

VOL. XV NO. 14 ISSN 0119-7487

Treated unfairly by newspapers that refuse to publish your sponse? Write

BAGUIO CITY - Hoping to lessen traffic snarls for the next year, the Traffic and Transport Management Committee met last week to discuss indispensable issues such as parking, pedestrian lanes and experimental schemes. Chaired by Mayor Mauricio Domogan with concerned offices and representatives from the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO), committee members tackled the need to reduce the number of pedestrian lanes along Session road, from six (6) to three (3). There were however requests for the restoration of said pedestrian crossings citing consideration for senior citizens and persons with disabilities (PWDs). The mayor thus, requested for the preparation of a comprehensive evaluation report as

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

# MC Meets for Transpo



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ADVOCACY MINDANOW

Ang Korona ni PNOY (Part 2) Mga iligal na Subdivision !!!

BY: JESUS DUREZA

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

to the benefits of the pedestrian lane closing. A coordinated traffic signal lights with count

down timers for vehicles and pedestrians shall also be installed at the said lanes, it was learned. Another request was for the closure of pe-

destrian crossings along Harrison road fronting Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI), and that

beside Jollibee Harrison. Accordingly, said crossing lanes put pedestrians in danger due to Cont. on page 10

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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

"Filipinas fit as maids only..."

BY: BATAS MAURICIO





## City rushes Aide to S. Mindanao

BAGUIO CITY - Recalling the natural calamities which the city suffered during the past, Mayor Mauricio Domogan Monday announced the release of Four Hundred Thousand Pesos as aide to Southern Mindanao.

The aide in the form of cash was distributed to various Local Governments depending on the severity of the damage brought about by Typhoon Sendong.

Domogan said, P100,000.00 was given to Cagayan De Oro City while the remaining P300,000.00 was divided among Iligan, Ozamis, Tanjay and Dumaguete who also suffered the wrath of Sendong.

'We have experienced the same fate as them when we were hit by the killer earthquake in 1990 and Typhoon Mina', he stressed.

And other Local Government Units, the National Government, International Community and Civic Organizations came rushing in to help us", He said.

Domogan added, 'the aide extended will help in the rehabilitation process of these provinces which were heavily damaged during the typhoon'

"It is our time to help our brothers, they should feel our deep concern and sympathies', he exclaimed.

The Southern Mindanao region was hit by flashfloods brought about by Tropical Typhoon Washi (Sendong) killing at least 1,249 people and leaving thousands of people homeless. / paul rillorta

## This Baguio Girl – and Nurse - needs

a Miracle

Nurse Shirley Concepcion is no stranger to miracles. She has seen them happen to terminally ill patients she has handled, cases that even best in the medical field agreed only a miracle could heal.

Beyond medical care she had trained for years to provide, Shirley readily learned to pray for these miracles from the moment she entered the actual field and encountered her first seriously ill patient.

She never thought she herself need would miracle. Until late November, when, while on duty at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center, she

ended up at the cardiac care unit- with hardly any blood pressure at all.

The 40-year old nurse recovered and decided to appear at the Philippine Heart Center last Dec. 9 to hear alternatives from the experts. She was told her rheumatic heart, diagnosed in 1996, could no longer he maintained through medication and regular check-

The latest diagnosis was rheumatic heart disease, severe; mitral stenosis; aortic stenosis; cardiac dysrrhythmia (supaventricular tachycardia).

At the Heart Center, she was told she had to be operated on, as soon as possible. For "twovalve replacement and one valve repair", she was told.

Asked if she could be admitted this Jan. 22 and go under the knife two days later, she answered 'yes' without question. The reply came from a mother whose mind was suddenly occupied by the image of Sean Aldridge, her 18month old son.

On the way back to Baguio, she and her common-law husband, jeepney driver Marcelino Lopez, pondered the cost of the surgery P750,000.

The shoe is now on the other

"I'd encourage patients, however serious their conditions were, never to give up, for the sake of their loved ones.' she recalled last Thursday.

Cont. on page 10

## **Council Pushes Early Bidding** Public Works Projects The city council wants

national agencies to bid out public works projects early to allow the timely implementation of these projects and avoid creating problems in localities.

The body approved Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas' proposed resolution urging the Dept. of Public Works and Highways and the Dept. of Budget and Management to allow early bidding of public works projects included in the list of projects already funded under the approved national budget to ensure the projects' early implementation.

Farinas said the late bidding of the projects results to illtimed implementation of these projects in cities and provinces which leads to more problems and inconveniences.

"The system of implementing said projects during the opening of classes and during the onset of the rainy days is seemingly not an effective scheme as such has brought so much inconveniences to the throng of students who go out to the streets for the start of classes, added to the number of working people and motorists who trek the streets for business or work purposes, hence, this scenario is causing uncalculated losses in the earnings of the affected sector," Farinas noted.

He said the "national government should look for appropriate solutions to improve the system so as not to create more complicating problems affecting the citizenry on matters of project implementation and the implementing agency of such projects should not make as an excuse the untimely release of funds...

He said the bidding schedule should be adjusted to make sure that the projects can be implemented during the dry season which is advantageous to the government and the public "considering that work will not be done in haste, thus ensuring the right specifications and good quality of public works and with no interruptions due to typhoons and other similar factors (when these are implemented during the wet season).

"If bidding is done earlier and the implementation of public works projects is undertaken during the dry season, this would result to a better quality of work, less time to complete such projects and eventually would mean more savings to the government,' Farinas added./A Refuerzo

## City Expects to Bid out Asin Hydro **Project in January**

The city government expects to bid out the operation of the city-owned Asin mini-hydroelectric plants in Tuba, Benguet to qualified lack of funds and private investors this January.

Domogan said the city looks forward to setting the project into motion to finally realize its thrust to maximize the power generating potential of the plants and re-

BAGUIO CITY store their viability.

The plants' operations have slackened since the city government took over the management in 2006 due to expertise.

Last June, the Mayor Mauricio city council approved the terms of reference (TOR) for the contract to rehabilitate and manage the power generating facility.

The TOR provides the require-

ment for the "rehabilitation, upgrading, expansion, operation, maintenance and lease" of the minihydros for 20 years.

The bid components will be for rehabilitation and rental under the conditions that the operator shall invest a considerable amount of money for the rehabilitation, upgrading and expansion of the plants to produce 41,406,178 kilowatthours, install independent substation and power line **Cont. on page 10** 



Bing Dawang - Editor (on leave) Odell "Bombito" Aquino - OIC (on leave) Freddie Farres - Consultant

Support Staff: Nelson Tuaño Danilo B. Javier Gerry P. Binwagan John T. Bagayan Orwen L. Trazo Annabelle Pedronio

Regular Columnists: Atty. James S. Valeros Atty Batas Mauricio Arturo Boquiren Emilio Liwanen Grace Bandoy Odell "Bombito" Aquino

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# Bamboo as an Alternative for

BAGUIO CITY -Woodcarving woodcarvers in this mountain re-

sort started using bamboo as an alternative medium of wood as introduced by the Philippine Bamboo Foundation (PBF).

PBF president Ed Manda said woodcarvers are glad that the lowly bamboo can help in their livelihood as an alternative medium for their industry especially now that President Benigno S. Aquino is very strict in the implementation of the

The bamboo carving project aims to promote bamboo as an alternative medium for woodcarvers so that cutting of trees to source their raw materials will stop," Manda said.

He explained that majority of the 60 species of bamboo variety thrive well in Baguio and nearby Benguet, adding that the bamboo industry can be a multi-billion industry a few years from now with the government and the private sector joining hands in ensuring to plant a million bamboos.

Alex Ognayon, a woodcarver of Asin said he is happy the PBF introduced to them bamboo and now they are looking for an additional income by using the solid poles that can be used for furniture for more creative purposes.

