



Leyte-Samar

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TACLOBAN
RIZAL AVENUE

With one confirmed COVID-19 case

Gov. Tan places Samar under enhanced community quarantine

ROEL T. AMAZONA

TACLOBAN CITY – The entire Samar province was placed under preemptive enhanced community quarantine by Governor Reynolds Michael Tan starting on April 1.

Tan made the move after the regional office of the Department of Health (DOH-8) confirmed of a coronavirus disease (COVID-19) case in Samar, saying this could help slow down the spread of the virus.

The enhanced community quarantine is to last until April 15.

Under the executive order issued by Gov. Tan, movements within the province are to be restricted save for those who are in the medical and health services, security personnel, media, and personnel of local government units.

The provincial health

office and all hospitals in the province are also directed to immediately refer to the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center all suspected COVID-19 patients for proper monitoring and treatment.

Commercial establishments will be closed except for groceries, supermarkets, pharmacies and those that provides essential services like gasoline stations, water refilling stations and provider of basic services and public utilities.

Farming and fishing activities will continue to ensure sufficient food supply

see Gov. Tan /page 3 ...



GOVERNOR REYNOLDS MICHAEL TAN

With a confirmed COVID-19 case

Calbayog Mayor Aquino issues plea: Don't touch health workers

TACLOBAN CITY – The local chief executive of Calbayog City is appealing to his constituents not to discriminate or harass health workers in the city.

The appeal came after the city recorded its first coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) confirmed case, the second case in the region.

Mayor Ronald Aquino said that he received complaints and reports that after the announcement from the Department of Health confirming that a resident in the city was tested positive of the COVID-19, some health workers started to experience harassment and discrimination.

A 63-year old man from the city was confirmed by the DOH-8 to have infected of the virus.

"Don't blame our health workers who are frontliners. They are sacrificing their lives for us. Instead we should show and give them support for the services they are providing in this time of health emergency," Mayor Aquino said.

Aquino ordered village officials and watchmen to allow health workers to report to their work and return to their respective houses without being harassed.

He said that in time of health emergency, the role of health workers are important and must be supported to ensure that

see Calbayog/page 6 ...



MAYOR RONALD AQUINO

Tacloban SK leaders use Tiktok to help fight quarantine boredom due to COVID-19

TACLOBAN CITY – With Tiktok became an instant fad among Filipinos, both young and old, as a way to fight boredom amidst the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the youth officials of this city has come with an idea to have a contest using the social media platform.

And since the contest was launched on March 29, there were already more than 8,000 videos that were uploaded to their page, says Thomas John Diaz, president of the city federation of the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK).

Diaz said that they are projecting more participants sending their Tiktok videos before they are to announce the winners on April 11, a day before the 23-day restrictive community quarantine imposed by the city government is scheduled to end as a measure against possible spread of virus that causes COVID-19.

As of today, Tacloban City remains to be COVID-free though it has reported 29 patients under investigation (PUIs) and 222 persons under monitoring (PUMs).

"We have come up with this Tiktok challenge to ease the boredom of our people while at the same time, we are helping our city government appeal for our people to stay at their homes," Diaz said.

The SK leader said that doing the Tiktok vid-

eos challenge is 'better' and fun than having the people just 'bash' the government during this time of crisis.

According to Diaz, the 'Tiktokers' should have their videos of not less than 30 seconds, shot inside their house and should observe social distancing, either by group or individual.

Social distancing is being encouraged by the government for the people to strictly observed to help stop spread of the COVID-19.

At present, there are already more than 8,000 videos that were uploaded to their page with more than 32,000 'comments' and more than 7,500 'likes.'

Winners of this Tiktok challenge will be based on the number of 'likes' and 'comments' per videos that are to be posted at their page (SK federation of Tacloban City) using the hashtags #Sktiktokchallenge, #SKFedacloban, and #STAYATHOME.

see Tacloban /page 3 ...



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WE DELIVER!



Tacloban City Mayor Alfred Romualdez meets members of Tacloban-Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TFCCCI) and talked about the situation of Tacloban's businesses, and what has to be done during this time of crisis.

The businessmen also asked the mayor about the situation of the city relative to the coronavirus disease 2019(COVID-19)and both exchanged information/ ideas about the pandemic, and precautionary measures to combat the disease. The business group, led by its president Jack Uy (as represented by his son, Jason Nicholas Colai Go) with the Tzu Chi Foundation, initially donated 2000 pieces of masks. (TACLOBAN CITY INFORMATION OFFICE)

Teen Trust calls parents, teens to see “silver linings” in COVID-19 pandemic

PALO, LEYTE – Many parents are having a harder time dealing with the coronavirus disease 2019(COVID-19) scare than their children that the Commission on Population and Development (Popcom) tells parents to rather look at the silver linings in all the things that happen amidst the present pandemic.

