



Paglbaum

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BARANGAY DADS TRAINED IN HANDLING DISASTERS



Prof. Nene Pimentel (center) shares with Timor Leste delegation headed by Macario Sanches a hilarious incident in the Philippine experience in decentralization. At right VP Edita Chan of the University of Makati enjoys his joke (November 19).

In the wake of deadly natural calamities that struck the country recently, newly elected barangay officials, many of them first-timers in their elective posts, engaged in extensive training and planning in disaster prevention and reduction during the last barangay seminar for national transformation held by the Pimentel Institute for Leadership and Governance (PILG) last November 22-23.

Forty barangay officials of the Municipality of Piddig, Ilocos Norte and Palayan City Nueva Ecija, who were elected in the recently held barangay elections on October 28, familiarized themselves in their primary work as officials of their respective barangays, smallest political subdivision of the government.

After the natural calamities that hit the Visayas, the topic on disaster prevention and management easily became one of the focal points of discussion in the seminar.

An earthquake of 7.2 magnitude shook the province of Bohol and nearby provinces in October. This was followed by Typhoon Yolanda that swept Eastern and Western Visayas province killing more than 5,000, and completely wiping out communities.

Resource persons on disaster management were Reynaldo Sandico a retired Colonel of the U.S. Military, and Winston Marbella, who

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RP NOT A PARTY TO SECRET TPPT

By Clarisse Aquino

Thanks to WikiLeaks, a draft chapter of an alleged “Trans-Pacific Partnership Treaty negotiated in secret (among) 12 nations” was brought to the attention of the world in mid-November, this year.

In an article authored by Alex Hern and Dominic Roshe that was published in the UK Guardian on November 13, Julian Assange, the founder and editor of WikiLeaks, claims that the secret treaty would trample over individual rights and free expression.

“The Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement is Turn to Page 2

Word from the Center

Has Climate Change free will. doomed mankind?

A recent opinion of Roy Scranton asserts that thesis in the New York Times recently.

With the devastation typhoon Yolanda brought to Tacloban City, and other parts of the country days ago, Scranton’s doomsday scenario for the world seems inevitable.

“Civilizations,” he says, “have marched blindly toward disaster because humans are wired to believe that tomorrow will be much like today.”

The premise of his dire theory may be correct. But his conclusion is not necessarily true. For human beings are not robots or automatons. They are thinking beings. They have consciences. And

The perils he speaks of, though, are so well documented that only fools would ignore them.

Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, the commander of the United States Pacific Command, in fact, told the US Senate days ago that “global climate change was the greatest threat ... (the US faces that is) more dangerous than terrorism, Chinese hackers and North Korean nuclear missiles”.

Getting more specific, he said that “Upheaval from increased temperatures, rising seas and radical destabilization is probably the most likely thing that is going to happen...”

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a multilateral free-trade treaty currently being negotiated in secret by 12 Pacific Rim nations.”

Among other things, the treaty, the authors of the news item contends “covers a number of areas, but the chapter published by WikiLeaks focuses on intellectual property rights, an area of law which has effects in ... pharmaceuticals and civil liberties.”

The Philippines is not among the 12 mover-countries of the TPPT.

WikiLeaks reveals that “representatives from the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Mexico, Malaysia, Chile, Singapore, Peru, Vietnam, and Brunei” have been holding “closed door” sessions on the subject of the treaty.

The expose asserts that the controversial chapter in question “contains proposals to increase the term of patents, including medical patents, beyond 20 years, and lower global standards for pat-

entability. It also pushes for aggressive measures to prevent hackers breaking copyright protection, although that comes with some exceptions: protection can be broken in the course of ‘lawfully authorised activities carried out by government employees, agents, or contractors for the purpose of law enforcement, intelligence, essential security, or similar governmental purposes’”.

In Assange’s view “If instituted the TPP’s intellectual property regime would trample over individual rights and free expression, as well as ride roughshod over the intellectual and creative commons. If you read, write, publish, think, listen, dance, sing or invent; if you farm or consume food; if you’re ill now or might one day be ill, the TPP has you in its crosshairs.”

Assange’s thesis remains to be validated. But for our country and people, ‘forewarned is’, or, should be, ‘forearmed.’

Word...*From Page 1*

“That will cripple the security environment, probably more likely than the other scenarios we all often talk about.”

Scranton’s and Locklear’s fears are backed up by “climatologists (who) now predict (that) global temperatures (will rise) by 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit within a generation and 7.2 degrees Fahrenheit within 90 years.”

The ecological experts also hold the view that it is the rise in the earth temperatures that pushes meters-high waves from the oceans to inundate sea-side population sites, and furious winds to blow over human tenements.

Those are alarming data, indeed. But the thing is that “increasing temperatures” of the world may be controlled or prevented. For instance, the factories - especially of the developed world - that spew greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere must be subjected to strict supervision so that they would conform to the UN treaties that require ecological balance to be maintained at levels needed by human and other living species to survive on earth.

That technical solution to the man-made, and even natu-

ral, calamities, like Yolanda, may be the easier part of the problem. The reason is that before the technical remedy can happen the more problematic issue of human greed, the driving force that extinguishes the humanizing factor in human progress and development, has to be reined in.

It is a difficult proposition. But a doable one. For even if a person’s instincts wire him to do things on impulse, that propensity to walk along the wire’s path is not a fate-dictated inevitability. After all, as intimated earlier, human beings are endowed by their Maker with the power to think, act, and do things in accord with their consciences. And as free agents.

