

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

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# Pasig businesses reminded anew to follow health protocols

MANILA - The Pasig City government reminded anew business owners and residents to continue observing health protocols to prevent the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) amid a more relaxed general community quarantine.

"To all business owners, we want you to be able to do business smoothly. So please make sure you are following our health protocols," Mayor Vico Sotto said in a Facebook post.

Sotto on Wednesday has ordered the suspension of a

bakeshop after the city's monitoring team caught its employees not wearing face masks at work, which violates the directive of the local government on its pandemic response.

The bakeshop will temporarily be suspended for a week. (Turn to p. 2)

# 4 Metro Manila rail lines transport 2.8M passengerssinceJune1

MANILA – A total 2,799,025 of passengers have so far been transported by the four rail services in Metro Manila since they resumed operation during the general community quarantine (GCQ) in June, according to the Department of Transportation (DOTr).

According to its Facebook post on Thursday, the DOTr's total was based on the daily ridership of the Light Rail Transit Line 1 (LRT-1), LRT-2, Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT-3) and the Philippine National Railways (PNR) from June 1 to 21.

"All four rail lines of the DOTr resumed operations, under a partial, gradual and calibrated approach -

# **Duterte worried over** high Meralco bills

MANILA \_ President Rodrigo Duterte has raised concern over the excessive electricity bill charged by the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) to its consumers during the quarantine period due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) outbreak, Malacañang said

Thursday.

In a virtual presser aired on state-run PTV-4. Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said Duterte understands the sentiments of Meralco customers.

"Nakarating na po iyan kay Presidente at siyempre, nabahala siya dahil sa panahon ng pandemya, hindi

with limited capacity and with stringent social distancing and sanitary measures in place," the DOTr said.

The rail line with the highest number of passengers was the LRT-1 at 1,397,546; followed by the MRT-3 at 822,928; LRT-2 at 398,212, and the PNR at 180,339.

In a message, Jacqueline Gorospe, communications head of the Light Rail Manila Corporation, operator of the LRT-1, said that before the onset of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19), the

naman dapat bigyan ng additional pahirap na hindi naman kinakailangan ng ating mga kababayan (The President learned about it and expressed worry because amid the



SOCIAL DISTANCING ON TRAINS. Police trainees from the National Capital Region Police Office simulate proper social distancing inside a train of the Light Rail Transit Line 2 (LRT-2). So far, the Department of Transportation (DOTr) reported a little less than 2.8 million ridership for the four rail lines in the region from June 1 to 21. (Photo courtesy of LRTA)

average daily ridership of the rail service was around 500,000.

Meralco

subscribers have been

complaining about the

sudden spike in their

endure

"Right definitely

lower DOTr ridership. Also, in

now, compliance with the cap on (Turn to p. 2)

electricity bills since pandemic, he believes the public should not community quarantine additional burden)," Roque said. country.

> The supposedly high electricity rates have been charged against power

consumers in May.

On May 15, the was imposed in the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) directed Meralco to explain and show proof of its basis in

(*Turn to p. 2*)

#### 4 METRO. . . FR. P.1

passengers," Gorospe said.

For June, the average daily ridership of the LRT-1 is 66,550, which is a decrease of 87.69 percent from 500,000.

Meanwhile, the MRT-3 in a message said that its average daily passengers for 2019 were 280,000 to 300,000.

With a current daily average ridership of 39,187, the MRT-3 had a decrease in ridership of about 77.81 to 86 percent.

To mitigate the large reduction in

#### DUTERTE. . FR. P. 1

calculating the kilowatt-hour for its customers, particularly for the billing periods of March, April, and May 2020.

In a statement released on June 10, the ERC announced that it issued a show-cause order to Meralco on May 29 for allegedly violating the c o m m i s s i o n ' s directives related to bill advisories.

Meralco was given 10 days to explain why it should not be held liable for defying the guidelines on how to charge power users during the quarantine period.

Roque lauded the ERC for its swift response to address the unprecedented increase in electricity bills.

