

More Pto. Pinesa-Kinabalu flights

(Story on Page 3)

You can now read the Observer in your cellphones

THE wonders of modern technology.

Copies of the *Island Observer* may now be read anywhere in the world via your cellphone.

Filipino readers from abroad, particularly Mindoreños, began texting the editors of the *Island Observer*, informing us that they can access our Website with their cellphone.

“Congratulations!” he

said. “*Natutuwa ako na may newspaper sa Mindoro na nakakasunod sa takbo ng modernong teknolohiya sa komunikasyon. May music pa mandin.*”

“With this, we are informed of what is happening back home and feel more closer to our families,” texted a reader who has read the latest

(Turn to Page 4)



Palparan named to anti-drugs board

REMEMBER Jovito Palparan? The military officer tagged by his left-wing critics as the “Butcher of Mindoro”

Now a retired general, he has been appointed to the Dangerous Drugs Board as part of President Arroyo’s government revamp.

(Turn to Page 2)

Continuous rains spawn road accidents in Mindoro

CONTINUOUS scattered rains prevailing for almost three months now, heavily damaged the roads in Northern parts of Or. Mindoro, while the remaining good portion of the Southern parts tempted some motorists to speed drive albeit slippery making travel dangerous.

As a result, successive accidents, two serious claiming lives and causing serious injuries, occurred last week.

At least two persons were killed while 21 were injured after the Philtranco overturned at Barangay Papandayan, in Pinamalayan at about 11:45 midnight vSaturday (January 24).

Police report said the Philtranco bus plying the Iloilo-Manila route

overturned after hitting the gutter.

Initial investigation showed Tamisin was driving when the bus went out of control after hitting a slippery portion of the road due to the rains. It hit the wall and several tombs of a Chinese cemetery in the area.

SPO2 Rachel Doringo III of the Pinamalayan police identified the fatalities as bus driver Edgar Descarga of San Lorenzo Village in Sta. Rosa,

(Turn to Page 2)



CURIOUS onlookers peep inside the ill-fated Philtranco bus.

Photo by Gloria Councilor Romy Sadiwa

3 nabbed in Palawan drug raid

POLICE arrested Friday afternoon (Jan. 23) three drug suspects in a buy-bust operation in Palawan, police report said.

Reports from Mimaropa (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Palawan) police regional office identified the suspects as Xu Quing Jiang aliases Lucio Co, Lucio Ong, Lito Zhang, and

(Turn to Page 2)

2 most-wanted criminals arrested in Mimaropa

TWO of the country’s most-wanted persons were arrested by agents of the Philippine National Police Regional Intelligence Office 4-B in a series of operations in Mimaropa region, officials announced last week.

RIO 4-B chief Superintendent Romualdo P. Iglesia identified the suspects as Rex S. Panagsagan and Jeremy R. Albay.

Iglesia said Panagsagan, 30,

wanted for a murder case, was arrested in his hideout in Sitio Lunga-og, Poblacion, Sta. Fe, in Romblon. Panagsagan, one of the top most-wanted persons in Mimaropa region, carries a P140,000 bounty on his head issued by the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

A warrant for his arrest was issued by Judge Jose M. Marid of the Odiongan,

Romblon Regional Trial Court Branch 82 last April 29.

Albay, 26, was arrested for an attempted rape case by the RIO 4-B with the assistance of the Cabuyao and Sta. Cruz Municipal Police Stations.

A warrant for the arrest of Albay, one of Laguna’s most-wanted persons, was issued by Judge Jaime C. 2

(Turn to Page 2)

Sudoku Tricks

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SAGOT SA PAHINA 2

“Entered as Second Class Mail Matter” at the Calapan Post Office, Oriental Mindoro on February 27, 2008.

NFA assures enough supply of rice

(Basahin sa Pahina 3)

Pagkahari, pagkapari at pagkapropeta

ANG binyag ng isa sa mga myembro ng pamilya ay isa sa mga pinakamahalagang okasyong pinaghahandaan ng mga Pilipino Katoliko. Ganun kahalaga ito kaya nga't wala ring binyagang kung walang panghanda.

Karaniwang hinihintay muna ng pamilya na magkaroon ng perang panghanda sa selebrasyon bago iplano ang araw ng binyag. Sa mga Parokya naman, upang mas maunawaan ng mga magulang, ninong at ninang ang kanilang mga tungkulin, may mga ibinibigay na seminar

bilang paghahanda sa tatanggaping sakramento.