As part of its program Teen Trust, Popcom VIII says parents must learn how to deal with anxiety in a healthy way that can help the whole family, especially their teenagers and their young adults, to be more resilient both now and when the pandemic is finally over.

Parents need to be models themselves for their kids on how to react to stressful times by coping with anxiety with healthy ways.

With the enhanced community quarantine in effect, and families homebound waiting for boredom to take a leave,

parents are encouraged to see the positive side on this, such as their kids being all together at home for the first time in months; playing, eating and spending time together which hardly happens during the pre-COVID 19 pandemic due to hectic work and school schedules.

For parents with teens and young adults, the first challenge may be getting them to comply with the guidelines for social distancing.

Teenagers tend to feel invincible and they are likely to be well aware that the corona virus disease is not as problematic for their age range as it is for older people.

However, it is not about the fact that they feel fine or the fact that the disease does not affect them as much; rather, it is that they could be asymptomatic carriers and they could kill others including their grandparents.

For teenagers and young adults, friends are hugely important, and bonding with peers is

one of the essential developmental tasks of adolescents.

Under Popcom's Teen Trust, parents can instead initiate direct and sensible conversations on adolescent sexuality and reproductive health now more than ever. Longer time at hand now can make way for dialogues and open communication lines between parents and their adolescents.

Also, teenagers and young adults will do better during this stressful time if they get adequate sleep, eat healthy meals and exercise regularly. It is said that keeping a consistent sleep schedule, with predictable time to wake up and go to bed, is especially important to maintaining a positive mood and their ability to fulfil academic expectations. But while rest is important, right now adolescents still need to be active.

With the program Teen Trust, Popcom continues to pursue innovative and effective

2 elderly men found dead in Leyte towns



The upper body of fisherman Metudio Culaba was submerged to the seawater, the same position when tugged ashore by another fisherman Jobert Cabulong who found him in Albueria waters.

ORMOC CITY- Two elderly persons were found dead in two separate incidents from different towns in Leyte.

The body of Rodulfo Ponferrada, 71, was seen by the local residents at the shore of Poblacion District 1, Barugo town near his residence on Monday morning (March 30).

He was last seen by his neighbors picking sea shells near the seaboard afternoon on that day, according to the town police.

The elderly was believed to have been drowned which may have caused his death, the police added.

ways to educate and capacitate parents, guardians and adults to guide adolescents to address various factors affecting their development particularly those related to sexuality and reproductive health.

In today's worldwide pandemic, the capacity and role parents in guiding their adolescent children in their journey towards growth and development is greatly challenged. An open and effective communication between parents and their adolescent children remains a critical component of adolescents need to establish their identity and independence as part of their developmental tasks. (PR)

Meantime, Metudio Culaba,60, was on board of his small banca with his head soaked to the sea water when found by another fisherman at estimated 250 meters off Sitio Katipunan of Barangay San Pedro, Albueria town around 3:30 o'clock Tuesday (March 31).

Captain John Rey Layog, town police chief said, the fisherman left

home to go fishing at 4 am and never returned home. Citing the family's claim, the elderly fisherman had a history of mild stroke.

His body was brought to the town funeral parlor to undergo post-mortem examination and a police investigation will be conducted on the case. (ELVIE ROMAN ROA)

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Leyte Governor Leopoldo Dominico “Mic” Petilla presided the 3rd Provincial COVID-19 Interagency Task Force meeting as chairman on April 1, 2020. In his message, the govenor said that Leyte remain to be have no COVID-19 case on. Still, he calls on the people of Leyte to follow the government policies and advisories aim to control further spread of the virus like using face masks and observe social distancing. With him during the meeting were board member Raissa Villasin of the 2nd district of Leyte, Palo Mayor Frances Ann Petilla, president of the League of the Municipalities of the Philippines- Leyte Chapter and Dr. Lesmes Lumen, provincial health Officer. The meeting was held at the COVID-19 command center at the Leyte Academic Center gym in Pawing,Palo,Leyte. (Gina P. Gerez)

DOLE extends TUPAD, CAMP to displaced workers

BORONGAN CITY- The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) through Aleksie Abellar informed that they have a special program called Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD). Guesting at PIA Hour on Friday(April 3), the DOLE expert said that TUPAD is a community-based package of assistance that provides emergency employment for displaced workers, underemployed and seasonal workers, for a minimum period of 10 days. Informal sectors such as tricycle drivers, vendors and other daily wage earners affected by the community quarantines of the LGUs can avail of this emergency employment.

