



PRODUCTIVE. Mayor Pamintuan basks in glory over local produce and the presence of 3 "vice-mayorables", (from left) councilors Alfie Bonifacio and Jay Sangil and Vice Mayor Vicky Vega-Cabigting at the celebration of Nutrition Month. PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGELES CIO

Tarzan: Complaints vs. high taxes made me run for mayor

ANGELES CITY – First District Rep. Carmelo "Tarzan" Lazatin said on Monday that traders and public utility drivers had asked him to run for mayor as they complained of "exorbitant" taxes imposed by the city government.

Lazatin said the "high and unfair taxes" charged by Mayor Edgardo "Ed" Pamintuan for the past two years had adversely affected small and promi-

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Lazatin

'WISHY-WASHY'

Santiago's choice for VM still unclear

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — After getting negative feedback from informal surveys in his sorties around the city, Vice Mayor Edwin "Edsa" Santiago "took a step back and played coy" whenever asked about his running mate for 2013.

In an informal caucus in Barangay Malino, Santiago gave a curt "wala pa" to inquiries about his vice mayor under the Liberal Party, which the residents

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Santiago

EdPam: 'I'm not the problem'

By JOEY PAVIA

ANGELES CITY – "I am not the problem. I want a status quo."

Thus said Mayor Edgardo "Ed" Pamintuan when asked by **Punto** if he would be open to reconciliation with his erstwhile political ally 1st District Rep. Carmelo "Tarzan" Lazatin.

The solon announced last week that he would not seek re-election and instead challenge Pamintuan, surprising the mayor and his camp.

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8 priests hold Mass, 1,000 attend burial of slain Dutch missionary

By DING CERVANTES

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO- Some 1,000 folk attended the burial of slain Dutch missionary Wilhel-

mus Geertman in Baler, Aurora province Sunday afternoon amid demand for justice in his killing.

This, amid a report saying that Geertman had

helped Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Ma. Sison obtain asylum in the Netherlands.

"As a Dutch national,

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Auckland Philippines Solidarity of New Zealanders and Filipinos take its protest up the peak of Mt Eden, one of the highest places in Auckland, New Zealand. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Vote YES

to Mabalacat cityhood in the July 21 plebiscite



FRIENDS OF MEDIA. Cebu Pacific officials led by Candice Iyog and JG Summit Holdings Inc. corporate communications manager Viveca Singson pose for posterity with Pampanga journalists after a recent luncheon briefing at the Holiday Inn-Clark. **PHOTO BY RIC GONZALES**

CebPac welcomes competition at Clark

By JOEY PAVIA

CLARK FREEPORT – “We welcome competition.”

Thus said Candice Iyog, vice president for marketing and distribution of Cebu Pacific Air, when asked about the new local and international flights offered by at least three airlines at the Clark International Airport (CIA).

“This is good, especially for the market. Passengers will have several choices. It will keep everyone (in the aviation industry) on their toes,” added Iyog.

Cebu Pacific made Clark its 4th hub in the country in 2006, offering flights to Cebu. Two years later, the Gokongwei-owned airline launched flights to regional destinations Macau, Hong Kong, Singapore and Bangkok in Thailand.

Iyog said they will look into adding routes via Clark. Cebu Pacific and the Clark International Airport Corp. (CIAC) earlier this year sponsored chartered flights to Shanghai, China but had stopped.

“There is no timetable yet on the new route via Clark,” she said, adding that

they could only divulge the new routes “when they are officially announced.”

Cebu Pacific is regarded as the largest airline in the country, operating more than 2,000 flights weekly. It has a total of 32 domestic and international destinations.

The airline recently launched flights to Hanoi in Vietnam, Siem Reap in Cambodia, Xiamen in China and a Hong Kong-Boracay route.

Iyog said they are preparing for long-haul flights scheduled in the third quarter of 2013, eyeing flights to the USA, Aus-

tralia and Europe.

Cebu Pacific carried the most number of passengers in 2011, servicing at least 12 million.

In the first quarter of 2012, Cebu Pacific had 3.37 million passengers or 20.1 percent higher compared to the same period last year.

Competing Philippines AirAsia is set to launch flights to Macau and Hong Kong on July 19 while Dragonair started daily flights to Hong Kong last May 29 and AirPhil Express has destinations in Singapore and Hong Kong.



ANGELES CITY'S PRIDE. After being crowned as Eat Bulaga's Little Miss Philippines 2012, Ryzza Mae Dizon visits Mayor Edgardo Pamintuan at his residence. The six-year old Dizon hails from Barangay Pampang. **PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGELES CIO**

1993 PAGODA TRAGEDY GINUNITA

Fluvial parade ng Krus sa Wawa dinagsa pa rin

NI ROMMEL RAMOS

BOCAUE, Bulacan—Matapos ang halos dalawang dekada ng trahedyang nangyari sa selebrasyon ng kapistahan ng Krus sa Wawa sa bayang ito noong 1993 ay marami pa rin na deboto ang tumatangkilik dito taon-taon.

Ang piyesta ng Krus sa Wawa ay isinagawa kahapon sa halip na noong nakaraang Linggo bilang respeto sa mga biktima ng tinaguriang “Pagoda tragedy” na ikinasawi ng maraming deboto nito may 19 na taon na ang nakakalipas.

Ang kapistahan ay para sa pasasalamat sa kanilang mahal na poon na nagbibigay sa kanila ng masaganang buhay taon-taon.

Kahapon ay isinadula ng mga deboto ang nangyaring trahedyang noon bilang pag-alaala sa mga biktima ng trahedyang noong July 2, 1993.

Naging dahilan ng trahedyang ay ang sobrang dami ng taong sumakay sa pagoda kaya't ito ay lumubog na nagresulta sa pagkasawi ng maraming deboto.

Dahil sa trahedyang nangyari naging maingat na ngayon ang mga taga Bocaue sa pagdadaos ng kanilang kapistahan ng Krus sa Wawa.

Ayon kay Ernesto Guillermo, Jr., presidente ng parish pastoral council ng St. Martin of Tours, upang maiwasan na muling mangyari ang nasabing trahedyang ay nilimitahan nila sa 50 katao ang dami ng sasakay sa pagoda.

Tinitiyak na rin ng pamunuan nila na matibay ang mga istraktura ng kanilang pagoda.

Ayon pa kay Guillermo, inilapat nila ang petsa ng kanilang kapistahan upang magbigay galang sa mga nasawi sa nasabing trahedyang sa halip na July

2 ay ginawa nila itong unang araw ng Linggo matapos ang July 2.

Nag-aalay sila ng misa at dasal tuwing July 2 para sa mga nasawi sa malagim na trahedyang kanilang kapistahan.

Bukod sa mga misa ay nagdaos din ng dramatization sa simbahan ng kung saan nagmula naman ang kanilang Mahal na Poon ng Krus sa Wawa.

Matapos ang misa ay isinakay na sa pagoda ang kanilang mahal na poon para sa kanilang taunang fluvial parade sa ilog ng Wawa sa bayang ito.

Naka-antabay naman ang mga rescue team para sa kaligtasan ng mga deboto upang maiwasan na ang sakunang nangyari.

Dagsa pa rin ang mga deboto sa taunang fluvial parade na inabot ng halos isang oras matapos niyon ay ibinalik na ang Krus ng Wawa sa kanilang simbahan.

Clark-Puerto Princesa convergence now in place

THE MUCH-AWAITED convergence program between Clark and Palawan took shape when the Department of Tourism – Central Luzon region in cooperation with the Southern Tagalog region led by Regional Director Louella Jurilla took the initiative to form a sales team that conducted a familiarization tour of the exciting natural wonders of Puerto Princesa City on June 28 – July 1, 2012.

This was the announcement made by Regional Director Ronaldo Tiotuico in a press statement issued recently.

The sales mission, that was attended by nineteen (19) travel agents, hotel and restaurant managers and a transport operator, was warmly welcomed by the city tourism officer of the city, Ms. Rebecca V. Labit, at the airport.

The highlight of the trip was the holding of a special dinner reception hosted by no less than the world-renowned city chief executive, Mayor Edward Hagedorn himself, who made his announcement on the annual tree-planting project dubbed as Feast of the Forest on June 30 at the Brgy. Irawan watershed in the same city. The hosted dinner was likewise attended by a host of prominent personalities like Mayor Ed Pamintuan of Angeles City, environmentalist and health buff Cory Quirino, Sonia Mendoza as the chairman of Mother Earth Foundation, and the winners of the Miss Earth Philippines beauty pageant.

