



Calderon, new leader in Cupang West



Rodolfo "Rudy" Calderon

BALANGA CITY, Bataan---Barangay Cupang West, a promising village in this city inhabited by fairly industrious people, is bound to have a new leader endowed with characteristics to steer Cupang West to a better future and genuinely serve residents here.

Low-key Rodolfo "Rudy" Calderon, a retired supply officer of the state-run Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU), has been positioned by the people of Cupang West themselves as an alternative leader who could start genuine change in the village.

"Napakabait at napakamababangloob niyang si Mr. Calderon, wala kaming nalalamang nakaaway niya dito sa Cupang West", sad a neighbor.

"Naging supply officer siya sa BPSU pero hindi siya nagpayaman. Hanggang sa magretiro siya ay pangkaraniwang empleyado ang uri ng kanyang pamumuhay", a resident observed here.

The emergence of Calderon here as an alternative leader of Cupang West comes in no better time than now noting that the whirling clamor for change in Cupang West already on

its peak, local observers said.

It is high time that the next leader of Cupang West genuinely look at the welfare of his constituents. Services must be given right at their doorsteps, pointed out by people here clamoring for change.

Calderon is the best man to take the helm of Cupang West. He is the best man for the job to start positive change in Cupang West, they pointed out.



(from left to right) Melinda Nocedal, Francisco Vasquez, Conrado Santos, Roldolfo "Rudy" Calderon, Antonio Dizon, Charito Veloria and Jeffrey dela Cruz.

'Village of heritage houses' in sync with solon's dream

By Butch Gunio

BAGAC, Bataan---The village of heritage houses called Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar in the seaside area in this town is attuned to the dream of Bataan second district Congressman Albert Garcia.

According to Corazon Rueda, an active civic leader here, the establishment of Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar in this resort town is in sync to Garcia's dream of having a landmark

destination here that will eventually put Bataan in the world tourism map.

She said the solon thinks that once a tourist steps his foot in the province, he will see its beauty and would be enticed to come back again and even invite other people to join in visiting the province.

She said Garcia is very proud of the natural beauty of Bataan, a peninsula endowed with

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Pampanga governor, husband adopt mountain in Bataan

ORANI, Bataan-Pampanga Governor Lilia Pineda and husband Rodolfo Pineda have requested through their representative the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) of the Bataan Natural Park adopting a mountain in the upland Barangay Tala, this town.

The Pinedas have properties in the upland Tala village. They own the Roldofo Q. Pineda (RQP) Farm.

During the PAMB meeting on Friday, a representative formally requested that the Pinedas be able to adopt a mountain in the area of Tala, Orani.

Lawyer Ricardo Lazaro, DENR provincial chief here and member of PAMB, said the request of the Pinedas will be brought to PAMB Chairman and DENR Regional Executive Director Ricardo Calderon

for action.

Marites Salenga, PAMB member, reported that the Pinedas have already planted 30,000 tree seedlings in the area since July this year. She valued at P800,000 the amount spent by the Pinedas in planting tree seedlings.

She added wildlings of tree species like cupang, tangile, pahutan, and wayang were also planted by the Pinedas in the upland area. Wildlings are tree seedlings that naturally sprouted in the forest.

She also reported that Governor Pineda also brought 500 bamboos to be planted in the area.

Lazaro pointed out there is nothing wrong with the Pinedas planting tree seedlings in the upland Tala area since the government is vigorously pushing for

Pampanga governor/p3

BPSU assists Bataan farmers to become productive

BALANGA CITY, Bataan---The Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU), the state-owned lone university here and considered the agricultural research center in the province, embarks on a project that will guide farmers in the province to become productive by providing them vital information on agriculture and food technology.

Arlene D. Ibanez, BPSU Director for Research and Extension, and Reynan P. Calderon, BPSU Science Research Specialist, are the project leaders of the project titled Bataan Agricultural Sector Situation: Training Needs Assessment.

Project members are BPSU researchers and personnel Jose Paulo B. Tuazon, Consuleo G. Cruz, Lorna R. Roldan, and Analyn S. Villegas.