The barangay will provide the list for their people as it is the barangay officials who know them and their livelihood. After listing, the punong barangay will submit this to the Public Employment Service Officer or PESO officer of the municipality or city. Those listed only have to work in their homes, disinfect their homes, and clean their front and backyard. Aside from the daily wage, workers will get personal accident insurance, personal protective equipment, and cleaning kit. Abellar explained that these listed workers are not from the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) as this sector will be given the social amelioration package. As to the wages of these informal workers, these will be coursed through a money remittance service provider. “That is why it is important that the list of names is accurate and the mobile phone number is listed to avoid problems in claiming the wages,” he added. As to COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP) Abellar said that this is financial support is for companies or business establishments that may have implemented a flexible work time or temporary closure due to the dreaded coronavirus disease 2019(COVID-19). To avail of this, the employer has only to submit their payroll in February and apply on line. The workers then will be given one-time financial assistance of P5,000 for each employee. Abellar added that this program the DOLE is implementing is part of the Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) under the Bayanihan to Heal As One Law signed by the President. (nbq/PIA 8-E. Samar)

Gov. Tan...
...from Page 1

in the province. This means all workers in farm and fishing sector and agribusiness personnel are exempted from the home quarantine procedure provided that they are not identified as patients under investigation and persons under monitoring or manifesting symptoms of COVID-19. “We are asking everyone’s cooperation in this difficult time,” Gov. Tan said. Tan urged residents of the province to continue practicing social distancing, handwashing, use of alcohol and avoiding going outside to limit exposure. Tan added that these are the simple ways that

the province’ residents can help in the fight against further spread of the virus. The first COVID-19 patient of Samar is a 63-year old man from Calbayog City was brought immediately at the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center. The man has a travel history to Metro Manila and is suffering from asthma, diabetes and hypertension. The city government through the Inter-agency Task Force on COVID-19 right away ordered for the sanitization of the area where the patient resides. His household members, who are considered as patients under investigation, were advised to stay inside their home within the mandatory 14-day isolation period. The physician from the private hospital where he was admitted was also advised to go under house quarantine. es, which he described as ‘small’ but for enjoyment and to fight their boredom during this time. Aside from the Tiktok challenge, the SK leaders of the city have also provided assistance to the frontliners by giving them foods, Diaz said. (JOEY A. GABIETA)

Tacloban...
...from Page 1

They will be receiving P3,000 for first prize; P2,000 for second prize; and P1,000 for third prize. Diaz said that people are joining the Tiktok challenge not because of the prize,

DSWD targets 79,366 family beneficiaries for SAP in S. Leyte, 16,101 for Maasin City

MAASIN CITY-The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has released the number of family-beneficiaries for the entire province of Southern Leyte who are entitled to receive funding assistance as provided under a new law. Target beneficiaries for the whole province reached 79,366 families comprising the total sum from 18 municipalities and one city, with the city getting 16,101 families as its share. “As a response to the COVID-19 threat, our government has implemented the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act. This Act includes a provision for the delivery of Social Amelioration Program (SAP) to provide

assistance to the families affected by enhance community quarantine,” the DSWD said in a statement. “To ensure that the budget allocated for the program is followed,” the statement further said, “attached here are the number of target beneficiaries for the SAP, as estimated and budgeted by the Department of Finance.” According to widely-published reports, the national government through the DSWD was empowered by the Bayanihan law to extend P5,000 to P 8,000 per listed recipient, the range depending on the minimum wage by region, in which for Region 8 the financial assistance was pegged at P5,000. For Maasin City, Mayor Nacional Mercado reported in a Facebook post Friday that the DSWD regional staff conducted an orientation Thursday. “We learned that the allocation for Maasin City is only 16,101 families despite the estimated 20,000 families who are low income earners,” Mercado said. “As much as we want all our low income Maasinhon families to be part of the SAP, we are bound to follow the directives from the national government and follow the allocation they have provided,” Mercado further stated. He expressed trust and confidence that the listed

16,101 families be screened by professional social workers who “will do their jobs with utmost discretion and professionalism, making sure that the poorest of the poor will be the beneficiaries.” “The funds have not been received by the LGU. It will only be downloaded to the LGU upon completion of documentary requirements. The SA Cards (SAC) are not yet available but it will be sent to the homes of the beneficiaries,” the Mayor explained. But with or without the SAP, “we will continue to be of service to the Maasinhons, until we will be able to make it through this pandemic,” Mercado ended. (Idl/mmp/PIA8-Southern Leyte)

DAILY PROGRAM:

“IGSUMAT KAN KA OYO”

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Dalmacio C. Grafil
Publisher

Joey A. Gabieta
Editor

Aileen M. Grafil
Advertising Manager

Alma M. Grafil
Business Manager

The Leyte Samar Daily Express is published with editorial and business offices at G/F Knights of Columbus Bldg., 187 P. Zamora St., Tacloban City

CONTACT

Tel. Nos. (053) 321-4833/(053) 888-0037

WEBSITE

www.leytesamardailynews.com

EMAIL ADDRESS

lsdaily2@yahoo.com

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WHO's mouthpiece role

The World Health Organization (WHO) has been looked up to as an authority on global health affairs, but very recently, with its handling of the Wuhan corona virus, it became an object of criticism from all corners of the world, the reason being that it has reportedly been acting as communist China's mouthpiece, even a vehicle for propaganda.

