipiliin ba nating mamuhay nang may kababaang-loob, o hihintayin pa nating turuan tayo ng buhay na walang sinumang mas dakila kaysa sa katotohanan at sa Diyos?

SSS OFFERS...

FROM PAGE 01

QUEZON CITY, 17 August 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) announced that members affected by Tropical Storm Maymay and the enhanced Southwest Monsoon (Habagat) may avail themselves of the existing Emergency Loan Program (ELP) to help address their financial needs arising from the calamity.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said the ELP remains available to qualified members nationwide and serves as a readily accessible source of financial assistance for those experiencing financial hardship due to calamities and other emergency situations.

"The ELP is part of SSS' continuing commitment to provide immediate financial relief to members affected by unforeseen events.

Through the ELP, qualified members affected by Tropical Storm Maymay and the enhanced Southwest Monsoon may access much-needed financial assistance under more flexible eligibility requirements," de Claro said.

"Under the ELP, which has been in effect since 01 May 2026, the required number of monthly contributions has been reduced from 36 to 18, provided that the member has at least six posted contributions in the last 12 months," de Claro said.

He added that self-employed, voluntary, non-working spouse, and land-based Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) members must have at least six-monthly contributions under their current membership type before the month of loan application.

Other eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Under 65 years old at the time of loan application;
- Have a valid Philippine home address on SSS records;
- Have an updated contact information in the SSS database;
- Have no past-due emergency, calamity, salary, Educational Assistance Loan, or other short-term or long-term member loans;
- Have no outstanding restructured loan;
- Have not been disqualified due to fraud committed against the SSS;
- Have not been granted any final benefit like retirement or permanent total disability benefits; and
- Have an active disbursement account enrolled through the Disbursement Account Enrollment Module (DAEM) in the My.SSS Portal.

Qualified members may borrow up to ₱20,000 at an interest rate as low as 7% per annum. The loan is payable over 30 months, inclusive of a six-month moratorium period.

"Members are not required to make monthly amortization payments during the first six months from the date of loan approval. No penalties will be imposed during this period. Regular monthly amortization payments will begin in the seventh month," de Claro explained.

De Claro added that members affected by the tropical cyclone may also apply for an SSS salary loan at the same time, subject to the eligibility requirements.

Members may apply online for both the ELP and the salary loan through the My.SSS Portal at www.sss.gov.ph. # (PR)

CARD RBI...

FROM PAGE 01

Kinilala ang CARD MRI Rizal Bank, Inc. (CARD RBI) bilang isa sa mga natatanging institusyong pinansyal sa Gawad TANYAG Awards sa pagdiriwang ng ika-63 anibersaryo ng LANDBANK noong Agosto 8, 2026.

Tinanggap ng bangko ang Gawad Partner Financial Institution (PFI) Outstanding Rural Bank Award bilang pagkilala sa mga pagsisikap at kontribusyon nito sa pagpapalawak ng akses sa serbisyong pinansyal para sa mga nasa laylayang komunidad at pamilyang Pilipino.

"Ipinakikita ng parangal na ito ang aming dedikasyon sa pagpapatibay ng mga komunidad sa malalayong lugar sa bansa at sa paggamit ng mga pagkakataon upang palawakin ang kanilang mga oportunidad sa kabuhayan. Ito ang mahalagang epekto ng pagtataguyod ng financial inclusion," pahayag ni Lyneth Derequito, Pangulo at CEO ng CARD RBI.

Dagdag pa ni Derequito, ang pagkilalang ito ay para sa mga kawani ng bangko at sa mga nagtitiwalang kliyente nito. "Ang kanilang mga pangarap na magkaroon ng mas mabuting buhay ang nagtutulak sa amin upang patuloy na palawakin ang aming serbisyo para sa mas maraming Pilipinong walang akses sa pampinansyal na serbisyo, at mabigyan sila ng parehong oportunidad para sa kanilang pag-unlad."

Ang Gawad TANYAG (TANging YAman at Galing) Awards ay isang programa ng pagkilala sa mga kliyente at partner na nangunguna sa pagpapaunlad ng komunidad sa pamamagitan ng kahusayan, makabagong pamamaraan, at serbisyo.

Ang CARD RBI, na isang microfinance-oriented rural bank ng CARD MRI, ay nagbibigay ng mga produkto at serbisyong pinansyal na nakatuon sa mga nasa laylayan at sa maliliit na negosyante. Kabilang dito ang microfinance, solar loan, tulong pinansyal sa edukasyon at kalusugan, savings account, at serbisyo sa remittance. Sa pakikipagtulungan nito sa CARD MRI network, nagbibigay rin ito ng microinsurance, suporta sa pagpapalago ng negosyo, at iba't ibang programang pangkomunidad.

Mula noong Hunyo 2026, ang CARD RBI ay may 405 opisina at 2,016 na empleyado na naglilingkod sa 946,868 na kliyente sa buong bansa. Ang bangko ay mayroon na ring mahigit PHP 9 bilyon na naipautang na may 99.32% repayment rate. (PR)

Silang town...

