

DIARYO TI UMILI TI AMIANAN

nordis

Northern Dispatch Weekly

Vol. 22 No. 21

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2010

8 pages • P7.00

Four G's during Abra polls

MANILA – Impervious to the presence of foreign observers in their area, military forces sowed fear and intimidation among the people of Abra, including a delegate from the People's International Observers Mission (PIOM), with their guns and apparent presence during the Election Day.

David Crotty, an Australian delegate of PIOM, was a victim of harassment committed by the Armed Forces of the Philippines
FOUR G'S...p.7



New air transport serves Baguio

Kalinga broadcaster survives slay try

QUEZON CITY — A crusading broadcaster of a government-run radio station in Kalinga province was wounded when a still unidentified gunman shot him at close range as he reported for work on Friday.

Jerome Tabanganay, 44, told colleagues at the hospital where he was taken that he was stepping through the door of Radyo ng Bayan station in Bulanao Norte to anchor his regular 7-9 a.m. program "Agenda" when a man approached and asked his name.

When he asked why, the man asked for his name again. It was then that Tabanganay ran into the station as he sensed the man was about to attack him.

The gunman fired at least four times, hitting Tabanganay in the knee and back of his right leg.

Regino Wacas, president of the Kalinga Media Club (KAMEC), said he was just winding up his program "Date-line Balaban" at the same station when he heard the gunfire.

Wacas took cover and, after a while, rushed to Tabanganay, who was shouting for help, and took his colleague to a safer place inside the station.

Later, Tabanganay managed to move to the booth and call the police and the emergency health service for help.

It was later learned the gunman was one of two men onboard a red motorcycle who

KALINGA...p. 7



INAUGURAL FLIGHT. Mayor Peter Rey Bautista said that the Loakan Airport will soon be in operation with the flights from Manila to Baguio and other areas in Luzon. In the photo are Capt. Ramon Cunanan, Sky Pasada Chief Executive Officer Ramon Guico III, the City Mayor Reinaldo Bautista. Photo courtesy of Redjje Melvic Cawis PIA-CAR

BAGUIO CITY — The "Sky Pasada", a private air company today succeeded in its inaugural and test flights from the Loakan airport here as it embarks to provide this mountain resort 250 kilometers north of Manila with commercial flights.

This was learned from Department of Tourism (DOT) regional director Purificacion Molintas who said that the resumption of air transport service here after a decade of absence of any commercial flight would greatly improve tourist arrivals in the city.

The test flight piloted by Captain Ramon Cunanan brought media practitioners to various parts of the Central Luzon and Cagayan Region. As planned, the destinations of flights from here will be several areas of Luzon including Manila.

Sky Pasada is headed by chief executive officer Ramon Guico.

Records show the Philippine Air Lines (PAL) cancelled its flights in this city before year 2000. A private air company succeeded the operations but the duration was short-lived for still unknown reasons.

NEW AIR...p. 7

CAR's top students train in Ifugao

IFUGAO — Sixteen finalists of the 2010 Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines (TOSP) in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) just ended a three-day formation program, from May 17 – 19, 2010 at the Ifugao State University (IFSU).

Previous finalists who formed the Outstanding Students of the Cordillera Administrative Region (OSCAR) facilitated the program on the objectives to: celebrate, affirm, and inspire each other's perspectives towards nation building and to form a tight-knit commu-

nity to learn, lead, and serve for life.

One of the highlights of the program was the community immersion in Hungduan, Ifugao where the 16 finalists stayed with eight host families and lived with them the Hungduan way. The objective of this activity

was to allow the finalists to gain insights of actual situations of families that would help them respond to the two main objectives of the program.

The finalists were from private and state universities and colleges in CAR such as the University of the Cordilleras

(UC), Benguet State University (BSU), Saint Louis University (SLU), University of Baguio (UB), Ifugao State University (IFSU), STI College – Baguio, AMA College – Baguio, and Mt. Province State Polytechnic College. #Jeremy Gawongna

Workers urge keep Arroyo boys from Cabinet

BAGUIO CITY — The labor group Kilusang Mayo Uno (May First Movement or KMU) warned presidential race victor Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III against putting known anti-people government officials from the administration of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo into his Cabinet.

Posted in its website, KMU said "Wag itong walo (not the 8): Keep off the worst Arroyo bureaucrats from cabinet." KMU said this is a challenge to Aquino's promise of leading the nation to his so-called "Daang Matuwid". The labor group said that Aquino's promise will be just another election hoolabaloo if he will assign the said Arroyo bureaucrats to key government seats.