Bamboo when treated with borax can last for more than 50 years and are attractive for handicraft. The bamboo carved products will be exhibited in Europe next month for promotion, Manda added./JDP/JBZ- PIA CAR

#### **OWWA Focuses in Providing Training,** Livelihood **Assistance** to **OFW**

Returnees **BAGUIO CITY** line with the government's P2 Billion integration program under the 22 point agenda of President Benigno Aquino III, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) is currently focusing on providing Entrepreneural Development Training (EDT) to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs).

According to OWWA-CAR Regional Director Manuela Peña, the conduct of EDT aims to enable OFW beneficiaries plan, start or expand operation of their livelihood undertaking through the credit facilities provided by the partner lending institution; and to equip them with effective entrepreneurial capabilities to ensure sustainable management of their livelihood.

Peña informed that during the conduct of EDT, they also use this as a venue for OFWs to know and understand the mandate, vision, mission of OWWA by giving them a thorough program orientation and by checking their understanding on OWWA policies, guidelines and proce- training program

According to Peña, OWWA Car has already conducted 15 EDT trainings all over the region including the present training they are conducting Bontoc, Mt. Province. This December alone, aside from Mt. Province, OWWA also conducted EDTs in Tabuk Kalinga; Bangued, Abra and Alfonso Lista. Ifugao.

For the P2 Billion Reintegration program that the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) implements through the National Reintegration Center for OFW (NRCO) and OWWA and in partnership with Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), Peña also affirmed that as of November they have already endorsed to LBP about 268 application/project proposals of OFWs that already finished EDT training.

Aside from such program, OWWA, in partnership with DOLE also have the 'Balik Balik Pinay! Hanapbuhay!'

which aims to provide livelihood opportunities to OFW returnees particularly those who worked as domestic helpers abroad.

**OWWA-CAR** already conducted four trainings - in Alfonso Lista in Ifugao, Luna in Apayao, Tabuk in Kalinga and Baguio City, benefitting 95 participants. Aside from the livelihood skills training, they were also provided with 'starter kits' that they can use to start their small business. Except for the beauty care conducted in Baguio, the other trainings were all on food processing.

In addition, 66 distressed OFWs here in the Baguio Benguet area also received an NRCO livelihood grant of P10,000 each last November 29. Of the 66 grantees, 59 were Libya repatriates while the others are welfare cases. As per livelihood project proposals, 24 of them are into trading, 23 in agribusiness, 17 are services and one each in manufacturing and industrial service./JDP/

LD-PIA CAR

## 140 Farmers Graduate on-the-Air Schooling on Palay Check Technology

BANGUED, Abra— A total of 140 Abrenian farmers graduated after six months of schooling on the Palay Check Technology of the Department of Agriculture (DA) last December 23, 2011 at the Provincial Capitol Social Hall.

The school-on-the-air program started in July 2011 anchored by personnel from the DA-Cordillera and aired over radio station DZPA-CMN every Tuesday at 5:30am.

According to Provincial Agriculturist Jesus Villamor, Jr., the 140 farmers came from the towns of Bangued, La Paz, Lagayan, Tineg, Tayum, Dolores, Peñarrubia, Pidigan, Villaviciosa, and Pilar.

The farmers enrolled on the air and they participated in all the activities like listening to the lectures, participated in the Farmers' Field School conducted in the different municipalities as a form of their practicum, and finally in the examinations to check on their comprehension of all the lectures aired over the radio.

Topics included the detailed processes involved in the modern rice farming technology which they call the Palay Check. The lectures are supported with actual applications in the field that is why they conduct the Farmers' Field School to see how the technology is implemented and also see the effectiveness of the technology which is applied in various farming conditions both in irrigated and rain-fed ricefields.

The technology further integrates the use of organic agriculture and the use of indigenous materials for pest control.

The graduation was attended by DA Cordillera Regional Director Marlyn Sta. Catalina and Governor Eustaquio P. Bersamin who sponsored the affair./JDP/MTBB-PIACAR, Abra

#### Government Holds City Program for Balik-Baguio Folks,

## Families

**BAGUIO CITY** In every person's life, there is a certain place that has touched his or her heart, where unforgettable experiences or memories have transpired that he or she can gram and bonfire never forget and always want to go back to and reminisce

the city government wants all the Baguio-Balikbayan to feel as it hosted a Balik Baguio pro-

with the theme, 'We live the dream to set our footprints on foreign This is what soil, yet only here do we truly find refuge.

During the said event at the Cont. on page 10

## PRC-Baguio to Pilot Regional Printing of Professional IDs, Walk-in Exam in

BAGUIOCITY-Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC-Baguio) is continuously improving its system through infusion of new technologies and systems for the faster delivery of quality service to their clients.

Regional Director Teofilo Gaius Sison Jr., in an interview over PIA Hour radio program last week, affirmed that by January 2012, the PRC-Baguio will be piloting the regional printing of professional license IDs for their clients in their coverage area in Northern and Central Luzon that includes the Cordillera, Regions 1, 3 and some provinces

in region 2.

Sison stressed that that as of now, he does not consider a complete delivery of services to their clients as professional IDs are still being printed in their central office in Manila. Hopefully the project will pave the way for faster application, processing and releasing of IDs to their clients, which is essential for the applicant's employment or deployment abroad, he said.

In addition, Sison also announced that PRC is also planning to pilot here in their Baguio Regional Office the implementation of a computer assisted test or 'walk-in examination.

'In about five or six months from now, through our walk-in examination, aspiring professionals after filing their application and after processing can immediately take an exam, wherein the result will also be immediately known,' Sison said.

According to Sison, initially they are planning to pilot the program for the maritime profession such as marine deck officers and marine engineer examinations. "We all know that our seafarers most of the time are on sea; when the program pushes through, our countrymen here in Cordillera and regions 1, 2 and 3 can now apply and take the exam here in Baguio during their holiday vacations", Sison

said. Cont. on page 11

# Grandkid's Grey Hair "What made us dream he would comb grey hair?", Irish

"What made us dream he would comb grey hair?", Irish poet and 1923 Nobel Laureate William Butler Yeats wrote of a friend — and the "discourtesy of death." A week after Tyhoon "Sendong" hit, Mindanao deaths bolted to 1,249.

When New Year dawns, other victims won't "comb grey hair." Exhausted rescue workers still stumble across bodies in the muck and debris. "Even the (corpse) sniffing dogs are tired," regional New Year's Day 2012 finds more than 376,000 people displaced by the storm and floods. Almost 55,000 still huddle in crowded makeshift evacuation Cagayan de Oro and Iligan centers, as government scrambles to build homes. Potable water is in short supply.

No major disease outbreak at evacuation centers has occurred. Knock on wood. Credit the swift help by citizens, civic

## **EDITORIAL**

and church groups, plus aid agencies.

A low pressure area, a cold front and rains, however, persisted. They unleashed mudslides, this time across a wider swath. Leyte, northern Negros Occidental, Capiz, to cities like Bacolod and Valencia in Bukidnon were hit.

Few heeded the first signals of climate change. World Meteorological Organization notes 2001 through 2010 has been "warmest decade". Glaciers are melting and ever warmer sea levels are rising.

A month into the Aquino presidency, Climate Change Congress of the Philippines, led by Archbishop Antonio Ledesma, warned about impending weather threats, Inquirer recalled. Ledesma repeated the caution, in a Malacanang antipoverty conference. Two two weeks later, "Sendong" struck, inflicting the worst damage in 12 years.

On New Year's Eve, the itch to peer ahead reaches fever pitch. Many leaders' line-of-sight, however, ends at larger Internal Revenue Allotment slabs (a.k.a. pork barrel) or 2013 elections. Discerning the future has never been one of man's special strengths.

"Crystal-balling" is about making educated guesses of what lies beyond. From today's realities, one sifts trends likely to endure — and reshape tomorrow. "In today, tomorrow already walks."

Leaf through the new Human Development Report, titled "Sustainability and Equity". We rank 112 among 187 countries analyzed. Aside from tools like gross national product, the indices factor in life expectancy, health and education. This year, HDR uses those gauges t in the context of ecological stress.