FROM PAGE 01

SILANG, Cavite (PIA) – With a stronger push for inclusive and affordable health services, the Municipal Government of Silang touted its policies and reforms that ensured equal access to healthcare.

In his very first State of the Municipality Address (SOMA) last August 17, Mayor Edward Carranza revealed that the passage of the Carranza Bill has been the highlight of this first year as local chief executive, which resulted to equitable access to healthcare services especially during emergencies.

In an interview, Carranza noted that the Municipality of Silang is pushing for services where indigent patients no longer need to secure guarantee letters to receive care from healthcare facilities.

"Ang very proud ako is 'yung Carranza Bill kung saan walang Silangueño na may emergency cases ang maiiwan at hindi magagamot. Hindi 'nyo na rin kailangang hanapin ang mga pulitiko para gamutin kayo sa pribadong ospital sa bayan ng Silang. Ayokong may mga kababayan tayong hindi ginagamot dahil sa kahirapan."

Since its passage in 2022, the Carranza Bill has provided Php 10,000 deposit in local hospitals as a subsidy for residents needing emergency treatment. Currently, this program is being patronized in Silang Specialist Medical Center, Velazco Hospital, Estrella Hospital, and St. Mazenod Hospital.

"Sa ilaim ng programang ito, nagbibigay ang ating pamahalaan ng Php 10,000 hospital deposit assistance upang hindi maantala ang agarang pagpapaga mot ng ating mga kababayan sa oras ng emergency. Hindi natin kayang pigilan ang aksidente o karamdaman ngunit kaya nating tiyakin na walang mawawalan ng pag-asakang mabuhay dahil lamang sa kakulangan ng perang pang-deposito."

Aside from its services, the Municipality also provided training for Barangay Health Workers and Barangay Nutrition Scholars as part of their efforts towards a stronger community-based anti-dengue drive.

In the coming years, the residents will also receive a wider range of services upon the completion of the Silang Public Hospital, which is currently in its third phase.

GAWAD JULIAN CRUZ BALMASEDA 2027, TUMATANGGAP NA NG LAHOK

Ang Gawad Julian Cruz Balmaseda ay ang pinakamataas na pagkilála na handog ng KWF para sa natatanging tesis at disertasyon sa agham, matematika, agham panlipunan, at iba pang kaugnay na larangan gámit ang wikang Filipino.

Layunin nitó na hikayatin at palaganapin, sa pamamagitan ng sistemang mga insentibo, grant, at gawad, ang pagsusulat at publikasyon sa Filipino at ibang mga wika ng Pilipinas ng mga akdang orihinal, kabílang ang mga teksbuk at sangguniang materyales sa iba't ibang disiplina.

May dalawang kategorya ang gawad: (1) tesis at (2) disertasyon. May isang magwawagi lámang sa bawat kategorya. Maaari ding walang tatanghaling magwawagi sa alinmang kategorya.

Nagsimula ang gawad noong 2015 at nakapagtala ng sampung nagwagi: Marlon S. Delupio, disertasyon sa kasaysayan (2015); Gilbert E. Macarandang, disertasyon sa agham pampolitika at Roman Sarmiento Jr., tesis sa kasaysayan (2016); Lovella G. Velasco, disertasyon sa panitikan, at Christian Ezekiel J. Fajardo, tesis sa antropolohiya (2017); Emmanuel S. De Leon, disertasyon sa pilosopiya (2018); Wenilyn F. Fajilan, disertasyon sa pagsasalin (2019); Regina Starr B. Abelardo, tesis sa musika at panitikan (2020); Roque Augustus L. Lamadrid, tesis sa araling kultural at Jonathan V. Geronimo, disertasyon sa araling kultural (2022); Kristine Mae M. Nares, tesis sa araling kultural, at Mariyel Hiyas C. Liwanag, disertasyon sa araling wika (2025); at Darwin P. Plaza, tesis sa katutubong kaalaman sa kalamidad, at Ferdinand P. Jarin, disertasyon sa panitikan ng banwa at bansa (2026).

Makatatanggap ng halagang PHP100,000.00 (net) at isang plake ng pagkilála ang magwawagi sa mga kategorya ng naturang gawad. Lahat ng kopya ng mga lahok, nanalo man o natalo, ay hindi na ibabalik sa mga kalahok. Angkin ng KWF ang unang opsiyon na mailathala ang mga nagwaging lahok nang walang royalti sa may-akda.

TUNTUNIN:

1.Ang gawad ay bukás sa lahat ng mga estudyante, babae man o laláki, sa antas gradwado (masteral at doktorado), maliban sa mga empleado ng KWF at kanilang mga kaanak.

2.Ang ilalahok na tesis at/o disertasyon ay naipagtanggol at naipasá sa mga taóng 2023–2025.

3.Kinakailangan itong isulat bílang kahingian sa mga kursong may kaugnayan sa agham, matematika, agham panlipunan, humanidades, at sa iba pang kaugnay na larangan.

