

LOTIFF JOINS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY "BLITZ BUILD" 2010

Dumaguete City – in line with Lotiff Property Development Corporation's mission of social responsibility, Management, Engineers and staff volunteered last Saturday, March 6, 2010 in an effort to build ten (10) family homes in seven (7) days for hardworking low-income Dumaguete families.

Mr. Louie M. Tijng, General Manager, said, "Habitat for Humanity has a primary objective of providing the opportunity for low-income families to own decent and affordable houses in partnership with the families in need, individual and corporate donors and volunteers from all walks of life. Also, it is important for people of Dumaguete to help each other in any way we can. Our donation is but a small gesture to help our brothers and sisters."

Aside from partnering with Habitat for Humanity, the event gave the company an opportunity to involve their employees in positive team-building activities. The team also enjoyed increased visi-



Lotiff Staff together with the Board of Trustees of the Dumaguete City Habitat for Humanity, Inc. (DCHHI), and House Sponsors. From left: Engr. Jose Quasmbao (Chairperson, DCHHI Board), Oscar Ting (Asst. Manager, Lotiff), Engr. Mikko Lora (Lotiff), Hon. Manuel Chiquiring Sagarbano (House Sponsor), Luella Ting (Manager, Lotiff), Engr. John Laborada (Lotiff), Engr. Marko Cabante (Lotiff), Engr. Gregorio Uyamas, Jr. (Member, DCHHI Board), Arct. Carlos B. Amasula, Jr. (Member, DCHHI Board)

bility in the community and a boost in employee morale. A total of forty-three (43) Engineers and staff participated in the said event.



LOTIFF engineers and office personnel hard at work...



With Habitat's vision of "A world where everyone has a decent place to live", a reality. Volunteers are considered to be its backbone who can sustain and materialize its vision into action. LOTIFF is committed to partnering with other community groups and organizations on initiatives to eliminate poverty housing and transform the lives of families, neighborhoods and communities in the

city. By 2020, Dumaguete City Habitat for Humanity aims to reach a goal of building 2000 family homes.

The culmination program of Blitz Build 2010 was held last March 12, 2010 and was attended by officers and members of the Dumaguete City Habitat for Humanity Inc. headed by Engr. Jose Quasmbao, Chairperson, volunteers from Kwansel Gakuin University under Professor Nobuhiro Imaizumi, sponsors, donors and other volunteers. A brief program was held and the completed houses were blessed and turned over to the respective home partners.



LOTIFF Engineers installing the last piece before turning over the unit. Involved are Engr. Mikko Lora, Engr. John Laborada, Jonathan Uy.



Turn over of house key to the Homepartner. From left: Arct. Carlos Amasula, Jr. (Member, DCHHI Board), Jonathan Uy (Lotiff), Engr. John Laborada (Lotiff), Luella Ting (Manager, Lotiff), Mr. & Mrs. Romeo Viran (Homepartner)

Glitches ... (From page 1)

The Commission on Election has expressed concern that certain problems might mar the country's first ever automated elections noting that there are delays in the printing of ballots, delivery of counting machines, mechanical problems, as well as logistical deficiency.

Among the possible major glitches are:

No justice secretary to man the DOJ; no chief justice of the Supreme Court; no Senate president; no Speaker of the house; no vice president is hiatus enough in case of failure of elections. So ripe for a military take over.

A close margin in the tight Villar-Noyon fight requires a wider margin to declare a winner; only 75% of the voting precincts are electronically connected thus 25% could be susceptible to fraud practices; tight

power supply in Mindanao; less public confidence in the Comelec.

The slow printing of ballots might not produce the 50million official ballots on time; 77,000 ballot boxes are made in Taiwan; these might not reach the hinterlands on time.

However, Provincial Election Supervisor Atty. Eddie Aba remains confident that save on the possibility of delay in the transmission of election results in some remote areas without signal from network providers, the local poll body is within the timetable in its preparations.

He assured that even with the absence of a signal, the results can still be sent to the COMELEC headquarters using BGAN. But in a worst case scenario, the poll body can resort to a procedure, not yet made public for security reasons, to ensure that though delayed the results are known and transmitted within 24 hours after the precincts are closed.

No suspects ... (From page 16)

the hospital but was declared dead on arrival by attending physicians. The suspect Eddie Jabonillo was accompanied by village officials when he submitted himself to the authorities.

Detainees ... (From page 16)

call of nature. However, since the comfort of the city police station was "out of order," the two were escorted to the beach front near the station situated in Sitio Bateria, Barangay Poblacion.

Upon reaching the shoreline, the inmates reportedly took advantage of the pitch darkness, duped their escorts and started running despite orders from the two policemen to halt. Catubo and dela Torre gave chase but claimed that the inmates disappeared inside the mangrove forest. As of this writing, it is still uncertain if the inmates have already been recap

DepEd frowns ... (From page 1)

The Department of Education appealed to politicians particularly those seeking elections on May 10, to at least spare the graduation exercises as venues to promote their candidacies in order not to dilute the significance of the occasion to the graduates and their families.

In fact, DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapuz stressed in a recent memorandum order to all supervisors the need to conduct graduation rites in an "appropriate solemn ceremony befitting the graduating students and their parents and shall not in any way be used as a venue for political forum."

However, there is no guarantee that the education department's request can be granted since the Commission on Elections has not included

6 areas ... (From page 17)

started distributing drought resistance rice seeds to Ayungon, Zamboangita, Tayasan, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan. The government is also planning to distribute shallow tube wells to suction water from rivers and irrigate the parched farmlands.