The delegation's first stop was the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPUR) – a world heritage site inscribed by UNESCO and recently awarded as one of the New7Wonders of Nature. An equally spectacular part of the tour program was a tour of the mangrove forests of Sabang Mangrove and Maoyan River – both products of Mayor Hagedorn's community-based sustainable tourism project that enriches the quality of life of the host community thru travel and tourism while at the same time enhancing the quality of the environment thru environmental conservation and guardianship. The tour is highlighted by a brief yet educational teach-in on the positive effects of mangrove reforestation, a sumptuous treat of local delicacies and a rendition of native music on a floating restaurant.

The delegation conducted the traditional on-site inspection of tourism-related properties such as the Taraw Beach Resort, Sheridan Beach Resort, Daluyon Mountain and Beach Resort, Dos Palmas Arceffi Island Resort, Hotel Centro, and Asturias Hotel.

The most important part of the 4-day event was the conduct of the business-matching or B2B session on July 1 when both the visiting tour operators and property managers managed to hold a table-top encounter with their local counterparts in the city for an exchange of business ideas and tour programs in support of the effort to boost travel thru Clark airport. Today, Air Asia and AirPhil Express now operate flights to major destinations in the country including Puerto Princesa and Davao. Mayor Hagedorn took time to be with the delegation as guest of honor and speaker.

For her part, Director Jurilla expressed confidence that the Clark / North Philippines sales mission would eventually produce positive results for both destinations even as she admonished Ms. Labit to work hard for the full completion of the connectivity between the two destinations by engaging the members of the city tourism council in a reciprocal familiarization trip to Clark and its environs before the month is over. **—DOT-III**

Bantayog ni Plaridel hiniling itayo sa harap ng Kapitolyo

NI DINO BALABO

LUNGSOD NG MALOLOS—Inendorso ng pamilya ng bayaning si Gat Marcelo H. Del Pilar ang konseptong disenyo para sa bantayog nito na hiniling na itayo sa harap ng Kapitolyo.

Ang kahilingan sa pagtatayo ng bantayog ng dakilang propagandista ay hiniling ng Sangguniang Bayan ng Bulacan batay sa mungkahi ni Konsehal Rosalie Lavana na ipatupad ng Kapitolyo ang nilalaman ng Seksyon 24, Kabanata ika-2 ng New Provincial Administrative Code (NEPAC) ng Bulacan.

Ito ay matapos lumihap sa SB ng Bulakan si Alex Balagtas, ang kurator ng Pamabansang Dambana ni Gat Marcelo H. Del Pilar sa bayan ng Bulakan, na nagpapaalala ng nilalaman ng NEPAC.

Ayon sa NEPAC, si De Pilar ay ang piling bayani ng Bulacan at ang kanyang bantayog ay dapat itayo sa sentrong isla ng parke sa harap ng Kapitolyo malapit sa MacArthur Highway.

Ayon kay Abogada Benita Marasigan-Santos, isa sa mga apo ng bayani, nakarating sa kanilang kaalaman ang pagkilos para sa panukalang pagtatayo ng bantayog.

Sinabi niya na natanggap din nila ang konseptong disenyo mula kay Isagani Giron, ang dating pangulo ng Samahang Pangkasaysayan ng Bulacan (Sampaka).

Ang kosepto ay nilakipan pa ng dibuho ng iskultor na si Ernie Mandap.

"Magalang namin itong ini-endorso upang agad na maipatupad at nang mailantad sa madla sa ika-15 ng Agosto ng

kasalukuyang taon bilang hudyat ng pagbubukas ng Buwan ng Bulakan, bilang bahagi rin ng Buwan ng Kasaysayan at paggunita sa ika-162 guning taong pagsilang ng ating dakilang bayani mula sa ating dakilang lalawigan," ani Marasigan-Santos sa kanyang liham kay Gob. Wilhelm Alvarado noong Mayo 28.

Idinagdag pa niya ang paunang pasasalamat sa punong lalawigan at iginiit na ang bantayog ay magsisilbing paalala at inspirasyon sa mga kabataan sa kasalukuyan at sa mga susunod na panahon.

"Nawa'y patuloy nating isulong ang buhay, diwa, panulat at kabayanihan ni Gat Marcelo H. Del Pilar, isang dakilang Bulakenyo ay bayani ng lahing Pilipino," ani Marasigan Santos.

Batay naman sa koseptong disenyo

nina Giron at Mandap, ang bantayog ni Del Pilar ay may taas na 10 talampakan mula sa paa hanggang sa tuktok ng ulo upang ipamalas sa lahat ang kadakilaan nito.

Ang bantayog ay ititindig sa isang pedestal na may limang talampakan ang taas na may hugis na malaking sisidlang ng tinta kung saan isinasaok ang pluma o dip pen na ginamit ni Del Pilar sa kanyang pagsulat.

Sa likod naman ng pedestal at rebulto ng bayani ay ang dip pen nib o aserong ulo ng pluma na may taas na 25 talampakan mula sa paanan ng pedestal.

Ang dip pen nib ay sumisimbulo sa buhay ni Del Pilar na ginamit sa paglaban sa mga prayle at kolonyanistang Kastila at paghikayat sa sambayanan sa

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Hizon eyes City of San Fernando council seat in 2013

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The daughter of Pampanga's Best matriarch Lolita Hizon is set to seek a city council seat here in the coming 2013 elections bringing with her a host of advocacies for art, women empowerment and livelihood.

Angelica "Angie" Hizon is considered at the vanguard of the team of former Mayor Rey Aquino who is staging a comeback to city hall. Hizon is the sister of Bacolor Mayor Jomar Hizon but has lived most of her life in San Fernando, studied at the University of the Assumption (High School), University of Sto. Tomas (College) and went to take up a graduate course at the Ateneo de Manila University. Later she took active roles in her

family's business where she is currently the marketing director of Pampanga's Best Inc. based in this city.

Of her bid for city councilor, Hizon said it was "to fulfill a deep urge to serve and give back something to the community" where she lives.

Public service is no stranger to Hizon. It is a family value deeply ingrained in her. Her parents are dedicated philanthropists who help indigents and people with advocacies in the City of San Fernando and Bacolor.

"I was inspired by what a person from the private sector who came from humble roots can do for the people. I want to give myself to such a selfless pursuit," Hizon said.



Hizon

Hizon said that she prioritizes livelihood generation for indigent families. The move, she said, involves tapping into existing grassroots crafts and micro-

industries and providing heads of families the needed skills and start-up capital to go into business.

Another area she is focusing on is improved services for disadvantaged children, particularly the physically handicapped, special children and the marginalized youth sector who want to pursue their studies.

"I also plan to set up a wellness center for the youth and the elderly. This would be coupled with assistance for barangay health workers who live on meager allowances despite of the many things they do for the barangay," Hizon said.

Hizon said that she plans to push for more local legislation to safeguard and promote Ka-

pampangan arts and culture among the youth and the education sector.

"I also believe in the review of the taxes being collected by the city," Hizon said, stressing that taxes should be imposed on a just and fair level with small and big businesses being considered in the process.

Angie believes that only "equitable and fair taxes should be collected by local government units, furthering that taxes collected should also translate to the same equal and quality services."

Hizon said that her being in the private sector places her in a better understanding of her community and its people.

—Press Release



CASH&CARRY COMPUTER SHOW

July 13 - 15, 2012
10:00am to 9:00pm

Robinsons Star Mills Pampanga
Brgy. San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga

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In just two hours, you'll discover the hidden power of the various applications ... coupled with all the features and functions that will help you become more efficient and more effective! Discover just how easy it is to have strong fundamentals to build on!

CREATIVE TRACK, Seminar Room A, Mezzanine Floor, July 13 and 14, 2012

Basic Photography, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 noon
Maximize the potential of your camera, whether it's a point-and-shoot or DSLR camera. Learn the basics of photography and get a load of pointers to get you started. Understand basic photography functions like aperture, f-stop, white balance and light metering - then put them all to good use.

Advanced Photography, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Learn from a pro and shoot like a pro. Level up your knowledge in the art of photography. Apply the basic concepts you learned to create more dramatic and professionally done pictures, be it portraits, landscapes, fashion, food or product shots.

Graphics & Photo Editing, 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Find out what it takes to edit those digital graphics and photos with this 2-hour seminar. Convert good designs into better designs with the simple how-tos in this session!

3D for Furniture Design, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
The world is not really flat; just check out Google Earth and the 3D Warehouse. Google SketchUp is a free downloadable 3D modeling tool used to model buildings for Google Earth, visualize interiors, design furniture and basically work in 3D. Learn the easy tricks and start designing your furnitures-whether it be as a hobby, or to start your own business!

BUSINESS TRACK, Seminar Room B, Mezzanine Floor, July 13 and 14, 2012

Spreadsheets Made Easy, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 noon
Whether you are just beginning to use EXCEL, or working toward a comprehensive understanding of the exciting new features and functions, this EXCEL seminar will provide the training you need to quickly and confidently build spreadsheets, track and analyze data, create sophisticated reports, charts, graphs, and much more!