KMU enumerated those who should be blacklisted from Aquino's government posts.

WORKERS URGE...p. 7

KMU to Aquino: Heed Ka Bel's demands

MANILA — In marking the second death anniversary of working-class hero Crispin "Ka Bel" Beltran, labor center Kilusang Mayo Uno called on the incoming Aquino administration to address Ka Bel's demand for wage hike and protecting labor rights.

"Ka Bel died without seeing the realization of the goals that he fought hard for. He died campaigning for a legislated wage increase and protection of workers' rights, which the Arroyo regime has denied for the longest time," said Elmer "Bong" Labog, KMU chairperson.

"The incoming administration of president-apparent Noynoy Aquino, who promises 'change' to the Filipino people, should face Ka Bel's demands

squarely and do its best to heed these," said Labog.

Beltran died on May 20, 2008 after falling from the roof of his house while doing some repairs – a proof of his simple and humble life. KMU said Beltran, who was also Anakpawis Partylist's representative, fought for the legislation of the P125 across-the-board wage increase, the junking of labor contractualization policies, and the scrapping of Assumption of

KMU TO AQUINO...p. 7



COMING ATTRACTIONS. An eco-tourism theme park featuring motorized zip lines amid forest reserve in Camp John Hay will open on October. In the photo is the site of the Tree Top Adventure Pavillion, an orientation area, coffee and souvenir shop. Among those present at the press launching last May 19 were Engr. Mario Montejo (CEO of Tree Top Adventure Phils. and inventor of zip line), Ma. Cristina Corona (Chairman and President of John Hay Management Corporation), Mayor Reinaldo Bautista, Marietz Montejo (President of Tree Top Adventure) and Heiner Maulbecker of Camp John Hay Manor.

Brenda S. Dacpano/NORDIS

Pristine beaches of Pagudpud

By ML MARIGZA

Pagudpud's white beach is the place to be after the three month long tiring campaign. Burayoc and Saud, the barrios that comprise the cove offer a relaxing respite from burn-out.

The beach is littered with infantile or juvenile shells and corals that give it its white color. It is teeming with seaweeds and fish, it is still clean and coool. On one side of the cove in Burayoc are the coral reefs where fishes breed. In the middle is the where these tiny corals and shells wash ashore in shifting, undulating waves. On the northern side in Saud is another coral reef where a solar powered lighthouse shines. From any part of the shore you can see those giant windmills of Burgos.

About two kilometers to the sea is another coral reef where they bring snorkeling enthusiasts. This is also where migratory birds from China feed and it is a delight to see them in formation dive to the waters to feed. At this time of the year the birds are still here where they fly from shore to sea looking for food.

A trip to Pagudpud does not come cheap but the pleasures it provides cannot be savored anywhere. If you start from Laoag, the trip will be more interesting if you visit the museums and other places of interest there. There is now a package trip the locals of Pagudpud offer – a trip to the windmills and lighthouse of Burgos, the mangroves from Burgos to Bangui, the waterfalls, the coral reefs and the winding Patapat viaduct. Then to swim and sleep at Pagudpud to top the trip. It is also a food



Photo courtesy of Celia Austria

trip in that meat and sea foods are cheap here, from seaweeds to lobsters. If one is adventurous, the *kilawens* of all kinds are fantastic.

I stayed at the Apo Idon during my stay this weekend courtesy of Cel and Roland Albert, co-owners of the place. But I had the best meals and merienda at Evangeline's resto. Do try their halo-halo, fruit shakes and nacho dips. They are heavenly. I had the singular experience of watching with Cel, Venus romancing the moon that Sunday over nice talk, laughter and nacho dips with the young couple, Liza and Lee, owners of Emohruo villas and Evangeline.

The good thing going for Pagudpud which I guess preserved it, is that a sprinkling of families own the beach front. The Romeros, the Benemeritos, the Sales own large beach fronts which has protected the cove from the commercialization one sees in Bauang or San Fabian or Boracay. The only non-Pagudpud festivity done on the beach was a one-day "Bikini Open", they tell me. In the Romero compound, the children have their own hotels. Apart from Apo Idon and Emohruo, you can stay at Jun and Carol, Rinnovati, Terra Rika and Romaville.

