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Accepting  
Nominations for  
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# THE JUNCTION

**WEEKEND** P8.00

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## DENR Denies ESL Site at Itogon

**BAGUIO CITY** – Mayor Mauricio Domogan is still in high hopes that a feasible site for an Engineered Sanitary Landfill (ESL) for the BLISST will materialize soon.

This, after reports of the planned ESL site in Ampucao, Itogon, Benguet has been recommended not feasible for the said project by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (DENR-PAWB) for its status as a protected area.

“There’s nothing we can do if it falls under the protected area zone”, Domogan said during the Weekly Ugnayan Presser Wednesday.

The Ampucao ESL site was endorsed earlier to the DENR which said that it is under the Lower Agno Water Forest Reserve.

Domogan however wants to seek help from the DENR to pinpoint an area which could be a feasible site for said ESL project.

“I do hope that the DENR can help and I am sure that they are also looking for other alternatives”, Domogan said.

“They have a complete map of their areas of jurisdiction and it is better that DENR will identify an area suitable as an ESL site”, he stressed.

“What we can do now is **Cont. on page 10**



*Launching, Induction of Officers and Oath Taking of the officers and members of the Pangasinense Anti Crime and Corruption Inc. (PACC) held on September 29, 2012, 11 AM at the Sta. Catalina Spirituality Center, Marcos Hi-way. Left photo from left to right is Odell P. Aquino, PACC Executive Director delivering his keynote speech while those listening are Mr. Dennis Palafox PACC- Board Member, Mr. Nestor Castro-PACC Board Member, Ms. Kyle De Guzman (standing) – PACC Board Member, Former First lady Imelda R. Marcos- Guest of Honor, Ramon “Jun” Labo Jr.,- Interim PACC Honorary Chairman, Mr. Rey Diaz-PACC Board Member, and Mr. Nelson Tuano – PACC Board Member. Right photo shows the initial PACC general membership attendees. While the PACC is an anti crime and anti graft group, nevertheless it’s main thrust is to provide realistic, doable and credible livelihood and livelihood support systems to its members on a regular/monthly basis. More photos at The Junction’s Next issue./Photo by Orwen Trazo*

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**Marami namang  
maayos (eco-friendly) na solusyon  
sa basura kung ang mga opisyal  
na dapat magbigay ng kalutasan ay  
hindi mga KORAP, kaya sa  
darating na halalan, iboto ulit ang  
mga KORAP at TANGA !!!**

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THE PEACE COMBATANT

ADVOCACY MINDANOW

PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

On HB 6069 or  
“Privatization” of Hospitals

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



Dangers of Back  
Channeling

BY: JESUS DUREZA



Pangasinense Anti Crime &  
Corruption Inc., TANGANG  
POLPOLITIKO !!!

BY: ODELL P. AQUINO



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on page 5



## Mayor Reactivates Anti-Vice Task Force

**Force** BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan reactivated the city's Anti-Vice Task Force in an effort to intensify the campaign against bad indulgences that compromise the behavior of youth and restore law and order for the benefit of local residents and tourists.

The mayor and vice mayor will head the task force with the city police director as action officer and the following as members: city health officer, city permits and licensing officer, city social welfare and development officer, public order and safety division head and city fire marshal.

With the task force's reactivation, the city will revive the conduct of regular inspections of night establishments all over the city to ensure that they are complying with ordinances.

In his Administrative Order No. 127, the mayor also formed three teams each from the agencies involved and named their members to ensure continued operations.

In his order, the mayor mandates the task force to immediately conduct intensified operations in erring establishments and to ensure that the different teams are actively discharging their duties including the regular submission of reports on actions undertaken.

As expressed in the order, the city mayor will supervise and control the activities of the task force while the action officer will coordinate the meetings before and after the inspections to be conducted by each team.

The city police will provide security to the teams. The city health office through its reproductive health and wellness center and sanitation division will monitor the registration of entertainers, food handlers and other night workers through updated health certificates, working and sanitary permits and monitor good sanitation in and outside the establishments.

The permits and licensing office will monitor and ensure compliance with business permit requirements and impose sanctions to erring establishments.

The city social welfare and development office will serve as the case manager of the task force and will coordinate and implement programs on anti-violence against women and children and anti-human trafficking cases.

The POSD will assist the task force in checking permits and will act as secretariat of the task force.

The Bureau of Fire Protection will check the compliance of establishments to the provisions of the New Fire Code of the Philippines.

The mayor's order took roots from Executive Order No. 6 series of 2004 that created the first task force of said nature./A Refuerzo

**Cambay Comes with a Code for Mayor Welcomes Athletic Bowl**  
**Police Officers to Live by** longer exercise what used to **Dev't Terms Approval** Palaganas to pass the TOR which

New Baguio police chief, Sr. Supt. Jesus Cambay Jr., launched Wednesday with mayor M a u r i c i o Domogan an 11-

point code he had formulated and announced upon his assumption last Sept. 3 as guidepost of all members of the force under his tour of duty.

Under Rule 5 of the credo of Residents would no longer see police officers smoke in public places, do cellphone texting or put their hands in their pockets while walking the beat.

To these "Simple Things" Cambay added five sub-points for officers on mobile patrol. These are topped by a reiteration of Rule 5: "I shall not violate traffic rules and regulations except during extreme emergencies".

Likewise, residents can expect police officers to smile and be courteous at all times, to respond promptly to all emergency cases.

to do their best to fight all kinds of crimes, be neat, and to keep their offices and patrol cars clean.

At the launching at the Burnham Park station, the police officers also vowed to respect senior citizens, women, children and persons with disabilities. Simply, too, the men and women of the Barangay Police Action Teams (BPATS) being created and expanded to strengthen community partnership in peace and order maintenance. Members of the force will no

by longer exercise  
what used to  
be a simple yet  
classic act of arro-  
gance of power by  
those on patrol  
cars or motor-  
cycles.

They swore  
not to obstruct  
traffic.

In return, citizens led by members of the transport group headed by Diony Itliong also launched five-point guidepost titled "simple things I (as citizen) can do to help the Baguio City Police Office":

"I shall respect the police, soldiers, jail officers, firemen and persons in authority; obey traffic rules and regulations, obey the anti-littering and waste management laws and ordinances, help disseminate emergency contact numbers of the police, and to report crimes, including violations of ordinances on waste management and traffic."

Together with the “Simple Things”, the police force has also printed a four-page pamphlet on crime prevention tips focusing on deterring robbery, car n a p p i n g, snatching and pick-pocketing, security of resi-

**Cont. on page 10**

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor **Mauricio Domogan** welcomed the city council's approval of the proposed terms of reference (TOR) for the development of the Athletic Bowl saying it will jumpstart the process he described as long and meticulous.

"I thank the council for passing the TOR which in fact is only the conceptual plan for the project. I hope there will be no delay so the project will pass channels smoothly and will be approved as early as possible," the mayor said.

The mayor said the TOR will be brought back to the technical working group for the preparation of the feasibility study which will be referred back to the city council for the conduct of a public hearing to establish its social acceptability.

Afterwhich,

the project will undergo several more steps which include reviews by the Regional Development Council, the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and the investments center until the time that it will be bid out and the contract will be drawn again to pass the city council for confirmation.

The mayor said the process is indeed long and tedious and thus will allow no room for irregularity.

Despite the stir caused by a councilor's tirade and bribery claims, the city council last Mon-

day approved the proposed mustering the required eight votes from Councilors Richard Carino, Nicasio Aliping Jr., Elmer Datuin, Fred Bagbagen, Joel Alangsab, Erdolfo Balajadia, Philian Weygan-Allan, and Nicasio

Palaganas to pass the TOR which Carino said are in order.

Councilors Isabelo Cosalan, Peter Fianza, Karminn Cheryl Dinney Yangot and project critic Edison Bilog abstained from voting while Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda and Perlita Rondez were out of the session hall during the voting.

The body in a separate move also voted to elevate Councilor Bilog's allegations of bribery and of the project being a "done deal" to the Office of the Ombudsman for investigation "in the spirit of transparency, equity and integrity."

“Councilor (Bilog) filed his affidavit to the committee on Ethics, Governmental Affairs dated Sept. 10, 2012 referring to the ‘attempted bribery’ after he refused to name the person during the council session,  
**Cont. on page 10**

## Dads Mull Set-up Of Pocket Eco-Zones in City

**BAGUIO CITY** – The city council is considering whether or not to allow the establishment of satellite or pocket special economic

ty zones (ecozones) in various parts of the city pondering the move's advantage and disadvantage in terms of the revenues that will accrue to the city.

The body last Monday endorsed the application for the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) registration of Abnaco Square to operate a business process outsourcing or call center facility at its building along Abnaco St. but the move was subject to a condition that Abnaco Square will continue to pay its business tax obligations as it will

continue to operate as a real estate lessor and only a portion of the establishment will be operated as PEZA-registered facility.

On the other hand, the body deferred action on the application of Neutrino Enterprise also for PEZA registration to run a similar information technology (IT) facility along Magsaysay Avenue seeing the need for further study as unlike Abanao Square, Neutrino has yet to construct its building and set up office for the business.

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# THE JUNCTION



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# JUETENG

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## DepEd now Accepting Nominations for Outstanding Public School Students

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet —The Department of Education (DepEd)- Cordillera announced that the search committee is ready to accept nominations for the Kabayan Ten Outstanding Public School (TOPS) students for 2012-2013.

DepEd regional director Ellen Donato said the TOPS gives recognition to public high school students who, despite facing challenging circumstances, have achieved success in academic work and student leadership.

The search is open to all currently enrolled fourth year public high school students nationwide. It has two categories- academic excellence and exemplary leadership categories.

For the Kabayan Academic Excellence Awards, there will be four winners. One each from Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao and the National Capital Region.

Jhonard Galicia of Tabuk City National High School was last years' winner representing the Cordillera and landed as one of the top five finalist for Luzon.

The deadline for submission of nominations at the school level is Nov. 16, and Dec. 21 for the division level search.

Aside from medals, certificates and cash awards, the winners will also enjoy full college scholarship in participating schools including the payment of miscellaneous fees plus a monthly allowance during the entire duration of the college course. /JDP/JBZ-PIA CAR

## Nutritional Status Of 0-5 Year Old Children in Cordillera Steadily Improving

BAGUIO CITY - The nutritional status of Cordillera children age 0 to 5 years old is steadily improving as reflected in the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI) 2011 Survey on the Nutritional Status of Filipino Children and other population groups.

Based on the said survey, prevalence of undernourished 0-5 year old children improved to 11.9 percent compared to the 2008 FNRI statistics of 15.5 percent. Cordillera malnutrition rate among the said children age bracket is also much better compared to the national average of 20.2 percent.

For the prevalence of un-

derweight children per provinces, improvements were recorded in Abra - from 33.6 to 16.4 percent; Ifugao - 14.9 to 7.2 and Kalinga 19.8 to 17, while slight increases in underweight prevalence rate were recorded in Apayao - 19.8 to 20.4 percent; Benguet - 5.8 to 9 percent; and Mt. Province - 9.4 to 9.7 (same reference year of 2008 to 2011 FNRI data).

Department of Social Welfare and Development - Cordillera (DSWD-CAR) Regional Nutritionist and Dietician Marcia Espinueva, in a recent media forum, credit the improvement in the malnutrition rate to the efforts being done by both the local govern-

ment units and the national government.

