

THE WEEKEND JUNCTION



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

Pahayagang palaban!!! **Disasters set back efforts to fight poverty**



Numerous land slides of this type and other larger ones . Natures wrath while man's best friend sits calmly in the middle of the road. Photo taken on October 10, 2009 along the Ambuclao Road (also known as the Baguio Benguet - Vizcaya Road) . Photo by O. Trazo

NPPA/PNS — With six years to go before the deadline for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Philippines continues to lag behind on its targets to reduce poverty by year 2015, and the series of natural disasters further threatens development efforts.

The MDGs are eight time-bound goals aimed at significantly reducing, if not completely eradicating, extreme poverty by 2015. Of these goals, the Philippines lags behind its targets on

eliminating poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, reducing maternal deaths, and combating HIV and AIDS.

“More than one-third of the population are still living on less than one dollar a day, over five million children are not in school, 93 newborn babies and 11 mothers are dying everyday, HIV and AIDS cases are growing, with the youth increasingly becoming more vulnerable, and environmental resources are depleting.”

Cont. on page 9

Pag di natin pigilan ang Global warming maraming Peping pa ang ating mararanasan



OCD: Disaster Risk Management, An Effective Tool Against Climate Change....p3

No rest for volunteers in times of disaster.....p3

Where are the forest guards ?.....p12

Lawmaker Pushes Abolition Of Pork Barrel.....p2

Lawaker Appeals For Real Estate, Vehicle Registration, Income Tax Breaks For Ondoy Victims.....p12

DIRETSAHAN

*MGB – M GA INUTIL BA ???
TARA NA SA BUSOL SKWAT NA
TAYONG LAHAT !!!HOY MGA
TAGA JOHN HAY, ELEKSYON
NA, TULONG NA!!!*

BY RUDY "BANTAY SIYASAT" GARCIA



on page 4

FAIR AND SQUARE

More Falsities In The LTO

BY: JAMES S. VALEROS



on page 5

Lawmaker Pushes Abolition Of Pork Barrel

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero said yesterday he favors abolishing the pork barrel system. The 39-year-old lawmaker made his position clear on the issue during ANC's "Face-to-Face" forum with four presidential candidates Tuesday morning.

"My definition of the pork barrel is this lump sum allocation. The current system poses a problem since we do not know where it came from or where it goes. I am in favor of abolishing the pork barrel system and institutionalizing

line-item budgeting," he declared.

Escudero said that since 2005, when he was still serving as a representative of Sorsogon, there hasn't been a single release of his pork barrel. "Based on my experience, one could still serve as a congressman or senator without the pork barrel," he said.

With the elimination of the pork barrel, legislators have no jurisdiction and business in the actual identification and implementation of government programs and projects at the national and

local levels.

"What you see is what you get. The provinces will be able to see how much is spent and where it is spent on," he said.

Escudero added that this move would solve the problem of corruption and proper utilization of government funds. "Iwasan na natin o tigilin na natin yung 'pichy-pichy.' Ibig sabihin, 100 meters dito, 50 meters dito. Sa susunod na taon na yung kalahating tulay, tapusin natin next year (yung kabila)."

"We have forgotten that a bridge

Cont. on page 10

Ira Sharing Rates Between Lgus Should Be Reviewed

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday said he is in favor of reviewing the rates allotted to local government units (LGUs) in their share of the Internal Revenue Allotment, saying the proportions under the Local Government Code may not be responsive to the needs of the changing times.

"We should remember that Republic Act 7160 or the Local Government Code was enacted in 1992 and the formula for the respective shares of provinces, cities, municipalities and

barangays remain the same up to date. It is time we revisit this and make the proportions more responsive to the needs of LGUs," Escudero said in a statement.

Under RA 7160, the proportions of LGUs in the IRA are: provinces, 23 percent; cities, 23 percent; municipalities, 34 percent; and barangays, 20 percent. Further, the respective shares of these LGUs will be determined by the following: population, 50 percent; land area, 25 percent; and equal share, 25 percent.

Escudero said that although he does not espouse a

specific formula for the proportions of the IRA between LGUs, he said that the sharing ratios should be based on the needs of particular localities. "Do the rates still apply? Perhaps it would be better to focus on who needs more and who needs less from the national government," he said.

The Philippines is currently composed of 81 provinces, 136 cities, 1,495 municipalities.

The 39-year-old senator also said he is in favor of increasing the

Cont. on page 10

Congress Should Ok Resolution Suspending Loan Payments By Ondoy Victims To GFIs

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday called on his colleagues in Congress to immediately approve a joint resolution mandating all government financial institutions (GFIs) like the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), Social Security System (SSS) and Pag-Ibig to suspend loan payments of borrowers

who are victims of typhoon Ondoy for at least 60 days.

"I make a somber call to all my colleagues in Congress to sign this resolution for the sake of those affected by the calamity. Time is of the essence as the people turn on their leaders for aid in this time of acute distress," Escudero said in a statement.

"The State has the inherent power and authority to intervene and protect public interest such as their welfare, health and comfort; it is a universal policy of any State, serving as parent of its citizens, especially those are in need and underprivileged," the 39-year old lawmaker said.

The senator's call is contained in Joint Resolution No. 31

Cont. on page 10

Lawmaker To Governor Of Llda : Resettle Laguna Residents Immediately

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero is calling on the provincial government of Laguna and the management of the Laguna Lake Development Authority to immediately resettle the 700,000 residents who were displaced by the

floods brought about by typhoon Ondoy (International Code name: Ketsana).

"I am urging Laguna Governor Teresita Lazaro and LLDA General Manager Edgar Manda to provide a sustainable resettlement

plan for the people who have lost their homes and are facing the possibility that they could not go back anymore," he said.

He added that the typhoon victims used to rely on Laguna Lake for their

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No rest for volunteers in times of disaster

Low on equipment but high in spirits, city and volunteer rescue workers had their hands full responding to calls for help as typhoon Pepeng unleashed its fury on Baguio and the rest of Northern Luzon last week-end.

As the storm lingered, bringing back the city to signal No. 2, the City Disaster Coordinating Council base at city hall remained open Wednesday, ready

for more emergencies and hardly giving the rescuers time to recharge their batteries and rest.

It was relief enough for them to register no casualties, except for a boy reportedly missing after he fell from a bridge into the swollen tributary of the Balili River along Magsaysay Avenue. Although the missing boy was still to be found, city administrator and

CDCC action officer Peter Fianza expressed relief his team rescued eight minors who sought refuge under the Magsaysay bridge before the water level rose.

“We had a catch-me-you-can’ situation,” Fianza said as the minors, aged between 8 to 16, were not keen on being taken away from what served as their haven for some-

Cont. on page 11

OCD: Disaster Risk Management, An Effective Tool Against Climate Change

BAGUIOCITY– Tropical Storm Ondoy and Typhoon Pepeng successively hit the country in a span of two weeks, which resulted in loss of hundreds human lives and millions worth of damages to properties, infrastructures and agricultural products. Is this a result of climate change? Some experts agree, others don’t, though whatever is the answer, we need to make our communities more resilient to disasters.

