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Clean Air Ordinance Under Fire

BAGUIO CITY – the constitutionality of the city's clean air ordinance is being questioned anew by some sectors in this mountain resort.

This came in the heels of recent news reports branding the city 'most polluted' in terms of air quality in the whole country.

The letter complaint was addressed to Justice Secretary Leila De Lima January 21, 2014 and assigned to Senior Deputy State Prosecutor Richard Anthony Fadullon who endorsed the same to Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Mar Roxas.

DILG Usec Austere Panadero also endorsed the complaint to DILG-CAR Regional Director John Castaneda who also ordered DILG City Director Evelyn Trinidad to investigate and submit their report and recommendations.

The complaint arose from the apprehension of a motorist last year who was flagged by members of the Roadside Inspection and Monitoring Team (RITMT) implementing City Ordinance Number 61 Series of 2008.

The complainant questioned the legality of the Clean Air Ordinance specifically Section 7, test procedures for measurement of exhaust emissions of in-use motor vehicles for gas and diesel fed engines only, LPG fed vehicles are not included.

Assistant City Environment and Parks Management Officer Ruben Cervantes clarified however that as early as October, 2010 the

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"SENGA" - Mayor Mauricio Domogan delivers an ethnic ritual "Senga" during the CAR-Palarong Pambansa Thanksgiving headed by DepEd-CAR regional director Ellen Donato who placed 4th Over-All during the just concluded Palarong Pambansa. The CARAA Team placed 10th Over-all in last year's Palarong Pambansa surpassing their expectations by landing 4th Over-all this year outperforming some 17 regions in the country./By Bong Cayabyab

***Paanong hindi magiging ganun
ka sama ang air quality sa
Central Business District , eh sa
dami ba naman ng mga kolum
na Taxi at mga pinalusot na
iligal na mga Taxi!!!***

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justice in pork row*

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BY: BATAS MAURICIO



*WHEN SOMEONE
CLOSE DIES*

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BY: JESUS DUREZA



PRC Baguio Providing Free Wheelchair to Qualified Beneficiaries

BAGUIO CITY - The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) Baguio Chapter announces provision of free wheelchairs to qualified beneficiaries.

Albert Jose Sumadchat, Service representative from PRC- Baguio, informed during the recent Adolescent Health and Development (AHD) Technical Working Group meeting that the PRC is providing free wheelchair to beneficiaries coming from the low income group.

Interested client or requesting beneficiary shall proceed to PRC Baguio office and fill out PRC request form.

He said that priority shall be given to permanently disabled applicants who are heads of the family with dependents, and grant of wheelchair is important to aid them in their livelihood.

The requesting party shall submit the following documents: Letter of Request addressed to the Secretary General, Certificate of indigency from the barangay, medical certificate recommending the beneficiary's need for wheelchair, case study report from the medical-social services of the hospital/DSWD/PRC Chapter and whole body picture of the person with disability./JDP/MAWC - PIA CAR

who, Cai Clarify Report on Baguio's Air Pollution

BAGUIO CITY - The World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines and the Clean Air Asia clarified last week news reports claiming Baguio City is the most polluted city in the country saying that such news interpretation "has no basis and is not the conclusion of WHO."

In an official position furnished by Engr. Bonifacio Magtibay, technical officer for environmental health of WHO Philippines, a copy of which was obtained by city environment and parks management office (CEPMO), WHO said it is impossible to rank the cities in the Philippines in terms of air quality from their study as it does not include data for all the other cities in the country.

"The objective of the WHO report was not to rank cities but to determine the overall trends in air quality over the time and multiple locations. The WHO report included data from only three cities in the Philippines (Baguio, Manila and Cebu). This was because these were the only cities with data available comparable to data that was collected from other cities in other countries. The report does not include air quality data for all other cities in the Philippines. Therefore it is not possible to rank cities in the Philippines in terms of air quality from this report..." the statement said.

The WHO report on Ambient Air Pollution Study for 2014 covering

Council Resumes Regular Session with new Vice Mayor

BAGUIO CITY - The city council will resume its regular session tomorrow (Monday) with its new presiding officer, Vice Mayor Edison Bilog at the helm.

A total of 91 items were included in the agenda for discussion including the chairmanship of the standing committees rendered vacant by the passing of Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas.

The committees are the ways and means and finance, ethics, governmental affairs and personnel, youth welfare and sports development and the barangay administrative case division III.

The body was supposed to hold its first session sans the deceased vice mayor last Monday but it was called off to give way to the cleaning and sanitizing of the session hall.

Among the items for deliberation are Farinas' proposed resolution asking the Solicitor General to file appropriate cases for the declaration of the nullity of Original Certificates of Title No. 018-0-162 and all of its derivative titles issued by the Register of Deeds covering portions of Busol forest reservation including the filing of appropriate administrative and/or criminal charges against those responsible in the issuance of said titles and his proposed ordinance co-authored with Councilor Fred Bagbagen to amend the ordinance prohibiting job mix activities on major and barangay roads in the city including the placing of cement batching stations.

Also up for discussion are the proposed resolution for the conduct of a comprehensive study on the redevelopment and upgrade of Session Road which is being pushed for approval by the committee on urban planning and another proposed resolution urging the Congress to amend the Indigenous People's Rights Act (IPRA) to provide a stipulation or annotation in the certificates of ancestral land titles (CALTs) within government reservations not classified as alienable to prohibit the sale or transfer of ownership within ten years to give the city government enough time to acquire all portions needed for public portions.

The body will also tackle the Comprehensive Development Plan of the city for calendar year 2013-2017 which was submitted for appropriate action by Mayor Mauricio Domogan./A Refuerzo

1,600 cities across 91 countries was released last May 7 and was reportedly based on the 2010 Clean Air Initiative (CAI) Asia's Report on Air Quality and Trends which indicated that Baguio registered the highest particulate matter PM 2.5 concentration at 49 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/mc) compared to

Cebu and Manila which both had 22 ug/mc.

CAI Asia air quality program manager Maria Katherina Patdu, in an e-mail message to Victoria Ferrer of the city environment and parks management office (CEPMO), said CAI Asia shares the city's concern "on how the WHO report is portrayed by the media."

"From the Clean Air Asia's side, we do not rank cities based only on air pollution levels because this provides an incomplete picture of air quality management within a city. We know that Baguio City has been very active in air quality management and low emissions development work as a partner of

DOST Advises Public to Conserve Water and Electricity with the Onset Of El Niño

BAGUIO CITY - With the country expected to experience El Niño by June, the public is advised to start conservation efforts especially on water and electricity supply.

Dr. Landrico Dalida, Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration (PAGASA) Office of the Deputy Administrator for Operations and Services Officer-in-Charge, in a press conference here last May 8, said that warming of the surface temperature of the Pacific Ocean is already occurring and nearing the 0.5 degrees threshold that would bring the El Niño phenomenon.

"Warming in the Pacific is already starting and by June we will start to feel the effect of El Niño, though base on our forecast it will start to peak by October or November and will continue up to the early part of 2015", Dalida explained.

He bared that along with El Niño, the rainy season will start by late this month or June. The public he said must already practice conservation efforts particularly on water and electricity, so that "we will be prepared when the effect of El Niño peak by the end of this year".

"When there is El Niño, the temperature of the Pacific is warming, so there will be less typhoons that will make landfall, though it will also bring in stronger typhoons and since Northern Luzon is one of the most or frequently visited by tropical cyclones, there is also a need to be prepared for any eventuality", Dalida stressed.

Meantime, Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Assistant Secretary Raymund Liboro, in the same press conference, affirmed that the government has heightened its preparations for the impact of El Niño as well on better weather forecasting.

"We are already monitoring (El Niño) since January and coordination meeting with other stakeholders are already being conducted", Liboro said.

He clarified that the rainy season will still come by end of May or June so water reservoir or dams can still be replenished by rainwater. What we need to be prepared is sufficiency (in water and electricity supply) when El Niño peaks by the later part of the year.

Liboro headed the team of experts in Baguio for the two-day (May 8 and 9) Cordillera-leg of "Iba na ang Panahon - Science for Safer Communities" nationwide IEC (Information, Education and Communication) campaign.

DOST, in partnership with the Department of Interior and Local Government and the Office of Civil Defense started the nationwide campaign last March to help arm local governments prepare for potential hazards in the future. The campaign is designed to help participants, mostly local chief executives and disaster risk reduction and management officers, understand the possible impact of hazards in their respective communities, which is crucial in their formation of local DRRM plans.