4.Kailangang orihinal na isinulat at ipinagtanggol sa wikang Filipino ang lahok, orihinal na gawa ng may-akda, hindi pa nailalathala bílang aklat, at hindi rin salin mula sa ibang wika.

5.Marapat na gamítin ang KWF Manwal sa Masinop na Pagsulat (MMP) (i-download ang libreng sipi sa website ng KWF) bílang format sa pagsulat ng talababa, talasanggunian, at iba pa.

6.Para sa paglahok, kinakailangang isumite nang apat (4) na limbag na kopyang makinilyado o computerized (hardcopy). Ang kopya ng mga lahok ay kinakailangang walang taglay na anumang pagkakakilanlan ng may-akda. Nangangahulugan ito ng pag-aalis ng mga preliminaryong pahina ng tesis at disertasyon na nagtataglay ng pagkakakilanlan ng may-akda. Tanging pamagat ng tesis/disertasyon at sagisag-panulat lámang ang pahihintulutang nakalimbag sa manuskrito.

7.Ang mga preliminaryong pahina ng tesis/disertasyon, gaya ng katibayan ng pagsang-ayon, tungkol sa mananaliksik o bionote, pasasalamat, pag-aalay, pahina ng grado at ebalwasyon, at iba pang katulad ay ilalakip sa isang bukod na brown envelope, kasáma ang sumusunod:

7.1.Apat (4) na kopya ng limbag na lahok (softbound o ring bind);

7.2.curriculum vitae ng may-akda;

7.3.pormularyo ng paglahok: https://drive.google.com/.../1b3aKAB7jj9Us4urZiQS.../view...

7.4.notaryadong awtentipikasyon ng lahok;

7.5.notaryadong katibayan ng etikong pananaliksik (walang plahiyo) na nilagdaan ng tagapayo;

7.6.rekomendasyon mula sa dalawang propesor sa kinabibilangang larangan;

7.7.rekomendasyon mula sa tagapangulo ng kinabibilangang departamento;

7.8.rekomendasyon mula sa dekano/a ng kinabibilangang kolehiyo; at

7.9.dihital na kopya ng lahok na nása isang universal serial bus (USB) drive.

8.Ang dokumentong ito ay nakalagay sa isang expanding envelope na may pangalan at adres ng kalahok. Ipadadala ang mga lahok sa:

Lupon sa Gawad Julian Cruz Balmaseda 2027

Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino

2P Gusaling Watson, 1610 Kalye J.P. Laurel,

1005 San Miguel, Lungsod Maynila

9.Ang hulíng araw ng pagsusumite ng mga lahok ay sa 8 Oktubre 2026, 5:00 nh. Para sa mga ipinadala sa pamamagitan ng koreo, tatanggapin lámang ng KWF ang mga lahok na naipadala bago o sa nabanggit na petsa.

10.Ang mga magwawagi sa kategorya ng tesis at disertasyon ay makatatanggap ng PHP100,000.00 (net), plake, at medalya. May isang magwawagi lámang sa bawat kategorya. Maaari ding walang tatanghaling magwawagi sa alinmang kategorya. Angkin ng KWF ang unang opsiyon na mailathala ang mga nagwaging lahok nang walang royalti sa may-akda.

11.Ang pasiya ng Lupon ng Inampalan ay pinal at hindi na mababago.

12.Hindi patatawarin ang sinumang mahuhúli nagplahiyo. Kakanselahin ng KWF ang ipinagwaging lahok at hindi na muling makasasali pa sa alinmang timpalak ng KWF.

13.Ang mga dokumentong ipinadala ng mga lumahok, nanalo o hindi, ay hindi na ibabalik sa mga may-ari.

14.Pára sa karagdagang detalye, mag-email sa <timpalak.gawad@kwf.gov.ph>.

Paalala: Para sa pagbubukas ng mga link, tiyaking kayo ay naka-log-in sa inyong Google account upang maakses ang mga pormularyo. (PR)

DTI...

FROM PAGE 01

MUNTINLUPA CITY (PIA) — The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) emphasized the importance of trade fairs as an effective marketing platform for local products, particularly coconut-based products from the CALABARZON region, during the opening of Coconut Philippines featuring Kalakal Calabarzon trade fair held on Monday, August 17.

Sixty micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) from the Calabarzon region joined the DTI trade fair showcasing various value-added coconut products, highlighting the region's abundant coconut resources that can be transformed into innovative and marketable goods.

DTI Assistant Secretary for Regional Operations Group Dominic Tolentino Jr. said trade fairs provide local entrepreneurs with opportunities to directly reach consumers, expand their market, and secure bulk orders for their products.

"It's a very good sign na ang mga Pilipino ay tumatangkilik sa gawang Pilipino. As you know, CALABARZON, most especially Laguna and other places in CALABARZON, is doing very well in the product coconut, and it's our primary reason why we have this trade fair because we want to give importance to our coconut products," Tolentino said.

Through its programs for the coconut sector, DTI helps create opportunities for coconut farmers and MSMEs to move beyond selling raw agricultural products by encouraging the development of processed and value-added coconut products.