Current intelligent reports have it that China's communist regime has been lying to the entire world regarding many things relative to this virus—regarding how it spreads, its total fatalities in its place of origin, its dreadfulness, the necessity to contain it through travel restrictions, and many other things. All these lies were echoed by the WHO officials, particularly its main chief, who kept on praising China as a role model in handling the pandemic.

Because of the authority that WHO enjoys worldwide, many countries, heads of states, and health authorities had counted on their pronouncements, heeding the latter like their own Bibles to follow. But as other countries were hit hard by the virus, it turned out that what WHO had been saying run

counter to the actual experiences of patients and frontliners. Naturally, because again, WHO was just echoing what the Chinese communist regime was falsely saying.

To some extent, WHO even allows itself to be used for the communist propaganda, such as praising the Chinese regime no end, and hitting anyone that China considers to be adversarial, Taiwan being one of them, which WHO does not recognize as an independent state. Instead of demanding transparency from China, WHO officials are serving the latter like its master. When, during the pandemic's earlier weeks, travel bans had been supposedly in place, WHO had criticized travel restrictions to the Chinese as being unjust, hence the spread of COVID-positive Chinese to different parts of the world.

As a result of WHO's actuation, the entire world is enraged towards it. The United States had already announced it's not giving to the organization the 400 million dollar plus that it regularly gives annually. Other countries may follow suit. Such gestures are not quite good for WHO, but that's what it gets for not making an independent stand in relation to member-nations. That's what happens for allowing China to dictate them.



Things To Mind

DOMS PAGLIWAN

Make use of your time

How it's called—lock-down, or extended quarantine—it doesn't matter. The fact remains that you are being grounded at home to minimize the risks of contracting the dreaded virus. You are made to stay at home. Now. It's up to you how you manage your

time. The point is, home is your place of assignment right now, in this lock-down season.

We should be glad for that. There's no place like home. Aren't we glad we are finally given the chance to stay at home? Meaning, no one is forcing us to re-

port to school or to the office. We are not being obliged to get up early and head elsewhere. We are advised to stay at home, the sweetest place on earth, the place where we live with our loved ones, our place of refuge, our comfort zone.

But of course, being at home doesn't mean we should just be sleeping day in and day out, unless you are that sick and need plenty of rest to recover bodily strength. We should make use of our time, considering it as a golden opportunity to do our favorite household chores. Most of the time, work outside deprives us of chances to work on several things that we need to do at home. That chance is now, finally.

Let me just mention a few of those things that we might consider doing while locked down at home. First, you may work on your backlogs in school or office. If you have like test papers and student projects to check, if you're a teacher, then you can finish them off at home, all the way to the computation of student grades. If you have office reports to finish, you can also do them at home.

Then you can do general cleaning of the house. There are so many portions to clean up—jalousies, glass windows, cabinets, walls, ceilings, tables, chairs, furniture, bathroom, toilet, appliances like TV sets, elec-

see Make use /page 5



Commentary

FR. ROY CIMAGALA

Look at Christ crucified

THESE days when we are in the middle of both the holiest of weeks and the dreaded coronavirus pandemic, it might be a good idea to recover that pious practice of meditating on the passion and death of the cross, looking intently on the image of Christ crucified.

It should not be an exercise of sentimentalism or pietism, but a real, authentic act of piety, re-animated by what ideally should be our ever-deepening faith, hope and charity in Christ, the son of God who became man to redeem us. This is not the time for playing games. We need to get real in this!

Let us see to it that we should use all our powers for this purpose. We should not just be cerebral and spiritual without involving our feelings and passions. And the other way around. We should not just be full of emotions without using our the full force of our intelligence and will.

Let us try to fathom the depth of God's love for us who, as St. Paul said, emptied himself to become man and further emptied himself by offering his life

on the cross as a ransom for all our sins. It's a love that we have to learn and to live ourselves, since we are supposed to be God's image and likeness, children of his, meant to share in his divine life.

Let us understand that the true face of love, as shown by Christ, is one that should be given completely gratuitously. It is given to all, including those who do not love us, without expecting any return.

And for that, we have to be willing to bear all the burdens of everyone in the way Christ bore all our sins even if we have not yet asked for forgiveness. Let us not be calculating in our love. Let us just give and give, love and love, unafraid of the effort and the suffering that may be involved, and even if we are misunderstood, mistreated and opposed.

