

# CAVITE NEWS PUBLISHING

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

VOL. XXIII NO. 44 FEBRUARY 16-22, 2023 P 10.00

THE SWEETEST TREATS AT SM CITY BACOR



SM CITY BACOR, CAVITE - Make your moment extra sweet while feeling all the sweet vibes at SM with the sweetest treats from Mary Grace, Max's, Red Ribbon, Dairy Queen, Goldilocks, Bake & Churn and The Little Joy! Celebrate the sweetest valentine's only at SM City Bacoor!

HAVE A SWEET AND TANGY VALENTINES AT LOCAVORE - SM CITY BACOR



SM CITY BACOR, CAVITE - Love has many forms, the same way that love may be expressed in various ways. And the best way to tell "I love you" is to

ACE HARDWARE - SM CITY MOLINO'S 3-SALE SALE



SM CITY MOLINO, CAVITE - ACE 3-Day Sale is back on Feb 17-19, 2023! Save the date to enjoy extra 10% OFF for a minimum spend of P2,000 with your ACE Rewards/SMAC. Plus, avail up to 40% on selected items and more Bank Promo offers! Standard exclusions apply. See you at ACE Hardware at SM City Molino!

CALLING ALL SWIFTIES AT SM CITY MOLINO!



SM CITY MOLINO, CAVITE - Hello, Swifties! We won't keep it a secret, and we're keeping it like an oath as we are having Swifties Night, a Valentine's Day Serenade only here at SM City Molino! Enjoy the lavender haze with your fellow Swifties and get ready to sing your heart recently February 14, 5PM at SM City Molino Event Center. Tag your friends, bring them along and enjoy a night with your favorite Taylor Swift songs! ADMISSION IS ABSOLUTELY FREE! See you all here on Valentine's Day!

treat your loved one with the best dinner date at Locavore! Enjoy any two dishes for only 500! Come and visit Locavore at the Upper Ground floor of SM City Bacoor this Valentines season. This promo is not available for delivery and will run from February 11-26, 2023 only. Save your dine-in reservations by calling Locavore - SM City Bacoor 0917-1472022. See you lovers!

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## PhilHealth to expand hemodialysis coverage

MANILA - The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) will increase its coverage for outpatient hemodialysis from 90 sessions to 156 sessions this year.

In a media forum on Wednesday, PhilHealth President and Chief Executive Officer Emmanuel Ledesma Jr. said this is part of their commitment to implement PhilHealth Senior Vice President Israel Francis Pargas disclosed that they are targeting to issue the new policy officially before August as the current 90 sessions may end on around that month or the second semester of the year.

"So, we have the time until the second

sem to make sure na 'yung 156 mailabasinatin (that we can release the 156 [sessions])," he said. "We hope that by this first or second sem, we can already come out with the policy."

Ledesma encouraged concerned members to avail of other renal replacement

### Solon bats for free dialysis treatment for senior citizens

MANILA - A Filipino patients could benefit from the measure's passage.

"In the bill, the PhilHealth transplant package covers both patient and prospective organ donor, so they do not have to worry about the cost of tests and the transplant," Ordanes said.

The bill also increases the PhilHealth package rate by covering three peritoneal dialysis exchanges for 365 days and increases hemodialysis treatment coverage to four sessions per week.

Ordanes said these policies and cost benefits are also meant to "encourage more people to donate their kidneys through legitimate kidney donation processes.

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Around 2.3 million

### P6.4 billion allotted to boost PH tourism image in 2023

MANILA - Around PHP6.39 billion of the PHP5.268-trillion national budget for 2023 will be used to improve the country's tourism sector, the Department of Budget and Management said Wednesday.

In a statement, the DBM said the

multibillion-peso funding is part of the Marcos administration's resolve to promote the Philippines as a tourist hub and attract more foreign investments.