"A 10 percent increase in the number of people affected by an extreme weather event reduces a country's human development (ranking) by two percent", says this just published United Nations Development Programme study. Freedoms of people today must expand "while making reasonable efforts to avoid compromising those of future generations."

Average life expectancy for a Filipino today is over 69 years, similar to an Iraqi, There are stark differences in this "threshold at which all other hopes begin.". Like Jamaicans, La Union residents have life expectancy of 74 years. In contrast, 55 years for Joloanos resemble that of Rwandans.

More comb grey hair In Vietnam or Sri Lanka, Llife expectancy there now crests at 75. It is 81 for a Singaporean and 83 for a Japanese. "That a man's reach should exceed his grasp/ Or what's a heaven for?".

Overall adult literacy (95%) smudges "black holes" like Maguindanao. Warlord rule reduced 44 out of 100 residents into "no-read-no-writes". That's the highest functional illiteracy rate for 77 provinces, notes Philippine Human Development Report. In Laguna, 7 are illiterates.

Chronic hunger here stunts 34 out of every 100 kids under 5. That's on par with Equatorial Guinea. Maternal death rates are on a level with Paraguay at 94 out of every 1,000. Only 62 out of every 100 Filipina mothers had skilled medical personnel in attendance at birth — the level in Guatemala.

HDR links traditional gauges with well being or insecurity from environmental impact. Philippines has a only a fifth of Malaysia's renewable water resources. Yet, we pump 17% of that, like Mexico. Shrinkage in forest is a staggering 25%. Illegally cut logs thus crushed many Mindanao victims'.

"For a healthy, well functioning environment...enabling institutions are needed, including a fair and independent judiciary and the right to information, UN says. nlike the Corona Supreme Court or Aquino's gutting of the Freedom of Information bill?)

"For ordinary folk, the ultimate new



#### PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

Ang Korona ni PNOY (Part 2) Mga iligal na Subdivision!!!



BY: ODELL P. AQUINO

Mukhang sasalubungin natin ang bagong taon sa isang ma dramang taon. Anjan ang impeachment drama para tangalin ang Korona ni Pnoy. Anjan ang drama ni Berdugo alias Heneral Palpakan este Palparan and op cors anjan ang drama ni dating pangulong Gloria Macapagal Arroyo na sa kasalukuyan ay nakasuhan na ng election sabotgage at kamakailan lang ay anti graft and violation of ethical standards. Nakakatawa naman ito si GMA talagang sasampahan nila ng katakot-takot na reklamo ngunit marami sa mga ka-alyado ni Pnoy ay sa aking palagay ay hindi makakasusan , Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! . Weder weder lang talaga sa bansa na ito. Kaya mga numero unong ipokrito jan, HOY KAYONG MGA IBANG REGIONAL DIRECTORS SA CAR NA UBOD ANG KOKORAP, tangalin na ninyo ang inyong mga maskara at huwag na kayong maging ipokrito at bagong taon na. hay yay yay, isang kantiaao ko na siguradong hindi pakikingan ng mga ubod ang Korap na mga Opisyales. O sige na nga, ipagpatuloy na ninyo ang inyong kasakiman, pagka-gahaman tutal madadala naman ninyo sa hukay ang inyong mga kurakot. AGA AMO TAYON!!!

TRAHEDYA SA CAGAYAN AT ILIGAN - Masuwirti pa rin tayo dito sa Cordillera mga dear readers at hindi tayo tinamaan ng trahedya na katulad ng tumama sa Mindanao. Sa aking pagkakaalam ay mahigit kumulang dalawang libong ka tao na ang pumanaw hingil sa trahedya. Tsk! Tsk! Isa nanaman uri ng matinding kasakiman ng mga opisyales ng gobyerno ito kaya umabot sa ganoon ang nasabing trahedya. Kasakiman sa illegal logging, kasakiman ng mga opisyales na patirahin ang mga tao sa isang lugar na dati na nilang alam na may piligro (parang little kibungan etc...) . Kaya matagal ko ng sinasabi ng paulit-ulit mga dear readers, ang kasakiman na kaakibat ng korapsyon ay hindi lang kwalta ang nawawala kung hindi pati na rin buhay ng tao ay nawawala. Katulad halimbawa ng pangyayari sa Irisan trash slide, kung sabagay anim lang naman ang namatay dun kaya OK lang, hindi ba Mayor ?!?!

####

MGA ILIGAL NA HOUSING SUBDIVISION – Paulit ulit na sinasabi ng HLURB na maging mapagmasid sa mga housing developers, maging ma-ingat sa pag transak sa mga housing developers at una sa lahat ay bago kayo bumitiw ng inyong salapi maging sa down payment o kahit na reservation fee lamang ay sumanguni muna kayo sa Houusing And Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) na pinangungunahan ni Director Teresita Galacgac na siyang Northern Luzon Regional Officer. Ang HLURB ay inyong matatagpuan sa Imelda Park/Botanical Garden along Leonard Wood Road. Una sa lahat ay alamin ninyo kung mayroon ng Selling Permit or authority ang inyong ka deal na subdivision o ahente at pagkatapos ay sumanguni rin kayo sa local government Cont. on page 11

Cont. on page 11

#### ADVOCACY MINDANOW

The Parable of the Dead Sea

#### BY: JESUS DUREZA



SENDONG SHOCKED US ALL -Never before has Mindanao experienced this kind of devastation. Not that it is the worst in the country. It's just that unlike Luzon and the Visayas, typhoons were unheard of in Mindanao until "Sendong" came. The last one was about 40 years ago. That's the reason why we Mindanaoans were caught literally with our pants down.

Call this a freak one? Maybe but not really. With climactic crisis (a.k.a. "climate change") all upon us, now we can never tell. Who knows, there will be more of this to come. God forbid!

We never got the chance to practice our typhoon responses. True, we did not get much lessons from the past. But of course, for some early critics, this is not an excuse for what they consider as bad crisis situation management observed over the past few \* \* \*

I have been watching from Davao City only through media reports the events as they happened. From a distance, we can never really make an accurate assessment of how the crisis was managed. There is always this temptation of doing a swivel chair commentary without knowing the behind-the-scene facts that are material to an honest and accurate analysis. In disasters such as this one, there will always be who will complain and criticize. Truth is there is not enough we can all possibly and humanly do to assuage and heal the pangs of pain and sufferings of the unfortunate many. When I handled crisis situations in the past, I always viewed with disdain others who made commentaries, even criticisms, from afar and not from where the action was happening. Especially while the crisis situation was still on go-

I am saying this because lately I have been getting calls and messages complaining about how the situation is allegedly "being mishandled" after Sendong hit. And there is this tendency, especially during times of helplessness, to immediately put the blame on someone something. or

I will reserve my comments on this at the proper time. But yes, we need not be exposed to previous typhoons to know what should be properly done to address crisis situations, like this Let's keep that for another

What's important now is to get everyone on board to help the victims and their families. Let those who carp and criticize first help. We will deal with your views later.

MY PARABLE — The recent tragedy and the Christmas season both reminded me of that old parable about the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee. This also reminded me of a venerable lady, paralyzed and immobilized in a wheelchair for life but whose intellect and mind travelled and meandered all over the world. She taught me this parable many, many years ago. She's the late Lourdes Cura Solis who came from Luzon, met at UP and married a Dabawenyo, Mariano Solis. Both of them spent the best of their lives in Davao in the service of the unfortunate.

A TALE OF CONTRASTS —The Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee are two bodies of water in the middle east adjacent to one another but they both have startling contrasts. So near yet so different. One is dead as its name connotes. The other is full of life, vibrant. The Sea of Galilee is sparkling, alive with marine life, teeming with fishes, blooming corrals and rich underwater marine growth. But the Dead Sea is so salty, its waters murky and stagnant, unmoving with no lush marine

Stunned by this contrast, hydrologists and scientists were once commissioned to find out what was the cause of all this. What they discovered was so simple. And so ordinary and true that even an ordinary man could discover for himself.

