

# EDGE DAVAO

Serving a seamless society



Members of the demolition team tear down illegally built concrete houses and shanties during a demolition in Brgy. 26-C Salmonan, Quezon Boulevard on Monday. Lean Daval Jr

# DEMOLISHED

## 67 houses peacefully dismantled in Barangay 26-C

BY ARMANDO B. FENEQUITO JR.

The demolition of the structures occupied by informal settlers along Barangay 26-C, Quezon Boulevard in Davao City was peacefully implemented after many attempts of dismantling the structures as ordered by the court.

Around 9:00 a.m yesterday, the demolition team successfully demolished a total of 67 households in the area, according to Davao City Police Office (DCPO) director Sr. Supt. Alexander Tagum. Tagum reported there was no resistance from the part of the owners since they already know the court order.

"Pagkakita nila nga madayon ang demolition, nanghawa na gyud sila (When they saw that the demolition would continue, they volunteered

to demolish their houses)," he said.

Tagum said that most of the structures were used as store spaces for rent.

He said during the conduct demolition, the DCPO-Civil Disturbance Management Unit and Task Force Davao were on standby to ensure the peaceful implementation of the court order.

Prior to the execution, a slight commotion ensued after residents in the Mini-Forest pelted bottles and rocks at policemen which

DEMOLISHED, P13

## RP to acquire new tech to verify missile in WPS

The Philippine government is acquiring a new technology that will verify reports that China has deployed missile systems in the disputed West Philippine Sea (WPS), Malacañang said Monday.

Latest media reports showed that China deployed missiles to (Kagitingan) Fiery Cross Reef, (Zamora) Subi Reef and (Panganiban) Mischief Reef within the past 30 days. Earlier reports said that China has installed a jamming device in one of the areas in the disputed waters.

Presidential

Spokesperson Harry Roque said that the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) has not yet verified if reports of missile deployments are true but the government is exerting efforts to verify by acquiring a new technology according to National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr.

"We still do not have the verification. I had a talk with the National Security Adviser (Esperon) and he told me that there's a technology that we need that we still don't have to be able to verify it for ourselves," Roque said in a

RP, P12



...SEE P15

Warriors take 3-1 lead

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President Rodrigo Duterte gets a warm round of applause as he is welcomed during the 51st Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual Meeting at the EDSA Shangri-La Hotel in Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City on Friday evening. Also in the photo are Sec. Bong Go of the Office of the Special Assistant to the President and former President and incumbent Pampanga Second District Representative Gloria Arroyo. PRESIDENTIAL PHOTO

# Killed nurse 'was at wrong place, time'

## Bullets intended for somebody else

BY FERDINANDH B. CABRERA

A humanitarian worker who rode with her municipal councilor-mother and another councilor from South Upi in Maguindanao, was killed while the two councilors were wounded in an ambush Saturday afternoon in Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao.

Betsy Yap, a nurse who worked at the Autonomous Region in Muslim indanao's Humanitarian

Emergency Assistance and Response Team (ARMM-HEART) died on the way to the Notre Dame hospital, the bullets she took reportedly intended for somebody else.

"Because of politics, a bright young woman who has quietly given the past four to five years of her life to humanitarian service in the ARMM had her life

snuffed out of her by a lone gunman whose bullets were intended for someone else," ARMM Executive Secretary and concurrent Social Welfare Secretary Laisa Alamia wrote on her Facebook page.

"She was at the wrong place at the wrong time, people say," Alamia added.

☞ **KILLED, P11**

# Coast Guard acquires Israel-made firearms

Seventy Tavor sub-machine guns 9mm were presented Monday before Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Commandant Rear Admiral Elson Hermogino at the PCG National Headquarters Port Area, Manila after the agency's flag raising ceremony.

The Israeli-made weapons were delivered last week and will be utilized by PCG's elite force in combating piracy and terrorism at sea.

The PCG is also set to acquire a PHP1 billion worth of weaponry this year as provided in the General Appropriation

Act of 2018.

The acquisition will include 9 mm pistol for all of its personnel, assault and sniper rifles for the Special Operations Force, machine guns for small boat operations, and heavy machine guns with automatic gyro stabilizer for PCG vessels.

The weapons will beef up the PCG's capability for maritime security and law enforcement operations.

Monday's event was witnessed by PCG officers and personnel, led by PCG Chief of Coast Guard Staff, Commodore Eduardo Fabricante. (PNA)

# Inventory of resorts in forests praised

BY ARMANDO B. FENEQUITO JR.

Environmental group Interface Development Interventions (IDIS) has lauded the move of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources 11 (DENR 11) to conduct an inventory of resorts situated in the forest lands in the region.

IDIS executive director Chinkie Pelino-Golle said on Monday's Kapehan sa Davao at SM City Annex that the inventory is important so that the DENR 11 will have the list of resorts operating

within the identified forest areas.

"Importante man kay kung naay violation or singlonon at least naa silay listahan (It is important so that if there are violations or debts at least they already have the list)," Golle said.

She said documentation on the resorts is important so that the concerned agency will not depend on mere allegations.

Golle said their group is willing to assist the inventory

☞ **INVENTORY, P10**

# Sara's order to dredge Davao river applauded

BY ARMANDO B. FENEQUITO JR.

The Interface Development Interventions (IDIS) is elated with the issuance of Executive Order No. 09 series of 2018 by Davao City Mayor Sara Z. Duterte that mandates the creation of a technical working group tasked to facilitate the de-silting of

rivers and streams in the city.

IDIS executive director Chinkie Pelino-Golle said on Monday, the de-siltating and dredging of streams is needed to prevent the streams from overflowing and from flooding the communities near the riverbanks.

"Thankful mi kay Mayor Inday nga nag ingon siya nga i-desilt or i-dredge na ang Davao River (We are thankful to the order of Mayor Inday saying that the Davao River will be desilted or dredged)," she said.

Duterte said in her order there is a need to allow de-silting

operations within the watershed areas to address the heavy siltation problem in rivers and streams, which could result in overflowing of water and flooding during rainy seasons.

However, Golle said that there should be a

☞ **SARA'S, P11**

# POPOS PUSHED

## As viable option to develop Matina Hills Park

BY JUDIE VEGA

**L**EADING Davao-based environment advocates are pushing for a win-win solution through the Shrine Hills Park Connector Network that will link to the two existing eco-tourism attractions of the Gap Farm Resort and the Outland Adventure Basin.

Chinkie Pelino-Golle, executive director of Interface Development Initiatives (IDIS), which is one of the proponent groups, said during the Kapehan sa Dabaw at SM on Monday morning

said that the Shrine Hills Park Connector Network aims to protect and enhance the existing natural features of Matina Hills and to provide a return investments for the private land owners through the adoption of the privately-owned publicly open spaces (POPOS) concept in the City's Zoning Ordinance.

Golle said that Popos is a viable option, respecting the ownership of the property by private individuals at the same time; there should be an agreement between

the land owners and the local government unit to develop Matina Hills, also known as Shrine Hills in reference of the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague established by the family of the deceased couple, former Local Government Secretary Luis T. Santos and wife Catalina, into parks.

"Turning Shrine Hills into public open spaces such as ecotourism parks, canopy and hilltop walks, and bike lanes can be profitable for the landowners while

☞ **POPOS, P12**



Interface Development Interventions, Inc. (IDIS) executive director Chinkie Pelino-Golle discusses the updates on the City Council's committee hearing on the proposal of environmental groups to make the 222 hectares of shrine hills a privately-owned parks that will be opened to the public during the Kapehan sa Dabaw at SM City Davao on Monday. Lean Daval Jr

## Probe on in killing of ARMM nurse

**T**he Police Regional Office of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (PRO-ARMM) has ordered an investigation into

the ambush-slay of a government nurse here on Saturday night.

Betsy Yap, a nurse of the ARMM's Humanitarian Emergency

☞ **PROBE, P12**

## 8K Filipino, US troops in 'Balikatan' exercises

**A**round 8,000 American and Filipino troops will be participating in this year's "Balikatan" exercises which started Monday and will end on May 18.

Lt. Liezl M. Vidallon, "Balikatan" Combined Joint Information Bureau head, said this figure is composed of 5,000 soldiers, marines,

airmen and sailors from the Armed Forces of the Philippines and 3,000 troops from the US Marines, Navy, Air Force and Special Operations Force.

Some 20 troops from the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force and 60 troops from the Australian Defense Force will also participate as observers in

the two-week maneuvers.

This year's "Balikatan" is the 34th iteration of the bilateral exercise between the AFP and the United States Pacific Command.

"The 'Balikatan' Exercise is an annual military training that manifest the long-standing relationship between the AFP and the US Armed

Forces. We will continue this commitment to strengthen our alliance to learn from both forces and improve our inter-operability. This year's focus is to enhance our capacity for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and counter-terrorism," Philippine "Balikatan"

☞ **8K, P12**

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# Troops to revisit Marawi lessons

Participating American and Filipino troops in this year's "Balikatan" exercises will revisit the lessons learned by the Armed Forces of the Philippines from the five-month battle to retake Marawi City from the hands of the Maute Group terrorists.

"We want both our forces to learn from our great and hard-earned experience in our past battles like Marawi and I think this is one of the highlight of this year's activity," Philippine Exercise director Lt. Gen. Emmanuel Salamat said Monday.

Fighting in Marawi started on May 23, 2017 when Maute Group terrorists conducted massive attacks in the city.

It was only declared over after military units succeeded in neutralizing Abu Sayyaf leader and ISIS

emir in Southeast Asia, Isnilon Hapilon, Maute co-founder, Omar Maute, and nearly 1,000 militants sometime in October.

The bulk of the urban warfare training, which include the tactics used in countering the terrorists, will be conducted in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija. Salamat said training will be done together by Filipino and US Special Operations Forces.

"Hopefully we can effectively employ necessary tactics, procedures needed to more enhance our response, actions in countering terrorism," he added.