Office of Civil Defense (OCD-CAR), Regional Director Olivia Luces stressed in two forums last week- Department of Health (DOH) on Climate Change and Cordillera Regional Disaster Coordinating Council Technical Working Group (CRDCC-TWG) forum on Climate Change, that building the resilience of communities to disasters through Disaster

Risk Management Plan, is a very effective tool against climate change.

The OCD, mandated to protect lives and properties, not only during the times of war but also during disasters, has already shifted from reactive emergency management to a more pro-active disaster risk management in 2005, in line with the government’s Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) and the United Nation’s Millennium Development Goal (UNMDG).

Luces explained that Disaster Risk Management is more

pro-active as it covers both pre-disaster and post-disaster actions. “It includes mitigation, preparedness, response and rehabilitation, which are keys in building the resilience of communities to disaster, as well as for poverty reduction,” she said. Luces also stressed that Disaster Risk Management centers on three focus areas namely impacts of hazards on social system, role of knowledge and education, and the importance of indigenous knowledge to disaster risk reduction; and Capability building for na-

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Baguio Senior Citizens Group Launches Advocacy For Responsible Voting In 2010

BAGUIOCITY– Proving once more that senior citizens are still a driving force in nation building, the Blessed Association of Retired Person Inc. (BARP) launched in a forum last week its advocacy centered on “responsible voting” for

the May 2010 elections.

First in their agenda is to encourage all young people, who will be eligible to vote come May 2010, to come out and register and exercise their right to vote.

According to Mr. Narciso Padilla, Media focal person of BARP and the

president of the Baguio Elderly Association (BEA), a group composed of the five major senior citizen/retired persons associations in the city with about 22,000 members, their advocacy will start as a family affair, wherein each member will ensure that the

Cont. on page 10

IP Month Celebration Focuses On Iec On Ipra

BAGUIOCITY– The Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) is 93% Indigenous People (IP) populated and because of this, the Cordillera Regional Development Council (RDC) has declared the whole month of October as Indigenous People’s (IP) Month.

CAR is the only region, in the country that is giving recognition to IPs for a whole month, stressed National Commission for Indigenous People (NCIP-CAR) Technical Management and Service Division head Recto Alawas, in a radio interview.

For the IP celebration, Alawas reiterated NCIP-CAR Regional Director

Atty Batay-An’s directive that they will be spearheading a simple yet meaningful celebration, as most of their efforts right now will be re-directed towards giving assistance to IPs and Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs), who are heavily affected by the series of typhoons that recently hit the country.

The NCIP will continue to endeavor with their development advocacies and with such, they will be joining Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns on regional autonomy to ensure the inclusion of IP concerns in such development agenda. The NCIP will also be coordinating the conduct of an inter-agency IEC on land tenure instrument among the local government agencies.

Alawas also stressed the importance of having more IEC campaign on the IPRA since many people are still confused with regards to the said law. With

this, the NCIP is planning to conduct IEC (on IPRA) on other government agencies, local government units and the communities. Due to limited funds, however, Alawas is encouraging government agencies, LGUs and even local communities to invite them if they have scheduled forums so as they can provide IECs regarding IPRA. Alawas also stressed the need for clarification about some provisions of the IPRA, who are being considered as controversial, such as the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC), Certificate of Ancestral Land Titles (CALT) and Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT).

As an example, Alawas cited that under the IPRA, a CADT cannot be sold and a CALT can be sold under several conditions, and with this he also clarified that an ancestral land that was legitimately or legally sold cannot be redeemed even if they use or invoke the IPRA./ Lito Dar/PIA

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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

Bitter Math

Are people of other Philippine cities headed, like Metro Manila residents, to slosh in a world of typhoon muck and submerged streets? We very well could. Shrug off Storm “Ondoy’s” lessons —and see.

This typhoon unleashed the worst floods to inundate the National Capital Region in 40 years “Ondoy” lashed Vietnam, before petering out in Cambodia. By the time you read this, Super-typhoon “Peping” may have slammed the door on the way out.

At “Ondoy’s” peak, only a fifth of the metropolis remained above water. The 277 death toll is still climbing. And 1.8 million were displaced. They waded through sewage, stalled vehicles and garbage, to ruined homes. Economic losses could run into billions.

EDITORIAL

Can that happen here? “What we are seeing is a

phenomenon that will affect many major cities in Asia,” says Neeraj Jain, Asian Development Bank country specialist for the Philippines. “Urbanization has been so rapid. Yet, the planning processes have lagged.”

Over 12 million people are crammed into 1669 barangays of the metropolis. Yet, all Metro Manila had was a sketchy obsolete barely-funded emergency plan. Perpetually fuelling over territorial limits, metro mayors gave lip service to preparedness.

Thus, government’s action was patchy, late and directionless. All the scrawny underfunded National Disaster Coordinating Council could field, for example, were 25 rubber boats. And half lacked motors.

Can you say other cities are better equipped? No? Then, who in their City Hall or Capitol will wail, as NDCC’s Anthony Golez did in “Ondoy’s wake:” The system was overwhelmed. Local government units were overwhelmed.”

What system? snaps Inday Espina-Varona on Facebook. “Do the math” instead. The bill for Le Cirque and Van Steakhouse dinners for President Arroyo, the First Gentleman and hangers-on alone could have bought 25 bancas.

“But that’s spare change to Mrs. Arroyo’s travel expenses”, she added. Commission on Audit reports showed P95 million incurred, by the Office of the Press Secretary were charged to Palace’s contingent funds. That sum would provided more than half the boats Metro Manila-Rizal needed.

The President, meanwhile, declared a “state of calamity”. She threw Malacanang open to evacuees. Fine. A government, spilling over with VAT taxes, meanwhile, held out the begging bowl for international aid. Here is the bitter math of greed multiplied by official myopia.

“Such tragedies bring out the best in the Filipinos”, wrote Fr. Shay Cullen in his Hong Kong column, “As politicians and officials cowered in their mansions... ordinary citizens saved hundreds”. Laborer Muelmar Magalanes, 18, pulled 30 women and children to safety, only to be swept to his death. Judge Raph Lee yanked over a 100 people to dry land with his jet ski... NGOs and church workers pitched in.

This is greatness of spirit. A nation is perpetually marginalized without such treasure. “A man’s life does consist in the abundance of his possessions”. How can we ever thank these legions of generous self-effacing Filipinos?

Citizens must insist that reforms, long ignored by officials, be finally undertaken. Lack of preparedness, by national and local governments, has been criminal. Nobody again should die because officials were slack.

“Nothing is ever done in this world until men are prepared to kill one another if it is not done,” George Bernard Shaw once wrote.

