September 3 - 9, 2011 hayagang Palaban!!!

VOL. XIV NO. 47

ISSN 0119-7487

Treated unfairly by newspapers that refuse to publish your re-sponse? Write us.

a Found After 5 Days Under

KILLER TRASHSLIDE. A store owner looks on as clearing of the killer trash slide goes on along Km. 5 in Asin Road, several of their wood carvings survived the surge of garbage from the slide and are displayed along the road. The garbage slide from the collapsed retaining wall of the Irisan dumpsite killed 5 people and injured several others. A survey on a National TV News said the LGU is to blame along with the DENR. Several groups and numerous people on Social Networking sites even has requested for local government officials to be investigated and resign./Grace Bandoy

Typhoon Mina Leaves 10 Persons Dead. 12 **Injured and 5 Missing in Cordillera** page 2

Pinsao Road Development Eved to Decongest City Center page 2

Multi-Level Parking, Centralized

Can you spare a Kid's Wheelchair page 2

Loading Terminals Seen as **Solution to City Traffic** page 3

City Declared Under State of Calamity, Council to Conduct Inquiry page 3

Mayor on Dumpsite Disaster: Cooperation not Nitpicking page 3

Kalinga Folks Train on Squash flour page 3 making

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Is Comelec's legal chief worth crying for?

BY: BATAS MAURICIO

Hannah?

Lawmaker: Institutional Reforms Needed Improve the Quality of the Philippine Judicial System

*Long Stories, all Drama, no Ending in the Phl Justice System' (page 2)

SS President and CEO Reports P13.14 B net evenue page 12

THE PEACE COMBATANT



Baguio City: garbage capital of the nation and the world

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN





BAGUIO CITY - The Cordillera Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center reported that the sixth victim of the collapsed retaining wall of the Irisan dumpsite, was recovered Thursday morning after five days under the trash slide. The body of Antonia Tacio, the 68 year old

grandmother, was found by operatives of the Philippine Air Force – Tactical Operations Group, the Philippine Military Academy and the CDRRMC.

Office of Civil Defense regional director Olive Luces said that after five days of search and recovery operations under the tons of garbage that fell along the community in Asin Road, the joint efforts of these teams located the Tacio at last. Cont. on page 11

Ang mga ganitong sakuna ay naiiwasan, kung ang mga binoto nating liderato noon at ngayon ay ginawa ang kanilang tungkulin.

Typhoon Mina Leaves 10 Persons Dead, 12 Injured and 5 Missing in Cordillera

BAGUIO CITY - The Office of Civil Defense reported 10 persons dead, 12 injured and five other missing in the Cordillera Administrative Region due to Typhoon Mina, as of yes-

Six of the fatalities died in Baguo City. Five perished when the retaining wall of the Irisan dumpsite collapsed Saturday during the height of typhoon Mina. OCD Regional Director Olive Luces identified the dead as siblings - Revuller, Apolinario and Frando Flores and Jeffonie and Noemi Cael who died when tons of garbage rolled over their houses. The other victim, Floro Soliven, was buried in a landslide in a pocket mining site in barangay Kias.

In Benguet, Rodolfo Gagucas and Alex Magno were victims of landslides in Ucab, Itogon, and in Santo Tomas, Tuba, Benguet, respectively.

In Abra, Bragas Domingo of Bucay and Dindo Candido of Villaciosa have reportedly died in separate drowning incidents

Still missing are Antonia Tacio who is suspected to have been buried in the garbage landslide incident at the Irisan dumpsite; Dagul Joaquin and Gregorio Padua of Dulong Tubo, Abra, and Roberto Agameng of San Ramon, Manabo, Abra were reported to be missing possibly due drowning incidents and a certain Apolonio of Liwan West, Rizal, Kalinga is said to have fallen in a creek.

Luces also reported that with the strong rains and winds brought about by Typhoon Mina, 65 barangays, 3,470 families and more than 15,000 individuals were affected in the Cordillera. 312 families or roughly 1,300 persons were safely evacuated to 22 different evacuation centers, she added.

From initial assessment, OCD-CAR also reported seven totally damaged and 94 partially damaged houses, P67.87 Million estimated worth of damages to agriculture and P28.13 M estimated damage to infrastructure.

Luces also reported that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is now prioritizing road clearing operations. As of vesterday afternoon, 26 of the 51 National Road portions closed by landslides, were already cleared and open to traffic./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Can you spare a Kid's Wheelchair for can be locked, and watched often, lest **Hannah?**

If you have a stroller or a wheelchair fit for a fiveyear old that you can spare, you may want to give it to Hannah Cyrele Mar-

The girl, youngest of three kids of a vegetable porter at the hangar market here, needs one with wheels that

into which she can she slips out and seated strapped on.

Hannah had a borrowed one fit for her brother, who is her need and size, seven, take turns at needed to use it,

Dizon, her dad, recently got hold of an adult wheelchair for Hannah's mobility. Because of its size, she has to be

and drops to the floor.

Mae, her eight-Until recently, year old sister and Hance Christian, the owner baby-sitting with their grandparents Martin and Rita, to allow their dad to wait for crucifer baskets or potato

Cont. on page 9

bags to haul at the

Decongest City Center BAGUIOCITY

Councilor Isabeo Cosalan Jr. has proposed the develop- not pass through ment of a road link- any part of the City ing Longlong in of Baguio, Cosalan Pinsao Proper to Irisan particularly through Bowat as a priority project to support the city's thrust to decongest the central business district.

In a proposed resolution, Cosalan also sought to urge Bernardo opment of said developers, stretch.

Cosalan said the road was previously part of the Circumferential Road Contract Package III but was deleted from the plan by the Dept. of Public Works and Highways-CAR "by reaof the Pico-Lamtang

But the Pico-Lamtang road does added.

Pinsao Road Development Eyed

"The developthe road that passes ment of the Bowat Road including that the Batawil/ Ambayao Road will certainly speed up the progress of that portion of Irisan and Pinsao barangays identified as growth/ expansion area and that it would make Vergara to allocate the area more attracfunds for the devel- tive to investors and Cosalan noted.

He said that since two of the development strategies and policies of the City as presented in the City's 2002-2008 Comprehensive Land Use Plan are the adoption of policy of strategic dispersal of son of the existence development outside the CBD and the dis-

persal of economic activities through the development of new commercial nodes, the city should consider the development of said road.

"The construction and upgrading of access and other infrastructures, especially along the city's strategic peripheries, is necessary to properly direct investments, development and socio-economic activities that would help not only in the decongestion of the City's Central **Business District** but also in bringing the City of Baguio closer to its LGU-neighbors through improved mobility, trade and commerce," said.

Cosalan's measure will be discussed by the city council soon./A Refuerzo

Lawmaker: Institutional Reforms **Needed to Improve the Quality of the** Philippine Iudicial System 'Long Stories, all Drama, no Ending in the Phl Justice System'

Senate minority leader Alan Peter Cayetano scored the faulty justice system in the country citing the continued delay in the investigation and prosecution of named perpetrators of crimes involving the rich and powerful personalities in government.

He lamented the slow response of government in initi- without the finality tion of clear cases of end". criminal offenses de-

that the stories re- powerful personaliported by media end ties are implicated. up becoming "a long-winded journey

ating an investiga- of a decision in the

"Long stories, spite preponderance all drama, no ending of evidence pre- in our justice syssented and state- tem" is how the senaments by witnesses tor describes the preduring senate hear- vailing situation in the country today Cayetano noted when affluent and

> He cited the Cont. on page 9



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

Support Staff: Nelson Tuaño Danilo B. Javier Gerry P. Binwagan John T. Bagayan Orwen L. Trazo Annabelle Pedronio

Regular Columnists: Atty. James S. Valeros Atty Batas Mauricio Arturo Boquiren Emilio Liwanen Grace Bandoy Odell "Bombito" Aquino

The Junction is printed and published by Farco Trimedia Ventures, Inc. (FTV, Inc.) every weekend, with office address at Sitio Marooc, Itogon Benguet, and c/o Linis Gobyerno, Ground Floor PCEC Bldg.,

and co Linis Gooyerno, Ground Floor PCEC Bidg., Happy Homes, Campo Sioco, Baguio City, Mobile Phone Nos.: (0917)5069123; 442 - 3583 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: Tess Foundation of Asia Philippine Press Institute Website:www.junctionnews.com Affiliates:

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

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.



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 outlits/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.

Multi-Level Parking, Centralized **Loading Terminals Seen as Solution** to City Traffic

BAGUIO CITY - The city's transport sector proposes the establishment of a multi-level parking and a centralized loading terminals for public utility vehicles as a solution to the traffic problem here.

The proposal was made during the two-day Tourism Summit held at the Baguio Country Club last week.

According to Public Transport Affairs Office head Perfecto 'Jun' Itliong, who presented the workshop output of the transport sector group, addressing the traffic problem would be a big boost to the city's tourism and which could eventually to bring back Baguio as a prime tourist destination in the country.

Our proposal is for the establishment of multi-level parking facility which can be used by our public utility vehicles (PUVs) and private vehicles, who are currently using city roads for parking which adds to our traffic situation. With such facilities, we can reduce the park vehicles in our roads by about 90 percent", Itliong said.

Another proposal Itliong mentioned is the establishment of a centralized loading area for buses, jeepneys and maybe even school services.

"We are already rationalizing the loading system in our jeepney terminals which aims to reduce the number of units parked at their loading terminals at any given time. Having a centralized loading terminal for buses would also help a lot as it would decongest the traffic inside the city's central business district", Itliong said.