In line with this training, the Filipino official said they have set-up mock-up facilities to be able to design the training activities in scenarios that will highlight military operations in urban terrain. (PNA)



Evicted residents collect and gather their belongings while there is an ongoing demolition of illegally built houses and shanties in Brgy. 26-C Salmonan, Quezon Boulevard on Monday. Lean Daval Jr

# Coast Guard acquires Israel-made firearms

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The weapons will beef up the PCG's capability for maritime security and law enforcement operations.

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# TLEX slated anew in SM

BY JUDIE VEGA

The Philippines' largest exhibition organizer, Worldbex Services International will hold the 2nd Travel and Leisure Expo Davao (TLEX) to be held on May 10 -13, 2018 at the SMX Convention Center, SM Lanang.

The event seeks to inspire people to discover the world of traveling as it brings within reach the widest array of top-rated accredited travel and leisure brands.

Abaigeal Quiohilag, associate director of Worldbex Services and International said on Monday during the Kapehansa Dabaw at SM City that TLEX will

promote tourism within the regions and will stimulate travel as they experience Philippine tourism moving up to a new level.

This year's theme centered on the theme of "Excite. Explore. Experience as the expo endeavors to address the Davao's economic sectors by way of improving its travel and transit logistics industry.

Quiohilag said that attesting to the high-demands of the region for quality tourism products and services, this year's TLEX Davao statistic reports shows a remarkable increase, from last year's booth and

exhibitor count of 68 and 50 respectively.

"TLEX Davao is set to house 90 booths as it welcomes more than 70 exhibitors- expanding its exhibit area from 1,263sqm to 1,500sqm in total," Quiohilag said.

Quiohilag said that special deals from Philippine Airlines, Cathay Pacific, and other premium airlines await Dabawenyos as TLEX tickles the fancy of the region's most prolific travel bugs.

"From travel agencies, airlines and hotels to resorts, couriers, cruise lines, and shipping companies, visitors may also expect a range of

exclusive travel promos throughout the four-day travel show," she said.

Quiohilag added that TLEX Davao has come to assume a significant position in the region as a top-grade venue for all things travel and tourism, more than just about empowering the region's reputation as a tourism hub.

"With the return of PHILBEX and TLEX Davao, two of the region's most promising industry sectors can expect to benefit from the insights and networking opportunities that is in-store for visitors and exhibitors alike," Quiohilag said.

# City gov't to launch own peace-building program

The Davao City Government will launch its comprehensive peace-building program dubbed as "Peace 911" at the Paquibato Elementary School in Paquibato District on Thursday this week.

In a statement from City Information Office, Peace 911 is designed after months of consultations and meetings between the members of the communities and the Davao City Advisory Committee on Peace and Development (DC PEACE DEV).

It said the program includes components for agriculture, health, youth, women, security, Indigenous Peoples, and education.

"In September 2017, Mayor Inday Sara Duterte created the Davao City Peace Local Committee (DC PEACE COM) to

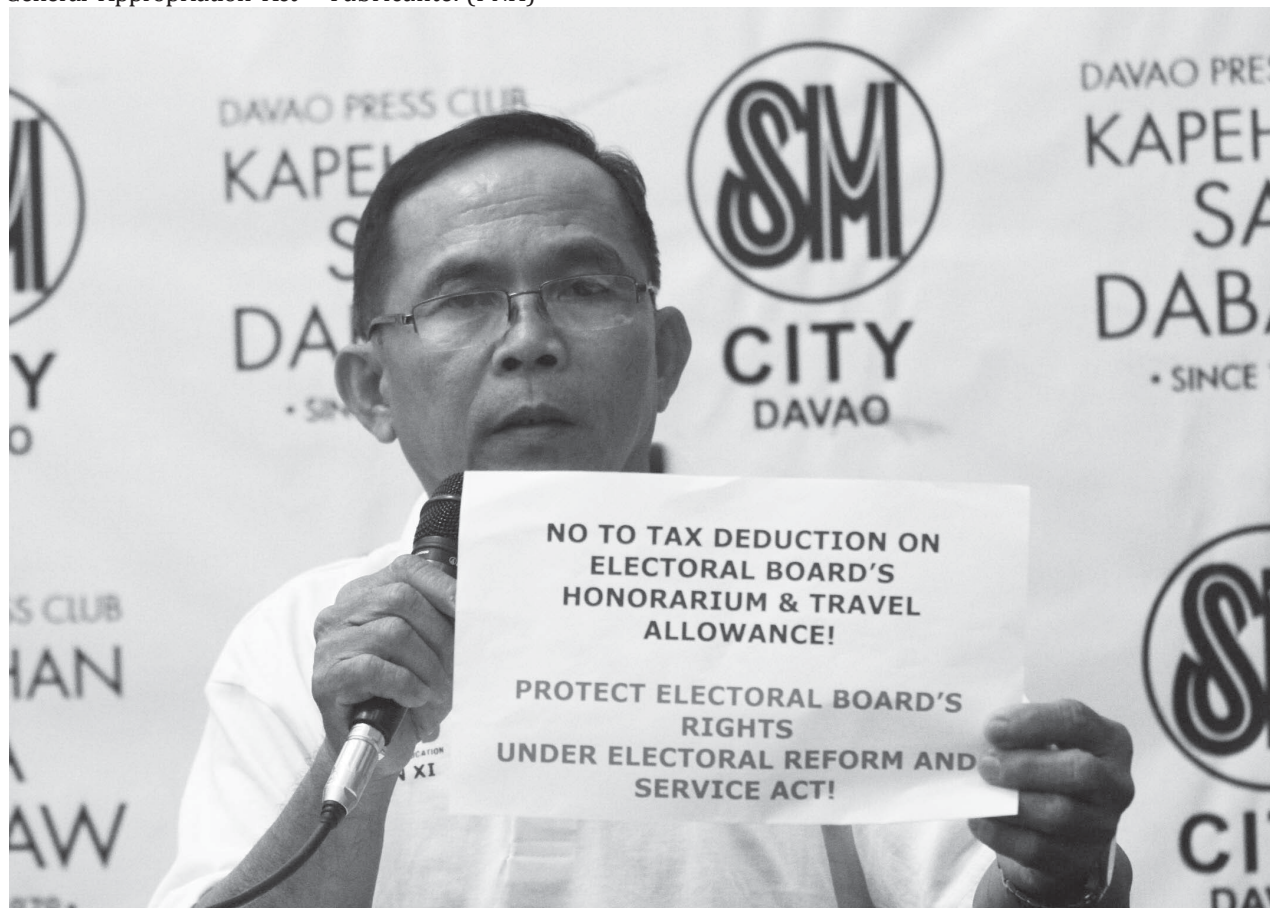
promote, encourage and facilitate joint, inclusive peacemaking and peace-building processes within Davao City," the CIO said.

The committee has since been reconstituted into the DC PEACE DEV through Executive Order No. 45 Series of 2017.

"Since its creation, the peace committee has conducted listening sessions and workshops, initially with residents of barangays in Paquibato," the statement said.

The objective of this is to thresh out issues, concerns and suggestions of the community with regard to government programs.

This also aimed to determine how people in the government can respond to the needs of the people and empower communities to achieve peace and development. Armando Fenequito Jr.



Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT)-Davao Region external vice president Wilfredo Lacatan says the group will monitor through a newly launched hotline the Election Service Reform Act (ESRA)-related rights violation in the upcoming Barangay and

Sangguniang Kabataan elections. Lacatan also said during the Kapehan sa Dabaw at SM City Davao on Monday that the group will be fielding volunteers in select voting precincts around the city. Lean Daval Jr



SumoSam Restaurant franchisee Carlo Lorenzana says the restaurant chain is currently improving its menu in all of its branches nationwide including the Abreeza branch to

maintain its market and to attract new customers. Lorenzana made the disclosure during a gathering at SumoSam Abreeza on Monday. Lean Daval Jr

# ADB finances \$17-B projects

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has poured in USD16.5 billion as of February this year for developmental projects in ASEAN member states. This amount has financed 159 projects in Southeast Asia aiming to address the rising inequality in the region, narrowing infrastructure investments gap, and training skilled laborers to fuel the ASEAN's growth.

ADB data showed that 47 percent of its portfolio in the region went to Vietnam, which the Bank financed 59 projects worth USD7.8 billion. Indonesia and the Philippines are the next biggest clients for ADB, accounting for 21 percent (USD3.5 billion) and 16 percent (USD2.7 billion), respectively, of its total portfolio in the region.

About 7 percent of ADB's portfolio in ASEAN went to Cambodia, which amounted to USD1.2 billion; Lao PDR, with 4 percent share amounting USD 730 million; Myanmar, with 4 percent share amounting USD620 million; and Thailand, with 1 percent share amounting to USD100 million.

The institution prioritizes projects in infrastructure including transport, energy, water, and urban services; public sector management; finance; health and education; water management and agriculture; climate change and disaster risk management; and regional cooperation and integration.

In particular, ADB's projects in the Philippine include 280 kilometers of national roads and bridges, detailed design of 300 kilometers of national highways in Mindanao; the JobStart Program in 32 local government units, helping 50,000 out-of-school youths to prepare them to join the workforce; and assisting in rehabilitation of 74 poor municipalities affected by typhoon Yolanda. (PNA)

# TADECO professionalism impresses Chinese guests

BY LADY LESLIE L. FRANCISCO

The Chinese group that visited the banana farms in Davao del Norte this month noted the professionalism that the Tagum Agricultural Development Co. Inc. (Tadeco) has been practicing.

GoodFarmer Banana Trading Corp. (GoodFarmer), a city-based Chinese company that buys bananas from local companies, organized a 30-member group from Guangzhou province and that some of them were farmers, scientists and business owners.

Michael Li, GoodFarmer country manager, said that the visitors have been overwhelmed by Tadeco's way of banana farming. "They are very professional," said Li as he and members of the group toured the company's packing house, farm and tissue culture department.