He said he would ask the ERC for an update on the showpassenger capacity of the rail services, the DOTr has also launched bus augmentation services that would ply the same routes as three Metro Manila rail lines since the beginning of June. These bus

augmentation services include the partial activation of the EDSA Carousel route for the MRT-3, the Cubao-Antipolo city bus route for the LRT-2, and the Monumento-EDSA Taft route for the LRT-1. (By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz/PNA)

cause order issued to

kung ano talaga ang

magiging desisyon ng

ERC doon sa pagsipa

sinisingil

kuryente sa ating mga

mamamayan (It's a

different story as to

what would the ERC's

decision be when it

comes to the high

electricity rates charged

countrymen)," Roque

the March and April

electricity bills by using

consumption in the past

shocked by the sudden

surge in their supposed

electricity consumption

for May. (By Ruth

Abbey Gita-Carlos/

However,

three months.

consumers

PNA)

Draw close to God

and He will Draw close to you

Santiago 4:8

Meralco estimated

customers?

were

our

ng

fellow

"Ibang usapin pa po

Meralco.

ng

to

said.

its

#### PASIG . . . FR. P.1

Sotto said the residents should cooperate with the local government in implementing safety and health protocols amid the city's transition to general community quarantine.

"Isipin niyo na lang po-kahit na kumita kayo ngayon, kung mag-spike na naman ang kaso ng Covid, paano na? (Just think about it. Even if you gain profit, if Covid cases spike again, then what?), he said, noting that all c o m m e r c i a l establishments in the city are required to observe safety measures in their daily operations to avoid the temporary closure of businesses.

"Social distancing. Face masks. Proper hygiene," Sotto said, reiterating that business operators who fail to comply may face suspension of their business permits for seven days. "Please continue to help our

# DOF further extends deadline for tax amnesty until Dec. 31

MANILA – The Department of Finance (DOF) has issued **Revenue** Regulations (RR) No. 15-2020 further extending until end of December 2020 the deadline on availing of the tax amnesty for delinquencies under Republic Act (RA) No. 11213, and ensuring the timely processing of such applications by the relevant Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) offices.

The new RR further extends the deadline provided under RR 11-2020, which amended RR 10-2020 and 7-2020, and first extended the amnesty deadline to June 22, 2020.

These regulations were issued to implement the provision in RA 11469 or the Bayanihan to Heal As One Act allowing the extension of statutory deadlines and timelines to ease the burden on taxpayers following the imposition since middle of March of community quarantines nationwide in a government bid to contain the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) outbreak.

Under RR No. 15-

#### monitoring team. Report businesses in violation of our minimum health safety guidelines." Coronavirus patients,

recoveries Meanwhile, the Pasig government has

discharged another nine patients who recently recovered from Covid-19. They were formerly

housed at the Pasig's Centralized Quarantine Facility for treatment and were released on June 23.

While the local government is doing its best to manage the local transmission of the disease within the city, Sotto said it is also providing continuous psychosocial support to all of its health workers and other front-liners in Pasig. Sotto reminded

Šotto reminded residents to stay home and always adhere to the city's preventive measures against Covid-19. (By Lade Jean Kabagani/PNA)

2020, taxpayers can avail of the tax amnesty for delinquencies until Dec. 31, 2020.

This extended deadline intends to give taxpayers ample time to settle their tax delinquencies while allowing the BIR to increase its collection from this new tax amnesty program.

The RR also provides deadlines for BIR offices to process the d o c u m e n t a r y requirements needed to avail of this tax amnesty.

The certificate of delinquencies/tax liabilities must now be issued or denied with a legal and factual basis by concerned BIR offices within three working days from the submission date of the request.

In addition, the completed amnesty application and return must be endorsed for payment by the BIR within one working day from complete submission.

This streamlining ensures the BIR's prompt processing of tax amnesty applications. (PR)

# **BPO jobs available to OFW returnees: DOLE**

MANILA – Job opportunities in the business process outsourcing (BPO) industry are available to overseas Filipino worker (OFW) returnees, especially those with а background in the fields of information technology and healthcare, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) said on Thursday.