Espinueva stressed that though the Local Government Code devolved the nutrition concerns to the different LGUs nationwide, the national government through the DSWD is providing assistance through the implementation of the Supplementary Feeding Program.

In the Cordillera, the Supplementary Feeding Program provides nutritious hot meals to 45,089 day care children in 2,056 day care centers all over the region. The feeding program which runs for 120 days includes rice and viand made from indigenous or local food products that are readily available

Cont. on page 10

## City Gov't, Baguio Foreign Communities Share a Day of Fun and Entertainment

BAGUIO CITY - The city government of Baguio celebrated its international sisterhood ties with foreign communities in the city in a day of fun and entertainment at the SM City Baguio, Sunday.

The event also showcased sister-city exhibit and free Chinese, Japanese and Korean tea-sampling as well as of other delicacies from Baguio's foreign communities.

Philippine International Sisterhood and Twinning Association (PHISTA) co-chair, Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda, in welcoming the guests, participants and the mall goers during the event, said the activity is part of the Baguio's month-long anniversary celebration this September involving Baguio's foreign communities.

She gave a short briefing on Baguio City's sisterhood programs with other government units locally and abroad, which main objective is to promote national/international peace, cooperation and development.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan, in his message, stressed that the yearly celebration of Baguio Day that showcases not only the beauty of Baguio but also the hospitality of the people, will not be complete without giving tribute to Baguio's sister cities, both local and international, who somehow have become strong pillars in the city's continuing journey towards peace, development and progress.

He expressed in behalf of the people of Baguio the city's gratitude to its sister cities for the contributions they made for the city's development as well as to the city's Chinese, Japanese and Korean communities for joining them in celebrating Baguio's 103rd Foundation Anniversary.

During the event, the Baguio City National High School (BCNHS) Special Program of the Arts provided cultural shows which featured popular Filipino dances accompanied by their rondalla band.

The Chinese provided song and dance numbers, a group of Korean teens showcased K-Pop entertainment numbers while some Japanese youngsters paraded/modeled Anime Cosplay (Japanese Animation Characters costume play)./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

## CAR Watersheds Crucial to North Luzon Life Support System- Alvarez

TABUK CITY, Kalinga - The Cordillera region watershed areas supplying the major river networks that traverse various food production areas in the region and the Cagayan Valley provinces are crucial in sustaining the life support system not only of Northern Luzon but the entire country.

Commissioner of the Climate Change Commission and former environment secretary Heherson T. Alvarez under-

scored this during a recent meeting with the officials of Tabuk city and the private sectors saying that this is the reason why the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) national office is tapping Tabuk City to model the preparation programs in mitigating climate change in the region.

Alvarez emphasized the need to prepare the people on the inevitable occurrence of changing weather conditions and the im-

pact it may cause on the people and their communities.

This is where the local government and private sector play an important role in adopting the anticipatory approach to possible disasters to help build resiliency among communities, he said.

The fight against climate change, according to Alvarez, is a "daunting task, but if we work together (through public private partnership) it would be easier to accomplish



**Cong. Bernardo M. Vergara cuts the ribbon and opens a bridge and newly finished riprap wall in Barangay San Luis. The construction of the footbridge and riprapping was made possible through the Congressman's initiatives for barangay soft infrastructure projects./Photo by Glenn Patogan**

## Higher Penalties for Abuse of Medical Certificates Pushed

Abusive use of medical certificates in any administrative and judicial proceedings will be slapped with stiffer penalties after the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights endorsed Senate Bill No. 3211 (An Act Increasing Penalty for Falsification of Medical Certificates, Certificate of Merits or Services and the Like).

"The bill focuses on certificates, medical, merits or services that are being used to affect any government proceedings like congressional or court hearings. Oftentimes, a respondent skips a hearing by using medical condition as an excuse as attested by a medical certificate," Senator Chiz Escudero, committee chairman, said.

The bill, which was authored by Senator Lito Lapid, aims to increase the penalties for falsifying medical certificates to prison correctional which carries six months to six years imprisonment and a fine not exceeding P200,000. The current penalty is only six months imprisonment and a fine of P1,000.

Likewise, any physician, surgeon or public officer found guilty of issuing false certificates with criminal intent will face subsidiary imprisonment.

"The one who issued the false is criminally liable. But if he was bribed, coerced and has conspired with the a party to commit such act, that party is also criminally liable and will be a principal by inducement under the theory of conspiracy: that the crime of one is the crime of all," Escudero added./Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

something."

He said that the climate change is upon us, that if we do not address the issues now the whole civilization will be endangered.

In the Cordilleras, the preparation he said would be given focus in sustain-

ing the forest and watershed areas to prevent the drying up of the farmlands in the region and the lowland areas. He said that based on reports around five hectares of

forest cover in the region are being destroyed annually. Recovery of these lost forest cover he said needs to be addressed and strategically planned to maximize funds and resources.

Alvarez was recently in the city for the memorandum of agreement (MOA) signing for the conduct of projects for the mitigation of climate with Tabuk City as the

pilot area in CAR. Signatories of the MOA are the Tabuk City Government in partnership with the LikasDiwa Foundation Inc., DENR, PENRO Kalinga, Kalinga-Apayao State College and the Tabuk Waters.

Alvarez also graced the "Tabuk City: Handasa Climate Change Forum" participated by the academe, local officials and representatives from the private sector. /JDP/ GGD-PIA CAR, Kalinga



## Editorial That Never Was

The dog-eared papers, on our computer, dealt with Ferdinand Marcos padlocking the press. This September is the 40th anniversary when Marcos imposed *batas militar* in 1972.

One is an "Asso" or arrest-and-seizure order. Signed by Defense Minister Juan Ponce. raiding teams used them to arrest 22 Manila-based journalist "Here is mine," we told Associated Press Carl Zimmerman who'd hitched a ride to Camp Crame. "Foreign correspondent?", snapped the colonel who snatched the Asso "You're not to see these."

"Assos" were served on Free Press' Teodoro Locsin, Napoleon G. Rama, Daily Mirror Armando Doronila and others. We'd fractured something called "Proclamation 1081".

Our file has letters of protest, Jaime Zobel de Ayala, then ambassador to London received one from Financial Times editor JDF Jones "I express concern at detention by your government of our correspondent, Mr Juan L. Mercado." A cable from the Bulletin in Sydney says: "Our editor Donald Horne cabled President Marcos today requesting release.

"Senator (Daniel) Inouye interceded with the Philippine Embassy in Washington", Honolulu Star Bulletin editor A.A. Smyser wrote. Associated Press Managing editors and other US groups adopted resolutions on behalf of imprisoned journalists..." The late cartoonist "Corky" (Trinidad) sparked these protests.

## EDITORIAL

Memory anchors three essential elements for healing in a post-dictatorial regime, Inquirer Randy David writes

"Truth, justice and reparation... Today's young people hardly have an idea of what happened during 14 years of dictatorship" The idea of establishing is "museum of memories" is being floated.

Consider the Marcos Museum in Ilocos Norte. It houses the mausoleum that displays embalmed remains of Marcos, ala Lenin and Mao. Memorabilia include books, the bed he was born in, even questioned World War II medals.

Marcos medals were bogus, asserted a New York Times series, by Seymour Hersh in 1986 The Times used US National Archives research done by University of South Wales professor Alfred McCoy (His book "Closer Than Brothers", compares 1940 Philippine Military Academy graduates with those of Class 1972 who provided "the mailed fist for martial law: Ping Lacson, Gringo Honasan et al.)

Services given by Marcos and 23 others, to the 1st Cavalry Division in 1945, were "of limited military value," Times reports by Jeff Gerth and Joel Brinkley added. "At no time did the Army recognize that any unit, designating itself as *Maharlika*, ever existed as a guerrilla force in the years of Japanese occupation."

Yet, Marcos remains a hero to some. "Ilocos Norte has been an entire republic unto itself history-wise," Columnist Conrad de Quiros notes. Their version of history differs from the rest of the country. Does that upset anybody?

In 2007, Task Force Detainees of the Philippines opened a Martial Law Memorial Wall in Quezon City. A year earlier, Manila inaugurated its "Memorial Wall of the Victims of Martial law". Etched into the black marble are names of over 800 dictatorship victims, including Jose Diokno, student activist Lean Alejandro. "I die just when I see the dawn break", from Jose Rizal's poem *Mi Ultimo Adios*, is carved into the plaque.

What would go into a "Museum of Memories? Among other items, Senator Benigno Aquino prison diaries When coup rebels were poised to overrun Malacanang, in 1989, President, Corazon Aquino entrusted the Aquino diaries to Benedictine Rector Bernardo Perez.

Include the "Marcos Diaries." People Power crowds discovered them in cardboard boxes, stashed in an obscure Malacañang corner. Ambeth Ocampo published, in his Inquirer column, excerpts, focusing on days that ushered in rule-by-bayonet. "The diaries are a primary source for the historian".

Handwritten in English, on Palace stationery, penmanship unusually neat, Marcos diaries offer a "compelling story of a complex man who sought to document his place among the world's great leaders", writes, Los Angeles Times correspondent William C. Rempel in his book: "Delusions of a Dictator".

Instead, they show "a deceiver who lied to his allies, to his nation, his wife, and, at times, even to his own diary... It documents fears and fantasies that drove a paranoid, messianic leader to depths of deceit and to the heights of authoritarian power."

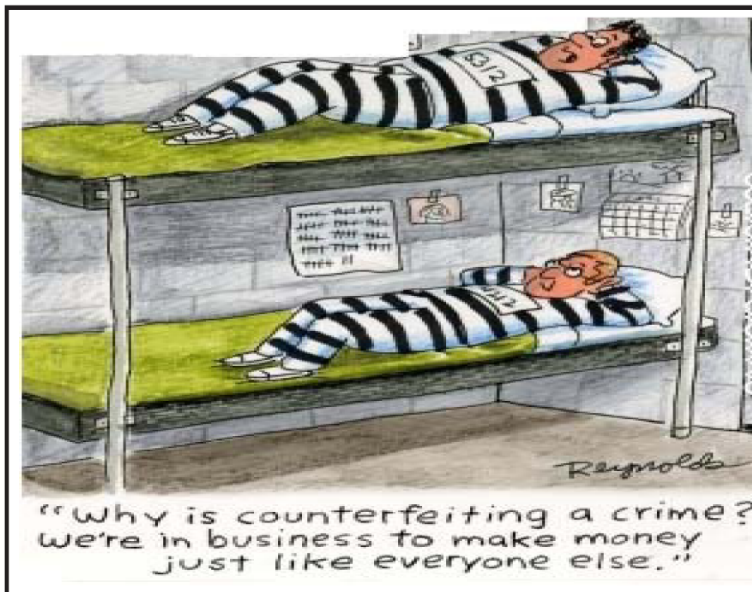
Marcos Diaries provide an answer for a puzzle that bugged journalists over: a second pooled editorial that never was.

The first-ever pooled editorial here skewered "Compartmentalized Justice" of a decaying "New Society. Upon request of Chino Roces, Manila Times Alfredo Rocas wrote the draft. All dailies ran it on the same day. President Ferdinand Marcos went ballistic.