"A total of PHP6.39 billion has been allocated for the tourism sector under the FY (fiscal year) 2023 National Budget to support the Department of Tourism (DOT) in its campaigns for the promotion of the Philippines as a tourist destination and to boost the interest of foreign investors in the Philippine experience," the Budget department said.

(Turn to p.2)

### DA crafts strategy plan for hybrid rice production

MANILA - The Department of Agriculture (DA) is crafting a strategy plan for the local production of hybrid rice to increase crop yields in the country and make it rice self-sufficient in two years.

This was after President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., who concurrently heads the DA, sought the implementation of a program that would promote the use of hybrid rice varieties in the country to help local farmers boost their crop production.

In a briefing on Thursday, DA Assistant Secretary for Operations Arnel de Mesa said the strategy plan would promote the planting of hybrid seeds on 1.5 million hectares of rice land during the dry season.

De Mesa said the DA is looking at expanding the production of hybrid rice into Western Visayas, Eastern Visayas, Soccsargen, and the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

The Ilocos, Cagayan Valley, and Central Luzon regions have already adopted the hybrid rice technology, the DA noted.

Cash aid

De Mesa said the DA would also launch a financial and credit program to persuade farmers to adopt hybrid rice production.

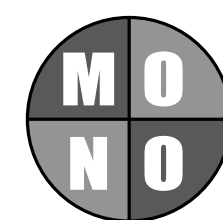
"Ipinag-utos ng ating Pangulo na siguruhing mabigyan

ang ating mga kababayan na nagtatanim ng palay ng sapat na suporta kagaya ng patubig, fertilizer at iba pang ayuda katulad ng Rice Farmers Financial Assistance (RFFA). Ang mga ito ay nararapat na maibigay sa tamang panahon (The President has instructed that we make sure that our local farmers are given the needed support for irrigation work, additional fertilizer assistance, and other

(Turn to p. 2)



PLEASE CHECK PLATES, COMPARE TO ORIGINAL BEFORE RUNNING



PHILHEALTH... Fr. p 1

therapy (RRT) offers "to achieve better quality of life". RRT replaces the kidney's normal blood filtering function due to failure, acute injury, and chronic disease of the organ. It includes dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis), hemofiltration, hemodiafiltration, and kidney transplantation. "PhilHealth is

providing PHP270,000 in financial support to patients who are on peritoneal dialysis or what we call PD-First," Ledesma said. "And for those who have organ donors, PhilHealth pays PHP600,000 for renal patients qualified under our Z benefits for kidney transplantation," he added. (PNA)

MORE GAIN... FR. P. 1

financial aid, such as the RFFA. These must be given at the right time," he said. The hybrid system has produced a 41 percent higher yield than inbred conventional seeds over the past two years, based on a joint study by the DA and local government units (LGUs).

Hybrid farmers have reported harvesting 7 to 15 metric tons (MT) per hectare, higher than the average of 3.6 MT/hectare for inbred seeds.

From January to November 2022, the National Rice Program has served about 1.06 million rice farmers and 3,528 farmer cooperatives through the provision of hybrid and inbred or certified seeds, production-related and post-harvest machinery, small-scale irrigation, as well as extension and training activities.

The program has also established Hybrid Rice Model farms.

In 2023, the DA earmarked PHP30 billion under the National Rice Program for the provision of hybrid and inbred or certified seeds, production-related and post-harvest

machinery, small-scale irrigation, as well as extension and training activities.

This is on top of the PHP10 billion Rice Enhancement Competitiveness Fund sourced from the excess tariff collected under the Rice Tariffication Law, which aims to improve the competitiveness of Filipino farmers.

"Iyong koleksyon natin noong nakaraang taon - dahil sa Rice Tariffication Law - ay umabot sa PHP22 billion. So meron tayong excess collection na PHP12 billion na maibabahagi sa ilalim ng RFFA (Because of the Rice Tariffication Law, our collection last year reached PHP22 billion. So, we have an excess collection of PHP12 billion that will be distributed under the RFFA)," de Mesa said.