Word for Marketing Applications, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Learn how to use the WORD application to meet your business needs - from creating documents, memos, and letters to using mail merge for custom creation of envelopes and labels! You will discover an abundance of built-in features and customizable techniques to help you solve and go beyond basic word processing.

Creating Powerful Presentations, 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Create eye-catching POWERPOINT presentations with a few quick clicks! Learn how to bring continuity to your slides using the Master's background, styles, and color schemes, builds and transitions that grab and hold the viewer's attention, enlist the help of a Wizard to turn out a compelling presentation automatically!

Web design for Business, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Many designers would like to believe that there is no way to scientifically quantify why things look good. It's just a feeling. And if you use this well on your Web pages, you'll have a design that is pleasing and understandable to the majority of your audience and customers. Think like a graphic designer ... learn the basics and easy tips of making a good design!

REGISTER4SEMINARS@www.comddap.org

MEDIA PARTNERS







'Love for the poor made Dutch missionary stay in the country'

By JOEY PAVIA

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO – "Love for the Filipinos, especially the poor ones, made my brother stay in the Philippines."

Thus said Antonius Geertman, brother of slain Dutch missionary and environmentalist Wilhelmus Lutz Geertman before his body was laid to rest in Baler, Aurora on Sunday. The 67-year-old Geertman



The remains of Geertman are carried to the funeral vehicle. PHOTOS BY RIC GONZALES



PAINFUL. Antonius Geertman consoles Maria Aurora Santiago (in black shirt), girlfriend of the late Dutch missionary Wilhelmus Geertman at the ABI office in Pampanga before the start of the "Justice Caravan" on Saturday. With them is their friend.

was killed gangland style near the Alay Bayan-Luson Inc. (ABI) office in Telabastagan, here, on July 3. He was the executive director of ABI, which has assisted poor people and farmers in North and Central Luzon, including those at the Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac.

Antonius said his elder brother came to the country in the late '70s and studied theology in a university in Manila.

"Apparently, he liked what he saw and decided to stay and work despite a promising career in Holland," said Antonius.

JUSTICE CARAVAN

He was with Maria Aurora Santiago, girlfriend of Geertman, when **Punto Central Luzon** interviewed him on Saturday at the start of the "Justice Caravan" for the slain Dutch national from the ABI office here and to Aurora province.

The caravan briefly stopped at Plaza Miranda, Angeles city for an indignation rally then coursed through the City San Fernando, Concepcion town in Tarlac, Cabanatuan City in Nueva Ecija, Baler, Aurora, then finally the town of Maria Aurora.

For her part, Santiago said the Aquino government should find out "the truth and not stick

to the angle of robbery." She wept and cursed her boyfriends' killers as Geertman's remains were carried to the funeral vehicle.

Police earlier said robbery was the motive as the two unidentified gunmen took a bag from Geertman after killing him. It reportedly contained at least P1 million.

Santiago, who was in Baler when the killing happened, said Geertman had considered Aurora as his home and not Holland. The ABI is in the thick of its advocacies against mining and logging in Aurora, one of the seven Central Luzon provinces.

"Whenever (Geertman) told me he wanted to go home, I always thought he was referring to Holland. But it was Aurora," said Santiago. She disclosed that they had a house in Baler and Maria Aurora town.

ROBBERY?

Antonius said they were initially informed in Holland that his brother died after he was robbed and shot by two unidentified gunmen.

He said that after he arrived in Pampanga to attend the wake and "more news and information came in later," he was "also convinced that it was politically-motivated after learning how he

was killed and the place where he was murdered."

Antonius disclosed that Geertman had told him several times that he could be killed due to his work and advocacy in helping the poor.

He said he advised his brother to go home to Holland and stay for good in their homeland after expressing fears of being killed but Geertman did not heed his advice.

Antonius said he will visit the Dutch ambassador to the Philippines before leaving on Thursday.

In a statement, the ABI said Geertman's "killers chose to enter the office premises, repeatedly cursed him without announcing a hold up, pinned him down to a kneeling position and executed him."

It added that if robbery was the motive, Geertman could have been held up right after he withdrew money from a MetroBank branch in downtown Angeles City, some 3 to 4 kilometers away from the ABI office.

"We are heightening our call for justice and this would not end with Geertman's burial. His death would haunt the Aquino presidency until he is pushed to do something," said Joseph Canlas, chairman of the Board of Trustees of ABI.

8 priests hold Mass, 1,000 attend burial of slain Dutch...

FROM PAGE 1

he was a staunch defender of the rights of progressives and Filipino refugees in the Netherlands. He encouraged and supported Prof. Jose Maria Sison and others in their efforts to obtain asylum and in their struggle against persecution and terrorist-labeling," the Norway-based Defend International (DI) said.

Journalist Fred Villareal, who witnessed the shooting of Geertman at his Alay Bayan Inc. office in Barangay Telebastagan here last July 3, said eight priests concelebrated a Mass for the Dutch national at the San Luis Obispo church in Baler before his remains were laid to rest at 3 p.m. at a new memorial cemetery in the capital town.

He noted that about 1,000 folk attended the Mass. The sympathizers also joined the one-hour march from the church to the cemetery, he noted.

"The sympathizers consisted of his allies, peasants, indigenous people and even professionals," he reported.

In a statement, the DI has joined the call against "whitewash" in Geertman's case.

"We condemn the maneuvers of the Aquino regime to whitewash the case by weaving a scenario of robbery gone wrong," DI said in a statement, noting that "the manner by which he was killed is akin to the operation of killers of human rights advocates, progressives and political activists."

The DI is an independent, voluntary, non-gov-

ernmental human rights organization based in Norway backed by subscribers worldwide, mostly in the Middle East and North Africa region.

"Our mission is to respond to grave violations of human rights and of International Humanitarian Law and to monitor the implementation of preventive measures that are designed to end impunity for the perpetrators of these crimes," its website said.

The DI statement recalled that the robbery claim of the police in the case of Geertman was "the same lie they wove to whitewash the killing of Bishop Alberto Ramento of the Philippine Independent Church whose killing remains unsolved to this day." Ramento, who had supported farmers in Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac,

was shot dead in his church in 2008.

The DI noted that Geertman "carried the struggle of the Filipino people for genuine democracy, especially the struggle for land of peasants" and "undertook mercy missions and rehabilitation for victims of natural disasters."

This, even as Grace Punongbayan of the organization Migrante based in Amsterdam said Filipino members of a group called the Red Tomorrow held protest rallies at the Philippine embassy in the Hague to protest the killing of Geertman.

Punongbayan said her group also handed over a letter to embassy officials to express their demand for justice in the case. She described Geertman as a "revolutionary comrade" which whom she had done

"revolutionary work" among metal workers in Amsterdam.

Geertman's brother Toon and sister Maria arrived last Friday from the Netherlands to attend their brother's wake at the ABI compound in Barangay Telebastagan here and then last Saturday night the Mt. Carmel covered court in Baler, Aurora.

Meanwhile, the militant Pamansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) and Anakpawis party list urged yesterday the Dutch Embassy in Manila to "officially file a diplomatic protest against the Philippine government over the brutal murder of Dutch development worker Wilhelmus Lutz Geertman."

In a press statement, Pamalakaya vice chairperson Salvador France and

Anakpawis party list vice-chairperson Fernando Hicap said the Dutch embassy in Manila "should also lead a diplomatic campaign in the international community strongly rebuking the policy of extrajudicial killing under the Oplan Bayanihan regime of President Aquino."

Dutch Ambassador Robert Brinks said he was "shocked and saddened" by the murder of Geertman, saying "human rights remain one of the important pillars of Dutch foreign policy."

The Pamalakaya and Anakpawis party list leaders also earlier asked Brinks to ask the European Union to "recall its economic aid and other forms of assistance to the Aquino administration" following the murder of Geertman.

Tarlac PPO bags National Best PCR award anew

BY GEORGE HUBIERNA

CAMP MACABULOS, Tarlac City—The Tarlac Police Provincial Office (TPPO) once again was cited as Best Police Community Relation Unit in the national level during the kick-off of the PCR Month celebration held at the National Police Headquarters, Camp Crame, Quezon City last week.

The theme of the celebration is "Mamamayan at Kapulisan, Patuloy ang Ugnayan sa Higit na Ligtas, Mapayapa at Maunlad na Pamayanan."

In an interview with Punto, Tarlac PPO director Senior Supt. Alfred Corpus, who proudly received the award, said that this is the fifth time that the command bagged the Best PCR

award, two at the national level and three at the regional level.

According to PCR head Supt. Salvador Destura, three factors made them win in the said category, first, the Ugnayan ng Pulisya at Mamamahayag ng Tarlac wherein a healthy relationship between the command and the journalists in the province is maintained through the religious conduct of Media Fellowship since the time of previous provincial directors, including now PNP chief, Director General Nicanor Ancheta Bartolome from 2006 to 2008.