Malacañang phone calls went to publishers with less grit. When a follow-up pooled editorial was proposed, the now defunct Evening News hastily bailed out, Viewpoint recalls. Others waffled. Thus, a second pooled editorial never materialized. Why?

In his January 12, 1971 diary entry, Marcos wrote: Evening News publisher "Freddie" Elizalde showed me a copy of an editorial which Chino Rocas wanted to be pooled by all the newspapers castigating me and asking for my resignation and that of the cabinet. For good measure the editorial included the Vice-President. It was opposed by Freddie and (Philippine Herald) Sebastian Ugarte.... What a ridiculous spectacle Chino Rocas is making of himself."

"Journalists must remind people of what they prefer to forget", columnist Simeon Dumdung wrote in "Speak Memory." Battling amnesia, in the end, is "the struggle of man against tyranny." Juan L. Mercado



## THE PEACE COMBATANT

On HB 6069 or  
"Privatization" of Hospitals

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



A bill calling for the "privatization" of hospitals is currently in the works. This is House Bill 6069 by Rep. Anthony Rolando T. Golez and Senate Bill 3130 by Senator Franklin Drilon. Under the bill, at least 26 public hospitals will be transformed and converted into **government-owned and controlled corporations** or **GOCCs**. Critics of the bill report that the bill will eliminate the budget for maintenance and other operating expense or MOEE of the public hospitals by 2014. Critics also claim that the allocation for personal services will be eliminated under the bill by 2020. There are reports that the Baguio General Hospital is among those included in the list of the 26 hospital that will be privatized. Local media report that the Provincial Board of Benguet opposes the bill.

In defending his "baby," Congressman Anthony Golez, proponent of the bill, claimed that HB 6069 will provide timely and accessible health services for the poor. He argued that HB 6069 would allow fiscal autonomy and flexibility in the management of government hospitals and claimed that is against the privatization of government hospitals.

In the mind of the **Peace Combatant**, privatization per se will not necessarily lead into the deterioration of services of health services. For example, privatization can take the form of genuine cooperatives handling some of the basic services that can lead to the improvement of social services and equitable distribution of returns. A cooperative is essentially private and privatization can involve the conversion of certain services provided by government into services provided by cooperatives. However, in the context of the Philippine economic and political environment, the most likely scenario that can arise with the conversion of government hospitals in government owned and controlled operations is that it will become more vulnerable to being controlled by private interests. In the opinion of the **Peace Combatant**, the forward step towards improving public health services, especially for the poor, is to target what type of services should be guaranteed for Filipinos in the area of diagnosis, laboratory analysis and equipment support services, and therapy.

A simple ocular observation and cursory review of our public hospitals indicate the following. **First**, affordable medical services in public hospitals are basically limited to having the patient be examined by students of medicine rather than by qualified physicians (hospitals say they are "supervised" by competent physicians). **Second**, many if not all of the laboratory examinations that will lead to accurate diagnosis of a disease are not free and are beyond the reach of ordinary people. Thus, it can turn out that a patient can be well attended by student physicians but does not really get reliable diagnosis because the patient was not able to afford a laboratory examination of his or her body specimen or condition.

**Third**, key medical equipment and tools are missing from our hospital or, if they are available, are usually defective. I have witnessed this myself when a friend submitted himself to an ECG examination by a public hospital only to be told that the ECG machine was not working or was defective or unreliable. **Fourth**, fundamental therapy equipments or services are fundamentally unavailable or prohibitive for many patients. This is true, for example, for dialysis, chemotherapy, and the like. Finally or **fifth**, rehab services especially those for stroke, heart attack, and accident victims are fundamentally unavailable or prohibited for patients. Thus, stroke and heart attack patients become unnecessarily bed-ridden without post-illness or rehab therapy.

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## ADVOCACY MINDANOW

### Dangers of Back Channeling

BY: JESUS DUREZA



I am watching with great interest — and amusement — at the on-going new “telenovela” now gripping the nation. No, not the popular “Walang Hanggan” nightly episode on TV. But the real life caper on the China issue starring **Senator Trillanes**. It reminds me of my own work in **Malacanang**. I had my own share of “back channeling” problems. I have a few thoughts to share, if I may.

\*\*\*\*

**BACK ROOM** — “Back channeling” is a complex game. It can be dangerous. It has to be properly managed to accomplish the desired results. Or it can blow up on our faces. And backfire.

It simply means sending someone to do “back room work”, outside the usual public glare and “below the radar screen” who quietly and discreetly and “behind the scene” engages another party. Usually he has goodwill with the other side and credible enough. Meaning he has the direct mandate and access to the “principal” or in the case of **Malacanang**, of the **President** no less. Of course, it is usually the practice that if the back channeler does not succeed, he merely disappears into the sunset and protects his principal from any negative fallout of a failed mission. This allows a certain level of deniability to protect the Presidency.

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**“PRINCIPAL”** — Malacanang resorting to back channel work is normal — in foreign diplomacy, politics, negotiations and in almost all levels of statecraft, local or foreign. But it is not a simple task. If it involves the **Presidency**, and the **President** as the “principal”, it is all the more complicated and requires astute handling. It is not a work for the amateurs. The principal must be discerning and careful to balance things considering the sensitivity of the task. He must have a direct handle of the mission and gets all the players together periodically for updating so that everyone is on the same page and speaks with one voice and the mission properly executed, each one playing his respective role. The “principal” can also “compartmentalize” the mission, meaning letting the players know things on a “need to know” basis. That means the “actors” must understand the roles they have to play and if they feel they cannot accept honorably some protocols, they can quietly take leave and go (resign) to allow the mission to be accomplished in the end. In short, the principal must be a virtuoso conducting the orchestra. A discordant note will be his responsibility and he must address them personally. Especially matters of statecraft. If the principal is not capable of doing this properly, then back channeling will be counterproductive.

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**DANGERS** — It is a sensitive undertaking. For example, the cabinet secretary concerned must be “kept in the loop” and must help manage the scenarios with the behind-the-scene person. If this is not done, the official will feel he is “short-circuited” or sidelined and kept in the dark. Or it can be interpreted to mean that the “principal” does not totally trust the cabinet official to carry out the mission, hence another one is commissioned to do the job. When this happens, a variety of naughty and negative consequences can happen. For example, both Cabinet official and the “backroom worker” will try to outdo or outshine the other. Or that they work in cross purposes. Or worse, they undermine each other. Consequently, the issue blows up on their faces, and ultimately smears the principal. End result: mission not accomplished! And a

## PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

### Pangasinense Anti Crime & Corruption Inc., TANGANG POLPOLITIKO !!!

BY: ODELL P. AQUINO



**Pangasinense Anti Crime & Corruption Inc., or PACC** for short ay isang bagong tayong grupo kung saan ang maraming mga pangangailangan ng mga Pangasinense at ng kanilang mga pamilya at mga mahal sa buhay ang ma tutugunan. Ang pangnunahing layunin ng PACC ay livelihood projects and livelihood support programs at ang laban sa katiwalian o anti graft and corrupt practices kung tutuusin ay secondary objective na lamang ng grupo. Sa ating pananaw kapag may supisyenteng hanap buhay at hindi ganoon karami ang mga taong nagutom ay mababawasan rin ang mga krimen hingil sa katiwalian. Abangan ninyo mga dear readers ang monthly livelihood programs na ating ipatutupad, isang halimbawa nito ay ang Pangkabuhayan Christmas Fund Raising raffle with the principal beneficiaries ay ang mga indigent PACC members at sila ang ma bibigyan ng mga livelihood business packages inclusive of training. By the way, ang mga prizes sa raffle na ito ay isang brand new Cherry Car, 3 motorcycles at 50 mobile phones. Maliban dito ay kung mapapalaki ng agaran ang grupo ay mayroon din tayong nakaplano na mag tayo ng isang credit and multi-purpose cooperative at marami pang mga ibat ibang practical and doable livelihood programs at hindi katulad ng mga programang ipagdasabi at pinagdasabi lamang ng mga **UNGAS** na polpolitiko kapag malapit na ang eleksyon. Siyanga pala, ang PACC ay isang non-profit, non-partisan and non-political organization kaya makasisiguro ang lahat na walang kandidato o ano man political group ang ieendorse ng PACC, mark my word. **Kaya ang mga polpolitiko at mga ibang tao na malilikot ang isip wala kayong mapapala sapagkat 100% I and the Board guarantee that the PACC will strictly be non – political and non-partisan hindi katulad ng mga ibang grupo jan na itinayo lamang ng mga polpolitiko para gamitin pang BLUFF, pang BOLJAK, pang GRIND, pang ISTIR etc., etc., etc., . Hay ! Hay ! Hay ! Katulad nitong isang polpolitikong ginagago at hinuhutulan lamang ng kanyang so called political adviser at Executive “Bobo” Secretary. Hay naku, Mr. Polpolitiko, bakit kung sino yun mga matinong nakikipagusap at nakikideal sayo at tapat sayo ay iyo pang pinagduududahan . Dapat sayo ay mauntog ng malaman mo ang pinag gagawa ng iyong Executive “Bobo” Secretary duon sa mga ibang grupo at mga ibang politikong kanyang nakasama na lahat ay kanyang **GINAGO** eh kung bakit ay parang na paka tanga mo na wala kang mahalata samantalang mismong syota mo ay kanyang sinisira sayo . Hay ! Hay ! Hay ! Tanungin mo kaya si Konsehal Datuin nung kanyang pina-resign si Mr. Executive “Bobo” Secretary mo!!! Kawawang polpolitiko. Pero huwag ka mag alala at sa takdang panahon ay malalaman mo rin ang katotohanan hingil sa iyong Executive “Bobo” Secretary”, aantayin lang muna naming na ma sa-id ka at maubusan ka nang masmasarap ang pag-untog sayo.**

lot of public recrimination and posturing ensue.

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**GOOD CHOICE** —The choice of a backroom worker is crucial. He must be acceptable and must have a previous track record of earlier contacts like being friends and had previous access with the other side. You don’t send someone who will still first look around if he has friends there to connect. He must also be capable of doing a quiet, self-effacing mission and willing to take the heat or absorb the negative consequences. Not everyone who “volunteers” can qualify, however **Cont. on page 10**

## KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

### The Reality of Philippine Politicians

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



**LIFE’S INSPIRATIONS:** “... whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all...” (Jesus Christ, our God and Savior, in Mark 10:43-44, the Holy Bible).

-000-

**THE REALITY OF PHILIPPINE POLITICIANS:** Is the “alignment” of the National Unity Party (NUP), which is composed of congressmen who were allies of former President Arroyo, with the Liberal Party (LP) of President Aquino, who run on a platform of running after the former president, good or bad for the Philippines?

Will the signing of a projected coalition agreement between the NUP and the LP—in reality the main protagonists in the 2010 presidential elections—mean a better life for Filipinos or what?

Whatever one may call the budding alliance between the NUP and the LP, something stands out in this previously-unthinkable merger: our politicians will forever remain politicians, looking only after their own interests, not really maintaining loyalties to any other politician.

After a politician gets down from power, none of those who professed loyalties and sang hosannas to high heavens to him or to her can be expected remain loyal to him or to her.

All politicians of this country at any given time will always be drawn to the next most powerful politician, and it is usually just a matter of time before the same politicians will have no qualms in abandoning their relationships with any politician whose end has come.