Like Metro Manila, other city’s rivers are treated as latrines. They’re clogged with plastic are waste. Sanitation systems are primitive. BBC’s film “of desperate people riding floating pontoons

Cont. on page 8



DIRETSAHAN

MGB – M GA INUTIL BA ??? TARA NA SA BUSOL SKWAT NA TAYONG LAHAT !!! HOY MGA TAGA JOHN HAY, ELEKSYON NA, TULONG NA!!!
BY RUDY “BANTAY SIYASAT” GARCIA



Nakakaalarma ang mga “bulong-bulungan” na marami na raw “tas-bu”(butas) sa ilalim ng Baguio City. Espekulasyon man Ito o hindi, hindi ito dapat ipagkibit-balikat lamang ng ating mga konsernadong opisyal... lab na ang DENR na mukhang natutubog lang sa pansitan samantalang unti-unti nang gumuguh ang ibang parte ng bukidbundukin sa Tuba at Itogon, dahil sa pagmimina, katufad na fang dito sa may Camp 6 at Camp 4 ng Kennon Road, Tuba, Benguet. Ilang beses na silang nasaltik dito sa kolurnn na ito pero mukhang makakapal ang “apog” ng mga lintek na nakaupo sa munisipyo ng TUBA, DENR at mga bosing sa kapitolyo ng La Trinidad. Baka hinihintay pa nilang maanod ng tuluyan ang Kennon Road bago sila kumilos... at ano rin kaya ang ginagawa ng mga opisyal na iniluklok sa puwesto ng madlang pipol sa Baguio? Baka hinihintay rin nila na mapunta ang Iungsod sa Pangasirian o sa La Union. Bakit kaya hanggang ngayon ay nag-iisnaban pa rin ang mga opisyal ng Baguio at Benguet sa halip na umupo at pag-usapan na ang problema sa napipinto pang pagdating ng mas marami pang “landslides” bunsod sa walang habas na pagmimina? “TAMANA ANG PA-EKLAT NINYO, GISING NA, AYAW NAMIN NA MAILIBING NG BUHAY ANO?” Hoy,... Gisilingli!

PINAG-UUSAPAN na dito sa konseho ng Baguio kung paano masingil ang napakalaking utang umano ng “JOHN HAY” sa lungsod. Ayon pa kay COUNCILOR PALAGANAS, dapat na rin daw masingil ang mga konsesyunaryo doon. Sa aking opinyon, mismong pamunuan ng Commission of Bases Conversion ng John Hay ang dapat mgabayad at hindi ang mga umuupa lamang, kumbaga, hindi kuwalipikado ang mga “concessionaires” na mag-“enter pleading” as a third party sa korte kung sakali... aba dapat apurahin na ng ating mga pinuno sa Baguio para masingil na ang mga “balasubas” di ba City Legal Officer Atty. MELCHOR RABANES? Singilin na ang DAPAT na PARA kay JUAN,... BILIIIIISH!!!

HIHINTAYIN daw ni Baguio City Mayor Reynaldo Bautista, Jr. ang “WRIT OF EXECUTION” na hanggang ngayon ay hindi pa ipinalalabas ng korte suprema hinggil sa naudlot na demoihsyon sa Busol Watershed... pinakialaman kasi ito ng “pro-poor” kuno na NCIP kaya naudbot ang “gibaan blues”... kung ganito lagi ang mangyayari, na may makikialam sa pag-iimplementa ng ating batas, sigurado ko na marami pa ang maglalakas loob na mag-iskwat ke WATERSHED o FOREST RESERVATION man... at hanggang may mga opisyal o ABOGAGO... este ABOGADO na kumakatig at nagproprotekta sa mga ito na kapalit ay boto o datung,... QUO VADIS

Cont. on page 9

FAIR AND SQUARE

More Falsities In The LTO

BY: JAMES S. VALEROS



Some people in the LTO in Baguio will probably not stop making moves until they meet their doomsday, if ever it will come to them. For, in the government bureaucracy, that's hard to come by. Let's make the case of things in the LTO.

First, it was about the upgrading of year model of a unit of motor vehicle. By the touch of its magic wand, the LTO can make a 1995 year model sedan or wagon become 1998. There is nothing effectively wrong with this if applied to a privately owned car, especially if the motor vehicle is well-maintained.

But not so in a for-hire car or taxi. A 1995 sedan or wagon taxi, supposedly already phased out in 2008, can still legally operated for another three years if upgraded to a 1998 model, courtesy of the LTO.

Good for the operator but woe unto the commuting public who will have to ride and pay for a dilapidated taxi. The owner of such taxi who already spent a lot for the upgrading of year model by LTO personnel will certainly not bring out pennies again for the maintenance of the taxi. It will be phased out anyway and come that time, he will just have to spend again for another upgrading of the unit.

Then, there was this LTO system or procedure of changing the chassis of wagon taxi, a much, much better version of upgrading the year model. This is not truly an authorized procedure, but it is done anyway because here big money is involved. Never mind if caught, nothing will happen to the administrative case anyway. That's how it goes in the bureaucracy, the LTO not excluded.

In this system, whether or not the chassis of the taxi is actually changed or "pinukpok lang", a 1995 Toyota Tamaraw FX taxi for instance becomes a 2009 FX taxi again, by the use of the magic wand kept in the LTO. So, the taxi owner in this system though spending much, much more compared to the upgrading of year model is for sure compensated though because the taxi can be used or be operated for another 13 years, perhaps one if the procedure is repeated.

Obviously, the riding public here will suffer more compared to the upgraded taxi, but the LTO wouldn't care less since it gains more without feeling any qualms about it. Why? It believes the procedure is legal because by changing the chassis, it is equivalent to the rebuild of a unit which can be categorized as new just like in the case of jeepneys and buses.

While there is a policy by the DOTC under Dept. Order No.96-965 that effects the phase out of a taxi unit after 13 years reckoned from DATE OF MANUFACTURE, for the LTO, this is a matter of choice. There is no money by following the Dept. Order, so it would rather opt for the policy of rebuilt. After all, it is not its fault. The LTRFB-CAR has issued the franchise, hence, the LTO is obligated to register the unit like a rebuilt jeepney.

Then, there is this issuance of unauthorized or fake yellow stickers. Just like in the upgrading of year model and change of chassis, the victims here or rather the beneficiaries are the taxi operators whose units are about to be phased out and who are willing to spend and to be duped just so they could extend the operational life of their taxis.

While LTO personnel are not directly involved here because the yellow stickers are allegedly sold by "fixers" who abound in the LTO premises, it is hard to believe that they are not aware of it. At least the LTO Flying Squad will know because this racket has been going on for quite some time.

It is unfathomable how the LTO could do all these falsities. It is even more unfathomable why the LTO management couldn't stop them.

Are all the LTO personnel sporting the same shade of colors?

Whatever, we know there is now an ongoing investigation in the LTO by the Regional Director of the DOTC-CAR of personnel who might have been involved in these irregularities. If nothing happens in these investigation, then the public can make their own proper conclusion or choice.

Black or white or gray?

CORDI NAWI

*The Papal Letter on Sunday
(14th of a Series)*

BY: EMILIO LIWANEN

*Causeth All to Observe Sunday*

The goal of the papacy is to regain its lost glory and world influence. As in the past, the Roman papacy continues to work through governments to enforce Roman Catholic laws.

"The Christian world will learn what Romanism really is, when it is too late to escape the snare. She is silently growing in power. Her doctrines are exerting their influence in legislative halls, in the churches, and in the hearts of men. Throughout the land she is piling up her lofty and massive structures, in the secret recesses of which her former persecutions will be repeated."

The following excerpt from section 66 of *Dies Domini* serves as contemporary proof of the papacy's hidden agenda to (a) influence civil governments and (b) cause "everyone" to obey its traditions, the commandments of men—particularly about Sunday observance." In this manner, my predecessor Pope Leo XIII in his Encyclical *Rerum Novarum* spoke of Sunday rest as a worker's right which the State must guarantee." This declaration foreshadows the coming national and international Sunday laws. The papacy wants the State to guarantee that every worker has not only the right but also the "obligation" to observe Sunday as a rest day.

