

THE WEEKEND JUNCTION



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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Pahayagang

palaban!!!

Mj burning out



Reuters – A handout satellite image taken April 27, 2009 of the Wilkins Ice Shelf in Antarctica shows icebergs ... See story on page 12

BAGUIO CITY – During the weekly forum with the media last week, acting mayor Daniel Farinas voiced out his agreement with Mayor Reinaldo Bautista, Jr.'s earlier pronouncement that confiscated marijuana (*Cannabis sativa*) should not be burned in bulk, in public places.

As action office of the City Anti-Drug Abuse Council (CADAC), the acting mayor reiterated observations that open burning of confiscated marijuana is not environmental-friendly. Secondly, he said that oftentimes, reports of marijuana burning especially in Melvin Jones give out impression of the presence of vast plantations here in the city, which of course, is not true.

Melvin Jones grounds, oftenly the site for said burnings is also being damaged during such occasions, the acting mayor said.

Law enforcers who catch marijuana planters should conduct tests on the plants, get a portion of the prohibited hemp, document and certify the quantity of apprehended marijuana plants. This would also lessen the burden of transporting said plants from the countryside, where they thrive, to the city, he added

The drive against drugs, acting mayor Farinas said, continues, as he confirmed that more drug dealers have been apprehended and more cases have been filed. We have to be more vigilant, he

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CORDI NAWI

The Final Warning

BY: EMILIO LIWANEN



Lawmaker Bats For Better Protection For Bank Depositors

Bank depositors will now be getting better protection on their deposits after President Gloria Arroyo signs into law today Senate Bill 2964, which increases the maximum deposit insurance coverage for depositors to P500,000.

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero, principal author of the bill, said SB 2964 strengthens the capability of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) to safeguard the interest of depositors and help develop a more stable banking system.

"SB 2964 gives depositors a greater sense of security and confidence which is a foundation of a sound and stable

banking system," Escudero said.

Escudero thanked the President for signing SB 2964 into law which he said comes at an opportune time when the banking system – particularly the rural banking system – has been hard hit by the economic crisis.

"In the wake of the global economic crisis, and considering its impact on small banks in particular, SB 2964 should assuage the worries and concerns of bank depositors, especially small account holders," the senator added.

Aside from increasing the deposit insurance coverage, the bill also calls for the establishment and operation of

bridge banks to acquire assets and assume the liabilities of a failed bank.

A bridge bank is a temporary bank licensed by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) authorized to purchase assets, assume deposits and other liabilities. A bridge bank shall have a life span of two years unless the PDIC board of directors extends its operations as deemed necessary for a maximum of one year.

"SB 2964 provides adequate protection for depositors in case of bank failures. We have taken measures to make sure the welfare of the depositors is prioritized," Escudero said. /Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Protect OFWs From Scams, Lawmaker Tells Gma

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero

reminded President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to ensure that the overseas Filipino worker (OFW) is adequately protected from recruitment and job scams as she left for a working visit to Egypt and Syria.

"We remind President Arroyo that gainful employment is only so if the welfare of our workers are adequately protected and secured. While we laud efforts to produce jobs for our countrymen during this economic crisis, employment – especially overseas – must never come at the price of grief, injustice, or even death," Escudero said.

At the same time, Escudero dared the Philippine Overseas Employment Ad-

ministration (POEA) to crack down on recruitment agencies found violating labor and recruitment laws.

Escudero said the case of the 137 Filipino drivers who were recruited for bogus jobs in Dubai and charged P150,000 each by a POEA-accredited agency should be a stark reminder to the government that many OFWs are still vulnerable to recruitment scams.

"Job placement programs can be justified only if the government matches its employment promotions with a no-nonsense campaign to protect the welfare of OFWs like our 137 countrymen," he said.

The 137 drivers left their jobs to apply with a POEA-accredited agency that charged them P150,000 each

for bogus jobs in Dubai. The agency then facilitated loans with a financing company for the drivers. Upon maturity, the loans would have cost each driver P500,000, reports said.

"These drivers deserve swift and fair labor justice from this administration which, ironically, has made it a flagship policy to aggressively market Filipino workers to nearly all corners of the world," Escudero lamented.

"We will closely monitor this case and shall take into consideration how the agency performed when its budget is up for consideration before the Senate. When you have 137 victims of illegal recruitment undertaken by a licensed agency, it cannot be business as usual by the POEA," the senator added. /Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Chiz backs lozada; urges defensor To drop complaint

Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday rallied the nation, particularly his fellow Bicolanos, to protest the impending arrest of ZTE-NBN whistleblower Jun Lozada on perjury charges.

"I urge all those who seek the truth to unite behind Jun Lozada and support him in this difficult

time by speaking out, and through prayers," the opposition senator said in a statement.

"I also urge former Secretary Mike Defensor to withdraw his criminal complaint against Lozada. That is the best way, I think, he can vindicate himself and be magnanimous," Escudero

said.

Lozada, who is from Ligao, Albay, had linked Defensor to the alleged attempt by the Arroyo administration to prevent him from testifying in the Senate on the alleged US\$329-million national broadband scam.

Defensor filed the perjury complaint based on the alleged inconsistencies in the

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THE JUNCTION

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Atty. Thomas Tayengco-Legal Adviser

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Danilo B. Javier
Gerry P. Binwagan
John T. Bagayan
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Atty. James S. Valeros
Atty. Batas Mauricio
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The Junction- OIC

Greenbelt Maintenance, Vertical Structures Sought In Market Development

BAGUIO CITY – The city council recommended schemes in the development of the city's public market — the reservation of 20 percent of the land space as greenbelt areas and adoption of a vertical development scheme.

In Resolution No. 137 series of 2009 authored by Vice mayor Daniel Farinas, the body noted that congestion remains to be a problem at the public market and this should be addressed in the development plans being undertaken for the site.

"Congestion is one of the major rea-

sons why there are so many stalls affected in such a kind of fire incident in portions of the Baguio City Public Market as what happened during the recent fire incident when the vegetable and sari-sari sections and other similarly constructed and situated structures were gutted," the resolution noted.

It said the only recourse is to reserve 20 percent of the land area for open spaces and vegetation and to construct vertical structures so as to accommodate more stalls for local vendors.

The measure

also stressed the need for the improvement of the drainage and sewerage facilities in the area.

Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. recently bared plans to construct temporary structures at the burnt portion of the market to accommodate the vendors displaced by the fire that hit the trading area last March.

City building architecture office (CBAO) head Oscar Flores said they have submitted the plan and cost estimate for the project. /aileen p. refuerzo

Visiting Master Trains Jka Blackbelts

As a master worth his salt would, fourth dan blackbelt Eugene Orbita, recently reminded local blackbelts under the Japan Karate Association-Orient that true karate boils down to a continuing mastery of the basics.

Here recently for a religious conference among Christian businessmen, Orbita, a lawyer from Cebu, took time out to check on the execution of the "heian" (shodan, nidan, sandan, yondan and godan) set of basic kata (formal exercise) by colored belts of the JKA-Orient chapter based at the YMCA of Baguio.

"I asked him to teach and he chose a return to the basics to refresh our students," said Edgar Kapawen Sr., the chapter's chief

instructor.

Both masters are fourth dan, but Orbita defers to Kapawen, being his senior, both in age and experience in the "shotokan" (knife-hand) school of karate founded by Master Gighin Funakoshi.

Orbita sits as a member of the governing board of JKA-Orient based in Cebu. He joined the JKA in 1976 while in first year college and was promoted to first

dan blackbelt in 1981.

"I failed in my first try," he admitted.

Kapawen took on the martial art much earlier, under the JKA school established by Master Kunio Sasaki, who introduced "shotokan" in the Philippines in the early 1960s. He has been long overdue for promotion to fifth or even seventh dan.

