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Calamba orders regular cleaning of roads, waterways in preparation for Habagat

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — As part of its preparations for the imminent flooding and other effects of the southwest monsoon or Habagat, the city government of Calamba, Laguna, has ordered the regular cleaning of roads and clearing operations in

waterways to be conducted by barangays to help maintain clean, safe, and livable communities.

Under Memorandum CMO No. 2026-032 signed by Mayor Roseller Rizal on June 15, all barangay chairpersons were directed to ensure that street

canals, drainage systems, creeks, and other waterways are kept clean, declogged, and free-flowing.

Rizal also ordered that garbage and debris be promptly cleared to prevent blockages along public roads and waterways.

(Turn to p. 2)

DA to secure commercial approval of AVAC live vaccines in Q3

MANILA — The Department of Agriculture (DA) on Wednesday expressed optimism on securing approval for the commercial use of AVAC live vaccines.

This is in line with the directives of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to intensify the livestock sector's recovery efforts from the effects of African swine fever (ASF).

In an interview, DA

spokesperson Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa said the agency can secure the approval from the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) by the next quarter.

“By the third quarter, ma-release ‘yung commercial release ng AVAC ng Vietnam (The commercial release for AVAC vaccines from Vietnam will be released by the third quarter). This is the government ap-

proval for commercial use of the AVAC vaccine within the third quarter,” he said.

For his part, National Federation of Hog Farmers, Inc. (NatFed) chairperson and president Chester Warren Tan said the industry welcomes the commercialization of ASF vaccines to help expedite the recovery of the country's hog industry.

“We welcome ‘yung (Turn to p.2)



ASF VACCINE. AVAC live vaccines from Vietnam in this undated photo. The Department of Agriculture on Wednesday (June 24, 2026) expressed optimism about securing approval for the commercial use of AVAC live vaccines by the third quarter of the year. (Photo courtesy of DA Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa)

DepEd to grant increased police visibility in Cavite schools

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) — Law enforcers will be allowed to enter school premises in Cavite Province especially during peak hours in a bid to strengthen security in learning institutions.

Following their coordination meeting with the Department of Education-Schools Division Office Cavite



Province, the Cavite Provincial Police confirmed that they will increase police visibility in school premises,

including classrooms, particularly during safety inspections.

Police Colonel Arnel Red, Director for

Cavite Provincial Police, in a statement noted that the move to increase police visibility in schools will focus on security inspections, threat assessments, and coordinated safety operations.

“This measure is seen as part of a proactive approach to risk prevention and rapid (Turn to p.2)

DOH: Farmers most vulnerable as leptospirosis cases rise 6%



(PNA file photo)

MANILA — A total of 2,177 cases of leptospirosis have been recorded from January 4 to June 6, 2026,

marking a six percent increase compared to the same period last year, the Department (Turn to p.2)

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vaccine, lalo (the vaccine, especially) for the ASF, as long as it is approved by the government," he said.

Regarding the potential resurgence of ASF cases during the rainy season in the third quarter, Tan said the industry is already prepared to manage such scenarios.

"Kami naman ay handa naman. Ilang taon na ito, alam na namin more or less 'yung mga precautionary measures na gagawin (We are prepared. This has been here for years, we know more or less what precautionary measures to do)," Tan said.

"Iyang ASF ay controlled naman sa ngayon. Alam na rin ng mga farmer kung paano i-tame down 'yung (the ASF has been controlled for now. The farmers also know how to tame down the) ASF."

As of June 5, eight barangays in Ilocos, Mimaropa, Bicol, Eastern Visayas, and Caraga have active cases of ASF, according to the BAI.

Livestock growth seen

NatFed, meanwhile, said it is optimistic to hit higher livestock production in 2026 with the intensified re-population efforts nationwide.

"Very possible na tumaa. I think baka nga ngayong 2026, double sa increase noong 2025 (It's very possible to have an increase. I think, probably for 2026, it will be double than the increase in 2025)," Tan said.

According to the Philippine Statistics Au-

thority (PSA), the hog industry recorded 1.66 million metric tons (MT) in production in 2025, slightly lower than the 1.7 million MT logged in 2024.

