

The Daily Dispatch

April 04, 2017
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

Jollibee to set foot in Europe

Fastfood giant Jollibee Foods Corporation will finally set foot in Europe soon as it plans to open its first store in Italy. Jollibee said that its wholly owned unit Golden Plate Private Limited has formed a 75:25 joint venture partnership with Blackbird Holdings Private Limited to own and operate the first Jollibee store in Italy.

Max's takes full control of Teriyaki Boy

The country's leading casual dining chain Max's Group Inc. (MGI) has signed a deal to buy out minority shareholders of a subsidiary that owns and operates Teriyaki Boy and Sizzlin' Steak, thus taking 100 percent control of these restaurant businesses.

Ayala completes deal for Chevron's geothermal assets

AC ENERGY Holdings, Inc. and its joint venture partners have completed the acquisition of Chevron Corp.'s geothermal assets and operations in Indonesia, its parent firm Ayala Corp. told the stock exchange on Monday

Visa eyes increased e-payments in PHL

VISA, INC. is looking at increasing its presence in the Philippines' unbanked sector by offering new and more affordable means of cashless transactions, seen to boost the economy.

Metro Pacific bankrolls P153 B for road PPP

Metro Pacific Investments Corp. (MPIC)'s tollway arm is set to spend P153B for PPP deals as well as expansion projects for this year until early next year. MPTC president and CEO Rodrigo Franco said the company is investing over P100B both for PPP projects as well as expansion works at existing tollways NLEX and SCTEX.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

7,341.65

1 Yr Return:

4.25%

Open:

7,363.88

YTD Return:

8.71%

52-Week Range:

6,499.00 - 8,118.44

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of April 3, 2017

| US Dollar | Philippine Peso |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 50.163 |

PDST-R2 Rates

As of April 3, 2017

| Tenor | Rate |
|-------|--------|
| 1Y | 3.1429 |
| 3Y | 3.9898 |
| 5Y | 4.2425 |
| 7Y | 5.1446 |
| 10Y | 5.1593 |
| 20Y | 5.0299 |

Daily Quote

“Being an optimist after you've got the very thing you want doesn't count.”

-Ken Hubbard

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

Local lender partners with Swiss wealth manager

Union Bank of the Philippines (UnionBank) has partnered with Swiss private bank Lombard Odier, a leading global wealth and asset manager, to offer a new global fund for upscale clients. The multiasset global fund has a risk profile matching UnionBank's specific needs and aimed at its ultrahigh net-worth clients.

Business leaders blame BSP

"The single biggest factor why our SMEs have not moved is BSP, because of the regulations of the BSP. We are always ahead of all prudential regulations to the point that the MSMEs are the most underbanked sector in the region," Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) honorary chairman Sergio Ortiz-Luis said.

PCCI, Hungarian chambers push trade, investments

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), the country's largest business organization, and the Hungary Chamber of Commerce and Industry have signed a memorandum of agreement to adopt and implement measures that would grow trade and investments between the Philippines and Hungary.

Korean bank takes over Gaisano's financial unit

Woori Bank, South Korea's second largest lender, sealed the acquisition of a majority stake in Wealth Development Bank, the financial arm of the Gaisano family's Vicsal Development Corp. Vicsal Development formalized the alliance with Woori Bank through a ceremony in Makati City Monday.

SMC's Ang questions Ayala-SM toll road proposal

SMC president Ramon Ang questioned the proposed P25-billion elevated toll road project by the Ayala and SM groups. Ang contested the proposed project, saying it would only duplicate San Miguel's existing NAIA Expressway, which connects Pagcor Entertainment City complex, adjacent to SM's MOA development, to the Skyway system.

DA launches Mentor Me program for 'agripreneurs'

THE Department of Agriculture (DA) has signed a memorandum of understanding with Go Negosyo for the implementation of Kapatid Agri Mentor Me Program (KAMMP), which aims to scale up micro and small businesses in the countryside.

PH output index hits Q1 high in March

The country's output index continued to increase in March and hit the highest score for the first quarter of the year, a Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) survey by IHS Markit showed Monday. The Nikkei Philippines Manufacturing PMI in March recorded a production score of 53.8, higher than the 53.6 index in February and 52.7 in January.

TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

Now may be time for foreigners to buy JPN stocks

Now could be the time for foreign investors to return to Japanese equities, according to Goldman Sachs. Corporate governance reforms, a recovery in domestic demand and the strong performance of local stocks in U.S. dollar terms are all potential catalysts, strategists said.

CH carbon trading rollout to impact industries

China, the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter, may roll out a national carbon trading scheme in July this year, which will have deep implications on key industries including power generation, petrochemicals, chemicals, iron and steel, and aviation, analysts say.

Largest Asean economies show less inflation pressure

Consumer prices in Indonesia and Thailand grew at a slower pace than economists predicted last month, giving central banks in SEA's two biggest economies scope to keep interest rates low for longer. Annual inflation in Indonesia was 3.6% in March, compared with the median estimate of 3.8% in a Bloomberg survey of 19 economists.

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MORE ASIAN NEWS

Turk Telekom owner to miss another \$290M payment

The majority owner of Turkey's biggest phone company failed to pay another installment on its \$4.75 billion debt, pushing the largest syndicated loan ever extended in the country further into arrears, four people with knowledge of the matter said.

Thai tycoon, FCL behind new \$5b Bangkok project

Thai beer tycoon Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi and Frasers Centrepoint (FCL) will develop a massive integrated project in the heart of Bangkok. The 16.7ha One Bangkok project is said to be "the largest private sector property development initiative undertaken in Thailand", and will cost more than 120 billion baht (S\$4.88 billion).

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

Google, Amazon looking to buy TYO memory unit

Google and Amazon joined a list of potential buyers eyeing Toshiba's lucrative memory chip business as the Japanese conglomerate seeks bidders to cover huge losses. Toshiba has reportedly completed the first round of bidding for its prized memory chip business, seen as key for the cash-strapped company to turn itself around.

Xi's Nordic stopover reveals global trade shift

Before his first meeting with Donald Trump, Chinese President Xi Jinping will stop over in Helsinki. More than just logistics, the Finnish trip reflects a fundamental shift in commercial and diplomatic ties. For the Chinese, "the signal is that the U.S. is not the only diplomatic focus for China; Europe is also very significant".

Why political turmoil hasn't stopped EM rally

A fired finance minister and political upheaval won't be enough to stem the rally in emerging-market stocks. All the chaos was overshadowed by investing fundamentals, according to market participants who point to a surge in corporate earnings forecasts and economic growth that far outstrips expansion in developed countries.

MORE GLOBAL NEWS

IMF releases US\$1b loan for cash-strapped Ukraine

The International Monetary Fund will release the next US\$1 billion loan payment to Ukraine, which had been postponed following the blockade imposed on the separatist east of the country, the Ukrainian president said Monday. Cash-starved Ukraine has been desperately waiting for the next installment from a US\$17.5 billion rescue programme.

CPF taking food to EU with WFGL

CPF Investment Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Charoen Pkphand Foods Plc (CPF), has inked a share purchase agreement with Westbridge Food Group Ltd (WFGL) at a combined value of 2.6 billion baht to expand CPF's market in Europe.

Venezuela money supply up 200 percent in year

Crisis-stricken Venezuela's money supply has surged over 200 percent in a year, its fastest rise since records began in 1940, putting it on track for what is likely the world's highest inflation.

Tesla reports record deliveries in Quarter 1

Electric car maker Tesla Inc. says it delivered a record 25,000 vehicles in the first quarter, up 69 percent from the same period last year. Tesla said Sunday it delivered about 13,450 Model S cars and about 11,550 Model X SUVs. Production in the first quarter totaled 25,418 vehicles, also a record, Tesla said.

Economic Calendar

| Date | Release |
|------------|------------------------------|
| 04.04.2017 | PH: CPI YoY |
| 04.05.2017 | US: FOMC Meeting Minutes |
| 04.06.2017 | PH: Foreign Reserves |
| 04.10.2017 | PH: Ex-Im Trade Balance |
| 04.16.2017 | PH: Overseas Remittances YoY |

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar