

THE WEEKEND JUNCTION



P8.00
ISSN 0119-7487

Treated unfairly by newspapers that refuse to publish your response? Write us.



Philippine Press Council c/o Philippine Press Institute
Rm. 312 BF Cond. Bldg.
A. Soriano Ave., Intramuros Mla.
Tel. No. 572-9632 Fax 527-3390



MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!! BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Pahayagang palaban!!! **City Readies Guidelines For Power, Water Connection Moratorium**



WORLD CHAMP AT YMCA - Telling them that the way to karate is going back to the basics, former world traditional karate champion Julian Chees takes time to refresh students at the YMCA of Baguio on the fundamentals of the kata exercises of the shotokan school of the martial art./ Mondax photo

BAGUIO CITY – The city government is now finalizing the guidelines to implement a city council ordinance that would allow owners of buildings and structures without building permits to avail of electrical or water connections from the Benguet Electric Cooperative Inc. (BENECO) and the Baguio Water District (BWD).

Secretary to the mayor

Ronald Perez, who along with city administrator Peter Fianza serves as action officer of the committee created by Mayor Reynaldo Bautista Jr. to oversee the implementation of the ordinance, said the committee has begun mapping out the guidelines during a meeting last Thursday.

He said additional rules were adopted to en-

Cont. on page 10

Naku, ang moratorium na yan, pupulitikahan lang yan, tamang-tama sa 2010 eleksyon!!

LG KOMENTARYO, ISANG PALAISIPAN
Part V of a Series
FORBES PARK FOREST RESERVE na may halagang 3.75 Billion – Pinamigay ng NCIP sa isang pribadong indibidwal. Ito ba ay makatarungan, o ito na nga ba ang Mother of All Scams sa Baguio? Go to Page 6 & 7



A H1N1 Death Toll In Car Now Seven But Cases Dwindling.....P3

Lawmaker Blasts Comelec For Shutting Door On Extension Of Registration..P2

Peace, dev't in mindanao hostaged To politics.....P2

Urban Landscape Walk-Through Helps Kids Learn Local History.....P12

PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

on page 5

Pork Barrel Ni Cong Domogs, Ilang MILYON Ba Talaga???
NCIP at MAYOR RAB – Best Friends Indeed!!!
BY: ODELL "BOMBITO" AQUINO



THE PEACE COMBATANT

on page 5

On Baguio's centennial

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



Lawmaker To Gov't: Do Not Compromise Welfare Of OFWs

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday said government should address reports of distressed or detained OFWs, especially in countries where it does not have bilateral labor agreements (BLAs) with.

A 2006 study by the Philippine Migration Research Network noted that the Philippines has BLAs with only 13 countries, which was a fraction of the 193 countries where there are OFWs.

Based on a 2004 report by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), more than 4,000 Filipinos were detained in foreign jails, including Denmark, Colombia and Egypt, three countries where the Philippines has no BLA.

In countries where the Philippines has existing BLAs, such as Kuwait, Taiwan and the United Arab Emirates, cases of abuse and maltreatment of OFWs have been documented.

"If we can't protect our OFWs in countries where we have such agreements, what more in countries where we don't have BLAs? If we consider OFWs as our new heroes, we should be looking after their welfare while they are alive and working, not when they are already gone," the 39-year-old lawmaker stressed.

A report by Migrante International, an international alliance of Filipino migrant organizations, revealed that as of May this year it has documented 78 cases of distressed OFWs in various countries.

From 2007-2008, the group filed more than 300 cases for distressed OFWs that involved abuse and maltreatment, repatriation, non-payment of wages, lack of legal assistance for OFWs sentenced to death or currently in detention, and missing persons.

Based on

Department of Labor figures, the Philippines is the third biggest supplier of foreign workers in the world, with the number estimated at 11 million working in 193 countries.

"We can also help OFWs by lowering remittance fee charges for OFWs and by ensuring that there are help desks open 24/7 in our embassies," Escudero said. A World Bank study of global money transfer indicated that Filipinos spend an average of \$12.79 to send home \$500 from the US and \$6.93 to send the same amount from Saudi Arabia.