In a statement, Labor Assistant Secretary Dominique Tutay said the agency and the IT and Business Process Association of the Philippines (IBPAP) are working together to help the reintegration of OFWs and fill the demand for more manpower in the BPO industry.

She also welcomed the IBPAP's initiative

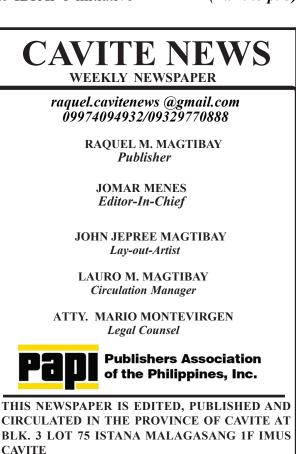
and assured them of the agency's support to facilitate the matching between employers and job seekers.

"The DOLE will provide the database of OFW returnees who are interested or who are qualified for the job vacancies," she said.

Meanwhile, the IBPAP will do career marketing activities, initial screening, and job matching from August to November.

"We are gearing towards virtual job caravans for easier matching between jobseekers and employers," she added.

M e a n w h i l e, National Reintegration Center for OFWs (NRCO) OIC-director Roel Martin said the partnership will help the DOLE attached agency in linking OFW (Turn to p. 5)



Commercial Advertising Rate: P200.00/col.cm Legal Rate P160.00/col.cm.

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# SM City Bacoor, SM City Dasmariñas, and SM City Molino Install Bike Repair Stations and Air Pump for Free

Three of the biggest malls in Cavite; SM CITY BACOOR, SM CITY DASMARIÑAS, and SM CITY MOLINO are now embracing the new normal as they install bike repair stations and air pumps that bikers can use for free.

Recognizing that more people are now using bicycles both for work and to run their errands, SM Malls in Cavite installed Bike Repair stations and Air Pump, complete with essential Bike repair tools. Organized Bicycle Parking Slots are being implemented as well, to ensure that Bikers can park and can repair their bicycles in case of emergency.

This aims to provide shoppers a convenient and a #SafeMalling experience.



**REDEFINING...FR.P.6** 



Satisfy your pizza cravings with S&R New York Pizza













SM City Rosario displays safe dine-in protocols at the event center with super cute but giant SM Bears showing safe physical distancing. This serves as a reminder and an example of our safe dine-in protocols inside the mall. Have a #SafeMalling experience at SM City Rosario.



Be fashionable yet reasonable with branded clothing from Surplus



Giant burgers are awaiting for a bite at Zark's Burgers

#### **CAVITE NEWS**

### YOU ARE SAFE TO MEET AND EAT AT SM CITY BACOOR-FOOD COURT



**SM CITY BACOOR, CAVITE** – We all know how your tummy feels after the long line as you observe social distancing, and waiting in cue for your turn to grab your essentials. Now, you can dine-in your favorite restaurant at the Food Court instead of ordering a take-out and eat on your way home! Go and enjoy your all-time favorites at the Food Court!

• Get a no frills basic Korean meal served in a hot plate at **Mr.Kimbob!** 

Grill all you want with Inihaw's Best recipe!
Try Turk's flavorful and juicy Beef Doner Steak, Doner on Rice, and Turks Doner Bowl and beat that hunger with the best Shawarma in town.

• Delight with **Sizzling Plate's** ever-famous Sizzling Sisig served with buttered corn, carrot, and peas on the side and sunny side up egg for your lunch and you'd surely be full with its satisfyingly crunchy bits and and flavorful meat!

• Enjoy the Teppanyummiest iron griddlecooked Japanese Cuisine at Saku Teppanyummy.

• Get the best meal at **Salo's** Famous Filipino Dishes served fresh and tasty!



SM City Bacoor – Food Court ensures your safety as we regularly check your favorite food stalls and restaurants' sanitation efforts. Just follow the safety protocols on signages provided, tables, countertops and walkways for a safer dining experience. Let's stay safe and healthy. See you at the Food Court located at the 4<sup>th</sup> level of SM City Bacoor!