Li said that farms in China, particularly those in Guangzhou province, could not be compared with Tadeco's farms because of how professional the latter has handled the challenges that it has encountered since its banana operations in the 1960s when its owner, the late Don Antonio O. Floirendo shifted his abaca farm into banana production.

The group, said Li, marveled at how the company "has used Science in dealing with the challenges particularly its tissue culture division."

Last month, the company launched its modern laboratory that is expected to provide not just its farms but farms of other companies and even small growers with quality planting materials including those resistant to the Panama disease, a banana infection that started in Panama in the 1920s that devastated farms because it results in

TADECO, P11

# President sees ADB role in 'Build' infra

Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said this weekend the Asian Development Bank (ADB) should help "future-proof" its member-countries against the sweeping impact of disruptive change by aiding them in harnessing the rapid advances in digital technologies to improve productivity and strengthen economies.

Being the region's "main concourse of development ideas," the ADB needs to develop the means to support its member-countries to prevent them "from falling into the wrong side of the digital divide," said Dominguez, who is this year's chairman of this bank's Board of Governors.

Dominguez said ADB's Strategy 2030 is a "good beginning" in meeting this challenge as it provides the institution with a roadmap that will not only let member-countries adjust to the new balance of power in the global economy, in which the Asia-Pacific is the center of gravity, but also help them cope with the enormous forces unleashed by new technologies.

"Rapid, and especially disruptive, technological progress carries both risks and rewards. The ADB is a vital institution for the region in ensuring

PRESIDENT, P11

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## Ilocos Norte resort vows leads sustainable tourism

The largest resort in Pagudpud town is leading the way in ensuring clean and sustainable tourism.

"It's a lesson learned to all of us in the tourism industry. We need to create a new order for tourism. One that is environment-friendly and sustainable in the years to come," said retired Philippine Air Force Col. Ricardo Nolasco, proprietor of Hannah's Beach Resort and Convention Center.

To strengthen its eco-tourism advocacy, Hannah's organizes world-class beauty pageants primarily aimed to develop men and women, who make it to their mission to help others change their habits for the good of the planet.

Referring to the signing off of Boracay as a sad event in the country's

tourism industry, Nolasco said all other tourism stakeholders need to develop and strengthen it without disregarding the environment.

"Generally, it is sad note for Philippine tourism, they might think that all other beaches in the country are like that. It's a lesson learned to all of us. I hope that within six months, it will be back to normal and the glory of Boracay will be restored," Nolasco added.

Since the closure of Boracay, northern Luzon beaches including that of Pagudpud, are flocked by tourists on a daily basis.

Travel tours, van rentals and other resorts and homestays here reported they are all fully-booked this summer.

"We were surprised because we are receiving a thousand guests everyday."

✍️ ILOCOS, P11



WorldBex associate director of corporate planning and special projects Abigail Quiohilag (right), together with marketing assistant Carmen Grace Paragas, promotes the upcoming PhilBex back-to-back with Travel and Leisure Expo set on May 10 to 13 at SMX Convention Center in Lanang during this week's Kapehan sa Dabaw at SM City Davao. Lean Daval Jr

# DOF upbeat on ADB's role in growth of RP

## Amid rapid technological change in Asia

Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III has said he is optimistic that the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will remain functional and valuable in the decades to come amid the challenges brought about by the breathtaking pace of technological progress, the continuing reconfiguration of Asian economies and the dramatic political events across the globe.

In a dinner hosted by the Philippines last Saturday (May 5), Dominguez also thanked

the ADB leadership for the "great work" it has done to ensure the success of the 51st Annual Meeting of its Board of Governors in Manila.

Dominguez, who chairs the ADB Board of Governors this year, said the Philippines "is thankful for the opportunity to host this important meeting held at this important time."

"The pace of technological change, the continuing reconfiguration of the Asian economies and the dramatic political events

around us do challenge our institutions," Dominguez said at the Host Country Dinner held at the EDSA Shangri-La Hotel in Mandaluyong City. "But the passion to happily cope with change, rethink the way we do things and collectively peer into the future we might not fully grasp yet keep us hopeful that this great institution, the Asian Development Bank, will be functional and valuable to all its members in the decades to come."

Among those

present at the dinner were President Rodrigo Duterte; former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo; Toke Talagi, Premier of Niue; Taro Aso, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Japan; Dong Yeon Kim, Deputy Minister of Strategy and Finance of South Korea; ADB president Takehiko Nakao and the finance ministers and central bank governors of the Bank's 67 member-economies.

During the opening

✍️ DOF, P11

## More money in tech-voc courses: TESDA exec

The Duterte Administration is investing more on technical-vocational (tech-voc) courses, providing free scholarships that would benefit more than 400,000 people yearly, an executive from Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) told the Philippine News Agency (PNA).

In an interview with PNA on Friday, TESDA Deputy Director General Alvin Feliciano said the Duterte administration prioritizes providing free tech-voc courses to beneficiaries, which include persons with disabilities, solo parents, drug surrenderers, among others.

"We target more than 400,000 scholars yearly. About 300,000 people are benefiting from TESDA's tech-voc courses when these were not yet free,"

he said.

Feliciano said that for this year, the government has allocated PHP6.9 billion for free tech-voc courses alone. This budget, however, was included in the Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) budget, and CHED might release this to TESDA by June or July in time for the second semester, according to Feliciano.

The free scholarships, Feliciano said, will provide beneficiaries with PHP160 daily allowance, training insurance, assessments and tool kits.

"There are instances when the trainees might get hurt during the course, so there's insurance," explained Feliciano.

He also noted that this is the first time that the government will provide tool kits (e.g. welding machine) to the scholars. (PNA)

## Drop in poverty rate is forecast

Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque is optimistic the country will see a continued drop in poverty incidence under the Duterte administration.

Roque is banking on the "Build Build Build" program, which he said will translate to jobs and livelihood opportunities for Filipinos.

He also cited the continued implementation of the government's 4Ps program through the Department of Social Welfare and Development

(DSWD).

Roque said an additional assistance is given to 4Ps beneficiaries to ease the effect of TRAIN (Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion).

Roque said his bullish assessment came on the heels of reports of the latest survey of the Social Weather Station showing that one of three or 30 percent of Filipino families have escaped poverty.

Roque said this could be the result of the administration's push

✍️ DROP, P11

## Insurance sector told: get set for digital sally

The insurance industry should be at the "forefront and center" of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, given that it is among the most closely regulated industries that would also benefit the most from the technology-driven change now seizing the global economy, according to Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III.

With technological advances like financial technology or fintech, Dominguez said insurance and other financial services could "become more efficient, accessible and innovative, leading to shorter transaction time and the ability to quickly

exchange data between institutions, which, in turn, would make new products possible, and hence, greater financial inclusion."

Dominguez also called on the insurance industry to explore new products and opportunities that would help mitigate risks arising from natural calamities heightened by climate change to help communities become more resilient and improve the capacity of countries to recover from disasters.

"The insurance industry should be at the forefront and center of technological changes driving our economies. Insurance is among the

most closely regulated as well as the most benefited by technological advances," Dominguez said at the 29th East Asian Insurance Congress held Monday at the Marriot Hotel in Pasay City. "The industry ought to explore new products that will not only mitigate risks for corporations but also mitigate risks for communities vulnerable to natural calamities."

The theme of the conference was "Managing Disruption, Driving Change," a topic that Dominguez said he had also extensively discussed during the recently concluded 51st Annual Meeting of the

Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Dominguez said coming up with insurance products that help communities mitigate disaster risks and build resilience "is one area where business opportunities and social concerns converge quite nicely."

According to Dominguez, the insurance industry should be mindful of the changes happening in the region, where technological advances are "radically altering the terrain for our governments and our enterprises to thrive in."

✍️ INSURANCE, P11

# DEMOLITION

## Photo essay by Lean Daval Jr





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# EDITORIAL

## After divorce, what?

Everything seems to be going online these days. From online processing of documents, to online banking and online education. Truth be told, the inevitable is that the world is becoming seamless.

Now comes, online divorce.

England and Wales have just put divorce actions on express counters by introducing online divorce. While the immortal words "I Do" may be uttered by couples when they marry in churches and registry offices, a change in the rules has for the first time enabled estranged couples to untie the marital knot online. The fully digital divorce is available through the new online service that removes the need for any paper forms. Yes, it's that easy. According to a report, the online service uses clear, non-technical language, with the whole process able to be completed online, including payment and uploading supporting evidence. Since the birth of the new rule, more than 1,000 petitions have been issued. According to its Justice Ministry, "allowing divorce applications to be made online will help make sure we are best supporting people going through an often difficult and painful time. More people will have the option of moving from paper-based processes to online systems which will cut waste, speed up services which can be safely expedited, and otherwise better fit with modern day life."

In the Philippines, divorce advocates are inching closer to getting the law passed. Last March 19, the lower house of Congress, by a vote of 134-57, approved on third and final reading House Bill 7303 or "An Act Instituting Absolute Divorce and Dissolution of Marriage in the Philippines. HB 7303 aims to make divorce more accessible to a wider range of couples seeking liberty from irreparable marriage. The proposed divorce law provides that the state

shall ensure inexpensive and affordable court proceedings in securing an absolute divorce decree. It also seeks to provide for the grounds on the grant of an absolute divorce decree to include grounds for legal separation and annulment of marriage under the Family Code of the Philippines, separation in fact for at least 5 years, legal separation by judicial decree for at least 2 years, psychological incapacity, gender reassignment surgery, irreconcilable differences and joint petition of spouses.

There still needs to be a counterpart law in the Senate to get the process through.

But while the divorce bill made it through the House of Representatives, it does not have the support of President Rodrigo Duterte who had declared he is against the proposed divorce law. According to Malacanang, the President believes approving divorce in the Philippines would be bad for children of separated couples and spouses seeking legal actions against their respective partners.