These include coconut food products, personal care items, handicrafts, and other products that generate additional income and create greater economic opportunities within coconut-producing communities.

DTI also assists entrepreneurs through product development, packaging and labeling improvement, skills and capability-building activities, and market access initiatives.

These interventions help local producers improve the quality and competitiveness of their products while preparing them for wider markets.

The trade fair also comes as the country celebrates National Coconut Week every August 24 to 30 under Proclamation No. 142, s. 1987 which aims to highlight the importance of the coconut industry and recognize its contribution to the Philippine economy and the livelihood of millions of Filipinos.

"This initiative also answers the call of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. who wants to help entrepreneurs build their businesses, expand their markets, and create more opportunities for them," he added.

Moreover, the administration of President Marcos Jr. continues to strengthen its convergence program involving the DTI, Department of Agriculture (DA), and other national government agencies to provide more comprehensive support to coconut farmers and industry stakeholders.

SMC first-half core net income rises 48% as revenue climbs 34%

San Miguel Corporation (SMC) posted consolidated core net income of P54.2 billion in the first half of 2026, up 48% from a year earlier, as its underlying businesses remained resilient despite volatile global markets, higher costs and cautious consumer spending.

Consolidated revenues rose 34% to P964.1 billion, driven by higher volumes and prices in its Fuel and Oil business, stronger contributions from Power, and continued growth in Food. Operating income increased 17% to P102.3 billion.

Reported consolidated net income was 44% lower at P37.7 billion, reflecting foreign exchange effects and other non-core items.

Last year's result also benefited from a P21.9 billion gain from the Chromite transaction which involved the de-consolidation of certain power assets.

"Our businesses performed well in the first half despite a more challenging operating environment. While cost and market pressures may continue, our underlying operations remain sound. We will stay disciplined on costs, continue improving efficiency, and invest in areas that support our long-term growth and the country's broader economic development," SMC Chairman and CEO Ramon S. Ang said.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

San Miguel Food and Beverage Inc. (SMFB) posted revenues of P205.3 billion in the first half, up 2%, as growth in its Food business helped offset softer consumer spending and disruptions in some export markets. EBITDA slipped 1% to P38.8 billion, with margins at 19%, while operating income and net income both declined 4% to P28.8 billion and P22.1 billion, respectively.

Food revenue rose 5% to P99.3 billion, driven by growth in feeds and sustained demand for branded products, including Magnolia dairy and coffee products, Purefoods Luncheon Meats and Pinoy Favorites, as well as its more affordable product lines. Operating income increased 2% to P8.8 billion, while net income rose 8% to P6.4 billion.

Beer revenue declined 1% to P73.7 billion as consumers became more selective with discretionary spending amid inflation and a weaker peso. Domestic beer revenue was steady at P65.9 billion despite softer volumes. International operations posted revenues of US$128.5 million, lower year-on-year as shipping disruptions in the Middle East affected deliveries to the region.

Operating income fell 11% to P14.4 billion, while net income declined 12% to P11.4 billion.

Spirits revenue was steady at P32.3 billion as higher prices offset softer volumes.

Profitability improved, with operating income rising 8% to P5.4 billion and net income increasing 3% to P4.4 billion.

FUEL AND OIL

Petron Corporation's revenues rose 57% to P605.9 billion in the first half, driven by higher prices and sales volumes. Net income declined 27% to P3.8 billion, while operating income fell 17% to P12.6 billion, as geopolitical tensions in the Middle East pushed up crude prices, import premiums, freight costs, and other operating expenses.

Oil markets remained volatile during the period, with Dubai crude averaging US$91 per barrel, up 27% from the same period last year.

Consolidated sales volume rose 6% to 67.9 million barrels, driven by an 86% increase in trading transactions by the company's Singapore subsidiary.

INFRASTRUCTURE

SMC Infrastructure posted first-half revenues of P20.5 billion, up 3%, even as average daily traffic dipped 1% to 1.07 million vehicles.

Elevated fuel prices weighed on road travel demand. Operating income was steady at P11.1 billion, while EBITDA increased 8% to P17.0 billion.

POWER

San Miguel Global Power (SMGP) posted first-half revenues of P101.9 billion, up 27%, while operating income rose 90% to P42.0 billion.

CEMENT

SMC's Cement business, which includes Eagle Cement Corporation, Northern Cement Corporation, and Southern Concrete Industries, Inc., posted first-half revenues of P18.2 billion, up 2%, as higher sales volumes and market share gains offset lower average selling prices amid intense competition and continued pressure from cement imports. Operating income declined 9% to P3.2 billion. (PR)

25 KAWANI NG DA4A, SUMAILALIM SA BASIC INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM TRAINING

Sumailalim sa tatlong araw na Basic Incident Command System (ICS) Training ang dalawampu't limang kawani ng #DACalabarzon bilang bahagi ng patuloy na pagsisikap ng ahensya na palakasin ang kahandaan at kakayahan sa pagtugon sa mga emergency, sakuna, at kalamidad.