That is the sad reality of Philippine politics. That is in fact the reality of “balimbing”—or, multi-sided—politics. It is a kind of politics that does not take into account Biblical injunctions about those wanting to be in power.

-000-

**HACKING PROVES CYBERCRIME LAW INUTILE:** If hackers and computer criminals cannot be prevented in the hacking of important government websites despite the signing into law of the Cybercrime Law, or Republic Act 10175, it is clear that only ordinary Internet users—in short, the good citizens—who will bear the brunt and the inanities of the new cyber regulations.

As in the case of loose firearms, only those who legally use their computers and their Internet connections will be subject to the law and its harsh provisions, not the hackers.

As in the case of loose firearms, the hacking of the websites just the other day proved that the law is really toothless in pursuing cybercrimes, and holding responsible those who committed them. If we are looking for proof that the Cybercrime Law is really useless and will penalize only the good guys, this is it!

-000-

**SINGER ANDY WILLIAMS, 84:** So, “Moon River” singer Andy Williams is dead at 84. Our condolences to his love ones, but I am thankful to God, in the name of Jesus, that I was given an opportunity to see him perform, here in the Philippines, about three to four years **Cont. on page 9**

## Notice To The Public

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## DOKUMENTARYO PUBLIKO



BY: KYLE DE GUZMAN

this columnist will be back next issue

## DSWD Distributes 3rd Q Social Pension to Senior Citizens in Mt. Province

SABANGAN, Mt. Province — The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) released the social pension for the third quarter of this year of 190 indigent senior citizens of this town and the municipality of Bauko.

Joy Adalog of the Social Welfare and Development (SWAD) Team office - Mt. Province said each of the 103 pensioners are from this municipality and 87 from Bauko, receives a total amount of P1,500.00 covering the monthly pension of P500.00 for the months of July to September.

Adalog said the release of the social pension of qualified senior citizens from the other municipalities will follow certain schedule. Distribution of social pension to indigent senior citizens in the municipality of Tadian is scheduled on September 27 and 28, Bontoc is on October 15, Paracelis - Oct. 15 and 16, Sadanga - Oct. 16, Natonin - Oct. 17 and 18, Sagada - Oct. 18. Barlig and Besao are both scheduled on Oct. 19.

The Social Pension Program as provided for under Republic Act No. 9994 or the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010, provides a monthly assistance of P500 given on a quarterly basis to the identified indigent senior citizens who are frail, sickly or with disability, not receiving other pension benefits from government and private agencies, and no regular source of income, compensation or financial assistance from any member of the family to support their basic needs.

At present, the social pension is giving priority to senior citizens aging 77 years old and above, who are included in the list poor households as identified by DSWD's National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction/JDP/JBS-PIA CAR, Mt. Province

## Ifugao Tour Guides Undergo Cultural and Creative Tour Guiding Workshop

KIANGAN, Ifugao - Twenty five youth cultural workers, tourist guides and artists underwent a workshop on "Ifugao Youth Cultural and Creative Tour Guiding" at the Kiangan Youth Hostel here to enhance their capabilities as front liners in the agri-eco-tourism promotion of the province.

The four-day activity was a venue for the Ifugao youth and tour guides to

contribute, mobilize and commit the municipalities of the province to undertake an aggressive agri-eco-tourism development and promotion for economic productivity, sustainability, environmental conservation, protection, heritage awareness, appreciation and enhancement.

The training was a joint effort of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS), the municipal government unit of Kiangan, the Phil-

ippine Educational Theater Association (PETA) of Manila, the Ifugao Provincial Government, Department of Trade and Industry and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

GIAHS - Ifugao Project Coordinator Brenda Saquing urged the tour guides and youth participants to listen well and make use of this occasion to learn so that they can be effective in their

Cont. on page 9

## SC Health Ordinance for SCOFAD Guidelines for Finalization Amendment

BAGUIO CITY - A proposed amendatory ordinance has been filed by Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda to ensure the provision of more medical and health services to senior citizens in the city.

Resolution 014, s. of 1999 earlier states that senior citizens shall be provided with basic medical services in the district health centers and that individual records be kept by personnel of said office. This shall be done in coordination with the City Health Department, Office of Senior Citizen Affairs (OSCA) and Office of the Barangay Affairs.

In the proposed amendatory ordinance, however, a more specific procedure shall be adopted:

A registry of all senior citizens shall be prepared, and free individual health cards shall be issued to them. The client-senior citizens' well-being should then be monitored and their records maintained at the health centers. This shall be done through the City Health Services Office, the District Health Center and the Barangay Council.

The city government shall designate a duly licensed medical officer one day in a week, in each of the health districts, to attend to medical and health needs and to issue prescription to senior citizens.

Medical conditions that may require further assessment, treatment and/or management and other laboratory referrals shall be directed to the Main Health Center with approval of the City Health Officer, as to additional laboratory services.

Referrals to government hospitals may also be done. Senior citizens are entitled to an annual medical check-up at their respective District Health Center or at the Main Health Center, with prior scheduling and approval of the City Health Officer.

The mandatory 20% discount shall apply for medicines dispensed at the health centers, and laboratory fees as well.

For indigent senior citizens, a certification from the City Social Welfare and Development Office and other offices may be required for them to avail of free medicines and services.

The proposal is anchored on city resolution 014, s. of 1999; as well as RA 9994, the expanded senior citizen act of 2010 which grants additional benefits and privileges and other purposes to Senior Citizens, RA 9257, the expanded senior citizen act of 2003, for additional benefits of senior citizens; and RA 7432, the act to maximize the contribution of senior citizens to nation building and grand benefits and special privileges and other purposes, to all senior citizens in the country.

Councilor Tabanda also sought the recommendation of City Health Officer Florence Reyes as to the available services at the Health Department.

The proposal is expected to be tackled during the next city council sessions./ juliegfianza

## 41 Rebel Returnees Benefit from Livelihood Program

BONTOC, Mt. Province - A total of 41 rebel returnees in the province are beneficiaries of the provincial government's livelihood program for said group.

Of the total beneficiaries, 27 are from the municipality of Sadanga, 11 from Bontoc, two from Sagada and one from Natonin. Under the program, which started implementation last year, a qualified

rebel returnee receives a P5,000 monthly financial assistance in exchange for a community service rendered in the barangay where he is residing.

Community service may include day care center improvement, reforestation, health services, securing barangay managed institutions and public schools, maintenance of community irrigations, pathways, and roads and other works that maybe assigned to them by the barangay leaders.

The barangay chairmen are tasked to monitor and supervise the rebel returnee beneficiaries in their respective communities. Under this program, not all rebel returnees are qualified. Disquali-

Cont. on page 9

## SCOFAD Guidelines for Finalization

BAGUIO CITY - Guidelines for the selection of Senior Citizen Officials for a Day (SCOFAD) as to Ordinance 57, s. of 2009, is being prepared in the council despite this year's officials chosen and serving this Monday, Oct. 1.

This is to "give further substance to the designation of the elderly to act as SCOFAD," Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda stated in the proposed ordinance. The lady councilor chairs the committee on Social Services, Women and Urban Poor.

As to the earlier ordinance, the first Monday of October every year shall be known as "Senior Citizen Officials for a Day in the City of Baguio." Replacement shall be assigned for all elective and appointive officials from chiefs of office to department heads just for a day.

The proposed ordinance however, suggests the adoption of guidelines in the selection of Senior Citizen Officials, as:

The senior citizen must be an actual resident of Baguio City;

Must be a member of an accredited senior citizen organization/association for at least three years;

The senior citizen organization/association is registered or affiliated with an accredited senior citizen group.

Nominees for the SCOFAD should submit, on or before August 30 of every year:

Duly accomplished SCOFAD accomplished form  
Letter of endorsement from the senior citizen association where he/she is affiliated.

The criteria for selection would include: educational background, 15%; job/business/professional history, 5%; personal qualities and character traits, 15%; achievements, 30%; community involvement and service, 30%; and awards/recognition received, 5%.

The proposed ordinance of Councilor Tabanda also delved on the terms of office of those who have served as congressman, mayor and vice-mayor. Senior Citizens who have served said positions shall be designated to only one term, but can serve on lower positions for one term.

Those who occupied the city councilor and department head positions can be designated for two terms. They can however be considered for the positions of Congressman, Mayor and Vice-Mayor later.

The screening committee shall be composed of the immediately-past designated SCOFAD for congressman, mayor and vice-mayor; president or duly authorized representative of the duly registered Senior Citizen association; City Social Welfare and Development Office or their duly authorized representative, and Office of the Senior Citizen Association (OSCA) as chairperson.

The proposed ordinance is approved on second reading for publication by posting, and is expected to be back in the council for discussion and final reading./juliegfianza

## FNRI Holds Forum on Dissemination of 2011 Nat'l Nutrition Survey Results

BAGUIO CITY - The Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (FNRI-DOST) conducted last week the regional dissemination forum on the results of the "2011 Survey on Updating of the Nutritional Status of Selected Filipinos" here in the city.

Dr. Jocelyn

Juguan, Supervising Science Research Specialist of FNRI, said the survey aims to provide updated information on the nutritional status of Filipino children and other population groups, and other nutrition-related information at the national and sub-national levels to aid in timely policy decisions

and human development programs. She informed that the FNRI is mandated to undertake research that defines the citizenry's nutritional status, its causes and effects and identify alternative solutions to them. "Because of the wealth of information that the FNRI has generated by the said

Cont. on page 9



## Guidelines Out for Candle and Flower Selling

**BAGUIO CITY** – Guidelines for the issuance of temporary selling permit of candles and flowers have been set by the Oplan Kaluluwa 2012 executive committee headed by Mayor Mauricio Domogan, thru Alicia Onoza, In-charge of the Office of the City Treasurer.

Oplan Kaluluwa is the executive committee being revived yearly for activities in line with the commemoration of All Saints' and All Souls' days, Nov. 1 and 2, respectively.

Interested sellers should submit the requirements at the Campaign and Investigation Division (CID), City Treasurer's Office on Oct. 18, 2012: 2 copies of 2" x 2" picture, barangay clearance, and Baguio City-issued residence certificate. Application forms shall not be given to applicants who lack required documents.

As to the guidelines set, an application form shall be given at the CID which should be properly filled-up and submitted with payment of taxes and fees on Oct. 19, while the special permit shall be secured at the Permits and Licensing Division on Oct. 22. Selling shall be allowed at the Juan Luna Drive, Burnham Park, from Oct. 26 to Nov. 1, 2012.

The fee of P600 to be collected is apportioned as follows: business tax, P165; mayor's permit, P200; garbage fee, P50; sewerage fees, P55; electricity, P80; and use of the area, P50.

Applicants should be bonafide residents of Baguio, of legal age, without stalls at the market and Marbay, and if a previous seller, should not have any violations from previous years of Oplan Kaluluwa candle and flower market. Relatives of early are not allowed to apply for stalls in the vending area.

Stall owners at the Juan Luna Drive, Burnham Park as a policy shall not be allowed to cook within the area. No other goods nor cooked food shall be allowed for sale, otherwise, these shall be confiscated. No gambling shall be allowed, no swapping of stalls between and among stallholders, and cleanliness should be observed at all times. Violators of given policies shall be disallowed permission to sell for next year, the guidelines stated.