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BENECO to venture into hydropower plant

BAGUIO CITY – The Benguet Electric Cooperative (BENECO) will venture into a hydro plant. This was confirmed by BENECO Marketing Specialist Leo Belingon, in a radio interview Thursday.

According to Belingon, BENECO already identified a possible area in Buguias, Benguet for the hydro plant and that the BENECO board already ap-

proved the awarding of a feasibility study that will be conducted by AV Garcia, a Manila-based power generation company. The Memorandum of agreement for the P1.4 million feasibility study is now being finalized.

He bared that the main objective of venturing into a hydro plant is to lower the rate of electricity for the consumers.

Belingon explained that at present, the price of electricity that

BENECO buys from Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and government-controlled corporations like the National Power Corporation is high. He stressed that if the coop can produce at least 50% of the power requirements through its own renewable energy, like a hydro plant, this will have a large effect on the electricity rate.

In a related de-

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Air quality mng't plan for city pushed

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Reinaldo Bautista, Jr. last week issued an administrative order creating a technical working group to formulate an energy plan, and air quality management plan for the city.

From the local government, Councilors Erdolfo Balajadia and Rocky Thomas Balisong, City Administrator Peter Fianza, City Planning Officer Raymond Ruaro, Buildings and Architecture Officer Oscar Flores, City Engineer Leo Bernardez, Parks Management Officer Moises Lozano and Mayor's representative Bienvenido Baquirin were man-

dated to join the technical working group.

The plan to be formulated by the whole group "will contribute to the realization of energy savings as well as pollution prevention and overall environmental improvement," the AO states.

Representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Edgar Flor, Environmental Management Bureau Officer Wilma Lagunilla, Forester Eufroña

Muyano, National Economic and Development Officers Virginia Ancena and Jerome Agaloos, Department and Transportation and Communication (DOTC) Director Federico Mandapat, Jr., and Interior and Local Government Evelyn Trinidad were also tapped for the body.

Benguet Electric Cooperative General Manager Gerardo Verzosa and Baguio Water Dis-

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Magsumbong at mag-ingay para mabawasan ang katiwalian sa Gobyerno!!

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. 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

Scapegoats

"A good scapegoat is nearly as welcome as a solution to a problem." That axiom tailor-fits the excuse that National Economic and Development Authority's Ralph Recto peddled.

"As a result of the global financial crisis", the NEDA director general said, "it is possible... Philippine' compliance with Millennium Development Goals would be delayed."

No—sir. It's not only possible. It is dead certain we'll flunk crucial MDG targets such as maternal death rates, schooling or eradicating extreme poverty and hunger. Converting world recession into a scapegoat won't wash.

The Philippines and 188 other nations pledged to meet eight MDGs by 2015. That's only six years away.

These are "benchmarks for assessing progress ...in creating decent jobs, improve access to schools and rooting out corruption," UN Human

EDITORIAL

Development Report notes. "They enable poor

people to hold political leaders accountable."

Take Goal No. 5. That committed us to slash maternal death rates by three-fourths. In every 100,000 births here, 162 Filipina mothers die. (Compare that to 62 for Malaysians) We vowed to whittle maternal deaths to 55.

We're welshing on that pledge. Eleven women die daily today. Nine are pregnancy related deaths. Health budgets remain miniscule. Abortion is a bloody substitute for hard-to-come-by family planning services. Underground abortionists account for nearly 12 percent of maternal deaths.

UP Population Institute estimates 560,000 abortions are induced yearly. Some 90,000 mothers, lucky to reach few hospitals, seek post-abortion care, UPPI and Guttmacher Institute estimates. About half of the 3.4 million pregnancies, in 2008, were unintended.

"Reduced maternal deaths is the MDG least likely to be achieved by 2015", Unicef foresees. "Women should view pregnancy and childbirth as something to celebrate, not to fear.

Not to worry, Recto murmurs. Government would still meet missed MDG targets. He refused to say when.. "It'd be "hard to put a number on how much would be lost in terms of not meeting the target.

That's for sure Recto can't "put a number" on thousands of mothers" who'll be in premature graves when his chickens come home to roost, if ever. But don't Recto & Co. see the obscene injustice?

This government bankrolls P728 fertilizer scams and pads \$329 million broadband projects. But it skimps on health budgets, sanitation, nutrition and other unmet human needs.. "In the absence of justice, what is sovereignty but organized robbery? St. Augustine asked.

Too much in taxes are dissipated. Congress' pork barrel is notorious. Internal Revenue Allotments make up 64 centavos of every peso in local government budgets—up from 39 centavos a decade back. But no performance criteria is required. Bulk is burned for honoraria, lakbay-aral junkets, protégé hires, cars, etc.

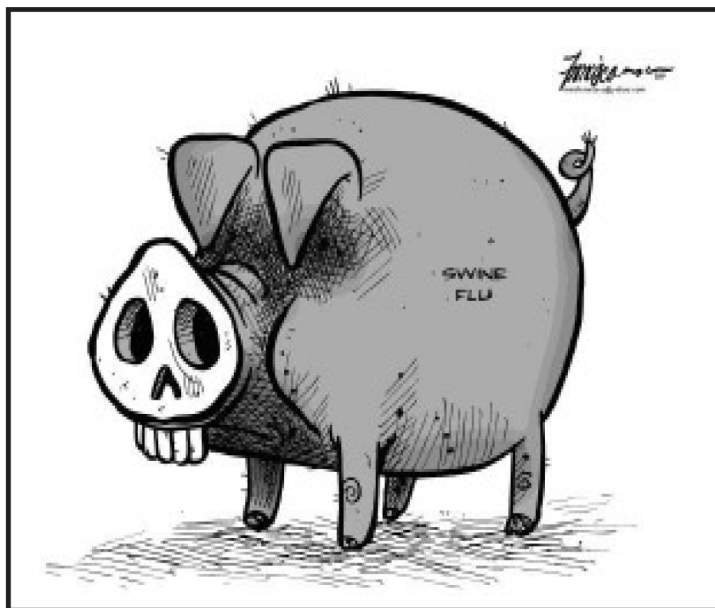
"We're allocating resources, particularly for the important need to invest more in hard and human infrastructure," Recto mumbled. The administration would tap all types of financing, whether from China, Japan, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund or Asian Development Bank, to finance public investment program.

Scrub the jargon. Is that making international bodies scapegoats for domestic failure?

"Expenditures for social and economic services, as a percentage of the total budget, had been declining for the past seven years", notes the unusually frank "2007 MDG Midterm Progress Report. "The funding gap to achieve the Goals by 2015 is estimated at around \$15 billion."

Can this funding gap be narrowed? Yes. But we must abolish Palace and Congress pork barrels, untangle the skewed IRA sys-

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DIRETSAHAN

*Coun. Elaine Sembrano-saludo
ako sayo!!!
PNP-CD Franco-Hoy Gising!!*

BY RUDY "BANTAY SIYASAT" GARCIA



(This is a Re-Print of last issues Column)

Ipinagdiwang ang selebrasyon ng Earth Day noong Abril 22 na nagpaalala rin na hindi dapat ipagwalang bahala ang tuwirang pang-aabuso sa ating kalikasan. Marami sa mga dumalo ay umuwi na basang basa sa ulan at namumula ang mukha sa pagkabilad sa araw, ibig sabihin, "Abnoy" ang klima o panahon natin dahil sa climate change, at katulad sa pulitika, nagiging abnoy din ang pamamalalakad sa gobyerno dahil sa mga abnoy na politikong kumakapit sa istayl ng sinumang administrasyon na nakaupo sa trono.

Gaya nga ng sabi ni erap na "weder weder lang iyan", siguro naman ay nararapat lamang na gud weder ang ipagkaloob ng mga nakaupo sa atin at hindi bad weder, oki lang ang climate change, basta't nakakabuti, ika nga, "we deserve a good and better political climate change"!

oOo

Iginiit ni DILG tsip Ronaldo Puno na walang ransom sa paglaya ng binihag na si Notter! Ayon sa kanya, nakatakas daw si Notter mula sa mga bandidong Abu Sayyaf dahil sa kalituhan ng huli ng magkaroon ng opensiba ang military. Ang hirap paniwalaan ang kuwentong ito mga suki dahil ayon mismo kay Notter ay hindi niya alam kung paano siya nakalaya.