Pinangunahan ng Disaster Risk Reduction Management unit ang pagsasanay na isinagawa noong Agosto 5-7, 2026 sa Tagaytay City, Cavite. Nakatuon ito sa pagpapalawak ng kaalaman at kasanayan ng mga kalahok sa paggamit ng Incident Command System (ICS), isang organisadong pamamaraan na naglalayong mapahusay ang koordinasyon, komunikasyon, at pamamahala sa panahon ng mga insidente at kalamidad.

Sa pamamagitan ng training, nabigyan ang mga kawani ng pagkakataong higit na maunawaan ang mga pangunahing prinsipyo at mekanismo ng ICS, gayundin ang mga tungkulin at responsibilidad sa ilalim ng framework nito. Ang kahalagahan ng malinaw na pagkakahati ng mga responsibilidad upang matiyak ang maayos na daloy ng impormasyon at mabilis na koordinasyon sa oras ng emergency.

Bukod sa pagtugon sa mga insidenteng may direktang epekto sa operasyon ng ahensya, layunin din ng pagsasanay na tiyakin ang kahandaan ng mga kawani hindi lamang sa kanilang mga regular na tungkulin, kundi handa ring kumilos nang maayos at episyente sa panahon ng krisis at iba pang emergency situations.

Sa pagtatapos ng tatlong araw na pagsasanay, nagpasalamat ang mga kalahok sa pagbabahagi ng ganitong kaalaman sa kanila. Hinikayat ni Maria Ana Balmes mula sa Field Operations Division ang mga nakasama sa pagsasanay, na ibahagi rin ang kanilang natutunan sa kanya kanyang opisina upang mapalakas ang kahandaan ng bawat isa. (Chieverly Caguitla, DA-4A RAFIS)

SSS CONTINUES SUPPORT TO THE LOCAL MARKET AS PART OF NATION BUILDING WHILE EXPLORING INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS TO BALANCE PORTFOLIO

QUEZON CITY, 12 August 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) announced today its plan to expand its investment portfolio in foreign markets while continuing to actively participate in the domestic capital markets, as part of its strategy to diversify assets, enhance returns, and strengthen the long-term sustainability of the pension fund.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said the SSS' improved financial position provides greater capacity to pursue investment opportunities while continuing to contribute to nation-building through investments in the domestic market

"We are very conservative, but at the same time, we are also in a very good position now because of our surplus, that for the first time, we have an opportunity to help in nation-building," de Claro said.

As of 30 June 2026, SSS had ₱1.27 trillion in consolidated investments, distributed across various asset classes in the domestic market.

These include ₱629.05 billion in government securities, ₱179.44 billion in equities, ₱154.56 billion in property, ₱151.90 billion in member loans, and ₱96.34 billion in corporate notes and bonds, among others.

The diversified portfolio generated ₱27.16 billion in actual investment income as of 30 June 2026, equivalent to an annualized return on investment of 4.53 percent.

The figures exclude realized gains from the sale of equity securities classified as fair value through other comprehensive income (FVTOCI).

SSS remains an active institutional investor in the Philippine capital market through investments in equities, government securities, and other financial instruments allowed under its investment policies.

Its exploration of international investments is intended to complement, not replace, its existing domestic investments, providing greater diversification across markets and asset classes.

The planned overseas expansion will allow SSS to explore additional investment opportunities while maintaining its role in supporting the local capital market.

He emphasized that exploring overseas investments does not mean reducing SSS' participation in the Philippine market.

Rather, the initiative is intended to complement its existing domestic investments by providing greater diversification across markets and asset classes.

SSS aims to grow its reserve fund to ₱2 trillion by 2030, supporting its capacity to provide meaningful and sustainable social security protection to current and future generations of members and pensioners. (PR)

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BENTENG BIGAS, MERON NA SA KADIWA NG PANGULO SA JOMALIG, QUEZON

Umabot na sa Jomalig, Quezon ang programang "Benteng Bigas, Meron Na " program sa pamamagitan ng KADIWA ng Pangulo sa pangunguna ng Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD) at Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS), katuwang ang Food Terminal Incorporated (FTI) at Lokal na Pamahalaan ng bayan ng Jomalig noong ika-15 ng Agosto.

Ang naturang programa ay naglalayong maghatid ng abot-kayang bigas sa mga kwalipikadong benepisyaryo mula sa vulnerable sectors, kabilang ang mga senior citizens, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), solo parents, 4Ps beneficiaries, indigents, magsasaka, farm workers, mangingisda, minimum wage earners, benepisyaryo ng Walang Gutom Program, mga guro at non-teaching personnel ng DepEd, lower-middle income households, at mga nasa transport sector.

Ayon kay Gng. Emilita Abanto Quintan, isang senior citizen sa nasabing bayan, malaking tulong umano sa kanila ang programa lalo pa't hindi na kayang magtrabaho ng kaniyang asawa at hindi rin makasuporta ang kanilang mga anak. Aniya, malaking katipiran ito kumpara sa regular na presyo ng bigas sa kanilang lugar .