Dies Domini adds, "In our own historical context there remains the obligation to ensure that everyone can enjoy...at least one day of the week on which people can both rest and celebrate...Naturally, this [presupposes the] right of workers to rest...on...Sunday." The phrase "in our own historical context" means "today" and "now". The word "obligation means that the State needs to decree "laws" ordering its citizens to rest on Sunday. The phrase "at least one day of the week" "naturally" means "Sunday" and not any other day of the week.

Throughout history, the laws promulgated by the Roman Catholic Church have applied not only to Catholics, but to "everyone", including non-Catholics. The following quotes from section 66 show that everyone will be obliged to rest on Sunday. Legislation will "thus enable everyone to keep the Lord's Day holy" and "everyone can enjoy the freedom, rest and relaxation...of Sunday." "The people can both rest and celebrate." The Pope believes that Sunday legislation is necessary so that "everyone" can rest on Sunday. In other words, the State must guarantee that every worker is obligated to observe Sunday.

Revelation 13:18 declares that the number of the beast is 666. Ironically, section 66 of the encyclical letter calls for a State-legislated Sunday observance. Six is deficient and imperfect number from a Biblical numerology point of view, while seven is a perfect and complete number. Thus, the Bible speaks of the seventh-day Sabbath, seven churches, seven seals, seven trumpets, seven thunders, seventy weeks, seventy elders, etc. Section 66 is the heart of *Dies Domini*, issued by the beast represented in Scripture as having the numeral letters 666, because it openly calls for Sunday civil legislation.

Like *Dies Domini*, the Catechism of the Catholic Church calls for Sunday rest legislation. The key words noted above in *Dies Domini* appear in the Catechism excerpts below. Under the subtitle "The Sunday obligation", the Catechism states:

"on Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate Mass" (no. 2180)

"For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation". Under the subtitle "A day of grace and rest from work", the Catechism continues to cite the same key words which appear in section 66 of *Dies Domini*, emphasizing that everyone must rest on Sunday:

"The institution of the Lord's Day [Sunday] helps everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives" (no. 2184)

Cont. on page 9

"Pepeng" leaves P201 M in Abra damages

BANGUED, Abra - The Abra Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council (PDCC) came up with cost damages in the province wrought by supertyphoon "pepeng" estimated at P201,278,154.13 as of 4:00PM of October 8, 2009.

The cost estimate of losses involves damages to infrastructure, agriculture to include damages to agriculture lands, crops, fisheries and livestock, as well as housing in 23 municipalities.

Based on PDCC report, a total of 16,535 families or 84,805 individuals in 195 out of 303 barangays province-wide were directly affected by the supertyphoon. Of these, 193 families were served in evacuation centers. A total of 5,176 families mostly located along the riverbanks were also served outside of evacuation centers in 11 municipalities.

Losses in infrastructure particularly national and provincial roads were estimated at P9.8 M. Damages include road cuts due to landslides and erosion of road shoulders and reinforcement concrete

pipes and ripraps on road shoulders.

Damages to agriculture include damages to crops most especially palay which are already on their flowering stages, fisheries, livestock like carabao, goat, swine and poultry, as well as damages to agricultural lands. The cost estimates do not yet include the damages incurred in communal irrigation systems of which the National Irrigation Administration is still trying to establish.

The Abra Electric Cooperative, though, it has already restored power in 60% of its service area, has estimated P14,477.836.13 cost of damages. This could still increase as its personnel continue to conduct pole to pole monitoring. Because of this, they appealed to the public to inform them of the exact location where electric posts have been felled to facilitate the rehabilitation of the damages and be able to restore the power supply in their respective areas.

As a preventive and preparedness measure, the PDCC conducted early warning signals to people in flood-prone

barangays through the help of the local media and the Association of Barangay Captains. Preemptive evacuation were likewise carried out.

As a quick response mechanism of the PDCC, it had distributed emergency relief of food stuff to the affected individuals. The National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) immediately issued authority to the National Food Authority here to issue 600 bags of rice to the PDCC for relief operations.

Aside from the relief operations, the national and provincial engineering offices have fielded their men and equipments to the major road networks particularly the Abra-Ilocos Sur National Road to keep the roads open to vehicular traffic for emergencies and to pave the way to necessary assistance should the need arises.

Provincial Governor Eustaquio P. Bersamin also provided cellcards to the members of the PDCC involved in the operations during the height of the supertyphoon to facilitate communication for monitoring and reporting purposes. / Maritoss Beñas/ PIA-Abra

Pepeng leaves 2 deaths, P171 M damages in Kalinga, Ifugao

TABUK, Kalinga - Two persons died while three others were injured at the height of typhoon Pepeng that also left P68 million worth of damages in infrastructure and crops, reports from the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council (PDCC) showed.

The victims were identified as Glen Juan, 17, of Barangay Aciga, Pinukpuk who died from severe diarrhea in the aftermath of typhoon Pepeng and another unidentified victim who drowned in Barangay Taga of the same municipality.

The report showed an estimated P38,067,296 worth of damages on rice, corn and high-value commercial crops, while damages on roads, bridges, public buildings, schools and irrigation facilities is placed at P30M.

At the height of the typhoon, authorities evacuated 1063 families in the municipalities of Tabuk, Rizal and Pinukpuk to various evacuation centers to preempt further damage to life. The PDCC report showed 53,313 persons, 11,020 families in 122 barangays affected from the weeklong rains wrought by the weather disturbance in the province.

The report

showed an initial P668,247 worth of relief goods and services coming from the provincial government, Office of the Congressman, local governments of Tabuk, Rizal, and Pinukpuk, Red Cross and from other private sources delivered to victims.

Typhoon Pepeng also rendered closed various road networks leading to the province. Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)-Kalinga Engineering District (KED) sources said the Tabuk-Bontoc road is not passable due to slides, wash-outs and damaged bridges. Tabuk-Tuguegarao road, the main road network to Kalinga, is also closed due to the damaged Aliog bridge.

Motorists take a longer route passing through Barangay Bulu going to Tuguegarao, Cagayan. DPWH-KED said it will take sometime before the bridge can be restored.

Meanwhile, in the province of Ifugao, damages to crops and infrastructure left by typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng is estimated at P103,614,510.00.

The Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council (PDCC) reported that infrastructure damages reached a total of P100M including provincial and national

roads, and flood controls in the different towns here. Several landslides also rendered the roads linking Kiangon to Tinoc and Banaue to Mayoyao not passable.

Engr Orlando Sarol and Engr Noli Tayaban from the Provincial Engineering Office said that most of the damages in provincial roads are eroded road shoulders.

The typhoons also left P2,629,510.00 worth of damages to agriculture. Provincial Disaster Officer Marcela Cortez said that agricultural crops destroyed by typhoon Pepeng were palay, banana, snap beans, corn, papaya and sweet pepper.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) also monitored prices of goods. Accordingly there was no increase in the prices of basic commodities here.

Ms Miriam Baguidodol, the head of the Provincial Sustainable Development Division here said that the local disaster councils both at the provincial and municipal levels were activated and ready to respond to any disaster related incidents.