Second, Destura said, is the Clean Riders project, conducted simultaneously in the country during the first quarter of this year. The TPPO has seriously carried out the massive informa-



COP-COMMUNITY AFFAIRS. Senior Supt. Alfred Sotto Corpus receives Best PCR award for PPO category at Camp Crame. **PHOTO BY GEORGE HUBIERNA**

tion campaign of the project that resulted to the smooth and hassle-free implementation of its "Oplan Sita" program.

In this program, motorists are issued a sticker at the right portion of their motorcycle's fuel tank after some verification of motor parts and presentation of documents. With that sticker clearly seen by the authorities, both sides economize time at the check point especially on the

part of motorists' who are in a hurry to work or to some destination.

The third factor in winning, Destura furthered, is the medical mission and mega job fair project dubbed "Kalusugan at Trabaho: Handog sa Tarlaqueno" which was conducted twice in the province. The first was on February 20 at the Capitol and the other one was on Labor Day where thousands of beneficiaries

were given free medical attention, tooth extraction, circumcision, haircut, massage, eye check-up and distribution of free reading glasses and medicines while hundreds of job seekers were interviewed with some landing instant jobs.

Corpus extended his thanks to Supt. Elsa Miranda, the present DPDA, who has a great contribution to the unit since she was assigned in Tarlac in 2009.

Allies of slain oppositor to new Aurora town report death threats, but clear military

BY DING CERVANTES

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO- A member of a task force against slicing Ma. Aurora town in Aurora to create a new town to be named after Sen. Edgardo Angara's father debunked yesterday reports of military involvement in the killing of his colleague Romualdo Palispis last June 30 in their town.

This, even as other members of "Task Force: Huwag Hatiin ang Ma. Aurora" and their sympathizers opted to "lie low" amid threats to their lives, said Dickson Almada, an officer of the Knights of Columbus and one of the task force members.

They received text messages citing a "hit list" that included another Dutch national identified as Alfonso van Zijl.

Tuesday last week, Dutch national Willem Geertman, who had considered Ma. Aurora as his hometown and was reported to have been active in environmental issues in Aurora province, was also shot dead in the compound of his Alay Bayan, Inc. office in this town.

Almada said he knew Geertman, who was buried last Sunday in Baler, the capital of Aurora province, adding that the Dutch national had supported the campaign against mining and illegal logging in Aurora.

This, even as Almada also reported that he and other task force members have received text messages warning they would be the next target after Palispis, a former local elections officer who was tasked to deliver to the Senate and the Lower House their task force's petition against Senate Bill No. 3132 and House Bill 03225 on the creation of the town of Dr. Juan Angara.

The petition was not delivered, as Palispis was shot dead by still a unidentified gunman two days before the scheduled delivery last July 2.

Militants blamed the military for the killing of Palispis, who was a member of Bayan Muna

in Ma. Aurora, but in a telephone interview, Almada cited "credible" friends in military intelligence who insisted that the military had nothing to do with the murder.

"I am convinced that a hired killer did it," he said, even as he noted that members of his task force had decided to "lie low" on their opposition to the proposed new town amid threats to their safety.

A member of the task force who asked not to be named for fear of retaliation said he was among those who received threatening text messages warning they could suffer Palispis's fate.

The text messages named Almada in the supposed "hit list", as well as the Dutch national, Roger Ampatin, Ruben de la Cruz and a priest who was not identified. Ampatin and De la Cruz, a Protestant pastor, were among those who signed the task force petition.

Ma. Aurora parish priest Fr. Andres Lumasac led the list of 20 persons who had signed the petition.

The petition that Palispis was supposed to deliver last July 2 was addressed to Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile and House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte. It was titled: "Huwag Hatiin ang Ma. Aurora, No to Dr. Juan C. Angara Municipality."

The petition said the creation of the new town, as proposed by Senate Bill 3132, authored by Sen. Edgardo Angara and House Bill 03225, authored by his son Rep. Sonny Angara, violated the Constitution, the Local Government Code, was environmentally destructive, would reduce Ma. Aurora's internal revenue allotment (IRA) and was "self-serving."

The proposal was to remove from Ma. Aurora nine barangays for the new town. The barangays included Villa Aurora, Suguit, Dialatnan, Ponglo, Dianawan, Galintuja, San Juan, Decoliat, and Bazal.

The petition said the new

town proposal violated the Constitution as no prior consultation was ever held among Ma. Aurora folk about the move. It also said it violated the Local Government Code as the nine barangays involved did not have both the required income and population.

The petition noted that the nine barangays have a population of only 5,754 amid a move to encourage migration to the areas to enable the proposed town to have a population of at least 25,000 as required by the Local Government Code.

The petition cited Ma. Aurora's "forest land use plan" (FLUP) showing that seven of the nine barangays host watershed areas which provide 13 percent of water in the Pantabangan Dam.

FLUP also indicated that of the nine barangays's 19,500 hectares, 64 percent are forest reservations and only 36 percent alienable and disposable but which already have owners involved in land disputes among themselves.

With this scenario, the petition questioned where the migrated population would be located. "FLUP also noted that the watershed is now in danger due to growing number of people in the area, as well as illegal cutting, encroachment, land conversion and other destructive operations," the petition noted.

This, as the petition also said that Ma. Aurora's P80 million IRA would be cut in half if the new town is formed, as the computation of the allotment is also based on land area and population.

It said the new town proposal was also "immoral and self serving." "We are not discounting the contributions of the respected Dr. Juan Angara, but it is at the level of abuse to name after him so many landmarks in Aurora, especially when the move is made by his son and grandson," the petition said.

It noted that the late Angara already has a school in Dinalungan town, the biggest sports complex in Baler, the airport in San Luis town, the Angara Hall in Baler Central School named after him.

The petitioners noted that their province is not short of other personalities who also contributed to the welfare of their province, as they cited Commonwealth Pres. Manuel L. Quezon among them.

Ranking police officers, 250 others charged over raid

BY ARMAND M. GALANG

SAN ANTONIO, Nueva Ecija - Two police superintendents, including the chief of the Philippine National Police's intelligence group, two junior officers and 250 other law enforcers were hauled to the Office of The Ombudsman for a string of criminal charges filed by the mayor of this town.

Police Supts. Charles Calima, PNP IG chief, and David De Leon Allaluigan, an IG member; SPO3 Paquito Guillermo and PO3 Broberto Nicolas of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group were named respondents, along with 250 unnamed others, in a complaint sheet received by the Ombudsman on June 28, 2012, filed by Mayor Arvin Salonga.

Calima and Allaluigan were charged with perjury while Guillermo, Nicolas and

the 250 unnamed lawmen were included in violation of anti-graft and corrupt practices act.

Calima, Allaluigan, Guillermo and Nicolas were also charged of violation of domicile, searching domicile as well as administrative charge of grave misconduct and oppression.

The cases stemmed from the raid conducted by the IG, CIDG, Special Action Force and Regional Mobile Group on the residence of Salonga which resulted to confiscation of his firearms at about 5:30 a.m. on June 11, 2012.

In his complaint, Salonga alleged that Allaluigan and the other policemen "without any justifiable reason at all, arrested and handcuffed the municipal security personnel" namely Edgar Brigole, Freddie Marquez and Romeo Illana.

Salonga also alleged that the law enforcers covered all CCTV cameras in his house

before conducting the search.

"That when they were already assured that the CCTV cameras were already covered and disabled to detect and/or record their actions and movements, the respondent-Allaluigan and his team proceeded to take and carried away my licensed firearms," he complained.

An inventory of confiscated items showed the operatives recovered from the mayor's house two hand guns and a shotgun.

The policemen, he said, swooped down on his house at No. 223 Cando St., Poblacion while the address on the warrant issued by Regional Trial Court Branch 22 Judge Marino Dela Cruz was no. 13.

Calima has said the operations were in line with the government's campaign against private armed groups.

Editorial

Hit hard

"WE ARE urging people who live along the Sapang Balen to do their part in proper waste segregation and to make sure that waste materials are not dumped into the creek."

For the umpteenth time, Angeles City Mayor Edgardo Pamintuan reiterated his appeal in yet another First Saturday massive clean-up of Sapang Balen, in the vicinities of Barangays Santo Domingo and Pulungbulu.

Pamintuan led an army of trash-takers and garbage pickers composed of students of the City College of Angeles, city hall workers, environmentalist groups and members of the Phi Beta Rho Confraternity in clearing the creek.

Sapang Balen has been the object of clean-up drives for the past three or four years.

We remember the Most Rev. Pablo Virgilio David, auxiliary bishop of San Fernando and parish priest of the city's Holy Rosary Parish Church, going down the creek to pick garbage there himself along with his volunteer brigades that led to the convening of the Sagip Sapang Balen Movement.