The situation in the country may be different compared to other territories and while divorce empowers the offended spouse in a hostile marital union, it will have some repercussions to the family members in general especially the poor. While advocates of divorce may have pushed for the ease in legal remedies of unsuccessful marriages and liberate the offended party from irreconcilable differences, it does not look after the post-divorce scenario of the family involved. Unlike other countries where divorce applies, we still do not have the mechanism from government to provide support for families in a post-divorce regime.

There lies the grey area.

**EDGEDAVAO**

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Door 14 ALCREJ Building,  
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Tel: (082) 224-1413

Telefax: (082) 221-3601

[www.edgedavao.net](http://www.edgedavao.net)

[editorial@edgedavao.net](mailto:editorial@edgedavao.net)

[edgedavao@gmail.com](mailto:edgedavao@gmail.com)



PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE  
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ARMANDO B. FENENQUITO JR.  
Correspondents

Columnists: HENRYLITO D. TACIO • GREGORIO G. DELIGERO • JOHN CARLO TRIA • VIDA MIA S. VALVERDE • FRED C. LUMBA • ANTONIO V. FIGUEROA

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Finance

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MARKETING OFFICE  
EDMUND D. RENDON  
Marketing Specialist  
General Santos City  
Mobile: (Smart) 09382022120

MANILA MARKETING OFFICE  
Richard C. Ebona | Product Development officer  
Address: 04 Orilla St. Purok 4B Lower Bicutan, Taguig City  
Cellphone number: 09472652969  
Email Address: edgedavao@gmail.com



## Spirit of poverty and depression

Many Filipinos who are ignorant of the existence of life prosperity principles allow themselves instead to be enveloped by the spirit of poverty and depression.

This premise is not without basis as there are, according to statistical data, more than 20 percent of the Philippine population living below the poverty line.

Consider the recent postures of street parliamentarians who protested during the May 1 Labor Day commemoration that belonged to the Kadamay group and raised placards that read: "Pati kuryente at tubig ibigay nyo na rin."

The Kadamay is composed of urban and rural poor members who commandeered housing units built by the National Housing Authority for military and police personnel in the municipality of Pandi, Bulacan some two years ago.

Because of presidential compassion and benevolence, PRRD allowed them to stay.

Lo and behold, this proletariat group wanted more. The mendicants that they already are, they wanted the whole body after being given one limb.

This government-dependent mentality is the antithesis of the biblical teaching found in 2 Thessalonians chapter 3 verse 10 that says: "For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

What, in effect, does this mean to us, the Filipino nation?

Simply, it means: PEOPLE MUST LEARN HOW TO FISH INSTEAD OF WAITING TO BE GIVEN FISH.

DBM Sec. Benjamin Diokno said recently, in relation to the presidential pronouncement urging OFWs in Kuwait to come home, that if one were only industrious enough, he will not get hungry in the country.

In Tagalog, Diokno uttered with fatherly tone: "Kung masipag ka lang, hindi ka magugutom dito sa Pilipinas."



**SPECKS OF LIFE**  
Fred C. Lumba

Which is exactly what the biblical verse is trying to convey.

Also, just about in the same vein that what PRRD is trying to impress upon our countrymen and women in Kuwait.

Many, if not most, of our countrymen, particularly the disheartened poor and underprivileged, the uneducated, the unshod, the idle and the

unemployed, are mired in poverty and depression because THEY REFUSE TO BELIEVE IN THEIR OWN CAPABILITIES.

Instead, they have allowed mediocrity to set in and cow them, allowed doubts and fears to short-circuit their minds, thus preventing them from pursuing their dreams and aspirations.

No one wants to become mediocre. No one wants mediocrity to be handed down to their children.

But many of us allow the spirit of poverty and depression to conquer us even before we put up a fight.

The Kadamay mentality is such that its members want the government to totally look after them, to provide everything they need from shelter and clothing to jobs, education, utilities and other basics.

A Third World country such as ours struggling to free itself from the clutches of corruption, social injustice, foreign imperialism and intervention, extreme political

partisanship, ethnic and cultural differences and the illegal drug menace cannot hope to rise above if the mediocrity that hounds our people is left unabated to strangle them.

Come to think of it, the responsibility of government should be to carve out a national mindset of positive confidence among the people that is symbolic of democratic socialism. A national consciousness such as this should be able to defeat the demons of negative thinking that produce mediocrity and a defeatist attitude.

English essayist, novelist and journalist George Orwell wrote: "The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history." (Email your feedback to fredlumba@yahoo.com.) Job 42:16-17: "After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation. And so he died, old and full of years." GOD BLESS THE PHILIPPINES!

## Masonry's centennial in Davao

On November 22, 2018, a century to the day Sarangani Lodge No. 50 was given dispensation by the Grand Lodge of the Philippines (GLP), Davao will be celebrating a Masonic centennial in Southern Mindanao. Historic in significance, thousands are expected to gather in Davao City.

The celebration, in more ways than one, opens a new chapter to Masonry, at a time when many of the developments that have occurred in the past decade have positive implications to the expansion and survival of the Craft.

The Freemasons often low-profile image got a boost in 2010 when Davao City mayor Sara Z. Duterte-Carpio issued Proclamation No. 10, declaring every November 15-20 of every year as the 'Free and Accepted Masons Week.' The edict highlights the fact "that many of [the Masonic] founding fathers were public officials and leaders of the city in their own right" are active partners in the growth of the city.

"The City Government," the fiat stated, "recognizes the sacrifices and efforts of the Masons who are very supportive to all the city's programs, projects and activities. It is but proper and fitting to recognize and extend the City Government's acknowledgment and appreciation [for] all the Masons in the city."

Four years later, in another

historical milestone, over five hundred Masons from all lodges in Mindanao gathered in the city in a two-day communication event hosted by the Masonic District R11-A, composed of seven lodges in Davao City and the one in Digos City.

An even bigger lift to the Masonic movement not only in Davao region was the July 19, 2017, pronouncement made by President Rodrigo Duterte, a former Davao City mayor, on issuing a decree and ordering the removal of photographs of public officials displayed in government offices and replacing them with the images of national heroes.

The move, which carried a prohibition, was part of the President's plan to emulate the examples of heroes instead of public officials who have been linked to graft and corruption. In response, on November 14 that same year, portraits of Duterte and his son, Paolo, the city's vice mayor, were removed and in their stead were placed the portraits of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, Marcelo H. del Pilar, Andres Bonifacio, and Gen. Antonio Luna, all of them Masons.

In a statement, Paolo, a member of Madayaw Lodge No. 403, acknowledged:

"These [national figures] are national Freemason heroes, and Free masonry remains alive even up to this day. We are celebrating



**FAST BACKWARD**  
Antonio V. Figueroa

the works of these Freemason Filipinos and the influence and inspiration that we draw from them as public officials."

This bright note contrasts with the stern warning issued by the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) on January 14, 1954, nearly a decade before the Vatican II:

"Catholics are forbidden to join the Masonic Fraternity. Catholics who knowingly and willingly become Masons are automatically excommunicated; they may not receive any of the Sacraments of the Church; they may not act as sponsors in Baptism and Confirmation; they may be excluded from acting as witnesses in Catholic marriages where such

action would cause scandal, and finally Masons may not be buried in Catholic cemeteries."

In the 1983 Code of Canon Law used by Catholic clerics Masonry is not explicitly cited anymore. This brings us to an overlooked historical fact that one of the founders of Pilar Lodge No. 203 on June 5, 1894 in Imus, Cavite, was Rev. Fr. Severo Buenaventura Catholic priest. The lodge was chartered by the Grande Oriente Español and was later affiliated with the American Grand Lodge of the Philippines Islands in 1917.

The advent of Masonry in Davao, on the other hand, is credited to the influences in the first years of the fraternity's existence. The unrest boiling in Surigao and Cagayan de Oro, an offshoot of the underground struggle against Spain in Luzon, directly affected residents. People thought the entry of the US army soldiers in the region was a welcome change. But there was a prevailing sentiment the new conquerors were far friendlier than their predecessors. This optimism was pronounced in the way residents in settlements greeted the visitors, although in the countryside the impression was not as accommodating.

Among members of the local elite and the educated, the Americans were viewed as endearing and frank, probably a reflection of their democratic

orientation and the libertarian philosophies they brought with them. This drastic shift in political orientation was not entirely a surprise. Those who were cultured in primary schools in Manila were fully aware of the American way of life, and the coming of the new colonists in Davao was a confirmation.

The plan to form a lodge in Davao did not happen until April 10, 1918 when a group of active Masons decided to organize Sarangani Lodge No. 50. The fraternity was given dispensation on November 22, 1918 by the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands but its charter was issued only on January 28, 1919; it was later constituted on April 10, exactly a year after inception. The lodge was named after the tiny islands guarding the western side of Davao Gulf. As an offshoot, the Davao Masons' Women Auxiliary, composed of wives of local Masons, was formed to nurture the social agenda of the fraternity.

The first elected set of officers of the new lodge were Celestino Chavez, Worshipful Master (WM); Ruperto del Castillo, senior warden; Jose Pascual, junior warden; Bruno Gempesaw, treasurer; Feliciano Iñigo, secretary; Manuel Jabson, senior deacon; Antonio Feliciano, junior deacon, and Jose Madrazo, Tyler.

### MONKEYBUSINESS

PSSST...



E..DI KUNG WALANG KANIN, MAGKAMOTE NA LANG MUNA... EPEKTIB NA DIET FOOD NA... MURA PA!!



I LIKE HIM... ALWAYS LOOKING AT THE BRIGHTER SIDE OF EVERYTHING..HEHEHE



arlene g. diana-pasaje

# In deep trouble: Dwindling fish catch

Text and Photos by Henrylito D. Tacio  
(Second of Three Parts)

"We are running out of fish and running out of time. For a country known for marine biodiversity, there are very few fish left to catch," deplored Vince Cinches, Oceans Campaigner for Greenpeace Southeast Asia.