Under the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund Program, the Landbank of the Philippines and the Development Bank of the Philippines granted PHP3.37 billion in zero-interest and non-collateral loans to 10,643 rice farmers and 197 borrower organizations and cooperatives.

Apart from

P6.4 BILLION... Fr. p 1

The DBM issued the statement, as it joined the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in providing support for the DOT to boost the Philippine tourism.

DBM Secretary Amena Pangandaman, in a recent event in Tokyo during President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s five-day working visit to Japan, said the administration's priority expenditures, including "Build Better More" infrastructure program, will improve the overall tourism experience in the Philippines.

Pangandaman, the DBM said, acknowledged the "great contribution" of both the Japanese investors and tourists to the Philippines' economic growth.

"The Japanese [people] love leisure and recreation so we are enticing them to visit the Philippines more," the Budget chief was quoted as saying.

Under the 2023 national budget, the "Build Better More" program is given around PHP1.3 trillion, which is equivalent to 5.5 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

The bulk of the PHP1.3-trillion budget will go to physical infrastructure, covering the construction and maintenance of road

strengthening financial support to local farmers through the loan financing program, Marcos on Tuesday

networks (PHP 478.7 billion) and railways (PHP40.1 billion).

Social infrastructure will also be prioritized, allocating around PHP29.2 billion for school buildings and PHP14.4 billion for hospitals and health centers.

Meantime, the DOTr and the DOT signed a memorandum of agreement to establish better airports and seaports, to improve the overall tourist experience.

The DPWH, through its Tourism Road Infrastructure Program, also allocated some PHP17.69 billion for the construction and improvement of roads and infrastructure facilities in tourist zones.

The DOT is also keen on developing tourist rest areas, establishing tourism assistance call centers for tourist convenience, bringing tourism to the digital age and implementing fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to tourists.

Based on the figures from the DOT, the tourism sector has already recovered over 62 percent of its pre-pandemic flights and generated nearly USD4 billion (PHP220 billion), contributing to the country's GDP growth.

The DOT is hoping to exceed the current tourism numbers. (PNA)

pledged to bring the best farming practices used by Central Luzon farmers to the rest of the country. (PNA)

SALON BATS... Fr. p. 1

protecting the health of donors."

He noted that the bill also sets a five-year target and mandate so that within that time all national, regional and provincial levels shall have their dialysis service facilities and wards, as well as have the needed trained personnel.

There is required registration of all dialysis patients in the PhilHealth dialysis database prior to avilment of peritoneal dialysis and hemodialysis.

The National Kidney and Transplant Institute is also given the added function of accreditation of dialysis training centers.

The House Committee on Health has also approved HBs 85, 156, 430, 1713, 1719, 1785, 2035, 2092, 2254, 2496, 2782, 2797, 3381, 3616, 4571, 5074, 5454 and 6238, which seek to provide Filipinos with free medical check-up annually.

Marikina City Representative Stella Luz Quimbo said this service would help strengthen the delivery of primary health care services in the country.

While PhilHealth would implement the program, she said the funding for the program must come from the national government and included in the annual budget. (PNA)

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Mutya ng Tanza Candidates stun Tanzeño at SM City Tanza

Candidates from Mutya ng Tanza walked the runway with glam and elegance at SM City Tanza during its pre-pageant, showcasing the works of local designers. Mutya ng Tanza is annually held in connection with the celebration of Tanza Day. Since SM City Tanza is now open, it is the perfect venue for such an event. Catch them on the coronation night on February 24 at the mall event center of SM City Tanza.



Tokyo Tokyo is back at SM City Dasmariñas! Serving you again with high-quality Japanese food is the newly refreshed Tokyo-tokyo at SM City Dasmariñas! Dine-in now at Upper Ground Level - near H&M.