There is already an administrative order for bus companies to have their own private terminals as what Victory and Genesis bus companies have, so that they would not use government or national roads as terminal. This will clean Governor Pack Road, which we can then use for our visitors or tourists that are coming in", Itliong added.

For the government's response, Councilor Elmer Datuin, chairman of the City Council's Tourism Committee, stressed that the city government headed by Mauricio Domogan is already looking into the proposal and conducting series of consultations with the different city sector on such endeavor. He also assured the city council's willingness to support the proposal. * (JDP/LD-PIA CAR)

City Declared Under State of Calamity; and lightening **Council to Conduct Inquiry**

The city council last week declared the city in a state of calamity to expedite mitigating measures on the typhoon-triggered trash slide that killed six people in Asin Road last Aug.

The body set an inquiry on the incident tomorrow (Sept. 5) inviting key personalities led by Mayor Mauricio Domogan Protech Machinery Corp. vice president Luis Lu Jr. to its regular session.

The calamity status was declared upon the request of Mayor Domogan to enable the city to utilize the P93 million calamity fund to expedite the clearing of the trash mounds that covered Asin Road and to rehabili-

BAGUIOCITY tate the collapsed wall that triggered the spill out of 15,000 tons of garbage.

It was however subject to the conditions that the proposed mitigating measures and expected expenses shall be submitted to the city council for approval.

City Environment and Parks management Officer (ČEPMO) Cordelia Lacsamana earlier justified before the body the need for the remedial measures to be carried out immediately to avoid another catastrophe in the area.

"A danger of collapse from the remaining garbage from facility is imminent due to destabilization, covering the crack with tarpaulin

the load by reprofiling should be done immediately, she told the body.

She said CEPMO will also continuously monitor water intrusions in the dumpsite which they believed caused the retaining wall to give way including the control odor and leacheates to avoid further contamination of water in the

Although the facility has been closed sometime 2009, it is being used as a controlled dump facility where regulated dumping has been allowed as part of the closure proceedings for the facility which also houses the Environmental Recycling System (ERS) machines the city pur-

Cont. on page 11



BAGUIO'S MOST OUTSTANDING CITIZENS - The Six Most Outstanding Citizen awardees namely Lourdes Dulay, (education), Jerry Lingaling (community service and sports), Quezon Hill punong barangay Lilia Farinas (community service), former mayor Jaime Bugnosen (community and public service) Dr. Amparo Rimas (cooperative development) and City Health Officer Dr. Florence Reyes pose with city officials headed by Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Cong. Bernardo Vergara, Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas and Chairman of the Selection Committee Dr. Amparo Rimasduring the celebration of 102nd Baguio Day Anniversary held at the Baguio Convention Center September 1. With them are special awardees PRO-COR Gen. Villamor Bumanlag (Best Regional Police Office) and Melchor Pablico who composed the lyric of Baguio Builders Song./By Bong <u>Cayabyab</u>

Kalinga Folks Train on Squash flour dustry, has high po- focus its training on making

TABUK, Kalinga - 25 folks, mostly women, will train on squash flour making as preparation to opening veggie-flour small business.

The training is a tie-up project of the Department of Science and Technology which provides for the trainor from its Industrial technology and Development Institute, Kalinga Apayao State College and provincial government for the funding

Dixie Catacutan of DOST-Kalinga said squash flour intential in Kalinga where squash is a major agricultural product.

The four towns of Tabuk, Pinukpuk, Pasil and Lubuagan are noted for high squash production and because of this, farmers in these areas sought assistance from DOST for train-

There were earlier trainings on vegetable processing given by DOST on veggie chips and veggie noodles production which are gaining headways as income sources by proponents.

Recently, DOST made a decision to squash flour production to give direction to the veggie-processing industry which is seen as a lucrative source of additional

Catacutan explained a focused assistance would result to higher advantage for beneficiaries and that is what government aims to achieve.

As follow-up assistance, participants to this training are referred to finance institutions if they want to avail of seed capital to start a small business./JDP/LL-PIA CAR, Kalinga

Mayor **Dumpsite** Disaster: on Cooperation not Nitpicking rence of similar incidents.

BAGUIOCITY-Mayor Mauricio Aug. 27. Domogan last week humbled himself and brushed aside the appealed to residents criticisms lodged at here to cooperate and his administration to unite in finding over the tragedy solution to avert a saying the focus repeat of the Irisan should not be on dumpsite trash slide fault-finding but on that killed six people teamwork to expedite along Asin Road at remedial measures the height of ty- and avoid occur-

phoon "Mina" last

The mayor

"Let's be united to address the problem given by the recent typhoon. I'm sure we can contribute and achieve a lot if we will just choose to work together instead of (resorting to) finger-pointing, the mayor said.

The mayor said Cont. on page 11

Wisecracks As Revolts

"Telling jokes against 'Big Brother' are tiny revolutions", George Orwell wrote. From bitter experience, Filipinos know what this author of the anti-dictatorship novel "1984" meant. Pogo and Togo poked fun, on stage, at Japanese occupiers, prompting the Kempetai to crack down. Recall the man, taken ill, in front of Imelda Marcos' Film Center? As he pukes, a passerby furtively whispers: "Pare. I share your opinion."

Libya's Moammar Qaddafi fled, as did Iraq's Saddam Hussien and Tunisia's Ben Ali. Tripoli newscasts show piled up corpses, wrecked hospitals, idled luxury airliners, ostentatious homes, plus a maze of underground escape tunnels.

But did history repeat itself? Were Libyan jokes as barbed as those cracked elsewhere in the jerky course of the "Arab

EDITORIAL

Spring"?
"Students of humor know that the most piquant

political jokes are found wherever totalitarian dictatorships flourish", University of California (Berkley) professor Alan Dundes notes.

As the psychotic "Cultural Revolution" wound down, Chinese students would yell: "Down with the Gang of Four"— — while holding up five fingers. The fifth referred to Mao Ze Dong. On return from the Vatican conclave that elected Pope John Paull II, the late Jaime Cardinal Sin told Leonardo Perez of the stamp-pad Commission on Elections: "Leonie, if you oversaw the Conclave, I'd have been elected Pope."

Political jokes, however, tend to wither when People Power wins back free speech. In Poland, gags dried up after the Solidarsnoc movement ushered in freedom Democratic countries "can't compete with jokes" about Hitler, Stalin, or, say, Ferdinand Marcos, Dundes adds.

Libya's top comedian Milood Amroni is undergoing that experience today. For 35 years, he poked fun, ever so carefully, at Moammar Qaddafi's regime, a Reuters feature notes. An earlier Amroni skit portrays two military trainees being bullied by an officer. He says to the other: "This is good practice for the day when we're bullied by the top commander." Everybody got the underhanded message, Libya's top military honcho was Moammar.

Like the Philippines after People Power One, Libya's newspapers and stations are suddenly free to speak. "We've never been in this sort of situation, to talk openly about politics, to make jokes about politicians," marveled Amroni. "Before, we'd just give hints about politics and people would react and feel happy. Now they're more critical. It's difficult to make them laugh about politics because they're joking themselves ...Political jokes were a weapon to fight with and now we don't need it. But maybe later."

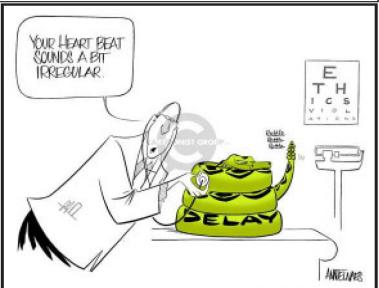
Cyberspace made it impossible for Qaddafi's regime to clamp total censorship. Referring to "Guide of the First of September Great Revolution's" rambling 2-3 hour addresses, a Libyan tweet, for example, reads: "If the rebels don't surrender, we'll will replay the whole speech." Before New York shut down for Hurricane "Irene", David Letterman cracked: "Qaddafi said his people 'love him.' I think that's what he said. It was hard to hear over the rebel gunfire."

Indeed, "an old Arab adage has it that the worst misfortune is the one that makes you laugh," an Australian Broadcasting feature from Sydney notes. "Nowhere is that truer than in Libya where Moammar Qaddafi's outlandish antics are causing howls on the Internet, "Facebook carries mocking slogans: "Don't knock my madness, it's all I have" The list goes on.

In less than a year, three revolutions have wracked the Arab world: Tunisia, Egypt, and now Libya. Three revolts are now working their way thru Syria, Yemen and, Bahrain. Young people drive these uprisings. They share vocabulary as well as tactics, New York Times points out. "Irhal," or "scram" leap-frogged from Egypt to Yemen and Bahrain, "where protesters made it plural. Not only must the king go, but his family as well.

Will Syria be the next to crumble? Even Damascus' closest ally, Iran, has recoiled from over 2,000 demonstrators killed. There, a joke runs this way: A minister goes to the Syrian dictator Bashar al Assad after a national election Minister: "I have excellent news, Mr. President! You won 98.6% of the vote in the election! Less than 2 percent of the people dissented! What more could you possibly want?" Assad: "Their names."

It is from Burma, however, where some of the most pointed jokes against paranoid dictators has emerged. U Par Par Lay goes to India to have his toothache treated. "Don't you have dentists in Myannmar?" the New Delhi dentist won
Cont. on page 9



THE PEACE COMBATANT

Baguio City: garbage capital of the nation and the world



BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN

Sadly, our City is commemorating her 102nd foundation day at a time when her reputation is that it is the world's and the nation's garbage capital.