Isa sa mga pinakamahalagang bahagi sa rito ng binyag ay ang pagpapapahid ng langis sa bumbunan ng bibinyagan. Habang ito ay isinasagawa, sinasabi ng pari, "Tanggapin mo ang PAGKAHARI, PAGKAPARI, at PAGKAPROPETA ni Kristo."

Nangangahulugan ito na sa binyag, nakikibahagi tayo sa mga katangiang ito ni Kristo. Na tayo man, bilang Kristiyano at tagasunod niya ay inaasahang isabuhay ang Pagiging Hari ni Kristo,



Ni Fr. Bar Fabella, SVD

Sa Maikling Salita

hindi isang haring pinaglingkuran, kundi isang haring lumilimot sa sarili at nag-aalay ng buhay sa kanyang nasasakupan.

Ganun din, inaasahan tayong isabuhay ang kanyang pagkapari, na

nangangahulugang tayo ay dapat na maging mga tulay tungo sa kabanalan ng iba. At sa pagtanggap natin ng pagiging propeta, inaasahan tayong maging tagapagdala ng kanyang mga turo at mensahe sa iba. Sa pagiging propeta, tayo ay inaasahang maging mga instrumento ng

katotohanan, ito man ay makasakit sa damdamin ng iba sa layuning maituwid ang anumang pagkakamali.

Nababakas kaya ng iba ang kapangyarihan ni Kristo sa atin? Ang buhay kaya natin bilang mga binyagan ay kinakikitaan ng pagiging mga tunay na Kristiyano sa salita at gawa? Masasabi kaya natin, kagaya ni San Pablo: "Hindi na ako ang nabubuhay, kundi si Kristo ang nabubuhay sa akin?"

(Anuman pong reaksiyon o komento sa mga pagninilay ng may akda ay maaari ninyong ipadala sa e-mail address na ito: ibarra_svd@yahoo.com Maraming salamat po.)



Travels travail

IT'S not only bad roads and careless drivers that make travel in the Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH) difficult.

It's the escalating ship and bus fare that make it more burdensome.

Even with the prices of oil in the world market plunging down, the ship fare had not gone down.

The bus reduced its fare, first by one peso, then by two pesos more.

But, travel along the SRNH effectively went up, courtesy of the Philippine Philippine Port Authority (PPA), in times of crisis

PPA has begun charging roro passengers P30 terminal fee in Batangas City Port and all passengers P20 pesos in Calapan City Port.

Making your round trip expensive from Mindoro to Manila and back up by P50 nang wala kang kalaban-laban.

The few pesos you save for choosing to ride the roro and not the fastcraft are easily gobbled up by the terminal fee.

Passing briefly the Batangas Port Terminal II building is added discomfort for roro passengers carrying heavy baggage because they have to climb the stairs going to the second floor where the waiting area is located. I pity the elderly.

Then, they have to go down again the stairs for a long walk for boarding where the roro ships are docked. (Akala ko ba for the safety and convenience of passengers.)

A *bubuwit* told me that the bus companies could have reduced more their fare if not for the "port mafiosi" charging P7 per passenger for a privilege to park and load passengers inside the immediate port ground.

The amount, allegedly, goes to the official they called "presidente." (Baka akalain ng mga taong si Pangulong Arroyo.)

One of the reasons why PPA had to raise the terminal fee in Batangas is because Asian Terminals is losing money (raw).

Pero sabi ng aming *bubuwit*, nire-recycle lang ng mga tiwaling tauhan sa port ang ticket na binabayaran ng mga trucking.

Sana maimbestigahan ito kung totoo, bago magalit sa atin si U.S. President Barack Obama for being in the "wrong side of history."

CONTINUOUS ... (From Page 1)

Laguna; and Freshel Damian, 18, of Iloilo.

Esperanza Ng, nurse on duty at the Pinamalayan Doctor's Hospital, identified the passengers rushed there as Lydia Duero, 60; son Lino Duero, 20; Merlani Jariba, 21; Ronila Perez, 53 and child Iran Perez; conductor

Francisco Tamisin, 37; Emiliana Solidarios; Jongie Analista, 24; Jorien Analista, 20; Elna Dacome, 55; and Libraso Roy, 26.

Also rushed there were Edimson Juartilla; Cedric Alag, 39; Marlon Arcos, 25; Gerardo Perez, 60; Jose Subaldo, 24; Ariane Joy Perez, 23; Marian Jativa, 21; and Mauro Legada, 56.

Rushed to the Virtucio Clinic in Papandayan were Erlinda Saballero and daughter Mylene Saballero.