Yes, we remember too the good Bishop Ambo walking the banks of the creek and casting a curse on all who contribute to its pollution.

Last year, the city government installed steel fences along the bridges crossing the creek in Barangays Cutcut, Santa Trinidad, Pampang, San Nicolas, Santo Rosario, San Jose, Pulungbulu and Santo Domingo. To prevent the dumping of garbage by unconscionable residents.

Last year too, Pamintuan launched his every-first-Saturday sortie on Sapang Balen.

Still, Sapang Balen remains strewn with all sorts of garbage. More than appeal is clearly required here.

Acts Pamintuan now, creating the city's Solid Waste Management Board, with its secretariat taking direct responsibility in the clean-up drive and in enforcing Republic Act 9003, the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act.

Pamintuan's first order is the strict enforcement of the anti-littering and anti-illegal dumping laws and the implementation of the segregation programs. This with the corresponding penalties and punishment, including imprisonment, to the degraders of the environment.

Hit hard, and hit constantly and unsparingly, Sir. That's the only way to make people understand your seriousness in preserving the environment.

Opinion

Gatecrasher



acaesar.blogspot.com

Zona Libre

Bong Z. Lacson

Rodriguez confirmed the talks and said: "[Maynard] wants to apply as a member of LP ... He also said he wants to run for vice governor."

A source in the Lapid camp said Maynard would announce his political plans on Aug. 21, his father's birthday.

"Maynard will run as vice governor, with or without a tandem," said the source, who asked not to be named for lack of authority to speak on behalf of the Lapid.

Mark said Rodriguez appeared to be aiming for Pampang's third district, which he served as representative for four terms before running for mayor of the Pampang capital in 2004.

Maynard finished a management course and is working for a master's degree in public administration. He is said to be a green-card holder and the favorite son of Senator Lapid's wife Marissa, who is facing charges of dollar smuggling in the United States.

Frustrated murder suit

Maynard had his own brush with the law in 2011 after a man he encountered in a bar in Angeles City sued him for frustrated murder. The young Lapid is also an actor. His last movie was "Tatlong Baraha" where he starred with his father and brother in 2006. **With a report by Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon**

LEAVE IT to the intrepid Tonette.

In seven short paragraphs, she laid down one moral dilemma that could well unravel the leadership of the Liberal Party in Pampang, if not altogether sunder the party itself.

Party provincial chief Rodriguez is the very face – from local ground up to global level – of the performance governance system propounded by the International Solidarity for Asia and generally accepted as the standards by which all public administration must be measured.

Thus Rodriguez makes the very embodiment of the core value of the Aquino administration that – by transference – comes about too as that of the Liberal Party that the President heads: the *matuwid na daan*.

Likeness in visions and ideologies, oneness in principles and praxis makes the essential element bonding men – and women – into an organization, political party, NGO, PO, GO or even just some social club.

It is on that ground where lies the moral dilemma threatening to impact – if it hasn't yet –

FROM THE July 7, 2011 issue of the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, incorporated in the news story *Erin Tanada left out of LP Senate list but he's still hoping* on page 9:

THE YOUNGEST son of Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid met Friday with the Pampang chair of the LP to discuss how he could sign up as a party member.

Accompanied by his older brother, former Pampang governor Mark Lapid, Maynard Lapid held a closed-door meeting with San Fernando City Mayor Oscar Rodriguez who is also the provincial chair of the LP.

But while Maynard, 28, declined to give a statement, Mark Lapid said his brother was looking at probably joining the LP though he has not yet finalized his plan to run for vice governor.

Tarpaulins

However, tarpaulins featuring Maynard have already been put up in the fourth district of Pampang, a bailiwick of the Lapid.

the LP in Pampang.

What will a Lapid membership make of the LP?

What Rodriguez was, is and presumably will still be, Lapid was not, is not and will never be. Totally antithetical there.

There is absolutely nothing *matuwid* with the issues barnacled to the Lapid name: alleged dollar smuggling with the mother, the alleged plunder of quarry collections with the father and son governorships, a case – albeit, dismissed, I supposed – of frustrated murder with the aspiring LP member.

While we concede to the truism that politics make strange bedfellows, we still have enough respect and esteem for Rodriguez to remain steadfast on what he had always stood, sacrificed, suffered, and struggled for.

Past Rodriguez, there is *Among* Ed Panlilio – ill-starred provincial standard bearer of the LP in 2010 – whose own sacrifice – taking leave of the priesthood to enter politics – in 2007 was to fill a moral vacuum in the provincial government, the governorship contested then by what moralists termed as the representations of the twin evils of illegal gambling and plunder of the quarry industry.

A moral crusade, Panlilio called his runs for the Capitol. His term from 2007 to 2010 of conscience-driven governance managing to prove his contention of shenanigans in the quarry collections – his grand total of P588,155,000 in three years serving as solid evidence against the Lapid father and son's combined total of P121,183,000 in six years, 2002 through 2007. Therefrom sprang a case of plunder against the Lapid before the Ombudsman.

How do you now suppose the morally upright Panlilio take wearing the same colors as, sharing the same stage with the upstart Lapid?

Bluntly, to Panlilio's holy water, Lapid – by himself and by his very name – is oil sludge.

So, will party purity be upheld in the LP? Or will it be overruled by expediency and exigency, as in the junking of the loyalist Jimmy Lazatin in favour of Ato Agustin for vice mayor in Rodriguez's own city?

A different case here maybe. As seasoned political observers as well as street-smart kibbitzers see nothing expedient nor exigent in having this Lapid in LP, moreso in fielding him as party candidate for vice governor.

Still and all, politics is the art of the possible.



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Stateside
Chandler Ramas III

Let me say it: Jay Sangil for Vice Mayor

MIAMI, FL – Let me cut to the chase. Angeles City Councilor Jay Sangil should and must be the city's vice mayor in 2013. Yes, yes, it is early politicking but bull crap, everybody does it but nobody just would admit it. I know, I know too, that being absent from Angeles City for over a decade now, the only persons who probably still value my humble political insights would be my mom and my sister. But what the heck, this is not an attempt to be politically savvy, let me just tell you why Jay needs to sit at the helm of the city council.

My reasons are personal and you will see how those can actually reflect the personal stories and lives of the average Angeleño. Nah, Jay neither hired me as a PR consultant, I just believe in his ability to take the city's second highest job.

Jay has been a very good friend since our days in the now defunct weekly paper *The Angeles Sun*. I will not bore you with what he did as managing editor, although he steered us neophyte reporters, with publisher and now foreign affairs exec Elmer Cato, to come up with quality and enterprising stories that made us and *The Sun* different. That was in the late 1980s.

What is more important is the humanity inside "Susing" as we still call him, because behind those late night copyreading/proofreading in Pima Press, Jay stands out more as a big brother, "kuya" of sorts to all of us especially when it comes to merienda, or better yet, downing San Mig bottles after work.

Yes, ordinary this is, many of you will say, but I say not, especially when you realize that Jay was just in his 20s then and some of us in our teens (I was 16), which clearly demonstrated our lack of financial prowess. With the little stipend and correspondent's fee from the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, Jay would spread his wealth among us, his team, Obama style, although Obama's country has vast more financial resources than Jay's and Elmer's *The Angeles Sun*.

This never meant that Jay's journalism skills were wanting because I remember how his story of a New People's Army (NPA) rebel's funeral in Angeles City landed the front page of the *Inquirer* and mine was buried at the bottom half of the now defunct too, *Daily Globe* where I was correspondent for Pampanga. Landing at the bottom half of a story page is not really good in journalism parlance. The reason Jay got page one was obvious: Jay's description of the tension that marked that funeral (when Army Scout rangers tried to stop them) was far more vivid than mine so that I got an earful from my desk editor the next day.

Back to Jay's human side, his penchant to help those in need is just innate, to say the least. And boy, was I always in need those times. As a struggling *Globe* correspondent and poor college kid at the University of the Philippines in San Fernando (UPSF), I was always a guest at Jay's office at the Department of Agriculture (DA) very near UPSF where lunch was always available around 12 pm or 1 pm. What a coincidence.

Even today, decades later, Jay would still find time to help me or should I say, I still find time for him to help me. For one, my mom's departure here to the US would not have happened without Jay's and his staff's (as city councilor now) assistance. Emphasis here that nothing illegal was done to expedite any process, the fact that Jay and his staff simply assisted my aging mom where to go and what to do enabled her to process her papers on time before her US visa would expire. Long story short, I am now enjoying my mom's company in Miami, thanks a million to Susing (it's not over Jay, next is my sister Mai and soon to be adopted son/nephew Jamjam).

My point in sharing these stories that frankly nobody perhaps cares about, is that Jay's passion to help regular friends like me can easily translate, as it already does, in helping a bigger constituency.