Sa kabila ng pagiging isang isla ng naturang bayan, patuloy na naghahatid ng serbisyo ang

pamahalaan sa pamamagitan ng Kagawaran upang matiyak na maging ang mga komunidad na malayo sa sentrong pamilihan ay maaabutan ng tulong. Ito ay bahagi ng pagsisikap ng pamahalaan na mapalawak ang access ng mga Pilipino sa de-kalidad at abot-kayang pagkain at mapatatag ang food security sa bansa. (PR)

(Glenda H. Marquez, DA4A RAFIS)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
4TH JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 109
CITY OF CARMONA, CARMONA
2ND Flr., Hall of Justice Bldg., Brgy.
Maduya, City of Carmona, Cavite
Email add: rtc2cac109@judiciary.gov.ph:
Tel. No (046) 48285[27]

CARD SME Bank, Inc., A Thrift Bank,
Mortgagee,

EJF-2026-47

FOR: EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135, AS AMENDED

-versus-

SPS. LUCIA DELA CRUZ ALIENTO and
FRANCISCO FRANCISCO ALIENTO,
Mortgagors.
X--X

NOTICE ODF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial petition for sale under Act No. 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the mortgagee, CARD SME Bank, Inc., A Thrift Bank, with postal address/es at (1.) 120 M. Paulino St., Cor. Burgos St., San Pablo City, Laguna; and (2.) Blk 5 Lot 5 Congressional Road, Brgy. Poblacion 1, GMA, Cavite, againts the mortgagors, SPS. LUCIA DELA CRUZ ALIENTO and FRANCISCO FRANCISCO ALIENTO, with postal address/es at (1.) Block 14 Lot 18 Phase 4B, Monteverde Homes, F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite; and (2.) Block 10 Lot 10 Monteverde Homes, F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite, and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 15 July, 2026 amounts to NINE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED ELEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY NINE PESOS AND 72/100 (P9,811, 439.72) Philippine Currency, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned or his duty authorized representative will SELL at public auction on October 1, 2026 at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the Lobby of the Hall of Justice Building, Brgy. Maduya, City of Carmona, Cavite to the highest bidder for CASH or MANAGER'S CHECK, in Phillipine currency, the mortgaged properyty/ies with all the improvements thereon to wit;

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
NO. 057-2022035017

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain and situated in MUN. OF CARMONA,
PROV. OF CAVITE , LUZON, bounded and described as follows

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 10, BLK. 2 OF THE SUBD. PLAN, PSD-04-009847, BEING A PORTION OF PARCEL-3, PSD-04-004652, L.R.C. REC. NO.), SITUATED IN THE MUN. OF CARMONA, PROV. OF CAVITE BOUNDED ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY ROAD LOT 1, ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 11, BLK 2; ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY BLK. 28; & ON THE SW,, ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 9, BLK. 2, OF THE SUBD. PLAN. BEGINNING AT A PT. MARKED "1" ON PLAN, BEING N. 64 DEG. 32'W., 898, 19 M. FROM BLLM NO. 14, CARMONA, CADASTRE THENCE S. 30 DEG 42'E., 15 02 M. TO PT. 2; THENCE S. 59 DEG, 18'W., 10.00 M. TO PT. 3; THENCE N. 30 DEG. 42'W., 15.02 M. TO FT. 4; THENCE N. 59 DEG, 18'E., 10:00M. TO THE PT. OF BEGINNING, CONTANING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (105) SQ. METERS. ALL PTS. REFERRED TO ARE INDICATED ON THE PLAN AND ARE MARKED ON THE GROUND BY PS CYL. CONC. MONS. 15X60 CM., BEARINGS TRUE; DATE OF ORIG. SURVEY, APRIL 14, 1940 TO JULY 31, 1941 AND THAT OF THE SUBD. SURVEY, JUNE 1-12, 1984 AND WAS APPROVED ON JULY 19, 1984."

xxx NOTHING FOLLOWS xxx

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any,

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersinged on the above-stated time and any.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, if that be held on October 8, 2026 at the same time and place witout further notice.

31TH day of July 2026 at City of Carmona, Cavite

By:
(SGD) JOSEPH R. DIOKNO
Sheriff IV

Noted By:

(SGD) ATTY. CORINNA B. SALONGA-LOPER
Clek of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy furnished:

CARD SME Bank, Inc, A Thrift Bank
1. #120M. Paulino St. cor. Burgos St.,
San Pablo City, Laguna
2. Blk. 5 Lot 5 CongressionaL Road.,
Brgy. Poblacion I GMA, Cavite

ATTY. SAMUEL JOHN DOMJOE M. ABARCAR
Counsel for the Petitioner
20 M.L. Quezon St., City Subd.
San Pablo City, Laguna

SPS. LUCIA DELA CRUZ ALIENTO &
FRANCISCO F. ALIENTO
1. Block 14 Lot 18 Phase 4B
Monteverde Homes
F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite
2. Block 10 Lot 10
Monteverde Homes
F. De Castro, GMA, Cavite

Straight News Publishing:
August 19, 26 & September 2, 2026

BUGSO NG HABAGAT BUHOS RIN NG BASURA

Patuloy na nakararanas ng matinding pagbaha ang ilang residente ng Barangay Damayang Lagi sa E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City, ngayong Miyerkules, Agosto 19, 2026, dulot ng malakas na pag-ulan na dala ng habagat.