The NatFed also urged the government to balance imports and support local production to minimize losses.

"The more importation, the more nawawalan ng morale ng local producer, medyo mababa (the more local producers are losing morale, it's quite low). But we, as domestic producers, always encourage na tuloy lang po ito (to just sustain production)," Tan said.

He also cited a reasonable farmgate price for hogs should range from PHP200 to PHP230 per kilo.

To date, farmgate prices of only range from PHP170 to PHP185 per kilo, almost similar to their cost of production, pegged at PHP180 to PHP200 per kilo, according to NatFed. (PNA)

DOH: ... FR. P. 1

of Health (DOH) said Wednesday.

The DOH noted that the majority of the cases involve farmers, who frequently endure prolonged exposure to mud and water that may be contaminated with the urine of infected animals while working in rice fields.

Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease contracted through contact with floodwaters or mud contaminated with the urine of infected animals, such as rats.

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The memorandum likewise mandates the regular inspection of flood-prone areas.

Following the mayor's directive, the Sangguniang Barangay of Mapagong immediately mobilized its barangay staff, barangay health workers, barangay quick response team, officials of the Barangay Children's Association, and other volunteers for a clean-up drive conducted on June 20.

Mapagong Chairperson Jona Baylon said the initiative aims to ensure a clean, orderly, and safe environment for all residents.

"Higit pa sa simpleng paglilinis, ang mga ganitong gawain ay sumasalamin sa diwa ng pagkakaisa, malasakit, at pananagutan ng bawat isa sa pagpapanatili ng isang malinis at maayos na Barangay Mapagong. Sapagkat ang isang maunlad na komunidad ay nagsisimula sa sama-samang pagkilos ng mga mamamayang handang magtulungan para sa kapakanan ng

To protect against the disease, the DOH said that doxycycline is available in health facilities and can be administered based on a doctor's assessment.

It also underscored the importance of inter-agency cooperation and local government intervention to educate farmers on preventive measures and ensure their health and safety while at work.

On the other hand, it reminded the public to avoid self-medication to avoid the risk of

lahat," the Sangguniang Barangay said in a social media post.

Rizal, in a separate statement, emphasized that maintaining a clean and livable community is a shared responsibility, with the government leading mobilization efforts and the public actively participating and cooperating in these initiatives.

"Hinihikayat din ang lahat ng mamamayan na makiisa sa pagpapanatili ng kalinisan sa ating kapaligiran upang makatulong sa pag-iwas sa pagbaha at iba pang panganib dulot ng malalakas na pag-ulan. Sama-sama tayong maging handa, disiplinado, at mapagmatyag para sa kaligtasan ng bawat Calambaño," the mayor said in a social media post.

Compliance among barangays is being monitored by the Calamba City government through the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office to ensure that appropriate measures are in place to promote safe and disaster-resilient communities throughout the rainy season. (CH/PIA-Laguna)

antibiotic resistance, incorrect dosage and timing, and dangerous side effects and contraindications, among others.

"Huwag uminom ng antibiotic o anumang gamot nang walang reseta ng doctor (Avoid taking antibiotics or any form of medication without a valid prescription from a physician)," the DOH said. (PNA)

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response in case of emergencies."

To recall, two separate incidents of school violence were reported in the province prompting the PNP to conduct a full investigation and coordination with school authorities.

Barangay tanods, or community peacekeepers, will also help maintain peace and order around school facilities by monitoring school perimeters including entry points and surrounding communities especially during school days and special events.

The initiative also explored possible investments in additional security infrastructure, such as assessment and installation of

metal detectors in selected local schools to detect and prevent the entry of weapons and other prohibited items in schools.

"A thorough assessment will be conducted to determine priority areas based on security risk evaluation and school requirements."

Police visibility in educational institutions used to be limited to school premises. In its DepEd Order No. 2, series of 2019, schools were cited as "Zones of Peace" which limited the presence of armed combatants and government forces to school perimeters and not inside school premises. (PB-PIA Cavite, Cavite Police Provincial Office/Facebook)

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Cavite Service Caravan holds 4th leg in Cavite City, expands access to government services

The Provincial Government of Cavite continued its commitment to bringing accessible and responsive public service closer to communities as the Cavite Service Caravan rolled out its fourth leg today, June 18, at the Montano Hall in Cavite City.