They found that the river bed of Dead Sea was so far below the sea level. In fact, it was (and still is) reputed to be in the lowest level on earth. For being so low below sea level, the Dead Sea could only take in water into its basin but it could not give out water. It had no rivers to bring out water from its basin. It water but nothing flowed out

In stark contrast, the Sea of Galilee had more rivers from which flowed its streaming waters out of its basin unto the fields and farms downstream. Unlike the Dead Sea that only received but never gave, the Sea of Galilee was generous as it had more rivers that brought its sparkling waters in its bosom down to the Cont. on page 10 world outside. In fact, it gave more than

#### KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS



BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... At that time, Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: `Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!'..." (Luke 1:39-42, the Holy Bible).

#### -000-

#### FILIPINAS IN MALAYSIA FORCED TO WORK AS MAIDS: While politicians and government officials are fiercely and insanely battling it out for supremacy here in the Philippines, many Filipinas originally deployed as blue or white collar overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in Malaysia are now being stripped of their original employments and are being forced to work as housemaids or domestic help-

One of them happens to be a townmate of mine from Ramos, Tarlac who took the courage of sending a message to me through my Facebook account, "Melanio Lazo Mauricio Jr." Her first plea: someone in government should do something to stop the Malaysian Bureau of Immigration from forcing them to work as maids or household helps since their original contracts stipulated other jobs.

The woman's second plea: someone from the Philippine government must intercede for them so that they could continue working in Malaysia, to enable them to earn and pay the steep loans they took just so they could be deployed as OFWs.

#### MALAYSIA IMMIGRATION SAYS FILIPINAS ONLY GOOD **AS MAIDS:** Here is a part of the woman's message to me, which I translated to English: "Hi Sir. I am also from Ramos (Tarlac). Can I ask you to implore the government to investigate the situation of Filipinos here in Malaysia. A registration campaign was launched by Malaysia to provide proper documentation for illegal aliens, but Filipinos, especially the women, were left out and refused registration.

"Take our case, for example. We are working with a company, and our boss tried to register us, but he was told that Filipino women could be registered only as maids or household helps. The agencies we talked to here told us also that the only visa that can be given to us is a visa for a maid.

"There are many of us, women, working in different companies here, but many of us have been given documentation only for domestic helpers while others are not given any visa at all. We took advantage of the Malaysian Immigration's 6P Program, because we thought that we can be issued the proper visa for any kind of work we wish to take, but as of now, our requests are not being approved.

-000 FILIPINAS IN MALAYSIA SEEK HELP: "We are being told that no Filipina is eligible to be given visa for any work sector, but as maids only. What they even want us to do now is for us to go back to the Philippines and have our visa applications processed there, but this is very unfair to us because we are already here and we are willing to pay for our permit as long as we do not go back to P.I. (Philippine Islands).

"I know you yourself are aware of the stiff placement fees and oppressive policies of recruitment agencies in the Philippines. But that is not even the worst. When we got to Malaysia, we were made to pay new fees, which are deducted from our regular salaries. Now that visa processing is on-going, many Filipinos are not given their visas because of many restrictions.

'Our plea is that, we should not be required to go back home to the Philippines, and that we should instead be allowed to work here. Thank you very much..." I hope the Office of the President, Department of Labor and Employment, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration are all listening

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DITTEGRATED BAR OF THE PHILIPPINES

### UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION, PROTECT JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE

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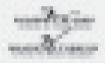
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# LGUs, Civic Organizations for Troubled

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD-CAR) is pushing for a more active partnership with the different local government units (LGUs) and civic organizations in providing interventions and social programs for troubled and disadvantaged children and youth.

DSWD-Cordillera Regional Director Leonardo Reynoso, in a recent kapihan media forum, stressed that under the law providing programs for the children and youth is primarily a responsibility of the LGUs through the Local Council for the Welfare and Protection of Children.

"Each LGU even down to the barangay should re-activate their local Council for the Welfare and Protection of Children and under our law, one percent of their budget should be allocated for such council whose primary function is to bring in programs for our children who are in conflict with the law (CICL)," Reynoso

Reynoso also explained that once a youth commits an offense or is apprehended, he or she must be turned-over to the city or municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer (SWDO), who in turn will look if the parents have the capacity or capability to take care of them or if there is a need to bring them in a youth

"And if they are not going into youth homes, it is the responsibility of the local Council for the Welfare and Protection of Children to bring-in intervention programs for them," Reynoso added.

For CICLs, there is the Regional Rehabilitation Center for the Youth (RRCY) in Sitio Payda, Barangay Bayabas, Sablan, Benguet, which is about 25 kilometers from Baguio City.

According to RRCY head Amelyn Cabrera, currently they have 12 CICL wards in the center, all boys, whose cases involves heinous crimes such as rape and murder and who are below 18 upon commission of their crime.

Cabrera said that they are not looking at their wards as scary or dangerous criminals, and instead the center's general objective is to render them treatment and rehabilitative services to enhance their psychological, emotional and psycho-social well-being.

'Three of our wards are enrolled in modular classes at the Benguet National High School, one who is hearing- impaired is taking up formal classes on sign language, one in college mainstream education and the others are undergoing Alternative Learning System (ALS) classes inside the center in coordination with the Sablan High School," Cabrera said.

"We are also open for outreach programs. We encourage the parents to visit them as well as the LGUs through their Municipal SWDOs. We also conduct livelihood trainings such as 'walis tambo' craft and animal-raising," Cabrera added.

Meantime, Reynoso also announced that at present they are making arrangement with SNN or Serving Nations Network, a nongovernment organization, who will be shouldering the continuous alternative learning session starting this January.

We will also implement additional skills training program for the RRCY, through the assistance of Senator Francis Pangilinan. We are looking into providing photography, painting and other similar trainings and we are now in the process of purchasing the necessary materials for such training programs," Reynoso added.

Aside from the RRCY, DSWD-CAR also maintains a Regional

Haven for Women and Girls - for disadvantage and abused women and girls, and a Reception and Study Center for abandoned and neglected children./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

## RDC Excom approves PMO for regional

## autonomy

BAGUIO CITY A Project Management Office (PMO) lodged with Agencymanage the Cordil- tatives, tonomy Program proposed PMO. (CRDAP).

Regional Director Leonard Quitos presented the proposal last December 7, 2011 during the special RDC ExCom National Economic Meeting at the Sulo Development Hotel in Quezon City. The meeting Cordillera(NEDA- attended by some CAR) l be created to Cordillera represenunanilera Regional Devel- mously approved opment and Au- the creation of the

Quitos said that NEDA-CAR a fully staffed PMO,

will provide the structure that will implement CRDAP.

As of now, there are only three contractual employees financed by the special autonomy fund (SAF). Secretariat work to CRDAP is largely done by NEDA-CAR. The RDC in justifying year-end autonomy bonus for NEDA-

Cont. on page 11

## DSWD Pushes for Intervention of Mayors, Punong Barangays Ordered to Mobilize Community Health Teams

TABUK CITY, Kalinga — To ensure delivery of basic health services to the poorest households, local government units are enjoined to support the universal health care or Kalusugan Pangkalahatan (KP) program of the Aquino administration by mobilizing community health teams (CHT).

Francisco Gamatero, Provincial Director of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) said the provincial government, municipal mayors and punong barangays as well as health offices are mandated under memorandum circular no. 145 of DILG Secretary Jesse Robredo to mobilize CHTs.

He said all concerned are also directed to organize technical working groups to converge efforts for reaching poor communities and help achieve human development and poverty reduction particularly providing the health needs of beneficiaries under the Conditional Cash Transfer program of the govern-

"The creation of CHTs is to guarantee that every identified poor household under the National Household Targeting System Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) are periodically visited and attended by social service providers and ensuring also the achievement of Millenium Development Goals," Gamatero said.

To ensure grassroot support, Gov. Jocel Baac issued a separate memorandum enjoining mayors and punong barangays to organize CHTs and implement the Aquino Health Agenda of Achieving Universal Health Care for all Filipinos.