Other preparations are also being done as to human traffic and vehicle re-routing, peace and order in general and in the vicinity of public and private cemeteries and memorial parks./juliegfianza

## DAR Trains Kalinga Farmers on Organic Fertilizer, Animal Feeds Production

**TABUK CITY**, Kalinga - The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) here is training farmers in the province on natural farming systems and how to make organic fertilizer and animal feeds.

**Jocelyn Bengwayan**, Kalinga DAR training officer, said they have finished training farmers from the municipalities of Tinglayan, Pasil, Tanudan and part of this city.

She said the same training will be conducted from September 27-29 for other Tabuk

farmers to be held at the Kalinga-Apayao State College library here.

According to Bengwayan, the training aims to increase the level of awareness on organic farming among local farmers and to develop their technical capability on organic agriculture technologies.

**Invited speaker** is Engr. Eric Tinoyan, a farmer scientist working with the Benguet State University. His lecture will include are environmental consequences of excessive use of farm inputs and alternative pest and

disease management.

Natural farming system is a technology in agriculture that uses environmentally sound technique for raising crops and livestock that are free from most synthetic pesticides growth hormones and antibiotics, Bengwayan explained.

Materials to be used in preparing organic fertilizer and animal feeds are not a problem since they are all found on backyards. Farmers only spend on compost fungus activators to process decomposition. **Cont. on page 9**

## Lawmaker Eyes Expanded Pensions for Retired Gov't Workers

Senator Chiz Escudero is pushing for a bill granting monthly pensions to retired government workers upon reaching the age of 70.

Escudero said government pensioners are provided gratuity under Republic Act 1616. But the law, which was enacted in 1957, can no longer sufficiently provide for the needs of the government retirees five years after the retirement age of 65, he said.

The senator filed Senate Bill 2106, titled "An Act to Grant Monthly Pension to Government Retirees under RA 161 Who Have Reached the Age of Seventy Years."

"The proposal recognizes that majority of this class of retirees has been living in abject poverty, and many of them have to depend on dole-outs from close relatives and friends. Aged government personnel who retired need monthly pension because at their late age their opportunities of earning are already almost nil," Escudero said.

"The lump sum they have received from RA 1616 was greatly eroded by the economic slump and high cost of living. Their economic difficulties were aggravated when the country suffered from devastating effects of natural calamities," he added.

Under RA 1616, the gratuity is payable by the last employer. The employee is also entitled to a refund of his retirement premiums he paid to the GSIS, personal share with interest and government share without interest.

The requirements to qualify are: 1) the retirees must be in government service on or before May 31, 1977; 2) has rendered at least 20 years of service regardless of age and employment status; and 3) his/her last three years of service prior to retirement must be continuous, except in cases of death, disability, abolition or phase out of position due to reorganization.

Escudero's bill is included among the 19 consolidated bills in the Senate through SB 2854 under Committee Report No. 41 by the Government Corporations and Public Enterprises Committee in the Senate on May 31, 2011.

The consolidated bill is currently in the period of interpellation.

Two other bills of Escudero were consolidated in SB 2454. These are SB 2090, which pushes for the establishment of an education trust fund for the grantees of GSIS and SSS members, and SB 2093, which seeks to provide both teaching and non-teaching personnel of the education sector more representation in the GSIS policy-making body with the inclusion of the Department of Education Secretary./Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

## "A Run for the Dream Program" Brings Holistic Community Development in San Quintin, Abra

**BANGUED**, Abra - The local government unit of San Quintin is a consistent top performer in the province in terms of project implementation where people participation is being championed.

Of the 27 municipalities of Abra, it is only in San Quintin where the Makamasang Tugon: Community-Driven Development - Local Planning Process (CDD-LPP) harmonization initiative

of Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan - Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services: Kapangyarihan at Kaunlaran sa Barangay (KALAHICIDSS:KKB) Project was implemented. This is a bonus for the successful implementation of the projects of the Department of Social Welfare and Development

(DSWD) under the KALAHICIDSS program in 2006-2009.

The "A Run for the Dream Program" is the banner of local government unit in the Makamasang Tugon CDD-LPP harmonization initiative funded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation under the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This served as a **Cont. on page 9**

## 7 Cordillera OFW Co-Ops to Receive Livelihood Grants from OWWA

**BAGUIO CITY** - Seven overseas Filipino worker (OFW) cooperatives and family circles in the region will each receive a P100,000 livelihood grant from the Department of Labor and Employment National Reintegration Center for OFW (DOLE-NRCO), through the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration Regional Welfare Office-Cordillera (OWWA-CAR).

Recipients of the livelihood grants are the Irian Overseas Workers and Family Organization Cooperative of Baguio City for its bakery and store project; Thanksgiving Multi-purpose Cooperative of Tuba, Benguet for its consumer wholesaling/bulk buying business; Atok Overseas Filipino Workers Organization of Atok, Benguet for its sayote production project; Barlig OFWs Returnees and Beneficiaries Association of Barlig, Mountain Province for backyard swine-raising project.

For the province of Abra, beneficiaries are the Bucloc OFWs and Returnees Association in the municipality of Bucloc for swine fattening and breeding project; the Saguiyod-Barcena Family Circle of the municipality of Tubo for bakery and sari-sari store project, and the Villaviciosa OFW returnees and Migrant Workers Association for swine production project.

These are the first batch of beneficiaries of the DOLE-NRCO livelihood grants to OFW cooperatives and family circles in the Cordillera.

OWWA-CAR Regional Director Manuela Peña disclosed that the DOLE-NRCO livelihood grant aims to provide assistance to qualified cooperatives and families of OFW repatriates or returnees for them to start a business or expand an existing livelihood project.

According to Peña, project proposals for such grant is still being accepted and will be forwarded to DOLE-NRCO for approval and funding.

The OWWA-CAR has also facilitated similar DOLE-NRCO livelihood grants of P10,000 for individual OFW returnees and repatriates who have been terminated from their work, finished their work contract and decided to stay in the country for good, or due to extraordinary and unforeseen events and other exceptional cases involving OFWs.

There are 122 OFW repatriates and returnees who have already benefited from this program, Pena said./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

## DPWH Invites Bidders for Pasil FMR Concreting

**PASIL**, Kalinga - The Kalinga District Engineering Office (KDEO) invites bidders for the concreting of the 4-kilometer Pingao-Lotot farm-to-market road (FMR) at Caguluan, this municipality.

District Engineer Alexander Castaneda said the P16.5 million FMR is funded by Phase II of the Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Program (ARISP II) of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), and implemented by KDEO.

Implementation of the project will start this year as soon as bidding is completed, he said.

Meanwhile, provincial agrarian reform officer Edano Canao informed that the Molayong Bridge along the Pasil river that connects the western part of Pasil and eastern part is also approved under ARISP II. The KDEO, he said, is tasked to prepare the engineering details of said infrastructure that costs P14.7 million.

Both projects are assisted from financial loans provided by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Canao said.

Aside from these two projects, there are also ARISP II projects on-going implementation in Rizal and Tinglayan, he added.

Mayor James Edduba said the local government unit's counterpart for the bridge project is the opening of the Malucsd road going down the Pasil River to the Molayong bridge. He expressed gratitude to DAR for including the bridge project since it will help farmers from both sides of the river reach their agriculture production areas safely and they can save on travel time./PAB/PIA-CAR/Kalinga



REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES  
REGIONAL TRIAL  
COURT  
FIRST JUDICIAL  
REGION  
BRANCH 60  
BAGUIO CITY

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE PETITION OF  
MANOJ KUMAR  
TANK TO BE  
ADMITTED AS A  
CITIZEN OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES,

MANOJ KUMAR  
TANK,

*Petitioner.*

x————x

NATURALIZATION  
CASE NO. 24-R

ORDER AND  
NOTICE OF  
HEARING

Petitioner,  
MANOJ KUMAR  
TANK, through counsel, filed a verified Petition for naturalization, praying that he be conferred Philippine citizenship.

1. His full name is MANOJ KUMAR TANK and he is also known as "MIKE", he is of legal age, 45 years old, with residence and postal address at # 9 Armenia Street, Middle Quezon Hill, Baguio City, Philippines:

2. His former place of residence in the Philippines were:  
a. # 35 Diamond Subdivision, Asin Road, Baguio

City, 2000;  
b. # 207 Lumug Street, Quezon Hill, Baguio City

3. He was born on September 27, 1967 in Chandar, India to Spouses JAGDISH CHANDER TANK and GURMET KAUR TANK, born citizens of India:

4. He is engaged in WHOLESALE / GENERAL MERCHANDISE (BLANKETS, GARMENTS ETC.) trade or occupation in business in which he has been engaged since 2009 and from which he derives an average annual net income with his wife from gross receipt in the amount of Nine Hundred Twenty Two Thousand Six Hundred (922,600.00) PESOS, more or less:

5. He was married in civil ceremonies in India on December 15, 2011. His wife's name is MONIKA RANI TANK, an India citizen who was born on August 30, 1982, and now resides with him and their children at # 9 Armenia Street, Middle Quezon Hill, Baguio City, Philippines xxx

6. They have Two (2) children, all residing with the Petitioner. Their names, date and place of birth are:

Name - ROHIT TANK, Date of Birth- September 27, 2002, Place of Birth-Baguio City, Philippines.

Name - RITHIK TANK, Date of Birth- October 1, 2003, Place of Birth- Baguio City, Philippines.

7. The Petitioner

emigrated to the Philippines from India aboard Air France and arrived at the Manila International Airport (now Ninoy Aquino International Airport) on or about December 29, 1987 as shown by an Immigration Certificate of arrival issued and signed by the Commissioner of Immigration xxx:

8. Since then, he has resided continuously in the Philippines for a term of more than thirty (30) years at least immediately preceding the date of this petition, in the City of Manila and thereafter, in San Fernando, La Union from 1979 and the City of Baguio for a term of ten (10) years at least, immediately preceding the filing of this petition"

9. He is able to speak and write English, Tagalog and Ilocano: he Obtained his BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING (BSCE) on March 21, 1992 from Saint Louis College, San Fernando, La Union xxx:

10. He is of good moral character and believes in the principles underlying Philippine Constitution. He has conducted himself in a proper and irreproachable manner during the entire period of his residence in the Philippines in his relations with the constituted government as well as with the community in which he is living, he mingled socially with the Filipinos, traditions and ideals of the Filipinos. He has all the qualification required under Section 2 and none of the disqualification under SECTION 4 of COMMONWEALTH ACT No. 473:

11. He is not opposed to organized government or affiliate with any association of group of person who uphold and teach doctrines opposing all organized governments. He is not defending or teaching the necessity or propriety of violence, personal assault, or assassination for the success and predominance of men's ideas. He is not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy. He has not been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude. He is not suffering from any incurable contagious diseases. That the nation of which he is a citizen is not at war with the Philippines;

12. It is his intention in good faith to be come a citizen of the Philippines and renounce absolutely and forever all allegiance;

13. He will reside continuously in the Philippines from the date of the filing of his petition up to the time of his admission to the Philippine Citizenship;

14. Former Congressman EDGAR M. AVILA and MR. VICTOR KESWANI, both of legal ages, Filipino Citizens, residents of Baguio City, will appear and testify as his witnesses at the hearing of the petition;

15. He has not therefore filed a Petition with any other court;

16. Pursuant to Section 6 of COMMONWEALTH ACT No. 473, having resided continuously in the Philippines for a period of thirty years or more before filing their application, he may be naturalized without having to make a Declaration of Intention;

xxx

Finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the same be heard before the Regional Trial Court, Branch 60, Baguio City on November 22, 2013 at 8:30 in the morning at which place, date and time, the petitioner shall prove its case. Any person may appear and show cause, if any there be, why the petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order, together with a copy of the petition and its annexes be furnished the office of the Local Civil Registrar of the City of Baguio, and the Office of the Solicitor General. Likewise, furnish copies hereof to the Office of the City Prosecutor of Baguio City.