Led by Governor Abeng Remulla, the service caravan further strengthened the provincial government’s dedication to inclusive and people-centered governance through the delivery of various frontline services directly to Caviteños.

The one-stop caravan gathered provincial offices, national government agencies, and partner organizations to provide a comprehensive range of programs and assistance aimed at addressing the immediate needs of residents, particularly those with limited access to government services.

Among the key services offered were free medical consultations, dental and oral health care, laboratory services such as ECG and fasting blood sugar tests, pharmacy assistance, and fluoride varnish application for children. Emergency medical support was likewise made available to ensure prompt response to health-related concerns.

Employment and livelihood opportunities were also highlighted through job matching activities, career coaching sessions, and assistance from participating agencies including PhilHealth, TESDA, PSA, DTI, Pag-ibig Fund and Land Bank of the Philippines. Entrepreneurship support, cooperative assistance, and the promotion of local products through a trade fair formed part of the caravan.

Agricultural support services, including the distribution of vegetable seeds and seedlings, educational materials, and technical assistance for farmers and fisherfolk, were likewise extended



during the activity.

Meanwhile, social welfare assistance, family planning counseling, legal aid services, and specialized support for persons with disabilities were made accessible to residents. Veterinary services such as anti-rabies vaccination, deworming, and free consultations for pets were also provided.

Digital literacy programs, internet connectivity services, and information dissemination booths further promoted awareness and accessibility of government programs among participants.

Joining Governor Remulla in the fourth leg of the caravan were Vice Governor Ram Revilla Bautista, and Board Members Jygs Gandia and Romel Enriquez. They were warmly welcomed by Cavite City officials headed by Mayor Denver Chua, Vice Mayor Raleigh Rusit and members of the Sangguniang Panglungsod.

As the Cavite Service Caravan continues its province-wide rollout, the Provincial Government of Cavite remains steadfast in its mission to make government services more accessible, efficient, and responsive to the needs of every Caviteño.

Source: Office of the Provincial Information Officer



Ternateños received free healthcare services

The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC), through its medical and dental mission program, brought healthcare services to residents of Brgy. San Juan I, Ternate, benefiting a total of 532 con-



PGC and DLSU-D IMPACT Career Fest 2026 connects jobseekers with employers

The DLSU-D IMPACT Career Fest 2026, spearheaded by Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPESM) in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and De La Salle University–Dasmariñas (DLSU-D), successfully connected jobseekers with employment opportunities on June 9–10, 2026.

The event gathered 1,932 registered jobseekers composed of graduating students and DLSU-D alumni, with 42 local companies offering 2,805 job vacancies. A total of 296 applicants were identified as near-hires, while 533 clients availed of services from participating national government agencies through a One-Stop Shop.

The program opened with a message from Mr. Julius M. Tibayan, MBA, Director of the Advancement and Alumni Relations Office, followed by an inspirational message from Ms. Rizalie Pinpin-Enero, OPPESM Head. In addition, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by DLSU-D administrators, representatives of government agencies and partner industries.

Labor Market Information, Labor Education, and Career Coaching session was also discussed by Ms. Rizalie Pinpin-Enero, together with Mr. Demetrio C. Villanueva III, Labor and Employment Officer I of OPPESM, and Ms. Zsahara Martinez, Labor and Employment Officer III of the DOLE-Cavite Provincial Office.

The Career Fest highlighted the continuing commitment of the Provincial Government of Cavite, DOLE, and DLSU-D to strengthening employment opportunities and career development in the province.--- OPIO

The one walking with the wise will become wise, But the one who has dealings with the stupid will fare badly.
Proverbs 13: 20

stituents recently.

The Office of the Provincial Governor and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer worked together in providing free medical consultations to 407 individuals, dental services to 39 individuals, and diagnostic procedures to 86 residents of Brgy. San Juan I.