Sa ngayon, me naglalabasang balita na nasa ibang grupo ang natitirang bihag na si "Vagni" habang puspusan naman ang pag-atake ng militar at pulisya sa mga bandido. Paano kung sa isinasagawang opensiba ng military ay nag"Vanish" si Vagni, ano naman kaya ang lalabas na kuwento? Abangan nalang natin ang susunod ... na mangyayari at mga ... kuwentong barbero!

oOo

Ipinasa naman sa NBI ang imbestigasyon sa nangyaring pagkabaril ni Ginang Trinidad Etong, asawa ng popular na brodkaster/journalist na si Ted Failon. Ano kaya ang masasabi dito ni DOJ big boss Raul Gonzales? Ander kasi ng kanyang departamento ang NBI at harinawa na hindi sya makialam dito. kelangan kasi dito ang "Speedy Investigation" at hindi "Speedy Gonzales"

Samantala naisumite na ni Ted Failon at mga kasamahang akusado ang kanilang mga counter affidavit sa piskalya hinggil sa kasong "Obstruction of Justice" na ipinila ng pulisya sa kanila , at habang dinidinag ang kasong ito at ang kaugnay na imbestigasyon sa pagkamatay ni misis Etong, ay sinuspinde naman ang mga pulis na inakusahang nagmalabis sa kanilang tungkulin, pero marami ang hindi nakuntento,

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THE PEACE COMBATANT

*What we must know on the
imminent influenza pandemic*

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that a pandemic is imminent on Influenza-A H151 virus, known earlier as the "Mexican swine flu virus." A pandemic is an epidemic over a wide geographic area and the term is also used when there is a possibility that the infection can reach global proportions.

Meanwhile, an epidemic is an infection spreading rapidly that covers a large percentage of a locality at a particular time. The WHO raised its alert to 5 out of a scale of 6 and called on countries to activate its pandemic plan. Level 5 means that WHO assessed that there would be **significant** human-to-human transmissions.

The renaming of the "swine flu" virus into Influenza A-H151 virus was deemed necessarily because earlier the Mexican government had been "unnecessarily" slaughtering and burning hog in an effort to halt the spread of the disease. However, what is now believed to be causing the illness is not a swine flu virus but a virus transmitted among humans. One theory on the origin of the virus says, however, that it arose from a mutation of viruses found in hogs, fowls, and man.

As of 1 May 2009, 13 countries reported 365 cases of the infection although more than 2,500 are believed infected by the virus. Countries that reported laboratory confirmed cases are Austria (1), Canada (34), China and Hong Kong (1), Denmark (1), Germany (4), Israel (42), Mexico (156), Netherlands (1), New Zealand (4), Spain (13), Switzerland (1), United Kingdom (3), and the United States of America (141). South Korea reported its first case on 2 May 2009.

Mexican authorities reported a mortality of close to 200 and the US declared that a toddler in the United States died over the disease. The WHO, however, officially confirmed far fewer deaths. Further, the boy in Mexico referred to as "Patient Zero," who was the first documented case to be infected, survived the disease.

One "good" thing is that the disease is not airborne but droplets and human-to-human contact transmits the disease. Thus, transmission may be slower than if the disease is airborne. But transmission will be quick just the same. It took only a month for the disease to spread globally since its first report on 2 April 2009.

Masks are not recommended at this time except for people taking care those who are infected. If one uses a mask, the mask should be cleaned regularly. The general preventive measures prescribed by the WHO are as follows: 1) Avoid close contact with people who appear unwell and have fever or cough; 2) Wash hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water; and 3) Practice good health habits and have adequate sleep, eat nutritious food, and be physically active.

For those nursing ill persons at home, the following are the WHO-prescribed measures: 1) Separate the ill person from others, keeping the person at least 1 meter from the others; 2) Cover your mouth and nose when caring for the ill person (commercial and homemade materials are fine so long as they are disposed of or cleaned properly after use); 3) Wash hands with soap and water thorough after each contact with the ill person; 4) Improve the air flow where the ill person stays (use doors and windows to take advantage of breezes); and 5) Keep the environment clean with readily available household cleaning agents). When infections have already taken place in a country, citizens are advised to follow additional instructions from health authorities.

Persons who need medical attention and who suspect that they are affected are enjoined by the WHO to follow the following instructions: 1) Contact doctor or healthcare workers before traveling to the health facility; 2) When it is not possible to contact the healthcare facility in advance, communicate your suspicion at arrival in the facility; and 3) Cover nose and mouth during travel.

We must not panic because the economic costs of a panic can be worse than the disease. Latest news even say that the disease is not as bad as initially foreseen.

(The author maintains a website at www.geocities.com/arturoboquiren and can be contacted through artboquiren2040@yahoo.com, Facebook, and 0927-536-8431)

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Why is Jun Lozada not posting
bail?*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



PERJURY IS BAILABLE, SO WHY IS JUN LOZADA NOT POSTING BAIL? Perjury is a criminal offense that is definitely bailable and any person accused of it can easily post bail and need not be imprisoned. In fact, the bail is only P6,000.00.

Then, why did Rodolfo "Jun" Lozada, the supposed whistleblower in the ZTE NBN case, refuse to post bail and instead allowed himself to be arrested?

Your guess is as good as mine, but then, a video footage of ABS CBN's TV Patrol showed him beaming, totally happy, and even waiving his hands to his supporters, at the time of his arrest, much like a candidate who is already campaigning.

-000-

SWINE FLU WAS PROMISED IN THE BIBLE: The swine flu has not reached the Philippines, not yet anyway, according to officials of the Department of Health led by Secretary Francisco Duque, and yet, in the same breath, they are asking Filipinos to take precautionary measures even at this stage to avoid being stricken by the deadly virus.

Again, I am constrained to repeat this: the swine flu is Biblical in origin, and is just one of the curses promised by God, so that no amount of precautionary acts or medicine can cure it.

It is destined, according to the Book of Deuteronomy in the Bible, to kill millions worldwide, especially those who have turned their backs on God, those who no longer listen to Him, and those who no longer follow His commands, laws and decrees.

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CLARK ARRESTS: COUP DE TAT OR BUSINESS GRAB? Will someone please tell us the real story on the arrest of six former soldiers who belonged to the Magdalo group, together with a for-eigner who owns a firing range inside the Clark Air Base?

Was it a successful government counter-operation that stopped a plan to spring from prison and set free Brig. Gen. Danny Lim and Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV and, yes, a coup plot against the Arroyo government?

Or was it a mere strategy, as Sen. Trillanes is saying now, to oust the foreigner from the firing range so that the facility could be given to a powerful son of a ranking official of government?

Perhaps, our senators could agree to investigate the incident, because it could give another black-eye to the already battered image of the country when it comes to foreigners having businesses in the Philippines.

-000-

LAWYERS TOLD: REJECT CLIENTS WHO DREAM TO BECOME DICTATORS: The Sigma Rho Fraternity of the UP College of Law, through its e-group in the Internet, posted excerpts of the speech of Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonio Carpio which was given during the graduation ceremonies of the college for its Class of 2009.

Entitled "Advice to the Law Graduate", the Carpio speech is a jewel worth reading. Here are some choice cuts from the excerpts:

"When you practice law, you may be enticed by politicians who dream to be dictators to help them rewrite the Constitution for their own benefit. Resolutely fight and oppose such moves, even at the risk of losing your job or clients.

"Always remember that the Constitution is written for the benefit of the Filipino people, not for the benefit of one man or one family.

"No politician, no government official, not even the President of the Philippines, is larger or more important than the Constitution...."