Escudero also said all Philippine embassies and consulates in countries where there are OFWs should have enough staff that are properly trained and always ready to provide assistance to OFWs. "There should be someone who will always answer a special hotline OFWs can call anytime."/Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Lawmaker Blasts Comelec For Shutting Door On Extension Of Registration

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday criticized the Commission on Elections (Comelec) for rejecting his proposal to extend the deadline of registration of new voters from October 31 to December this year.

"There is no legal impediment to COMELEC extending the deadline of registration to December; the problem is logistical, specifically as regards the printing of the ballots," the 39-year old

lawmaker said. "The COMELEC, if it wanted to, could make the necessary adjustments should it extend the deadline for registration. Surely, the right of suffrage outweighs its logistical concerns," he added.

Escudero, chairman of the Senate Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws, had made the call in response to data showing that only 800,000

new voters have registered—a far cry from Comelec's target of three million. He said as many as five million new voters could qualify if the deadline is moved to December.

"The Comelec should ask itself whether it has done enough to campaign for registration of new voters. It should find out why only so little has answered its call," he said.

The COMELEC

Cont. on page 10

Peace, dev't in mindanao hosted To politics

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday said the next president should bring together all stakeholders in Mindanao to craft a development agenda that will not be hosted to any change in administration.

"Whoever gets himself or herself elected the next President in 2010 will have a steep mountain to climb, especially in

addressing the long-standing problems of Mindanao," he told media at a Presidential Forum on Mindanao in Davao City.

"Only an all-stakeholders approach will lead to the long-sought peace and meaningful development in this region, not Imperial Manila's 'urong-sulong, atras abante' approach since we gained independence," Escudero said.

The 39-year old

lawmaker said the country's development will greatly be accelerated if authority is devolved to the lowest level of government.

He said that regions and provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays should be able to act on their problems without waiting for Malacañang's imprimatur.

To achieve this, Escudero stressed the need for the next ad-

Cont. on page 10



JUETENG NOTICE TO OUR DEAR READERS

This paper or any of its official staff members are not receiving any payoffs, bribe(s) and/or any other form of benefits from the illegal numbers game known as JUETENG or from any other forms of illegal gambling presently operating within the City of Baguio and Benguet Province, unlike other MEDIA outfits/entities who are restricted and cannot disseminate to the general public the news and information on Jueteng as they are beholden (their hands are tied and their mouths are gagged) to the Jueteng operators/financiers due to their acceptance of dirty jueteng bribe money. This paper has no restrictions and welcomes any and all information concerning Jueteng operations, its proponents, adherents, protectors etc... more so information concerning the involvement of the members of Media, the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Mayor's Office etc... All information received by this newspaper on the issue of Jueteng is guaranteed to see print immediately upon verification and confirmation.

(SGD) Odell P. Aquino
The Junction- OIC



THE JUNCTION

Bing Dawang - Editor (on leave)
Odell "Bombito" Aquino - OIC

Atty. Thomas Tayengco-Legal Adviser

Support Staff:

Nelson Tuaño
Danilo B. Javier
Gerry P. Binwagan
John T. Bagayan
Orwen Trazo

Regular Columnists:

Rudy Garcia
Emilio Liwanen
Atty. James S. Valeros
Atty. Batas Mauricio
Arturo Boquiren
Annabelle Pedronio
Jenny Ocampo Andres
Grace Bandy

Opinions expressed by the opinion writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of this paper.

*Our articles and stories (news/features) are ready to go for printing without the involvement of the editor and publisher who happen to be on leave.

The Junction is printed and published by Farco Trimedia Ventures, Inc. (FTV, Inc) every weekend, with office address at Sitio Marooc, Itogon Benguet and Ground Floor PCEC Bldg., Happy Homes, Campo Sioco, Baguio City, Mobile Phone Nos.: (0917)5069123; (0917)5069126; E-mail Address: thejunctionnews@yahoo.com; Mailing Address P.O. Box 1588, 2600 Baguio City Entered as Second Class Mail at the Baguio City Central Post Office PCC-CAR 01-04-99



Member:
Press Foundation of Asia
Philippine Press Institute

Affiliates:

Linis Gobyerno
(www.linisgobyerno.org)
Beyond Borders Reporting
(www.beyondbordersreporting.net)

Lion's Head Cleared

BAGUIOCITY— The Lion's Head, a city landmark along Kennon Road, had been cleared of eyesores as stall owners Thursday started to voluntarily vacate the area and relocate to the unfinished structure nearby in compliance with the order of Mayor Reynaldo Bautista Jr. Engr. Greg Deligero, head of the public order and

safety division of the city mayor's office, said their target was to clear the area of vendors by August 31.