At the Petitioners expense, let a copy of the Order and Notice of Hearing and the Petition be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in the Official Gazette, and in a local newspaper of general circulation in the City of Baguio. Likewise the Branch Sheriff is hereby directed to post copies of the Order and Notice of Hearing together with copies of the Petition in a public place and conspicuous places at the Hall of Justice, City Hall, and Post Office, all of Baguio City.

## DSWD Strengthens Ties with Media on Pantawid Pamilya, Other Programs

BAGUIO CITY- The Department of Social Welfare and Development in the Cordillera region (DSWD-CAR) has conducted a 'Pantawid Pamilya' media orientation here in its efforts to strengthen partnership with the Fourth Estate in the implementation of the government's core anti-poverty program and other social welfare and development programs.

Attended by local media practitioners and staff of the Philippine Information Agency, the orientation aimed to provide better understanding and appreciation of the media of the program.

The Petitioner is directed to furnish this Court five more copies of the petition and its annexes within three days from notice hereof.

SO ORDERED.

DONE IN CHAMBERS, this 30th day of August 2012 at Baguio City, Philippines.

By: (SGD)  
EDILBERTO T. CLARAVALL  
Presiding Judge

Publication Dates:  
September 15, 22 and 29

### RESEARCH & STATISTICS

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grams being implemented by the DSWD as well as their role in helping to promote such.

DSWD-CAR Regional Director Leonardo Reynoso led the program focal persons in discussing the different programs particularly the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, otherwise known as the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT), Community Driven Development Program Kalahi-CIDSS and the Tatsulo Convergence Strategy, among others.

The CCT program is the key component of the poverty alleviation program of the national government which aims to bring in 'inclusive growth' to the about 5.2 million poor households in the country as identified in the DSWD's National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR), before President Benigno Aquino III's term end in 2016.

Reynoso said that as of this year, the CCT program has already reached out to P3.1m poor households nationwide.

With its proposed budget for 2013, the DSWD aims to add 700,000 more beneficiaries to bring in around 3.8 million poor households under the program.

For Cordillera, out of the 79,816 poor households listed in the NHTS-PR, 54,395 of them are already CCT beneficiaries, Reynoso added.

Outside of the poor household target beneficiaries of the CCT, which prioritizes those with pregnant mothers and children 14 years old and below, Reynoso disclosed that they are now also currently expanding the program to the other poor members of society, which includes the abandoned and street children under the 'Modified CCT'.

Other programs discussed include the NHTS-PR by Lilia Rose Say-awen, CCT briefing and updates by Irene Bungay, the Community Driven Development Program Kalahi-CIDSS by Nerizza Faye Villanueva; Tatsulo Convergence

Cont. on page 9

### NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE AMONG HEIRS WITH SIMULTANEOUS WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that the Estate of the late ESPERIDON G. CORPUZ who died in Baguio City, Philippines in 1975 without any will, consisting of one (1) piece of land covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-756 has been extra judicially settled by his heirs through that Deed of Extra Judicial Settlement of Estate among Heirs with Simultaneous Waiver of Rights in favor of Camilo Estipular Corpuz acknowledged before Notary Public for Baguio City, Atty. James S. Valeros and entered in his Notarial Registry as Doc No. 431, Page No. 087, Book No. XXVII, Series of 2012 and in the case of heir Felicitas C. Suatengco, before Felipe F. Carino III, Consul of the Republic of the Philippines for Consular District of New York under Doc No. 08402, Series of 2012.

Publication Dates: September 15, 22 & 29, 2012

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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.

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno

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## DAR

..... from page 7

tion, she added.

Agustina Duyan, Chief Agrarian Reform Program Officer, said those already trained will replicate the same to other farmers in their areas in order to promote its adoption. She said other municipalities that will not be covered this year will have their training early next year./JDP/PAB-PIA CAR, Kalinga

## Ifugao

..... from page 6

jobs of promoting the area.

The participants were trained on cultural mapping and devising conducted by Wilson Billones of PETA School of People's Theater. He brought together trainees who sang, danced and acted in a creative session of discovery and exploration of the traditions, cultural practices and heritage of Ifugao and provided an opportunity to scan the existing cultural resources and defining and re-defining their meaning, symbolism and values.

The cultural mapping and devising workshop was a process to identify and document the cultural resources or assets of a community that include a wide range of tangible resources such as arts, heritage organizations, cultural occupations, industries and cultural and natural heritage and explore the areas of intangible cultural assets like stories, traditions and unique quality of life that shaped the town's identity and sense of place.

Billones told the trainees that by building better information on the cultural resources in the community, it strengthens the knowledge and can inform a wide range of planning and economic development decisions, increases awareness of local culture for residents and tourists, supports stronger networks and collaboration across a wide range of cultural groups and activities.

He said that once the participants identify the icons, the trained tour guides and youth who are now artists can explore and experiment on ways of interpreting them to give new meanings and values for the current audience and tourist clientele. The exploration can be in the form of music and songs, movements and dances, stories and characters, and designs and spaces of which the presenter can build different expressions that can inform and educate the target tourists about the background, content and values of these traditional icons that should be documented for future use.

On the other hand, Raffy Tejada senior artist-teacher of PETA conducted workshop on Theater Improvisation. He explained to the trainees how to design tour packages, on-site tour presenter's practice performance and theater improvisation of which the participants studied the tourism trends, needs and gaps to determine the strengths and opportunities of the cultural resources available.

The participants linked and related the need and context of the tourists with the cultural assets of the community and found ways to bridge them through a variety of creative means by plotting and testing the tour content, sequence and development./JDP/DBC-PIA CAR, Ifugao

## 41 Rebel

..... from page 6

fied are rebel returnees with pending cases in courts involving crimes against chastity, rape, torture, kidnapping for ransom, use and trafficking of illegal drugs and other crimes for personal ends and violations of international law.

It does not also include rebel returnees who refuse to send their children to school who are of school age; those who fail to live within the norms of the community; and those who continue their relation or contact with the underground movement such as the New People's Army or the Cordillera People Democratic Front.

This program is covered by a memorandum of agreement between the provincial and barangay governments and the rebel returnees./JDP/JBS-PIA CAR, Mt. Province

## DSWD

..... from page 8

Strategy by Annabelle Jayco and Theodore Solang for the Sustainable Livelihood.

Reynoso also gave a briefing on the DSWD's vision, mission and mandate, the devolution of some of the DSWD's services to the local government units and the DSWD's Social Welfare and Development (SWAD) teams at the LGU level. /JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

## FNRI.....

..... from page 6

survey, in July 1996 through Executive Order No. 352, the National Nutrition Survey was designated as one of the statistical activities in the country that will generate critical data for decision-making of both government and private sector", Juguan said.

The 2011 survey covered 17 regions, 79 provinces and the National Capital Region, covered 3,136 enumeration areas, 38,894 households and 198,022 individuals nationwide, Juguan added.

Among the highlights of the study are: the prevalence of underweight children 0-5 years old is 20.2 percent or two of every 10 were underweight while prevalence of overweight among children is 4.3%.

For children 5.08-10 years old, the prevalence for undernourished children is underweight- 32%, stunted-33.6% and wasted-8.5%. Overweight children stands at 7.5%.

For those 10.08 -19 year old, the prevalence of stunted adolescents is 35% or 4 in every 10 were stunted for their age. It also showed that 7 of every 100 were overweight or obese.

Among Filipino adults, one in every 10 were found to be chronic energy deficient while 28.4% or 3 in every 10 were overweight or obese. r

In the Cordillera region, the total coverage of the survey was 5,575 breakdown as follows; 0-5 years old-708; 5.08-10 years old - 800; 10.08-19 years old - 1,146; 19.08 and above-2,682; pregnant - 70; lactating - 169

According to Juguan, the problems in CAR based on the survey results are stunting for children 0-60 months old, overweight among adolescents and obesity among adults 19 years old and above.

The forum was attended by government nutrition program planners, Provincial Nutrition Action Officers (PNAOs), representa-

tives from Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in the region involved in food, nutrition and health and members of the media./JDP/MC PIA-CAR

## A Run

..... from page 7

tool and guiding principle in program planning and implementation by the LGU with the participation of the people in order to draw a holistic approach to community development.

The success of the banner of implementation of the Makamasang Tugon of LGU San Quintin

During the review of accomplishments by the Municipal Inter-Agency Committee (MIAC) chaired by Mayor Jovellen G. Diaz, it was found out that all the six barangays of the town have finished their own projects with all the required components such as their counterpart in the project costs and participation of the community people in all the stages of project development management starting from problems and needs identification, planning, implementation and to monitoring and evaluation of results.

A total of P3,857,142.86 was allocated for the projects undertaken in the municipality which are mostly basic infrastructure support needed to reduce poverty through improved health conditions and increase productivity among the populace.

Of the said amount, the Millennium Challenge Corporation gave a grant of P2.7M equally distributed to all the six barangays in the amount of P450,000.00 each. The municipal LGU came up with its counterpart of P1,157,142.86 out of its 20% Economic Development Funds while the people in the barangays provided free labor as their counterpart.

As a result, agriculture productivity is enhanced through the communal irrigation systems constructed in the barangays of Tangadan and Villa Mercedes and the multi-purpose drying pavement in Sitio Talaytay of Brgy. Palang.

Public health and safety were addressed in Brgy. Labaan with the construction of a slope protection to protect their road and the residential houses within the vicinity of the project site, while a footbridge was installed in Brgy. Pantoc to serve the people of Sitio Sabulod who are usually isolated during the rainy seasons. Now the school children are more secured as they do not cross the creek anymore when they go to school.

Drainage system was also improved in Brgy. Poblacion with canals constructed around the town proper.

In an interview with Luvencio Colasito, the alternate convener of the MIAC and Marites Esmilia, the area coordinator for the project implementation of the Makamasang Tugon projects, they said the process involved in the "A Run for the Dream Program" shall be adopted in all the other community development projects as they have seen it is truly responsive to the needs and problems of the communities as well as in resources generation and allocation.