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"NO CLIENT IS EVER WORTH COMMITTING A CRIME": "In your practice, you will often be faced with a situation where

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CORDI NAWI

The Final Warning

BY: EMILIO LIWANEN



"I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird". "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Revelation 18:1,2,4.

This scripture points forward to a time when the announcement of the fall of Babylon, as made by the second angel of Revelation 14 (verse 8), is to be repeated with the additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the various organizations that constitute Babylon, since that message was first given, in the summer of 1844. A terrible condition of the religious world is here described. With every rejection of truth the minds of the people will become darker, their hearts more stubborn, until they are entrenched in an infidel hardihood. In defiance of the warnings which God has given, they will continue to trample upon one of the precepts of the Decalogue, until they are led to persecute those who hold it sacred. Christ is set at naught in the contempt placed upon His word and His people. As the teachings of spiritualism are accepted by the churches, the restraint imposed upon the carnal heart is removed, and the profession of religion will become a cloak to conceal the basest iniquity. A belief in spiritual manifestations opens the door to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and thus the influence of evil angels will be felt in the churches..

Of Babylon, at the time brought to view in this prophecy, it is declared: "Her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." Revelation 18:5. She has filled up the measure of her guilt, and destruction is about to fall upon her. But God still has a people in Babylon; and before the visitation of His judgments these faithful ones must be called out, that they partake not of her sins and "receive not of her plagues". Hence the movement symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven, lightening the earth with his glory and crying mightily with a strong voice, announcing the sins of Babylon. In connection with his message the call is heard: "Come out of her, My people." These announcements, uniting with the third angel's message, constitute the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth.

Fearful is the issue to which the world is to be brought. The powers of earth, uniting to war against the commandments of God, will decree that "all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond" (revelation 13:16), shall conform to the customs of the church by the observance of the false Sabbath. All who refuse compliance will be visited with Civil penalties, and it will finally be declared that they are deserving of death. On the other hand, the law of God enjoining the Creator's rest day demands obedience and threatens wrath against all who transgress its precepts.

With the issue thus clearly brought before him, whoever shall trample upon God's law to obey a human enactment receives the mark of the beast; he accepts the sign of allegiance to the power which he chooses to obey instead of God. The warning from heaven is: "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation." Revelation 14:9,10.

But not one is made to suffer the wrath of God until the truth has been brought home to his mind and conscience, and has been rejected. There are many who have never had an opportunity to hear the special truths for this time. The obligation of the fourth commandment has never been set before them in its true light. He who reads every heart and tries every motive will leave none who desire knowledge of the truth, to be deceived as to the issues of the controversy. The decree is not to be urged upon the people blindly. Everyone is to have sufficient

Cont. on page 10

Ao issued for special business permits

BAGUIO CITY – An Administrative Order was issued last week by Mayor Reinaldo Bautista, Jr. for business permits in special circumstances.

As stated in the AO, there were business establishments which were not issued permits, but continue to earn. They have not, however, paid taxes, fees and charges, thus the need for a special is-

suance.

The sole purpose of the AO is the efficient collection of taxes, fees and charges, without prejudice to the other functions of the city mayor as to being efficient and effective.

Said business establishments are mandated to secure business permits, with proper approval from the Building Official, City Planning

and Development Coordinator, Health Officer, Fire Marshall and City Treasurer.

However, the issuance of a business permit shall not be regarded as an alternative of a building permit, the AO states. The requisite maybe discarded when:

The structure was built prior to the effectivity of the National Building

Cont. on page 9

Most outstanding farmer practices indigenous farming

BONTOC, Mt. Province - Indigenous farming practices, sustained environmental protection, balanced utilization of natural resources, involvement in various community activities, are some of the traits that made Mrs. Caroline Baybay as the 2009's Most Outstanding Farmer of Mt. Province.

Baybay, a mother of six from barangay Ankileng, Sagada, proved once more

that women can be at par with the men. Walking through the rice paddies on her way to school as a young lass, savoring the sweet aroma of ripe mountain rice mixed with the pine scent and feel the cool wind from the mountainside has inspired Caroline to become a farmer.

Caroline and her husband turned the land she inherited from her parents into a diversified farm us-

ing indigenous farming methods. Within the farm, she made a fish pond, a vegetable garden, an orchard and a piggery. Mrs. Baybay learned the art of farming from her parents. In her younger years to her adulthood, she developed her skills on the indigenous way of tilling the field while preserving and protecting the environment.

Indigenous ag-
Cont. on page 9

City to prepare contingency measures vs. swine flu

BAGUIO CITY – City officials and concerned health authorities are set to meet on Monday (May 4) to map out contingency measures for the prevention and control of the dreaded swine flu virus even as health and meat inspection offices in the city implemented initial precautionary measures following reports of infections in Mexico and other countries to safeguard the public against the disease.

The virus was reported to have killed more than a

hundred and infected more than a thousand in Mexico and other countries and is continuing its spread opening the possibility of a pandemic.

Acting Mayor Daniel Farinas told the weekly Ugnayang Panlungsod media briefing last Thursday that the Baguio Health Department has immediately activated the emergency response teams to respond to any eventuality while the city veterinary office also intensified inspections of hogs at the slaughterhouse and

at city market to ensure that no hot meat will be sold at the city market.

Early this week, the Department of Health Cordillera (DOH-CAR) also strengthened the operation of the quarantine checkpoints located at the various entry points to the city to ensure that all the meat being delivered to the city pass the safety standards.

As of now health authorities assured that the city remains safe from the virus.

Farinas

Cont. on page 9

Dads ask DENR to use cadastral survey fund for political boundary assessment of brgys

BAGUIO CITY – The city council is requesting the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Cordillera (DENR-CAR) to use the P10 million fund intended for the stalled cadastral survey project for the conduct of political boundary survey of the city's 129 barangays instead.

The body passed Resolution No. 146 series of 2009 for this purpose.

In the resolution authored by Councilor Isabelo Cosalan Jr., the body said the P10 million fund was given to the DENR-CAR to complete the cadastral survey of the city but since the project was sought for suspension, the fund should instead be used for a barangay political boundary survey instead.

In the resolution, the body noted that the P10 million fund was intended

for the conduct of final lot surveys and adjustment of old surveys to convert all of the 129 barangays.

"Basing on the costing presented by the (DENR-CAR regional executive director), the project cost for the Cadastral Survey would reach P104,701,440. The P10,000,000 currently allocated is only 9.55 percent of the said amount," the resolution noted.

Cont. on page 9

Dairy farm lot eyed as science high site

BAGUIO CITY – The city government will request President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to allocate a six-hectare lot from the property of the Department of Agriculture at the Baguio Dairy Farm and proclaim the same as site of the Philippine Science High School in the Cordillera region

(PSHS-CAR).

In Resolution No. 138 series of 2009, the body stressed the need to locate a site for the Science High School to pursue the intent of House Bill No. 498 sponsored by Rep. Mauricio Domogan which seeks to establish the PSHS-CAR to offer scholarship to deserving students in the CAR

for training under a curriculum specially designed to nurture their abilities in science and technology.

"The PSHS will provide the region's and country's leaders who will spearhead the science and technological advancement by taking under its wings the region's

Cont. on page 10

No Mexican Swine flu in the Philippines

The National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) assured that the swine influenza that has affected Mexico, US and Canada hasn't broken through the country.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap reiterated Tuesday that there is no swine influenza outbreak in the Philippines and eating pork is safe.

"Consuming meat products continuously to be a safe activity, we're calling this (virus strain) the Mexican Swine Influenza,"

said Yap referring to the local term the NDCC has adopted as the more appropriate reference to the influenza strain (Swine Flu) believed to have originated from farm hogs in Mexico.

Yap added that the Animal Health Organization based in Paris has found no evidence that the influenza virus is transmitted by food.