On the other hand, Center for Health Development team Dr. Bernadette Andaya said this approach will enable poor families to know how to become members under KP and the entitlements and benefits they will receive. "Together with the provincial and municipal health offices, CHTs are being organized in the municipal and barangay level," she said. /JDP/PAB-PIA CAR, Kalinga

#### Ifugao Records Zero Firecracker LAGAWE, Ifugao - The **Related Incidents** Ifugao General Hospital

(IGH) and the Ifugao Provincial Police Office (IPPO) reported zero firecracker incident during the Christmas celebration.

Dr. Joseph Bulayungan, the chief of the IGH said that the program of the Department of Health for a safe celebration of Christmas this year yielded a positive result when the hospital did not receive any patient who is a victim of firecrackers.

'We hope that we will maintain this until after new year,' Bulayungan said adding that parents and elders should advice their kids not to play with firecrackers.

Bulayungan further reiterated that families should use the money intended to buy firecrackers to buy food instead. "The police can help by confiscating illegal firecrackers," he said and appealed to the public to abide with the DOH's (Department Of Health) APIR campaign.

On the other hand, PSupt David Mariano of the IPPO said that the province is generally peaceful during the Christmas as reported by 11 police stations here.

Meanwhile, Mariano reported that police in Alfonso Lista are currently conducting search and rescue operations to other members of a family who were drowned last

Evelyn Alejo, 54, and her children Jay, 9; Jomar, 11 and Johana, 13 were aboard a row boat when it capsized along the Magat River. The bodies of Evelyn and Jay were recovered immediately on the same day while rescue operations is still ongoing to find Jomar and Johana, Mariano said.

The victims were supposed to go to neighboring municipality of San Mateo in Isabela province when the tragic incident happened.

Aside from the said incident, Mariano reported that there were two minor vehicular incidents which happened on December 24 and 25 in the towns of Lamut and Kiangan where minor injuries were suffered by the drivers and passengers.

Mariano appealed to the public to celebrate the yuletide season in a peaceful manner and cautioned the drivers not to drink and drive to avoid accidents. He also reminded everybody on the IWAS PAPUTOK program of the national government./ JDP/VDB- PIA CAR, Ifugao

## P-Noy asked to certify autonomy a priority bill

BAGUIO CITY. — For the third time a bill is filed in congress for the creation of an autonomous region in the Cordilleras that will fast track development and President Benigno S. Aquino III is asked to certify it as a priority for its realization.

According to Baguio City Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan, chair of the Third Autonomy Drafting Committee (TADC), all Cordillera leaders should lobby and make a manifest asking the President to

House Bill 5595 an urgent bill.

House Bill 5595 seeks for the establishment of a autonomous region for the Cordillera composed of the provinces of Abra, Apayao, Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga, Mountain Province and Baguio City

The establishment of an autonomous region in the Cordillera will guarantee robust economic growth, infrastructure, agriculture and tourism development as well as help people move out from the shackles of poverty, Domogan said.

Republic of the Philippines REGIONAL TRIAL COURT FIRST JUDICIAL **REGION BRANCH 10** La Trinidad, Benguet

SERYL DANG-GA **PAYANGDO** Petitioner,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL **REGIS-**TRAR KIBUNGAN, BENGUET AND THE NSO

Respondent,

SP. PROC. CASE NO. 11-C-1719

FOR:

**SUPPLICATION** AND CORREC-TION OF EN-TRIES IN THE CERTIFI-

> BIRTH **ORDER**

**CATE OF LIVE** 

Petitioner, through counsel, filed this verified petition on 8 December 2011 praying that after due notice, publication, and trial, judgement be issued directing the Local Civil Registrar of the Municipality of Kibungan, Benguet and the NSO to correct the entry as regards the gender of SERYL DANG-GA PAYANGDO from "FEMALE" to "MALE" and to supthe middle ply names of his father and mother as "ATAM" and

"MATEO", respectively.

WHEREFORE, finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the same is hereby set for hearing on March 6, 2012 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning before the Session Hall of this Court, 2nd floor, Justice Hall, Justice Hill, 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 JUNC-TION 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 December 25, 2011.

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

SO ORDERED.

DONE IN CHAM-BERS, this 12th day of December 2011 at La Trinidad, Benguet.

By:(SGD) EDGARDO B. DIAZ DE RIVERA, JR. Presiding Judge

**Publication Dates:** December 17, 24 and 31 2011

'We should be unified this time, from the grassroots, government and private sector should make a stand because everyone will be benefited when we finally achieved autonomous status in our region,' Domogan

It can be recalled that in the first referendum held on January 30, 1990 only Ifugao voted favorably and in the second on March 7, 1998, the province of Apayao voted favorably.

Article X, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that there should be an autonomous region in the Cordilleras.

The Cordillera Administrative Region was organized by virtue of Executive Order No. 220 which was signed by former President Corazon C. Aquino on July 15, 1987 and it was meant to prepare the region for autonomous status./JDP/JBZ- PIA **CAR** 

#### Walter William's Journalist's Creed

This creed was written by Walter Williams (1864-1935), the man who founded the world's first school of journalism at the University of Missouri and perhaps contributed more toward the promotion of professional journalism than any other person of his time.

I believe in the profession of Journalism.

I believe that the public journal is a public trust; that all connected with it are, to the full measure of responsibility, trustees for the public; that acceptance of lesser service than the public service is a betrayal of this trust.

I believe that clear thinking, clear statement, accuracy and fairness are fundamental to good journalism.

I believe that a journalist should write only what he holds in his heart to be true. I believe that suppression of the news, for any consideration other than the welfare of society, is indefensible.

I believe that no one should write as a journalist what he would not say as a gentleman; that bribery by one's own pocket book is as much to be avoided as bribery by the pocketbook of another; that individual responsibility may not be escaped by pleading another's instructions or another's dividends.

I believe that advertising, news and editorial columns should alike serve the best interests of readers; that a single standard of helpful truth and cleanness should prevail for all; that supreme test of good journalism is the measure of its public service.

I believe that the journalism which succeeds the best-and best deserves success-fears God and honors man: is stoutly independent; unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of power; constructive, tolerant but never careless, self-controlled, patient, always respectful of its readers but always unafraid, is quickly indignant at injustice; is unswayed by the appeal of the privilege or the clamor of the mob; seeks to give every man a chance, and as far as law, an honest wage and recognition of human brotherhood can make it so, an equal chance; is profoundly patriotic while sincerely promoting international good will and cementing world-comradeship, is a journalism of humanity, of for today's world. /http:// www.nationalpressclub.org.ph

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We believe that the Golden Rule applies to animals, too. We don't accept the prevailing notion that "people come first" or that "people are more important than animals." Animals feel pain and suffer just as we do, and it is almost always humans making animals suffer and not the other way around. Yet in spite of how cruelly people behave towards animals – not to mention human cruelty to other humans- we are supposed to believe that humans are superior to other animals. If people want to fancy themselves as being of greater moral worth than the other creatures on this earth, we should begin behaving better than they do, and not worse. Let's start treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves.

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# Ifugao Culture in School Curriculum

LAGAWE, Ifugao The Sangguniang Bayan(SB) members here recently passed a resolution for the inclusion of Ifugao culture in the curriculum of public and private schools to ensure the preservation of the rich customs and traditions of the municipality.

Dubbed as ʻIfugao Native dance, ethnic ensemble, hymn promotion and preservation Ordinance', it mandates to impose upon all elementary and secondary, whether private or

private schools, the young generations singing of Lagawe of hymn after the na- through its inclutional anthem.

by vice mayor Mar- private schools in tin Habawel Jr. also the municipality,' stated that teaching they added. of Ifugao native dance and ethnic en- lators further reitersemble shall be in- ated that Ifugao corporated in the dances to be inte-Music, Arts, Physi- grated in the school cal Education and curriculum will in-Health (MAPE) sub- clude jects in all schools within the municipality.