Aside from Liboro, presenters during the said IEC activity were Phivoles (Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology) Director Renato Solidum, Disaster Risk Exposure Assessment for Mitigation (DREAM) Project leader for Data Acquisition Component Engr. Czar Jakiri Sarmiento and Project NOAH (Nationalwide Operational Assessment of Hazard) Executive Director Alfredo Mahar Francisco Lagmay./JDP/CCD - PIA CAR

(CAI) in several projects," Patdu said.

The clarifications came as a relief to Mayor Mauricio Domogan who right from the start had suspected that the news reports were a product of wrong interpretations as what transpired in 2001 when Baguio

was again depicted as the most polluted based on wrong premises.

"It is not our intention to suppress the truth. If our city truly topped the pollution ranking, then we accept. But if those figures do not reflect the truth then it's also

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THE JUNCTION

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BLISTT's Role in Clean Air

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan last week further pushed the Baguio-La Trinidad-Itogon-Sablan-Tubaly (BLISTT) advocacy in the wake of the air pollution report of the World Health Organization.

In a recently released 2010 report, the World Health Organization named Baguio as having the “most polluted air” in the Philippines as compared to highly-urbanized cities; Cebu and Manila.

Reacting to the reports, the mayor said the Traffic and Transport Management Committee (TTMC) shall be asked to look at proposed schemes to diffuse air pollution. The pedestrianization of Session road has been suggested a few years back, as with the proposed tramline which runs from Session road to some tourist spots in the outskirts of the city.

A tramline is run by electricity, which is pollution and smoke-free, the mayor said. A study is being done by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) for the project, he added.

The circumferential road, in consonance with the BLISTT projects would also play a part in diverting traffic from the city, Mayor Domogan said.

He mentioned La Trinidad's Ambiong-Shilan, and Beckel-Shilan roads which would skip Baguio's central business district thus lessening traffic and air pollution.

The project is also seen to improve tourism and liveliness in the BLISTT areas, the mayor said. A meeting is set next week for the purpose./juliegfianza

Two Named for Vacant Council Seat

BAGUIO CITY – two prominent names in this mountain resort surfaced to replace the vacancy in the city council spot here.

The Liberal Party (LP) endorsed Mark Go, an LP mayoralty candidate who lost in the 2013 elections and Chairman of the LP in the city.

The LP choice was proclaimed in a surprise press conference Monday (May 12) at the Baguio Palace Hotel after the party's general meeting.

Vice Mayor Edison Billog said, “Go was chosen being the current chairman of the party and unanimously nominated by the members having garnered the most votes during the previous elections.”

“It was the decision of the group to nominate Go for the vacated council slot and we believe that we have basis for our nomination,” he said.

The LP said, “they are guided by the provision of law, the Supreme Court Decision in the Navarro case and precedence where similar situations in the past have been decided in favor of the party of the number 1 Councillor.

Billog pointed to the provision of the Local Government Code stating that only the nominee of the political party under which the Sangunian member concerned had been elected and whose elevation to the position next higher in rank created the last vacancy in the Sangunian shall

be appointed.

“It says clearly that the appointee shall come from the same political party as that of the Sangunian member who caused the vacancy and shall serve the unexpired term of the vacant position,” he stressed.

Also present during the press conference are Councilors Faustino Olowan and Isabelo Cosalan.

Meantime, Congressman Nicasio Aliping, Jr, Mayor Mauricio Domogan and Councillors Roberto Ortega, Betty Lourdes Tabanda, Leandro Yangot, Jr., Elmer Datuin, Richard Carino, Joel Alangsab, Elaine Sembrano, Fred Bagbagen and Michael Lawana recommended in a resolution May 5 Lilia Farinas, widow of the late Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas to fill up the vacancy.

The resolution states, “it would be roughshod to the principle of checks and balances if the appointee to the vacant position in the sangunian come from the same political party where Councillor Billog belongs.”

Yangot is a senior member of the LP while Aliping joined the party recently and is considered the highest elected official of the party interpreted by some as the current party chairman.

Majority of the Association of Barangay Captains (ABC) also endorsed Lilia Farinas for the vacant post.

Domogan said, “he has nothing against the local LP or Mark Go but they have

Cordillera is MERS – COV-free, DOH Assures

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Health Cordillera Regional Office (DOH – CAR) assures the public that there is no cause for alarm as there is no MERS – COV (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus) positive case monitored in the region.

DOH – CAR Regional Director Valeriano Jesus Lopez, in an interview, affirmed that so far the only case recorded in the country is that of a male nurse who was intercepted in Manila. He reportedly acquired the virus in United Arab Emirates but the two test conducted to him yielded negative results.

“Wala pang nakakapasok except yung male nurse sa Manila na na-intercept naman natin. Wala pa sa Pilipinas actually, wala pa rin sa Cordillera,” Lopez said.

Based on DOH-CAR data, there were six Cordillera overseas workers were among the passengers of Etihad Airways Flight No. EY 0424 bearing the nurse, but after tracking and nose and swab testing, they also yielded negative results.

There were six that came from UAE, along with the intercepted male nurse and what we did is we tracked them all to ensure that there were no transmission that happened inside the flight. Our campaign here is to ensure that no positive MERS – COV case will enter the country, Lopez added.

The MERS-COV is basically a respiratory tract infection caused by a Corona virus and it has flu-like manifestation which include fever, cough and colds. Some patients also experience pneumonia, gastrointestinal problem like diarrhea and even kidney failure.

Lopez explained that the symptoms MERS-COV are similar to an ordinary flu, however, it can be fatal if not monitored and left without health interventions. He said that close contact to a positive carrier of MERS COV can cause infection. He further emphasized that symptoms will manifest 14 days after exposure to a positive case.

Lopez advises people who are coming from countries with MERS-COV exposure to immediately submit themselves to the health department or to the nearest hospital for nose-and-throat swab test. /JDP/ CCD/Reynavi Marquez and Alyssa Gines – PIA Intern

considered the sentiments of the family of the late Vice Mayor Farinas and in order to uphold the best interest of the electorate.”

“Mrs. Farinas signified her interest to replace her husband not as a Vice Mayor but a city councillor and we are in full support,” he said.

Domogan added, “Mrs. Farinas is competent to continue and carry out the programs for public welfare initiated by her late husband, she being the incumbent punong barangay of Upper Quezon Hill.”

Farinas was the Chairman of the Nacionalista Party in the city during his term./paul rillorta



Coffee Talk – Participants of the Regional Coffee Branding Design Workshop discusses the weak and strong points of each coffee product presented during their encounter with Japanese Consultant Yoritoshi Yoshida and interpreter Yumi shown in photo standing. Photo by Art Tibaldo

Air Quality Improvement Sought

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan during the media Ugnayan last

week presented “do-able” solutions to the negative air pollution reports ascribed to the city, due to earlier reports from the World Health Organization (WHO).

The mayor rued the report which tagged the city as having the “most polluted air in the country,” compared to Manila and Cebu cities, despite assessment done only at the foot of Session Road. The air quality at the city's main thoroughfare, could not possibly represent all areas of Baguio, the mayor said.

Mayor Domogan said steps being taken by the city to lessen air pollution such as: the anti smoke-belching ordinance, prohibition of (garbage) burning, tree-planting activities, support to the phasing-out of old vehicles, and the anti-smoking ordinance.

The anti-smoke belching campaign includes the random checking of vehicles' exhaust with a portable testing machine by the Roadside Testing and Monitoring Team (RTMT) under the City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO). Proper vehicle maintenance is recommended, another smoke-belching test is done, and if the exhaust is deemed clean, a clearance is given after fees are paid at the city treasurer's office.

According to the mayor, statistics from the RTMT office show that since 2009, fewer vehicles fail the tests, as reported during the regular Alay Sa Kalinisan (ASK) meetings.

The prohibition of garbage-burning advocates the reduction of garbage through re-use and recycling of items, while biodegradables are turned into organic fertilizer. Re-use and recycling of garbage is encouraged in government and non-government organizations, it was known.

Non-biodegradable or residual garbage however pose a problem as it is hauled off to Urdaneta, Pangasinan's Sanitary Landfill, the mayor said. He admitted that cost for garbage hauling is “heavily subsidized” by the city. He however assured the public that the waste disposal system is properly addressed.

Old vehicles with excessive exhaust which are due for phase-out should also be of concern, the mayor said.

The no-smoking ordinance is enforced in the city, with a full campaign being waged against advertisers in the barangays; as reported by Dr. Donnabelle Tubera in the regular ASK meeting. This should further decrease air pollution in the city, the mayor said.

Tree-planting activities are being done in the city's available spaces, in consonance with the National Greening Program and Baguio's felt need for reforestation, the mayor added. Studies have proven that foliage decrease the concentration of Carbon Dioxide and Monoxide, while it releases Oxygen for human and animal absorption.