Instead, as reported by Health Undersecretary Mario Villaverde, there are indications that the vi-

rus jumped from one person to another.

"This is new strain (Mexican Swine influenza) is described from cases and deaths from Mexico and several other areas in the United States has not identified previously from animals or humans. The occurrence of illness and the absence of definite pig exposure among the first cases strongly suggested human to human transmission," said Villaverde.

Cont. on page 11

Comelec proclaimed new party lists

The House of Representatives has now 55 party list groups.

The Commission on Elections has proclaimed on Friday the new sectoral groups in accordance with the Supreme Court (SC) ruling that party lists shall consti-

tute 20 percent of the total number of the representatives which in turn satisfies a constitutional provision.

The new sectoral groups in Congress are the following: Aba-Ako, Abakada, ABS, ANAD, Ang Kasangga, AT, Bantay, Banat, 1-Utak, Kabataan,

Kakusa, Senior Citizens, TUCP, Uni-Mad and VFP.

Some existing party-list groups have earned an additional representation: Akbayan, Abono, Agap, Anak Mindanao or Amin, Anakpawis, An Waray, Alagad, A Teacher, ARC, Bayan Muna, Butil and Coop Natco./PIA

Church leaders join call for caring for the environment

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo has found strong allies in Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales and Infanta (Quezon) Bishop Julio Labayan in her campaign to preserve the environment and miti-

gate the impacts of climate change.

A recipient of the Fr. Neri Satur Awards for Environmental Heroism, Archbishop Rosales said in a video message that the Philippines is very rich in natural resources but these resources

are being depleted faster by the wanton neglect and abuse by the people, particularly loggers who destroy the forests. He reminded Filipinos that forests purify the air and prevent floods.

The archbishop's video message was played during the **Cont. on page 10**

Technical Cooperation for its green energy initiatives;

Atty. Dumlao of Northwind Power Development Corporation for its green wind energy power; Green Architecture Movement/United

Architects of the Philippines represented by Architect Amado de Jesus for its green building sector; the Green Renewable Independent Power Pro-

ducers Inc. represented by Project Director Yvonne Castro for electric jeepney for the transport sector; Bensan Industries for its zero waste recycling of **Cont. on page 10**

PhilHEALTH to serve DSWD indigent clients

The Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) signed Friday a memorandum of agreement that will provide PhilHealth cards to DSWD clients. The ceremony was held at the DSWD building, Batasan Hills, Quezon City.

The MOA was signed by DSWD Secretary

Esperanza I. Cabral and Mr. Ernesto V. Beltran, PhilHealth Senior Vice-President for Operations.

With the remarkable increase every year in the number of clients requesting for medical assistance from the DSWD-Crisis Intervention Units, Secretary Cabral initiated the tie-up with PhilHealth. The partnership will help clients pay for the medical expenses, hospitalization and

medicines for themselves and their dependents through the PhilHealth card.

The DSWD, through its Crisis Intervention Units (CIUs) in its 16 Field Offices provides assistance to individuals and families in emergency and crisis situations needing financial, medical and related concerns.

Of the 61,871 clients served by the CIUs at the Central Office and 16 Field Offices, **Cont. on page 11**

Mj burning out

..... from page 1

also said.

"We are gaining grounds against them," he said. Authorities have confirmed that the city has now drug-free schools and drug-free barangays, he added.

Our advocacy now, is to redirect the youth's extra energy to something more worthwhile, such as sports development and academic-centered activities. We have help from the Baguio Center for Young Adults, and other socio-civic groups, he further said./juliegfianza

Chiz backs

..... from page 2

statements made by Lozada to probers and the court. But this was dismissed by a Metropolitan Trial Court, Branch 26, on November 14, 2008 for lack of probable cause.

The MTC's ruling however was reversed on appeal by the Manila RTC, Branch 11 last March 19.

Lozada has refused to post bail and vows to fight the perjury charges even in jail. He and his family have been given sanctuary by the Dela Salle brothers in their Lasalle Greenhills campus since he testified at the Senate on the alleged US\$329-million national broadband scam.

"This is the least we can do for Jun Lozada whose example should be emulated by all, especially those who intimately know about corruption at the highest levels of government," Escudero said./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Visiting Master

..... from page 3

Among the most illustrious students who studied under Sasaki and Kapawen is former world shotokan kata champion Julian Chees, now the head of over 50 gyms in southern Germany under the Shoshin (Beginner's Mind) School.

Chees, the only non-native German to be drafted to the national team of Germany, has also established Kinderhelfe, foundation reaching out to ailing children in the Cordillera. He was due recently for promotion to fifth dan./Rdacawi.

BENECO.....

..... from page 3

velopment, Belingon confirmed that BENECO is willing to sit with the city government for a possible joint operation on the Asin Hydroplant. AV Garcia Power Generation Company also confirmed its intentions to partner with BENECO for such project.

Meanwhile, Belingon announced that BENECO will be increasing the electricity generation and system loss charge, starting in the billing period of May. He explained that they have to do this, as the Energy Regulatory Commission, granted NPC - one of the power suppliers of BENECO, a .4682 centavo increase per kilowatthour (KWH).

According to Belingon, the coop has to pass this on to the consumers, though with a lower amount of .4299 centavos per KWH and

the system loss will also increase by .06 centavo per KWH. The rest of the charges on BENECO's unbundling rate will remain the same, he clarified./Lito Dar/PIA

Air quality

..... from page 3

trict GM Teresita de Guzman, JV Ongpin Director Ma. Rosario Lopez, Centennial Commission member Dr. Julie Cabato, Public Utility Jeepney Federation president Perfecto Itliong and Edgar Molintas from the Benguet State University makes up the whole technical working.

They shall work to help the government "realize energy self-sufficiency and reduce environmental impacts of energy generation and utilization," as mandated by the Philippine Energy Plan and National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Program.

A ten percent (10%) reduction in energy consumption in all government offices was also directed, thus the need for the group's output.

"There is a pressing need to address the environmental impacts of energy use given its effect on climate change," the AO further states.

From the group, senior technical representatives shall be designated to head the urban energy plan and air quality management plan. Individual members shall then be assigned as to areas of expertise and special interest.

The mayor heads the said technical working group./juliegfianza

Editorial

..... from page 4

tem, etc. We don't realize the economic distortions and human pain that stem from corrupt and bad government, Harvard professor John Kenneth Gailbraith once said.

Look at MDG Goal No. 2: "To ensure by 2015, children everywhere will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling."

We been set back here too. Net enrolment to primary education was close to 100 percent in 2000. By schoolyear 2005/06, this slumped to 84 percent. It hasn't bounced back.

MDG Goal 1 would cut proportion of people who scrounge by on less than P48 a day. Social Weather Stations notes that, over the last five years, the number of poor people, stagnated. A population that will crest at 102 million, by 2015, makes this MDG goal elusive.

None of Asian and Pacific countries, certainly not the Philippines, is on track to meet all the goals by 2015. Social Watch concludes we're slipping further behind, along with Indonesia, Bangladesh and Laos.

"The development process and outcomes here are vulnerable to elite capture," this alternative study notes. A government that budgets more for paying IOUs than for poverty reduction, education, health, and ecology protection can't deliver on its MDG commitments.

Government must change the way it governs..."People have a very deep mistrust

of government". They want to see meaningful changes where services really work for the poor. "And they want to have a real say in how that's going to be done."

"That future is within reach", Social Watch says. But it will require "profound renewal", "There are many scapegoats for our blunders," Mark Twain once said. "But the most popular one is to blame God" Recto hasn't gotten around to yet.

Batas.....

..... from page 5

your client wants to win a case through fair or foul means. Your client may even demand that you bribe the judge first before the opposing side gets him.

"Politely but firmly decline, and be prepared to walk away from a client who insists that you commit a crime of bribery for his sake. No client is ever worth committing a crime.