PhilHealth has accreditation powers: DOJ

MANILA - State-run Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth) is empowered to choose which health care provider may be accredited under its programs, including whether to restore the revoked accreditation of firms, the Department of Justice (DOJ) said. In a seven-page legal opinion recently made available, Justice Secretary Jesus Crispin Remulla said "PhilHealth has the discretion to permanently revoke the accreditation of a health care provider or to



The Sweetest Valentine's is here at SM City Trece Martires! Shoppers were serenaded with love songs this Valentine's Day by the band, The Slem!

SWS survey's very good satisfaction rating 'encouraging': Marcos

MANILA - President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Wednesday described as "encouraging" the latest Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey showing that 75 percent of adult Filipinos are satisfied with his performance in the fourth quarter of 2022.

"I don't really look at surveys kasi... But it's always encouraging to know that naunawaan ng tao 'yung aming ginagawa (people understand what we're doing)," Marcos said in a video sent by the Presidential Communications Office (PCO) to reporters.

"So we will just keep going and keep everybody informed kung ano'y aming ginagawa (about what we're doing)," he added.

Based on the SWS survey, conducted from Dec. 10 to 14, Marcos' satisfaction rating rose by four points from 71 percent in October 2022 to 75 percent the following month.

Dissatisfaction decreased by one point from 8 percent to 7 percent, while those who were undecided dropped by three points from 21 percent to 18 percent.

"The resulting net satisfaction rating is +68, classified by SWS as very good. This is five points up from the very good +63 in October 2022," the SWS survey said.

SWS classifies net satisfaction ratings of +70 and above, "excellent"; +50 to +69, "very good"; +30 to +49, "good"; +10 to +29, "moderate"; +9 to -9, "neutral"; -10 to -29, "poor"; -30 to -49, "bad"; -50 to -69, "very bad"; -70 and below, "execrable".

Manila - State-run Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth) is empowered to choose which health care provider may be accredited under its programs, including whether to restore the revoked accreditation of firms, the Department of Justice (DOJ) said.

In a seven-page legal opinion recently made available, Justice Secretary Jesus Crispin Remulla said "PhilHealth has the discretion to permanently revoke the accreditation of a health care provider or to

restore its accreditation, depending on its (PhilHealth) findings and assessment." The ruling was furnished to PhilHealth Officer-In-Charge,

Atty. Eli Dino Santos, who sought guidance from the DOJ on the extent of the power of PhilHealth to revoke the accreditation of health care providers (Turn to p. 3)

satisfaction was highest in Mindanao at an excellent +72, followed by very good levels in Balance Luzon at +68, the Visayas at +67, and Metro Manila at +65.

"Compared to October 2022, net satisfaction with President Marcos did not change from +72 in Mindanao and +65 in Metro Manila. However, it rose by 11 points from +56 in the Visayas and by 8 points from +60 in Balance Luzon," the survey said.

By locale, his net satisfaction was higher in rural areas at an excellent +74 than in urban areas at a very good +62.

His net satisfaction rose by 13 points from +61 in rural areas. It barely moved from +65 in urban areas.

The survey also showed that the satisfaction rating was an excellent +70 among men and a very good +66 among women.

Marcos' net satisfaction rose by seven points from +63 among men, while it rose by four points among women.

In terms of age groups, Marcos' net satisfaction was a very good +68 among the 18-24-year-olds, an excellent +73 among the 25-34-year-olds, an excellent +71 among the 35-44-year-olds, a very good +68 among the 45-54-year-olds and a very good +64 among those 55 years old and older.

His net satisfaction rating was an excellent +73 among those who either had no formal education or some elementary education, a very good +64 among those who either finished elementary or had some high school education, an excellent +72 among those who either finished junior high school, had some vocational schooling, had some senior high school, finished senior vocational school, or attended some college, and a very good +55 among those who either graduated from college or took post-graduate studies.

The December 2022 survey had 1,200 respondents and a margin of error of ±2.8% for national percentages. (PNA)