Following the consultations and procedures, residents also received free prescribed medicines and vitamins to support their health and wellness needs.--- OPIO

Energy security key to economic resilience, sustainable growth – DOE

MANILA – The Marcos administration’s decision to place energy security at the center of its development agenda will help ensure long-term economic resilience and support the transition to a sustainable energy system, Energy Secretary Sharon Garin said.

Speaking at the forum “Powering Profit in a Volatile World: Energy Strategies Amid Global Disruption” hosted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce (Phil.) Inc. on Tuesday night, Garin emphasized the growing importance of resilience in energy planning.

She said resilience “has become the defining measure of energy security” amid geopolitical uncertainties, supply chain disruptions, and increasing climate-related impacts.

“It is no longer enough to ensure adequate supply; energy systems must be capable of anticipating risks, adapting to change, and sustaining economic activity in the face of disruption. For businesses and nations alike, resilience is no longer simply a safeguard — it is a source of competitiveness, stability, and long-term growth,” she said.

Garin underscored the administration’s commitment to energy security, including efforts to strengthen preparedness for fuel supply disruptions.

She said this objective is being pursued



ENERGY SECURITY. Energy Secretary Sharon Garin speaks at the forum “Powering Profit in a Volatile World: Energy Strategies Amid Global Disruption” hosted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce (Phil.) Inc. in Makati City on Tuesday night (June 23, 2026). Garin highlighted the Marcos administration’s decision to place energy security at the center of its development agenda, saying it will strengthen the country’s long-term resilience and support the transition to a sustainable energy system. (PNA photo by Joann Santiago-Villanueva)

through the National Oil and Gas Contingency Plan (NOGCP), which aims to enhance coordination, response mechanisms, and supply availability during global oil and gas market shocks, emergencies, and other disruptions.

“This ensures that while we pursue long-term transition, we continue to safeguard immediate energy security needs,” Garin said.

Garin also highlighted the Philippine En-

ergy Plan 2023-2050, which seeks to reduce dependence on imported fuel by developing domestic energy sources and increasing the share of renewable energy (RE) in the power mix to 35 percent by 2030 and 50 percent by 2040.

She said this goal will be achieved through the inclusion of RE sources in the Green Energy Auction Program, having a Renewable Portfolio Standard, and the Green Energy Option

AFFIDAVIT OF DISCREPANCY (ONE AND THE SAME PERSON)

Notice is hereby given to the public that I, Elizabeth De Leon Reyes of legal age, Filipino with address at 162 Highway, Partida, Norzagaray, Bulacan depose and state that I am the sister and Atty.In-Fact/representative of Concepcion De Leon Reyes that there is discrepancy therein because her maiden name while Concepcion R. Sebastian is here married name and has been the subject of affidavit of Discrepancy Before Notary Public Atty. Lorelie M. Santos; Doc. No. 69; Page No. 15; Book No. 12; Series of 2026

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Meralco launches bidding for 900-MW power supply starting 2028

MANILA – Pangilinan-led Manila Electric Company (Meralco) on Wednesday announced the start of a competitive selection process (CSP) to secure 300 megawatts (MW) of power supply by February 2028 and an additional 600 MW by February 2029, subject to regulatory approvals.

In a statement, the distribution utility said the capacity requirements will be covered by a 15-year power supply agreement recently approved by the Department of Energy (DOE).

Meralco said it recently received a certificate of conformity from the DOE following a review process that took

Program.

Other measures include allowing up to 100 percent foreign ownership of RE projects, expanding transmission infrastructure, modernizing the power grid, and promoting the use of electric vehicles.

Garin stressed that the success of these initiatives will depend on stronger collaboration between the government and the private sector.

“For the Philippines, our direction is clear: we are building a secure, reliable, resilient, affordable, and sustainable energy system that powers growth and attracts investment. The Department of Energy remains firmly committed to this transformation,” she said. (PNA)

more than a year.

The company added its bids and awards committee will accept expressions of interest from power generation companies until July 14, 2026. A pre-bid conference is scheduled for July 28, while the deadline for bid submissions is Sept. 1.

“The CSP will be technology-neutral and all generation technologies that meet the technical and commercial requirements will be allowed to submit an offer, in accordance with the Terms of Reference (TOR) and Invitation to Bid (ITB) and subject to the DOE’s Energy Mix Policy under Department Circular No. DC2026-02-0005,” Meralco said.