"If you want an independent and honest judiciary, then never do anything that will corrupt the Judiciary. If you do, then you deserve the Judiciary you get and you have no one else to blame but yourself.

"There is no dictator if there is no servile citizen. And there is no corrupt judge if there is no litigant or lawyer corrupting him..."

-000-

REMINDERS: Please watch Atty. Batas Mauricio give free legal advice at the Internet, through "YouTube", "metacafe" and "iGoogle", and listen to his radio programs: **DZRB RADYO NG BAYAN 738 khz.** in Luzon, Mondays to Fridays, at 5:30 in the morning (simulcast worldwide at www.pbs.gov.ph); **DZRM RADYO MAGASIN, 1278 Khz.** also in Luzon, Mondays to Fridays, 6:45 in the morning (also simulcast worldwide at www.pbs.gov.ph); **DYKA 801 khz.** in San Jose, Antique (simulcast over www.kinaray-a.com), Mondays to Fridays, at 10 in the morning; and **DYMS Aksiyon Radyo** in Catbalogan City, Samar (simulcast at www.samarnews.com), Mondays to Fridays, at 11 in the morning. Why is Jun Lozada not posting bail?

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

BERT SAYAGEN
Applicant
Case No: 94-CAR-201
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA- BUAYAGAN and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit1.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 12, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, 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 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 28th day of April 2009.

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

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
BRANCH 59
BAGUIOCITY
(ADDITIONAL
FAMILY COURT OF
BAGUIO CITY)

IN RE: PETITION
FOR ADOPTION OF
WITH CHANGE OF
NAME OF MINOR
ZOE KEITH
MAGNO,

SPS VINCENT S
CARINO
SPL PROc. CASE
NO.325-A
& YOLANDA R.
CARINO,

Petitioners,

- versus -

THE CITY CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF
THE CITY OF
LAOAG, ILOCOS
NORTE,

Respondent
x—x

ORDER

The petitioners-
spouses Vincent S
Carino and Yolanda
R. Carino filed verified amended petition
praying that after due
notice, publication
and hearing the minor
Zoe Keith Magno be
freed from all legal
obligations of obedience
and maintenance with
respect to her natural
mother Irene Keithruth
Magno and that she be
declared for all legal
intent and pur-

poses, the child of the
petitioners.

Finding the
amended petition to be
sufficient in fact and
substance, let the same
be heard before the Regional Trial Court
Branch 59, Baguio City
on August 26, 2009 at
10.30 o'clock in the
morning at which
place, date and time.
The petitioners shall
prove their case. Any
person interested may
appear and show cause,
if any there be, why the
petition should not be
granted.

Let a copy of this
order be published at
the expense of the petitioners in The Junction
Newspaper a newspaper of general circulation
in the City of Baguio and in Benguet
Province once a week for three (3) consecutive
weeks

The petitioners
are directed to make
an appointment with
the Court Social
Worker for the purpose
of conducting the
required case study on
the minor Zoe Keith
Magno. The Court So-

cial Worker is required
to submit to the court
the case study not late
August 24, 2009.

SO ORDERED

DONE IN
CHAMBERS, this 13th
day of April, 2009 at
Baguio City
Philippines.

By: (SGD)
ILUMINADA P.
CABATO
JUDGE

April 25, May 2
& 9, 2009

Ao issued

Code;

..... from page 6

- There is a pending townsite application;
- There is a pending application for a building permit;
- Applicant's business is a sari-sari store, or a small-scale business;
- A proof of ownership or a right of possession over the place of business is shown.

The absence of a building permit shall be properly indicated in the application, the AO further states, as the two are separate and distinct.

A business permit will not prejudice the demolition of structures considered as illegal, ruinous or abandoned. It will not also vouch for the integrity of the business premises, the AO also states./juliegfianza

Most outstanding

..... from page 6

gricultural practice varies in the Cordillera, but when it comes to preservation and protection of environment, primarily the water source, all the provinces have one goal, that is to maintain a "muyong" of man-made forest which holds water to irrigate the farms.

Usually, some areas were transformed into a ricefield or vegetable garden but leaving a wider array of pine and other kinds of trees to make sure that an ample supply of water is reserved in the forest.

With her experiences in farming, Caroline said that modern technology which include machineries and chemicals being utilized in the lowland increase farm yields,

this is not applicable in the hinterlands of Sagada.

Modern farm inputs are welcome, but natural way of farming is mostly adapted by farmers. These include animal wastes and rice straw mixed with the soil which is left for a couple of days underwater until rotten before it is planted with rice seedling. This will preserve the natural fertility of the soil, Baybay said.

We also practice natural composting technology in the community to produce organic fertilizer, that's why we seldom buy commercial fertilizers for our plants as we start producing organic vegetables for a healthier

lifestyle, she explained.

Natural pesticides such as the indigenous wild leaves found in the community are utilized to protect the plants from pests rather than using chemical pesticides that are harmful to human and animals.

Some farmers have also incorporated tilapia farming with rice known as the "rice-fish culture" introduced by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource (BFAR) in the province.

The technology has expanded in the whole municipality and in the province. This has created additional income to the farmers and an instant food supplier from the backyard aside from their swine and poultry.

Her persistent attitude towards farming endeavor has led her to become the 2009's most outstanding farmer in Mt. Province. Besting other nominees, the achievement of Caroline shows that Filipino women can work hand-in-hand with the government for social and economic development in the countryside./fnm/PIA-CAR

City to prepare

..... from page 6

said the meeting on Monday is meant to lay down contingency measures for prevention of entry of the virus and for control of the disease in case of an outbreak.

"We will handle this properly," Farinas assured as he appealed to the public to maintain their calm amid the health threat.

"Our veteran doctors and technical people know the situation and we are confident that we can come up with effective actions," Farinas said.

Farinas said the city executive department headed by Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. and the legislative branch through the council committee on health headed by Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia will work hand in hand to implement the contingency measures that will be drawn up.

He advised the public to do their share by keeping healthy through the observance of proper hygiene and good nutrition.

He also urged businessmen particularly those engaged in hog-raising and meat sale to make sure that they strictly follow sanitation rules and safety standards so as not to put the public's health at risk /aileen p. refuerzo

Dads ask DENR

..... from page 7

"In cadastral Survey Projects, the political boundary survey is done first prior to the survey of lots which, in this particular project, is the survey of the political boundaries of each of the 129 barangays," it added.

Last February 2, the DENR-CAR regional executive director in a memorandum "sought further instruction from the Undersecretary for staff bureaus as regards the implementation of Cadastral Survey Project in the city" in view of the said issues raised.

The council last year demanded the DENR-CAR to indefinitely suspend the implementation of the cadastral survey to give way for the clarification of issues and concerns raised by the city government and other sectors.

The body raised issues relative to existing laws, regulations, policies and guidelines concerning lands in the city particularly the lack of consultation and participation of the city government in said project which they said is very crucial to the city.

The DENR-CAR embarked on a Cadastral Survey for the City of Baguio, the first phase of which was implemented in 2007 with Barangay Brookside, Baguio City as the pilot area.

The bidding process for the said project was scheduled to start on November 24, 2008 until December 2008.

The body learned then that P2,000,000 was earmarked for the Modular Cadastre of Brookside Barangay while P10 million will be shared by the 127 barangays which the council felt was measly as compared to the budget allotted for Brookside.

In calling for the project's suspension, the body also cited Resolution No. 04, series of 2008 of the Geodetic Engineers of the Philippines, Inc.-Cordillera Administrative Region which also said that political boundaries should first be established before the execution of the survey.

The association also questioned the project's compliance with the city charter, the lack of consultation with the city government and the prioritization of the local engineers in the bidding./ aileen p. refuerzo

Cordi Nawi....**..... from page 6**

light to make his decision intelligently.

The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not. While the observance of the false Sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath, in obedience to God's law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God.