The suggested “pedestrianization” of Session Road is also revived, where the said street would be declared “vehicle-less,” the mayor said. A move was initiated in early 2009, but was put off by business people along the main road, who said there would be problems in “cleanliness, sewerage, security, and safety once it is implemented. It was envisioned that a “carless” Session road would be filled with promenaders, with coffee table and chairs, in green areas interspersed with ornamental flowers./juliegfianza

Shattered thresholds

The Philippines is grappling with a sea level rise that's triple the global average, experts said at the 11th International Weather and Climate Forum in Paris. Average sea levels here rose 60 centimeters, wrote Liza Cruz of News 5. The global average, since 1900, has peaked at 19 centimeters.

Key glaciers in West Antarctica, meanwhile, are in "irreversible retreat," reports a US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) study. Warming ocean water is eroding the glaciers' fronts and sea bed in a "runaway process." That'd result in a four-foot (1.2-meter) global sea level rise.

"A threshold had been crossed," notes Dr. Tom Wagner of Nasa. The results were not crunched out by computer simulations or numerical models. They are based on interpretation of observations. "This is important. Sometimes it can get lost on the general public when they're trying to understand climate change and implications."

These will impact the Philippines, warns Dr. Wendy Clavano of Environmental Science for Social Change. Using a vulnerability index that factors in erosion rates to wave lengths, Clavano foresees that rising sea levels will be highest along the Pacific seaboard. That slices from Samar to eastern Mindanao, the Zamboangas, plus the provinces of Romblon and Marinduque in the Sibuyan Sea.

Very high risk areas include the coasts of La Union and Pangasinan, fronting Lingayen Gulf, Lamun Bay in Quezon and Camarines Norte, and Camotes Sea off western Leyte. Also threatened are northern Bohol and northeastern Cebu, Guimaras Strait, along northwestern Negros Occidental, plus Cuyo in the central Sulu Sea and Iligan Bay that abuts Misamis Occidental. Add to that northern Zamboanga del Norte, and Bislig Bay, Surigao del Sur.

Rising sea levels clamp a hefty economic bill. By 2100, the mean cost of climate change for Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam could be equivalent to losing 6.7 percent of combined GDP each year, says the Asian Development Bank. "That's more than twice the global average loss."

"The things happening to my country and to other [nations] are not in the norm," President Aquino said in an interview with Development Asia, an ADB publication. "Increasingly powerful storms seem to be the new norm." "Building back better" ranges from empowering local governments to be the "first responders" as the national government seeks to reinforce its emergency capacity, so when—not if—the next disaster strikes, it should find a resilient nation.

The continued melting of the West Antarctica ice sheet, however, appears unstoppable, caution two scientific papers published on May 5 by the journals *Science* and *Geophysical Research Letters*.

The University of Washington's Ian Joughin wrote one of the reports. Using computer models and measurements of ice flow in the Thwaites glacier, the team concludes: Even if the warmer oceans, now eroding the ice, dissipate, it'd be "too little, too late... There's no stabilization mechanism."

The melting of the ice has "passed the point of no return," says Eric Rignot, a glaciologist at the University of California, Irvine, in the other study. There are no mountains to slow down the retreat.

"The only thing more frightening than what science learned about climate change is the unanticipated consequences that we have yet to learn," the *New York Times* noted in publishing the two reports.

Both studies fulfill a 1978 prediction by John Mercer of Ohio State University that "rapid human-driven release of greenhouse gases" would wreck the West Antarctica ice sheet. Many scoffed at Mercer then. "But in recent years, scientists confirm that events unfolded in ways Mercer predicted." He died in 1987, spared the pain of seeing his nightmares come true.

Pennsylvania State University's Richard Alley, who was not involved in the two studies, found them "compelling." He had long kept a wary eye on changes affecting the Greenland ice sheet. "It shook me a little bit," he said. There is potentially enough sea level rise that "many of the world's coastal cities would have to be abandoned."

Sea level rise is a "major force" against which countries like the Philippines can do little, said Michael Williams of the World Meteorological Organization. But "there's a lot to be done with disaster risk prevention, alert systems."

Buckle up for continuing risks, added Jean-Pascal van Ypersele, vice chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. "Drastically change the way structures are built in coastal areas that resist better in very high winds, very strong rain. That increases resilience."

Are the traditional bahay kubo, with nipa roofs and sawali walls, obsolete? Or will more just be flattened when the next stronger typhoons lash? Read the journal *Nature* Thursday. It published a new study by three Massachusetts Institute of Technology professors.

Kerry Emmanuel, James Kossin and Gabriel Vecchi say that tropical storms, between 1982 and 2012, surged poleward: three miles per decade in the Northern Hemisphere and 38 miles per decade in the Southern Hemisphere.

The tropics now sprawl over a larger area. That jacks up ingredients required for hurricanes to flourish. "The latitudes at which these storms reach maximum intensity seems to be increasing over time. This poleward jog is the first 'robust' signal that the buildup of greenhouse gases from human activity is influencing tropical storms," the authors add. "The trend is statistically significant at a pretty high level."

Shattered thresholds from rising seas deserve greater attention. Too many here are hyperventilating over the three (or four?) versions of Janet Lim Napoles' testimony on the pork scam. E-mail: juanlmercado@gmail.com



ADVOCACY MINDANOW

WHEN SOMEONE CLOSE DIES

BY: JESUS DUREZA



When someone close to you dies, what's the meaning of "dying". Or what is the meaning of "living" for that matter?

I pondered deep about this when Atty. Charlemagne Aldevera, 64, a close buddy and family member (husband of my sister Bingay) suddenly passed away around Sunday midnight from what we laymen usually refer to as "heart attack". Doctors have some technical jargon for this. But it's something that comes stealthily like a thief in the night and without warning. Charlie ("Paging" to intimates) was in his usual bantering self before nightfall and before heading home for an early rest at their Dona Luisa Subdivision house. Late that same afternoon, he was a "miron" (bystander) in the "tong-its" card games at the Matina golf clubhouse cracking his usual jokes and was laughing with the "boys" so heartily that when he left unnoticed, the boisterous laughter just died down — also unnoticed. Unknown to his usual golf buddies, he quietly headed back to the Davao tennis clubhouse (his early passion being tennis) and again joined in the fun with his tennis buddies who have not seen him for a long time and some surprised that he unexpectedly showed up. Close to midnight, Bingay woke up seeing all house lights switched on and saw Charlie sprawled on the floor. He was not revived at all and I got a call early dawn (I was in Manila then) getting the sad news from my sisters Bingay and Doc Marj Culas. I was not surprised Mayor Rody Duterte was also on the telephone line asking me where I was. Charlie was his bosom friend of many years and closest confidante. He even later told mourners that he was prepared to let go of a long-kept secret: that Charlie was the only person he shared his deepest thoughts and sought confidential advice "on all matters" and for a long time. "He had no other interest paramount but mine alone and I trusted his instincts", Mayor Rody confessed. "Now this," with his spread hands in submissive helplessness and acceptance.

A husband and wife, in simple attire and in slippers approached me at the wake and said they came all the way from Midsayap, North Cotabato when they heard that Charlie died. "Dakog tabang si attorney sa amo" ("Attorney helped us a lot"). And they did not even bother explain what it was all about. They approached Bingay and whispered. Then they just shook my hand and quietly said a prayer and left. There were many similar stories and expressions during the wake. I am sure these are the same scenarios in every funeral wake that we attend with other departed friends and family members.

But what I am pondering about, as I said at the outset as I write this, is not totally about Charlie. His passing just woke up a few thoughts. Yes, he was a good man for those who knew him well. He always had that sunny disposition. I remember one of his last comments about so many carping and complaining about "init kaayo" (so hot) due to the brownouts. He simply said: "Okay lang. Mas init sa impyerno siguro." (it's okay. But it's probably hotter in hell.)

But then I asked myself: Does one have to die first for many to know how good one was? Why does a simple act of kindness or generosity remembered during wakes? In fact, why do such simple human acts, expected of everyone, turning out as exemplary deeds? Have our human standards of goodness all gone so low that ordinary, day to day ways and simple acts, have been regarded as outstanding and worth remembering? That brings me to a question many asked when suddenly the late DILG Sec. Jesse Robredo died: "why do we extol a public official like him for doing what is expected of every public official in the first place? Is being good or simple so rare nowadays that the ordinary becomes legend?"

NCCA Emphasizes Recognition of IP's Intellectual Property Rights

BAGUIO CITY - Among the Cordillera region's contribution to the nation is its distinct indigenous culture. So it is but only a necessity to recognize and protect the intellectual property rights that come with it.