The vendors were convinced by the POSD to move to the structure and undertake moves to legitimize their businesses.

The mayor earlier vowed to put back order at the Lion's Head area which has

turned from a favorite tourist stop into an eyesore due to the unsightly souvenir shops that mushroomed and cluttered the area.

The mayor earlier said the city plans to develop the unfinished structure located just across the site, which was built at the time of former mayor Bernardo Vergara intended to house the stalls./ aileen p. refuerzo



DANCE FORCES - The Cycle Force dance team shows off its winning dance number during City Hall flag raising ceremony. The group won the just concluded Samahang Kabataan (SK) Federation Againsts Drug dance Contest (Open Category) last August 18./ By Bong Cayabyab

Officials Okay Additional Work For Dumpsite Retaining Wall

BAGUIOCITY— City officials have approved an additional work to further strengthen the retaining wall being built at the Irisan dumpsite.

City administrator Peter Fianza, head of the city environment management office, said the work which is

still part of the dumpsite rehabilitation project, is required to extend the retaining wall to further stabilize the dumpsite.

Additional funds will be approved by the city council for said purpose.

The wall extension would result to

recessed portions that would need filling up and this would enable the city to dump residual wastes anew for at least two months.

Fianza said the dumping will be planned in consultation with the affected residents to secure their consent and prevent further hostilities. **Cont. on page 10**

A H1N1 Death Toll In Car Now Seven But Cases Dwindling

BAGUIOCITY— The region's Human Influenza A (H1N1) death toll has risen to seven since July 17 while the total number of positive cases has reached 255.

But there were indications that the number of admissions are on the downturn as reported by Dr. Myrna Cabotaje of the Center for Health Development Cordillera, in a local television interview.

Cabotaje said that of the 255 cases recorded, 200 patients have recuperated.

An update from the CHD-CAR said

that of the total deaths, three were residents of Baguio City and one each came from the provinces of Abra, Benguet and Mt. Province. The latest fatalities were a 12-year old boy from Mt. Province who died last August 1 and a 61-year old woman from Abra who died

last August 5. The other fatalities died between July 17 to July 27

"All the deaths had prior risk complications such as pneumonia, asthma, acute respiratory disease syndrome, pulmonary tuberculosis and heart disease," the CHD-CAR said.

The disease is said to be "mild but **Cont. on page 11**

Boy With Mended Heart Meets Benefactor

Remember Santy John Tuyan, the 10 year old boy with a congenital heart disease? Whose surgery was bankrolled by internet chat mates, mostly women who opened an e-bay-type auction for him three years ago?

He's now 13 and a high school fre3shman and growing up normal as any other kid. Point is he recently met, for the first time, his main benefactor, the one who triggered that e-fund drive under the name "Princess Lea".

"Mag-aral kang mabuti (study well)," Lea or Magnolia

Mallard-Junio told the boy when they met mid-august at a clan reunion in the home of retired educator Ben Dimas at Longlong, Pinsao.

A nurse who grew up in Baguio and now based in Connecticut, Lea was home for the reunion and, as a sidebar, for a feeding project in one of the city's elementary schools.

"I asked why she chose Santy among so many who needed medical help," the boy's mother, Jacinta, said. "She told me it was because my boy's case, id surgically treated, would mean his full recovery."

Lea learned of the boy's affliction – a hole in the heart medically diagnosed as patent ductus arteriosus – from an upload on Jerry M a y o n a ' s baguio.com and baguio city online.

F o l k s i n g e r Conrad Marzan, Mrs

Tuyan's co-underwriter at Philamlife was then swamped with similar requests for help and decided to ask Jerry to post the case and wait for response from Samaritans.

In turn, Lea posted a graph explaining the boy's condition and what had to be done to correct the congenital heart defect. She then launched e-wagwagan, an auction of cellcards, gift certificated, computers and even services.

One lady offered herself for a date. The one who responded eventually stood for her up, but ended up paying for the fund. Another offered to be kissed for a fee. Lea's sister had two volunteers clean up her junkyard.