"It is the policy of the municipal government to inculcate a wedding dance of and preserve the values of the cultures of Burnay, Lagawe. the forefathers to the

Lagaweans sion in the curricu-The SB chaired lum of public and

> The local legisthe 'bitangnguk',
> 'dinuyya', 'futage' and ethnic

semble. Bintangnguk is wealthy people of Cont. on page 11

## **DPWH upgrades Apayao Roads**

BAGUIO CITY -Three major road networks in the northernmost province of the region, Apayao, were recently upgraded from secondary roads to primary roads by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) after much work by the Regional Development Council and its National Economic Develope Authority(NEDA) the secretariat, Apayao provincial government, and the regional DPWH.

The upgrading means the roads Ilocos namely Norte-Apayao Road (from Ilocos Norte Boundary, Solsona Kabugao); Kabugao-Conner-Abbut Road (from Kabugao to Junction Abbut); and Kabugao-Pudtol-Luna Road are given priority by the national DPWH.

In a memorandum to DPWH-Cordillera, DPWH Secretary Rogelio Singson stated that the Ilocos Norte-Apayao Road; and Kabugao-Conner-Abbut ment and emergen-Road are now pri-

ority projects.

Singson's memorandum related the following basis for the upgrading : Ilocos Norte-Apayao Road (from Ilocos Norte Boundary, Solsona Kabugao); and Kabugao-Conner-Abbut Road (from Kabugao to Junction Abbut) link three regional centers from Manila North Road Laoag City Kabugao to Daang Maharlika and end at Tuguegarao City.

On the other hand, Kabugao-Pudtol-Luna Road is now a continuous road and satisfies the definition of Primary National Road which has three categories namely North-South Backbone (main trunkline from Northernmost Luzon down to Southern Mindanao interconnecting the major islands); East West Lateral (roads traversing to backbone and across the islands and about 100 kms. apart; and direct access to important centers and other areas vital for regional developcies); and National

Roads (other roads which complement with the national arterial roads to provide access to other main population and production centers of

Kabugao-Pudtol-Luna Road belongs to the second category as it directs access to important centers and other areas vital for regional development emergencies Luna being a business growth center and the seat of the of the government of Apayao.

The memorandum also explained that Claveria-Calanasan -Kabugao Road cannot be upgraded as it still has big gap between Calanasan and Kabugao and it also duplicates the function Kabugao-Pudtol-Luna Road.

'I thank RDC for its role in the upgrading of our roads, said Apayao Congresswoman Eleanor Begtang during the special meeting of the RDC ExCom last December 7. 2011 at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City./PIA CAR/ MU-NEDA CAR

### Town Officials Pushes for Inclusion of 11 Bridges up for Construction in TABUK CITY, Kalinga, - Eleven Kalinga

bridges are up for construction next year to improve access and mobility along a major road network here.

Department of Public Works and Highways - Kalinga District Engineering Office (DPWH-KDEO) construction section chief, Teodoro Owek said the new bridges are replacement of dilapidated and condemned bridges along said the Tabuk-Bontoc road that connects the provinces of Kalinga and Mountain Province.

These bridge projects are funded from regular DPWH appropriations, Owek said.

Meanwhile, KDEO called on the public to understand the process of governance in the bidding and implementation of projects the province.

KDEO Maintenance Chief Engr. Manuel Madio made this call amidst public query why most projects are implemented during the rainy season. He said their office

has been plagued with criticisms from people expressing their discomfort when roads and bridges are not passable or cause traffic because construction and repair works are ongoing and often taking long because of bad weather condi-

Madio clarified the DPWH like any other department is strictly following a planning calendar and anchors its mandate on the plans and activities of that given year. He explained that

much as they wanted to implement projects earlier in the year, it cannot be because d Congress deliberates on the national budget mid-year approval is usually early the following year.

"Funding of projects will follow which also takes a period long spending the whole first quarter months until the issuance of their special allotment release orders,' Madio said.

"Then next will be the bidding process, so midyear again probably June or July when project implementation starts and that will be the rainy months Kalinga," Madio explained adding that the worst cause of delay in project implementation is problems on road right-ofway claims./JDP/ PAB-PIA-CAR, Kalinga

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

ANTONIO CERVANTES

**Applicants** Case No: 96-BC-183

## NOTICE OF HEARING This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of

Public Convenience to operate a PUJ-Jitney Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA-SAN CARLOS HEIGHTS EXTENSION via Quezon 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  $\,$ on January 18, 2012 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

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 22nd day of November 2011.

(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

RAMON NGAYAAN - Vendor RACHEL ELSIE G. BOGNADON -Vendee Applicants

Case No: 94-01-224/2011-CA-871

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - GUISAD and Vice Versawith theuseofone(1)Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on on January 18, 2012 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.

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day of December 2011. (SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR Attorney IV

## TTMC Meets for Transpo Concerns....from page 1

vehicles from Lower Mabini street and Calderon street.

Blue pedestrian lanes exclusively for the use of senior citizens and PWDs were also requested, as with additional signages at said lanes.

A reclassification of trunkline colors was requested, but was endorsed to the Department of Transportation Communication (DOTC) and Land Transportation and Franchising Regulatory Board (LTFRB) as these are the proper offices to deal with said matters.

The need for public utility vehicles' drivers uniform as to identification and being frontliners, in coordination with the Baguio Tourism Council was also emphasized. Drivers and transportation personnel should be at their best, with color-coded uniforms, it was learned.

PUJ drivers in all trunklines; green, yellow, blue and red; should be in a light blue t-shirt with collar during Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and in casual during Sundays.

Green trunkline PUJ drivers should be in green shirt with collar on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; yellow trunkline PUJ drivers in yellow shirt with collar (TThS), blue trunkline PUJ drivers in white shirt with collar (TThS) and red trunkline PUJ drivers in red shirt collar on same days.

The use of seat belts, early warning devices during trips, were also pointed out; with the drivers in neat appearance with properly displayed DOTC-LTFRB identification card, in the vehicle.

Public Utility Bus driver-conductor and inspectors were also advised to sport their uniform; white shirt, with company and DOTC-LTFRB identification card during every trip. Drivers' uniforms for school service, tourist transport, shuttle service, trucks-forhire service, and van/utility van are also specified in the standards as to the 1-united transport koalisyon, CAR, Region 1 and II.

Several business establishments' request for exemption from the truck ban have been denied, citing the need for the committee to be consistent with ban implementation.

Moreover, request for parking spaces, loading and unloading areas for public utility vehicles associations have been denied, due to the rationalization scheme. Assigned areas for specific trunklines should be strictly enforced, TTMC members collectively agreed.

A set number of public utility vehicles however were given number coding exemption as to emergency repair situations./juliegfianza

#### City Expects to Bid

.....from page 2

to the national grid.

The terms also provided the schedule of remuneration to the city government and other concerned parties including the provincial government of Benguet, municipality of Tuba and barangays Tadiangan and Nangalisan where the plants are located and including the landowners whose properties are affected by the pipelines and plant facilities /A Refuerzo

#### **Advocacy Mindanow**

what it received. And the more it gave, the more sparkling waters flowed into it.

At a time like this, it may be good to look at ourselves.

Is your life so murky and stagnant as you only care for your own selves? Are you as selfish? Do you just receive and not give? And are you as dead as the Dead S e a?

Or are you so generous and selfless? Do you share your blessings to others especially to those who have less.? Do you give much more than you receive? Is your life sparkling and bountiful? And are you so vibrant, so full of life as the Sea of

THE WORLD OUTSIDE -When you see one in tattered clothes, knocking on your car door with outstretched hand, do you shoo him away telling yourself you should not be helping mendicants and beggars?Or you roll down your car window and give your lowest coin just so he conveniently disappears? Or you give him enough for a meal? When you have ordered so much in a restaurant and when you have so much untouched left overs, do you pack them in a doggie bag and not give it to your dog but to some waif loitering outside hoping you will give a second look? Do you look beyond your gated walls or farmhouse to the neighbor next door and get the feel of what their next meal can be, if at all? Or closer to home, how do you treat your househelps who work for you 24hours a day? Are you as generous to them as when you tip a 5-star hotel waiter for a quickie meal or coffee or to a snappy saluting and overly solicitous uniformed man? Are you finding out how your yaya ekes out a living to send her own children to school hoping her own children don't end up doing the same menial job later in their lives? Do you tend to find out from your business employees how they manage to keep body and soul together? And so on and so forth. And many more questions you yourselves can frame on your own.