Roy C. Alimoane, the director of Mindanao Baptist Rural Life Center (MBRLC), a non-government organization based in Davao del Sur, agreed. "Like the other vital resources such as forests, Philippine fisheries are about to collapse," he pointed out.

The collapse of major fishing grounds in the country would mean uprooting 38,000 fishermen each year. "The fish is getting scarcer," said Jojo Madera, a father of six. "We all have children, grandchildren. We have to think of the future!"

Fish provides more than half of the protein requirement of almost all Filipinos. But in recent years, the average annual consumption has declined from 37 kilos to just 30 kilos. "Unless we look for other sources of protein, the food intake of Filipinos will be greatly affected," Alimoane said.

Fish shortage is happening in almost all parts of the Philippines.



Davao Gulf, the 10th major fishing ground in the country, is a critical resource supporting the economies of six coastal cities and 24 coastal municipalities in Davao region.

But since 2000, the volume and quality of the fish in the Davao Gulf have been found to be in constant decline, according to a study conducted by Kuala Lumpur-based World Fish Center.

Except for maya-maya, the harvest numbers for other nine species have been falling. At the current rate of decline, the caraballas, bilong-bilong, molmol, and danggit may all disappear completely from Davao Gulf within a decade, the study said. The matambaka, tamban and moro-moro are more resilient, but even they may disappear within a generation, it added.

To save the fish from disappearing the waters of Davao Gulf, a close season is implemented every June to August of each year. "A lot of our fisherfolks like the close season at the Davao Gulf to allow more species of fishes to thrive," Regional Director Fatma Idris of Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) was quoted as saying.

The national office of BFAR attributes the decline of fish catch in the country to destruction of the coastal zones, which encompasses approximately 17,000 kilometers of coastline. It includes mangrove forests, tidal flats, estuaries, island ecosystems, seagrasses, coral reefs and beaches.

Mangroves grow well in tropical countries, including the Philippines. But most Filipinos don't consider mangroves as important. "Coastal forests are not familiar to the average Filipino due

to their early loss," wrote Jurgenne Primavera and Resurreccion Sadaba in the book, Beach Forest Species and Mangrove Associates in the Philippines. "They've long gone unreported in the yearly Philippine Forestry Statistics."

Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim, director of the Biodiversity Management Bureau, says its agency has identified 42 species of mangroves in the country. None of them are facing extinction yet. But the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is considering of putting 11 out of 70 mangrove species assessed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Mangroves are very important to marine life, says Dr. Rafael D. Guerrero III, former head of the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development. They serve as sanctuaries and feeding grounds for fish that nibble on detritus (fallen and decaying leaves) trapped in the vegetation, and on the bark and leaves of living trees.

"(Mangroves) are important feeding sites for many commercially important fish species (mullet, tilapia, eel, and especially milkfish),

destroyed, they produce less than four tons per square kilometers per year," the CRMP disclosed.

The sustainable catch from a good reef over 10 years is about 200 tons of fish while from a destroyed reef is only 72 tons, it added.

Newsweek, in its special report some years back, cited dynamite and cyanide fishing as the cause of the destruction of the country's coral reefs.

"Although fish can be caught through traditional methods, fishermen prefer using dynamite because a bigger volume of fish is harvested through an easier and simpler process," a lawmaker pointed out.

Dynamite fishing became rampant after the Second World War and the impact underwater is devastating. "A single blast's shockwave typically travels at about 1500 meters per second (the length of 15 football fields), killing or maiming every fish in range and often liquefying their internal organs," wrote Gregg Yan, communication officer of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Marine scientists said a small dynamite can destroy corals over an area three meters in diameter.

Cyanide fishing may not be as rampant as in the 1970s and 1980s, but it is still being done in the country. "I believe that most cyanide used presently is for food fish and it is difficult to know how wide spread its use is," Dr. Alan White, who used to be the chief of party of the Coastal Resource Management Project in Central Visayas. "It is still a major problem in Palawan and other areas where the live food fish trade is important."

Although cyanide fishing is illegal, Filipinos are still doing it. "There may be short term gains now," reminded Dr. Arnel "AA" Yaptinchay, director of the Marine Wildlife Watch of the Philippines, "but we have to really think the serious repercussions for the future generation. Remember this: no reef, no fish."

Seagrasses are said to be the "last frontier" of the country's basic marine needs. In terms of seagrasses in the world, the Philippines – with 18 species thriving along its coasts – has the second highest. Western Australia has more than 30 species of seagrasses.

Seagrasses in the country covers an area of 27,282 square kilometers. They are widely distributed throughout the country – from Bolinao Bay (Pangasinan) in the north, Palawan and the Cebu-Bohol-Siquijor area to the center, and Zamboanga and Davao in the South.

"Seagrasses are the least studied among the habitats in our coastal zones," Dr. Miguel Fortes, who authored Seagrasses: A Resource unknown in the ASEAN Region. "As such, we know less than we need to in order to use them in solving coastal environmental as well as societal problems."

In the Philippines, among the diversified species found in the seagrass beds are fishes, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, crabs, scallops, mussels and snails. Shrimps spend the early stages of their lives in seagrass areas. Seahorses, a tourist attraction and of medicinal value, reside in seagrass beds. A study done in five seagrass sites in the country identified a total of 1,384 individuals and 55 species from 25 fish families.

A science report also said: "One hectare of seagrass absorbs 1.2 kilograms of nutrients each year, equivalent to the treated effluent of 200 people. It can produce 100,000 liters of oxygen per day and can



support 80,000 fish and 100 million invertebrates."

Climate change In 2015, a study released by the WWF considered climate change as "one of the main reasons for the decline of marine species in the last 30 years."

Climate change, caused by increasing emissions of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide, is causing the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere to increase. As the air temperatures rises, oceans absorb some of this heat and

Coral bleaching takes place when corals are stressed by changes in conditions such as temperature, light or nutrients. They expel the symbiotic algae living in their tissues, causing them to turn white or pale.

"Bleaching is not a good thing," explained Dr. Terry Hughes, a distinguished professor at James Cook University, who convened the International Coral Reef Symposium in 2012 at Cairns, Australia. He said that as warm temperatures intensify, coral bleaching will also increase at an

unprecedented level.

Ocean acidification is climate change's evil twin. "Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere eventually finds its way to and dissolves in the oceans, causing the water to become 'acidic'... reducing the ability of the coral reefs to deposit calcium carbonate or calcify," explained Dr. Edgardo Gomez, the founding director of the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute.

Where have all our fish gone? (Conclusion: Save our Oceans)



become warmer:

"Climate change is already having a profound effect on life in the oceans," the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) says. "Marine species tend to be highly mobile, and many are moving quickly toward the poles to stay cool as average ocean temperature rise."

The three perilous consequences of climate change in the oceans are sea level rise, coral bleaching and ocean acidification.

According to a new study published in Nature, the world's oceans are now rising far faster than they did in the past. The current sea-level rise rate – which started in 1990 – is 2.5 times faster than it was from 1900 to 1990.

The study found that for much of the 20th century, sea level rise was about 30% less than earlier research had figured. "We're seeing a significant acceleration in the past few decades," study lead author Carling Hay, a geophysical researcher at Harvard University, was quoted as saying.

"Climate change and its impacts, which can include bleaching, are some of the most pressing global threats to coral reef ecosystems today," said Jennifer Koss, acting program manager for NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program.

## INVENTORY... FROM 6

if they will be invited.

"Kung i-invite mi, mag-help mi, mag-assist pero kung dili, ok ra pud maghulat ra mi sa result, (If they will invite us, we will assist them but if not, its ok, we will just wait for their results)," she said.

DENR 11 assistant regional director Marcia Isip said, earlier, the inventory is in line with the memorandum issued by their field operations of its national office.

Isip said the inventory aims to determine the compliance on environmental laws rules and regulations.

She said their office already ordered all their Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) and Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) to make an inventory of all the resorts in their areas of

jurisdiction especially those situated in the forest lands.

Isip said the PENRO in Davao del Norte has started the inventory in the resorts at the Island Garden City of Samal (IGaCoS) and started to gather information whether these establishments followed the environmental laws.

She also said their office also conducted such in the city as part of the mandate of their national office.

Isip explained that in their inventory, the resort owners or managers will be given a survey questions which will be asked if they are operating for commercial, domestic or household.

The PENRO and CENRO in every area will submit their results to their office so that the violations will be reported at their higher office.

## KILLED... FROM 2

Initial police reports said the victims riding in a maroon Mitsubishi Lancer vehicle had just come from South Upi in Maguindanao when a gunman fired at them using a caliber .45 pistol at around 4:10 p.m. along Barangay Tenorio in Awang, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao.

According to the municipal police station of Datu Odin Sinsuat, the gunman fled towards Upi town.

ARMM Governor Mujiv Hataman condemned the "senseless violence."

"Killings have no place in a functioning democracy. As the people prepare to exercise their democratic rights in the upcoming barangay elections, acts of violence committed against public servants carry a chilling effect that go against the very grain of what democratic institutions stand for," Hataman said.

The nurse-humanitarian worker had spent four years at the ARMM Humanitarian Emergency Action Response Team.

"Our humanitarian workers are at the frontlines in providing basic social

services, and form the core of our emergency response in times of conflict and calamity. It is their commitment to ensuring the rights and welfare of the Bangsamoro people that enables the regional government to deliver services needed in the peripheries," said Hataman.

He called on local government and law enforcement units to "exert all efforts in ensuring that the killer will be brought to justice."