With the preparedness and alertness of all concerned, there was no casualty this time, Baguidodol said/ PIA

REPUBLIC OF
THE
PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL
TRIAL COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
BAGUIO CITY

OFFICE OF THE
CITY SHERIFF

PRODUCERS RURAL BANKING CORPORATION,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. 09-154-S
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE CONTRACT UNDER ACT 3135 as Amended

Versus

SPOUSES RACKY D. DOCTOR & DIVINE C DOCTOR,

Mortgagors

x ——— x

SHERIFF'S
NOTICE OF SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for the sale under Act 3135 as amended filed by PRODUCERS RURAL BANKING CORPORATION, hereinafter referred to as MORTGAGEE, as against the SPOUSES RACKY D. DOCTOR & DIVINE C. DOCTOR, hereinafter referred to as MORTGAGORS, for the satisfaction of the mortgage indebtedness which as of April 14, 2009, amounts to PESOS: SIX HUNDRED FIFTY SIX THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY EIGHT & 50/100 (Php 656,758.50) inclusive of interest, penalties but to exclude other charges incidental to the foreclosure proceed-

ings, the Clerk of Court/Ex-Oficio Sheriff thru the sheriff-in-charge MARANI S. BAGOLOD, will SELL at public auction on 4th day of November 2009 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the Lobby 2nd floor Justice Hall Bldg., Baguio City, over a two (2) parcels of land more particularly described as follows, to wit:

TRANSFER
CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE NO. T-8421 6

A parcel of Land (Lot 3-A-5-C, psd-131102-007487) being a portion of Lot 3-A-5; Psd-131102-006944, situated at Res. Sec. "H" city of Baguio. Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NW, along line 1-2 by Public Land; on the NE., along line 2-3 by Lot 3-B (LRC) Psd 119896; on the SE alone

line 3-4 by Lot 3-A-5-A of the subd. plan; on the SW, along line along line 4-5 by Lot 3-A-5-D (Alley) of the subd plan. Beginning at a point marked "I" x x x x x x x x to point of beginning : containing an area of TWO HUNDRED NINETY (290) SQUARE METERS, more or less.

Registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of RACKY D. DOCTOR; married to Divine C Doctor, both of legal age, Filipinos and with postal address at No. 4 Tulliao, Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan.

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
NO. T-88979

A parcel of Land (Lot 3-A-5-B, Psd - 131102 - 007487) being a

portion of Lot 3-A-B. Psd- 131102-006944, situated at Res. Sec. "H", City of Baguio, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., along line 1-2 by Lot 3-A-5-C of the subd. plan on the SE., along line 2-3 by Lot 3-A-5-D (Alley) of the subd. plan; on the SW, along line 3-4 by Lot 3-A-1, Psd-131102-006944, on the NW along line 4-5 by Lot 3-A-I, Psd-131102-006944; on the NW, along line 5-I by Public Land. Beginning at a point, marked "I" x x x x x x x x to point of beginning; Containing an area of TWO HUNDRED NINETY (290) SQUARE METERS, more or less.

Registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of RACKY D. DOCTOR married to Divine C. Doctor both of legal ages, both

Filipino Citizens, and with postal address at No. 4 Tulliao, Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan. Prospective buyers/bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the real properties mentioned above and its encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Baguio City,
Philippine .
October 7, 2009.

By: (SDG)
REMEDIOS B.
REYES
Clerk Of Court
VI/Ex-Oficio
Sheriff

By: (SGD)
MARANI S.
BACOLOD
Sheriff IV
TIN No. 137-060-982

Copy furnished :
To all parties
concerned
Publication dates :
October 10, 17 and
24, 2009

Editorial

..... from page 4

of garbage down inundated streets were a sign, not just of the consequences of the flood, but also its causes".

Squatter colonies proliferate on rivers and creeks —source of their drinking water and gastroenteritis. The likelihood of floods is high, says the think tank: Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia.

"Much of the blame for poor urban management ought to be leveled at the government., National Institute for Policy Studies Lambert Ramirez told Time magazine. while salvaging appliances from his own flooded home "There's no coordinated policy for cleaning up garbage. There's no political will to get even simple things done."

Long term planning is often the first victim of short term election plans. And the horizons of many politicians today don't go further than 2010. What will separate the men from the boys are those who can factor in population growth, jobs, nutrition, zoning, deforestation to potable water, budgets. — and climate change."

"Ketsana or "Ondoy" was a startling, unique event," says Herminia Francisco of the EEPSA in Singapore. "But then I think this is going to happen more and more frequently in the future."

And officials of other Philippine court disaster if they continue business as usual with bitter math of greed multiplied by official myopia./J.L.Mercado

Ifugao to stand up and fight poverty

LAGAWE, Ifugao - Heeding to the call of the national, provincial government and other concerned groups in the fight against poverty, people coming from different sectors in the province will stand up on October 15-18 to fight poverty.

Provincial Population Officer Miriam Baguidudol said that about 1,000 people here will participate in this activity. "Let us send a louder message to end extreme poverty and achieve the

Millennium Development Goals," she said.

The three day global mobilization seeks to send a loud and clear message from citizens to leaders of rich and poor countries to take urgent action to achieve the MDGs and once again break the Guinness World Record for having the largest number of people participating in a single event.

Baguidudol said that the MDGs are a set of eight time bound concrete and specific

targets aimed at significantly reducing, if not decisively eradicating extreme poverty by 2015.

The targets are embodied in the Millennium Declaration of 2000 which were signed by 189 world leaders from around the globe including the Philippines, she added

The eight MDGs are as follows: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower

women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV-AIDS malaria and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability and develop a global partnership for development.

2009 is a time of great challenge for development in general and the MDGs in particular. "We are seeing the potentially devastating impact of the global financial crisis on the world's poorest and most vulnerable," Baguidudol said./Vency D. Bulayungan/PIA-Ifugao

Disasters Set

..... from page 1

said United Nations Population Fund Representative and UN Advocacy Group Chair Suneeta Mukherjee in today's press conference for the 2009 Stand Up Against Poverty Campaign, which adopted the local theme "Stand United, Fight Poverty."

UN Millennium Campaign Deputy Director Minar Pimple also spoke of the necessity of "disaster-proofing" the MDGs, which means integrating disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning so that it contributes to MDG achievement.

"Efforts to avoid or at least mitigate further losses are a must by all concerned if achievement of the Goals by 2015 is to be a realistic proposition. Disaster proofing the MDGs is a need of the hour," he said.

Former national treasurer Leonor Briones of Social Watch Philippines, meanwhile, said widespread measures need to be taken to minimize the impacts of recurrent floods, droughts, and other hazards that further exacerbate the poverty situation.

"Life has been a calamity for 3.7 million Filipino families with no food, no education, and no health care. The numbers are steadily increasing with the impacts of extreme weather conditions regularly happening nowadays," Briones lamented.

At the press conference, Social Watch and UNMC launched the "I Vote for MDG" campaign, which encourages voters to know their candidates in next year's elections and support those who will have the MDGs as their platform of government.

The Stand Up campaign is a global mobilization of people happening on October 16, 17 and 18 to demand world leaders to deliver on their promise to end poverty by 2015. A series of activities organized by multi-sectoral groups will be held nationwide during the three-day campaign, such as fund-raising marathons, environmental clean-up, community dialogues, and tree planting, among others.