Our city has been on national and world television news reports because of the Irisan garbage tragedy that took place last 27 August. In the tragedy, at least six people died as more than 50 tons of garbage slided downhill to Tuba when a retaining wall collapsed because of the rains brought about by typhoon Mina. Unfortunately, with the news, it had become embarrassing for a time to be identified with Baguio City.

We use to brag our flowers, our fine scenery. Now many people of our nation and the world are associating Baguio City with piles of garbage. People who have read the news have wondered: how can a city who cannot manage her garbage be a good city to visit?

How can a city like Baguio can keep tourists safe when she is unable to keep her own citizens safe on a matter that is as elementary as keeping a wall stable given that problems on what could happen to the retaining wall are something that had been anticipated anyway?

Our city official may have thought that declaring the city as a state of calamity was a wise thing to do on a tragedy that took place on a very small area of the city and immediately affecting only a handful people. Little did they know that the declaration made our city a laughing stock all over nation and the world.

If handling a small problem is a state of calamity then, like it or not, this reflects the capability or our city official to address a problem. Are the problems in Irisan too much for our city officials to handle? They declared a state of emergency on a problem that directly affected only a handful people (this is not to say that this column does not support the move for the city to compensate the victims of the tragedy as this columnist strongly supports all initiatives on the matter).

The national government is looking into the legal liability of local officials for the tragedy. As early as several years ago, there has been a national policy to close down open and controlled dumpsites by February 2006 under the Republic Act 9003. Worst, the people of Tuba in recent years had already been demanding that the Irisan garbage dump be closed.

ABS-CBN reported that four of the six victims died when an avalanche of garbage fell on the family of Modesto Flores, a jail inmate, and her wife who is employed as an overseas contract worker. At the same time, there is a report that the garbage processing facility that converts some of the garbage to useful materials is now damaged after only several months of operations.

Thus, the city is now re-resorting to transporting our wastes to other municipalities as far as **Cont. on page 11**

ADVOCACY MINDANOW

"BACK TO THE TABLE, EVERYONE!""





NO SHOW' —Last week, when the MILF decided to suddenly leave the negotiating table, hastily packed its bags to head back for home and did not show up on the last day of the scheduled peace negotiations after getting the government (GPH) draft, I was not surprised at all. In fact, I was expecting it.

I have not seen nor read the GPH draft but I saw the curt reply of MILF chair Mohagher Iqbal when he was asked by media how far apart was their draft and that submitted by his counterpart, GPH chair Marvic Leonen. His answer: "Heaven and earth!" It may be a bit exaggerated but it simply shows how wide apart the two negotiating positions initially appear — at least in the eyes of one of the parties involved.

I also followed the reactions coming from all sectors, be they from the sympathizers of the MILF, the government or just plain observers and commentators, including the so-called "swivel chair" analysts who sit in their air-conditioned rooms, far and detached from the ground realities but who oftentimes presumptuously pretend to be better and more knowledgeable than the actual players themselves. (Bless them!) But these cacophony of voices are understandable. And again should be expected.

HONORABLE WAY — For the MILF to reject outright the government draft for not adopting the "sub- state" formula, to me, is no surprise. In fact, it was the most honorable thing for them to do. Having publicly proclaimed to the whole world that its bottom-line demand to address the bangsamoro aspiration was for the setting up of a sub-state arrangement, the MILF had no other choice but to uphold its own integrity and self respect when it immediately found that there was NOTHING in the GPH draft that DIRECTLY addressed it. It had also to mollify its forces, followers and supporters who had high expectations, whetted by that recent Tokyo presidential audience no less. For the MILF to do less is to lose face before its own people. To do less is to run roughshod over MILF's goodwill and integrity before the eyes of the bangsamoro. And before the eyes of the world. To do less is to allow the likes of trouble-maker renegade MILF commander Umbra Kato to happily rub it in and mock MILF's Kagi Murad with a derisive: "I told you so!"

SIMILAR EPISODE — I recall one similar incident in Malaysia years back when I was chief negotiator, although that was less significant than this one now. Our panel technical committee was not happy with the way and the tenor MILF panel member and my good friend Mike Mastura harangued all of us during the opening salvo on the ancestral domain discussions that we all decided, upon the recommendation of GRP committee head Ms .Zen Brosas that we "boycott" the next session to just show our displeasure. The Malaysian facilitator at that time was Tengku Gaafar who is now back by the way as current facilitator when Datu Othman was replaced recently. When he inquired on the whereabouts of our "no show" team in the scheduled afternoon session, I merely told him in a light and nonchalant manner that Zen brought them out "to do shopping". Tengku understood why. We thought that was our honorable way of reacting or responding to keep our integrity intact. Of course, there are other examples that I will disclose at some other time.

CONSTITUENCIES — .It was also perfectly understandable for the GPH panel last week to immediately publicly profess at the outset that it has constitutional parameters to reckon with, that the residual powers of the executive with whom the MILF is negotiating are not absolute and plenary but have legal limitations and boundaries, mindful of the Supreme Court MOA AD ruling; that there are basic principles that are sacrosanct and nonnegotiable. It was prudent in not addressing directly the "substate" demand of the MILF in its own GPH draft.

The reality is that both panels have their own respective constituencies to take care of, engage with or even massage. In fact, I previously complained that in my previous work, at times it was easier to negotiate and get a deal with those on the other side of the table (MILF) than get those who were on your same side of the table (cabinet, etc) to concur and agree with you. I guess this is true now for both sides when dealing with their respective stakeholders.

To borrow the allegorical words of MILF chair Iqbal, perhaps the MILF wanted "heaven" but the GPH can only give "earth". Or vice versa.

Cont. on page 9

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Is Comelec's legal chief worth crying for?

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "...Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, if only you would hear his voice..." (Psalm 95:6-7, the Holy Bible).

-000-

IS RAFANAN WORTH CRYING FOR? Is lawyer Ferdinand Rafanan, the ousted legal chief of the Commission on Elections (Comelec), worth crying for? Apparently yes, if I am to base my answer on the tears publicly and copiously shed by lawyer Noy Macatangay while he was pleading for a more just treatment by the poll body of Rafanan, in the presence of Commissioner Lucenito Tagle last Tuesday, August 30, 2011.

Tagle, one of the senior officers of Comelec, was the guest speaker of the Capitol Christian Leadership (CCL) during its regular Tuesday breakfast fellowship at the Faith Baptist Church in Quezon City, upon the invitation of CCL Chairman Pastor Jose "Jojo" Lagunzad Gonzales. CCL is a 43-year old association of Christian churches in the Philippines.

Macatangay said the whole Christian community in the country are crying and praying for Rafanan, a Christian whose faithfulness to his faith has made him uncompromising in the discharge of his duties, first as a regional director for Metro Manila and, until his ouster this week, as chief of the Comelec legal department, and which has made him unpopular even among the poll body's bosses.

-000-

THE PRIMACY OF THE CHINESE: The primacy of the Chinese is what I am seeing in the on-going state visit of President Aquino to China. First, it is very clear that Aquino's delegation, though legally called the Philippine contingent, is actually composed of big Chinese businessmen who have successfully established themselves in Manila.

Second, it is also obvious, of course, that Aquino and company are now talking to Chinese political and economic big wigs in China, enticing them to come to the Philippines and invest. If the truth be told, the Chinese are talking to their fellow Chinese!

This would seem to be a fulfillment of what the Bible, in Deuteronomy 28:15, in relation to Deuteronomy 28:43-44, is saying: If you do not listen to God and do not obey Him, the foreigners who live among you shall rise higher and higher while you sink lower and lower, they will lend to you and you will not lend to them, they will be your leaders and you will be their followers, in your own land.

-000-

WHY THE RUSH IN GLOBE ASIATIQUE CASES, PASIG RTC ASKS: It must have been very embarrassing for Justice Secretary Leila De Lima to be told that the syndicated estafa cases filed by the Department of Justice (DOJ) against the owners of scandal-ridden Globe Asiatique Realty Holdings Corp. have been blocked by Pasig City Regional Trial Court Judge Rolando Mislang, a former DOJ prosecutor himself.

I mean, Mislang's order was saying something that the DOJ should have known and followed beforehand: that it could not proceed with the prosecution of Globe Asiatique owner Delfin Lee and company because there is a civil case that is already pending in court, involving the allegedly anomalous loan of P12 billion given to the company.

The question is: if the DOJ was aware that it could not prosecute Delfin Lee yet at this time because of the pendency of the civil case, and Judge Mislang was aware of this inability, how come the DOJ insisted on filing the non-bailable cases against Delfin Lee and company? Why the apparent hurry? That is the clear query of the Pasig City RTC.

Notice To The Public

Want to know more about the cult –Jehowah's Witness

visit the website http://carm.org/jehovahs-witnesses

This advertisement is paid for by Pastor Jules Samaniego of the Good Samaritan Everlasting Christian Ministry

Email: gsecministry@yahoo.com

1st-APLUMA!

Conspiracy theory

MANILA – Hands...salute! We salute the heroism of 12-yearold Janela Arcos Lelis, a sixth-grader who, amid the fury of raging flood waters courtesy of tyhoon "Juaning" that slammed her hometown, saved the Philippine flag.

This feat is normally associated with battle-weary soldiers in the battlefields but lo and behold, Janela will go down in history as the youngest to receive such a rare national accolade.