Banggay added that the provincial DA will intensify its fingerling dispersal, use of organic fertilizers, training of rural based organizations for food processing and proper storage as additional measures against the long dry spell.

Alejandro Rafal of the Department of Agriculture Region 7 does not discount the possibility that the government may resort to cloud seeding to induce rains should the El Niño phenomenon threaten the food security of Central Visayas.

that in the list of prohibited acts among national and local candidates.

Milagros Velez noted that even if politicians are not physically present, their candidacies are still advertised by the scholarships they sponsor, the "awards of excellence" given to top graduates complete with medallions, certificates and cash and even by simply hanging streamers bearing their names and faces greeting the graduates outside the campuses and even inside the venue of the graduation.

Negros Oriental Schools Division Superintendent Dr. Maria Milagros Velez and Provincial Election Supervisor Atty. Eddie Aba agreed that the proposal to prohibit politicians in graduation ceremonies is ideal but conceded that there is no law banning candidates from appearing or speaking during commencement exercises.

Ex-Puhagan ... (From page 17)

Rodolfo Gonzalez Jr. In clearing the respondents, Ombudsman-Visayas Pelagio S. Apostol declared the evidence to be insufficient and ruled that the four officials enjoyed the presumption of regularity in performing their official duties.

Furthermore, Apostol also found it highly suspicious and incredible that the complainants and the so-called witnesses filed the cases only after a period of three years from the time of the alleged offense.

The Ombudsman used the payrolls as the best evidence considered in resolving the cases and ruled that a perusal of the payroll "shows that the

Ocho-Vice ... (From page 1)

First District to aid the Armed Forces of the Philippines in preventing election violence and boost the government's counter-insurgency drive.

Negros Oriental Police Provincial Office Director Sr. Supt. Augusto Marquez Jr. said that the regional policemen will be deployed in the town of La Libertad and the cities of Canlaon and Guihulungan.

Provincial Election Supervisor Atty. Eddie Aba added that the elite cops will help the soldiers in neutralizing partisan armed groups whose presence have been noted by authorities.

Col. Ochotorena has also ordered an intensified monitoring of the activities of the New People's Army after reports indicate that the insurgents have started demanding and collecting Permit to Campaign and Permit to Win from politicians.

Aba said that his office is still assessing the province's peace and order situation leading to the elections and did not discount the possibility that additional troops will be deployed here of the situation "if the situation calls for it.

column of the amount of salary and the column where the laborers-witnesses affixed their signatures to show receipt of salary were side by side. It would be hard not to notice the amount, considering especially that it was specifically the release of the same that they were signing the payroll for. Surely the laborers would notice the amount due them, lack of education and innocence notwithstanding."

Complainants Maria Lea Salvoro, Anastacio Morte, Susana Alcancia, Nazario Tubat and Marlon Tubang, all of whom were incumbent barangay councilors opposed to the then re-electionist Barangay Captain Tuballa, claimed that the payroll padding deprived witnesses Clauria Tinonas, Emelia Laguras, Teotimo Laguras, Serafin Paira, Elesio

Bangalando, Andris Alcoriza, Fredelino Tubanga, Celso Enojo and Cicello Morte a total of P 87, 025.00 in wages.

But the Ombudsman-Visayas did not believe that they failed to notice the discrepancy in the year of 2004 while casting suspicion why they only filed the case in the year 2007 just when the barangay elections were forthcoming.

Tuballa, who was then opposed by Salvoro, lamented that the case was then used to smear his campaign for re-election. Indeed, Tuballa was defeated by Salvoro in a narrow margin of 50 votes amid allegations of massive vote buying and active support of Mayor Gonzalez to Salvoro's bid. The third candidate, Anastacio Morte, also a complainant against Tuballa in this case, ran but placed third in the 3-cornered 2007 Puhagan elections. (By Dems Rey Demecillo)

Church ... (From page 2)

1st district congressional candidates (3) with the governor and vice-governor aspirants. For 3rd congressional district candidates (3) with governors and vice-governors will be on April 13, Tuesday at 7:00PM at Siaton gymnasium. Other candidate's forum schedules are the following: April 16 Friday, 7:00PM, Jimalalud - 1st District Board Members (6) with Mayor & Vice-Mayor candidates; April 20 Tuesday, 7:00PM, Siaton - 3rd District Board Members (5) with Mayor & Vice-Mayor candidates; April 23 Friday, 7:00PM, Dumaguete City - 2nd District Board Members (11); April 27 Tuesday, 7:00PM - Dumaguete City Mayor (5) & Vice-Mayoral (4); April 29 Thursday, 7:00PM - 1st Batch Dumaguete City Councilors (15) and April 30 Friday, 7:00PM - 2nd Batch Dumaguete City Councilors (16)

All these candidates are invited by DEB through the Commission on Elections to make themselves available and take the opportunity to speak on their programs. DEB convenor Rev. Fr. Julius Heruela said the candidates' forum will also provide local residents ample opportunity to know their candidates better and raise the level of consciousness of voters towards a clean, honest, accurate, meaningful and peaceful elections (CHAMP). The DEB is composed of PPCR, Comelec, Namfrel, PIA (Philippine Information Agency), CBCP-NASSA (Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines - National Secretariat for Social Action), and joined recently a people's group in Dumaguete, the AAGOGO (Affirmative Action for Good Governance). The candidates are expected to deliver a five-minute speech about their qualifications/ platform/ program of government after which an open forum will immediately follow through a multi-sectoral panel of reactors. (B Jenny Tilos, PIA)