Diretsahan.....

..... from page 4

BAGUIO?... unless na merong uupo na talagang may POLITICAL WILL, diba Apo Meyor B at Konsehal Aliping? Tekang Meron na pabng task force para dito ah, tignan nga natin kung TOTOHANAN itoo IWAS-PUSOY lang... sinong gusto pumusta?

Kung meron man dapat na SALUDUHAN sa mga konsehal ng Bagulo, ito ay walang iba kundi si Konsehal ELAINE "KABSAT" SEMBRANO.. Nakikita kasi natin ang kanyang pagiging masigasig sa trabaho bilang isang konsehal!. Dahil sa kanya, mararni ang nahuling nagbebenta at nakumpiskahan ng "double dead" na karne ng mga baboy at rnanok sa paengke at sa Lakandula St. noong Setyembre 24, 2009. Op kors, gusto ko ring saluduhan ang dalawang bata ni POSD Chief Engr. GREGORIO DELIGERO na sina MR. ELPIDIO DONGGAYAO at MR. SINOR

LAGYOP na siyang namuno sa naturang operas yon gayundin sa VETERINARY OFFICE CVO at NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION SERVICE. More power sa inyo mga sir at mam!

...At alam nyu ba mga suki na noong kasagsagan ng pag-reresponde sa mga nasalanta ng bagyong si "pepeng" at "quedan" bukod tanging si Councilor "Kabsat" Sembrano ang nakikita na nag-oobertaym sa kanyang opisina? Aba, dapat tablan naman sana ng hiya ang mga ibang opisyal dyan at pamarisan nila si Councilor Elaine Sembrano, diba mga kapamilya?

MUNTIK-MUNTIKAN ng matabunan ang di pa natatapos na istrakturang pinag-aagawan nina Kapitana SINO CRUZ ng Kayang Hilltop at Kapitan OCON ng Camp Allen sa may Kayang Extension. Dahil sa walang patid na ulan noong kasagsagan ng bagyong Pepeng ay bumigay at gumuho ang bahagi ng Iupa sa may Camp Allen na nasa itaas ng bahagi sa Upper Kayang St. Dahil dito ay natumba ang posteng kuryente at narnemeligro na mahulog ang mga bahay na naapektuhan....Agad namang nagresponde sa lugar ang mga opisyal ng KAYANG HILLTOP pero wala ni isa man umano sa CAMP ALLEN. Ano ba yan Kapitana UKEN,....este OCON, bakit nanman gusto ninyong "angkinin" ang lugar na yan pero noong kailangan na ang tulong ninyo eh wala kayol? Aba, kung sa grasya eh mabilis pala kayo, pero kung sa disgrasya eh "no way" kayo? Ganun po ba yun? Nagtatanong lang naman po ako apo Kupitan.... este Kapitana.

Marami talaga tayong maipagmamalaki dito sa lungsod ng Baguio. Bukod sa tayo ang nakagawa ng da largest pizza, da longest longganiza, da largest salad, da biggest Philippine flag, etsetera, pinili pa ni pipols tsamp MANNY PACQUIAO ang lungsod para pag-ensayuhan, at bilang ganti kay Pacman dapat din siyang bigyan ng magagandang pribilehiyo at serbisyo katulad ng mga sumusunod.

A) Mag-ikot sa mga kalsada kasama ang mga opisyal at mga "sampid" at "Chavit"...este "sabid" with matching "hagad" na akala mo nagpaparada ng mga magagarang sasakyan. Di ko lang alam kung "exempted" sila sa "numbers coding"

B) Bumili sa palengke ng karne ng baboy o rnanok para sa kanyang pagkain pero siguruhin lamang niya na hindi ito mga "double dead" meat. Para sigurado, magpasama siya kay Konsehal ELAINE SEMBRANO o kaya kay GREG DELIGERO ng POSD para walang double dead, single dead lang op kors... kung gusto naman niya ng karneng aso, ol da taym at meron sa palengke, siguruhin lamang niya na wala doon ang meat inspection service team para masaya ang mga tindero at tindera.

C) Sa gabi, kung gusto niyang magrelaks, puwede siyang pumunta sa mga nayt klab na nagpapalabas ng "bold shows". Marami eto sa Naguilian Road, Marcos Hi-way, Magsaysay Ave., at Bokawkan...at kung gusto naman niya ng gudtaym na short taym, may mga VIP rooms doon, wag tang siyang magawi sa kuwadra

ng mga "Magsaysay express girls" sa Upper Magsaysay at sigurado limas ang mifyones niya at cellphone sa mga "salisi" na kakutsaba ng mga express girls!... Kung gusto naman niya ng medyo patago tago na gudtaym, pumunta lamang siya sa videoke o music bars sa may Otek St., o kahit mismong sa arozkalduhan doon. Lalapit ang isang bakla at presto,...isang "nene" ang ibubugaw sa kanya kaya lang dapat mag-ingat siya dahil wala silang mga health permit o lisensya kaya "take it at your own risk" ika nga.

D) Ang importate ay makapag jogging si PACMAN sa kahabaan ng Naguilian Road sa Irisan... Libre Ianghap ng hangin na nanggagaling sa Irisan dumpsite...Itututoy!

MATINDI ang iniwang pinsala ni bagyong Pepeng sa parteng Norte ng 'Pinas kabilang ang Baguio at karatig lugar sa Benguet. Dahil walang tigil sa pag-ulan ng malakas at hagupit ng bagyo ay marami ang nasawi at nasugatan. Marami rin ang nawalan ng tirahan. Kalunus-lunos ang sinapit ng mga naging biktima ng landslides, kaya naman sobra ang abala ngayon ng ating NDCC. Nagsikip din ang hagdanan at pasilyo ng mga punerarya dahil sa pagdagsa ng mga pinadalang patay. Nakikiramay po ang koLumn na Ito sa mga naulila ng mga biktima sa hagupit ng bagyo. At sa mga taong tumutulong na walang bahid na pansariling interes, mabuhay po kayo. At sa mga kababayan na naapektuhan nito ng mga hagupit ng mga bagyo,... makakabangon din tayo, mga kapait!!!

Sa susunod,...mga Opisyal na nagiging protector ng mga ilegal katulad ng PASUGALAN, SKWATING, DROGA at iba pa,...Abangan!

Cerdi Naw!

..... from page 5

"Sanctifying Sundays and holy days requires a common effort. Every Christian should avoid making unnecessary demands on others that would hinder them from observing the Lord's day [Sunday]... In spite of economic constraints, public authorities should ensure citizens a time intended for rest and divine worship. Employers have a similar obligation toward their employees."(no. 2187)

"In respecting religious liberty and the common good of all, Christians should seek recognition of Sundays and the Church's holy days as legal holidays"(no. 2188)

According to the official doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church then, the State's public authorities and civil employers have an equal obligation to ensure that everyone can rest on Sunday in spite of any economic constraints. All Christians are urged to influence their governments to enact laws which will guarantee the "recognition of Sundays and the Church's holy days as legal holidays."

To be continued...