The effort ended up with \$2,750, bulk of which came from Lea and her siblings, including a sister **Cont. on page 11**

RESEARCH & STATISTICS

- implementation of research or research job outsourcing
- statistics encoding, computation, construction of statistical tables, interpretation, analysis
- research design, advise, and training in/out of Baguio
- program/project evaluation or appraisal market, business, feasibility, development issue, risks, and policy research. Email: researchfordev@yahoo.com or call/text **0928951-5680/Landline (074)-426-0178** www.geocities.com/researchfordev

We believe that the Golden Rule applies to animals, too. We don't accept the prevailing notion that "people come first" or that "people are more important than animals." Animals feel pain and suffer just as we do, and it is almost always humans making animals suffer and not the other way around. Yet in spite of how cruelly people behave towards animals – not to mention human cruelty to other humans- we are supposed to believe that humans are superior to other animals. If people want to fancy themselves as being of greater moral worth than the other creatures on this earth, we should begin behaving better than they do, and not worse. Let's start treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves.

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno

www.linisgobyerno.org

Lazarus At the Gate

In the raw world of 7/24 journalism, a colleague dashes off a piece with hard-nosed panache that makes one mumble: "Wish I wrote that." Three articles come to mind: Patricia Evangelista's "Woes of Ms Marcos" is one. She documented, with professional thoroughness, hard evidence on still unaccounted for sleaze. This Inquirer column polished off the so-called 'Marcos restoration'.

The second is Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism's series on the President and First Gentleman's "Statement of Assets and Liabilities".

Ms Arroyo's net worth ballooned from P6.7 million to P143.5 million between 1992 to 2008, PCIJ's Malou Mangahas revealed. President Arroyo's portfolio bolted 41% even as the local stock index nosedived by 21%. The Palace shrugged off Makati Business Club's request for

EDITORIAL

clarification.

The third is Inquirer's column "Circus Stories". In it, Manuel Quezon III set a new standard for brevity when he demolished Malacanang justification for the President burning P2.7 billion in foreign travels since 2003.

Quezon used two sentences. "The President's people justify her travels in producing press releases promising Foreign Direct Investments," he wrote. "For 2008, Bangko Sentral reported actual FDIs were negative by \$81 million; for 2009 to date, they are negative \$102.9 million." Period. End of Paragraph. End of Column.

These examples help answer why Mrs. Arroyo twists in the wind over hefty restaurant bills racked up in her last US trip.

At "Le Cirque" restaurant, the President's entourage ran up a \$20,000 tab, New York Post reported. Washington Post's Reliable Sources blog added Bobby Van's Steakhouse's bill for \$15,000.

To tamp down the uproar, her spokesmen pledged to publish receipts. They never did.

Why not? After all, no one claims the President's watering hole preferences matched excesses of others.

Whoever entertained Emperor Charles V for lunch had to serve 400 dishes. Chinese Dragon Empress Tz'u-his (1861-1908) had over 200 dishes paraded.

"No fool can be silent at a feast," Greek legislator Solon concluded after Athenian excesses sapped reforms. And 2,600 years later, Mrs Arroyo is learning Solon's lesson: her feasting barkadas leak like a sieve.

"The President's chatty congressional traveling companions pointed out there were other meals," Quezon III revealed. "Rep. Hermilando Mandanas said there was dinner at Bouley's... on Aug. 2; Rep. Amelita Villarosa referred to a meal at Wolfgang's Steakhouse on Park Avenue." Indeed, "a tame tongue is a rare bird."

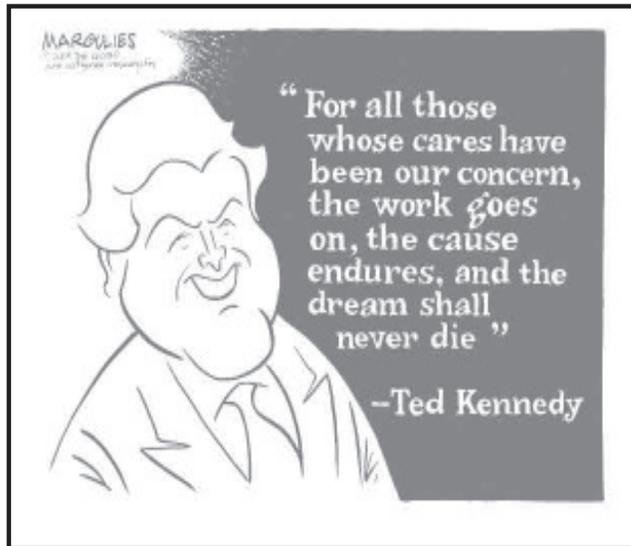
To take the heat off the President, Reps Danilo Suarez (Quezon) and Ferdinand Martin Romualdez (Leyte) were named as hosts. "Greater love than this no man hath, than to lay down one's credit card for a boss nailed off-base."