The company said the CSP policies “will ensure that power supply requirements of Meralco are procured through open and competitive bidding based on least-cost parameters, which will be beneficial for customers in terms of rate and supply reliability.”

“This CSP forms part of Meralco’s continuing commitment to securing reliable, adequate, and competitively priced power supply for customers through a transparent and competitive procurement process,” Meralco’s Bids and Awards Committee for Power Supply Agreements (BAC-PSA) head Lawrence Fernandez said. (PNA)

DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE with ABSOLUTE SALE

Notice is hereby given to the public that the late Leonardo F. Sebastian left a one half (1/2) ownership as conjugal share over a parcel of land located in Dasmariñas, Cavite with an area of Two Hundred (200) square meters and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-431572 issued by the Registry of Deeds of Cavite and has been the subject of Deed of Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate with Absolute Sale for and in consideration of the sum of Six Hundred Thousand Pesos Only (Php 600,000.00) Philippine Currency hand-paid by the buyer Nena Consador Tarayao to Concepcion De Leon Reyes, Christopher Reyes Sebastian, Leonardo Reyes Sebastian Jr. (Seller) Before Notary Public Atty. Lorelie M. Santos Doc. No. 70; Page No. 15; Book No. 12; Series of 2026.

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Just a little while longer, and the wicked will be no more; You will look at where they were, And they will not be there.

But the meek will possess the earth, And they will find exquisite delight in the abundance of peace

Psalm 37:10-11

DENR eyes 3M trees nationwide on Arbor Day, backs climate resilience

MANILA – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will lead a nationwide effort to plant three million trees on Thursday, in observance of Philippine Arbor Day.

In a news release Wednesday, Environment Secretary Juan Miguel Cuna underscored the role of collective action in building greener and more climate-resilient communities in 1,642 cities and municipalities nationwide.

“Anchored on the theme “Lunyang Bukas,” this year’s celebration will highlight the role of every Filipino in creating greener, healthier, and more climate-resilient communities through collective action,” he said.

Observed every June 25 under Republic Act 10176, Philippine Arbor Day serves as a nationwide call for citizens and institutions alike to contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development through tree-growing activities.

“Together with conservation partners and the local government units (LGUs), DENR’s nationwide effort will cover 1,538.11 hectares of land, contributing to ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, watershed protection, and climate resilience,” Cuna said.

The DENR expects around 188,000 participants from government agencies, LGUs, civil society

organizations, the private sector, academic institutions, and local communities to join the initiative.

Native and indigenous tree species, fruit-bearing trees, mangroves, and other suitable species will be planted in urban areas, public spaces, schools, forests, watersheds, and coastal communities.

Cuna said the large-scale effort reflects a shared commitment to environmental stewardship and climate action.

The DENR said the nationwide activity forms part of broader efforts to restore ecosystems and expand green spaces through its 5 Million Trees Program and the implementation of Local Government Unit Forest Land Use Plans

Same-day Postal ID release, other services continue despite holiday

MANILA – The Philippine Postal Corporation’s (PHLPost) essential postal services, including its Same-Day Postal ID Release program, remain fully operational at the Manila Central Post Office (MCPO) on Wednesday in celebration of Manila Day.

The state postal agency assured the public that mail and parcel acceptance will continue uninterrupted during the city’s holiday, underscoring its commitment to delivering accessible government services.

“Even as Manila celebrates its rich history and heritage, PHLPost remains dedicated to serving the public by

(FLUPs).

Cuna will lead the national Arbor Day celebration at the Gomburza National Monument along Padre Burgos Avenue in Manila together with Mayor Francisco ‘Isko’ Domagoso, while simultaneous tree-planting activities will take place across the country.

Local activities will be documented through geo-tagged photographs and will be featured in a nationwide social media live relay.

The DENR said the tree-planting drive supports President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.’s directive to strengthen environmental protection, restore degraded ecosystems, and promote sustainable development. (PNA)

providing efficient, reliable, and accessible postal services. The continued same-day release of postal IDs reflects our commitment to improving service delivery for every Filipino,” PHLPost said in a news release.