This way we would effectively channel Christ's love for us, he who commanded us to love one another as he has loved us. (cfr. Jn 15,12)

Anent this truth, St. Paul said: "Rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God proves

arranging the living room and the like, replacement of curtains, construction of built-in cabinets, and some others. Moreover, you can also do backyard gardening, vegetable orchard on potted soil, or the like. If you love cooking, you can cook plenty of cuisine and delicacies for the

his love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom 5,7-8)

Let us be generous and magnanimous in our loving. And the secret again is to look closely on Christ crucified who should be the central object of our attention not only these days but all the time.

It might be helpful to keep in our pockets always a handy crucifix for us to be reminded of the crucified Christ. To be sure this practice would not be some sign of childishness but rather of a mature faith, of a consistent Christian and son of God.

Just looking at it would already arouse in us impulses of love that can be shown perhaps in small gestures of affection, in the ready acceptance of trials and difficulties big and small, in coming up with initiatives for the good of others, etc. It would not be a sterile exercise.

Looking at Christ crucified will also help us to live the spirit of penance well, making us realize more deeply that we are all in need of conversion. We would be moved to make reparation for all the sins of men, ours and those of others.

Truly, looking at Christ crucified will strongly invite us to do many acts of love. We would seem to hear from Christ himself: "My child, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways..." (Prov 23,26)

Perhaps we would be left with the feeling that in spite of our best intentions to love him, we know we are always short of our desires. Still, Christ understands that and encourages us to keep on trying.

family to enjoy.

Surely, you will not run out of things to do at home while on quarantine. It's just up to you to make wise use of your time. If you are that lazy, just read books, watch movies and, yes, go to sleep for the remainder of the quarantine period.



High-Powered Objective

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DR. PACIENTE CORDERO, JR.

Potential Covid-19 vaccine being tested by US Savants

In what could be a much awaited breakthrough, the Kaiser Permanente Washington Research Institute in Seattle, U.S.A. The unnamed vaccine has been tried on four healthy volunteers, with one of them after the test was quoted as saying "I'm feeling great"! (Refer to The Philippine Star, March 18, 2020).

The Research Institute's study leader, Dr. Lisa Jackson, was quoted saying that the aforementioned coronavirus vaccine was

developed in record time since the Covid-19 was traced from Wuhan, China, late in 2019.

This newly developed coronavirus vaccine, still in its infantile stage, needs to be medically pilot-tested, and its procedure and formulation yet to be validated in the laboratory. It is hoped that before the current year ends all tests necessary shall have been undertaken. In fact the earlier the better if only save human lives.

Incidentally, our own

Filipino medical researchers at UP-Manila's Genome Research Center has to be credited for developing Medical Test Kits specifically for Covid-19 cases. Also, undergoing field-testing and once approved by the BFAD, the DOST-funded medical test Kits should be mass-produced for the immediate use by Filipinos who have shown symptom of Covid-19 infection. Meanwhile, while these supposed breakthroughs being validated, a word of advice is addressed to fellow Pinoys who are still hard at following government rules and regulations to save more precious lives, including the Advisory from DOH and the Task Force.

-oOoOo-

NEXT TOPIC: "S & T-related topics beneficial to Region 8"

SHARE S & T THOUGHTS through E-mail: drpacjr@yahoo.com.



Foulshot

AL ELLEMA

Welcome holy days

Over the past days, people had been ordered to stay home and barred from attending masses due to the threat of the corona virus. The situation had shifted the celebration of holy masses into social media platforms where people are able to attend their religious obligations. In response to government orders to prohibit people from mass assemblies and gatherings, bishops of the various dioceses of the Roman Catholic Church issued decrees to guide the faithful on how they may continue with their religious practices in a remote way that conforms to the restrictions on physical distancing.

As we enter the Holy Week this Palm Sunday, people had already adjusted to the new norms that aims to protect the people from exposure to the deadly corona virus.

The rites are still complete in terms of the traditional practices that used to be observed. What changed was the attendance in churches which were minimal due to the restriction on physical distancing and the home quarantine of the faithful.

For the whole Christian world, the coming of Jesus Christ is the greatest

manifestation of God's love for all of mankind. While many Christian sects do not follow the teachings of the Catholic Church on the Paschal mystery, many of such sects do some sort of observance of the Holy Week. The crucifixion of Jesus Christ was the strongest statement of His obedience to the will of the Father who sent Him so that man will be saved from the throes of sin.

People seem to have turned less observant of the practices that mark Holy Week as truly holy. Old folks would always share their stories about the reflective mood that people go through during the Lenten season and the Holy Week. The holy days would al-

Prayer for the Nation and for Those who Serve in Public Office

God, our Father, you guide everything in wisdom and love. Accept the prayers we offer for our nation, by the wisdom of our leaders and integrity of our citizens, may harmony and justice be secured and may there be lasting prosperity and peace.

Almighty and eternal God, You know the longings of our hearts and You protect our rights in your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy freedom, security and peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, Amen. (Courtesy of Daughters of St. Paul)



Pray the Holy Rosary daily for world peace and conversion of sinners (The family that prays together stays together)

Make use...