Suarez couldn't get even size of entourage right. Romualdez didn't deny or confirm. But aide Nick Esmale, said it was Architect Daniel Romualdez who ponied up. "One of the striking differences between a cat and a lie, "Mark Twain said, "is the cat has only nine lives."

Romualdez and Suarez are in clover. Million-peso meals are no sweat for them. However, both represent constituents who are dirt poor. Of 77 provinces studied by Philippine Human Development Report 2009, Leyte ranks a low 49 in "poverty incidence: depth and severity." Quezon is even poorer at slot 58.

Life expectancy is the most telling indicator. For Leyte,

Cont. on page 11



DIRETSAHAN

Mayor Bentres ng TUBA hoy Gising!

BY RUDY "BANTAY SIYASAT" GARCIA



Nagsimula ang programa sa selebrasyon ng sentenaryo sa City Hall, Linggo ng umaga. Panauhin si Pangulong Arroyo kunsan naglalumpati ng mga salitang kapani-paniwala sa mga tanga....Este taga Baguio. Nang matapos ang "SPIT"..... este speech kanya nang lapit ang mga Sip-Sep B....ay min, SIP-SEP na mga basura sa City Hall. He!He! napag-usapan kaya nila ang problema sa basura, trapiko, pis en order at pati problema sa mga tinatanglang utak ng mga opisyal?

Bilib ako sa isinagawang seguridad para sa kanyang presensya. Ang mga mapormang mga "IPIIS"-SENTIAL.... Este presidential security guard, polisya, POSD, Barangay tagad..... Este Tanod at pati ang interlink security group.

Pero, pinabilib din ako ni Madame Arroyo dahil kahit puno ang kanyang iskediyul ay nag-ukol siya ng konting panahon para sa mga tanga....Este taga Baguio. Sayang nga lamang at hindi ako sumama sa kanilang tanghalian,nakatikim sana ako ng milyon milyong halaga ng pagkain.....Mabuhay ka Madame!.....Mabuhay ang Baguio at mga Tanga...Este taga baguio Happy Centennial!

Talaga rin naman itong si Meyor bentres ng tuba. Nag-isyu sya ng Administrative order para itigil ng mga Balajadia ang ginagawa nilang istraktura sa Camp 6 ng Kennon Road dahil wala itong Building Permit pero binalewala umano ito ng huli. Kumbaga hindi nirespeto ang kautusan ng Meyor, at wala ring ginawa ang mayor sa mukhang pambabastos na ito sa kanyang opisina. Ano ba talaga ha mayor?

BUWISHEET!!

Eto pa, nang makausap namin itong si Bise Gobernador ng Benguet na si Ginoong "Pacalso". Para ilapit sa kanya ang isyu, sinabi niya na baka nasasaniban na raw ng masamang ispiritu si Bentrezz!??? At pwede pa raw na "tulugan" ng naturang Alkalde ang bayolasyon sa Building Code ng mga Balajadia?!?! Bwa ha! Ha! Andami na talagang pulpol-litiko!

GISIING NA!!

Nailibing na ang 13 anyos na binatilyong sinaksak at napatay sa may Harrison Road, naghihintay lamang umano ng sasakyan ang binatilyo ng sinaksak ito ng mga suspek na pinaghihinalang mga miyembro ng isang gang ng mga kabataan. Sampal ito sa bagong upo na Direktor ng Pulisya sa Baguio. At sana ay matauhan na ang ating Pulisya at seryosohin na nila ang kampanya laban sa mga nangyayaring "Street Violence" sa lungsod. At kung totoo nga na may kinalaman ang "Droga" sa mga nangyayaring ito, Aba, Dapat nang "kalusin" ang mga ungas na nagbebenta ng droga sa mga kabataan.