Calderon said the project formulates strategies for effective

and efficient delivery of information for farmers especially when speaking of technology and how it is going to be transferred.

He said the research undertaking will provide assessment and analysis of the current condition of farmers in the province and their need for technology intervention.

He added, specifically, focus group discussions with farmer leaders and local officials of the different municipalities of Bataan will be conducted.

"The general objective of this research study is to provide situational analysis of the Bataan agricultural sector for its training needs", Calderon pointed out.

He summed the research study aims to: provide farmers' information of the province of Bataan; assess the technology needs of the

BPSU assists/p3

Science advocates tackle impact of climate change on agricultural productivity

BALANGA CITY, Bataan-Science advocates belonging to Advocates of Science and Technology for the People (AGHAM) tackled the impact of climate change on agricultural productivity among Filipino farmers.

Reynan Calderon, Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU) agricultural research scientist and secretary general of AGHAM Central Luzon, said their group conducted a farmer-centered discussion on the problem of low agricultural productivity that Filipino farmers face as exacerbated by the impacts of climate change.

"Now that we are anticipating a series of possibly tumultuous

weather with the arrival of the rainy season, we deem it better that farmers be armed with knowledge that could help them prepare for the impending natural hazards as well as help them maintain and improve their agricultural production amidst inevitabilities of extreme weather events", he pointed out.

In the discussion, Calderon said, members of their group articulated agricultural scientific researches aiming to uplift the condition of Filipino farmers.

Rudy Flores, director of BPSU Orani campus and member of AGHAM Central Luzon executive council, discussed the problem of army worms which was experienced

Science advocates/p4

GROUNDEDNESS

Reynan Calderon

Trick or Threat

Halloween or All Saints Day is the next holiday that we are looking to. Although, we Filipinos are not so acquainted to the trick or treat, we know that this has been one activity that children on most developed countries love doing, similar to Christmas caroling here in our country. In stark contrast, for progressive leaders of this country, there is no trick or treat but rather trick and threat. We have been accused of crimes that we did not commit. We, on the legal front are being accused that we are part of the underground movements destabilizing the government. We have been linked to CPP-NPA-NDF, a leftist underground and armed movement. The truth is we do not have any affairs to this group and we are operating on our own way of protecting and supporting those who are oppressed, neglected and marginalized.

If a Filipino loves his country and countrymen, and believes that there are many things he can do to make his country and people proud, what is wrong with that? If everything you think, you think of those people who are impoverished, then what is wrong with that? If the service you think is service above oneself, then what is wrong with that? What wrong is that after all a Filipino's effort for the benefit of his countrymen and struggling to continue to fight for them, here's the trick and threat.

On September 21, 2010, the 38th years of commemorating one of the darkest days of our country's history, the martial rule, two unidentified riding-in-tandem men in motorcycle were looking for me at my house where supposedly only very few people knew it. Luckily for me, I was not in my house during that about 8:30 in the morning. The two unidentified men mistakenly entered my neighbor's house looking for me and when they found out that they had entered the wrong one, they again wrongly searched for me to my other neighbor's house. Here, my neighbors were alerted and two of them approached the two unidentified men but they immediately sped way. Up to this time, there's no lead as to who were those two men that were looking for me and up to this time still unidentified, although their physical descriptions were already known to as many people including those in PNP and media.

Is this a trick or a sure threat? Is this the price that people must receive after being pro-people, pro-environment and who uses nothing to have better lives? There are many corrupt people in the government (this has been published from international reports), there are many people who uses their influence to harass and to land grab so they can support their excessive mundane ways of living.

Are we celebrating the martial rule by being on the same rule, 38 years ago?

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breathhtaking mountains and seas.

She added that the solon believes that a landmark destination attracting tourists from other parts of the country and the world like Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar will pave the way for other people to discover the marvelous beauty of Bataan.

Rueda added that another attraction of Bataan is that it can be roamed entirely even in a single day with its good road network.

Top businessman Jerry Acuzar, a native of Balanga City, owns a beachside property in this town and converted it into Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar.

Filipino culturati said the collection of Filipino century old houses in Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar brings back the legacy of the past and allows Filipino traditions to live on. (Butch Gunio)

BATAAN TOWER NEWS

Raging News At Your Doorstep

Bataan Tower News is a newspaper published weekly with editorial address at No. 101 T. Del Rosario St., Brgy. Bagumbayan, Bagac, Bataan.

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Roman, bagong hepe ng Presidential Legislative Liaison Office

Naitalaga ni Pangulong Benigno Aquino III si dating Bataan representative Antonino Roman bilang bagong hepe ng Presidential Legislative Liaison Office o PLLO.

Ayon kay Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa, ginawa ni PNOY ang appointment bago siya tumulak patungong Estados Unidos noong nakaraang linggo.

Trabaho ng PLLO ang pakikipag-ugnayan at pagkukumbinsi sa dalawang kapulungan ng Kongreso na suportahan ang mga legislative initiatives at mga priority policy reforms and development programs ng executive branch.

Kaugnay nito, inihayag rin ni Ochoa na naghahanda na sila sa pagconvene ng kauna-unahang Legislative Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) meeting ng administrasyong Aquino.

Nalikha noong 1992 sa bisa ng Republic Act 7640, ang LEDAC ang siyang nagpapayo sa Pangulo patungkol sa mga programa at polisiyang pang-ekonomiya.

Maliban sa Presidente na chairman ng konseho, miyembro din nito ang Bise Presidente, Senate President, House Speaker, pitong miyembro ng gabinete na itatalaga ng Pangulo, tatlong senador na itatalaga ng Senate President, tatlong kongresista na itatalaga ng House Speaker at tig-isang kinatawan ng Local Government Units, Youth sector at Private sector.

Nakasaad sa batas na ang LEDAC ay dapat magpulong isang beses kada tatlong buwan subalit maari ding magpatawag ng ispesyal na pulong ang Pangulo kung sa tingin niya ay kailangan ito. (Mhike Cigaral, with reports from PIA)



Tony Roman

Kauna-unahang modernong sanitary landfill itatayo sa Samal

Ni Mhike Cigaral

Kamakailan ay isinagawa ang groundbreaking ceremonies sa itatayong kauna unahang modernong sanitary landfill dito sa Bataan.

Ayon kay Samal Mayor Gene Malibiran-Dela Fuente tatawagin itong Samal Material Recycling Facility o SMRF na itatayo sa sampung ektaryang lupain sa Sitio Pugadlawin, Brgy. San Juan, Samal, Bataan.

Sa naturang proyekto na tinatayang aabot sa labinlima hanggang dalawampung milyong pisong halagang gugugulin dito, nais ni Mailibiran na makipagkasundo sa pamamagitan ng memorandum of agreement sa kalapit na mga bayan nito gaya ng Abucaay at Orani para maging income generating na proyekto.

"Sabi ko nga madalas 'may pera sa basura' aside from that, we started na madisiplina yung

ating mga kababayan na makapag recycle, lahat ng ito ay magiging balik pera para sa ating mga kababayan", dagdag pa ni Mayor Gene M.dela Fuente.

Ayon naman kay Samal Vice Mayor Manny Cortez, "dito ay tunay na magaganap ang matagal na nating inaasam na tunay na malinis na sinasabi ko nga yung 'samal samal' yung sama samang aksyon para sa malinis at luntiang Samal".

Ang naturang proyekto ay bilang pagsunod na rin ng pamahalaang bayan ng Samal sa Republic Act 9003 o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management of 2001 o ang tamang pagsasabay ng mga basura sa mga bayan bayan at lungsod na hindi pa naipapatupad ng maayos ng karamihan sa mga munisipalidad at maging ng ilang lungsod sa bansa.