It may never cost a hundred bucks the cute little Philippine flag that was pinned on her left collar last week is enough remind us all the essence of her deed for indeed our flag, the Philippine Flag symbolizes everything that we have as Filipinos; yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Conspiracy theory

The wheels of the Senate "inquiry in aid of legislation" over the now infamous Philippine National Police chopper deal finally got rolling last Thursday.

Conspiracy among top police officials and several private individuals hung in the air over the P105-million chopper deal for who would sign the deal; certify that two (2) of the three (3) choppers were brand-new.

"Of course there are indications [of a conspiracy]" Director Samuel Pagdialo told Sen. Panfilo Lacson and members of the Senate blue ribbon committee.

Pagdilao is the head of the PNP's Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), which spearheads the probe on the chopper mess.

Expectedly, FG Mike Arroyo, brother and Negros representative Iggy, were a no-show but they were allegedly the stars of the show at the height of the chopper deal transaction during the term of PGMA, now Pampanga Rep.

The former FG vehemently denied on his role of this "choppedoff" chopper deal (as in, would you believe, walang kinalaman) but too much has already been said on the networks and printed on national dailies about his starring role on this.

His lawyers got a reprieved over his "invitation" by the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee thanks to FG's medical engineers who engineered (is it a surgical alibi?) their client is suffering a heart ailment that requires prime medical attention abroad.

Before, it was: "Talk to my lawyers." Now, it's: "Talk to my doctors.

On his way out?

Life just seems so unfair for Customs Commissioner Angelito

Wonder why?

It's like this: Controversies love to dwell on his shadows.

Wherever he goes, or since the time he stepped into the District of Aduana (our own created noun of the place in Port Area Manila where the customs offices is located) issues go with him.

First, there was the issue on "golf scorecard cheating" that exploded like a megaton hydrogen bomb on national tri-media (TV-RADIO-PRINT).

Well, he got away with it but, according to radio commentators this will forever hound him on his persona as customs commissioner saying: "If he can cheat on a friendly game of golf so he can in life's other games.'

He never did that, Alvarez told the media pointblank.

Now he's deep at it again but he's unfazed by calls for his resignation and instead he pushed it on and filed smuggling charges against consignees and brokers allegedly "responsible for the disappearance of cargoes loaded in 1,900 containers bound for Batangas from the Port of Manila."

In a press briefing at the Department of Justice, Comm. Alvarez named respondents in the case as officials and representatives of Sea Eagle Trading, LCN Trading and Moncelian Enterprises. Henceforth, they are no longer allowed to do business with the Bureau of Customs (BOC)

Comm.?

President Noy has allegedly already talked to losing senatorial candidate in Rufino "Ruffy" Biazon.

Palace insiders begged off from confirming the gist of the President Noy-Ruffy private talk but a media leak pointed the possibility of Ruffy replacing Sir Tolits at customs.

MOSH PIT

Losers and Winners Part 1

BY: GRACE BANDOY



WINNER: Virgilio Orca Jr. and Jimmy Fong's functioning Rainwater Harvesting Tanks in Kapangan, Benguet worth Php 774,707.00 only (the rainwater harvesting tanks are providing two schools and households with a stable supply of water aside from the livelihood opportunities that the water system is supporting in the school and the immediate community. The rainwater harvesting tanks are also supporting three duck raising projects and two tilapia ponds. The tanks serve as a simple object lesson on how people can work with nature for their own benefit.)

LOSER: Domogan and Vergara's ERS Machines at *Irisan, Baguio City* worth multi-million pesoses plus additional couple of millions for its operation (One of the multimillion ERS machine is not functioning and while the other one is, our city is losing from its operation due to problems from its very own operations, how stupid is that?! It looks like the city once again ay nagtapon ng pera sa basura..pero pinipilit po ni Mayor that the city will earn from it eventually, let's wait and see!)

WINNER: JAC Liner (who introduced WIFI's on buses, their services trek southern Luzon)

LOSER: Victory Liner (for their freezer-like air-conditioning system!! Lalo na if you travel night time or early morning trips— kung hindi ka naman manigas sa ginaw inside their buses noh!)

WINNER: Batangas, Laguna, Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela, Naguilian La Union, atbp. (for discouraging the use of plastic bags, ang dali lang i -implement!!!! Bayong, sako, supot or bring-your-own-bag!! That is how easy it is to protect our

LOSER: *Baguio City* (for taking forever to implement the non-use of plastic bags here! I-implement lang para matuto ang mga taong sumunod! People will not use plastics anymore if there is a law they have to follow, sanayan lang yan!)

WINNER: Baguio City (for the NO SMOKING ordinance, pero dapat noon pa sila nag-strict sa implementation neto!)

LOSER: *Phillip Morris Company* (for allegedly paying off a complainant causing the suspension of Manila's NO SMOKING ordinance)

WINNER: O Mai Khan (for finally operating in their own building, now we never have to worry for this resto disappearing from Baguio)

LOSER: Mga kainan sa Puso ng Baguio Building (for taking forever for them to open up and operate again, I miss Don Henrico's (ayoko sa SM!) and I miss the Bibingka of Andok's...)

WINNER: The Rainwater Harvesting Project of Baguio (working with nature and our weather conditions are truly the things we should all be thinking about right now)

LOSER: CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE OF **BAGUIO CITY** (meron po palang Climate Change Task Force ang City ilang taon na, ano ang pinag ga gawa nila for how many years??—Wala!!!??)

WINNER: SITEL (for their free, massive advertisements using our public waiting sheds and donating 169 pieces of Sitel vests to the city)

LOSER: **BAGUIO CITY** (if these waiting sheds were rented out – since puwede naman palang mag advertise sa mga waiting sheds natin - eh kumita sana ng pera ang city natin pangtulong sa mga mahihirap instead of nag receive lang ng vests from Sitel para gawing walking advertisements din ang mga street sweepers and garbage collectors na magsusuot

WINNER: Domogan and DSWD (for helping indigent patients in the city – sana true...

LOSER: *Vergara and DPWH* (for wasting millions of But, but, but. Watabout this we heard from the grapevine public money sa pagsira sa maaayos namang mga kalsada!!!!)

THE LOSER OF ALL LOSERS: President P-Noy for coming up to Baguio just to conduct a lighting ceremony sa Burnham Park and for going to John Hay para mag Treetop Adventure!!!!! Wala, yun lang ginawa niya dito. And for the purchase of expensive Blackberry mobile phones and Apple i-Pads for his Malacanang Communications office. Yan ba ang matinong gawain?!

Philhealth Explains 'Kalusugan Pangkalahatan' Roadmap to Cordi

Stakeholders Pangkalahatan' health agenda,

BAGUIOCITY -The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) or Philhealth, in a recent regional health forum with their stakeholders here in Cordillera, outlined the program thrust of President Aquino's health agenda otherwise known as Kalusugan Pangkalahatan' (Universal Health Care) and its implementation roadmap.

According to Philhealth Regional Vice President Leo Douglas Cardona, ensuring unified, affordable, accessible and quality health for all Filipinos is a heavy task but can be gradually and eventually achieved with the collaborative and convergence of effort of all stakeholders.

Cardona explained that President Aquino is now embarking on the 'Kalusugan

which based on its implementation roadmap, is now on its launch phase, to be scaled up by 2012 to 2013 and eventually moving to its sustainability phase up to 2016.

h $K\ a\ l\ u\ s\ u\ g\ a\ n$ Pangkalahatan' implementation roadmap is basically defined by three thrusts which includes: expansion of National Health Insurance Program enrollment and benefit delivery using the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) National Household Targeting System as a tool; improvement/increase access to quality hospitals and health care facilities, and for the attainment of health related Millenium Development Goals.

Cardona stressed that Philhealth is now working in achieving high benefit delivery rate through effective coverage, broadening access to benefits and high value support.

The primary goal of Philhealth is to ensure health insurance coverage to all the 5.2 million poor families listed in the NHTS and in line with this. Philhealth, starting September 1, will also implement 23 new insurance benefit package for its members including 11 medical and 12 surgical cases.

In addition, Philhealth will also start to implement come September 1, a no 'Balance Billing Policy' for their NHTŠ and sponsored members. This aims to provide free hospitalization for the poor Filipino families when confined on Philhealth wards of government health facilities./ JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Baguio City, Benguet Province placed under state of Calamity would be a basis of his recom-

BAGUIO CITY
- The City Council
has declared
Baguio City under
state of calamity in
a resolution the
body passed in a
special session
yesterday.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan, in a media forum said that with the declaration of state of calamity, the city could now tap its calamity fund of about P50 Million to rehabilitate damages to infrastructure especially the retaining wall of the Irisan dumpsite that collapsed last Saturday during the height of typhoon Mina, which claimed the lives of five people, with still missing.

In La Trinidad, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Benguet also passed a similar resolution yesterday morning declaring the province of Benguet under state of calamity.

Benguet Gov-

ernor Nestor Fongwan, in a statement, pressed his gratitude to the members of the provincial board, as the provincial government could now use its P19 Million calamity fund to rehabilitate the roads and other infrastructures damaged by Typhoon Mina.

Meantime, Social Security System (SSS) Assistant Vice President for North Luzon Luis V. Olais, during the Kapihan sa Baguio forum at SSS office yesterday, affirmed that a declaration of state of calamity

of his recommendation to SSS President and Corporate Executive Officer Emilio De Quiros Jr. for the approval of giving calamity loans to its SSS members in Baguio and Benguet areas.