The following day, a Crosswind SUV, with a female driver and all-female passengers from Bongabong hit the residence of Dr. Luis Foo at Barangay Lucio Laurel, Gloria.

Initial report said, the female driver, daughter of a former municipal treasurer, had no fell asleep the group coming from a wedding party. There was no fatality reported.

On the same day, an unidentified rider on a borrowed motorcycle slipped on the road at the Poblacion, Gloria. He was also taken to the Virtucio Clinic with serious injury as his forehead hit the concrete.

Earlier, commuters using the Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH) dubbed the "poor man's travel route," have complained about the poor road condition obtaining in Oriental Mindoro. They said the rutted road has made travel not only uncomfortable but also perilous.

The continuous rains in the province have caused crater-like holes on the 23-kilometer national road traversing the main SRNH route and passing through the municipalities of Naujan, Victoria, and Socorro.

On the road going to Puerto Galera, a 30-foot ravine, caused by a landslide, imperil the lives of islanders and tourists going to and from this major resort town.

The ravine was caused by a 45-meter slip that scoured

the concrete road between Kilometers 25 and 26 in Barangay Lumangbayan, San Teodoro town. Vehicles, such as passenger jeepneys and heavy trucks, were using only one of the two lanes of the damaged national road

The other scoured lane was left hanging, "making travel very dangerous," travellers said.

"The soil underneath the damaged road may cave in anytime due to stress caused by loaded jeepneys and heavy gravel and sand trucks passing through it," they added.

PALPARAN... (From Page 1)

Jovito Palparan joins the board at a time when the President, who has recently named herself anti-drug czar, has renewed her efforts to curb drug use particularly among the young.

At a briefing last week, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita also said former National Police chief Arturo Lomibao would remain head of the National Counter-Terrorism Action Group after he declined an appointment to lead the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board.

Ermita also said Alberto Suansing would keep his post as Land Transportation Office chief, despite his appointment as undersecretary for the maritime sector, under the Transportation Department.

Suansing replaced Elena Bautista who was appointed head of the Maritime Industry Authority after Marina administrator Vicente Suazon Jr. resigned in September.

Lomibao's decision to stay in his job means Thompson Lantion keeps his post at the franchising and regulatory board.

Also last week, Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales announced that retired police Gen. Nestorio Gualberto will return as head of the bureau's

enforcement and security service, a critical unit in the government's anti-smuggling campaign.

Gualberto replaces Nicasio Radovan Jr., who will be transferred to the monitoring unit under the Office of the Commissioner.

Before his retirement in 2006, leftist groups had linked Palparan, then a major, to more than 500 cases of human rights abuse, mainly summary executions and disappearances, during his stints as commander of the 24th Infantry Battalion in Central Luzon, 204th Infantry Battalion in Mindoro and Romblon, and 8th Infantry Division in Samar and Leyte.

In 2007, Palparan ran and lost for a seat in Congress under the party list.

3 NABBED .. (From Page 1)

Jacksox Sy; Danny Buena, and Jimmy Aborot.

They were arrested by joint elements of the Philippine National Police Anti-Illegal Drugs Special Operating Task Force (PNP-Aidsotf), the Palawan provincial police and Scene of the Crime operatives in Barangay 4, Roxas town around 4:30 p.m.

Police, through a search warrant, raided the warehouse and seized several paraphernalia used for making methamphetamine hydrochloride (shabu), including hydrogenators, stove burners, casseroles, and chemical

SAGOT SA SIDUKO

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More SEAir Pto Princesa-Kota Kinabalu flights likely

THE Southeast Asian Airlines (SEAir) now flies the Puerto Princesa-Kota Kinabalu route twice a week, promising a more upbeat outlook in tourism in the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asean Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).

A statement issued by the Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCo) said the Philippines domestic carrier, which made its inaugural

Puerto Princesa-Kota Kinabalu flight in November last year with a 32-seater Dornier 328 aircraft, will have flights from Puerto Princesa to Kota Kinabalu every Tuesday and Friday, from the initial once-a-week schedule.

Puerto Princesa City Tourism Council (CTC) president Felisa Torres said the route should be promoted intensively and marketed competitively for it to be sustained.

Torres had earlier said in

an article this is a welcome development that will help boost the local economy.

SEAir president Avelino Zapanta had said in an article the airline will look into increasing flight frequency on the route to twice weekly in January depending on the response.

Meanwhile, their tourism counterpart in Sabah also showed the same enthusiasm, citing a slight tourist increase from the Philippines to Sabah during the first semester last year.