Pinangungahan dito ni Bataan First District Rep. Herminia Roman at Hermosa Mayor Danny Malana ang oathtaking ng mga bagong opisyal ng samahan ng mga senior citizens sa bayan ng Hermosa (photo and text Mhike Cigaral)

Walong barangay ng Orani binigyan ng service vehicles

Nitong mga nagdaang buwan ay naging malaking isyu sa mga barangay ng Hermosa, Orani at Dinalupihan ang umano'y napaulat na pagbawi ng kapitolyo sa mga barangay service vehicles dahil sa umano'y isyung pulitikal sa unang distrito ng Bataan.

Pero iginiit ni Bataan Gov. Enrique "Tet" Garcia na ipinarehistro lamang sa LTO ang mga nabanggit na barangay service vehicles at muling ibabalik simula buwan ng Oktubre ng kasalukuyang taon.

Pero sa bayan ng Orani ay isa isang binibigyan ng pamahalaang bayan dito ng bagong mga barangay service vehicles ang ilang piling barangay na labis na kailangan ang naturang sasakyan.

Ayon kay Orani Mayor Benjie Serrano, katuwang

ang Sangguniang Bayan sa pamumuno ni Vice Mayor Bong Galicia, walong barangay ang unang nakinabang sa proyektong ito ng pamahalaang bayan gaya ng Barangay Calero, Tugatog, Paraiso, Puksuan, Tenejero, Palihan, Pantalang Bago at Talimundoc.

Nitong mga nakalipas na buwan ay tumaas ang crime rate sa bayan ng Orani kaya't nagpasya ang pamahalaang bayan na palitan ang hepe ng pulisya rito at italaga si PCI Ferdinand Aguilar bilang bagong hepe ng Orani PNP.

Sa pagkakaroon ng mga bagong sasakyan ng mga barangay dito ay malaki ang maitutulong nito sa pagpapatrulya ng mga barangay tanod lalo na sa gabi bilang katuwang ng pulisya sa pagsugpo ng iba't ibang klaseng krimen. (Mhike Cigaral)



Mayor Benjie Serrano



Taking advantage of the latest trend in public governance the Sangguniang Panlalawigan ng Bataan recently started using Facebook fan page "SP Bataan" to inform the public about the basic functions, updates and activities of the legislative branch of the Provincial Government.

Vice Gov Efren "Bondjong" Pascual Jr. said through this, concerned Bataenos from here and outside the Province can post their reactions, suggestions and even comment about the ordinances and resolutions being drafted and passed by the provincial board members. (photo and text Mhike Cigaral)

PWU student journalists trained by Bataan Tower News editor

BALANGA CITY, Bataan-The Philippine Women's University's (PWU) Bataan circle of campus journalists got to learn the much-needed techniques and guidance courtesy of this writer, editor in chief of local newspaper Bataan Tower News.

This writer acted as the resource speaker of the one day seminar-workshop sponsored by the PWU management for the elite campus journalists tasked to publish the PWU Bataan newsletter "Philwomenian".

The seminar-workshop entitled "A Neophyte's Guide to Campus Journalism" has been very fruitful and a big help to our new set of "Philwomenian" staff in gaining insights on campus journalism, said school paper advisers Oxidall Mariano and Brian Nils Santos.

We believe that the main objective of the seminar-workshop to develop the staff's skills in writing news and feature articles were achieved, school papers advisers added.

"Philwomenian is the official PWU newsletter but unfortunately our campus was able to publish once only. Now, I believe that with the trained new batch of staff, the 'Philwomenian' will be revived", said Anna Liza Danan, PWU school director.

This writer provided journalism lessons to campus journalists in the morning, and assigned writing tasks to them the other half of the day for skills assessment.

The following PWU students emerged with the best journalism skills during the workshop: Ezekiel Recto and Kristine Guerzon for news writing; Emelita Estigoy for feature writing; and Denny Rose Isidro and Benjar Maga for layout designing.