Pause and think of the lessons of the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee. In the end, only you can tell.

A Blessed Christmas and a generous New Year to one and all!

#### This Baguio Girl.....

.....from page 2

From her work last Thursday, she obtained a document from the city social welfare and development office validating her plight and her family's inability to raise, much less shoulder, the cost of surgery.

Told people out there won't be able to help unless they know the difficulty she's in, Shirley agreed to have her case written.

After all, she was told, some people out there may have as their New Year's Resolution a commitment to be more generous and help the needy more often, as Shirley does as nurse of the BGHMC where she was born on April 28, 1971.

The youngest of five children, she finished sixth grade at the St. Louis University Center (1982) high school at SLU Girls High (1988) and nursing at the Pines City Educational Center (1992).

She passed the nursing board in 1994 and served for eight years as private nurse of her father, Edilberto, who was afflicted with and later died of emphysema and heart

ailment. Perlita, her eldest sister, works as telephone operator. Her brother Joseph died of heart ailment in 1994.Her sister Soledad is a factory worker in China while sister Julie serves as baby-sitter.

"My sisters will help but only as much as they can," she said.

As will people out there who feel the culture of caring that, for years, has been the mark of a boy or girl, who, like Shirley, hails from Baguio or the Cordillera. Or studied in the same schools she went to. Or also worked at the BGHMC.

Or anybody who, like the celebrities, finds inspiration in heroes from the ranks of ordinary mortals that CNN features before the end of the year, making people from all over closer to each other.

Shirley will be at the gynecology ward of the BGHMC until the 14<sup>th</sup>. She'll then take a leave to rest, pray and hope for a miracle that would raise P750,000 for the surgery.

It's a tall order of a New Year's Resolution imposed on a hardworking nurse who had witnessed miracles happen to her patients.

Those who want to make it happen for Shirley may ring her cell phone number (09175069431) or course their support through her Development Bank of the Philippines account number 05 10145859 560. They may drop by her address at 190 Armenia St., Quezon Hill./Ramon Dacawi.

#### City Government

.....from page 3

Botanical Garden, here Tuesday, Baguio Balikbayans as well as city officials and guests were treated to an afternoon of fun, entertainment, singing, laughter and local food cuisine such as locally brewed coffee, boiled 'kamote', barbeque and 'Pinikpikan' over an afternoon bonfire.

Baguio-Balikbayans who have travelled or have been travelling in the different parts of the world but who still take time to come back here in the city of Pines and some even opting to stay or maintain a home here, also shared their unforgettable experiences here in the city and some even offered songs for all the participants including the park goers during that day.

Local officials headed by Congressman Bernardo Vergara, Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda, Councilor Phillian Weygan and city tourism officer Benny Alhambra also joined the balikbayans in the said simple but meaningful celebration of the yuletide season.

Tabanda, in an interview, stressed that the said activity, which was held for the first time, aims to give recognition to the city's balikbayans, both domestic and international, and to make them feel that Baguio city is truly their home.

"We also want to promote Baguio as a home for every family where they are always welcome to return to," Tabanda added.

The city government also enjoined all the participants to help in crafting a development plan for the city of Baguio. The participants were given a survey form to answer on how they remember the city, how they see it today and on what Baguio City they want to see in the future./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

#### PRC - Baguio

#### .....from page 3

In line with this, Sison also lauded Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE-CAR) OIC Regional Director Atty. Sixto Rodriguez for committing a room in their regional office for such program.

Meantime, Sison also assured that they will continue to bring in their services closer to their clients and for 2012, they are also planning to add Vigan or Laoag in the Ilocos and Rosales, Pangasinan among its testing areas for the Nursing Licensure Exam (NLE) and Licensure Exam for Teachers (LET), the two professional examination with the large number of examinees.

PRC-Baguio conducted the NLE examinationin four testing areas, namely, Dagupan City in Pangasinan, Cabanatuan City in Nueva Ecija, San Fernando, La Union and Baguio City.

"Bringing in the PRC examinations closer to our clients will help them save time and money, as well as the convenience of taking the examination near to their homes," Sison said./ JDP/LD-PIA CAR

#### **Temperature**

#### .....from page 12

son prevails, continues to blow and being felt in this part of the country.

The lowest temperature recorded in Baguio City so far was 6.1 degrees Celsius registered in 1961. In the recent years, the 7.8 °C registered in 2005 was the coldest temperature on record.

In line with the cold weather, Department of Health (DOH-CAR) Regional Director Dr. Myrna Cabotaje, in a kapihan forum today, advised the public to keep themselves warm and healthy.

According to Cabotaje, the public should always wear clothes that would keep them warm or always bring with them sweaters or jackets as upper respiratory illnesses including cough and cold are common during this cold season.

Cabotaje also advised the public to maintain a healthy etiquette such us covering their mouth while coughing and sneezing especially when in public or crowded places.

She also reminded the public to drink lots of water or fluids and keep a healthy lifestyle, as well as to improve their nutrition and resistance by taking or maintaining a balanced diet.

Meantime, Cabotaje also reiterated that natural fruits and vegetables are still the best source of Vitamin C and that Vitamin C supplements are water soluble that can be easily washed away from the body.

"If you are not getting the daily requirement of vitamin C and you are not eating natural fruits and vegetables, then Vitamin C supplementation is needed", Cabotaje added. /JDP/LD-PIA CAR

## Pinupuna at Pinapansin

....from page 4

at alamin ninyo kung na bigyan na ng Mayors Office ng development permit ang mga subdivision na inyong ka transak. Tandaan mabuti, sabi nila na dalawa lang daw ang klase ng tao sa mundo isang manloloko at isang naloloko. Ang sabi ko naman ay tatlo ang klase ng tao sa mundo, isang manloloko, isang naloloko at isang hindi nag papaloko. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL AND MAY WE ALL HAVE A BLESSED 2012!!!

#### **PRC Excom approves**

#### .....from page 7

CAR staff, which the Commission on Audit (COA) disapproved, has stated that the CRDAP entails a gargantuan task which used to be performed by a fully staffed Cordillera Executive Board. (CEB).

CRDAP has three components namely Information, Education and Communication Campaign (IEC); Capability Building; and Program Management and Continuing Engagement with National Government.

In an earlier RDC ExCom meeting in Ifugao last November 16, several members pushed for the creation of a PMO. Director Clarence Baguilat of DENR who chairs the Economic Development Committee said that the PMO should continue with IEC and capability building work on regional autonomy. He also suggested lobbying as a special task within continuing engagement with national government.

The RDC made regional autonomy its over-arching goal during a strategic planning session in early 2006. In 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2011 it was given a special autonomy fund by the national government in the amount of P15 million each except in 2008 when it received P18 million. No autonomy money was received in 2009.

Due to operational bottlenecks, the RDC had not fully utilized some of the funds.

With the PMO, we hope the RDC can do justice to the special autonomy fund, Quitos said./PIA CAR/MU-NEDA CAR

#### **Editorial**

#### ..... from page 4

year question is simpler," Sun Star said. "Will life become better for us? Will more of us live to comb grey hair?" These require a U-turn from Macapagal-Arroyo policies.

A subservient Ombudsman, meanwhile, has been replaced by the towering former Justice Conchita Carpio Morales. Former President Arroyo is under hospital arrest. In the New Year, the anti-graft court will raffle three giants sleaze cases filed by the Ombudsman against GMA, former First Gentleman and other officials for the botched National Broadband Network (NBN) deal with Chinese telecommunications firm, ZTE Corp. Impeachment trial against Supreme Court chief Justice Renato Corona begins.