Kung si Konsehal Jesus Sangil ay natulungan ako bilang isang ordinaryong kaibigan at mamamayan simula noong ako ay 16 anyos pa lamang, na wala naman syang nakukuhang kapalit at siguro ay walang makukuha kalian pa man, ano pang laking tulong ang maiimbag nya sa Angeles at kanyang taumbayan?

The passion to care, the devotion to help, the ability to lead, the commitment to social justice especially for the working poor. That to me, is the embodiment of a leader and I see that in my friend Jay Sangil. That to me, is bigger than any degree or fancy diploma from any university.

Some of you may dismiss this as a paid propaganda but think whatever you want; I would rather speak great of someone I sincerely know, from the heart, than speak ill of any other politico in Angeles I really do not know and do not care about. All I know is Jay is ripe for the vice mayorship and trust me, if he goes off track, I will be among the first to go home and make him accountable. I know, I know again, I am nobody in Angeles politics but I still have a right and responsibility, as a regular person, to educate my *cabalens*, especially the young ones who probably do not know him much, and make them think who indeed deserves to be the city's number two.

The choice, my friends, is now yours.
But damn it, let me say it: Jay Sangil for Angeles City vice mayor in 2013.

Source: www.history.com

TODAY IN HISTORY

The Battle of Britain begins

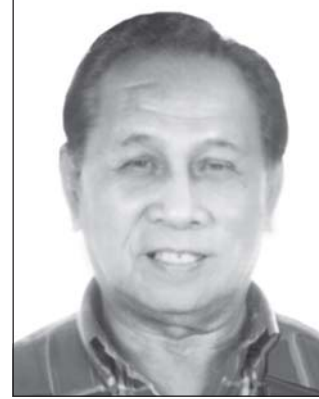
ON JULY 10, 1940, the Germans begin the first in a long series of bombing raids against Great Britain, as the Battle of Britain, which will last three and a half months, begins.

After the occupation of France by Germany, Britain knew it was only a matter of time before the Axis power turned its sights across the Channel. And on July 10, 120 German bombers and fighters struck a British shipping convoy in that very Channel, while 70 more bombers attacked dockyard installations in South Wales. Although Britain had far fewer fighters than the Ger-

mans—600 to 1,300—it had a few advantages, such as an effective radar system, which made the prospects of a German sneak attack unlikely. Britain also produced superior quality aircraft. Its Spitfires could turn tighter than Germany's ME109s, enabling it to better elude pursuers; and its Hurricanes could carry 40mm cannon, and would shoot down, with its American Browning machine guns, over 1,500 Luftwaffe aircraft. The German single-engine fighters had a limited flight radius, and its bombers lacked the bomb-load capacity necessary to unleash

permanent devastation on their targets. Britain also had the advantage of unified focus, while German infighting caused missteps in timing; they also suffered from poor intelligence.

But in the opening days of battle, Britain was in immediate need of two things: a collective stiff upper lip—and aluminum. A plea was made by the government to turn in all available aluminum to the Ministry of Aircraft Production. "We will turn your pots and pans into Spitfires and Hurricanes," the ministry declared. And they did.



Napag-uusapan lang
Ni Felix M. Garcia

Di dapat isisi kay Mayor

MINSAN may mga di dapat isisi Sa isang individual pero nangyayari, Dahil posibleng di batid ng marami Ang sanhi ng bagay na isinisisi.

Tulad na lang ng 'on going road construction' Sa JASA diyan sa San Fernando ngayon, Kung saan sa ating 'world class city mayor,' Oscar S. Rodriguez tila binubunton

Ang sisi ng ilang may mga 'business establishments along the said JASA stretch', Itong usad pagong o sabi'y (snail pace?) Na konstruksyon d'yan ng DPWH

Nitong 'flyover' sa mismong kahabaan Ng JASA at sa may parteng panulukan Nitong Lazatin road, sa gawing kanluran Ng lungsod malapit sa Central Terminal.

Na tunay naman ding malaking perwisyo Sa mga may-ari ng Restaurant dito; Car dealers at iba pang kauring puesto Ang idinulot na kabagalan mismo

Nitong contractor ng proyektong naturan, Na dapat ay noon pang nakaraang buwan Nito natapos ang 'flyover' sa lugar Kundi ang patrabaho ay inapura n'yan.

At di naging mitsa ryan ng pagsasara Ng iba bago pa mag-Semana Santa, Kung kaya marami itong nasayang na Dapat kitain ng nag-'shut down' anila.

Ngkaganun man ay di dapat isisi Kay Mayor ang pagka-balam na nasabi Dahil ang DPWH nga kasi Ang tuwirang may 'power & authority'

Sa pagpapatakbo o pag-implemanta Ng mga marapat galawin sa tuwina, Sapagkat 'national government' talaga Itong responsable sa lahat-lahat na.

Pero tulad na rin ng inaasahan Ng masa kay Oca sa kilusang-bayan, Nitong Miercoles lahat ng 'concern' ay kanyang Inanyayahan sa isang kapulungan.

Kung saan kasama ang mga 'contractor' At iba't-iba pang mga 'interested people' Sa mga dumalo sa nasabing pulong Upang ipahayag ang tunay na rason

Kung bakit ito ay di matapos-tapos, Gayong ito yata ay 'four months' na halos Ng 'under construction', at ang naging sagot Nitong 'contractor' ay sa '18th of August

Ang 'target date' nila para sa lubusang Pagkayari nitong proyektong naturan; Maisumite sa kinauukulang Ahensya at/o aling mang tanggapan

Na dapat pumirma sa 'completion of works' At ibang kailangang marapat masunod; (Aywan lang kung itong Alkalde ng Lungsod Ang signatory at siyang mag-aaprub)

Kwenta isang buwan at kalahati pa Ang ipaghihintay ng lahat-lahat na Ng mga may puesto sa 'stretch' ng JASA, Mula intersection – na halos wala pa

Yatang isa't kalahating kilometro Ang distansya mula 'flyover' mismo Ng Dolores junction kaya't pihong-piho, Na matatapos sa buwan ng Agosto.

At nang matapos na pati paninisi Sa kung sino at sa butihing Alkalde, Na sa ganang pananaw kong pangsarili Ay di marapat sisihin sa nangyari!

EdPam: 'I'm not the problem'

FROM PAGE 1

Pamintuan's status quo is for both him and Lazatin seeking re-election to their respective posts, as they did in 2010 where they trounced their respective rivals.

A MYSTERY

In his monthly press conference during the weekend, Pamintuan described Lazatin as a "worthy opponent."

He added that Lazatin "is a tradition, a mystery and a puzzle."

"Perhaps only Tarzan and IC (Calaguas) know the real reason why the congressman had decided to run against me. Perhaps even IC doesn't know it all," said Pamintuan. IC Calaguas is congressional chief of staff of Lazatin and a long-time trusted aide of the congressman.

Pamintuan implied that the age difference between him and the 78-year-old congressman

could be a factor in the election. The first-term mayor is 62 years old.

He, however, stressed that supporters of both his government and Lazatin should not worsen the political crisis between them.

'SUCKER FOR FRIENDS'

Pamintuan, who spoke for at least 40 minutes before reporters could ask questions, said "I am sucker for friends."

"I was hurt by some friends but when they come back, I accept them. I am like that and you could not change it," said Pamintuan, who was included in the short and final list of 25 contenders for the 2012 World Mayor Prize.

He added that "indeed there are no permanent friends in politics, only permanent interests."

Pamintuan said Lazatin "is different" when it comes to making decisions in friendship and politics.

"Kapag sinabi and dinisisyunan niya (Lazatin), 'yun na (if he had said it or decided on it, that's it already," said Pamintuan.

CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Pamintuan said common friends and political allies with Lazatin had not wanted what happened between them. He mentioned Vice Mayor Vicky Vega-Cabigting, Councilor Maricel Morales, former Association of Barangay Councils (ABC) president and now Sto. Cristo Barangay Chief Efrey De La Cruz, Barangay Captains Rodelio "Tony" Mamac of Balibago and Val Lagman of Claro M. Recto.

"I pity Vicky (Cabigting) and Marang (Morales) when the news broke out that the congressman will challenge me. They looked terrible and very much affected," said Pamintuan.

He disclosed that De

La Cruz, Mamac and Lagman had pledged to support him.

LIKE PATTON

Alexander "Alex" Cauiguiran, the mayor's chief of staff and long-time confidant, refused to comment when asked by **Punto** about politics and friendship.

"I simply follow orders. I am like General Patton to US President Roosevelt," said Cauiguiran, referring to the late decorated World War II US Military General George Smith Patton Jr., who had successfully commanded troops in Europe, Sicily and North Africa. He sat beside the mayor in the middle of the press conference.

In the same conference, Pamintuan stressed that his government has prioritized the intensification of programs concerning community and public health, quality and affordable education, and environmental preservation.