"Responding to the Bangsamoro's most urgent needs is a fundamental part of our mandate as elected government officials, and all attacks against our humanitarian workers are attacks against the people," he said, adding they "cannot stand idly by as our humanitarian workers are threatened by violence, and as our elected officials are threatened because of those who want to wrestle power away from those who hold the people's mandate - most especially when these are direct threats against our hard won democracy." (Ferdinand B. Cabrera / MindaNews)

## DOF... FROM 6

session of the Meeting of the ADB Board of Governors that morning, Dominguez said the ADB should help "future-proof" its member-countries against the sweeping impact of disruptive change by aiding them in harnessing the rapid advances in digital technologies to improve productivity and strengthen economies.

He said ADB's Strategy 2030 is a "good beginning" in meeting this challenge as it provides the institution with a roadmap that will not only let member-countries adjust to the new balance of power in the global economy in which the Asia-Pacific is the center of gravity, but also help them cope with the enormous forces unleashed by new technologies.

"Rapid, and especially disruptive, technological progress carries both risks and rewards. The ADB is a vital institution for the region in ensuring the risks are mitigated and the rewards evenly distributed," Dominguez said in his speech at the opening session also held at the EDSA Shangri-La Hotel.

Dominguez said living in today's world means coping with rapid advances in digital

## ILOCOS... FROM 6

All the more that we should support the ideals of our president and advocate for sustainable tourism," he pointed out.

To strengthen the promotion of sustainable eco-tourism, the seven-year old Hannah's resort hosted 20 male and 20 female candidates on Saturday evening for the conduct of Mr and Miss Hannah's World Tourism Philippines.

"This is one of our ways to promote an icon of beauty and purpose. By having a voice to create a new order of a sustainable tourist destination in Pagudpud," he

technologies, which has both its upsides and downsides as these could, for instance, dramatically improve productivity but could also eradicate jobs and introduce greater inequalities.

"Rapid, disruptive change can likewise greatly enhance access to financial systems but also open doors to digital monies like virtual currencies that no government is prepared to regulate, demand skills that schools are not prepared to provide, and produce virtual constituencies our political orders are not conceived to include," Dominguez said.

Around 8,000 police officers were deployed to secure this high-level event, which included the ADB Governors' sessions held at the EDSA Shangri-La Hotel, and other meetings conducted at the ADB Headquarters in Mandaluyong City, and nearby hotels.

ADB, which is based in Manila since its inception in 1966, is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific through inclusive, environmentally sustainable growth and regional integration. (DOF)

said.

The preliminary event featuring festival costume and swim wear competition was attended by Department of Tourism Undersecretary of Tourism Advocacy and Public Affairs Katherine de Castro, Filipino fashion designer Renee Salud, Miss Universe Philippines Catriona Gray, Master shoe man Jojo Bragais, along with other regional and local officials who served as part of the board of judges.

The grand coronation night is set on May 12 at the Resorts World Manila. (PNA)

## SARA'S... FROM 2

monitoring of this operation because there are some entities who will use this order to get sand or soil under the city rivers.

"Last year or two years ago, sa Tamugan (River) ingon sila nga mag-desilt or mag-dredge kay gamiton sa Carmen. Pero ang mga partners namo sa community naga ingon nga daghan kaayo ang nangubkob didto, (Last year or two years ago, in Tamugan River, there was an order to desilt or dredge their so that the soil will be used in Carmen. But, our community partners there told us that there were many entities who dredged the river)," she said.

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## TADECO.. FROM 5

wilting of the plants.

In the past, to control the spread of the disease, also called Fusarium wilt, farms need to be abandoned and that it is capital intensive to cure it from the infection.

The present way to control the spread is to use of seedlings that will resist the infection and that the Tadeco facility has produced the seedlings.

During the launching of the facility in March, Alexander N. Valoria, Tadeco president, said the laboratory will provide growers with quality banana seedlings and will provide local producers with better farm inputs and other scientific steps to make the production better.

The facility, which cost the company about P100 million and a grant from the Netherlands government, can "check on soil nutrient status, diagnosis of diseases through conventional and molecular approaches for Fusarium wilt in plants or soil or in water, root health status, active ingredient analysis for

## INSURANCE... FROM 6

The Philippines, for one, can only sustain its status as among the fastest-growing economies in the world by making adjustments and instituting the reforms necessary to prepare it for the impact of disruptive technological change, Dominguez said.

Thus, like the rest of the region, Dominguez said the Philippines is preparing to adapt to the changing technological environment to prepare the public and private sectors for the new

said.

In the order, the mayor identified City Engineer Joseph Dominic Felizarta as Chairperson and named the Department of Public Works and Highways, Davao City Mining Regulatory Board, Mines and Geosciences Bureau and City Environment and Natural Resources Office as members.

It said the technical working group shall be responsible for all operations.

"They are also tasked to determine the need for the desilting operation, the amount or volume of materials to be extracted during the desilting process and determine the need to tap a private entity to conduct the desilting operations in the event that the local government lacks the necessary equipment and manpower to conduct them," the mayor said in her order.

Duterte said all costs pertaining to the operation of the Technical Working Group shall be taken from the available funds of the city government, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

formulated products, analysis of fertilizers, etc. quickly and here in Davao del Norte will be a huge advantage for the banana industry," said Valoria.

Valoria said the opening of the facility will help the industry enhance its competitiveness with the rest of banana exporting countries in the world, particularly those from Central and South America that have been competing with the country in its markets.

The facility is very important, he said, because between 2011 and 2016, the production of the country dipped by about 50 million boxes annually while its competitors increased by 137 million boxes annually.

"We cannot allow that to do that. Together, as the Philippine banana industry, we must meet and defeat that threat to our markets," Valoria said.

"We need to regain the ground that we lost in our Asian markets and even threaten their own US and European markets with Philippine bananas," he added.

economic realities. "We call this the 4th Industrial Revolution, and it is well on its way," he said. "This Revolution demands of us serious rethinking about how we do things, how we make products and how we create wealth for our people."

He said governments can either adapt regulations quickly or court conflict between what technologies make possible and what regulators allow. (DOF)

## FUTURE.. FROM 5

the risks are mitigated and the rewards evenly distributed," Dominguez said in his address at the opening session of the 51st Annual Meeting of the ADB Board of Governors held Saturday (May 5) morning at the EDSA Shangri-La Hotel in Mandaluyong City.

ADB president Takehiko Nakao, and the finance ministers of the ADB's 67 member-countries who comprise the Bank's Board of Governors, will take part in the session.

"We commend ADB President Takehiko Nakao for the great work he has put in leading this institution through a dramatically changing world," Dominguez said. "He is committed to the bank's long-term vision and remains open to reinvention of the institution's programs as we move into a more technologically driven age."

Dominguez said living in today's world means coping with rapid advances in digital technologies, which have both its "upsides and downsides" as these could, for instance, dramatically improve productivity but could also eradicate jobs and introduce greater inequalities.

Rapid, disruptive change can likewise greatly enhance access to financial systems but also open doors to digital monies like virtual currencies that no government is prepared to regulate, demand skills that schools are not prepared to provide, and produce virtual constituencies our political orders are not conceived to include, Dominguez said.

"There is a need to 'future-proof' our economies so that technological change makes them strong rather than undermines them. Smart technologies bring great promise but also some amount of peril," Dominguez said. "The ADB, as the region's main concourse of development ideas, should help member countries to better harness the forces of technological change. It needs to develop the means to support member countries from falling into the wrong side of the digital divide."

In his opening address, Dominguez said hosting the ADB's headquarters for a half-century now has been "a source of immense pride for the Philippines."

"Locating in Manila was

## POLICE... FROM 6

for inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth in the country.

"As we all know the Duterte administration has espoused inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth. We have broadened access to free education, medicine, health care, and other basic services to ensure that our people directly benefit from the country's economic gains while reducing the vulnerability of families through our conditional cash transfer programs and employment facilitation and microenterprise projects," Roque told reporters in a press briefing Saturday at the Presidential Guesthouse in Panacan, this city.

Roque said the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte will

a sound decision. It certainly brought the Bank closer to the realities of an emerging society --especially an emerging society such as ours with its intermittent episodes of turbulence and also moments of impressive achievement. It definitely brought the Bank an ample supply of highly talented English-speaking personnel to support its operations," Dominguez said.

He said the Philippines' strong partnership with ADB has been "an especially fruitful one," as the Bank has been a reliable and responsive partner in mobilizing the resources and technical support needed for the country's development.

Dominguez cited as examples of this strong, fruitful partnership the Bank's assistance in building the Philippines' critical infrastructure to support economic growth and its generous support during the debt crisis of the 1980s and the Asian financial flu of the late 1990s.

"We are extremely grateful for this strong partnership. It has enabled us in many ways to improve the quality of life of our people. It contributed to the strong foundations on which we now build a strongly resurgent economy," Dominguez said.

Dominguez also underscored the ADB's "catalytic role" in the economic achievement of the Asia-Pacific region over the past few decades, with China and India emerging as the principal engines of growth for the global economy and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) comprising some of today's fastest-growing economies in the world.

"In a period haunted by rising protectionist regimes and threatened by autarkic politics, the Asia Pacific stands as compelling proof that free trade brings rapid progress," Dominguez said.

"This part of the world, after all, saw the liberation of hundreds of millions of people from the grip of poverty. Over the next few years, this part of the world will demonstrate to the rest that free markets are adapting to rapidly changing technologies that provide the best conditions for inclusive growth," he added. (DOF)

continue to spearhead initiatives to combat poverty.

Roque also earlier announced the SWS survey conducted from March 23 to 27 showed that the number of Filipinos who considered themselves poor continue to decrease to a record-low 42 percent. This is lower by two percent from the 44 percent registered in December 2017.

It also showed a drop in the number of Filipino families rating their food as poor from 32 percent to 29 percent or 6.7 million families last March. Roque said the government's poverty-alleviation efforts are gaining ground.

The government, Roque said, will continue to enhance social protection mechanisms. (Lilian C. Mellejor/PNA)

## RP.. FROM 1

Palace briefing.

He did not give further details about the kind of technology to be used or which country the Philippines will be acquiring it from.