Atty. Rose Beatrix Cruz-Angeles of the legal counsel of the National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA), at a press conference during the 5th Tam-Awan International Arts Festival held in this city, stressed the importance of securing the consent of concerned community when it comes to cultural performances. This is in address to the issue on misrepresentation of cultural dances on events that are held in academic institutions, media, talent competitions, and beauty pageants.

Angeles pointed out that Republic Act No. 10066 or the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009 covers the issue. The law exists for the recognition and protection of intangible heritage of cultural communities.

She contextualized the issue through the 'Golden Rule' by saying that performers who seek protection of their own artistic rights must also consider protecting the intellectual property "of the community from whom you derived your inspiration". Her advice is to strike a balance between the cultural performances' sanctity and artistic freedom.

She stated NCCA's zero support for performances that did not seek prior consent from the concerned community, saying "A cultural dance performed by a group outside the community merely for entertainment renders the dance meaningless."

Anyone, then, who wishes to do a cultural performance can coordinate with the NCCA in order to secure community consent./JDP/Przyce Quintos, PIA CAR

DA Promotes 'Bantay Peste' to Monitor Pests and Diseases

BAGUIO CITY -The Department of Agriculture (DA)-Cordillera through its program Integrated Pest Management (IPM) has embarked on "Bantay Peste", where farmers are asked to carry out their task in preventing pest damage and reduce its impact on their produce.

Marilyn Sta. Catalina, DA regional executive director, explained that the "Bantay Peste", is pest and disease surveillance, and that there should be regular monitoring on the population dynamics of pest so that farmers will be advised on the proper action to be undertaken.

A group of about 20 farmers under the Bantay Peste Volunteer Brigade Field School shall monitor and observe their respective area and record their observations in a data checklist form which will be evaluated by the agricultural technicians, according to Sta. Catalina.

The data gathered, she said will be processed and assessed in order to make necessary measures to address the problem.

That is why our partner, the local government units (LGUs) play an important role in preparing regular and timely reports which indicate the presence or absence of pest. The LGU will prepare regular monthly reports on evolving pest and disease situation, she said.

To systematize reporting, the DA will standardize presentation of pest and surveillance monthly reports. Color coding schemes will be used to indicate status of pest and disease in the field.

Yellow color indicates that the pest or disease monitored should be closely observed, and that there is a warning. Green is for pest or disease which is negligible or does not have major effect in the crop. Red color indicates outbreak of pest or disease./JDP/JBZ-PIA CAR

UP Baguio to Conduct Free Seminar on Literature Teaching

BAGUIO CITY - The University of the Philippines Baguio College of Arts and Communication, through the Department of Language, Literature and the Arts and the Talastasan Lecture Series Committee, in cooperation with the University of Santo Tomas Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies, is holding a seminar on literature teaching on May 21-22, 2014 at the CSS-AVR, University of the Philippines Baguio.

Ten published writers/literature professors from the University of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila University, and University of Santo Tomas are slated to give lectures on the two-day event.

Dr. Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo of UP Diliman will give a lecture on teaching creative non-fiction; Don Carlos Palanca Awards for Literature recipient Dr. Rebecca T. Añonuevo on teaching children's literature, and Prof. Ralph Semino Galán of UST on teaching lyric poetry. Dr. Augusto Antonio Aguila shall talk about teaching fiction while Playwright Chuckberry Pascual will tackle teaching drama.

Dr. Michael M. Coroza's talk on teaching Philippine literature in Filipino will be followed by Prof. Ferdinand M. Lopez of UST, whose talk is on teaching Philippine literature in English.

The topics teaching Asian American literature and Southeast Asian literature will be handled by Dr. Oscar V. Campomanes of ADMU and Jaymee Siao of UST, respectively.

Rounding up the series of lectures is UST Publishing House deputy director Dr. John Jack G. Wigley whose talk is on teaching film and literature.

The seminar is free of charge and certificates of participation will be given to all participants. Those wishing to participate may coordinate with Prof. Junley Lazaga of UPB through email via junleylazaga@gmail.com or telefax (074) 4448393./JDP/Przyce Quintos, PIA CAR

Health Official Reiterates Sustained Drive on HIV/AIDS

BONTOC, Mountain Province - Health officials here reiterated a sustained efforts on creating awareness on the dreaded HIV/AIDS (Human Immune Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) to prevent the fatal disease from further spreading.

Provincial HIV-AIDS-STI Program Coordinator Dolores Te-elan stressed the need for continuous information drives on the issue of HIV/AIDS citing report from Department of Health (DOH) which showed the fast increasing number of HIV/AIDS cases in the country and in the region.

DOH HIV and AIDS Registry showed that there are 1,432 total cases recorded during the first quarter of the year nationwide, the highest number

recorded by the registry since 1984.

The DOH had recorded 17,450 HIV cases including 1,599 AIDS since HIV/AIDS registry started in 1984. There were already 950 deaths from the disease.

Provincial Health Office available data also show that the Cordillera region has recorded 92 HIV and AIDS cases from 1984 to April 2013 with the years 2011 and 2012 recording the highest number of cases.

Citing report that sexual contact accounts most of the cases, Te-elan advised the practice of healthy style which is maintaining only one or being 'faithful to one's partner.'

HIV/AIDS could also be transmitted through blood transfusion, mother to child and using intravenous drugs.

NCCA to Document, Preserve and Promote Benguet Cultural Heritage

BAGUIO CITY - The cultural heritage of Benguet province is up for government support as the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) is set to document and to help preserve such historical icons for the future generations.

NCCA Sub-commission for Cultural Heritage Chairman Fr. Harold Rentoria, in an interview, during the 5th Tam-awan (village) International Arts Festival here, disclosed that under the Taoid Heritage Program they are set to conduct cultural mapping in Benguet to help preserve the cultural heritage of the province and at the same time promote the welfare of Benguet artists.

Preserving national heritage is the primary mandate of NCCA through Republic Act 10066 or the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009.

"We are set to identify cultural icons in Benguet and then we will craft cultural development plan to help preserve it," Rentoria stressed.

Rentoria also disclosed that they are tying-up with the Department of Tourism (DOT) for the preservation of Benguet cultural heritage and in promoting Benguet artists and artworks.

"Through a partnership with DOT, we aim to promote to tourists, local and foreign alike, where they can find identified cultural heritage and artworks as it shows the identity of us, Filipinos", Rentoria added.

For the 5th consecutive year in celebration of National Heritage Month, the NCCA in partnership with Chanum Foundation Inc. held the Tam-awan International Arts Festival 2014 at the Tam-awan Village, an artists' haven here from May 7 to 11.

This year's TIAF has the theme, "Cordillera Stories: Rituals and Beliefs".

Aside from culture and art demonstration, there were also presentations of various cultural rituals from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao and classroom talks from known speakers, such as United States Embassy Cultural Affairs Officer, Kristin Kneeder who talked on US-Filipino ties on "Heritage Conservation Projects in the Philippines," and South African Ambassador Agnes Nyamande-Pitso who shared her country's "Rituals and Beliefs"./JDP/CCD - PIA CAR

Meanwhile, Te-

elan said the province is joining the observance of the 2014 International AIDS Candlelight Memorial (IACM) on May 18 with the theme "Let's Keep the Light on HIV." She said the province' activities in support of the affair include the display of banner in conspicuous areas announcing the event, conduct of HIV education/session in some colleges and in radio stations in the

province.

Te-elan said this year's IACM observance theme will drum up the urgent need to sustain the HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support efforts from all stakeholders including policy makers.

It also calls for more programs to reduce stigma as well as ensure access to treatment of those infected with the disease./JDP/ABD-PIA CAR, Mountain Province

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Obstruction of justice in pork row

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "...I will make mere youths their officials; children will rule over them... Youths oppress my people, women rule over them. My people, your guides lead you astray; they turn you from the path'... (Isaiah 3:4, 12, the Holy Bible).

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OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE IN PORK ROW: The facts, gathered from media reports: as early May 2013, the digital files of Benhur Luy containing the names of 25 senators (15 incumbent and 10 no longer active), and 100 or so congressmen, and the other public officials alleged to have participated in the P10 billion pork barrel scam had already been submitted to the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and presumably even to President Aquino.

Then, the same digital files were also submitted to Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales, in the course of the preliminary investigation of the scam. However, for reasons known only to them, it would appear that the NBI, the DOJ, President Aquino, and the Ombudsman chose to focus their attention only on three senators and around five congressmen in their proceedings, totally preventing the prosecution of the other senators and congressmen named therein.

Now, here is the law: Presidential Decree 1829, or the act "Penalizing the Obstruction of Apprehension and Prosecution of Criminal Offenders", Section 1 of which says: "The penalty of prision correccional in its maximum period, or a fine ranging from 1,000 to 6,000 pesos, or both, shall be imposed upon any person who knowingly or willfully obstructs, impedes, frustrates or delays the apprehension of suspects and the investigation and prosecution of criminal cases..."