#### FAST AND EASY PERSONAL SHOPPING AT SM CENTER IMUS!



SM CENTER IMUS, CAVITE – Have you



been getting foggy glasses lately? Sure these are so uncomfortable and inconvenient especially when you are in a rush to complete a report, or can't even see what you are looking at. Good thing Executive Optical at SM Center Imus got your back! Clean your foggy glasses with their Anti-Fog cleaning Cloth. And since it's hard to walk with your foggy glasses, SM Center Imus Center Concierge is here to help you!

09155125501

SM)

CENTER

Shopping has never been this smart, safe and easy! Visit SM Center Imus Center Concierge or contact their hotline at 0915 512 5501 so you can haveall your essentials and all those you have been craving and needing in your most convenient terms! You may choose to claim your items through curbside parking, wait and pick-up at the Center Concierge, or have them delivered at your doorsteps!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POLICE

## FOOD DEFENSE PREVENTION KNOW-HOWS. **DELIVERED TO WMES, ONLINE**

As the demand for food services arise in the time of pandemic, the Department of Science and Technology Region 02 (D O S T - R O 2)conducted an online webinar on Food Fraud and Food Defense Prevention part 1 for Women Micro-Entrepreneurs (WMEs) in the region.

Resource Speaker DOST-RO2 SRS II Aileen C. Gonzales in her presentation explained the food defense which is the effort to protect food from intentional adulteration from acts intended to cause widescale harm to public health.

According to Ms. Gonzales, the firm must establish a food defense team that shall put in appropriate place control measures to intentional reduce threats to assure the protection of the food from intentional adulterations.

The focal person of the Cagayan Valley Food Safety Team (CVFST) also introduced the Threat Assessment Critical Control Point (TACCP) which is the systematic management of risk through the evaluation of threats, identification of vulnerabilities, and implementation of controls to materials products, and purchasing, processes, premises, people, distribution networks and business systems by a knowledgeable and trusted team with



Assistant Regional

Director for Technical

Operation Dr. Teresita

A. Tabaog said that this

dthe#DOSIRO2WEmpowewas

opened not just for

WMEs under the

DOST-RO2-PCW

Women Economic

Empowerment (WEE)

project but also to all

MSMEs and other

interested individuals

not only locally but

**Regional Coordinator** 

of the DOST-RO2-

PCW WEE project, Mr.

emphasized that the

WMEs must increase

the level of positivity in

running their firms,

particularly in these

the understanding of

the food handler-

WMEs, DOST-RO2

will conduct another

webinar on Food Fraud

To further increase

trying times.

on July, 2020.

Furthermore, the

Bajo

nationwide.

series

webinar

the authority to implement changes in the procedures.

The online webinar was joined by 89 WMEs from the different parts of the region and two participants from the Cotabato and professor from UP Diliman on June 25, 2020.

Overwhelmed with the number of the participants, DOST-RO2 Director Sancho Mabborang A. encouraged the participants by saying that this situation might be difficult, but it is not Porfirio hopeless.

"Ang importante ay mag-survive, hindi ang kumita. ako ay naniniwala na ang presensya inyong signifies your interest in recovering, 'wag mawalan ng pag-asa.", Director Mabborang said as he uplifts the morale of the WMEs.

For her part,

Ang kayamanan ng mayaman ang proteksiyon niya; Gaya iyon ng matibay na pader sa imahinasyon niya. (Kawikaan 18:11)

#### PGC LAUNCHES BOTIKA ON WHEELS

To uphold its commitment to serve and protect the people, Provincial Government of Cavite under the leadership of Governor Jonvic Remulla in coordination with the local government units launched Botika on Wheels to give essential medicines to senior citizens on June 5, 2020. The mobile drug store aimed to visit all barangays of the entire province and reach out to the elderly who are not allowed to leave their homes as they are more vulnerable to COVID-19.

With its initial offering, Botika on Wheels team visited 27 barangays of the Municipality of Maragondon from June 5 - 11, 2020 and distributed free maintenance medicines to a total of 2.260 senior citizens as well as vitamins to help boost their immune system. On the other hand, the

#### **BPO JOBS ... FR. P.1**

returnees, and even their families, for possible employment.