This writer is also correspondent of national daily Manila Standard Today and regional newsweekly Central Luzon Business Week. (Butch Gunio)

DPWH starts Bataan integrated flood control project

By Butch Gunio

BALANGA CITY, Bataan---The Department of Public Works and Highway (DPWH) Bataan 1st district engineering office announced that site inspections and preliminary engineering costing of the integrated flood control project in the district have already started.

DPWH 1st district Engineer Willy Mallari said that main tributaries in the district particularly in the towns of Dinalupihan, Hermosa, and Orani were already inspected and surveyed.

He said an engineer from his office is part of the team that conducts site inspections and surveys of tributaries in the district.

Mallari said it was former Bataan 1st district Congressman Tony Roman

who requested experts from Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) and DPWH national office to study and come out with the integrated flood control project.

He said the already completed multi-million peso Palihan Bridge in Hermosa town was part of the integrated flood control project as studied by SCTEX and DPWH experts.

He explained that Palihan Bridge was not only designed to ease motoring in the area but also to solve flooding problems in Bataan's northern towns of Hermosa and Dinalupihan.

Perennial flooding has been a longtime problem of the two towns of Hermosa and Dinalupihan.

For the laudable performance of his office,

Mallari gives huge credit to Bataan First District Congresswoman Herminia Roman for the good direction she is setting in accomplishing road and infrastructure projects in the district particularly those funded from her Countrywide Development Fund.

The district engineer said Roman wants projects in the district to be accomplished on time and have all the proper documentation. Mallari also said that Roman has established a very good working relationship with his office.

Mallari is known here for being hardworking doing inspection works even weekends to ensure standard and quality implementation of projects.

Development of natural spring water sought

BALANGA CITY, Bataan---Academicians and agricultural researchers from a state university here are urging the development of natural spring water for reliable and adequate supply and agricultural use.

Dr. Gregorio J. Rodis, Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU) Vice President for Research, Extension and Auxiliary Services and concurrent OIC for Administration and Finance, pointed out that there is a need for the country to develop untapped natural spring water in order to ensure sustainable water supply.

He said that natural spring water is an answer to the looming

problem of inadequate water supply even in urban places in the country.

Rodis further explained that natural spring water can also be used for agricultural purposes.

He said that Bataan has bountiful natural spring water sources that can be tapped and developed.

Rodis cited a natural spring water source in the upland BPSU Abucay campus that was developed and currently answering the water needs particularly for agricultural purposes in the area.

Reynan Calderon, BPSU science research specialist, for his part,

echoed that developing natural spring water in Bataan would answer the not so remote possible shortage of water supply in the province in the future.

He rationalized that the province might as well take advantage of the bountiful sources of natural spring water in order to ensure sustainable availability of water here.

He also pointed out that even agricultural production would be adversely affected in the event of the shortage of water.

BPSU officials disclosed that they already made a proposal to develop natural spring water sources in Bataan. (Butch Gunio)

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farmers of Bataan; and provide recommendations for an effective and efficient delivery of training for the farmers both on formal and informal strategy.

Calderon also said local government units must

be able to identify critical areas and factors that could lead to development.

"Each municipality can be developed through its intensive agriculture and fishery coupled with agro-tourism activities.

With the available idle lands and upland areas in each municipality, forestry products and upland crops can be further developed", he explained. (Butch Gunio)

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reforestation. He also explained that the rationale behind adopt a mountain program of the DENR is that not all mountains can be effectively protected by the government. He cited the ratio of 1 forest ranger

guarding 5,000 hectares of forests.

The DENR provincial chief also explained that the Pinedas would just do assisted natural regeneration (ANR) in the area once their request is approved.

With the ANR system, Lazaro further explained, only patches in the mountain area will be planted. The planting of fast-growing tree species from other countries will not also be allowed. (Butch Gunio)

Philip Ramos of Tuyo, Balanga City, Bataan greets Bataan Tower News. Long live people's struggle for change and reform.