-000-

WHY WERE OTHER SENATORS NOT PROSECUTED? Prision correccional is a penalty of imprisonment which, under the Revised Penal Code, carries a maximum detention of 12 years. In addition, PD 1829, a decree issued by then former President Marcos in 1981, also imposes this punishment: "If any of the foregoing acts is committed by a public official or employee, he shall in addition to the penalties provided thereunder, suffer perpetual disqualification from holding public office..."

Specifically, Section 1 (b) of PD 1829 defines "obstruction justice" this way: "... altering, destroying, suppressing or concealing any paper, record, document, or object, with intent to impair its verity, authenticity, legibility, availability, or admissibility as evidence in any investigation of or official proceedings in, criminal cases, or to be used in the investigation of, or official proceedings in, criminal cases..."

I am bringing these matters out here, so the people can judge by themselves: was there an obstruction of justice by the President, Secretary De Lima, by the NBI and by Ombudsman Morales, in not prosecuting the 22 other senators and 100 or so other congressmen who were named in the Benhur Luy files which, it appears now, was part of the evidence submitted in the P10 billion pork barrel scam as early as 2013?

-000-

BETRAYAL OF PUBLIC TRUST? And, does this not constitute "betrayal of public trust" on the part of President Aquino under the 1987 Constitution—the so-called Cory Aquino Constitution because it was enacted during the presidency of his own mother? I mean, if the present President Aquino had been in possession of the Benhur Luy files as early as 2013 but chose to remain silent about it, did he not violate his duty to prosecute crimes or expose them at the very least?

-000-

2016 IS ROOT OF PORK PROBE: This is the reason
Cont. on page

Hingyon LGU Regulates use Of Government Vehicles

HINGYON, Ifugao - The local government unit (LGU) here recently issued guidelines and policies regulating the use of municipal government vehicles.

This is pursuant to the Hingyon vehicle ordinance approved Mayor Geraldo Luglug.

Councilor James Banawol, author of the ordinance, stated that this is to ensure the care, maintenance and utilization of all the municipal vehicles and adherence by officials and employees to existing government regulations pertaining to government equipments.

Under the ordinance, all municipal vehicles shall be parked in a covered garage within the municipal hall in good condition when not in use except those vehicles used by municipal officials or employees who by nature of their work may bring the vehicle to their official residence.

An official or employee will be liable for any damage arising from negligence or unlawful use of municipal vehicles and repair shall be entrusted only to licensed mechanic and shops. All LGU vehicles should also bear a red plate and the logo of the municipality and the word "for official use only".

It shall be unlawful for any person to use municipal vehicles for personal or family use; political campaign; practice driving; to carry cadaver and used by unauthorized personnel or private a person.

Any official/employee found guilty of violating the ordinance shall be penalized with a fine of P1,000 for first offense; second offense - P1,500; third offense - P2,000 and P2,500 for succeeding offenses while reprimand or lay-off for drivers hired on temporary basis.

All fines will be accrued to a special trust fund to be used for repair and maintenance, gas, oil and lubricants of the ambulance./JDP/MBL, PIA CAR, Ifugao

JHMC-BSU Collaborate to Save the Benguet Pine Trees

BAGUIO CITY - The John Hay Management Corporation (JHMC) and the Benguet State University (BSU) have collaborated to further study the condition of the Benguet pine trees inside the former American military base here.

Dr. Jamie Eloise M. Agbayani, president and chief executive officer of Camp John Hay., disclosed during the weekly Kapihan forum, that they have asked the help and expertise of BSU to stop the further pest infestation and save the full-grown healthy Benguet pine trees.

Foresters of JHMC led by Alberto Banatao discovered that pine trees in the John Hay Reservation Area are infected caused by the bark

beetles which attack the pine tree bark leading to the death of the tree.

The JHMC-BSU team found at least six species of bark beetles that threaten healthy pine trees in the forest reservation. These are *Ips Grandicollis*, *Ips Calligraphus*, *Dendroctonus Terebrans*, *Dendroctonus* and another specie still to be identified.

The bugs are described to have strong claws that can inflict harm resulting to the death of the tree.

In order to combat the pest, the tandem of JHMC and BSU foresters applied chemicals and other solutions to prevent the further infestation of the trees.

The John Hay forest reservation is the 'lungs of the city'. It comprises 52 percent of the forest covers of Baguio and is also a source of reserve water, Agbayani said./JDP/JBZ- PIA CAR

Search for Red Orchid Award on

BAGUIO CITY - Five local government units (LGU), two government offices and 13 government hospitals are nominees for this year's Cordillera regional search for Red Orchid Award of the Department of Health (DOH).

The five LGU contenders are Baguio City, the municipality of Sablan in Benguet, and Hungduan, Lamut and Mayoyao in Ifugao.

The two government offices are the Commission on Population - Cordillera and the Provincial Health Office-Benguet.

The 13 government hospitals are the following: the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center; Mayoyao District Hospital, Panopdopan District Hospital, Aguineldo Peoples Hospital, Hungduan Municipal Hospital and Potia District Hospital in Ifugao; Far North Luzon General Hospital and Training Center and Conner District Hospital in Apayao; Kapangan Medical and Community Hospital, Dennis Molintas Memorial Hospital, Atok Memorial Hospital, Abatan Emergency Hospital in Benguet and Barlig District Hospital in Mountain Province.

The DOH recognizes local government units, government offices and hospitals implementing 100% tobacco-free environments through the DOH Red Orchid Awards, assistant regional director Dr. Amelita Panglinan said.

Now on its fifth year, the Red Orchid Awards is the first of its kind in the world in giving out recognition to cities, municipalities, government offices and health facilities that are strictly enforcing tobacco control measures.

Panglinan urged local government officials and tobacco control advocates to work together in convincing and compelling local legislators to put more premium on health concerns.

The laws and policies to effect smoke free public places for the protection of the public from exposure to second hand smoke is one of the four main strategies to reverse the tobacco epidemic.

The other three are: ban on advertising, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products; putting graphic health warnings on cigarette packs to encourage smokers to quit; and taxation to increase the price of tobacco products./JDP/JBZ- PIA CAR

Veterans Seek Additional Burial Benefits, Spouse's Burial Assistance

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - With death inevitable especially as they are in their twilight years, surviving World War II veterans are seeking for an increase in their burial benefits and burial assistance to the spouses of veterans.

To formalize their claim, the Veterans Federation of the Philippines CAR-Benguet Chapter crafted twin resolutions numbered 4 and 5 series 2014 requesting the provincial government to increase the burial assistance for World War II veterans from P10,000.00 to P15,000.00, and provide burial assistance of P5,000 to the widows and wives of veterans.

One of the reasons they are seeking for increase for burial assistance is due to the increasing prices of goods nowadays.

For the burial assistance for the spouses, they stated that that many veterans have already died and would not avail of the additional burial assistance. They find fitting that their spouses be extended assistance as well.

The twin measures were referred to the Benguet provincial board's Senior Citizens and Veterans Committee./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
BRANCH 4

FAMILY COURT OF
BAGUIO CITY
IN RE: THE MAT-
TER OF THE ADOPT-
TION OF
MINOR ELLA ROSE
MAE L. ACOSTA

SPS. OSCAR B. SAN
JUAN &
ROSALINDA A.
SAN JUAN,

Petitioners,

SP. PROC. CASE
NO. 439-A

-versus-

SPS. NARCIS V.
ACOSTA &
EMILALUQUE-
ACOSTA & LOCAL
CIVIL REGISTRAR,
Respondents.

x—————x

ORDER

The petitioners, Sps. Oscar B. San Juan and Rosalinda A. San Juan, filed this verified petition praying for the Honorable Court to declare Ella Rose Mae L. Acosta as their adopted child and to change the middle name of Ella Rose Mae to "ACOSTA" and her surname to "SAN JUAN".

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the same be heard before the Regional Trial Court, Branch 4, Baguio City on August 4, 2014 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning, at which place, date and time, the petitioners shall

prove their case. Any person interested may appear and show cause, if any there be, why the petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order be published at the expense of the petitioners at The Junction Newspaper, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks not later than May 18, 2014.

The petitioners are directed to make an appointment with the assigned Court Social Worker for the conduct of the required case studies on the child Ella Rose Mae L. Acosta and the petitioners. The Court Social Worker is required to submit to the Court the case study reports not later than June 5, 2014.

The Judicial Affidavits of the Petitioners and their witnesses together with their exhibits are due for submission not later than July 11, 2014.