Pagudpud has maintained

up to now its being a family beach. Comparing it a decade ago when there were only cottages then, the place retains its cleanliness and homey come-on. It is still a family beach despite the busloads of people who come and go. This weekend there were families from Isabela, Manila, Cavite, Ilocos and elsewhere who visited the place.

There is a local cooperative of handicrafts sellers mostly of seashell products. The sellers explained that sales this year has dipped as there are fewer tourists who buy. The financial crisis is felt even in remote Pagudpud. Whereas last 2007 elections the crowds

came by Holy Week up to the start of classes, this year the crowds come only on weekends and not as plenty as the years past. The inns were fully booked then with overflows sleeping in tents or in their cars.

This year they are fully booked but only on weekends. The people hope the elections might help them in promotions. The Marcoses bolstered their hold on power and maybe, just maybe Imelda, Imee and Bongbong would help them promote Ilocos Norte as a tourist destination like no other. A tourism centered industry is fickle and is easily affected by financial crisis, algal blooms or typhoons. There is also the need to organize the local hotel industry for better services and promotion.

Pagudpud has provided employment for the locals. Apart from the HRM students, there were nursing students who were employed during the summer to earn additional tuition fee money. Maybe a more planned tourism industry for off-season offerings. Prostitution that comes with similar tourist attractions is still non-existent and I pray it stays that way. Casino gambling is confined to Laoag, so they are still safe.

One problem Pagudpud has to deal with is how to maintain its pristineness. How to preserve the rich ecosystem of the place, so even the migratory birds will still drop by in

their yearly sojourn. How to keep the corals and seaweeds growing to provide food and income for the locals. Maybe something like the Silliman University marine sanctuary that provides the science and the aesthetics.

Up to now, garbage and sewage is done on individual basis. Maybe the local officials can provide for a sanitary landfill and a treatment plant for the sewage to protect the cove. This weekend I regretted not carrying a sack with me to pick up the litter of plastic cups, wrappers and bottles. We still have a long way to go to teach ourselves to keep our trash off the beach.

I have visited Apo Idon one December years ago when the winds were howling and the sea was rougher than rough. But my little nephew and Roland Albert and I went to the beach anyway to see if the little dead corals were surviving the beating of the sea. Why did the corals and shells die young? Why are they not pulverized to fine sand? Of course nobody else was on the beach while we were contemplating. In any weather, Pagudpud is coool.

I hope to go back again and again to rest soul and body and immerse in the beauty and majesty of Creation.

Go and visit this tip of Luzon and savor its uniqueness while it lasts. Huwag maging dayuhan sa sariling bayan!#



Photo courtesy of Donna Villamor

MAKAN A LA PINOY

Ni **BRENDA SUBIDO-DACPANO**

"Walang katapusan"



Maikapamin-anon a dawat ti sumagmamano a gagayyem ko daytoy a resipi. Daytoy ket nadiguan a tinuno a lames ken naalseman ti salamagi ken kamatis.

Maysa a nanumo a putahe manipud iti pamiliak a napnuan ti lagip manipud iti kinaubing mi nga agkakabsat. No kasta nga awan ti masida ket makakammel ti dalag ni apong ko, agay-ayat kami nga appo na ta siguradon ti tinuno a nasalamagian. Adda met poun ti salamagi sadiay bangkag a pangalaanmi ti kullapit

(naganos) a bunga ti salamagi nga isu't pangalsem iti digo.

Nakairuamanmin daytoy a sidaen. Kadagiti paguummongmi nga agkakabsat agraman dagiti annakmi, maysa daytoy kadagiti *bonding food* mi gaputa malagipmi ti kinaubingmi iti aw-away.

Simple laeng ti preparasyon daytoy, pirsayen

ti tinuno a dalag wenno paltat ken narnaren ti ulona santo ikabil iti dakkal a malukong. Bukbukan ti agburburek a danum, daytoyen ti pannakadigona. Timplaan ti asin ken ilaok ti salamagi a narim-it. Ipettakan met ti dua wenno tallo a kamatis. Naimas nga ipis-itan ti sili. Naimasen nga igupen ti digona. No

naibusen ti digo, bukubukan manen ti agburburek a danum ken timplaan manen isu nga

inawagan mi daytoy ti "walang katapusan" a digo. No awan ti tinuno mabalina nga usaren ti

kuros (daing nga aramang). #



SALAMAGI



TINUNO A PALTAT



"WALANG KATAPUSAN"

Brenda S. Dacpano/NORDIS

Brenda S. Dacpano/NORDIS

Brenda S. Dacpano/NORDIS