During

the

forum, which was simultaneously aired with the SSS pre-anniversary press conference done through a teleconferencing with SSS offices in Quezon City, Cebu City, Davao City and Baguio, De tasked Ouiros Olais to assess and evaluate the situations Baguio and Benguet for a possibility of providing calamity loans to the typhoon Mina- affected SSS members. / JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Typhoon Mina leaves P282.8 M Damages in Mt. Province

BONTOC, Mt - While typhoon "Mina" left the province with no casualty, it brought much damages on properties, infrastructures and agriculture estimated to more than P282.8 million.

Reports submitted to the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) here shown that national and provincial roads suffered the most damages during the height of the typhoon.

The Mountain Province District Engineering Office report estimated the cost of damages on national roads at P151.3 million while the Provincial Engineering Office put the damages on provincial and barangay roads at P92.8 million.

The two engineering offices reports revealed that roads in the province incurred major and minor landslides, road cuts and road surface washouts in almost stretch of the national, provincial and even the barangay roads.

Maintenance crew of both offices, aided by private contractors conducted landslide punch through clearing operations to make roads passable just after the typhoon. The ongoing maintenance activities are still being pursued to clear road covers, clogged dredges, culverts and boulders along the various road sections.

On agriculture, the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist put the initial damages on crops, fishery, livestock, rice fields and agri-infrastructure at P21.3 million based on the reports received from the eight out of the 10 towns of the province. The two eastern far-flung municipalities of Paracelis and Natonin are yet to submit their typhoon damage reports.

The Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office also reported that typhoon Mina has affected 27,812 families or 117,571 persons throughout the province. Of the affected families, around 490 persons were served outside and inside the evacuation centers. The same office reported that two houses were totally destroyed and 64 houses were damaged at the height of the typhoon.

Reports of the National Irrigation Provincial Office disclosed that various communal irrigation systems in the province also incurred damages worth P15.4 million.

The Department of Education Mt. Province District reported that school properties also suffered damage which include eroded school sites, eroded riprap supporting school grounds, damaged roofing and walls, among others./JDP/ABD-PIA CAR, Mt. Province

Kalinga Cookies now in the Market

TABUK CITY, Kalinga - The locally produced Kalinga cookies are now in the market .

Produced by Sally Pepito of Bantay, this city, the Kalinga Coffee cookies have already gotten the thumbs up of business consultants who keep on pushing for the production of locally produced goods.

The cookies made from organic Kalinga coffee were displayed during the work-on-wheels (WOW) caravan of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) last week at the Kalinga-Apayao State College, Dagupan campus that became the favorite of food hunters particularly among the young.

Sison Paut, Chief Executive Officer of the International Association for Transformation (IAT) witnessed how the Kalinga Coffee cookies were just a mere coffee by-product and now a thing sought by a craving consumers.

He said Pepito was one among the participants trained by the DTI-IAT under the partnership of training small and medium enterprisers (SMEs) to engage in micro-businesses that have available ingredients and raw resources at home.

To continue supporting SMEs, Paut said IAT assured Pepito to give her free oven to bake more cookies for the local market. Kalinga Coffee cookies are sold at P10.00 and P30.00 in two different packs sizes

P30.00 in two different packs sizes.

It was also learned from Paut that the other SME enterprisers they trained are on the business planning stage and are engaged in buy and sell for the mean time. He said two are given capital assistance from the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) that downloaded P3 million to the BIBAK Cooperative as conduit of the loan program for SMEs./JDP/PAB-PIA CAR, Kalinga

DOT Working with LGUs, Private Stakeholders to **Improve Tourism Statistics Gathering**

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Tourism (DOT) is now working with the different local government units (LGUs) and private stakeholders in efforts to improve the gathering of tourism-related statistical data in the region.

DOT Regional Director Pura Molintas, during the Tourism Summit last week,, informed that they are now providing trainings to tourism officers in the different LGUs in the region on tourism statistics and on improving the capacities of LGUs on tourism related programs.

Here in Baguio, Molintas also affirmed that they are also including in their trainings personnel of some tourism establishment such as members of the Hotel and Restaurants Associations of Baguio (HRAB).

Molintas is also open to the proposal of HRAB, through its president Baguio Country Club General Manager Anthony De Leon, for a creation of a secretariat that would handle tourism statistical data. She, however, stressed that members of the secretariat should undergo training for the needed technical requirement or know-how.

Molintas also outlined the importance of the LGUs and the tourism related establishment of providing them correct, accurate and timely statistical data, as this will be the basis of the rating of Baguio, as well as Cordillera as a whole, as far as tourism is concerned.

"If we will be able to perfect the system the tourist arrival, this will catapult us to a higher level than what we have earmarked here in Baguio", Molintas stressed.

Meantime, City Tourism Officer Benny Alhambra also reported that insufficient monitoring of tourist arrivals and other tourism-related data is one of the concerns that the city government must address.

"The responsibility of providing credible statistical data calls for the need for manpower, equipment, training and technical knowledge of statistical activities and processes. With the current organizational structure and limited resources of the City Tourism Office, there is insufficient monitoring not only of tourist arrivals but other tourismrelated data as well", Alhambra said.

Data from non-commercial and unregistered accommodation facilities such as retreat or residential houses is excluded from our official statistics which is why the city's tourist arrivals data is understated. Alhambra added./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

SSS Starts Production of new IDs

Sept - The Social Security System (SSS) is now producing Cebu, Davao and eliminate the backnew and modern Baguio City, last log, so our members identification cards that will be given free to all of its member.

firmed by SSS President and Corporate ID under the UMID Executive Officer (Unified Multi-pur-Emilio De Quiros, in pose ID) System. a live teleconferenc-

BAGUIO CITY, ing with SSS offi- waited a long time cials and the media for their IDs and we in Quezon City, are now working to Wednesday.

"Another breakthrough for which will also serve This was af- this year is the issuance of the new SSS Our members have

can reap the benefit of UMID cards as IDs for Philhealth (Philippine Health Insurance Corporation), Pagibig (Home Development Mutual Fund), as well as

GSIS (Government Service Insurance System)", De Quiros announced.

To eliminate their backlog, SSS produces about 5,000 cards per day, which they plan to gradually increase to its maximum capacity of 20,000 cards.

According to De Quiros, the new

Cont. on page 11

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Estate of the late ROMEO EMBESAN YMANA who died intestate on May 10, 2005 at Dagupan, City Pangasinan, was the subject of an extrajudicial settlement executed by his surviving heirs on August 25, 2011, recorded in the notarial registry of Atty. Melita Amylesha D. Macaraeg as Doc. No. 009 on Page No. 002, Book III, Series of 2011.

Publication Dates September 3, 10 and 17, 2011

Grandma Found After 5 Days Under Trash Slidefrom page 12

The OCD identified the other casualties in the trashslide as siblings -Revuller, Apolinario, and Frando Flores aged13, 10 and 15 respectively, and Jeffonie Cael,18 and sister and 21 years old Noemi.

Luces reported that the six perished when the retaining wall of the Irisan dumpsite collapsed Saturday during the height of typhoon Mina and tons of garbage covered their houses.

She added that clearing operation at Km. 5, Asin Road where the garbage cascaded, is still ongoing and a Command Post is now established there to fully supervise the garbage clearing operation. The command post is headed and manned by Baguio CDRRMC.

The Cordillera Region is one of the hardest hit during the onslaught of the typhoon. At least 14 died in the region, eight in Baguio City, four in Abra and two in Benguet.

Two more people are reported missing in the province of Abra and kalinga while 17 were reported injured.

The city of Baguio and the province of Benguet have been declared under state of calamity by the city council and the Sanguniang Panlalawigan respec-

Meantime, Social Security System (SSS) Assistant Vice President for North Luzon Luis V. Olais, during the Kapihan sa Baguio forum at SSS office Wednesday, affirmed that a declaration of state of calamity would be a basis of his recommendation to SSS President and Corporate Executive Officer Emilio De Quiros Jr. for the approval of giving calamity loans to its SSS members in Baguio and Benguet areas./JDP/RC- PIA CAR

Pinoy, kaya natin to! Yes, the Filipino can!

Correspondence American Institute

Pinoy, kaya natin ito! Yes the Filipino can!

ACI Learning Systems

Home-based correspondence and/or on-line learning Be a Professional Medical Transcriptionist (MT) and/or Legal Transcriptionist (LT) right at your own home!

- Learn and train at your own pace & time.
- . No more hassles of stiff and rigid schools/training centers
- Cheap, affordable, practical.

After completion of training, choose among the following:

- Avail of ACI's job hunters support program
- Be an independent medical and/or legal transcriptionist and do home-based transcription from our local and/or US based affiliate MT/LT companies
- Be an MT/LT with any of the local Medical/Legal Transcription companies

www.itdynamicsphil.com Mobile: 0917-5061005(074) 442-3583

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

Advocacy Mindanow......

.....from page 5

"OPEN CARDS"-This seemingly wide gap between the two positions, at this stage of the negotiations is clear and apparent for everyone to see. The conduct of today's negotiations is such that, as repeatedly pointed out, everything has to be made public. It's like playing poker or any card game where "all cards are flipped open on the table". There are no more surprises. This is a new track in peace negotiations. But I guess, with what happened in the past, and mindful of the fate of the failed MOA AD and its violent aftermath with some lessons learned, both sides had no other choice but to pursue this unusual track of "negotiating publicly".