Furnish copies hereof together with a copy of the Petition and its annexes, to the Office of the Solicitor General, the Office of the City Prosecutor of Baguio, the Court Social Worker of the Regional Trial Court in Baguio City, the petitioners through counsel and the respondents.

SO ORDERED.
DONE IN CHAMBERS, this 2nd day of May, 2014, at Baguio City, Philippines.

By (SGD) MIA JOY
C. OALLARES-
CAWED
Presiding Judge

Publication dates: May
10, 17 and 24, 2014

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT, BRANCH 9
(FAMILY COURT
FOR BENGUET)
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
La Trinidad,
Benguet

IN THE MATTER OF
CHANGE OF
FAMILY NAME,
STATUS, AND
CORRECTION OF
ENTRIES IN THE
CERTIFICATE OF
LIVE BIRTH OF
MINOR CHRISTIAN
LANGBIS
REYMUNDO AS-
SISTED BY HER
MOTHER, VIRGINIA
VICENTE LANGBIS,
Petitioner,

SPECIAL PRO-
CEEDING CASE NO.
14-C-1806

-versus-

ANTHONY
VILLARY
REYMUNDO, LO-
CAL
CIVIL REGISTRAR
OF LA TRINIDAD,
BENGUET PROV-
INCE.

Respondents.

x—————x

ORDER

Petitioner, through counsel, filed this verified petition praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, the court orders the Local Civil Registrar of La Trinidad, Benguet to correct the following in the birth certificate of Christian Langbis Reymundo as follows:
Family Name: from REYMUNDO to LANGBIS
Middle Name:

2013 by President Aquino brought a new hope for (the village)," noted the festival brochure.

"By coming up with this festival, we hope to help re-focus the interest of both national and international tourists that the original "Woodcarving Village" are the communities of Asin Road," said Grace Gano, one of the organizers.

She said no less than national artist Bencab (Benedicto Cabrera) who has established an art museum along Asin Rd. will serve as sponsor of the centerpiece woodcarving competition.

Also coming in as supporters are the Baguio

from LANGBIS to VICENTE

Date and place of Marriage of Parents: DELETE the entries as there was no marriage that took place and declaring minor child as an Illegitimate Child.

Petitioner also prays that the name of the Father and all entries pertaining to him be deleted.

WHEREFORE, finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the court sets it for hear on August 20, 2014 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning before the Session Hall of this Court, Benguet Provincial Capitol, La Trinidad, Benguet and all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any, why this petition should not be granted.

Let this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner in the Junction Newspaper, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province, once a week, for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than May 18, 2014.

Furnish copies hereof together with a copy of the petition and its annexes to the Office of the Solicitor General, Makati City; the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Local Civil Registrar of La Trinidad, Benguet; the Junction Newspaper; the petitioner and counsel.

SO ORDERED.

This 15th day of May
2014 at La Trinidad,
Benguet.

By: (SGD) FRANCIS A.
BULIYAT Sr.
Presiding Judge

Publication dates:
May 17, 24 and 31,
2014

DOST, Partners Call for Stronger Ties in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation

BAGUIO CITY - As each region, province, city or municipality has distinct landscape and vulnerability, forging stronger ties between the national government and local government units is the best disaster risk reduction strategy for the country.

Department of Science and Technology Secretary Mario Montejo pointed out in his message read by DOST Assistant Secretary Raymund Liboro during the Baguio leg of "Iba na ang Panahon - Science for Safer Communities" IEC (Information, Education and Communication) nationwide campaign being undertaken in partnership with the Department of Interior and Local Government and the Office of Civil Defense.

Science can be an effective tool to better understand and improve the country's planning preparations at the national and local community levels, Montejo stated. That is why they are going around the country, engaging local stakeholders in every region for information sharing and conducting solution-seeking workshops that aim to ensure safer and disaster-resilient communities.

He shared that learning from the lessons of typhoon Yolanda, the DOST came-up with a 4-point Agenda to guide community disaster preparedness with its IEC campaign anchored on increasing local knowledge; capacitating hazards monitoring; testing of warning and communications protocol, and building response capability in communities.

Montejo enjoined the participants to also give their commitment for an alliance so that altogether they could come out with a better disaster planning hinged on accountability and responsibility for the benefit of the people of Cordillera.

Meantime, Department of Interior and Local Government Regional Director John Castaneda and OCD Regional Director Andrew Alex Uy, in their respective messages, enjoined Cordillera local chief executives and DRRM stakeholders for a stronger synergy and cooperation in strengthening their local disaster plans and response strategies and capabilities.

The two-day IEC activity on May 8 and 9 was participated by around 300 local chief executives and disaster risk reduction management officers from the different provinces, cities and municipalities in Cordillera.

The participants were given an overview of local geological and hydrometeorological hazards and the corresponding existing government warning systems presented by Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology Director Renato Solidum and Landrico Dalida of Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration, respectively.

Engr. Czar Jakiri Sarmiento also gave a presentation on Disaster Risk Exposure Assessment for Mitigation (DREAM) project while Dr. Alfredo Mahar Francisco Lagmay presented DOST's Project NOAH (Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards).

The participants were divided into groups wherein they were enjoined on workshops that include recalling hazard and imagining a hazard's impact scenarios as well as on strategizing actions and responses.

Maps appreciation and early warning systems on the earlier topics (geological and hydro meteorological hazards and project DREAM and NOAH) were also included in the workshops. /JDP/CCD - PIA CAR

Ifugao Art...

from page 10

A parade featuring the traditional Ifugao costume from Bakbakan to SincoCentral on Thursday morning will usher in the festivities designed to revive anew the dwindling status of the community as the "Woodcarving Village of the Philippines".

The national log ban in the 1990s caused a decline in the woodcraft industry along Asin Rd., but "the exemption given to the Ifugao cavers in

city government, through mayor Mauricio Domogan, the Tuba local government, the offices of Rep. Nicasio Alipin Jr. of the city and Rep. Ronald Cosalan of Benguet and the Department of Tourism regional office.

The festival is geared towards reviving the tourism industry in Asin and the effort is anchored on its being the

source of native woodcraft, aside from being the site of the BenCab Museum and the Brown Madonna, Gano said.

Expected to be the crowd drawers are the occupational and indigenous games set on the first two days such as the akkad (stilts) race, binnayo (rice pounding), burltong (wrestling) and hanggol (hand wrestling). /Ramon Dacawi.

Who, Cai...

from page 2

very unfair to our city to be branded as the most polluted," the mayor said citing the negative implications of such branding on the city's tourism industry which is the bread and butter of the city's economy.

Environmental authorities in the city who met with the mayor last Tuesday joined the city in questioning the findings of the WHO study.

Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources Cordillera (DENR-CAR) regional executive director Paquito Moreno and Environmental Management Bureau Cordillera (EMB-CAR) regional director Oscar Cabanayan agreed that the WHO report may have been inaccurate because of the questionable methodology employed in the study.

Moreno said the data cited by the WHO came only from one admittedly polluted area in the city's central business district and therefore was not reflective of the air quality of the entire city.

Moreno said there was no established basis of comparison with Manila and Cebu considering the differing conditions and locations of the air quality measurement apparatus from which the data may have been gathered. He said the Continuous Ambient Air Monitoring Station of the city is located at the road level at the foot of Session Road, the city's main road while those of Manila and Cebu are placed in buildings located in less polluted places particularly in Ateneo De Manila University for Manila and University of San Carlos for Cebu.

Cabanayan for his part said there may have been inaccuracies in the conversion of the figures from the pollution index of particulate matter (PM10) which the city is using to the PM 2.5 parameter.

He also cited information from their central office air quality control department that the air monitoring machines in Manila and Cebu were not functioning in 2010, the year the supposed CAI Asia data, on which the WHO report was based, were culled.

Mayor Domogan earlier decried the report as unfair saying the pollution level in one busy area is not representative of the quality of the air in the entire city which has many areas with cleaner air like Burnam Park, Camp John Hay and others that are far from the CBD.

"Besides, how can Baguio's air be more polluted than in Manila and Cebu? We do not have many factories here. It's common sense," the mayor said.

The mayor admitted however that there are areas in the city with high levels of pollution and as the conclusion of the WHO report said, "...Air quality in most cities worldwide that monitor outdoor (ambient) air pollution fails to meet the WHO guidelines for safe levels, putting people at additional risk of respiratory disease and other health problems."

"We acknowledge that air pollution is one of the problems we are facing in the city. That is why it has been included as one of our administration's thrusts," the mayor said.

He said this is why the city has been pushing such programs as the intensification of tree planting activities, anti-smoke

belching campaign through vehicle roadside testing, prohibition of waste burning and use of surplus vehicles and even the anti-smoking drive.