Lawmaker Pushes

..... from page 2

built in half is as good as a bridge not built at all. This is also applicable to school buildings which have not been completed. This will enable us to focus and utilize it properly and finish each project," he explained to the 100 top local officials attending the two-day conference on local governance.

He said that funds intended for the pork barrel can used for priority projects, like the building of waterways for streams and rivers to avoid flooding in areas which were heavily damaged in the latest disasters. He added that a wide and deep land-fill could be funded without actually spending local funds to address environmental concerns.

"I believe that funds allocated for each district should be explained in congress," he said.

A study on Countrywide Development Funds presented to the University of the Philippines-National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP-NCPAG), pointed out that lawmakers have complete control of project implementation.

It also described that implementing agencies only participate in the planning if requested by the legislators themselves, in choosing the contractors or suppliers for the projects, which makes the procedure open for the facilitation of corruption.

"Again, the pork barrel is a lump-sum that comes from the whole budget. Only a few could benefit from the current system. If it were specific and placed into a line-item, it will favor all parties concerned," he said./ Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Ira Sharing

..... from page 2

share of LGUs in the IRA under the national budget from 40 percent to 50 percent.

"It is also time to increase the shares of our local governments in the IRA. The national government should treat LGUs as partners and not as opponents in a tug-of-war involving the IRA," he said.

Escudero said in 2009, the total IRA for LGUs is P250 billion.

He said there are a lot of options on how to distribute the proposed increase of 10 percent in the IRA. One of them is to raise the shares "across-the-board," or according to present proportions among provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays.

Escudero also said the 10 percent increase in the IRA can also be distributed to LGUs that are efficient in using the funds in developing their respective areas as an incentive.

"Any way we distribute the increase, what it important is that there should be an increase in the IRA. This is the minimum of what the next administration should do to help our LGUs," he said./ Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Lawmaker to Governor

..... from page 2

livelihood and source of water but now the lake has already submerged around 20 coastal towns. He said that the local government of Laguna cannot afford to have wandering refugees in the province.

He said that the government must tap into its calamity funds or Internal Revenue Allotment to prevent any further crisis. He said these funds must be utilized for exactly these types of emergency situations.

"At this point where the floods are not receding, relief work is only secondary to finding them viable homes where they could resume their lives," he said.

Based on reports, Laguna Lake virtually swamped the coastal villages located in Sta. Rosa, Mabitac, Calamba, Pakil, San Pedro, Siniloan, Binan, Pangil, Cabuyao, Paete, Los Banos, Kalayaan, Calauan, Lumban, Victoria, Sta Cruz, and Pila. Even highways along these towns have become impassable because of the high waters.

He said that living conditions will eventually become worse if the floods do not subside soon and if the residents are not given proper homes. "It is a problem that the governor must address immediately. 30 percent of Laguna's residents have been affected by Ondoy. Calls for help may soon turn into frustration and desperation. " he pointed out.

Escudero is also requesting the LLDA to provide financial assistance for the flood victims. Part of LLDA's Special Function and Powers as prescribed in Section 4 of Republic Act 4850 states that the LLDA is tasked to lend or facilitate the extension of financial assistance and/or act as surety or guarantor to worthwhile agricultural, industrial and commercial enterprises.

"Even those who have managed to be spared from the high waters must be given livelihood opportunities. I expect the LLDA to provide the residents with means to help the people get back on their feet," he said./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Congress Should

..... from page 2

which he filed on Monday and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Corporations.

He said that calamity fund releases and loans may not be enough to help victims overcome their difficulties, particularly those who lost everything in the deluge.

Escudero said that the financial standing of the SSS, GSIS and Pag-Ibig would really not be hurt by a temporary suspension of loan payments.

"Most of them, if not all, register positive investment and increase in assets. For example, SSS reported a 12.7% average return on investment and a total asset of Php242 billion plus as of March 2009," Escudero explained.

"On the other hand, GSIS claims a consistent increase in total assets from 2001 to 2007, which is Php441.87 billion, while Pag-Ibig has total assets of Php202 billion plus in 2007, an increase of Php1 1.386 billion compared to 2006," he said.

Even the law, Escudero said, recognizes acts of God or fortuitous events as valid exceptions in the non-fulfillment of obligations and stipulations in contracts, such as loans.

If approved by the Senate and the House of Representatives, the joint resolution would have the force of law./ Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Baguio Senior

..... from page 3

or she is registered and will be going out to vote responsibly. They will also ensure that their family members, from their children up to their grandchildren, will do the same.

In the same forum, BARP president Prof. Federico Balanag, stressed that their group is apolitical and hopefully with such endeavor and with the automation of the 2010 elections, the political system will change. "This advocacy will be funded from the BARP fund itself," added Balanag.

In line with the advocacy, BARP will be funding a "public address system – that will be going around the city for a mobile campaign. In addition, BARP is also planning to hook up with colleges and universities in the city, as well as in La Trinidad, Benguet, to conduct symposia to campaign for citizen's registration and responsible voting. BARP will also be hanging advocacy posters and will try to arrange with different baranggays for the same purpose.

In a related issue, BARP lauded government efforts to bring down the price of medicines, through the Cheaper Medicines Act. The BARP foundation has its own "Botika ng Bayan," wherein people, not only their members can buy cheaper and generic drugs. Balanag, however, stressed that at present they are encountering some problems in getting the supplies for their outlet.

Other officials who served as panelists during the forum were Board of Trustees members Jose Taguba, Tolentino Opiniano, Menchita Damoslog, Placido Abuan and Ret. Col. Conrado Gacad./Lito Dar/PIA

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

POMPEYO CASTRO
Applicant
Case No:2005-BENG-CAR-008
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PUJService for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA- CRYSTAL CAVE and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on October 20, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 2th day of October 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

No rest**..... from page 3**

time now. They gave the team the run-round before they could be rounded up and turned over to the police.

The police, in turn, handed them over to the city social welfare office where they were identified as regular wards of the Silungan Center for run-away or abandoned kids. They identified their missing companion as Jericho Rimando, said to be a native of Aringa, La Union.

From Saturday to Sunday evening, volunteers at the CDCC base and support groups responded to 59 calls, mostly about flooding, landslides and soil erosions, fallen trees and cut and dangling electric wires.

By late Saturday evening, floodwaters rose at the City Camp basin due to trash that clogged the mouth of the drain tunnel, sending teams from all over to haul residents and their belongings to the evacuation centers.

Pockets of flooding, among them in Irisan, sent volunteers scrounging for rubber tire tubes they used to rescue marooned families.

As of Wednesday afternoon, deputy city social welfare and development officer Edith Furigay reported 230 families or 1,076 persons from 14 barangays were transferred to seven evacuation centers.

In-between the calls, volunteers, including young recruits of the Reserve Command of the Philippine Air Force, tried drying their clothes on single floodlight, only to have them on again for the next assignment.

Those who could not make it to the field cooked food, brewed coffee, received and assessed the gravity of information phoned in by barangay residents.

One of the hardest hit by landslides was Pinsao Proper Barangay where punong barangay Horacio Willy reported six houses were affected. Some vacant lots sunk by 10 meters, rendering them and some of the residences unfit for occupancy.

A day before typhoon Pepeng hit land, team dispatch officer Janice Singiten and other volunteers teamed up with the Emergency Medical Service and the Baguio-Benguet Public Information Civic Action Group in responding to a call for help coming from the nearby Josefa Carino Elementary School.