If you ask me, having been there as chief negotiator once, this is more difficult than the one we were used to. For one, every tom, dick and harry will now try and dip his finger in an already complicated and difficult process. Then, the negotiator cannot keep his cards close to his chest for some higher strategic or tactical consideration. Everything is out in the public domain. There is not much leeway for the negotiators to work on.It's a bit close to a 'take it or leave it" proposition. It may fast track the resolution, well and good. But it may also result to an early impasse or breakdown. Or worst, an early collapse of the talks

SUSTAINABILITY — My old fashioned belief was that peace negotiations is a tedious process in itself that allows sufficient time, irrespective of how long a time it will take, to build confidence, heal wounds, redress grievances and build or strengthen relationships and institutions and slowly evolve a mutually acceptable sharing of paradigms and arrangements bringing about the eventual consolidation of all stakeholders, if not all

then the critical mass. Now, it seems we do not have the luxury of time. Everyone seems to be impatient and cannot wait any longer. We all know that quick results or "quickies" necessarily bring about issues of sustainability and endurance. The process in itself has shifted to a new paradigm. Then there is the temptation and tendency of trivializing or simplistically viewing the long - unresolved issues that had impelled people to take up arms that cost countless lives and sufferings not only of those directly involved in the conflict but by the whole body politic. Alas, this where we are today.

HARD GRIND BEGINS this stage now, positions are declared and battle lines are clearly drawn. Both drafts are now in. The "issues are joined", as we lawyers usually say. The hard grind begins.

I have not read both drafts. But I have been briefed of MILF's position. I also read GPH's recently released summary briefer entitled "Eleven Characteristics of the Government Proposal"

My take is that while initially, it's like "heaven and earth" apart, there is opportunity now for both sides to bridge that gap. If you read closely the GPH summary briefer, my personal assessment is that it was adroitly crafted as a watershed document to contain a set of principles and vithat are mostly common to both sides. Putting flesh to them is crucial. It also provides a process that may lead, if properly and delicately handled, to a mutually acceptable settlement. (Take note that there

is nothing there to indicate that it rejects or excludes anything, NOT EVEN A SUB-

NO OTHER CHOICE — At the end of the day, the final configuration of a peace settlement will really depend on the evolution of the negotiations and the enabling environment that the critical mass of the constituencies will be comfortable with and accept. And conformable with mutually shared principles on both sides. Nothing

Of course, along the way, there will be critics, so-called third party plotters, do-gooders, doomsayers, non-conformists, oppositionists, grandstanders, doubters, hecklers, trouble makers, deal breakers, peace blockers, etcetera. They are considered "given" and are part of the scenery. Who knows, they may also help distill ideas. There are also those who serve as they stand and wait. But we all have no choice but to find some final settlement. We should not all rest until and unless the bangsamoro aspiration is adequately addressed. The dire alternative is the pestering un-peace, not only in the land, but most especially in the hearts of those who yearn for and who understand the imperatives for peace.

So, back to the negotiating table, everyone! There's a lot of work to do ahead! And the task is not that easy! In the meantime, let 's all back off and give enough room to the negotiators of both sides to untangle this maze./jessdureza@gmail.com

Editorial

.....from page 4

ders. "Oh, yes, we do, doctor," the Burmese replies. "But in Myannmar, we're not allowed to open our mouths.

Par Par Lay is, in fact, the "Moustache Brothers" No.1. With Lu Zaw, Moustache Brother No. 3, Par was jailed for six years for anti-government jokes. London's "Telegraph" calls the three brothers "arguably the bravest stand-up comics in the world today'

"Jokes are acts of defiance the world over", write Steven Lukes of Baliol College at Oxford, and Hebrew University 's Itzhak Galnoor in their book: "No Laughing Matter." "The time to worry is when the jokes limbes. Now, she has good head control stop." A joke about Gloria Macapagal Arand fair trunk control," social worker stop." A joke about Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and the Cardinal is apt.

"Say President Arroyo is a saint in your Sunday sermon and Catholic Charities gets this P5 million check", an aide says. "Deal," the Cardinal replies. As GMA sits in the front up. Like that time Eugene Valbuena de-Maguidanao massacre to Pagcor P1.3 billion he took of her. coffee bill. Then came the P5 million clincher: Compared to Mike Arroyo, President Gloria is a saint."/Juan L./ Mercado

Lawmaker

.....from page 2

continued delay in the reopening of the Hello Garci electoral scandal despite the number of witnesses who have come forward indicating willingness to tell all.

He urged the Aquino administration to take advantage of the momentum created by the surfacing of witnesses and their revelations regarding the electoral fraud in 2004 and 2007.

The senator urged the Supreme Court to institute sweeping reforms to dispel the common belief that cases involving the rich and powerful are allowed to drag on for as long as 20 years eventually leaving no one punished.

"We need institutional reforms to improve the efficiency of our judicial system,"

J WEEKEND

The senator asked that investigations and trials be speeded up without violating the constitutional rights of the accused and he suggested a joint meeting of representatives of the three branches of government to discuss and recommend mechanics that can be adopted given today's present set of laws and policies.

"How do we limit the time of investigation? How do we limit the time that they are prosecuted and speed up the hearings? he asked.

Cayetano noted that the country could learn from other countries that succeeded in advancing the state of their judicial systems where a guilty party holding a high position in society is promptly punished.

"In our country, it's all drama but no conclusion," he added.

He stressed that if the government is serious in reforming our judicial system, the office of the Ombudsman and the Department of Justice should begin to resolve long-pending cases.

'The on-going investigations into the use of the PNP helicopters and the stillunresolved Hello Garci scandal will be a good place for them to start," he suggested./ Office of Senator Alan Peter Cayetano

Can you Spare

.....from page 2

market.

To make ends meet, her mother, Annaliza, recently joined the fleet of Filipino domestics in Hongkong.

Hannah is afflicted with cerebral palsy and spastic quadriplegia, according to a case study report of the Stimulation and Therapeutic Activity Center of Baguio, Inc. (STAC 5) where her grandma brings her for therapy.

The medical terms mean damage to the motor control center of the brain that affects all her four limbs, resulting in difficulty of movement.

"Before availing of the therapy sessions at STAC 5, baby Hannah (would just lie) down for hours without moving Maria Isabel Buanzi noted last year.

The serious affliction has not affected her smile, which comes each time other members of the family cheer her pew, the Cardinal rips into every scandal, livered the adult wheelchair for tempofrom Hello Garci, ZTE broadband scam, rary use and then showed her the picture

"She can (communicate) through gestures like smiling and raising of eyebrows to indicate a positive response," social worker Buanzi said.

The adult wheelchair came from SM Foundation, through executive director Connie Angeles who responded to the appeal of an adult patient recuperating from a heart attack. The patient eventually recovered and asked that the wheelchair be passed on to another patient needing

It will be passed on to another adult patient once Hannah gets one fit for her

Anybody who can spare one may ring up Hannah's dad at 09123173957 or visit the girl at 132, Purok 1, Poliwes Barangay or course it through punong barangay Joseph Del-ong./ Ramon Dacawi.

Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter S. Cayetano Kontra-SONA speech August 8, 2011 Full Transcript 4th of 5 parts

Mr. President, sa Pilipinas po bawal magnakaw nang konti. Pag konti ninakaw, nakukulong. Pag napakalaki ang ninakaw, nagiging makapangyarihan, may pang-areglo at na-a-abswelto.

Again Mr. President, let's learn our lessons so that we can be a successful nation.

Mr. President, not everything in the past is bad. Sabi nga po, there's the good and the bad in our past. In fact, we should also see the things that we are doing well. Let's not forget our partners.

Halimbawa po, sa **housing**, hindi ba po, ang NGOs katulad po ng habitat for humanity, katulad po ng Gawad Kalinga, ay napakadaming bahay na itinayo all over the country?

Pero siguro po, nagtatanong din sila, nagtatanong din lahat, pagdating sa housing, do we know where we're going to? Ano ang plano? Ilan ang kulang? I'm sure that there is a program. I'm sure everyone's doing a good job. Ang question lang po, nako-communicate ba? Alam ba natin kung ano ito?

Mr. President, sa LGUs, paborito ko pong pakinggan kay Presidente Erap noong araw 'yung palagi niyang sinasabing "ang mahirap lalong humihirap at ang mayaman, lalong yumayaman". Hindi lang po sa tao 'yon. Pati po sa local government units na partner dapat ng national government.

Bakit po? Ang mayayamang siyudad, habang palaki nang palaki ng IRA, palaki nang palaki din ang real property tax. Dahil marami po na mga gusali na tinatayo. At sa mga gusali na ito, mayroong negosyo. Kaya ang mga business tax, pumapasok din.

Sa mga mahihirap po na LGU, maliit ang IRA, pareho lang sa dati at hindi pa rin sapat. Ang problema po, wala silang real property tax dahil wala po masyadong mga gusali doon. Wala po silang ita-tax. Wala rin mga negosyo.

Kaya ang mga LGUs po na mayayaman, lalong yumayaman, ang mga LGUs po na mahihirap, lalong humihirap even if in principle, they are partners of the national government.

There are so many great LGUs. For example po, 'yung programa po sa health – yellow card sa Makati na ipinagyayabang ito sa buong bansa.

There are a lot of great innovations in the local government in which the national government failed and the local government succeeded.

In the city of Taguig po, ang uniporme po, idinedeliver sa bata – libre at tahi na po. Libre lahat ng notebooks, libre po ang lapis, ballpen, etc.

Sa Naga City, kung narito ang Secretary ng DILG, 'yung mga innovations na ginawa nila doon ay napakaganda. We can go on and on.