During the meeting with the DENR and EMB heads, the mayor tasked a committee to consolidate all data on the city's air quality and the facts will be sent to WHO to give it the complete picture of the status of the city's air quality./A Refuerzo

Uncle and Nephew

from page 10

brother April, find solace in each other as they go around together looking for generous souls who could help them pay P2,200., the cost of one treatment session per patient, every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

"Uncle nianakkonga Robert ni April," Divina, a 43-year old who works as farm laborer with her husband, said.

Robert, the second of five children of Divina and husband Marcial, was born in Mankayan, Benguet where his parents worked as farm hands. He moved in 2010 to La Trinidad where he finished a one-year course in automotive mechanics at the Benguet Technical School.

In November, 2011, he was brought to the Benguet General Hospital where he was diagnosed for end-stage renal failure. He has been on thrice-a-week hemodialysis since then at the BGHMC which charges the least for the procedure among renal centers hereabouts.

April, the youngest of eight children, also grew up in Mankayan. He worked as a laborer and married Cathy Mangeda of Bauko, Mt. Province in December, 2007. In October, 2011, he was diagnosed for chronic kidney disease. In January, 2012, he began hemodialysis treatment at the BGHMC.

To be near the renal center, he and his wife transferred to his brother's house in Baguio City. "Due to (the) health condition of the (patient), his wife is no longer earning an amount because she is the one who takes care of him," noted social welfare officer JeterdaJunio.

People out there who can help may ring up April's cellphone number: 09309273579. And Robert through his mother's number: 09207366153./Ramon Dacawi.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and
Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD/Cordillera
Administrative Region
Baguio City

MARILOU L. LANGGUYAN
Applicant

Case No: 2010-CAR-370
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - ACUPAN and vice versa, with the use of one (1) unit. Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 29, 2014 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Poadal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing. This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 12th day of May 2014.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

Gratitude Eases...

from page 10

twice-a-week hemodialysis treatment since November, 2009.

Her mother's gratitude is for an anonymous donor who, upon reading the plea in the weekly papers, asked his secretary to ring up Benita and hand her the support.

"I understand the same Samaritan also gave P15,000 each to two other kidney patients, in response to appeal of their wives," Benita said at her daughter's wake.

Somebody from Bontoc, Mt. Province who also declined to be identified read the plea and sent P3,000 for Victoria through a bus of the GL Trans. Two more, a man and a woman who also opted for anonymity, visited her at the medical center and handed P5,000.

"Please thank them for my family, whoever they are," Benita told the media.

While her family tried to cope with the psychological and financial stress of maintaining Victoria's treatment for about four years, it was not ready for the second whammy.

About two weeks before her passing on, Victoria was diagnosed for advanced ovarian cancer. The tumor had apparently metastasized as evidenced by pus that developed.

"That was why she was in pain hours before she let go," Benita recalled.

Victoria, the older of two children, graduated bachelor of science in elementary education in 2006. She had worked as contractual marketing specialist at the regional office of the Department of Agriculture here.

Her remains were transported last Thursday to Lubuagan, Kalinga, to be buried where she was born on Sept. 1, 1985.

"It's a relief for our family to be able to thank, too, those who stood by Victoria since she began her hemodialysis treatment," Benita said.

Last Thursday, Annie Battateng-Cadio also handed a list of donors who responded to her appeal for support to her mother, Manuela Battateng who is likewise on hemodialysis treatment for kidney failure.

The head of a government agency here, Annie said, had his staff hand over his support of P4,400. The same official also gave an equal amount Angelin Layugan-Taynan for the dialysis of her husband, former police officer Jerry Taynan.

Last Tuesday afternoon, Annie was at the terminal of Rising Sun bus company at the Slaughter Compound here where the driver of a bus with body number 698 turned over P1,000. The amount came from an anonymous donor in Bontoc who texted her how to get the donation.

It could not be ascertained whether he or she was the same person who, from Bontoc, also sent an equal amount for Taynan, also through a Rising Sun bus, in response to an appeal or support published in the local pa-

pers.

"Please help us thank them, whoever they are, through another publication," Angelin asked this writer./Ramon Dacawi.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and
Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD/Cordillera
Administrative Region
Baguio City

DANIEL T. TRINIDAD

Applicant

Case No: 2010-CAR-328

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and vice versa, with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 29, 2014 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Poadal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing. This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 7th day of May 2014.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and
Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD/Cordillera
Administrative Region
Baguio City

WILLIAM CALGO

Applicant

Case No: 92-CAR-292

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - CRYSTAL CAVE and vice versa, with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 29, 2014 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Poadal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

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WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 7th day of May 2014.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and
Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD/Cordillera
Administrative Region
Baguio City

REBECCA A. ALIMONDO

Applicant

Case No: 2005-BENG-CAR-327

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a Taxi Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and vice versa, with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 29, 2014 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Poadal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing. This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 5th day of May 2014.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

Clean Air...

from page 1

testing machines of the city is already capable of testing LPG, gas and diesel fed engines.

"We are implementing the ordinance for all vehicles regardless if it is public, private or government owned," he said.

As per the ordinance, all motor vehicle owners, operators and drivers found to be in violation of the Clean Air Ordinance is subjected to pay the following polluter's fees for the first offense P1,000.00 plus warning, second offense P2,000.00 plus P100.00 and third offense P3,000.00 plus P200.00.

For the 3rd and subsequent offenses, they will have to undergo a seminar on pollution control and management which is being conducted by the Clean Air Monitoring Unit (CAMU) of the city government.

Cervantes also said, "RITMT personnel have undergone the appropriate TESDA training on the proper use of the testing equipment."

"All CAMU personnel whose functions involve the operation of the emission testing equipment have passed the TESDA's Technician Certification Training (TCT) and are authorized to enforce the ordinance," he said.

Cervantes also said, "if a vehicle is flagged and if the emission test results fall within the standard, then the vehicle is released without payment of any fee."

A related complaint arising from the same incident was filed with the City Prosecutor's Office of Baguio last year but was eventually dismissed as per resolution of Assistant Prosecutor Maria Nenita Opiana being it wanting in evidence.

The resolution also stated it will not tread upon the qualifications or training of the employees enforcing the ordinance neither will it discuss the enforcement of the ordinance as an act of police power for environmental safety purposes.

The office cautioned however the enforcers to treat the people they deal with in connection to their work with respect being public servants.

As for the complaint of violation of due process, the office said it is best ventilated before a forum addressing concerns for the implementation of the ordinance, the same not a criminal action.

Meantime, Mayor Mauricio Domogan is saddened by the fact that some sectors still question the enforcement of the ordinance which was enacted specifically to address the deteriorating ambient air quality of the city.

Domogan said, "the city government is implementing the Clean Air ordinance for the general welfare."

"The city is doing something about our air quality and that is the strict implementation of the anti-smoke belching ordinance despite protests," he said.

Domogan also said, "the CEPMO

has intensified the drive against the burning of garbage and in fact aggressively promoted segregation and proper waste disposal in barangays including the massive greening programs being implemented all around the city."

"In 2013, we have planted more than what is required and this year, we have already exceeded the minimum requirements but it does not end there, we are making sure that what we have planted will survive, he said.

The mayor also appealed to national agencies to implement measures to decrease air pollutants by phasing out old public utility vehicles such as taxis, jeepneys and buses that emit smoke and banning the importation of surplus vehicles stating that the country has become the dumping site of worn-out vehicles.

Domogan also said, "the quality of fuel being imported and used in the country plays a major factor why the country suffers from air pollution."

"We all know that we use low quality fuel compared to developed countries, we cannot afford high quality fuel and at this time if we improve the quality of fuel we are importing, surely the price will be more expensive and all prices of basic commodities will shoot up," he said.

"All this cannot be done locally but must be addressed at the national level," he said.

Lately though, the RITMT reported a huge increase of vehicles already passing road side tests.

In 2009 during its first operation, 63% of all vehicles tested failed, the same in 2010 where 67% failed and 2011 where 56% failed but in 2012 58% passed, 53% passed in 2013 and the highest passing rate of 66% was recorded as of April 30, 2014.

RITMT personnel also revealed the number of owners, operators and drivers of both public and private vehicles who bring in their vehicles for voluntary testing for a fee of P50.00 has tremendously increased. /paul rillorta

Kakampi mo ang Batas
from page 5

why I cannot blame Senators Juan Ponce Enrile, Jinggoy Estrada and Ramon Revilla Jr. when they say that their indictment by the Ombudsman for the P10 billion scam was politically motivated. After all, if the entire Aquino government, conspiring with the Ombudsman, chose to prosecute only the three of them, ignoring all the rest who are Aquino's allies, politics should be behind this.