“We are very optimistic, with the strengthening of this air link, we can further boost the tourism and economy of both countries and in turn fortify efforts of the BIMP-EAGA cooperation,” said Undersecretary Virgilio Leyretana.

MEDCo serves as the Philippine coordinating office for BIMP-EAGA in which Mindanao and Palawan are the focus areas.

The SEAir inaugural flight on Nov. 28 commenced from

Clark to Caticlan to Puerto Princesa to Kota Kinabalu. Established in 1995, SEAIR started its operations with two nine-seater airplanes.

To date, SEAir has flown almost three million passengers to 12 local tourist destinations.

Leyretana said opening of another economic gateway in Palawan was “a milestone in encouraging interest in Mindanao and Palawan as the Philippine EAGA focus areas especially in tourism and trade.

The BIMP-EAGA is a major collaboration to boost the socio-economic development among poor regions of member states by strengthening policies that will enhance the movement of people and goods.

EAGA members are pushing for more regular air connections to link the four countries to the rest of the world and accelerate the planned integration of EAGA’s tourism development.

More than 14,000 field schools helping educate Pinoy farmers

THE Department of Agriculture (DA) has established more than 14,000 farmer field schools nationwide to help keep farmers up to date on global and domestic economic developments that impact on their livelihood and guide them in harnessing new technologies to suit their individual needs and raise their yields.

Jess Binamira, a member of the technical advisory group of Arthur Yap, Secretary of DA and program officer of the Department’s National Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program, KASAKALIKASAN, said that 400,000 farmers so far have undergone training in these farmer field schools, where they learned to “select, adapt and apply knowledge-intensive technologies, and use resources available to them more efficiently.”

Binamira, said the modified training methods now implemented in these field schools allow farmers to make their own decisions to suit their needs as well the agro-ecological conditions in their respective farms.

This new learning mode is unlike the old approach, he said, in which teaching was confined behind the four walls of the classroom, with all the participants reaching the same predetermined advice about crop usage and farm profitability regardless of the diversity of their planting environments.”

The IPM farmer field schools of today keep farmers in specialized agricultural fields to plant their own crops, using new technologies, so they can gather their own data, do experiments, make their own decisions, and create their own working networks,” Binamira said.

He said this modified approach has proven

effective in light of lingering concerns over the threats posed by climate change and the over 100 percent jump in the price of petrochemical fertilizers—which had unduly driven up farm production expenses—arising from the escalating cost of crude oil in the world market. Binamira noted, for instance, that among the benefits of these farmer field schools are the reported drop in chemical use by farmers by 55.3 percent and an increase in the application of organic-based farming techniques by more than 300.0 percent.

Last year, Yap signed a special order creating a task force that will promote the use of organic farming as part of President Arroyo’s centerpiece program on raising farm productivity and ensuring food sufficiency over the medium term. President Arroyo’s centerpiece program for agriculture is dubbed FIELDS, meaning Fertilizer, Irrigation and other rural

infrastructure, Extension and research,

Loans, Dryers and other post-harvest facilities, and Seeds. Yap said the organic FIELDS task force, headed by DA Undersecretary for Special Concerns Berna Romulo Puyat, will ensure that the DA’s agenda on organic agriculture will be included in every aspect of the President’s FIELDS program, especially in its Fertilizers and Extension components. Besides DA officials, the task force will also be composed of representatives from non-government organizations (NGOs), the academe, and local government units (LGUs)

Under the fertilizers component of FIELDS, the DA has incorporated an Organic Fertilizer Program to provide farmers with cheaper and more sustainable alternative inputs in view of the high cost of petroleum-based fertilizers triggered by rising prices of oil and

demand for bio-fuel production in other countries.

The program, coordinated by the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM), calls for an accelerated production of organic fertilizers (rapid composting, vermin-culture, etc.) in partnership with LGUs, Church-based people organizations or POs and qualified NGOs.

The long-term goal is for farmers, through their clusters, to produce their own organic fertilizers. Yap has streamlined the implementation of the DA’s palay production program under its banner Ginintuang Masaganang Ani (GMA) that will, beginning next year, focus funding on hard or “big-ticket” projects covering

irrigation maintenance, post-harvest facilities, farm-to-market roads (FMRs) and rural extension work.