Si Speaker Belmonte po, noong mayor siya ng Quezon City, ang daming success ng LGU.

But have we learned from them and are we helping them?

Mga **religious groups** po and our people as a whole, have we learned from the past and are we communicating with them? Are we harnessing their support, Mr. President?

Mr. President, madalas po nating pakinggan mula sa inyo na mayroon namang vision pero hindi po sapat na sinasabi lamang na mayroon. Alam ko po after the second SONA it became clearer, we had private talks with the President in signing deals, naging malinaw sa akin ang vision. But in the whole country, all Filipinos should have a sense of a perfect vision—of the vision of what the President wants our country to be.

20-20 po, perfect vision. Hindi pwedeng malabo. Kailangan malinaw. Bakit? Kasi kahit nakasakay ka sa bus, sa tuwid na daan, hindi mo naman alam kung saan pupunta, magiging komportable ka ba? Sasakay ka ba? Mayroon bang sumasakay sa jeep o tricycle,o kahit sa LRT, na hindi naman alam kung saan pupunta?

Mr. President, it is our duty to clarify what our vision is. After the vision, Mr. President, kailangan po ng roadmap, ng plano, ng blueprint.

Bakit po? **Because a vision without a roadmap is like a dream without an action plan.** Ang panaginip ay mananatiling panaginip, o magiging pangarap lang, kung wala tayong plano.

Clear plans, blueprints, or roadmaps of how we intend to achieve our vision – these are what we need.

Mr. President, ang isang biyahe, o ang journey na walang roadmap, is like an excursion without a destination. Walang nagyayaya na mag-escursion muna tayo kung hindi naman nasasabi kung saan pupunta. Mr. President, do you know where we're going to?

Mr. President, we also need a higher standard of performance and a system of feedback and monitoring.

I've noticed, we keep comparing ourselves with the administration of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. In so far as showing na may wang-wang sila, tayo wala, nag-agree din ang gobyerno nila na sa atin mas malinis, ok po 'yon. To show na abusive 'yung isa at atin hindi, maganda po 'yon.

Pero kung ikaw ay isang estudyante, hindi mo naman ikukumpara ang sarili mo sa isang bagsak na estudyante. Kung may kaklase ka na bagsak, hindi 'yon ang dapat na comparison. Huwag natin i-compare. Sinabi nga natin na failure ang administrasyon ni Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, kaya nga po nahalal ang mahal na Pangulo at ang mga kasama niya.

Let's have a higher standard. Ano ang dapat natin na standard? Ang standard dapat ng estudyante, 'yung valedictorian. At kung valedictorian ka na, ang dapat na maging standard mo, yung valedictorian ng mas malaki at mas magaling na eswelahan. At kapag ikaw na ang pinakamagaling na eskwelahan sa inyong bayan, dapat ikumpara mo ang sarili mo sa eskwelahan sa inyong probinsya. Kapag ikaw na ang pinakamagaling sa iyong probinsya, regional na. kapag regional na, sa pinakamagaling naman sa buong Pilipinas. After that, intenationally na ang point of comparison.

That's why I keep comparing our country to Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia. We have to compare ourselves with them, so we can strive to do better. Again, Mr. President, do you know where you're going to?

Mr. President, we need an organized, pragmatic, and systematic way of fighting graft and corruption.

Mr. President, how are we preventing the officials and employees of the present administration form committing the same mistakes, if government transactions are being operated under the same cloak of secrecy and impunity?

Mr. President, ako'y naniniwala na malinis ang iyong administrasyon. Ako'y naniniwala na hindi ninyo ipapahiya, or that you will uphold the legacy of your great parents, Senator Benigno Aquino and the late president Cory Aquino. Ako'y naniniwala na malinis ang Aquino family.

But that doesn't mean that every single person in your administration is like you. Hindi ibig sabihin na lahat ng sinama mo sa inyong gobyerno ay malinis. Kaya nga ipinasa ang GOCC law. Kung malinis lahat at hindi humihingi ng mataas na allowance, eh 'di sana hindi na kailangan ng batas na ganyan.

Hindi din naman tamang sabihin na lahat ng corrupt ay nasa dating administrasyon. Dahil marami sa mga nakasama mo na lumaban sa dating administrasyon ay nasa oposisyon ngayon, pero marami sa mga sumuporta sa dating oposisyon ay kasama rin sa administrasyon na ito.

What I am saying, Mr. President, is **let's have institutional reforms**. Baguhin natin ang batas that hinder all of this—the fight against graft and corruption.

For example, Mr. President, this is the best time to pass the Freedom of Information Act Bill. The FOI law will help us fight to uncover past mistakes and strike fear among the incumbent officials that they will not commit the same graft and corruption.

Mr. President, kapag ipinasa ang FOI, 'yung pong kape ng PAGCOR, kung ano man ang totoo doon, 'yung fertilizer scam, ZTE, lahat po 'yan malalaman natin. Every citizen will now become a graft buster.

Ngayon po, miyembro ka na ng media, senador ka na, congressman, hindi ka pa makakuha ng impormasyon. But with the FoI, we can do that better.

Mr. President, ang sabi ng Pangulo, kung walang corrupt, walang mahirap. Mawawalan po ng corrupt kung sila'y kakasuhan at kung sila'y ikukulong.

Second, Mr. President, lahat ng public officials po ay exempted dapat sa Bank Secrecy Law. Noong araw, sa aparador o sa ilalim ng kama ay pwedeng itago ang pera. Pero ngayon po, kailangan mo ng financial vehicles. Bank accounts are one of these.

Kapag may hearing po tayo dito, tinatanong natin palagi, "are you willing to open up your bank account?" Tinanong po natin 'yan sa kaso ni Gen. Garcia. Tinanong po natin 'yan doon sa PCSO. Pero paano naman ang mga incumbent officials ngayon?

Hindi ba maaaring sabihin ng Pangulo, habang ipinapasa pa ng kongreso ang bill ni Sen. Lacson, na nagsasabing exempted tayo sa bank secrecy law, lahat ng public officials ay mayroong ahensya na pwedeng tingnan ito, hindi naman sinasabi na pwedeng i-publish ang bank accounts mo, pwede lang tingnan o silipin ng tamang ahensya o organisasyon na nagbabantay sa atin.

To be continued

City Declared

.....from page 3

chased recently to help solve the garbage woes.

Vice mayor Daniel Farinas agreed that "addressing first the needs of the people affected by the trash slide and the damage it has caused is the main priority of the council."

City social welfare and development office said the victims will also be given monetary assistance by the city.

Continuous clearing of the washed out garbage is being undertaken by the city's garbage trucks while other volunteer trucks are helping in hauling out the remaining trash.

At least eight persons were reported dead and two were injured during the on-slaught of Typhoon Mina in the city.

The fatalities of the trash slide were identified as Reveller Genesis Tacio Flores (13), Apolinario Tacio Flores (10), Jefonie Leon Maglanga Cael (18), Frando Tacio Flores (16), Noemi Cael (20) and their grandmother Antonia Tacio.

Other fatalities reported due to landslides which happened in other parts of the city are Floro Caguay Soliven (32) and Alex Dawen Magno (63).

At least 16 landslides, 8 soil erosions, 10 eroded rip-rap walls, 11 fallen trees, 7 floodings and a trash slide were reported./ paul rillorta

Mayor on Dumpsite.....

.....from page 3

that he has no choice but face legal action or whatever remedies that the victims of the disaster might resort to because of the incident.

"It's understandable and it's their right if they will seek legal action against us and naturally we have to defend ourselves but they should understand that nobody wanted this to happen. My conscience is clear because we did what we thought was best to address our garbage problem including avoiding this unfortunate incident. Let history judge us on how we undertake our duties as city executive," the mayor said.

He however appealed to the victims to be wary of people who intend to take advantage of their present situation to pursue their ulterior motive as reports have reached him that some people with questionable motives have offered to assist the victims to pursue filing cases against the city government.

"I hope they will not allow themselves to be used by these people who will take advantage of their misfortune just to gain one over us or the city government," he said.

He said his priority at present is to undertake the necessary remedial to address the immediate problem at hand which is to clear the waste avalanche and rebuild the retaining wall to prevent further accidents.

He said he is open to the conduct of an honest-to-goodness investigation of the incident after the immediate concerns have been dealt with.

He said that with the declaration of the city under a calamity state by the city council last Wednesday, the city can now undertake these rebuilding and clearing operations.

"We will do what is needed to be done and follow all the recommendations from the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the city engineer's office as to the rebuilding of the collapsed wall," he said.

He said the city will avail of the sanitary landfill facilities from Pangasinan and Tarlac to haul out the old wastes that covered houses and blocked Asin Road.

He clarified that the city has for some time now not been using the Irisan dumpsite as an open dumping area but merely as staging point for residual wastes in compliance with its present status as controlled dump facility.

It will be recalled that the NSWMC in March last year gave the city government the go signal to continue implementing the civil works for the closure and rehabilitation of the Irisan dumpsite and enabled the city to reuse the site strictly as controlled dump facility.

The NSWMC earlier conducted the site assessment survey in 2009 to determine the general conditions of the site and the additional requirements for the continuation of the closure plan.

For the long-term waste solution, the mayor said the city will still pursue an engineered sanitary landfill deal with Benguet province at a site situated between Kias and Philex mines.

He said he has signed an agreement with Benguet province on the ESL project which will be undertaken by a Korean proponent.

He said the Itogon town council was set to deliberate on a resolution adopting said project last week.