He added that among the agency's partners in OFW reintegration are SITEL; the Department of Public Works and Highways and DMCI for Build, Build, Build projects: Mega Sardines; and Motolite. "OFW returnees are referred to the Technical Education and

Skills Development Authority (TESDA) for retooling



mobile drug store dispensed medicines to 4,364 elderlies of Cavite City on June 16-23, 2020. While on June 25 - 26, 2020, one thousand five hundred sixteen (1, 516) senior citizens of the Municipality of Naic also received their prescription medicines.

As of June 29, 2020, eight thousand one hundred forty (8,140) individuals benefitted from the Botika on Wheels program. The activity was made possible with the assistance of Provincial Health Office, Maragondon

and upgrading of their

skills," Martin said.

**IBPAP** executive director for Talent Development Frankie Antolin said despite the pandemic, there are still numerous IT-BPM job vacancies because it encompasses the fields of contact center; animation and game development; global shared services: financial. IT. and HR shared services; and IT software outsourcing; and health

Mayor Reynaldo Rilo, Cavite City Mayor Bernardo Paredes, ABC President Apple Paredes and Naic Mayor Jun Dualan as well as Municipal and City Health Officers, Dr. Aldous Angeles -Sattelite Hospitals Chief, barangay captains and barangay health workers who helped the team in distributing the medicines.

During the activity, Botika on Wheels team practiced social distancing and wore face mask to ensure the safety of everyone. (PICAD)

information management system.

She added that OFW returnees have skill sets that are useful in performing jobs in the BPO industry.

Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III earlier said he is seeing the resurgence of the BPO industry as the subsequent global recession will force the West to outsource more jobs in the industry, a good size of which will go to the Philippines. (By Ferdinand Patinio/ PNA)



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#### VOL. XXI NO. 10 JUNE 25-JULY 1, 2020

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#### REDEFINING THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AT SM CITY TRECE MARTIRES

You can now enjoy specialties from your favorite restaurants and stores with fast and convenient pick-up or stay home as your essentials are delivered to you by a personal shopper as SM City Trece Martires redefines customer service during these challenging times. Through its Center Concierge, Fast and Easy Personal Shopping services.

Chat with us as the SM Trece Martires **Concierge** by simply contacting SM Cavite Viber Community or Facebook page and Instagram account, @smcitytrecemartires, to find out the availability of essentials and answers to any mall queries that you may have. It's a system designed for your convenience and tailored to your preference.

Center **Concierge at SM City** Trece Martires offers home delivery, Parking delivery or Pick-up at the Center Concierge. Simply choose from the list of open establishments that may be found on their social media pages; place your order by contacting these mobile 0915numbers 5125501 or visit the Center Concierge at the event center.

With this, you can treat your family to culinary specialties from Max's Restaurant and Gerry's Restaurant; American Favorites at Pancake House, Kenny Rogers, S&R New York Pizza and Buffalo's Wings 'N Things; as well as delightful desserts and breads from BreadTalk. Cookies by the Bucket, Dreiland Ice Cream, Candy Corner, Dunkin Donuts, Red Ribbon and Goldilocks; drinks from Starbucks, Chatime, Gong Cha, Farron Café, Infinitea, Lemon Aide, Buko Juan and Starbucks Coffee.

You can also order your essentials from ACE Hardware, Watsons, SM Supermarket, The Body Shop, Miniso and SM Appliance. The SM City Trece Martires Personal Shopper will have your basics – groceries, medicine, food, hardware – delivered to your doorstep through SM Rider or you may also pick-up items from the Center Concierge or through Curbside Parking.

With the many options of convenience the mall provides, SM City Trece Martires is only getting started. Ushering a new era of customer experience, the mall will continue to provide safe and efficient solutions for the benefit of its shoppers. For more information on the SM City Trece Martires Center Concierge, follow SM City Trece Martires on Facebook and Instagram.



Send family and friends huggable bears and stuffs from Blue Magic



Love the taste and the aroma of Roasted chicken from Kenny Rogers



Cute and must-have stuffs from Miniso



Get Fab with accessories from Bagel



Have vivid visions from Ojo Eyewear