...from Page 4

tric fans, etc., wall decors and paintings, rooftop, window/door screens, mirrors, flooring, kitchen, veranda, beds, bedrooms, and personal apparels including shoes, bags, and a lot more, to include vehicles such as bikes, cars, etc.

You can also fix and repair a lot of things—torn dresses, broken glasses, impaired gadgets, detached ceiling, dull knives, clogged kitchen drain, smiling shoes, gaping underwear, blurred eyeglasses, etc. After these, you can do house improvements like house repainting, re-

Commentaries from readers whose identities they prefer to remain anonymous can be accommodated as "blind items". It will be our editorial prerogative, however, to verify the veracity of such commentaries before publication.

Gov. Petilla announces that Leyte remain to be COVID-19 free

PALO, Leyte – The province of Leyte is still free from the coronavirus disease 2019(COVID-19). This was declared by Governor Leopoldo Dominico “Mic” Petilla during the 3rd Provincial COVID-19 Interagency Task Force meeting.

In his opening message during the meeting, the Leyte governor said that he is thankful that the province remain to be without any COVID-19 case.

“We must be thankful to God that our province is still COVID-19 free. There is no person yet from our province that has been confirmed infected with COVID-19,” Petilla said.

Petilla calls on Leyteños to follow what the government is campaigning to prevent the entry and spread of the disease in the province and to protect the communities and from the threats brought about by COVID-19.

Petilla has placed the entire Leyte under general community quarantine on March 18 which is to end on April 17.



Governor Leopoldo Dominico “Mic” Petilla

Under his order, checkpoints and border controls are established and enforced at the designated areas determined by the police.

Gov. Petilla also reported that public gatherings are prohibited and the entry of all persons coming to the province either by land, sea or air are prohibited save from some instances like those carrying foods and other essentials and members of the Philippine Army or Philippine National Police.

He further reported that curfew hours implemented by the local chief executives in their respective jurisdictions.

(RESTITUTO A. CAYUBIT)

DOH-8 chief calls on LGUs to implement strict home quarantine for vulnerable groups

PALO, Leyte- While the cases of coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19) continue to rise in the country, the Department of Health in Eastern Visayas (DOH-8) is enjoining all local government units in the region to strictly implement home quarantine of vulnerable groups in the

localities.

This after DOH has noted that most of the deaths belong to the elderly group and/or with underlying disease conditions.

Relative to this, DOH-8 Regional Director Minerva P. Molon on Wednesday

see DOH-8 /page 7 ...

Calbayog... ...from Page 1

every people will receive the health service that they need and deserve.

“I will send them to lock-up cell and file charges to those who will discriminate or harass our health workers,” Aquino said.

Aquino ordered health workers to report to authorities their bad experience so that proper charges will be filed.

The city has provided a hotline, 09177175521 for health workers to send their complaints.

Furthermore, instead of declaring lockdown, Mayor Aquino after his meeting with the Inter-Agency Task Force on Covid-19 in

Calbayog City said that they will just strictly implement the restrictive community quarantine and limiting movements in the city except for those who are working as frontliners.

Aside from checkpoint in the three boundary of the city to its neighboring towns, they will also establish checkpoints at the entrance to the city proper. Only those with barangay certification and those with company ID are allowed to enter the city proper.

2 young turtles released back to the Cancabato Bay

TACLOBAN CITY-Two green sea turtles found themselves back to the sea after they were entangled in a fish net owned by a fisherman here in the city.

The turtles (Chelonia mydas) were turned over to the regional office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) by the personnel of the Philippine Coast Guard based this city on March 30.

It was learned that fisherman, Florencio Amarilla,63 and a resident of Barangay 70, this city, discovered that the turtles were entangled at his fish net off the waters of San Jose on March 29.

He later turned the turtles, both discovered to be females, to the Coast Guard based in Tacloban headed by Major Gleen Michael Amoyen.

The DENR later learned on this which contacted them before the sea animals were released back to the Cancabato Bay, this city, on March 30 after they were assessed to be fit and in good health conditions.

“The turnover of the two juvenile green sea turtles by a responsible fisherman to the proper authorities is a beacon of hope in these trying times,” Tirso Parian, Jr., DENR executive director, said in a statement.

It was found that one of the green sea turtles has already a tag and was previously captured, tagged and was released to Cancabato Bay last September 8,2019 with tag number 1315K.

Its curved carapace length



One of the two captured green sea turtles being handled and prepared for release by the DENR-8 personnel. While the other photo shows the two green sea turtles released. (Photos by: DENR-8/Restituto A. Cayubit)

(CCL) was at 17 inches while the curved carapace width (CCW) was at 15 inches.

The other turtle was untagged, thus, a tag with 1727M identification number was pinned for identification and monitoring before it was released. It measures 17 inches in length and 16 inches in width.