Heretofore those who presented the truths of the third angel's message have often been regarded as mere alarmists. Their predictions that religious intolerance would gain control in the United States, that church and state would unite to persecute those who keep the commandments of God, have been pronounced groundless and absurd. It has been confidently declared that this land could never become other than what it has been—the defender of religious freedom. But as the question of enforcing Sunday observance is widely agitated, the event so long doubted and disbelieved is seen to be approaching, and the third message will produce an effect which it could not have had before.

To be continued....

Diretsahan.....**..... from page 4**

na ayon ay dapat daw na maparusahan at maalis na sa serbisyo ang mga pulis na sapilitang nang-aresto umano sa mga kaanak at kasambahay ng mga Failon. Ano kaya ang masasabi dito ng pamunuan ng PNP? Pwes, mas maganda sigurong hintayin nalang ang resulta sa imbestigasyon ng Commission on Human Rights at ang NAPOLCOM, mahirap na kasing magbigay tayo ngayon ng opinyon at baka matulad tayo kay Ted!!!

oOo

Mabilis pa sa alas-kwatro ang pag-alis ni Daniel Smith sa Pinas matapos syang i-absuwelto ng korte apela hinggil sa kasong rape.... baka natatakot sya na siya naman ang mareyp ng mga nanggagalaiteng mga kabaro at kababayan ni Nicole...

Dapat sa Subic muna sya dumiretso at maghapi-hapi dahil sa kanyang pagka-absuwelto. Sigurado ko marami na naman ang susunod na "Nicole"! he! He! Takot na siguro sya ano?

oOo

Nakakaalarma na ang sunod sunod na insidenteng patayan dito sa Baguio. Ang nakakatakot, tama ng bala sa baril at Granada ang gumulantang na balita kaya marami na naman ang nababahala lalo na ang ating madlang pipol na ang hangad ay maging mapayapa at tahimik ang

lungsod.

Marahil ay isa itong hamon kay BCPO tsip Superintendent Wilfredo Franco, na dapat nilang paigtingin ang kanilang "Police Visibility" at operation kapkap lalo na sa disoras ng gabi at ipagbawal din nya sa kanyang mga tauhan ang matulog habang naka-duty lalo na sa madaling araw para madali lang silang makaresponde sa anumang kaguluhan, at syempre pa, para maiwasan ang antok, bawal uminom ng alak o beer, kape o sopdrink na lang puwede! Ano sey mo hepe?!!

oOo

Nagkaroon ng market summit sa Convention Center noong Abril 25 at ginanap ito mula alas otso ng umaga hanggang alas singko ng hapon. Dinaluhan ito ng iba't ibang sektor na gusto lang magmalasakit sa palengke ng Baguio. Inorganisa ito ni konsehala Elaine Sembrano, Committee Chair Person ng Market and Trade sa Council para malaman lahat ang problema sa palengke at kung paano ito mapaunlad at maging maayos. Malaking bagay ito para sa mga taga-palengke at sa mga namamalengke.

Sana ay magtuloy tuloy ito at hindi ningas kugon o pampapogi points lang at hindi maparis sa anti-gambling summit "kuno" noon na hanggang doon lang pero wala naman yatang nangyari! At may tiwala ako kay konsehala Sembrado na hindi nya ito gagayihin diba apo konsehala? Teka, ano na pala ang nangyari sa summit ng waste disposal? Baka naman hindi summit kundi nasabit?

Eniwey, saludo ako kay counselor Elaine Sembrano sa pagkakaroon ng market summit na ito at kung ipagpapatuloy nya at maging matagumpay ito, baka pati paa ko sasaludo sa kanya, period!

Charch leaders.....**..... from page 7**

concelebrated Earth Day mass held at the NBN Studio A in Quezon City Friday morning which was officiated by Bishop Labayen.

Rosales is awarded for establishing ecology desks in parishes and using the pulpit in staunchly protecting the environment.

Rosales extolled Fr. Neri Satur, after whom the environmental awards for 2009 was named, as a hero and a martyr. At a very young age, he spent two years, three months and two days doing his priestly duties and exposing the violations of the forests by loggers.

Bishop Labayen, whose program, Adopt a Mountain in Infanta, Quezon, won for him an environmental heroism award for climate change mitigation, said in his sermon that "earth was given to us all to be our source of livelihood."

"But we are destroying Earth through logging, removing the indigenous people and wildlife from their natural habitat and violating our women of their rights and potentials," Labayen lamented.

"The Earth mass is a mass for life. Let us now stand united for life because God gave it to us," Labayen added, as he ac-

knowledgeed the presence of guests from Spain and made the "Earth call" a global call as well.

At the offertory, gifts of potted plants and tree saplings and paintings about the environment were given, among other offerings, from the public.

The Earth mass was attended by officials of government, led by Press Secretary Cerge Remonde, who represented President Arroyo; churchmen, indigenous people, the awardees and local and foreign guests.

Aside from Cardinal Rosales and Bishop Labayen, the other awardees were: Muntinlupa City Mayor Aldrin L. San Pedro for the public market with best solid and water waste management program; principal Elvira M. Camacho of the Talavera National High School of Nueva Ecija for its mini hydro power invention; Dr. Schultz GTZ-German

Technical Cooperation**..... from page 7**

machine oil for transport represented by its president, Engr. Benjamin Santos;

Arts Association of the Philippines for environmental arts education for visual arts; Joey Ayala and Bagong Lumads for eco-cultural communications through music; Kidlat Tahimik for film documentation for indigenous peoples; and special citations for media and culture to: Filipino rap music king Francis Magalona (post-humous award received by his wife) and Timmy Cruz (eco friendly artists) who also rendered a musical piece on Sumusumpa Ako; Richard Gutierrez of GMA7 and Kim Atienza of ABS-CBN for being eco friendly hosts; Angelo Palmones of DZMM for Takbo Para sa Kalikasan and Clement Bautista of DZRH for environmental reporting.

Near the end of the program an interpretative dance was performed with musical accompaniment from the composition and song of Francis Magalona entitled Basura./PIA

Dairy farm**..... from page 7**

gifted children and molding them into future scientists and nation builders," the resolution noted.

Authored by Councilors Fred Bagbagen, Isabelo Cosalan Jr. and Elaine Sembrano, the measure said the establishment of the PSHS is supported by the Constitution which mandates the prioritization of the development of science and technology in the country's educational system.

The measure also cited section 1 of Republic Act No. 9036 or the Act Strengthening the Governance and Defining the Scope of the PSHS System... which mandates the creation of one PSHS campus in each of the administrative regions "to give the regions equal opportunity to benefit from the establishment of the PSHS system."

They said the site at the Baguio Dairy Farm is suited for the purpose./aleen p. refuerzo

New York City

.... from page 12

insula in the past 50 years, often abruptly like the Larsen A in 1995 or the Larsen B in 2002.

The trend is widely blamed on climate change caused by heat-trapping gases from burning fossil fuels, according to David Vaughan, a British Antarctic Survey scientist who landed by plane on the Wilkins ice bridge with two Reuters reporters in January.

Humbert said by telephone her estimates were that the Wilkins could lose a total of 800 to 3,000 sq kms of area after the ice bridge shattered.

The Wilkins shelf has already shrunk by about a third from its original 16,000 sq kms when first spotted decades ago, its ice so thick would take at least hundreds of years to form.

Temperatures on the Antarctic Peninsula have warmed by up to 3 Celsius (5.4 Fahrenheit) this century, Vaughan said, a trend climate scientists blame on global warming from burning fossil fuels in cars, factories and power plants.

The loss of ice shelves does not raise sea levels significantly because the ice is floating and already mostly submerged by the ocean.

But the big worry is that their loss will allow ice sheets on land to move faster, adding extra water to the seas.

Wilkins has almost no pent-up glaciers behind it, but ice shelves further south hold back vast volumes of ice.