PHLPost urged residents, workers, students, and individuals in need of a valid government-issued identification card to utilize the expedited same-day processing service at the MCPO.

The initiative is part of its ongoing efforts to modernize transactions and provide faster, more convenient public services.

As one of the corporation’s primary service

Rights-based health governance pushed in PhilHealth-CHR partnership

MANILA – The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) have formed a landmark partnership aimed at reinforcing access to quality healthcare as a fundamental human right and a core state obligation.

In a news release on Wednesday, the state insurer said its learning forum titled “Health as a Human Right: Bridging the Healthcare Divide” gathered health and social justice leaders, alongside civil society organizations.

The discussions centered on the urgent need to shift the country’s national healthcare paradigm away from purely treating illnesses toward robust, state-funded investments in preventive and primary healthcare.

According to the agencies, the joint initiative aligns with global efforts by the World Health Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to mainstream human rights in health governance and Universal Health Care (UHC) implementation.

By anchoring domestic healthcare deliv-

centers, the MCPO remains a critical hub for mailing, logistics, and government identification processing aimed at making public transactions seamless for Filipinos. (Ma. Teresa Montemayor/PNA)



HEALTH AS A HUMAN RIGHT. The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation and the Commission on Human Rights lead health and social justice advocates alongside civil society organizations during a learning forum in Quezon City on Tuesday (June 23, 2026). The collaboration aims to strengthen domestic healthcare delivery through a rights-based framework and expand preventive and primary care access via PhilHealth’s Yaman ng Kalusugan Program. (Photo courtesy of PhilHealth)

ery on a rights-based framework, PhilHealth and CHR aim to improve equitable access to care, particularly for marginalized and vulnerable communities.

The forum focused on the Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP) as one of the government’s critical instruments for the progressive realization of UHC.

By expanding primary care access points and preventive care, the state ensures that every Filipino is protected from financial burdens during medical emergencies.

PhilHealth president and chief executive officer Dr. Edwin Mercado, who led the activity, emphasized that healthcare is a cornerstone of human dignity.

“Through PhilHealth YAKAP, we are transforming our healthcare system to ensure that primary and preventive care are accessible to every Filipino, regardless of their economic status. This is our commitment to fulfilling the promise of universal health care,” he said.

CHR Commissioner retired Judge Maria Amifait Fider-Reyes, who co-led the forum,

explained that the right to health is inextricably linked to dignity and the right to life itself.

The CHR reiterated its commitment to working alongside PhilHealth, civil society and all stakeholders to ensure that the right to health becomes a lived reality for every Filipino, not just an abstract promise.

Meanwhile, the Department of Health (DOH) on Wednesday reported that a total of 1,881 mothers have availed of the Expanded Maternity Benefit Package at the Dr. Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital from April 30 to June 15.

PhilHealth’s enhanced coverage package continues to ease the financial burden of delivery and maternal care for Filipino families, the department said.

Citing the case of a mother who received a PHP58,000 benefit for her Primary Cesarean Section procedure, the DOH urged expecting mothers to know their medical rights and check how the expanded maternity benefit package can reduce their hospitalization costs. (PNA)

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7 legends enshrined in 5th Philippine Sports Hall of Fame

MANILA – Seven extraordinary athletes whose legacies shaped the nation's sporting history were honored during the 5th Philippine Sports Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony, held at the newly transformed PSC (Philippine Sports Commission) House inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Malate, Manila on Saturday.

The evening celebrated the remarkable journeys of Ramon Fernandez, Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco, Isidro del Prado, Adeline Dumapong, Cecil Mamiit, Bea Lucero-Lhuillier, and the late Eduardo "Eddie" Pacheco, each representing different disciplines yet united by their enduring impact on Philippine sports.

From Fernandez's dominance on the basketball court, Velasco's 1996 Atlanta Olympics silver in boxing and del Prado's record-breaking sprints; to Dumapong's trailblazing 2000 Sydney Paralympics medal, Mamiit's international tennis success, Lucero-Lhuillier's dual-sport (gymnastics and taekwondo) brilliance, and Pacheco's rare versatility in foot-



5th Philippine Sports Hall of Fame members (from left) Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco, representative of the late Eduardo Pacheco, Isidro del Prado, Bea Lucero-Lhuillier Cecil Mamiit, Ramon Fernandez and Adeline Dumapong (front) (PSC photo)

ball and basketball, the enshrinees embody the resilience, sacrifice and triumph of the Filipino athlete.