"I'm not sure from what country. He (Esperon) says that we're awaiting delivery but we don't have that capacity yet," Roque said.

Asking China

Roque said that while the government could get information about the reported missile deployment from third-party sources, it was best to confirm through first-party verification.

"There's still a technology that is awaiting to verify everything. There is a way for verifying for ourselves," Roque said.

Roque said that the Philippine government was not closing its doors to asking China about the reported missile deployment but maintained that it will be for

the DFA to carry out.

"I'm not saying we're not going to ask China but the DFA will exercise all diplomatic initiatives and we leave it to the DFA," Roque said.

Last Friday, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying neither confirmed nor denied the reported missile deployment but said that China's construction in the Spratly archipelago, including the deployment of necessary national defense facilities, is meant to protect China's sovereignty and security.

Roque stressed that the construction being done by China is "not new construction" since what China promised is that they would not make new reclamation or artificial islands.

Asked if this meant that China was allowed to build anything except new artificial islands, Roque said: "I'm not saying it's okay, but that's the promise."

"The promise was that as far as new reclamation and new artificial islands are concerned," Roque said.

No betrayal of trust

Roque, meanwhile, rejected claims that the reported missile deployment was a betrayal of trust since what China promised is not to construct artificial islands.

He assured anew that there are steps being undertaken by the Philippine government on the reported missile deployment.

"Why is it a betrayal of trust? All diplomatic initiatives are being undertaken," Roque said.

According to Roque, President Rodrigo R. Duterte himself views the reported missile deployment "from an overall perspective" noting that reclamation started during the term of his predecessor former President Benigno S. Aquino III. (PNA)

requested to be there.

"We changed seats before we left home," she said of her daughter, who was two-month pregnant.

Maguindanao Governor Esmal Mangudadatu also condemned the ambush and offered reward money for anyone who can provide information on the identities of the attackers.

Barangay Tenorio is less than a kilometer away from Camp Siongco, the headquarters of the Army's 6th Infantry Division (ID). Capt. Arvin Encinas, the 6ID spokesperson, said the military is helping the police hunt down the suspects. (Edwin Fernandez/PNA)

During her Kapehan appearance yesterday, Golle showed some of the designs of the subject Popos done by Architect Jim Palma, a leading proponent who is a professor of the Ateneo de Davao University, who discussed the proposal during the last four public hearings of the Davao City Council committee headed by Councilor Melchor Quitain Jr. Another leading advocate of the Matina Shirne Hills conservation is Mrs. Norma Javellana, one of the seven Datu Bago awardee last March. Mrs. Javellana and Architect Palma have also been invited to attend the Kapehan next Monday to give updates of the Matina Hills popos and other advocacies. JV

Philippine News Agency is a web-based newswire service of the Philippine government under the supervision of the News and Information Bureau (NIB) of the Presidential Communications Office (PCO).



Residents of nearby barangay watch behind metal barriers while concrete houses and shanties are being demolished in Brgy. 26-C Salmonan, Quezon Boulevard on Monday. Lean Daval Jr

## 8K.. FROM 3

Exercise director Lt. Gen. Emmanuel Salamat said during Monday's opening ceremonies.

"Our nations expects us to be ready when they need us the most. So whether that threat is man-made or natural, we must ready. That is the great essence of 'Balikatan,' US 'Balikatan' Exercise director Lt. Gen. Lawrence D. Nicolson said.

"Balikatan" 2018 activities are focused on addressing traditional and non-traditional security concerns.

The exercise scenarios are based on mutual defense, counter-terrorism, and HADR. Vidallon said "Balikatan 2018" is broken down to three distinct sections.

"First there are individuals participating in a fictional scenario, which will improve the planner's ability to command and control forces from headquarters level. Second, there are the operational events, which includes activities like an amphibious landing, bridging and communication integration, among others. Third, there is also the civic actions which focuses on building schools as well as medical and dental education, and spiritual enhancement activities in selected areas in Cagayan, Isabela, Tarlac, and Cabanatuan City. Some of which have already started as early as April," Vidallon added.

Participating AFP

naval assets in "Balikatan" 2018 are BRP Ramon Alcaraz (FF-16) and BRP Davao Del Sur (LD-602) along with Filipino aircraft consisting of the KAI FA-50PH jet fighters, SIAI-Marchetti SF-260, W-3A "Sokol" combat utility helicopters, MG-520 attack helicopters and Lockheed C-130 "Hercules" cargo aircraft.

Armored personnel carriers like the M-113 and ARVs will be participating in the exercises.

While the US contingent will deploy various Army, Marine, and naval assets like the C-130H C-17 "Globemaster" III, MV-22B "Osprey" and USNS Sacagawea. (PNA)

## PROBE.. FROM 3

Assistance and Response Team (HEART), was killed in an ambush in Barangay Tenorio here.

Two others were hurt in the ambush but her mom, South Upi Municipal Councilor Beatrice Yap, who was also in the same car, survived unhurt along with two another town lawmaker, Reymundo Quinlat.

Yap and her mother were traveling to Cotabato City from Barangay Tenorio when gunmen opened fire on their vehicle and fled on a motorbike.

Chief Supt. Graciano Mijares, PRO-ARMM director, has ordered personnel of the Datu Odin

Sinsuat municipal police and probers from the Maguindanao provincial police office to look deeper into the incident and solve the case immediately.

ARMM Governor Mujiv Hataman has condemned the attack and urged authorities to identify and arrest the suspects the soonest possible time.

The elder Yap, who believed she was the target of the attack, said she leaves everything to authorities to resolve the case.

"I don't have any idea of anybody wanting to have me killed," she told reporters. Beatrice said she was supposed to sit in the front seat but her daughter

## POPOS.. FROM 3

contributing to the city's need for green spaces given its increasing population," Golle said.

She added that it intends to develop more five proposed eco tourist sites: Shrine Hills Stormwater Park, Talan-awon Canopy Walk, Taytay Hilltop Walk, Shrine Hills Forest Park, Langub Road Park Connector.

Golle explains that the reclassification of the 222-hectare private property of the Matina Hills into an Urban Ecological Enhancement Sub-zone (UEESZ) in 2015 does not mean total loss for developers who invested in the area.

"Mostly the concerns are, there are people who bought properties think that it could

not be developed because of the provisions of the existing Local Zoning Ordinance," Golle said.

She said the Local Zoning Ordinance states that there should be no big infrastructures that will be built in the area because it will cause landslides. Infrastructure will be allowed to be built only in 25 percent of the area.

"But if there is a park in the 222 hectares under ecological enhancement sub-zone will lessen the risk of triggering landslides," she added.

"Davao City has the resources and is well capable to provide its residents, access to public parks and open spaces which are vital to health and well-being for us living in urban areas," Golle said.

## LAGUNA.. FROM 15

minute of stoppage time, getting the ball back after O'Donnell saved his first attempt and put the ball back in.

Laguna zoomed to fourth place in the league table, overtaking Marikina, which lost to Iloilo at the said venue on Saturday night, on goal

difference.

Led by a hat trick from Jordan Mintah, Iloilo vented its frustrations on Marikina for a 4-1 win that solidified its hold of third place in the standings. (PNA)

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## FIL-AUSSIE.. FROM 15

You're going to fail, you're going to fail," Day said. "I just kept on saying to myself, 'Forget about it and keep pushing.'"

It was the Day's 12th career win on the PGA Tour. The former world No. 1 also won the Farmers Insurance Open earlier this year after a winless 2017.

The win elevated him from 14th in the world to No. 7, and Day said this is a "step in the right direction" toward regaining the top spot as the world's best gather for the Players Championship next week.

"Obviously power off the tee, he's a phenomenal driver," said Phil Mickelson, who also shot 69 and finished five shots back. "And he's a great putter. He's got a very deft, soft touch. He's one of the best putters in the game. So you put those two things together, and he's not lacking in wedge play, either. ... So he's got strengths in all the areas that he needs."

The 21-year-old Wise was thrilled with the best finish of his career.

He wound up sharing second place when Watney drained a 59-foot putt on the 18th. Day pumped his fist and cheered on his playing partner before he rolled in the winning putt.

"I knew I had to play incredible golf to be there and I was able to do it," Wise said. "When the pressure was on, I kept my head about me and pulled off some incredible shots."

If Day was expecting a challenge from some of the other high-profile players in the field, it never materialized.

Mickelson opened with two bogeys, failing to capitalize on the momentum from his third-round 64. Rory

McIlroy concluded an up-and-down week with a 71 to finish at 3 under. Rickie Fowler and Justin Thomas were one shot behind him.

Tiger Woods was a non-factor too, shooting 74 to finish 14 shots back. He failed to make a birdie in the final round of a tournament for the first time since 2014.

"I didn't putt well again," Woods said. "The chances I did have, I missed them all. Just a bad week."

### EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATE WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **ROLANDO CUSTODIO II** who died on **August 4, 2004** and at **Toril Davao City, Philippines** has been the subject of an **EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATE WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS** executed among his heirs, per **Doc. No 9; Page No. 2; Book No. XXXIX Series of 2016**, of the **NOTARY PUBLIC ATTY. RICHARD D. TUMANDA**

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**ROCKET.. FROM 15**

most of his first season in Houston, took center stage, controlling the tempo and getting to his favorite spots as the Rockets led from start to finish.

"Chris is shooting those shots like a layup," Harden said. "He was extremely aggressive tonight, which we need from him."

Donovan Mitchell scored 25 before fouling out and Joe Ingles had 15 for the Jazz.

Mitchell started finding lanes to the basket late and got the Jazz within 85-80 after he fueled a 10-2 run, sending the crowd into a frenzy. But Paul, who matched his scoring high for this playoff run, hit a pull-up jumper and found Trevor Ariza for a 3-pointer to put the Rockets back up by double digits and they never looked back.

Houston, which has

been known for their offensive firepower, put forth a disruptive defensive effort.

