



Paglaurm

HOPE FOR NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION



Issue No. 20 • 4 pages

May - June 2013

The official publication of the Pimentel Center for Local Governance and the Pimentel Institute for Leadership and Governance

BARANGAYS ENFORCE KASAMBAHAY LAW



As Republic Act No. 10361, known as the Kasambahay Law is due to take effect, Barangay Ayala Alabang initiates a barangay forum among employers and kasambahays by inviting the lead government agencies tasked in its implementation such as the Department of Labor and Employment, Social Security System, PhilHealth and Pag-Ibig., whose representatives explain the key provisions of the law. (Photo from Barangay Ayala Alabang, June 15.)

ASPIRING BRGY LEADERS INVITED TO TRAIN, PREPARE

By Clarisse Aquino

As President Benigno C. Aquino III announced that the barangay elections will push through in October, those who aspire for elective barangay positions can prepare and develop skills in barangay leadership by attending seminars, workshops and trainings on effective barangay governance.

The Pimentel Institute for Leadership and Governance (PILG) together with the Pimentel Center for Local Governance, which is based in the University of

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Word from the Center

The 2013 senatorial and local elections are over.

Thank God the elections were more peaceful than the last elections three years ago. By that is meant, the polls were less bloody.

That said, questions as to the reliability of the results continue to be raised by people well-meaning or motivated even by less than selfless concerns.

What is important now is for the Commission on Elections and the Legislature to work together, and assure the people that whatever defects flawed the electoral process would be fully revealed,

and completely corrected, for the benefit of the Republic.

Otherwise, the faith of the people on the polls as the constitutional way of investing individuals with their sovereignty would be rendered nugatory. Indeed, of what use would the elections be if they do not reflect the will of the people?

The alternative is too horrendous to think of.

The lawful way of rectifying wrongs in society is still the best way to assure people that there is still a brighter tomorrow awaiting all of us.

Barangays are seen to play a pivotal role in the implementation of the new law granting benefits to domestic helpers in the Philippines, under Republic Act No. 10361, known as the Kasambahay Law.

Under the law, there are two roles that the barangays have been mandated to do in the enforcement of its provisions.

First, in pre-employment, the barangays issue a barangay clearance to the domestic helper, which clearance is one of the requirements for employment of the domestic helpers.

Thus, the barangays have to set up a standard as to what conditions must exist before issuing a "barangay clearance."

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ASPIRING

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Makati have been holding trainings for barangay officials for good governance as part of an effort for national transformation.

The seminars can be an effective introductory tool for those who wish to serve as barangay officials.

The Center's and the Institute's regular barangay training program consists of an intensive two-day seminar-workshop which covers discussions on the powers and obligations, challengers and opportunities to improve barangay governance.

The trainings focuses on the need for integrity and efficiency in public service.

The seminars would be an ideal training ground for those who want to run and serve as barangay officials.

The two-day training covers enhances participants knowledge and familiarity with the basic powers of the barangays in the executive and local legislative.

Topics discussed also include the barangay justice

system, known as the katarungang pambarangay.

Participants will also get a first-hand perspective of the important local government code provisions from the main author of the Local Government Code, former Senate President Aquilino Nene Pimentel Jr.

He is joined by a roster of other distinguished lecturers who are experts in their respective fields like the academe, the religious, business and legal sectors.

Also included among the topics during the two-day training are: the Evolution of the Barangay, Public Service as a Calling, Pillars of Good Governance, Leadership and Core Values, Livelihood, Federalism, Ethics & Morality, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management in the barangay level, Barangay Art, Barangay Dudget and Funds, among others.

The Pimentel Institute for Leadership and Governance holds two-day seminars every month at the 4th floor of the University of Makati, JP Rizal Extension, West Rembo, Makati City.

BARANGAYS

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Second, the barangays are mandated to set up a registration system where all employers shall register their domestic helpers.

The law provides in Section 17: *"The employers shall register all domestic workers under their employment in the Registry of Domestic Workers in the barangay where the employer's residence is located. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall, in coordination with the DOLE, formulate a registration system for this purpose."*

The barangays serve as the repository of all employment contracts between employers and domestic helpers residing in the barangay. This is specifically provided Section 7 of the Implementing rules of the law.

Barangay officials, particularly the punong barangay will be tapped as witnesses in employ-

ment contracts between the employers and domestic helpers, according to the implementing rules.

It will also be the barangay officials who are tasked, if requested, to read and explain the provisions of employment contract so they will understand fully the terms of the agreement.

Since barangay officials are in the frontline in the implementation of the law, barangays will also be in the position to monitor the enforcement of the contracts entered into by househelps in their respective barangays.

Barangays will serve as the immediate venue where househelps can report any violations of employment contracts as well as abuses committed against the househelps.

While it is the Department of Labor that has jurisdiction over disputes involving househelps, it will be the barangays which will facilitate the reporting of such disputes to the DOLE.



Prof. Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel, Jr.