The only evident intent here, really, is to decapitate, as it were, Enrile, Jinggoy, and Revilla from mounting a serious challenge to the presidential candidate of Aquino in 2016. Obviously, all these brouhaha about the pork barrel scam was meant as a political ploy to ensure the election of Aquino's candidate, so he can be assured that the fate of two former presidents—being jailed after their terms—will not happen to him.

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REMINDERS: Please tune in: "Tambalang Batas at Somintac sa DZEC", at 1062 kHz on the AM band, Mondays to Fridays, at 6 a.m.; "Kakampi Mo Ang Batas sa Radyo Trabungko FM", at 103.7 mHz in Don Carlos, Bukidnon, Mondays to Fridays, at 7 a.m.; and "Kakampi Mo Ang Batas sa DYKA" at 801 kHz on the AM band (Panay Island), Mondays to Fridays, at 10 a.m.

Advocacy Mindanaw

from page 4

Are decent public officials so few today and difficult to find that we extol the ordinary? I don't really have the answers.

They say funeral wakes are all about "paying respects" to a departed one. And time for reconciliation. Ooops... but I remember a story. It's about a politician whose political rival suddenly died. To the surprise of everyone, he was one of the first to go to the wake. His political followers thought it was an act of reconciliation and the end of a bloody political fight in their town. But nope. He was there not to condole but to see for himself that his bitter rival is indeed "gone" for good! Wakes bring all sorts of people together — especially long lost friends. And yes, Mayor Rody, something he had never done before, took the microphone almost the whole time after midnight and soulfully sang all the favorites of his friend.

I guess funeral wakes gather everyone in one place and unknown testimonials are whispered around in quietitude to heal the pain of loss. We all know that one is not really missed until he has left. And when we gather, we pray for the departed. But I had a moment of awakening when Bingay, in one of her bursts of denial just simply blurted out: "Please don't pray for Charlie! He is now in God's embrace. But pray for me. Pray for all of us".

Yes, indeed the departed is forever freed from the foibles of earthly life. It is us, who are still around, who need God's graces to one day also peacefully and depart in dignity—the way Charlie and many countless others did! **ADVOCACY MINDANAW FOUNDATION, INC. (AMFI)/Follow us at Twitter: AMFI_Mindanaw/Email us: info@advocacymindanaw.org/Visit us: www.advocacymindanaw.org**

DTI -JICA...

from page 10

by the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines and by the Institute of Marketecology or IMO of Switzerland.

DTI-Kalinga Provincial Director Grace Baluyan shared the Geographic Indications Project of her province and also discussed their concept of regional branding for coffee.

JICA Design Consultant Yoritoshi Yoshida discussed through an interpreter the importance of establishing a brand for coffee to reinforce local industrial competitiveness. Yoshida likewise stressed the value of social appreciation, reputation and appeal of the product to the customer as well as the promotion strategy and attractiveness of the goods.

A self-analysis exercise was also conducted during the workshop wherein each provincial grouping listed down their product's strong and weak points. An evaluation matrix positioned the characteristics of the participant's products according to the color, taste and aroma of their coffee which are also a basis in formulating the concept of the coffee brands. The Participants will meet again this July for the continuity of the product promo-

tion and development program being undertaken by NICCEP through DTI and JICA./ Art Tibaldo-DTI

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and
Communications
**LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD Cordillera
Administrative Region
Baguio City**

SIMEON CIRIACO

Applicant

Case No: 88-01-3340

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - TUDING-MANGGA and vice versa, with the use of one (1) unit

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 29, 2014 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing. This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 12th day of May 2014.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and
Communications
**LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD Cordillera
Administrative Region
Baguio City**

EMMANUEL S. RAMOS

Applicant

Case No: 2000-01-2481

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - AURORA HILL and vice versa, with the use of one (1) unit

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 29, 2014 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 5th day of May 2014.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines
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**LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD Cordillera
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Estate of the Late

SPS. MOISES & MARILYN TIKCHAP

Rep. By: Sheldon Mark G. Tikchapp

Applicant

Case No: 2002-BC-288

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - GUISAD and vice versa, with the use of one (1) unit

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 29, 2014 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 7th day of May 2014.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

Uncle and Nephew in Double Whammy

Since hemodialysis treatment for patients with kidney failure must have to be twice= or thrice-a-week and for a lifetime, the stress on the sick and family is also almost constant and for a lifetime.

For now, only a few other cases here would perhaps top the emotional and financial pressure on patients Robert S. Tomas, 24, of Buyagan, a Trinidad, Benguet and April Sakiwat, 35, of Lower Magsaysay, Baguio City. Both are undergoing thrice-a-week hemodi-

alysis treatment at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center. Robert has his on the 6:00 a.m. start every Monday and Wednesday and at 11 a.m. on Saturday. April is also bound to the blood-cleansing machine for the four-hour session on the 6:00 a.m. schedule on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

The two are relatives. April is the uncle of Robert, the younger brother of the latter's mother, Divina (nee Sakiwat).

That's why Divina and Cathy, the wife of his

Cont. on page 8

Gratitude Eases Mother's Grief

While it was delayed for at least two weeks, a mother's expression of gratitude at a funeral parlor here last Tuesday afternoon lightened her family's grief over the death of her 28-year old daughter.

"It's only now that I can find time to thank those Samaritans, whoever they are, now that my daughter is resting, no longer in critical con-

dition," explained Benita Cadater- Briosio, a contractual utility worker from Dontogan, Baguio City.

At about 11:45 the night before, her daughter Victoria Cresencia, 28, passed on at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center where she was confined for almost a month and where she had been on

Cont. on page 8

DTI-JICA Conducts Coffee Branding Workshop

As a follow up activity of the series of meetings and conferences on coffee conducted in the Cordillera, about fifty entrepreneurs, producers, scholars and representatives from the different provinces in the upland region were once again regrouped for a coffee branding design workshop.

Undertaken by the National Industry Cluster Capacity Enhancement Project (NICCEP) through the Department of Trade and Industry and the Japan Interna-

tional Cooperation Agency (JICA), participants to the two day workshop brainstormed and discussed how to develop a regional brand that appeals to the taste of Cordillera.

DTI-Baguio Benguet Provincial Director Freda Gawisan welcomed the participants mentioning coffee as among the priority industries being supported by the national government. Valentin Macanes of the Benguet State University discussed how their institution's coffee industry got to be accredited

Cont. on page 9

Ifugao Art and Cultural Festival Alongasin rd. On May 22-24

The Ifugao community straddling Baguio and Tuba, Benguet along Asin Rd. comes alive this week with the "Pa-ot Festival", a three-day celebration of tribal art and culture topped by a woodcarving contest by native craftsmen.

Organized by the SincoBaddang Associa-

tion, the fair opens on May 22 and will feature the "pa-ot" (woodcarving) competition and contests in traditional Ifugao and Ibaloy games, native dance, song, nose flute playing, backstrap, basket and rattan weaving, wine-making, broom-making and a fun-run.

Cont. on page 7

The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!



HPG-CORNER

"GUARDIAN OF THE HIGHWAYS"

For the purpose of measuring the level of awareness and commitment among PNP personnel regarding Performance Governance System (PGS), a Buy-In Survey is currently being conducted by the different PNP units nationwide. On the part of the RHPU-COR, a similar kind of survey has been conducted to its personnel early this week. Respondents were advised to just give their true understanding and independent stand on the matter. Their responses would serve as vital bases in making an assessment of how far and effective did the advocacies of the PGS cascade. Nonetheless, it is expected that every



PNP personnel is well-abreast of this matter as information dissemination about the same had been started at a considerably long time ago, wherein various tools and means have been employed for a consistent and efficient manner of dissemination going down to the lowest subordinate units of the PNP. Emphatically, the PGS is a participatory process in line with the principles and best practices of good governance and responsible citizenship. It calls for an effective, sustained and systematic contribution from individuals and institutions for the common good of the institution and community. The PNP is among of the six (6) national government agencies that were chosen to apply the globally-recognized performance governance system to raise the standards of governance practice. In context, the ultimate aim of the PNP in adopting PGS is to give a highly capable, effective, and credible police service to the public and the community.



LOCAL LIBERAL PARTY'S ENDORSEMENT - Newly installed Vice Mayor Edison Bilog, who took the position of the late Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas, and City Councilors Faustino Olowan and Isabelo Cosalan Jr. raise the hand of Mark Go as their official choice to represent the vacant position at the City Council during a press conference held at Baguio Palace Hotel last May 12./ by Bong Cayabyab

The JUNCTION

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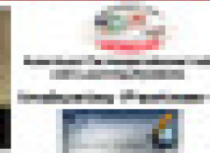
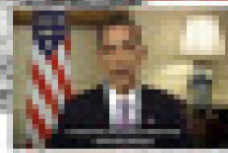
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