Atty. Ric Lazaro, DENR provincial chief, leads DENR personnel in the planting of tree seedlings at the Bataan National Park in Barangay Banawang, Bagac, Bataan. (photo and text by Butch Gunio)



Aspiring Barangay Banawang Captain Primitivo "Primi" Bantugan and other upland farmers tend the seedlings to be planted in the forests. Bantugan has long been active community leader helping the needy residents and caring for the environment. He is the president of the Mamamayan Sagip Kalikasan (Masagka), an association of upland farmers in Banawang implementing upland forest development. He was recently chosen by the National Economic Development Authority to represent upland forest development sector in the Central Luzon Development Council. (photo and text by Butch Gunio)

Greetings from Coun. Dante Macaibay



Nitong nagdaang Sabado ay pinasinayaan ang P25M peso Dizon bridge na nagdudugtong sa Brgy Tortugas at Pto Rivas Itaas sa pangunguna ni Bataan Gov Tet Garcia, Balanga Mayor Joet Garcia, DPWH District 2 Engr. Medel Chua at iba pang opisyal. ((photo by Danny Cumilang and text by Mhike Cigaral)



Isinalin na ng Provincial Government ng Bataan sa Bureau of Jail Management and Penology ang pamamahala sa Bataan Provincial Jail. Makikita sa larawan si Gov Tet Garcia na ibinibigay ang ceremonial key kay BJMP Chief J/Dir. Rosendo Dial habang nakamasid si PSupt Ernie Flores dating BPJ warden. ((photo by Danny Cumilang and text by Mhike Cigaral)



Nitong Setyembre a beinte nueve ay mahigit limandaang kabataan mula sa mga public schools ng Morong Bataan ang pinakain ng mga masusutansyang pagkain sa isinagawang supplemental feeding program ng pamahalaang bayan sa pangunguna ni Mayor Cynthia Linao-Estanislao (photo and text by Butch Gunio and Mhike Cigaral)



Kamakailan ay nagdaos sa bayan ng Limay ng Drug Symposium na dinaluhan ng mahigit isanlibong mga college at high school students ng Limay Polytechnic College at Limay National High School na inorganisa ng Limay LGU at Limay PNP Chief PCI Ricardo Santiago kung saan nagsilbing celebrity guest speakers sina Richie d Horsie at Dolphy Jr. (photo by Danny Cumilang and text by Mhike Cigaral)



Limay Mayor Lilver Roque receives the check from DOLE in behalf of the livelihood beneficiaries in Limay. (photo and text by Butch Gunio and Mhike Cigaral)



Kamakailan ay isinagawa ang groundbreaking ceremonies sa bubuksang Samal Materials Recycling Facility sa Sitio Pugadlawin, Brgy San Juan, Samal, Bataan sa pangunguna ni Samal Mayor Gene Malibiran dela Fuente, Vice Mayor Manny Cortez at mga miyembro ng Sangguniang Bayan. (photo and text by Mhike Cigaral)

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in the province of Bataan, and predicted that the same problem will be experienced by nearby territories as what happened in the provinces of La Union and Cavite. He recommended to mitigate the problem on worms through different approaches such as cultural management

practices, biological approach, physical approach and if these were not as effective, chemical approach. He warned that there will be a second wave of the destructive worms since no mitigating measures were done to eliminate the pests in the past weeks.
Florescia Abarquez

of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture (DA) talked on different processed products that can be produced out of malunggay. She also discussed the nutritional values that can be derived in consuming malunggay, said Calderon.

On the hand, Engr. Allan Anida of Bureau of Soils and Water Management of DA discussed simple biogas production that also generates organic materials which can be utilized as organic fertilizers. For his part, Calderon proposed the use of aerobic rice technology in rain-fed upland and idle land areas to optimize the

use of land to increase rice production. He said the technology can also help ease the problem of climate change since idle lands could now be utilized for agricultural uses and also since the technology requires less water. As such, water could be used more productively. The problem of technology policy that

resulted to continuing agricultural stagnation was also cited by Calderon. He also predicted that a more serious rice and food problem could be experienced in the Philippines in the next 14 months considering that there is no continuing effort to increase production in the country. (Butch Gunio)

Greetings from Cezar Araullo of Dishes and Drinks