

**Rains pound Cordillera: 2 killed, 46 flee homes.** Published in Baguio Midland Courier Vol. LXXI, No. 24 issued on June 17, 2018. The article is located at pages 1 and 33. This copy was retrieved from the Cordillera Studies Collection of the University of the Philippines Baguio Library.

## **Rains pound Cordillera; 2 killed, 46 flee homes**

Two individuals perished and two others were injured as non-stop rains battered Northern Luzon forcing 46 other individuals in the Cordillera to flee their homes during the height of the weather disturbances last week.

A collated reported from

the Office of the Civil Defense-Cordillera stated the bodies of the two casualties identified as Patrick Lachica, 23, and Hannah Aragon, 22, were retrieved by rescuers after they were buried alive by a mudslide at a construction site at Sandico

*(Continued on page 33)*

### **RAINS . . .**

*(from page 1)*

Street, Salud Mitra in Baguio on June 13.

Lachica, who just got married on May 26 was the project junior sanitary engineer of a condominium project while Aragon was one of the human resource representatives of the project being implemented by FC Laranang Development Corporation (FCLDC).

FCLDC, the contractor tapped by Mega Tower Condominium to implement its project, has assured assistance to the families of Lachica and Aragon.

The incident prompted the Department of Labor and Employment's to issue of a work stoppage order.

DOLE Regional Director Exequiel Ronie Guzman also urged all safety officers at every construction site of their duty to ensure that all unsafe conditions at worksites are eliminated.

The work stoppage order shall remain in effect until the company has fully complied with the conditions set by DOLE.

Another worker at the construction site, Salvador Opiano, was hurt during the mudslide while another Baguio resident, Joshua Valencia, was rescued after both his legs got struck between steelbars when a mudslide occurred in a residential area at Barangay Loakan.

The Department of Social Welfare Development-Cordillera also reported that nine families with 40 individuals at Purok 24 in Barangay Irisan were evacuated due to an eroded riprap.

The evacuees temporarily stayed at their neighbors and relatives' houses.

In Benguet, a family in Bakun was evacuated to their relatives' homes, while one family with four members also evacuated to their relatives' homes in Kapangan.

A total of five houses were damaged in Baguio City and Benguet.

Other incidents reported were fallen trees at Camp 8, Baguio City near the Baguio General Hospital around 9:30 p.m. on June 13, hitting a taxi. No casualties were reported but the incident caused power outage within the area.

Minor landslides were also reported along the stretch of Kennon Road; Atok-Kapangan-Kibungan-Bakun Road; Benguet-Nueva Vizcaya Road and Asin Road. Clearing operations were immediately conducted in these areas.

Due to the heavy rainfall, classes were suspended in Abra on June 11, 13, and 14, and in some parts of Benguet on June 13 and 14.

As of press time, Kennon Road is closed to ensure the safety of motorists

and travelers from falling debris due to the occasional heavy rains being experienced in the localities since last week. — *Ofeilia C. Empian*