While the DA will continue providing seed support to farmers, Yap said it will do away with its fertilizer subsidy program involving the grant of discount coupons for the purchase of petrochemical fertilizers, “so the Department can focus instead on promoting the use of organic fertilizers among palay growers, with an eye on providing support for organic fertilizer manufacturing in this year to farmers tilling 400,000 hectares or a tenth of all farmlands devoted to

(Turn to Page 4)

NFA assures enough rice supply for poor families

SAN JOSE, Antique — The National Food Authority (NFA) here assured beneficiaries listed under the Rice Allocation Ledger of enough supply of rice for poor families once the implementation goes full swing.

Gladdys Gallano, Information Officer of NFA said that they are currently undergoing validation of beneficiaries of the Rice Allocation submitted by the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Food Authority Administrator Jessup P.

Navarro said that the Family Access Card for National Capital Region and Rice Allocation Ledger in provinces are big help for the low income group and underprivileged sector that gets the assurance of optimizing the benefits from the rice subsidies and other hunger mitigating programs of the government. “We can specifically focus our distribution efforts of the affordable rice to families who really need assistance from the government,” he added.

In the provinces, the Rice Allocation Ledger shall be

required from the Tindahan Natin (TN) and Bigasan sa Parokya (BP) operators prior to the acceptance of payment of their weekly rice allocation to NFA. The NFA, will strictly pursue the policy of “no rice allocation ledger, no rice allocation” to these outlets said Gallano.

Aside from TN and BP outlets only beneficiaries identified by DSWD through the Rice Allocation Ledger can avail of NFA rice at P18.25 per kilo, NFA rice is

available at Bigasan sa Palengke at P25.00 per kilo.

Only those family beneficiaries listed in the DSWD-Rice Allocation Ledger shall be served by the TN & BP outlets, however, while the validation of beneficiaries is still ongoing NFA rice is still available at these outlets at P25.00 a kilo.

On the other hand, the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office enjoins local officials to support the program and encouraged families to do their share in income generating activities to meet the other needs of the family. (PIA)

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Tawa-Tawa Bulaklak ng Saya

Kahit mahirap ang buhay dahil sa pandaigdigang krisis pangkabuhayan na nararanasan ngayon, harapin natin ang Taong 2009 na nakangiti.

LPG

HINDI problema ng mga Pilipino ngayon tumaas man ang presyo at mawalan ng supply ng Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG).

Bukod kasi sa wala na silang pambili ay wala na rin silang mailuto.

Pinoy LPG

Patuloy man sa pagtaas ng presyo o mawalan ng supply ay patuloy na LPG ang panggatong ng mga taga-Mimaropa, lalo na sa Mindoro.

Ang LPG ay *laging palapa ang gatong.*

(Yon nga lang, agawan sila pagbagsak ng mga palapa sa niyugan kung humahangin.)

Bawas na bayani

Dahil sa world financial crisis, maraming OFW ang natanggal sa trabaho at napauwi.

Di lang nabawasan ang padalang dollar, nabawasan din ang bilang ng mga Pinoy bayani. (Ang mga OFW ay itinuturing na mga bayani ng kasalukuyang henerasyon.)

Wa epek sa Pinas

Hindi raw apektado ang Pilipinas ng world financial crisis.

Di maghihirap ang mga Pilipino porke dati na silang mahihirap.

At lalong di

U can send in ur jokes n dis corner.

matatanggal sa trabaho sapagkat marami sa kanila ay walang trabaho.

Paalala ni Obama

Hindi totoong nakalimutan ni US President Barrack Obama ang mga Pilipino sa kanyang inaugural speech.

Di man tuwirang tinuringan, pinaalalahanan niya ang mga lider Pinoy na sila'y nasa "wrong side of history."

Tinablan ba?

Kasunod ng inaugural speech ni Obama ay nagkaroon ng balasahan sa gabinete.

Ewan kung tinablan ang Malacañang sa parungit ng kauna-unahang Presidenteng Itim ng America.

Pero sa Kongreso, agad inabsuwelto ang tatlong kontratista sa DPWH na blinacklist ng World Bank dahil sa umano'y maanomalyang bidding. (Kanino kaya naniniwala ang mga Pinoy?)

Deja vu

Nang lisanin ng mga Bush ang capitol sa Washington, isinakay sila sa helicopter patungo sa isang base militar at inilapat sa isang eroplano na naghatid sa kanila sa Texas.

Nang lisanin ng mga Marcos ang Malacañang, isinakay sila sa helicopter patungo sa Paoay saka isinakay rin sa eroplano patungong Hawaii.

And they read the copies way, way ahead of the local readers who received the printed copies sent via the postal mail.

This early, the *Island Observer* is inviting commercial firms, business establishments, economic and government leaders to place their ads, greetings, messages and advertorials in the website.