Listed as an endangered species, the green sea turtles, are a large and weighty

turtle with a wide and smooth carapace with an average life span of up to 80 years and can grow to 5 feet and weigh up to more than 300 kilos.

(RESTITUTO CAYUBIT/ JOEY A. GABIETA)



MOBILE MARKET. Residents of Tacloban City need not go to the market to buy fish and vegetables, and other agricultural products as rolling markets were introduced by the city government under Mayor Alfred Romualdez. Aside from making it easier for the people to buy their food needs, the rolling markets will help decongest the public market and avoid crowding in the city’s streets. (TACLOBAN CITY INFORMATION OFFICE)

DEED OF ADJUDICATION OF ESTATE WITH CONFIRMATION OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that ROMEO D. ABELLA, JR. represented by BRUNO E. ABELLA, sole surviving heir of the late ROMEO E. ABELLA executed an Affidavit of Adjudication over a parcel of unregistered agricultural land located along Provincial Road, Lalawigan, Borongan City, Eastern Samar covered by ARP No. 08-031-00810/PIN: 037-230-031-14-143 under Survey No. 6476 PRT F, Lot No. 143, Block No.014 containing an area of 11,000.00 square meters and heirs hereby CONFIRMED that a portion of the above-described lot was sold to ACE O. MANLAPAS consisting of 1,500 square meters, more or less. Per Doc No. 19, Page No. 05, Book No. XXV, Series of 2020. Notary Public Atty. Charles Culo, CPA. LSDE: March 21, 28 & Apr 4, 2020

P1.855 million grant awarded to 26 rebel returnees in Samar

CAMP LUKBAN, CATBALOGAN CITY- A total amount of P1.855 million grant were awarded to 26 former rebels (FRs) who availed of the national government's Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and the Province's Local Social Integration Program (LSIP).

The financial grant is a

rebels surrenders to the folds of the law. The Communist -Terrorist-Groups (CTGs) deceive and agitate members by injecting ideologies against the government. You are just victims of such deception."

"Seryoso ang ating gobyerno, ang ating presidente, si governor, sila mayor, ang mga kapulisan at kasundaluhan para tulun-

daluhan an nabulig. Sanglit kita nga mga nagsurender pagburublig kita para mabuligan an aton gobyerno nga magpanawagan san adto pa sa kabukiran nga lumugsad na liwat para sira makatagamtam san kaupayan." (We are grateful to the legitimate government for helping us realize that the NPA's claims of helping the people were all



way of helping the FRs to return back to mainstream society as they live normal lives. The activity dubbed, "Peace Towards Prosperity Initiative", was conducted in separate ceremonies held in Matuguinao, Paranas and Calbiga; all in Samar on March 30, 2020.

Said activities were attended by Major General Pio Q. Diñoso III, commander of the Army's 8th Infantry (STORMTROOPER) Division; Most Rev. Bishop Isabelo C. Abarquez, Diocese of Calbayog; Anita R. Taran, OIC, provincial administrator of Samar; Police Colonel Andre Dizon, provincial director of Samar Provincial Police Office; Judy Batulan, provincial director of the Department of Interior and Local Government; Mayor Aran D. Boller of Matuguinao; Mayor Eunice U. Babalcon of Paranas; Mayor Melchor F. Nacario of Calbiga; and other military and local government officials.

Additional financial aid under the LSIP and E-CLIP programs will be awarded once the FRs completed the needed requirements.

Major General Diñoso III, in his remark, stated that "We are happy whenever one of your fellow

gan kayo. Ito ang magandang dulot ng pagtutulungan at pagkakaisa. Pakiusap lang namin sa inyo na ipaabot din sa inyong mga kasamahang patuloy na nasa kabundukan na handa ang ating gobyerno na tulungan kayong magbagong buhay." Diñoso added

A former rebel-beneficiary was very much thankful and stated, "Damu an amon pagpasalamat nga guin bubuligan kami san tinuod nga gobyerno kay buwa ngay-an an esplekar san NPA nga sira an nabulig san mga tawo. Ine ngay-an an tama - an aton kasun-

lies. The truth to the matter is - our soldiers are the true ones who help us. Let us then help our brothers who were led astray by the NPA to return to the government so that they too may experience prosperity and return to the mainstream society.)

The intensified collaborative efforts of the government in the enforcement of the Whole-of-Nation Approach amidst the COVID-19 pandemic is a reaffirmation of its commitment to provide peaceful, resilient, sustainable and economically developed Eastern Visayas. (PR)

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The bicycles donated by a private firm for health workers in Naval, Biliran. A local firm has donated 12 bicycles to inspire front-liners in their fight against the coronavirus disease 2019. (Photo courtesy of Mayor Gerard Espina)

Naval town gives free transportation to its frontliners

TACLOBAN CITY- The municipal government of Naval, Biliran is taking necessary support of its frontliners to make their work easier and comfortable.