The ceremony also marked the unveiling of the PSC House, a transformation from an old building into a modern hub for sports governance and heritage.

"Your achievements have transformed the national imagination," PSC Chair Patrick Gregorio told the enshrinees.

"In the same spirit, we seek to do more than create beautiful spaces, we want to continue the work of transforming hearts and minds," Gregorio, also the chair of the Philippine Sports Hall of Fame, added.

Gregorio emphasized that the renovation was

more than infrastructure. It was a tribute to the athletes themselves and the legacies they create.

"It is this spirit of transformation that allows us to keep hoping. Let us honor legacy not only by remembering it, but by living it. We are very proud of you, honorees," he said.

The PSC Chair highlighted the agency's ongoing transformation, particularly the establishment of Regional Training Centers nationwide to decentralize opportunities for young athletes.

"We are changing the narrative. For too long, our system told young athletes from the provinces: If you want to make it big, go to Manila. Those days are

Eala bows to Czech in Berlin Open semis

MANILA – Filipino wild card Alexandra Eala ended her campaign in the WTA 500 Berlin Open singles event after losing to Czech Linda Noskova, 2-6, 2-4, Saturday on the grasscourt of the Steffi Graf Stadium in Germany.

Noskova improved to 2-0 against Eala, both wins this season.

She has yet to drop a set in four matches in Berlin. The six games she lost to Eala were the most she yielded to any opponent this week.

"I feel like I have to say something smart, like my serve or my shots, but I'm just feeling really comfortable on court," Noskova, 21, said during the on-court interview. "That's the core of where it's coming from."

Eala, also 21, made it to semifinals fol-

lowing victories over Queen's Club Championships titlist Donna Vekic of Croatia (7-5, 6-4) in the round of 32; world No. 2 Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan (7-5, 6-4) in the round of 16; and world No. 8 Elina Svitolina of Ukraine (6-3, 6-4) in the quarterfinals.

Eala, ranked No. 35 in the world, won the Birmingham Open early this month, her second WTA (Women's Tennis Association) title after the Guadalajara Open (Mexico) last year.

Meanwhile, the represented by Games and Amusement Board Chair Francisco Rivera, Pilipinas Curling Federation secretary general Jarryd Bello, Vovinam Federation of the Philippines secretary general Jose Malonzo, Philippine Olympic Committee president Abraham Tolentino, Ayala Foundation's Xavier Virata, MVP Sports Foundation president Al Panlilio, and Gregorio.

The five-man review and evaluation committee was composed of veteran sports journalists Quinto Henson, Al Mendoza, Ignacio Dee, Jun Lomibao and Dodo Catacutan.

The seven-man selection committee was



Alexandra Eala (Berlin Open Facebook photo)

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The five-man review and evaluation committee was composed of veteran sports journalists Quinto Henson, Al Mendoza, Ignacio Dee, Jun Lomibao and Dodo Catacutan.

world No. 13 Noskova will face world No. 3 American Jessica Pegula in her first grass-court final.

Pegula, the 2024 champion, eliminated world No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus, 6-4, 6-7(4), 6-0.

It was Pegula's fourth career win over Sabalenka, who has won the Brisbane International, Indian Wells Masters, and Miami Open this year.

"It's going to be a tough one, obviously," Noskova said. "Jessie, she's very tricky, especially for her game style on grass. So I'll do my best to prepare for that and maybe get revenge."

The Berlin Open serves a warm-up for Wimbledon, scheduled June 29 to July 12 at All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in London. (Jean Malanum/PNA)

The ceremony closed with a standing ovation, as the honorees were hailed as "the shining stars and sun of the Philippine flag, never to dim."

The Philippine Sports Hall of Fame will welcome its next class of Filipino sports heroes in May 2028. (With a report from Jean Malanum/PNA)