The Arctic Council, grouping nations with territory in the Arctic, is due to meet in Tromsø, north Norway, Wednesday to debate the impact of melting ice in the north. / By Alistair Doyle, Environment Correspondent Alistair Doyle, Environment Correspondent – Tue Apr 28, 7:00 pm ET/(Editing by Sophie Hares)/

RP 2nd most...

.... from page 12

list of countries where violations of trade union rights are prevalent. Colombia ranks first with 39 killings, while Guinea was third at 30 unionists slain in the ITUC list.

The Philippines recorded 33 killings of labor leaders in the survey conducted by the Independent Centre for Trade Union and Human Rights (CTUHR) for the ITUC in 2007.

In the same survey, 220 individuals were affected in 130 incidents of trade union rights violations.

Escudero, who chairs the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights, has filed Senate Bill 1437 which seeks to grant prosecutorial powers to the Commission on Human Rights and establish its own witness protection program. He has also called for the approval of a bill which would jail torturers for life.

"The sad fact is that in the Philippines, the rights of labor groups continue to be abused by the government. These abuses range from acts to undermine the right to strike to outright discouragement of trade union activities, especially in export processing zones," Escudero said.

He also noted that in many instances cited by the ITUC and validated by UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions Philip Alston, the use of intimidation and extrajudicial or arbitrary executions targeting trade unionists has been employed.

"The government must not only create and ensure security of tenure. It must also make sure that those who fight for the welfare of workers be protected from harm," Escudero said./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

New party

.... from page 12

(at least that is what we say we are), we must comply with the law even if we think (rightly or wrongly) that the law is inappropriate.

"Complying with the laws of men is in fact a dictum that is pushed quite strongly not just by existing laws of men, pursuant to legal principles like 'dura lex, sed lex' (or the law maybe harsh but follow it anyway because it is the law) but even by the Holy Bible.

"In its many passages, including Romans 13:1-2, the Bible says that the obligation to follow the law and the duly-constituted authorities is highly ordained.

"Thus: 'Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves...' "

No Mexican Swine...

.... from page 7

The World Health Organization has raised the pandemic alert to Phase 4 but government is not worried.

"Even though there's a world-wide declaration of a Phase-4 event, the Philippines is **classified as a non-affected country.**" Defense Secretary and NDCC chair Gilbert Teodoro said, "But be that as it may, we have take all necessary steps to maintain if not improve our readiness to meet a theoretical pandemic should it affect the Philippines. The Department of Health will issue bulletins from time to time regarding the Mexican Swine Flu."

Affected countries will have to rapidly contain the illness by preventing those with fever or under febrile conditions from leaving the country while those non-affected must heighten its surveillance, hospital and clinical care, logistics which will include medicines and supply, public information and advocacy.

Yap has ordered the temporary suspension of all hog and pork imports from afflicted areas and has mobilized concerned offices under the Department of Agriculture.

"I have ordered the Bureau of Quarantine to heightened alert in all airports and seaports to ensure that hand-carried meat products are thoroughly screened

to prevent the entry of products from afflicted zones and the National Meat Inspection Service to monitor meat establishments and slaughter houses, inter-province movements of live hogs and products to ensure proper safety certification."

Yap added that even the measures implemented during the height of the Reston Virus infections in Pandi, Bulacan are still operational.

DOH, as reported previously by Secretary Francisco Duque III, activated its surveillance mechanism particularly screening of inbound passengers in international seaports and airports since last week following the WHO announcement that the influenza strain has developed into a public health emergency of international concern.

Villaverde said passengers under "feverish condition" will be isolated and treated to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, the San Lazaro Hospital and the Lung Center of the Philippines.

The signs and symptoms of the influenza in humans include: fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, lack of appetite, coughing, runny nose, sore throat, and nausea/vomiting and diarrhea.

To reduce the risks of infection, DOH has proposed several ways including avoiding places described as afflicted areas; and covering mouth and nose with tissues or handkerchief when coughing or sneezing./PIA

PhilHEALTH...

.... from page 7

there were 26,304 clients who sought medical assistance from January to September 31, 2008.

The tie-up project will be implemented nationwide using the Indigent Sponsorship Program (ISP) of the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) which serves the health insurance of the indigent sector. It is a tool by which the State envisions to provide Medicare to the indigent population.

The DSWD and PhilHealth will co-sponsor the payment of P1,200.00 which will provide medical insurance to the beneficiary for one year, renewable every year and subject to re-assessment.

The insurance covers hospitalization and outpatient benefits from Philhealth accredited hospitals, lying-in clinics and Rural Health Units.

Qualified for the program are: CIU clients who are non-PhilHealth members of any local government unit, other government or private health insurance programs and Filipino citizens who are at least 18 years of age.

The DSWD will initially identify 1,000 indigent household-beneficiaries for the project. /PIA

New York City-sized ice collapses off Antarctica

TROMSOE, Norway (Reuters) – An area of an Antarctic ice shelf almost the size of New York City has broken into icebergs this month after the collapse of an ice bridge widely blamed on global warming, a scientist said Tuesday.

“The northern ice front of the Wilkins Ice Shelf has become unstable and the first icebergs have been released,” Angelika Humbert, glaciologist

at the University of Muenster in Germany, said of European Space Agency satellite images of the shelf.

Humbert told Reuters about 700 sq km (270.3 sq mile) of ice — bigger than Singapore or Bahrain and almost the size of New York City — has broken off the Wilkins this month and shattered into a mass of icebergs.

She said 370 sq kms of ice had cracked up in recent

days from the Shelf, the latest of about 10 shelves on the Antarctic Peninsula to retreat in a trend linked by the U.N. Climate Panel to global warming.

The new icebergs added to 330 sq kms of ice that broke up earlier this month with the shattering of an ice bridge apparently pinning the Wilkins in place between Charcot island and the Antarctic Peninsula.

Nine other shelves — ice floating on the sea and linked to the coast — have receded or collapsed around the Antarctic pen-

Cont. on page 11

New Party List Reps Not A Burden, But Mandated By 1987 Constitution

The incoming party list representatives should not be considered a burden to the people, since their entry into the House of Representatives is mandated by the 1987 Constitution itself.

This is the gist of a press statement of lawyer Melanio Mauricio Jr., also known as Atty. Batas, the first nominee of the BATAS Party List, or the Bagong Alyansang Tagapagtugayod ng Adhikang Sambayanan.

Pursuant to the decision of the Supreme Court written by Associate Justice Antonio Carpio, BATAS Party List was recognized as among those who won in the May 2007 elections, and was even given two congressional seats in

the 14th Congress.

The press statement of BATAS follows:

“The concern of Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, chairman of the Catholic Bishop’s Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), that the newly-proclaimed party list representatives constitute a bigger burden to the public is understandable, but it is not the truth.

“These new party list congressmen could and should never be considered a burden at all, for the simple reason that their positions as members of the House of Representatives have actually been mandated by the 1987 Constitution itself, which provides that

party list groups should occupy 20 percent of the House’s total membership.

“What is more, allowing the party list congressmen to comply with the basic law of the land could never be a burden to anyone, as it in fact upholds the doctrine of the “majesty of the law”—which basically means that since we are a nation of laws

Cont. on page 11



MOST OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE - City officials headed by Mayor Reynaldo Bautista, Jr present the award and cash incentive to Delfin Salazar from the Treasurer’s Office as the Most Outstanding City Hall Employee (2nd level category) and Janine Abalos (not shown in photo) from the City Social Welfare and Development Office (1st level category) for the month of March during simple rites last April 27./ By Bong Cayabyab

RP 2nd Most Dangerous Country For Trade Unionists

The Philip-pines ranks as the second most dangerous country for trade unionists, and opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero said yesterday the government’s seeming indifference to

killings of trade union leaders could trigger more attacks against them.

“A climate of fear and intimidation still pervades the labor sector. Workers not only

worry about job security, they have to deal with the issue of personal security as well,” Escudero said.

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) reported that the Philippines now ranks second in the

Cont. on page 11

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