The end of 2011 survey, by Social Weather Stations, found President Aquino continues to enjoy backing across all socioeconomic classes. He reaped "very good" net satisfaction score of +58, or 71 percent satisfied. There were 13 percent dissatisfied in the satisfied of the satis

That provides a start, so our grandkids may comb grey hair. "For last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another's voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning," T.S. Eliot said./Juan L. Mercado

# Town Officials Pushes ....from page 9

The costume that goes with it is the "gamit" (tolge) for the women with the inipul or attake (beads) while dinuyya is dance for common people of Lagawe.

"Futage' is gong beating that provides music and accompaniment of the Ayangan dance of Lagawe while ethnic ensemble is a modern concept popularized by performing arts in the 1980s when alternative music was appreciated. Ethnic musical instrument are used to accompany the performance of the

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

SPS. SILVERIO & NGINGI - AN - Vendor JOCELYN A. PANAYO -Vendee Applicants

Applicants
Case No: 2001-BC-321/2011-CAR-869

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, and Vice Versawith the use of one (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on on January 18, 2012 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.

Atleast 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 acopy 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 deemnecessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B.CLAVER-Regional Director this 22nd day of  $\,$  December 2011.

(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
Bagulo City

IRENE CONCEPCION - Vendor RACHEL ELSIE G. BOGNADON-Vendee Applicants

Case No: 2004-BAG-CAR-1456/2011-CAR-872

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience with Dropping ang Substitution of unit to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION. and Vice Versawith the use of one (1) Unit.

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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 or all evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B.CLAVER-Regional Director this 22nd day of December 2011. (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

MARIVIC ONG - Vendor DAVID JOSEPH L. BOGNADON - Vendee Applicants

Case No: 2004-BAG-CAR-2088/2011-CAR-870

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - LOURDES - DOMINICAN . and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on on January 18, 2012 at 10:00 PM. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applications of the state of the sta

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newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera

NOTICE once in one (1) we new spaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the supported by documentary once on or before the above date, furnishing acopy

supported by documentary of the same to the applicant. This application shall be documentary evidences to receive additional documentary evidences on the beside of the documentary evidences.

WITNESS, the Hono
CELINA B.CLAVER-Regional Director this 22nd day of December 2011.

D) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR Attorney IV

Today, ethnic ensemble refers to the production of musicual sounds of different ethnic instruments in unison. The ensemble could be used accompany ethnic songs/music performance with or without human vocal music./JDP/MBL-PIA CAR,Ifugao

#### DSWD-CAR turns over 50 core **Shelter Houses to Typhoon Victims**

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD-CAR) turned-over 50 core shelter houses last December 21 to beneficiaries in barangay Tue, Tadian Mt. Province whose house were damaged by past

DSWD-CAR Operations Division head Janet Armas, in an interview explained that in the Core Shelter Assistance Project, the department is providing P70,000 for the construction materials of the core houses, which are pre-identified in coordination with the involved local government units (LGUs).

The counterpart of the family beneficiaries with the assistance of the community and the LGUs is constructing the house based on the model and design set under the project.

The DSWD earlier turned over last April 40 units of core shelter to said barangay. 81 more core shelter houses are still under construction which are set to be turned-over upon completion in 2012.

According to Armas, DSWD-CAR has already completed 225 core houses in the various parts of Cordillera, 216 are undergoing construction, and 162 more are up for implementation.

Armas said that for the province of Apayao, there is P7,070,000 project fund for 31 core shelter in the municipality of Pudtol and 50 in Sta. Marcela. For Benguet, 51 core shelters are under-construction in the municipality of Tublay for a total project fund of P3.57 Million.

For Kalinga, Armas affirmed that they have already completed 15 core shelter project for the municipality of Pinukpuk and that 100 more are up for fund release and already undergoing social preparation for construction in Tabuk City.

For the province of Ifugao, DSWD has already completed 43 core shelter houses in the municipalities of Lamut, Lagawe, Hungduan, Hingyon and Tinoc, while four more are still under-construction in the municipality of Kiangan./JDP/LD-PIA

#### **Retired Mentors** come up with new According to the **Book on Bontoc Culture** members of the re-

BONTOC — The Association of Retired Mentors (ARM) successfully launched the book on "Bontoc Culture" Volume 1 and other related publications that serves as shadows of the past, falling onto the present and reaching into the future.

The book documents and captures the spirit and unique Bontoc culture towards understanding the significance and meaning of symbols, chants, signs, dances, folk stories and the cultural protocol as well. It varies from enumeration of facts, real events or happenings, local histories and

The book highlights the cultural way of protecting inbackground of Bontoc; the tradi- rights. The book

children's literature. tired mentors, the

tional social systems and practices; local heroes and stories of local cultural heritage. people; compilation of bedtime folk stories for children; collines; compilation of short stories with lessons to learn; Bontoc culture tidbits for advocacy; legends and other experiences including travels in other countries by Bontoc individuals living

outside the country. This is under the Project Roots which was launched on August 1, 2011.

1 page : P14,000.00

tired mentors. Aside tural dances, indig-

als, and chants. There are about Bontoc./PIA CAR/

enous prayer recit-

bought from the lection of punch members of the refrom books, a CD may soon be produced when enough materials are gathered for instructional purposes demonstrating the authentic cul-

documentation is a

tellectual property

makes part of a series

of other documenta-

tions about Bontoc

available and can be

The books are

54 members who are actively participating in the preservation of indigenous customs and traditions of WM-Bontoc LGU



### SSS Disburses P10B for 13th Mont Bonuses, December BAGUIO CITY - The Social Security

Members System (SSS) disbursed P10 billion for the payment of the December regular pension, plus 13th month bonuses of the over 1.6 million pensioners nationwide.

This was disclosed by SSS-Baguio Sr. Communication Analyst Mariane Garcia, in an interview over PIA Hour radio program over DZWT, Thursday.

According to Garcia, SSS President and CEO Emilio De Quiros Jr. personally talked to their partner conduit banks to request them to credit the funds to the pensioners' accounts within the first week of December as about 99 percent of SSS pensioners are enrolled in the 'Mag-impok sa Bangko' (MSB) program, which enables them to withdraw their pensions through Automated Teller Machines (ATMs).

'At present SSS has 114 accredited conduit banks under the MSB program,' Garcia said.

For those who still receive their pensions as checks, Garcia affirmed that De Quiros made sure that as early as November 15, their December pension and 13th month checks are already sent out through mail.

Garcia also stressed, that it has been a tradition for SSS to double the amount that each of their pensioners will receive every December for a more meaningful and glorious Christmas celebration for SSS pensioners and their families.

This year, SSS also included P5.51 billion for retirement, P4.1 billion for dependents of deceased members, P210.01 Million for partial disability and P165.31 Million for total disability.

As of June this year, SSS already has about 30 million members nationwide including employers, employees, self-employed and voluntary members. For SSS Luzon North, which includes the Cordillera, SSS has over 1.5 million members.

For member's benefits, as of June this year, SSS have already disbursed over P41 Million in social security benefits, employee's compensation and pension.

Garcia also reported that in the first eight months of 2011 alone, SSS collected P57.25 billion contributions which includes about P50.04 Billion from employees, who comprises the bulk of its membership. /JDP/LD-PIA CAR

### Temperature drops to 11.4°C, DOH advises Public to keep warm and physical and Astro- last two weeks.

Healthy

BAGUIOCITY-Tourists coming to Tuesday morning the city this yule- recorded the temtide season are being welcomed by cold weather as the temperature continues to drop as the new year gets closer.

Atmospheric, Geo-

nomical Administration (PAGASA) perature at 11.4 de-Celsius, grees lower than the 12°C recorded dawn of Monday, Dec. 26, following the 14°C The Philippine temperature that prevailed over the

According PAGASA Baguio Salvador chief Olinares, the public should expect colder mornings in the city until February as the northeasterly winds from the countries near the North Pole where the winter sea-Cont. on page 11

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