Hence, if we are to prevent the next great deluge that climatologists warn us of, the peoples of the world will just have to take care of our environment, and reduce, if not eliminate, the green house emissions that pollute and upset the ecological balance of the earth’s atmosphere. And if we can get humankind to act soon enough in that direction and in concert, there is a good chance that life on earth would turn out as it was meant to be: God’s Eden for the heirs of Adam and Eve to enjoy.

Barangay...*From Page 1*

a management consultancy.

The resource persons emphasized preparation as the key to meeting unavoidable and unpredictable natural disasters, in order the more lives are saved, and deaths are prevented, or minimized.

In the workshop, the barangay participants developed their own proposed programs on how to manage a disaster in the event it happens in their locality.

It was emphasized during the seminar that barangays are the frontline in meeting disasters, and ensuring the safety and welfare of their residents.

The seminar focused on developing a masterplan for the barangay

on key preparations and actions to be taken during a calamity.

If the a barangays efficiently execute a disaster prevention plan, other local governments, and the national government, will be able to effectively manage and implement their own disaster programs

Meanwhile, the new barangay leaders, received practical inputs in running the affairs of their local governments when they viewed the best practices in barangay governance as recorded by the Galing Pook organization.

Galing Pook Executive Director Eddie Dorotan emphasized the need for creativity among the barangay leaders in efforts to provide their constituents basic services.

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RECENT PICTORIAL EVENTS



PILG Scholar Remart Dumlaog (3rd from left) receives cash for his educational needs from Atty. Gwen P. Gana, President of the PILG. (November 6)



The new CHED Commissioner Alex Brillantes receives a citation from the Center for his appointment. Two Senators, Cynthia Villar and Koko Pimentel hand over the citation to him (November 6)



PILG host a roundtable discussion with Timor Leste officials on decentralization. (November 19).



Speakers and participants of the barangay seminar-workshop. (November 23)



Nene Pimentel shares his experience in local governance with newly elected barangay officials who attended the PILG seminar. (November 23)



Pepe Pestano is cited for his valued assistance in the four day seminar for youth leaders called Batang Transformers. (November 27)



Eddie Dorotan of Galing Pook shares the best practices in barangay governance.



Col. Rey Sandico give tips on disaster management, based on his experience in the US military.



Rev. Fr. Adalid stresses the need for barangay leaders to observe ethics as they perform their duties for the welfare of their constituents.

BATANG TRANSFORMERS UPDATES

THE NORTHERN LUZON BATANG TRANSFORMERS REPORT

By Remart P. Dumlao

N.L.B.T. GROUP PLANNING



Group Planning while they are eating.

Today we meet new friends as you see in the pictures. The members are very happy having their lunch while they are planning for the next operation of the group.

The N.L.B.T special meeting was held on November 27, 2013 at 9:30-11:30 am to do the plans for the organization.

Agendum of the Organization

1. CLEAN AND GREEN PROGRAM

The aim of this program is to help the environment through tree planting and community service through the cooperation of Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the following barangays of Echague, Isabela.

- Arabiat, Echague, Isabela
- San Fabian Echague, Isabela
- Babaran, Echague, Isabela
- Annafunan, Echague, Isabela
- Pagasa, Echague, Isabela

Those 5 barangays are identified as a low class barangays in the town of Echague.

In charge of the program:

Regie Ramiscal -VP OF N.L.B.T

2. FEEDING PROGRAM

The aim of this program is to decrease the number of the malnourished children in the low class barangay of Echague, Isabela through the cooperation of the Department of Social Welfare development.

Here are the barangays concerned:

- Arabiat Echague, Isabela
- San Fabian, Echague, Isabela
- Babaran, Echague, Isabela
- Annafunan, Echague, Isabela
- Pagasa, Echague, Isabela

In charge of the program: Jeffrey Calle

3. AQUINTANCE PARTY

The aim of this party is to unite all tribes, get them respect their customs and traditions and to know each other.

TENTATIVE DATE: December 15, 2013

VENUE: Isabela State University Amphitheater

CONTRIBUTION: 50 pesos

In charge: NINA CADAVIDA

1ST OPERATION OF N.L.B.T TO HELP THE TYPHOON YOLANDA'S VICTIM



Last Wednesday November 20, 2013, The North Luzon Batang Transformer organized the "GAMIT MO, SUOT KO" to help the Typhoon Yolanda's Victims.

The organization gathered 96 members from the different tribes of the North

to participate in the said program. Each member had a different role in the preparation of the program. Other group members accounted for the donations like can, noodles, clothes, rice and etc., which they sent to the warehouse of PilipinasNatin at Manila.

4. TUTORIAL PROGRAM

The aim of this program is to remedy the weaknesses of the student in secondary level and elementary level.

Here are the target schools of the Organization

- Southern Isabela Academy (San Gullermo, Isabela)
- Garit High School
- Echague National High School

- Babaran Elementary School

- Pagasa Elementary School
- In charge: REMART P. DUMLAO

5. ORGANIZATION NEWS PUBLICATION

The aim of this publication is to promote the advocacy of N.L.B.T named **THE PARAGO**



Remart P. Dumlao



THE OFFICIAL LOGO OF NORTHERN LUZON BATANG TRANSFORMERS