The people are happy with their simple accomplishments because they realized that with their willingness to carry out their own social transformation, agencies are willing to support them, Colasito and Esmilia noted./JDP/MTBB-PIA CAR, Abra

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC  
AFFIDAVIT OF LOSS

I, LUBERTO S. ALMORATO, of legal age, single, Filipino Citizen, and a resident of Km 3, Brgy. Balili, La Trinidad, Benguet, after having been sworn to in accordance with law, do hereby depose and say;

That I am the Outlet In-Charge of Luzon Ram Cycles, Inc. - La Trinidad Outlet, located at Km. 3, Brgy. Balili, La Trinidad, Benguet;

That the ORE # 01101-01150 was inadvertently missing;

That I exerted all efforts to retrieve the same but it all turned futile and vain, hence, the receipts are now considered lost and beyond retrieval;

That I am executing this Affidavit to attest to the truth of the foregoing statements for the purpose of the establishing the fact that said receipts were already lost and for all legal intents it may serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 24th day of September, 2012 at San Fernando City, La Union.

(SGD) LUBERTO S. ALMORATO  
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 24th day of September, 2012 at San Fernando City, La Union, personally appeared LUBERTO S. ALMORATO.

(SGD) ATTY. ERNESTO V. RAFON  
Notary Public

San Fernando City, La Union  
PTR No. 6761492 1/2/12  
TIN No. 172178814 Roll #5678  
MCLECOM III-0019109

Doc. # 21  
Page #5  
Book #75  
Series of 2012

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

SPS. SAMELITO & EVA DURAN  
Applicants  
Case No: 2003-CAR-322  
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 freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - 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 October 10, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paoal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant 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 and may, if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

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

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVIER-Regional Director on this 25th day of September 2012.

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



## DENR Denies ESL Site at Ilogon.....from page 1

to continue with our efforts in minimizing the generation of waste at source", Domogan said.

The city government is also pursuing waste-to-energy facilities being introduced by foreign investors.

The mayor said, "high technology facilities which are being used in developed countries could be used in the city however, we need funding for that and it is not cheap".

"There are four proposals for this type of 'waste to energy' facility which is advantageous to the city being considered", he said.

Meantime, according to City General Services Officer Romeo Concio, barangays are active in advocating recycling and composting as a way of helping reduce waste being collected by the city's garbage trucks.

"We are open to any waste reduction strategy that will help the city address its waste", Concio said.

The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) has also donated a shredder and a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for Loakan Barangay and is now training barangay workers on Bokasi, a local enzyme for hastening decomposition of waste and vermicomposting as a pilot project which can also be adopted in other barangays in addressing waste at source./Paul Rillorta

## Kakampi mo ang Batas

..... from page 5  
earlier. Even if he was already very old, Andy Williams remained a performer who could wow audiences.

-ooo-

**REACTIONS?** Please call me at 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, or 0922 833 43 96. Email: [batasmauricio@yahoo.com](mailto:batasmauricio@yahoo.com).

## The Peace Combatant

..... from page 4  
In the opinion of the Peace Combatant, the cart must be ahead of the horse. For the conversion of the government hospital into GOCCs to work for the public interest, the way forward is to advance first a magna carta for health. This means that our society must define a set of rights consistent with good health pertaining to diagnosis, laboratory services, hospital equipment for diagnosis and therapy, therapy, and rehabilitation services. When these are soundly defined in a manner that promotes health, the establishment of the GOCCs can be welcomed provided government financial support is continued and the sound magna of rights to health services is implemented.

(The author can be contacted through [artboquiren2040@yahoo.com](mailto:artboquiren2040@yahoo.com), 0927-536-8431, and Facebook)

## Nutritional

..... from page 3  
in the communities.

DSWD's 2012 Supplemental Feeding Program, which is one of the government's response to the country's commitment to the UN Millennium Development Goal (number 1) of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, has a total fund allocation of over P70.29 million for the region./JDP-CCD/PIA CAR

## Advocacy Mindanow.....

..... from page 5  
lofty the intentions are. He must be there to protect his principal at all cost and sees to it that the assigned task is done — and not for his own personal benefit or agenda.

Of course, he must have the total trust of that principal. And finally, if things do not turn out right or some hiccups take place along the way, the back channel worker is expected to absorb the fallout. And own up to the responsibility and shield the principal. At the end of the day, it is the mission that is important, not the actors.

\*\*\*\*\*

**'SECOND' TABLE** — Back channel work is also almost always indispensable in peace negotiations or in any other negotiations for that matter. The "back room" meetings, (referred to as the "second table"), are where the difficult issues are quietly discussed and some consensus points arrived at before the formal negotiations take place in the "first table". If you all notice, Formal Talks are publicly announced and known. After a day or two, results are announced. Don't ever think this is all done in those 2 days. The back channel work unseen publicly and discreetly has done its job. And formal meetings are held where agreements arrived at in the "back room" are formally signed. That's how important and useful back channeling is. But it can also turn things messy if not properly done.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MY ENCOUNTERS** — I cannot forget some past events where I was personally involved while working in Malacanang. I guess I can share with you some behind-the-scene incidents which are lessons learned. My advance apologies to those who prefer to keep those incidents untold.

In 2001, I was just newly appointed **Chairman of the Negotiating Panel for Talks with the MILF**. I just warmed my seat when I got my first brush with "back channeling". Unknown to me, a high level delegation secretly flew to **Kuala Lumpur** composed of **Secretary Ed Ermita** and **Secretary Bert Gonzales**. They quietly met with their high level counterparts in **Malaysia** and was able to secure an agreement with the **MILF** to resume peace negotiations with the **Arroyo administration**. As we know, the peace process got blown into pieces when **President Erap** launched an "all out war" policy during his brief watch. The feat of the back channeling was splendid! What was wrong was that **President GMA** or the two Cabinet officials kept me in the dark. And it was difficult for me to wiggle out of an embarrassing fix when media called me as the **Chairman of the Panel** and asked about a meeting in **Kuala Lumpur** and a supposed signing of an "agreement" that I was not aware of. When later I quietly protested, I was told that the Palace wanted to fast track the resumption and intended to turn over to me the task already with the first obstacle hurdled. I understood but I would have preferred that I was quietly informed about it.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESIGNATION** — The second incident in 2003 was more serious. I and my panel went to **Malaysia** to hold Talks right

after the **AFP** attacked and dislodged the **MILF** from **Buliok in Pikit**, the home of the late **Chairman Hashim Salamat**.

When I returned to **Manila** after that round of Talks adjourned, **MILF's** Panel member and lawyer, **Musib Buat** came to see me in the **Robinson's Galleria Hotel in Ortigas** and asked me to affix my signature to a prepared "Minutes" of the recently concluded meeting. I was surprised. Minutes were normally all done and closely scrutinized and signed before meetings were adjourned. I initially declined to sign but later I relented. I examined the "Minutes" and saw some supposed points of agreement there that I had no personal knowledge about as Chairman of the Panel. However, to facilitate things, I made notations and initialed them and returned the copy to **Companero Musib**. Several days later, I got word that the **Malaysians** and the **MILF** were "angry" at me because I allegedly "tampered" with the agreed minutes. I then checked and found out that one of our Philippine "back channelers" agreed with the **MILF** to those points but failed to inform me or the Panel. The intention of the backchannel in resolving issues quickly was laudable. But to me, the lapse had serious consequences. I was tempted to go full blast publicly and explain that it was not my fault. But that will be sacrificing the Peace Talks to "save" my face to suit my own interest. Knowing that my further stay in the panel would be untenable, I quietly resigned as Chairman of the Panel. After doing negotiations, helping craft milestone agreements for the past 3 years, I decided to quietly go. To protect the presidency and the integrity of the peace process, I timed my resignation during a subsequent **MILF** attack in **Siocon in Zamboanga Del Norte** as "cover". Then I returned back to my **Mindanao** work.

Lessons learned are good to recall so others **DO LEARN** from them.

## Cambay.....

..... from page 2  
dences and family, office and business establishments and community policing, including phone numbers to call for police assistance.

Police office information officer, Insp. Viyo Hidalgo, concurrently head of the tourism police arm, said the new police chief personally prepared the code the moment he was informed of his selection as city police director.

"What's good here is that by immediately coming up with this code of conduct, the new police director hit the ground running," Hidalgo added.

In his message at the launching, mayor Domogan noted a dip in the volume of crimes as per the latest police report. He said this is reflective of the strengthening of police-citizen partnership through the neighborhood policing system.

In his talk with the senior officers last Monday, the mayor asked the force to strengthen monitoring and prevention of garbage from other areas being dumped into the barangay trash collection centers.

As did his immediate predecessor, then OIC-city director, Sr. Supt. Roberto Soriano, Cambay directed officers to help barangays regularly monitor the proper segregation and

disposal of household garbage as a normal part of the work of Baguio's Finest./Ramon Dacawi

## Mayor

..... from page 2

however, in his affidavit he named Benny Alhambra, city tourism officer, as the person who approached him," the body noted in a resolution introduced by the committee on ethics and approved by the body.

"Mr. Benny Alhambra submitted to the committee on ethics a copy of his response dated Sept. 11, 2012 stating that this a complete lie and malicious and a strategic motion to defame the character of city officials;"

The resolution also said Bilog "repeatedly said the (TOR) is a 'done deal' in the social network, (his) privilege speech and in the media..."

"Councilor Bilog's 'done deal' cast doubts on the city council's integrity, a collegial body, where he belongs based on his interviews and his post in Facebook dated August 5 'When I went out in the open and opposed the development and reveal what I know about the project I already prepared that this might a lonely battle in the city council... it was my belief then that they would defend the project and claim that what I am saying it not true... (E. Bilog) willing to resign as city council of Baguio. Now would the other officials do the same if it is proven that what they are saying are not true?," the resolution noted.

Bilog earlier expressed concern that the passage of the resolution would jeopardize the cases he filed with the city prosecutor's office and the Civil Service Commission (CSC) against Alhambra.

"I am not afraid of being investigated by the Ombudsman but what I am worried about is that it might affect the cases I filed as it might be regarded as forum shopping," Bilog said.

Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas however assured that elevating the matter to the Ombudsman would not constitute forum shopping.

Councilor Philian Weygan who chairs the ethics committee said the committee decided that referring the matter to the Ombudsman is the best way to resolve the issue considering that it involves the entire council and investigating its own members would be inappropriate.

The aldermen expressed openness to the possibility of the whole body being investigated by the Ombudsman.

The body also resolved to furnish the Civil Service Commission and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines with copies of the resolution, transcript of deliberations and other documents "for an opinion on Bilog's compliance to norms of conduct of professionalism, respect for law and legal process and ethical standards."

Bilog sought that the Ombudsman be also furnished a copy of his privilege speech and transcript of proceedings which the body approved.

Most of the councilors earlier expressed preference for the development of the Athletic Bowl as long as it remains free of charge and accessible to the public and that the development plan will be implemented without any irregularity./A Refuerzo



## Dads

## ..... from page 2

The aldermen were wary that granting the requested endorsement and allowing these areas to become ecozones might result to the loss of revenues for the city as these firms once put under the auspices of PEZA will not be required to pay local business taxes and building permit fees anymore.

PEZA Baguio zone administrator Dante Quindoza who attended the session upon invitation of the body said information technology centers that register with the PEZA enjoy benefits such as income tax holiday for four years and after the tax holiday have the option to pay a special five percent tax on gross income in lieu of all national and local taxes.

The city government however is entitled to a share of two percent from the five percent tax as provided by the law.

Quindoza said Republic Act No. 7916 or the Philippine Special Economic Zone Act of 1995 allows the establishment of ecozones in private areas as long as these meet the criteria for ecozones. He said they endorsed the applications of the two establishments for approval by the city council as they have passed the requirements of the law.