He said that apart from the ESL project, another solution would be the strict implementation of the segregation policy in the city which will help maximize the operation of the Environmental Recycling System (ERS) machines and at the same time realize the residual waste hauling out deal with Protech Machinery Corp. where the firm will take charge of these residuals at no cost to the city./A Refuerzo

OWWA

.....from page 12

to 28, in Luna, Apayao.

The said training, which was conducted in partnership with the Apayao State College, was participated in by 20 female OFW returnees. According to Ponciano, the graduate-trainees could also readily venture into a food business since through the program they will also be provided with starter equipment for their business venture./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

SSS President.....

.....from page 12

members still accounted for bulk of contributions amounting to P37.13 billion, though he said that collections from Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) have already breached the P1-Billion mark within six months and grew by 18 percent from P929 million in the same period last year.

The increase in collection is credited by De Quiros to various programs that they have implemented this year such as expanding the range of cut-off dates for contribution and loan remittances of members and employers which eliminates long queues during payment deadlines and by expanding their payment options. Payment can now be done electronically or through over the counter payments at banks, SSS branches and accredited collection agents.

Another significant program of SSS that contributed to a higher collection is

the Loan Penalty Condonation Program for employers which ended last June. "The program led to the payment of unpaid loans of more than 86,000 members, which accounts to P941 Million without them paying for the one percent monthly penalty", De Quiros

stressed.

"I am proud to tell you that SSS has made great strides in the past year in our effort to improve SSS' financial capabilities and the expertise of its people to deliver good and quality service to our growing membership which is now peg at 29 Million" De Quiros added.

He also stressed that SSS is pushing a Reform Agenda, in consultation with the stakeholders, which proposes to raise the contribution rate and monthly salary credit ceiling to address structural limitation that hinders the level of SSS benefit and prolong the actual life of the fund.

"The plan also includes a 10 percent across the board pension increase to help our pensioners cope for their expenses on maintenance medicines and basic needs. The talks with our stakeholders have been fruitful and we hope to reach a consensus on the date of its implementation soon," De Quiros said./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

SSS Start Production

.....from page 8

UMID ID has a contactless chip and magnetic stripe, which stores information. Aapart from identification purposes, it will also be a transaction card that can eventually be used in withdrawing benefits and loan proceeds from Automated Teller Machines (ATMs).

The SSS card production stopped in April 2010 when its Card Production Facility broke down after more than 10 years in operation.

De Quiros clarified that the 11 million members who were earlier issued IDs can still use it in transacting with the agency, but those seeking replacement for lost ID will be charge with a replacement fee./jDP/LD-PIA CAR

The Peace Combatant

.... from page 4

Urdaneta, Pangasinan. However, in Urdaneta, the haulers of our city's garbage were arrested for "illegally" dumping garbage in the town.

The failure of the garbage facility to operate despite the millions of investment of city may be another legal vulnerability of the city as transparency on the city's decision to purchase of the machines or on the operation of the facility are also questionable.

How do we move forward from here? I think the best thing to do is to rise up from this tragedy and use this tragedy to develop a good city image based on our ability to manage our garbage and maintain our environment clean. We must rebuild the reputation of our city based on a good waste disposal system, clean environment, urban forests, and nice scenery from our upland ecology. Meantime, we must indeed look into the legal accountability of our local officials and file the appropriate charges were warranted. The city must also indemnify the victims of the Irisan garbage tragedy, especially those who were killed.

(The author can be contacted through artboquiren2040@yahoo.com, 0927-536-8431, and Facebook)

Mt. Province Town Passes Ordinance

SADANGA, Mt. Province - This town will now be imposing charges on the use of aerial wealth with the recent approval by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Municipal Ordinance No. 101, se-

on use of Aerial Wealth

The imposition of fee provided in the ordinance requires owner or operator of antenna mass base/tower telecom/disk to pay an annual charge of P25,000.00 and operator or owner of tower for cell sites or relay station and other towers over 15 meters in height shall pay an annual charge of P40,000.00.

The ordinance provides that the annual charge imposed shall be paid every first quarter of every succeeding year. Early full payment made every first month of the first quarter shall have a ten percent discount and payment made after the first quarter r shall be subject to a surcharge equivalent to 20% of the original amount due.

The Local Government Code of 1991 empowers the local sanggunian of the local government unit to impose a tax, fee, or charge or to generate revenue, hence the need for an appropriate ordinance to collect annual charges for use of aerial wealth.

To implement the ordinance, a committee composed of municipal mayor or his duly designated representative, the Committee Chair of the Sanggunian on Communication, the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, Municipal Engineer, Municipal Assessor, Municipal Treasurer and the Municipal Liga President will be created.

The committee is tasked to survey the number of towers, supervise the implementation and monitoring of the ordinance, collect the annual charge and required permit, and recommend to the mayor suspension of any construction work of any telecommunications facility for violation or non-compliance with the provisions of the ordinance.

On the part of the owners and or operators of telecommunication facilities, the ordinance requires them to secure permit from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC); those without permit shall have six months grace period to secure their per-

Pending the issuance of the permit by the NTC, the operator shall be liable to pay the annual charge imposed by this ordinance; and failure to secure the NTC permit after the given grace period of six months, the municipal mayor with prior notice shall order the dismantling of the telecommunication facility within 30 days

This ordinance exempt telecommunication facilities being used by the government from paying the annual charge.

Commercial/private telecommunication operator attached to or using facilities previously owned by the government are also subject to pay the annual charge imposed in the ordinance./jDP/ JBS-PIA CAR, Mt. Province

SSS President and CEO Reports P13.14

B net revenue made the report expenditures. "Due

Social Security System (SSS) Presi-Executive Office Emilio De Quiros Jr. reported that SSS posted a P13.14 net revenue in the first six months of the year, reflecting a 15 percent increase compared to their P11.43 Billion net earnings during the same period in 2010.

terday morning, as said. part of SSS' 54th an-

niversary today. that SSS gross revenue grew at a faster seven percent in-

De Ouiros crease in their total BAGUIOCITY in a live teleconfer- to prudent spending, encing with SSS offi- our total expenses of cials and members of P3.75 Billion is P440 dent and Corporate the media in Quezon Million less than our City, Davao, Cebu expected expenditure and Baguio City yes- of P4.19 million", he

> reported a 10 percent De Quiros also collection increase in proudly announced the first six months with a total collection of P47.72 Billion conrate of nine percent tributions, compared compared with the to the P39.02 Billion collection from Janu-

> > Cont. on page 11

The CEO also

ary to June of 2010. According to De Quiros, employed



DIGGINGS, DIGGINGS and MORE DIGGINGS. Congressman Bernardo Vergara and the DPWH continue to dig and reconstruct "good" roads along Naguilian Road and Quezon Hill amidst the outrage of citizens passing through these roads, the diggings cause gross traffic especially during school days./Grace Bandoy

OWWA conducts "Balik Pinay, Balik Hanapbuhay" training to OFWs in Baguio, Apayao

CITY - The Overseas Workers Welfare Administra-(OWWA-CAR) is currently conducting 'Beauty Care and Wellness Training' to 22 female Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) at their Reintegra-Training tion Room at the Regional Welfare Office in the city.

According to OWWA-CAR Regional Director Manuela Peña, the' Balik Pinay! a 1 Hanapbuhay!' is a joint project of OWWA and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), which aims to provide immediate source of livelihood assistance through skills and entrepreneurial trainings and giving of start-up kits, returning to women OFWs, especially to domesdisplaced ticularly in Middle East.

The training, which was integration Center opened yesterday by for OFWs) Starter Peña and DOLE Training Kit so they Baguio-Benguet Pro- could immediately vincial Officer Samuel venture into self-em-Lasdacan, will in- ployment. clude beauty care skills and competen- were also graduates cies, such as facial of the two-day Encare, basic hair-cut- trepreneurship Deting, hair bleaching velopment Training (and styling, and EDT) conducted by manicure/pedicure. the OWWA Re-Wellness training for gional Office, in parthand and foot spa will nership with the Dealso be included.

sons for the 6-day and Land Bank of training included the Philippines (LBP Edna Ladia, a sea- last August 23 and beauty 24. soned care instructor of the Baguio Technical Vo- OWWA-CAR percational Skills Train- sonnel, headed by ing Center School (OWWO III Dina BTVSTC), along-time Ponciano also conpartner of OWWA- ducted a three days CAR under their 'Balik Pinay, Balik Skills Employment Hanapbuhay!' Train-Scholarship Program ing on culinary arts (SESP).

ers Welfare Officer

(OWWO) IV Loreta Vergara, the training BAGUIO tichelpers, who were focal person, also due stressed that upon to hostilities in their completion of the six host countries, par- days training, particithe pants shall be receiving their DOLEsix-day NRCO (National Re-

> The participants partment of Trade Resource per- and Industry (DTI)

> Meantime, on snack food prepa-Overseas Work- ration last August 26 Cont. on page 11

JUNCTION Rates 1 page: P14,000.00 1/2 page: 7,500.00 1/4 page: 3,750.00 1 col. cm. P83.00

Rate discounts available depending on volume of ad placements

Judicial Publication Rates: 80% of commercial advertising rates as per PD 1079 and SC. A.M. No. 01-1-07 **Corruption?**

Tired of Graft & Contact Number (0917) 5069123, (074) 442-3583 or you can write to P.O. Box 1588, 2600 Baguio City e-mail: linisgobyerno@yahoo.com website: www.linisgobyerno.org

Linis Gobuerno is an anti-graft, corruption prevention and detection office.