There, they found a 17-year old girl who had just prematurely delivered a baby boy in one of the classrooms.

Mother and child were rushed to the Baguio General Hospital. Last Monday, Singiten heard the child died three days after birth. Singiten said the city had provided for a P1 million outlay to upgrade the CDCC's capabilities but purchase of much-needed equipment would have to wait as the budget is being reviewed by the Department of Budget and Management.

With typhoon Pepeng stationary and spawning more rains, volunteers Fernan Ballada, Julius Santos, Luis Estepa, Ruel Garcia and others in the core group were back on their toes last Wednesday and Thursday. As usual, they were low on tools but high in spirits./Ramon Dacawi

OCD: Disaster**..... from page 3**

tional and local resilience.

For disaster risk reduction, Luces stressed the importance of good governance; risk identification assessment, monitoring and early warning; knowledge management and education; risk management; and involving the community.

"Disaster risk management implies having a policy, allocating the necessary resources, enforcing implementation, assigning accountability for failures and facilitating participation from the civil society, including the private sector," Luces said.

For Mitigation, the OCD is now pushing for a GIS proposal – for insurance coverage for selected local government properties; for the approval of a bill which will allow the use of the 5% Local Calamity Fund for disaster preparedness activities; for the approval of the proposed Disaster management Act of 2008; and for the government to commission World Bank to study the vulnerability of the Philippines to disaster.

Luces also stressed that Cordillera is becoming more resilient to disasters and she gave credits to the effective information dissemination, with the help of the media and the networking between the Regional Disaster Coordinating Council and the Local Government Units.

OCD is also presently working on the creation of "Contingency Plan for Emergencies" on every province, city and municipality in the region. At present there are already 18, including five provinces that have already prepared such plans. This is in addition to continuously providing disaster preparedness trainings, such as "water search rescue" and "basic rescue trainings," Luces added.

Luces also announced that they are set to meet with Department of National Defense Secretary and National Disaster Coordinating Council Chairman Gilbert Teodoro, for the formulation of Abra's Flood Mitigation Master Plan./Lito Dar/PIA

DSWD Orients**..... from page 12**

regular check-up and the availing of immunizations and vaccines," Buclao said.

Our objective is to orient our partners in the health sector to the (4Ps) program and to their responsibilities, so as for them to have the same level of understanding and to ensure that every partner agency is doing its job," City Assistant Social Welfare and Development Officer Edith Furigay said.

Buclao said that the implementation of 4Ps in the city is on track in terms of the expected target and outcome.

The beneficiaries are very good in complying with the conditions. "Sa Baguio wala naming problema, as health is accessible and we have the supply needs of the beneficiaries. The schools are also doing their job, very accessible din naman ang mga school sa ating mga beneficiaries," Furigay added

Buclao also disclosed that the city's 663 beneficiaries are almost set to receive their

June, July and August payments. They can now get their cash grants 24/7, they can get it anytime on any Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) branches and Automated Teller Machine (ATM) facilities, as we have already released to them their ATM Cash Cards last month," she said.

Aside from Baguio, DSWD-CAR also already issued ATM Cash Cards to 4Ps beneficiaries in 14 municipalities in Abra and the 4Ps beneficiaries in Conner, Apayao.

Meanwhile, the government, through the directive of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo will be allotting about P5 Billion additional budget to increase the beneficiaries to one million by the end of this year. Adding 300,000 more beneficiaries to the present 700,000 household beneficiaries, will bring the annual 4Ps budget to P15 Billion.

In CAR, there are a total of 13,078 4Ps beneficiaries./Lito Dar/PIA

Lawmaker Appeals**..... from page 12**

ernment units in the areas most affected by the flooding to consider real estate exemptions for homeowners severely affected by Ondoy's floods," he said.

The 39-year old lawmaker said local government units only need to ask barangays to certify the damage wrought on homes in their areas before granting the exemption.

According to Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), close to fifty thousand families (about 253,000 people) were displaced by the flood waters that swamped homes in Metro Manila, mostly in Quezon City and Marikina.

In the provinces, Laguna and Rizal had the most number of evacuees, the DSWD said.

Escudero also urged the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) to allow taxpayers to deduct the losses incurred due to the damage cause by Ondoy on their homes and motor vehicles when they file their income tax returns next year.

He also called on the Land Transportation Office to exempt motor vehicle owners from paying renewal fees if their vehicles were damaged by the floods.

"We know how far calamity loans can go for the families who suffered most from Ondoy's onslaught. Let us think of other ways to help them overcome their present difficulties," Escudero said./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

DSWD Orients Partners On 4ps

BAGUIOCITY— The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD-CAR), in coordination with the City Government, through the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO), recently held a Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program(4Ps) Orientation for City Action Team cum Grievance Redress System and

Compliance Verification System Re-echo.

According to DSWD-CAR 4Ps Regional Focal Person Mary Ann Buclao, the activity aims to orient partners in the health department – city health officers, midwives and barangay health officials, about 4Ps and on how to monitor the health conditionality of the said program.

“4Ps is a condi-

tional cash transfer program wherein each family beneficiary can get a cash grant as high as P1,400 per month and we cannot just give the cash grant to the beneficiaries who do not comply with the conditions. We have to monitor the beneficiary’s compliance, like the health conditions of having

Cont. on page 11

Where are the forest guards ?

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero gave a stern warning to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the local government units in the northern parts of Luzon to take immediate action against illegal loggers unless they want another repeat of the devastation brought about by typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng.

He said that last week’s deaths and massive floods should be a wake-up call for the strict enforcement of environment laws. “The role of forest guards at this time is more important than ever. They will guarantee the safety of residents not only in Luzon but Metro Manila as well,” he said.

Escudero said that forest guards are our only line of defense against unscrupulous loggers who keep destroying forests either to profit from the logs they cut or expand farmlands

of private individuals. He added that the consequences of these illegal and unregulated activities have led to tragedies throughout the region.

Earlier this year, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Cordillera announced that they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding between officials of that region, Ilocos and Cagayan Valley. “What are the updates of the DENR on this?” he asked.

“We cannot allow lumber to be unaccounted for. At this point, we must tap every available resource to protect forests,” he emphasized.

Escudero noted that government officials should take note of media reports in Olongapo, Isabela, Cagayan, and Sierra Madre regions about illegal logging activities. He added that the illegal loggers even go through Southern Luzon to ship these

logs into lumber mills around the country. “They would even use Quezon and Rizal as points for retrieving the wood,” he said.

He said the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines should also help in enforcing the law. He said that armed Forest Rangers should intensify their patrols in protected areas.

“We must leave preserved forests to be intact. We have seen and felt what typhoons can do to a nation,” he said./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero



This Toyota Foretuner was lucky enough to have hit a post along the Ambuclao Road (also known as the Baguio Benguet –Vizcaya Road) otherwise this vehicle would have fallen off the deep cliff. Photo taken on October 10, 2009. Photo by O. Trazo

Lawaker Appeals For Real Estate, Vehicle Registration, Income Tax Breaks For Ondoy Victims

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday called for real estate,

and income tax breaks for victims of the deluge caused

by tropical storm Ondoy.

“I appeal to local gov-
Cont. on page 11

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