They will directly communicate with overseas Filipinos who have the capacity to buy and say on their families back home.

Ditto with ad placements on the pages of the *Island Observer* which will be automatically seen worldwide as added bonus.

YOU CAN...

(From Page 1)

edition of the *Island Observer* with the use of his cellphone in Abu Dabi.

Readers abroad said they can access the *Island Observer* Website (now on test run) with GPRS cellphones.

The GPRS system is used by GSM Mobile phones, the most common mobile phone system in the world (as of 2004), for transmitting IP packets. The GPRS Core Network is the centralised part of the GPRS system.

Mindoro Tamaraw, Rumaillah register victories in PIBAQ

DOHA: Mindoro Tamaraw continued its supremacy in the 4th Tournament Cup of Pinoy Basketball Qatar (PIBAQ) by winning a thriller against One Family 92-90 that saw many spectators holding on to their seats in the dying minutes in last week's second game of the semi-final rounds held at Al Gharrafa Training Gym.

In the first game, Rumaillah Group WLL routed Natsco Smart Padala 80-72 in another classic game as the latter refused to budge going closer to within five-point difference with 2:05 left in the fourth quarter but eventually lost steam and firepower to pull an upset win.

Mindoro Tamaraw now had 15 straight wins with no loss in the tournament duly recognized by Qatar Basketball Federation and at the same time the semi-finals front-runner with two wins and no loss record.

The tournament is jointly sponsored by The Filipino Channel, Skyfreight Cargo, McDonalds Qatar, Mediacom International, Digital Print Center, Al Emadi Enterprises, AFEMT Medical Unit and The Peninsula.

One Family suffered its second straight defeat thus lessened its chances to the much-coveted championship crown while Natsco and Rumaillah Group WLL share a one-win, one-loss records each.

Anthony "High Flyer" Isip and his One Family team mates tried to launch a rally with 4:31 left tasting its first ever lead in the fourth quarter at 81-80 but it was tough luck for them since their hard-fought efforts were never good enough to turn the tide in their favor.

With 14 seconds left and the score was 91-89 and Mindoro Tamaraw in the upper hand, Isip visited the free throw line for the penalty situation but only made one out of two baskets which eventually led to their heartbreaking loss.

The third series of the semi-final rounds will be played on January 30 with Mindoro Tamaraw going against Natsco and Rumaillah Group versus One Family of which the results would be crucial



TAGAY NA. Tatlong "bol" ng manamis-namis at sumusubo pang tuba ang nakahanda na para sa mga parokyano ng isang kantina sa Barangay Malaya, Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro. Kadalasang pulutan sa ganitong inumin sa barrio ay adobong dalag o inihaw na tilapia.

Photo by Jerry Alcayde

MORE THAN... (From Page 3)

palay growing nationwide."

GMA programs of the DA put flesh to President Arroyo's FIELDS. This streamlining move in support of FIELDS is part

of the sweeping reforms that Yap put in place at the DA in 2008 for a more effective implementation and monitoring of its farm productivity programs plus a more prudent disbursement of funds to program beneficiaries. Yap

Ex- Barangay. Captain appointed SB Member

FORMER Barangay Captain Allan Ismael was appointed as the newest member of the Sangguniang Bayan ng San Jose last January 20, 2009, replacing Former Councilor Cesar Asilo, who passed away in October 2008.

Ismael was appointed by Governor Josephine Sato under RA 7160 Chapter 2 Section 45, which empowers the latter to fill "permanent vacancies in the sanggunian where automatic successions ... do not apply".

The Sangguniang Bayan is the legislative branch of municipal governments in the Philippines. Its function is to enact ordinances and approve resolutions for the effective administration of the municipality.

going into the championships.

carried out these sweeping reforms in the monitoring of, and release of funds to, the DA's intervention programs as an offshoot of the preliminary findings of the fact-finding committee headed by Assistant Secretary Eduardo Nolasco that there had been systemic lapses in the monitoring of projects, arising mainly from the devolution of powers to local government units (LGUs), which had stripped the DA of its control and supervision over

provincial, municipal, city agriculture officers and farm technicians. Among these reforms effected last year were the creation of national and regional monitoring teams to conduct "periodic field validation and rapid appraisal" of the DA's intervention measures and the adoption of more stringent guidelines on the release of funds to non-government organizations (NGOs) and people's organizations (POs).

We are read worldwide. We send our copies to big associations of Mindoreños abroad through the electronic mail ...And now our Website is on test



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