Kasabay ng pagtaas ng tubig-baha ang pagdating ng mga basura na inaanod mula sa mga kalapit na ilog.

Dahil dito, hindi lamang baha ang kinakaharap ng mga residente kundi maging ang mga basurang bumabara sa kanilang mga daanan.

Ilang residente ang nagtulong-tulong upang alisin ang mga basurang inanod ng baha gamit ang mga dustpan at iba pang kagamitan.

Ginawa nila ito upang malinis ang mga daanan at mabawasan ang mga basurang naiwan matapos ang pagbugso ng malakas na ulan.

Ayon sa mga residente, pabalik-balik ang mataas na baha sa kanilang lugar at umaabot umano hanggang dibdib sa ilang bahagi ng barangay.

Sa kabila ng patuloy na pag-ulan, patuloy naman ang pagtutulungan ng mga residente upang maalis ang mga basurang inanod ng baha at mapanatiling malinis ang kanilang paligid.

Hindi lamang tubig-baha ang kanilang kinakaharap, kundi pati na rin ang panganib at perwisyo na dulot ng mga basurang inaanod mula sa mga kalapit na ilog.

By: Mikaela Guimare

Gov't aid for Habagat-affected communities in CALABARZON reaches Php141-M

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – Various aid from local government units and national government agencies have reached to more than Php 141 million after tropical cyclones Luis, Maymay, and Neneng combined with the effects of the Southwest Monsoon (Habagat) battered the region.

In its August 19 report, the CALABARZON Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) noted that government aid, including those from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and local government units have reached to Php 141,738,637.28.

To expedite government response, several local government units including the Provincial Government of Cavite, and the municipalities of Rodrigquez, Rizal and Nasugbu, Batangas have declared the State of Calamity.

As of August 19, the CALABARZON RDRRMC reported that a total of 1,000,202 individuals from 914 barangays were affected by strong rains and flooding. Local government units opened a total of 138 evacuation centers catering to 2,947 families with 87,084 individuals from high-risk communities who sought temporary shelters. Meanwhile, 4,569 families composed of 19,596 individuals opted to stay with relatives from nearby communities.

Meanwhile, the Department of Agriculture (DA) has reported agricultural damage amounting to Php 204,150, 669.00

Public infrastructure was also damaged during the heavy rains and flooding. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) valued the cost of damages in the provinces of Batangas and Cavite at Php 537,945,548.00.

Meanwhile, the Municipality of Morong, Rizal reported a total of Php 5,314,857.02 cost of infrastructure damage, subject for the validation of the Provincial Engineering Office.

Health infrastructure were also affected, as the Department of Health (DOH) reported damages in the Provinces of Batangas and Cavite valued at Php 14,219,663.23.

Stay Alert This Rainy Season!

CAVITE — With the province under a state of calamity due to widespread flooding, health concerns remain as heavy rains continue to affect communities.

According to the Department of Health (DOH), the rainy season brings increased concern over W.I.L.D. diseases—waterborne diseases, influenza-like illnesses, leptospirosis, and dengue. Waterborne diseases may result from consuming or coming into contact with contaminated water, while influenza-like illnesses may cause symptoms such as fever, cough, and body aches. Leptospirosis can be acquired through exposure to water contaminated with the urine of infected animals, particularly rats. Meanwhile, dengue is transmitted by infected Aedes mosquitoes, which can breed in stagnant water.

The DOH advises the public to avoid unnecessary contact with floodwater, ensure that drinking water is safe, keep surroundings clean, and remove stagnant water that may serve as mosquito breeding sites. Those who develop symptoms after exposure to floodwater should seek medical attention.

As the rainy weather continues, everyone is urged to remain alert and take necessary precautions. With the possibility of more rain and flooding, protecting health should remain a priority as Cavite continues to recover.

By: Krezzie Valentin

EDITORYAL:

Wag kang tumulad sa kanila!

By: Mikaela Guimare-INTERN

Wag mo kailangan maging sila, dahil iba ka sa lahat ng mga taong nasa paligid mo. May mga bagay kang kayang gawin na hindi nila kayang gawin kahit ano pa ang mangyari. Hindi mo rin kailangan ikumpara ang iyong sarili sa iba na nakikita mong maganda na ang kanilang pamumuhay.

Wag mong hayaan na lamunin ka ng mga sinasabi nila tungkol sayo pangit man o maganda ang mga ito. Dahil wala itong magandang idudulot sa buhay mo at pagkatao, ikaw ang tunay na nakakakilala sa sarili mo at higit sa lahat alam mo kung ano ang mga kahinaan at kakayahan.

Ikaw at ikaw lang ang tanging nakakaalam at nakakakilala sa sarili mo, hanggat maari iakw nalang ang umiwas sa kanila wag na wag kang magpapadala sa kung ano yung mga sinasabi nila kapag nalkatalikod kana. Hindi lahat ng tao maiintindihan ka wag mong pakinggan ang kanilang mga sinasabi.