Town Mayor Gerard Roger Espina said that the local government unit will provide the necessary means of transportation and comfort to the frontliners while in the perform of their duties.

Espina informed that they will provide free bicycles donated by the Mount Panamao MTB Group for use of the frontliners.

He added that the frontliners not residing within the town proper will be provided with free lodging.

Meanwhile, the local government unit will also provide assistance the motorcycle-for-hire (MCH) drivers.

The town mayor said that since the implementation of the quarantine, MCH drivers have lost their daily income reason they need to be given financial assistance too.

The assistance will come in a form of fare amounting to P100 for responders and frontliners who will take the MCH as they report for their duties.

(LIZBETH ANN A. ABELLA)

Welcome... ...from Page 5

ways be turned to somber mood in reflection of the passion and death of Jesus Christ. We cannot say that the Church had been lacking in reminders and admonitions to all and sundry regarding the proper conduct and behavior that will show reverence to these holy days. It is perhaps the lack of humility to accept God's will that people tend to do their wants even if unpleasant and inappropriate for the Lenten season and the Holy Week.

But there is the light side amid these unholy practices that the faithful can turn to during the Holy Week. We still can find broadcast both on radio and television about biblical stories, narratives and movies that would remind us of the great love that Je-

sus Christ gave us. Apart from these movies and dramas, we can observe live reenactments in many places all over the country and the world, depicting the passion of Jesus Christ.

Above all, we can always take part in Eucharistic Celebrations in the many Catholic Churches where the passion and death of Jesus Christ is read, reflected on and prayed. Doing penance

DOH-8...

...from Page 6

issued COVID-19 Advisory No. 005 reminding the public to strictly follow home quarantine especially the vulnerable groups to prevent the spread of the virus.

The health official emphasized that those who are considered in the vulnerable group are the elderly people aged 60

and sacrifices in atonement and for the forgiveness of our sins will make our holy days truly holy as we look inside our lives the Jesus Christ on the cross. As we commemorate the triumphant entry of Jesus Christ to Jerusalem, we all join the whole world in their homes as we all welcome the holy week.

comments to allellema@yahoo.com

years old and above and persons with underlying co-morbidities like cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, chronic respiratory diseases, cancer and other pre-existing condition.

People who are also immunocompromised patients belong to the vulnerable group as well as pregnant women and minors. (Idl/cba/PIA8)

Fil-Am Remy Martin enters NBA draft, Gilas next?



Filipino-American pointguard Remy Martin of Arizona State University declares himself available for the 2020 NBA draft

KEVIN SIOSANA

TACLOBAN CITY-Another Filipino-American player is knocking at the doors of the National Basketball Association.

This after University of Arizona point guard Remy Martin declared that he will join the annual NBA draft. Martin's mom is Mary Ann Macaspac, a Filipina, who is married to Sam, an American.

Mary Ann immigrated to the United States when she was in high school. Although Martin has not yet visited the Philippines, he is said to hold a dual citizenship.

He has been with the Arizona Sun Devils for three years. After the NCAA season was abruptly halted by the corona virus pandemic, the 6-foot court general thought that he is NBA-

ready, thus declaring himself available for the 2020 draft.

When the season stopped, Martin was averaging 19.1 ppg, 4.1 apg and 31.1 rpg for his team. Because of his impressive showing he was named to the mythical selection of the All-Pacific Division of the NCAA.

According to league sources, several teams in need for spitfire guards are keeping a close watch on the Fil-Am baller. Many scouts are saying that Martin is an excellent on-ball defender, and is very shifty on offense. He has the ability to drive hard to the hoop, convert stop-and-pop jumpers and even issue no-look passes.

If he would set his foot in the premier basketball league in the world, Martin will follow the foot-

steps of fellow Fil-Ams Raymond Townsend who played with the Golden State Warriors and Indiana Pacers in the early 80s and current Utah Jazz wingman Jordan Clarkson.

Martin is also under the radar of Gilas Pilipinas where he would be a very welcome addition to the national team. However, Gilas management is still resolving eligibility issues hounding the cager.

FIBA rules state that for a foreigner to play for a country, he should have secured dual citizenship before turning 16.

Even before his rise to NCAA prominence, Martin has already expressed his willingness to don the Gilas jersey in international tournaments.

As of now, it's not yet clear as to the date of the NBA draft because of the stalled NBA season, but Martin is very hopeful that his most cherished dream of playing in the NBA will happen soon.

And maybe...just maybe, after entering NBA and barring eligibility concerns, Gilas would be the next big thing for Martin.

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- ✓ Pneumonia
- ✓ Migraine Headache
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- ✓ Alzheimer's Disease
- ✓ Parkinson's Disease
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