Clint Capela, the anchor of the Houston defense, had 12 points, 15 rebounds and six blocks, one of which featured a Dikembe Mutombo-like finger wag in the fourth quarter.

"We missed 22 shots at the rim," Utah coach Quin Snyder said. "We had our chances and didn't convert. Some of them were contested. Some of them were open. You're not going to get any better shot."

The Rockets went up by 15 in the second quarter before the Jazz closed to 51-46 on back-to-back three-point plays by Mitchell. Utah trailed 58-48 at the half.

Neither team was accurate from beyond the arc as the Jazz were 7-for-29 and Houston went 10-

for-38.

"There's all different ways to win. We're not strictly a jump-shooting team," D'Antoni said. "Chris has the mid-range, James gets to the hole and you got Clint down there. We've got a lot of other stuff we can go to."

Already without Ricky Rubio, the Jazz lost back-up point guard Dante Exum in the third quarter, also to a hamstring injury. Exum was a surprising offensive spark for the Jazz with 9 points in the first period, but picked up three fouls guarding Harden.

"Houston is that good. Give them credit. They know how to control a game," Snyder said. "In spite of that, I thought we just hung in there and took shots and kept coming and kept coming and eventually couldn't get over the hill."

**DEMOLISHED... FROM 1**

resulted to the arrest of a person whose name was not yet released by the DCPO as of this writing. Tagum explained that the man was arested for safe keeping so that he will not be able to hurt people during the conduct of demolition.

However, Maranao deputy mayor Randy Usman said he is disappointed with the execution since the group asked the landowner,

reportedly also a follower of the Islam faith, to finish Ramadan before implementing the demolition.

Usman said a total of 285 families were displaced by the demolition.

He also denied the earlier reports that residents were offered relocation and cash assistance, saying there was no such offer. Before the implementation, Usman negotiated with

the court sheriff of Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 17 because the residents wanted to halt the demolition with the onset of the Ramadan. To expedite the dismantling operation, several streets around the demolition area were closed to vehicles. The lockdown caused a traffic jam in many thoroughfares of the city Monday morning.



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# Warriors take 3-1 lead

**N**EW ORLEANS — Kevin Durant made his approach to taking over a pivotal NBA playoff game sound so simple — and look that way, too.

“I just try to tell myself that I’m at my best when I don’t care what happens after the game, the outcome or anything,” Durant said. “That’s when I’m free and having fun out there, and forceful. That was thing — just try to play with force no matter if I missed shots or not, just keep shooting, keep being aggressive.”

Durant scored Golden State’s first two baskets on pull-up jumpers of 21 and 15 feet before a minute-and-a-half had elapsed in Game Four of the Warriors’ Western Conference semifinal series against New Orleans on Sunday (Monday, Manila time). He finished with 38 points on 15-of-27 shooting to go with nine rebounds, and Golden State

soundly defeated the Pelicans 118-92 to take a commanding 3-1 series lead back to the West Coast.

Warriors guard Stephen Curry said it was apparent early that getting the ball to Durant would be wise.

“Just find ways to get him in scoring positions,” Curry said. “Sometimes, that’s not really hard to do — just throw it to him.

“Just keep the game simple at that point because he’s such a great scorer, you don’t have to really overthink things.”

The Warriors lost by 19 in Game Three on Friday and the Pelicans were looking to even the series.

Instead, the Warriors responded with a resounding effort that produced a wire-to-wire win with leads as large as 26 points. Curry scored 23, Klay Thompson added 13 and Quinn Cook, who was a Pelicans reserve earlier this season, contributed 12 points.

Anthony Davis



**UNFAZED.** Pelicans’ center Anthony Davis vowed his team will bounce back after losing Game 4.

had 26 points and 12 rebounds for New Orleans, but the Pelicans hit only 36 percent (32 of 88) of their shots, missing 22 of 26 3-point attempts.

Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry said Golden State’s defense “had a lot to do with” the Pelicans’ poor

shooting.

“We didn’t have the looks we normally have,” he said. “We pressed a little bit when we got behind.”

E’Twaun Moore scored 20 and Jrue Holiday 19, but New Orleans reserves combined for just 14 points after scoring

32 two nights earlier. Rajon Rondo finished with 11 rebounds but had only six assists after racking up 21 in Game Three. The Pelicans also committed 19 turnovers, which led to 21 Warriors points.

“We missed a lot of easy shots, a couple

game-plan discipline mistakes early on and they came out on fire,” Davis said. “We just can’t afford to shoot that poorly.

“But we’ve got another one,” Davis added. “Anytime we’ve been punched in the mouth, we’ve always responded very well.”

## Laguna stuns Davao 3-0

**B**IÑAN CITY, Laguna -- Stallion Laguna survived going one man out to shock Davao Aguilas, 3-0, in the tail end of the Philippines Football League’s (PFL) back-to-back treat at the Biñan Football Stadium on Sunday night.

Despite losing Jason Cordova due to a red card, quick goals from Carlo Polli and Jhan-Jhan Melliza midway through the second half did the trick for Laguna as the club handed Davao, which played minus Phil Younghusband, its second straight loss.

Cordova, who played for Davao last season, was sent off in the 65th minute following a hard tackle on James Younghusband.

Polli, however, received a pass from Fitch Arboleda and struck the ball past Nick O’Donnell, who showed brilliance at the post in the first half, for the 69th minute goal.

Then in the 76th minute, Melliza received the goal kick of Hayes Pepito and blitzed past everyone for the 2-0 tally.

Melliza put the icing on the cake in the second

LAGUNA, P12

## Rockets a win away from West Finals

**S**ALT LAKE CITY — Chris Paul says mid-range jumpers are like layups for him.

The Houston Rockets have emphasized dunks and 3-pointers in becoming one of the NBA’s most efficient offenses but Paul’s in-between jumpers proved to be the difference when the long-range shots weren’t falling.

“I wasn’t joking about that,” Paul said of his layup comment. “If (Rudy) Gobert’s going to back, that’s what I’m

going to shoot.”

Paul had 27 points and 12 rebounds while James Harden scored 24 points to power the Houston Rockets to a 100-87 win over the Utah Jazz on Sunday night (Monday, Manila time), taking a 3-1 lead in the Western Conference semifinal series.

“It showed a lot of grit for us to come in here and win two games,” Paul said.

Paul, playing the sidekick to Harden for

ROCKETS, P13

# Fil-Aussie Day wins second PGA Tour title of season

**C**HARLOTTE, N.C. — Jason Day channeled his inner LeBron James and captured his second PGA Tour event of the season.

Day said he drew inspiration from James’ Game Three buzzer-beater against the Toronto Raptors before he pulled off his own clutch shot on Sunday (Monday, Manila time).

Leading by a stroke, Day’s 7-iron hit the flagstick on the 230-yard, par-3 17th hole, setting up a three-foot birdie putt and a two-shot victory over Aaron Wise and Nick Watney at the Wells Fargo Championship.

“That is what I am most happy about,” Day said. “When you are on call to do something good and you pull it off, to be clutch like that, with a lot of heart. ... I’m glad I watched LeBron James this morning.”

The 30-year-old Australian — an Ohio resident who can be found courtside at Cavaliers games — fought through some wayward tee shots and self-doubt to shoot a 2-under 69 on Sunday. He finished at 12-under 272.

“One of the best wins I have ever had,” said Day, who never felt on top of his game on Sunday.

He missed more than half the fairways — including an ugly hook into the water on the par-4 14th — hit just eight greens in regulation and made four bogeys on the day, squandering a three-shot lead on the back nine. But he toughed it out on the final three holes at Quail Hollow nicknamed the “Green Mile,” playing them in 2 under.

Day caught his biggest break on 17, where the ball bounced four times and was

moving fast when it hit the pin, drawing a huge roar from the crowd.

It came on a hole with water short, left and long of the green that gave players fits all day because the putting surface was so firm that it was tough to stop the ball.

“Things like that are what you need to win tournaments,” Day said.

Day, who has had

trouble with the closing hole in the past, then had the luxury of hitting an iron off the 18th tee, knowing he had a two-shot lead. He got up-and-down from the rough right of the green to finish with a par.

“You play sit there and play mental games with yourself, subconsciously saying, ‘You can’t do this.

FIL-AUSSIE, P12



Fil-Aussie Jason Day, an Ohio resident who can be found courtside at Cavaliers games, fought through some wayward tee shots and self-doubt to shoot a 2-under 69 for a 12-under 272 total. AP

# SHACKLED

## Senate turns back Go-led Malacanang-PSC

**S**pitfire Sec. Bong Go was limited to a measly 15 points as Senator Joel Villanueva outshone the Presidential special assistant to carry the Senate Sentinels past the Malacañang-Philippine Sports Commission Kamao, 78-74, at the start of the UNTV Cup Executive Face-Off held Sunday at the Pasig City Sports Center.

A UST varsity player in the early 90s, Villanueva put on a big show, scoring and creating plays as the Sentinels survived Kamao's determined challenge.

Though he suffered cramps, Villanueva finished with 21 points while Go, who will take part in the forthcoming PBA All StarWeekend three-point shootout contest, was held to just 15 points.

Villanueva was ably supported by Warren Tan and Sen. Sonny Angara who chipped in 14 and 12 points, respectively.

Meanwhile, Director General Oscar Albayalde inspired Philippine National Police to a 90-



CEREMONIAL JUMP. UNTV Cup chief Daniel Razon makes the ceremonial toss for the Executive Face-off.

62 drubbing of defending champion Armed Forces of the Philippines.

"The presence of the

General was enough to inspire the PNP players. He knows his basketball very well," said UNTV

vice president Gerry Panghulan. "I'm sure they will go deep this time."

Albayalde scored four

points as PNP got off to a strong start in the tournament.

The chosen charity

of the winning gets P1 million while the runner-up's charity receives P500,000.



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- Anas Aremew Anas



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✉ [edgedavao@gmail.com](mailto:edgedavao@gmail.com)

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