Kung ano man yung mga ginawa at mga nasasabi nila baliwalaiin mo ang lahat ng yun. At higit sa lahat wag kang tumulad sa kanila, wag mong gawin kung ano yung mga ginawa nilang hindi Maganda sa kanilang kapwa. Kung gagayahin mo sila at gagawin rin yung mga bagay na alam naman nating mali, parang wala ka ring pinagkaiba sa kanila mas hinigitan mo lang kung ano yung ginawa nila.

Patunayan mong mali lahat ng mga sinabi nila tungkol sayo na hindi Maganda, na nagkakamali sila ng pagkakakilala sayo hindi na kailangan pang gumati sa kung ano yung na gawa nila. Ang pinaka importante ay hinding hindi ka tutulad sa kanila lagi mong tatandaan na iba ka sa kanila!

Editorial Office

STRAIGHT NEWS PUBLISHING is a English /Filipino is being regularly published every Wednesday of the week. at Blk. 5 Lot 69 Barcelona Ph. 2, Buhay Na Tubig, Imus, Cavite
Mobile No. -------- 09556586520 / 09164731260
TIN NO. --------- 237756418-000

Email ad: newsstraight172@gmail.com
soberanmavic@gmail.com

EDITORIAL BOARD

Publisher : Maria Victoria S. Soberano
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Published Weekly by: STRAIGHT NEWS

Kidz Groove Special Advocacy Show Celebrates Talent, Inclusion, and Confidence at SM City Tanza

SM City Tanza came alive with music, laughter, and inspiring performances during the Kidz Groove Special Advocacy Show, a celebration of talent, confidence, and inclusion for neurodivergent children.

The special event featured Ms. Gladys Reyes, Christof, Macoy, Coach Dar, and Kidz Groove Founder Ms. Princess Ryan, who joined the celebration and helped create a fun and meaningful experience for the young participants.

More than a showcase of talent, the event highlighted the importance of providing an inclusive space where every child can express themselves, build confidence, and shine in their own way.

The advocacy continues through the Kidz Groove weekly dance workshop, held every Monday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at SM City Tanza, where children can learn, connect, and groove together in a welcoming and supportive environment.

8.96-km farm-to-market road project sa Lobo, Batangas, sisimulan na

Magiging abot-kamay na ang mas maraming oportunidad para sa mga residente ng Lobo, Batangas ngayong ganap nang sisimulan ang implementasyon ng isang farm-to-market road sa kanilang lugar. Ito ay matapos gawaran ni Department of Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu-Laurel, Jr. ng No Objection Letter 1 ang P305.5 milyong proyekto sa ilalim ng DA – Philippine Rural Development Project Scale-Up.

Ang kalsada na may habang 8.964 kilometro ay dadaan sa mga barangay ng Jaybanga, Apar, at San Nicolas. Magbebenepisyo ito sa 3,641 indibidwal at 1,042 kabahayan. Sa pamamagitan ng kalsada, madali nang maaabot ng mga magsasaka, lalung-lalo na ng mga magniniyog, ang mga pangunahing pamilihan ng Batangas City, Lucena City, Lipa City, at isa pang proyektong DA-PRDP Scale-Up na coconut oil mill enterprise sa Rosario, Batangas. Idurugtong din ng kalsada ang bayan ng Lobo sa bayan ng San Juan na maaring maghatid ng karagdagang pag-unlad sa ekonomiya at turismo sa bayan.

Tutugunan din ng kalsada ang matagal nang problemang nararanasan ng mga mamamayan sa transportasyon. Sa kasalukuyan, maraming bahagi ng kalsada ang mahirap daanan, at kung nadaraanan man, kabayo lamang o 4×4 na sasakyan ang nakakalampas dito. Bagamat ilang bahagi ng daan ay sementado na, marami na rin dito ang may sira na, samantala, may mga bahagi naman na nananatiling lupa pa rin ang daanan.

Nagpasalamat si Mayor Geronimo Alfiler sa DA para sa suportang kanilang natanggap sa proyekto. Nangako siyang ipagpapatuloy nila ang kanilang pagtutulungan sa DA-PRDP upang masiguradong kalidad na proyekto ang kanilang maihahatid sa kanilang mga mamamayan.

Matapos ang paggawad ng NOL 1, magsisimula na ang procurement ng proyekto. Upang masiguradong susunod ang lokal na pamahalaan sa DA-PRDP Scale-Up Procurement Guidelines, maghahatid ng teknikal na suporta ang DA-PRDP sa buong proseso. (Myrelle Joy Bejasa, PRDP Calabarzon INFO-ACE)

Tech and Play Month Takes Over SM City Trece Martires

Technology and fun come together at Tech and Play Month at SM City Trece Martires, featuring exciting tech finds, cool gadgets, and engaging experiences for tech and gaming enthusiasts.

Visitors can explore, play, and discover something new at the Lower Ground Floor, Event Center throughout the month.