PRIORITY PROJECTS

Pamintuan said he was able to institutionalize the City College of Angeles (CCA), offering market-driven courses catering to indigent Angeleño students who wish to continue their education.

At total of 376 students made up the first batch of the CCA, said City Information Office (CIO) head Archie Reyes. He added that 85 of them are scholars of the Pamintuan government, with at least 20 also receiving a monthly allowance of P1,000 each.

Pamintuan said the market-driven courses cater to work readily available at the Clark Freeport.

The mayor-lawyer was able to establish the first Renal Care Unit (RCU) in this city offering affordable medication for people suffering from renal diseases.

With 19 dialysis machines and a total of 5,248 hemodialysis treatments and 170 end stage renal disease patients served since its formal operation in less than a year, it is now believed to be the largest dialysis center in the

Philippines.

He added that even the Kidney Center Institute in Quezon City "only" has seven dialysis machines, while the national Philippine General Hospital has 10.

Pamintuan was in Michigan, USA getting additional medical equipment and supplies from the World Mission Relief Inc. for the city hospital when Lazatin made his announcement to challenge him for the mayoralty.

Pamintuan said his government had organized "Barangay Day" twice a week even before the announcement of Lazatin to run for mayor. He added that from July of 2010 up to the first quarter of 2012, a total of 57,455 medical and dental patients had been served.

Pamintuan also partnered with environmentalists, including San Fernando Auxiliary Bishop Pablo "Ambo" David, to improve the state of rivers and creeks and the collection and segregation of solid waste as mandated by law.

Tarzan: Complaints vs. high taxes...

FROM PAGE 1

nent businesses.

He cited this as his main reason for running against his former political ally Pamintuan, who will seek re-election in 2013.

"I don't want the way Mayor Pamintuan had run the government. He did not consider that life is hard for all, notably the small traders," said Lazatin.

The two-term solon

said Pamintuan had increased business and other taxes "so consistently high that they had complained to me."

Worse, he added, Pamintuan had even required drivers of public utility jeepneys and tricycles to pay mayor's permits.

"I have been bombarded by complaints of high increase in taxes in Angeles. The city government or any government for that

matter should gradually increase taxes to help businesses cope with hard times and competitions," said Lazatin. He added that in countries like Singapore the government "even subsidize ailing traders during crisis."

Lazatin said he had been mayor for nine years from 1998 to 2007 but increased in taxes was "only 10 percent yearly."

He added that when he

first assumed his post as mayor the city had some P280 million annual income. He added that when he stepped down in 2007, their yearly income had doubled at some P500 million.

"What's the significance of all the taxes when businessmen in Angeles had not earned at all. They will close down and employment will suffer," he added. —**Joey Pavia**

Santiago's choice for VM still unclear

FROM PAGE 1

found confusing given reports of Santiago having allegedly chosen Councilor Renato Agustin.

Early this year, Liberal Party-Pampanga Chairman and City of San Fernando Mayor Oscar Rodriguez himself declared an "Edsa-Lazatin tandem" as the administration party's 2013 standard bearer in the city. The Lazatin referred to is popular City Councilor Jimmy Lazatin, a loyal LP member.

Things however changed in the second quarter of the year when an alleged alliance was hatched between LP and

other parties, leaving political watchers to believe that LP had no choice but to junk Lazatin from the LP ticket in favor of Agustin, an independent candidate who is perceived to be close to the opposition.

Rodriguez quickly washed his hands of any responsibility in an Edsa-Agustin tandem, "if indeed it was formed" even as he clarified that he gave Santiago the option to compose the whole slate of the LP in the City of San Fernando.

On his birthday celebration in his home barangay of San Pedro Cutud last month, Santiago "virtually endorsed" Agustin before the residents.

But seeing that seeing a resistant trend to an Edsa-Ato tandem in 2013, Santiago quickly denied ever asking his barangay mates to vote Edsa-Ato in 2013.

When asked to comment, Lazatin, who has been trying to keep mum on the issue said "Edsa should stop making confusing statements in public."

Week after week, Fernandinos find Edsa changing his mind about running mates, dropping them if things do not go his way, this puts to question the current vice mayor's ability to lead a progressive city like San Fernando.

This latest development of Edsa declaring he still has not decided on his running mate has led people, especially leaders and political watchers, to ask if indeed there is a political tug-of-war inside Edsa's group.

To political observers here, Santiago's decisiveness and ability to govern the City of San Fernando in 2013 is now in question.

"If in his choice of running-mate, Santiago is already wishy-washy, how much more when it comes to administering this city," they said.

We hope, sometime soon, Edsa makes up his mind and decides where his real loyalties lie.

Bantayog ni Plaridel hiniling itayo...

FROM PAGE 3

paninindigan para sa karapatang pangkabuhayan at panglipunan, ani Giron.

Idinagdag pa niya na sa likod ng rebulto at aserong ulo ng pluma ay ang

magkapatong na pader na may taas na 14 na talampakan.

Ang kanang bahagi ng pader ay kapalooban ng apat na pahayag at pamphlet na sinulat ni Del Pilar. Ito ay ang Diaryong Tagalog, La Soberania Mo-

nacal en Filipinas, La Frailocracia Filipinas, at La Solidaridad.

Ang kaliwang bahagi naman ng pader ay kapalooban ng imahe ng bituin at araw katulad ng nakalagay sa pambansang bandila.

Ayon pa kay Giron, ang sahi na pagtatayuan ng bantayog ay kulay berde na humigit kumulang sa 10 talampakan, at sa palibot ng bantayog sa gitna ng sahi na berde ay ang kulay dilaw na imahe ng araw.

Love Yourself Hub opens soon

THE LOVE YOURSELF PROJECT, an ongoing advocacy group which aims to prevent the spread of HIV / AIDS is set to open "The Love Yourself Hub" on July 08 at 1850 Leon Guinto St., Malate, Manila (at the back of PWU).

The Love Yourself Hub will serve as a resource center to further increase the levels of awareness and knowledge, counseling and education, wellness, prevention, cure and rehabilitation of the communities it serves specially the youth and LGBT-MSM in response to sexually transmitted infections (STI and HIV) and other sexuality-related concerns.

The Love Yourself Hub shall embrace the ideals set forth by its parent organization - the Love Yourself Project by reaching out to the community it serves by propagating ideas and practices that encourage loving one's self — to DARE to be oneself, to CARE for oneself, and to SHARE oneself as a way to multiplying joy.

In line with the first anniversary of the Love Yourself Project, herewith are the activities:

July 08, 6PM - formal opening of the Love Yourself Hub with "How Do I Love Thee: a fund raising photo exhibit by Ian Felix Alquiros featuring photographs of male torsos in black and white.

July 15, 6PM - Film showing: "Ang Sayaw ng Dalawang Kaliwang Paa", a winner of the Best Picture, 35th Gawad Urian, starring Rocco Nacino and Paolo Avelino (Best Actor, 35th Gawad Urian); and a short film "Nessun Dorma", by Ron Genato and Jedd Rommel.

July 21, 9PM - "Circle of Love" - the Love Yourself Anniversary party, to be held at BED Manila. Special guest performers include: La Chiquitta - Hong Kong's top drag performer; Hotlegs; Soprano Beverly Salviejo; and Dragons.

July 29, 6PM - Wellness Demonstration conducted by Bay Leaf Spa on "Massage for Pleasure".

August 5, 6PM - Forum: "Top Tem Tips: Succeeding in the Corporate World for People Like Us" conducted by Mr. Corporate Closet.

For further details and information, visit www.loveyourself.ph or follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/loveyourself.ph](https://www.facebook.com/loveyourself.ph) and Twitter @LoveYourself_VA. —**Press Release**

MARRIAGE NOTICE

Mr. Praveen Parameswaran Nair holder of Indian Passport No. J5349046 and Ms. Anayn Soliman Castro holder of Philippine Passport No. EB2835850 who are currently in Doha, Qatar intend to marry each other. In case of any obligation, please contact Mr. B.D. Tyagi, Marriage Officer in Indian Embassy, Qatar at Tel No. 00974 4425577, Fax No. 00974 44670448 within 30 days.

Punto! Central Luzon: July 10, 2012

THINK GREEN



Sylvia Sanchez proud sa husay ng anak na baguhang artista

The Gossip-miller

by Cesar Pambid

PROUD MOM si Sylvia Sanchez dahil maganda ang feedback sa acting ng anak niyang si Arjo Atayde. Mula sa Eboy hanggang sa pagbibida ni Arjo sa MMK titled Bangka. Mga sikat na actor ang nakasabayan ni Arjo sa audition sa role na Yun pero sa kanya napunta ang naturang episode.

Hindi kaya tawaging stage mom si Sylvia dahil katuwang niya ang Star Magic sa pagma-manage sa anak niya?