The schedule of
Seminar-Workshop on Good Barangay
Governance for National Transformation
July 19-20, 2013



The official publication of the Pimentel Center for Local Governance and the Pimentel Institute for Leadership and Governance

Editorial Director	Jay Dejaresco
Contributing Writers	Alex Brillantes Roy Carandang Reneliza Ferrer Jaime Ocampo Nene Pimentel Raymund Rosuelo Ed Tapia Cris Uy
Artist/Photographer	reyronda
Publisher	Gwen Gana
Editorial Consultant	Coylee Gamboa
Editorial Staff	Clarisse Aquino Maelyn Calizo Carla Caringal

Pimentel Center for Local Governance
Pimentel Institute for Leadership & Governance
4th Floor Administration Building, University of Makati,
JP Rizal Extension, West Rembo, Makati City
Telephone No.: 882-0678 loc 307
Email: info@pimentelinstitute.org, rcroffice@yahoo.com.ph
Website: www.pimentelinstitute.org



UNIVERSITY OF MAKATI ACTIVITIES



HONORING THE SENIOR CITIZENS OF MAKATI Lakbay/Aral Saya Program for the Federation of Senior Citizens

By: Dir. Lhiza M. Ferrer

More than 300 senior citizens from six barangays in Makati (Cembo, East Rembo, Northside, Pitogo, Sta. Cruz and West Rembo) were given a tribute and feted by UMak in the Lakbay/Aral Saya Program for the Federation of Senior Citizens, organized by the Center for Extension Service, Entrepreneurial and Livelihood Education (CESELE) last May 8.

CESELE Director Lhiza Ferrer said that not only was it an afternoon “to honor and appreciate the contributions and achievements of these commendable older adults for the City of Makati,” it was also an afternoon “to celebrate their relentless vitality and aspirations.”

The Collective Arts of Students and Thespians (CAST) of UMak and Tanghalang BagongSibol Theater and Dance Company



of Malabon National High School entertained the appreciative seniors with a play production that included singing, acting and dancing. They were also serenaded by Prof. Alex Pahayahay of the College of Computer Science and CESELE’s Ms. Mary Ann Soronio. Capping the program was the raffle draw of 11 cash gifts of P500 from UMak and the City of

Makati.

“The City and the University is committed in continuing to provide opportunities for elders to come together and to share their experiences with one another, as well as with individuals of other generations,” Director Ferrer also said.

With the unwavering support of the City and

University officials led by Mayor Jejomar Erwin Bina, Jr. and UMak President Tomas Lopez, Jr., the Lakbay/Aral Saya Program has become a trademark program of UMak-CESELE for a number of years now under the leadership of Director Ferrer and the supervision of Executive Vice President Edita Chan. *(Write-up and Photos by CESELE)*



CESELE HOLDS SEMINAR ON COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARENESS

A seminar/workshop on the university's Community Service/Extension Awareness Program was conducted by the Center for Extension Service, Entrepreneurial and Livelihood Education (CESELE) headed by Dir. Lhiza Ferrer last June 4 at the Health and Physical Sciences Building-Skills Laboratory.

To provide a more in-depth insight and articulation of the theme, the university's Executive Vice President, Dr. Edita Chan, was invited as resource speaker. She spoke about the importance of community extension, as one of the triadic functions of a university, thus essential for accreditation. She also spoke about volunteerism, heart of leadership, characteristics and traits of a good leader, as well as types of communication.

According to Dr. Chan, the university should maintain a harmonious relationship with the various sectors of the community. It should strive to share its resources with



the community. Its educational philosophy, programs and services should be made known to the community so that community members can benefit and/or contribute to the advocacies of the univer-

sity.

Likewise, Dr. Chan also cited that the university's commitment to community service and development should be expressed in pro-

grams, projects and activities, which are well-planned, organized, implemented, evaluated and supported by the school and other available resources. *(Write-up and Photos by CESELE)*

PROFS. AGAPITO, DIAZ, GANNABAN, GRAMA, PIMENTEL, SUAL, AND STUDENT REP DE LUNA TAKE THEIR OATH AS NEW LUV MEMBERS

The new faculty and student members of the League of UMaK Volunteers (LUV) had their oath-taking at the conclusion of the Seminar on Community Awareness last June 4 at the Health and Physical Sciences Building-Skills Laboratory.

Among the new members were Prof. Tyrone Agapito of the Center for Broadcast and Digital Arts, Prof. Annalyn Diaz of the College of Allied Health Studies, Dr. Brabham Pimentel of the College of Allied Health Studies, Prof. Era Marie Gannaban of the College of Computer Science, Prof. Coleen Sual of the College of Arts and Sciences, Prof.



Edesa Grama of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Ms. Lorna Inna De Luna, Student Representative.

Executive Vice Presi-

dent Edita Chan led the oath-taking of the new members. Prof. Toby Vargas, President of LUV-Faculty, and Dir. Lhiza Ferrer, Director of the Center for Extension Service, En-

trepreneurial and Livelihood Education and LUV Adviser, were on hand to welcome the new members of the LUV-Faculty and LUV-Students to the LUV organization.