"Kung ang pagiging stage mom, e, yung sinasabihan ang anak para sa ikabubuti niya na dapat ay marunong siyang makisama sa lahat at maging professional, proud ako na masabihan na stage mom. Pero never kong sinamahan si Arjo sa mga tapings niya," tugon niya.

Basta sinasabihan ko lang si Arjo na dapat pag pumunta ka sa isang taping, may tinanggap ka, dapat ready ka. Dapat panindigan mo Yun. Sinasabihan ko rin na dapat ultimong utility, pakisamahan niya, kahit sino run, hindi lang mga producers at staff. Tapos, nuong nag-MMK siya, wala ako, nasa ibang bansa, nag-text siya na Ma, natatakot ako. First time ko mag-MMK, so, sabi ko, okay lang, dalhin mo ang takot na Yun sa eksena, gawin mong challenge yan. Sinabihan ko kasi na pag umaarte ako, inaabot ko ang mga audience.

Kahit nasa loob ako ng tv, sinisigurado ko na inaabot ko ang mga viewers sa puso ko, Kaya ang lagi kong sinasabi, ang key mo sa pag-arte ay body language, mata at higit sa lahat puso. Yun ang ginagamit ko kaya sabi ko sa kanya, Yun din ang gamitin niya at hindi siya mapapahiya.

"Dapat pag mapunta sa set, buo ang puso niya, be professional, ayaw kong naririnig na nali-late siya, ayaw kong naririnig na problema siya sa set. Sabi ko rin sa kanya, kaya nga siguro nagtagal ako sa industriyang ito kasi naniniwala ako na hindi lang Yun sa talent, e! Hindi lang sa galing. Kung mabait ka na tao, marunong kang makisama, respeto at mahal mo yung trabaho mo, hindi ka mawawala sa industriya," bulalas pa niya.

Anyway, may sariling career din naman si Sylvia at hindi siya nababakante kahit nag-aartista na si Arjo. Pagkatapos ng Mundo Man ay Magunaw, kasali rin siya sa bagong serye nina Jodi Sta. Maria at Richard Yap na Be Careful With My Heart na magsisimula sa Lunes bago mag-Showtime0

Ano pa ba ang mahihiling niya?

"Sa material na bagay, nakakapagod na tapos meron naman akong mga totoong barkada na nagmamahal sa akin. Nandiyan na ang asawa ko na hanggang ngayon at mahal ako. Nandiyan ang mga anak ko na naglalakihan at may sumusunod sa yapak ko. So, sa tingin ko sa ngayon, wala na akong mahihiling pa. Kasi sa career ko, sunud-sunod, e! Gusto ko lang na lumaki ang mga anak ko na maayos, marespeto sa kapwa nila, Yun lang talaga, " sey ni Sylvia.

Sinong lalaki ang sinabihan niya ng Be Careful With My Heart?

"Siyempre, may mga naging boyfriends ako. Sa mga na-experience ko sa mga ex ko, pagdating sa asawa ko, siya ang sinabihan ko ng mga pain na naramdaman ko. Ang dami ko nang sakit sa buhay kaya sinasabi ko sa kanya please lang, this time be careful, kasi hindi ko na kakayanin ang sakit. Lagi kong sinasabi sa kanya, ikaw ang gusto kong makasama hanggang sa mamatay ako, ikaw ang gusto kong makasama hanggang buhay ako sa mundong ito. At ngayong maganda at maayos ang buhay natin, ayaw ko ng problema. Kaya please lang Art (Atayde), be careful," aniya pa.

Di raw totoong nababaliw na si Rita Avila ayon kay Eula Valdez

ISYU yung kaakiba na raw ang mga ikinikilos ni Rita Avila ngayong mga panahong ito kaya siya sinibak sa Walang Hanggan. Ipinalalagay na may tiling na ang aktres dahil nga mga manika ang inaari niyang mga anak na pinaainon ng gatas at pinapalitan ng pampers.

Sa one-on-one interview namin kay Eula ay napag-usapan ang tungkol sa tsismis sa pagkawala ni Rita Avila sa Walang Hanggan. Siya ang gumanap na Jane na asawa ni Marco (Richard Gomez) na namatay nga sa plane crash.

Ang tsismis na hindi rin naman mapaniwalaan, kaya raw tinanggal si Rita sa serye ay dahil sa kakaiba nitong kilos to the point na during tapings ay nakikita raw itong nag-aalaga ng kanyang tatlong manika.

Mabilis na ipinagtanggol ni Eula si Rita laban sa tsismis na ito.

"Ay hindi 'yan totoo," kaagad na sabi ni Eula. "Hanggang doon lang ang role niya talaga. From the start ay sinabi na hanggang doon lang talaga ang role niya. And meron siyang back problem.

"Ako, may back problem din ako, pero 'yung sa kanya yata, malala. Hindi totoo 'yung tsismis, grabe naman, friend ko 'yun," sey pa ni Eula.

Samantala, inamin ni Eula Valdez na kinabahan siya talaga nang mag-first taping day siya sa seryeng Walang Hanggan last Wednesday. Ang magaling na aktres ang bagong karakter na papasok sa nasabing serye bilang Black Lily.

Sey ni Eula, kumbaga sa estudyante, ang pakiramdam daw niya ay transferee sa isang school.

"Kasi ang unang-unang mahirap para sa akin, kasi hindi ako kasama nu'ng inumpisahan yung teleserye. Mas panatag 'yung loob ko kung... alam mo 'yun, sabay-sabay kami nag-umpisa, sabay-sabay nangangapa," kuwento ni Eula sa kanyang solo presscon last Thursday.

Bale ba ay first time na makakatrabaho ni Eula ang ilan sa mga cast tulad nina Coco Martin, Paolo Avelino at Helen Gamboa. Si Dawn Zulueta ay nakatrabaho na raw niya noon sa remake ng Mula sa Puso at si Susan Roces naman ay matagal na raw 'yung first and last na pagsasam nila sa pelikulang Buy One Take One pa noong 1988.

Pero kahit kabado, sobrang thankful ni Eula na napasama siya sa phenomenal top-rating serye na ito at gagawin daw niya talaga ang lahat ng kanyang makakaya para magampanan ang kanyang karakter.

Bagama't up to now ay tinatawag pa rin siyang Amor Powers na siyang pangalan ng karakter niya sa Pangako sa 'Yo noong taong 2000, ayon kay Eula, iba naman ang karakter niya ngayon bilang Black Lily.

"Ang masasabi ko lang kasi, maraming nag-e-expect. Lalo na nu'ng medyo lumabas itong Black Lily nga. Ang ine-expect nila is another Amor Powers. I think role na ni Dawn 'yung from rags to riches, 'yun 'yung Amor Powers na tinatawag nga nilang peg na magiging powerful eventually.

"Ito naman is medyo... hindi lang naman siya kontrabida matatawag. Basta meron lang siyang mission na kailangang magawa para siguro sa sariling pagkatao niya. Kumbaga, para sa peace of mind na rin niya," paliwanag ni Eula tungkol sa kanyang karakter.

Pero hindi pa pwedeng maidetalye ni Eula ang kanyang role, kung ano ba ang relasyon niya sa mga Montenegro at Guidoti at kung bakit siya maghihiganti.

Pati ang buong staff ay tikom ang bibig tungkol dito dahil once na sinabi raw kasi ay mawawala na ang mystery kaya mas maganda raw na abangan na lang sa ere.

Starting this coming week ay mapapanood na ang aktres sa Walang Hanggan at nagpapasalamat siya sa ibinibigay na importansiya ng ABS-CBN sa kanya tulad nga ng pagbibigay sa kanya ng ganitong solo presscon at siyempre, ang pagbibigay ng magagandang projects.

After Mundo Man ay Magunaw ay dito naman siya isinalang at malaking karangalan daw talaga para sa kanya na mapasama sa Walang Hanggan na no. 1 sa rating.

Rufa Mae Quinto laging iniwan ng mga lalaki

DEFINITE NA, di na tuloy ang kasalang Rufa Mae Quinto at Boy2 Quizon.

Actually, nung i-announce ng dalawa na pakakasal sila ay wala namang sumeryoso sa kanila.

Many doubted that it would push through since she has made similar wedding announcements before but they all fizzled out. Now, the latest news is that the wedding is definitely off as they had a bitter falling out.

It's said it's Rufa Mae who decided to call it quits as they're having frequent fights due to the projects that they're supposed to be doing together in Rufa Mae's production company. Well, looks like business and romance don't really mix well. Their relationship that started in "Bubble Gang" lasted for only a year and few months. The sad part is that they didn't part as friends.

It looks like Rufa Mae is unlucky in both love and career these days. With her lovelife in shambles, her career also got stalled after she left GMA-7 and moved to TV5 where her being a co-host of "Wiltme Bigtime" proved to be shortlived.



Rufa Mae Quinto



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