He said there are three main ecozones in the city at present – the Baguio City Economic Zone in Loakan, the John Hay Special Tourism Economic Zone and the SM Baguio Cyber Zone building along Harrison Road.

For Abanao Square, only a 2,000-square meter portion will be converted into an ecozone while the rest will be maintained as regular shopping center and thus will be subject to local taxes.

The body is expected to consult with the Local Finance Committee to determine whether allowing such satellite ecozones in various parts of the city would be beneficial to the city./A Refuerzo

## Residents

## ..... from page 12

On traffic, participants urged crackdown against on-street parking, especially along the narrow barangay roads and mandatory provision for garages of private vehicles, standardization of traffic signs, assessment of traffic impact prior to issuance of building permits and creation of a Traffic Management Office.

The discussion group on health added the need to fully implement the campaign against smoke-belching vehicles and sale of junk food, better ventilation for call centers, establishment of a medicine bank to collect unused medicines for distribution to indigent patients, and a clearing house for medical-dental-optical missions.

Tourism-oriented discussants saw the relevance of accrediting by improving the cultural and historical sensitivity of tourist guides, development of new visitor come-ons for Baguio, such as the development of parks anchored on cultural heritage and history.

Some of those who discussed government service admitted having encountered discourteous employees while others called for an equal-opportunity policy in the hiring of personnel.

Some participants admitted the effec-

tiveness of the forum as venue for residents and citizens to help establish governance and legislative agenda for the city, but suggested more time for the workshop deliberations.

"If members of the city council take weeks to discuss even one issue, it would be good to also give us more hours to deliberate on city concerns that the city wants us to present," a participant said.

City councilor Peter Fianza, however, pointed out that residents need not wait for a citizens congress to give their inputs, saying they can always formulate their suggestions anytime and submit these to the city councilors.

"As chair of the committee on education, I have the opportunity to receive inputs regularly through our meetings in the city school board," he said./Ramon Dacawi.

## Senior Citizens

## ..... from page 12

hall and other offices for a day, as to city ordinance 57, s. of 2009; which mandates participatory governance for the experienced elderly.

This year's theme is, "Nakatatanda, Sa Bisan ng RA 9994, May Dangal, Nagkakaisa, Buhay ay Maginhawa."

Heading the local government unit officials' list, on its third year of implementation, is SCOFAD Tolentino Opiniano who replaces Congressman Bernardo Vergara for a day.

Former City Administrator Atty. Virgilio Bautista shall stand-in for Mayor Mauricio Domogan while SCOFAD Alberto Bravo Sr. is vice-mayor and is head of the Ways and Means and Finance committee in the city council.

Bravo Sr. presides over the city council during the regular session this Monday, where the SCOFAD councilors shall present their proposed resolutions and ordinances.

Councilor Nicasio Aliping, Jr. who heads the Public Utilities, Transportation and Traffic Legislation committee shall be replaced by SCOFAD Alejandro Quitariano; while the Social Services, Women and Urban Poor council committee chaired by Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda shall be under SCOFAD Elisio Sarmiento.

SCOFAD Filemon Longakit takes over Urban Planning, Lands and Housing committee chair Council Isabelo Cosalan, Jr., as Councilor Elmer Datuin, hands over the Tourism, Special Events, Parks and Playgrounds committee to SCOFAD Carlito Ballesteros.

The Education, Culture and Historical Research committee chaired by Councilor Peter Fianza shall be taken care of by SCOFAD Rosa Rillera, as SCOFAD Florentino Awingan takes over the chairmanship of Councilor Edison Bilog of the Human Rights, Justice, Public Protection and Safety, Peace and Order committee.

Councilor Perlita Chan-Rondez' Market, Trade and Commerce committee shall be chaired for a day by SCOFAD Victorio Afalla, and Councilor Fred Bagbagen will hand over the committee chairmanship of the Employment, Livelihood and Cooperatives, Handicapped and Differently-Abled Persons to SCOFAD Juan Allibang.

SCOFAD Dr. Nestor Escosa shall have Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia's committee on Health and Sanitation, Ecology and Environmental Protection, SCOFAD Clarita Climacosa

shall have the Ethics, Governmental Affairs and Personnel committee of Councilor Phillian Louise Weygan-Allan; while SCOFAD Engr. Benigno Andam will look over the Public Works committee of Councilor Nicasio Palaganas. Councilor Richard Carino's replacement will be Policarpio Lansigan.

Councilor Joel Alangsab's committee on Barangay Affairs shall be with SCOFAD Rogelio Sison; and SCOFAD Joseph Clemente takes care of the Youth Welfare and Sports Development committee of Councilor Karminn Cheryl Dinney Yangot.

The department heads, too, have their replacement for a day: SCOFAD Crispina Luna for City Accountant Antonio Tabin; SCOFAD Bienvenido Balweg for City Administrator Atty. Carlos Canilao; SCOFAD Casimiro Viray for City Assessor Augustus Medina; SCOFAD Cristeta Antonio for City Auditor Noemi Tagudar; SCOFAD Rogelio Luna for City Budget Officer Atty. Leticia Clemente; SCOFAD Ruperto Ferrer for City Building Officer Engr. Oscar Flores; SCOFAD Veronica Gemmino for City Civil Registrar Sylvia Laudencia; SCOFAD Paciencia Quiguyan for Dep-Ed Superintendent Ellen Donato, Ed.D.; SCOFAD Dr. Romeo Umali for City Director, Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Evelyn Trinidad;

SCOFAD Engr. Jesus Luzadas for City Engineer Leo Bernardez; SCOFAD Franklin Dumaligan for City Environment and Parks Management Officer Cordelia Lacsamana; SCOFAD Narciso Tabajen for General Service Officer Romeo Concio; SCOFAD Lolita Abastilla for City Health Officer Dr. Florence Reyes; SCOFAD Balbina Longboan for Human Resource Officer Dr. Estrella Bisqueria; SCOFAD Benjamin Lacasandile for City Legal Officer Atty. Melchor Rabanes; SCOFAD Placido Abuan for City Planning Officer Engr. Evelyn Cayat; SCOFAD Marilou Ramos for City Secretary Prudente Parnacio; SCOFAD Josephine Crados; for In-Charge of City Treasurer Office/Asst. Treasurer Alicia Onoza; and SCOFAD Marianito Hapitan for City Veterinarian Brigit Piok.

The officers were screened by Ret. Col. Napoleon Gojo, Prof. Federico Balanag, Punong Barangay Editha Ibarra, Engr. Leopoldo Escano, Former Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) executive Isaias Barongan, Alberto Bravo and City Social Welfare and Development Officer Betty Fangasan.

The officials were also given a thorough orientation of functions by Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda last Thursday at the Session hall, city hall.

Other scheduled activities are: Oct. 2, 8 AM, Ecumenical Thanksgiving Mass followed by a photo exhibit at the city hall lobby; Oct. 6, 8 AM, Gintong Tala Awarding ceremonies at the Baguio Convention Center; and at 10:30 AM, groundbreaking of the multi-purpose senior citizen center along Bokawan road; Oct. 13, 8 AM, grand Senior Citizen parade from upper session road down to Melvin Jones grandstand, and palaro. On Oct. 20, a medical-dental mission shall be done at Melvin Jones, while on Oct. 27, a Pista sa Nayon shall be celebrated at the PFVR gym where as a highlight, a Ginoong Lakan and Ginang Lakambini is chosen. A cultural show follows the pageant.

The senior citizens are members of

Baguio-based SC organizations including that of war veterans, under the CSWDO and Office of the Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) Office./juliegfianza

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City  
RECTO PADCAYAN and BETSY PADCAYAN -  
Vendor

HENRY S. CHIU - Vendee  
Applicants

Case No: 94-CAR-306/2012-CAR-817

## NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience with Dropping and Substitution of Unit to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation of passengers and freights 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 October 10, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 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 by 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 20th day of Sept 2012 (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

EDWIN ROMMEL PARASO - Vendor  
CAROLINA A. VILA-Vendee  
Applicants

Case No: 2000-01-855/2012-CAR-845

## NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience with Dropping and Substitution of Unit to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation of passengers and freights 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 October 10, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 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 by 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 25th day of Sept 2012 (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

JOHN LOMISIT

Applicants

Case No: 2012-CAR-345

## NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience with Correction of Entry to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights 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 October 10, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 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 by 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 25th day of September 2012 (SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV



## 12 Senior Citizen-Achievers to be Honored

A dedicated core of 12 city elders will be conferred the prestigious Gintong Tala Achievers Award to highlight the grand opening day rites of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual OCTOBERBEST Golden Years Festival set at the Baguio Convention Center on October 6, next week.

The special event is jointly sponsored by the Baguio Elderly Assembly, City Social Welfare and Development Office, Office for Senior Citizens Affairs and the city government of Baguio.

Octoberbest is the city's lolos and lolas Filipino elderly program pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 470, series 1994, Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Baguio Resolution No. 052 and the BEA Covenant of Unity crafted by the heads of various Senior Citizens association in the city namely BARP Foundation, FBASECA, FGREA, VFP-CAR and the VFP Baguio District on October 4, 2003. Signatories to the historic document included former Senator Rodolfo Biazon, Hon. Mauricio Domogan, Hon. Bernardo Vergara former OSCA Head Councilor Galo Weygan and OCSWDO Department Head Betty Fangasan.

Former City Councilor Nars Padilla, BEA executive program officer and chairman of the awards committee said the awardees are Rev. Fr. Andres Cosalan, Jr., Spiritual Director, Ecumenical Inter-faith and Inter-Religious Dialogue for religious and spiritual services; former secretary of the city mayor Joe Taguba, former City Councilor Lilia Yaranon and Regional Trial Court Judge Edilberto Claraval representing the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government and retired General Rogelio Aguana for military-PNP service. The other honorees, Padilla said, are former school Superintendent Pedring Cagas for education; businessman Roy Tabanda for business and trade; Dr. Manuel Quirino for medical services; Eliral Refuerzo for journalism; Victorino Agcaoile for tourism and special events; Adorado de Guzman for community service and international athlete Erlinda Lavanddia for sports.

Representative Emmeline Y. Aglipay from DIWA Party List, house of Congress will grace the "parangal" ceremonies as guest of honor and speaker while City Mayor Domogan and Congressman Vergara head the award presentors entourage.

Padilla added that the awardees were cited for their leadership excellence, unblemished faith, loyalty and devotion to God, country and fellowmen. They were recognized for their exemplary achievement and highly meritorious deeds made possible through their chosen profession or vocation which contributed in distinct manners toward the sustained vision, growth and development of the community at large and in nation building for a stronger Philippine Republic./Nars Padilla

## Senior Citizens to Serve as City Officials for a Day

BAGUIOCITY filled for senior citizens, starting with October is celebrated as national the Senior Citizen Official For A Day shall be activity- (SCOFAD) at city

hall and barangay level, simultaneously this Monday, Oct. 1.

The senior citizens shall run city

Cont. on page 11

## Samaritans light up patients' hopes

The kindness of people, some of whom the beneficiaries they reach out to have never met and will never meet, is keeping alive the hopes – and the lives, so to speak – of seriously ill patients who use up all their waking hours figuring out how to pay the cost of the next hemodialysis or chemotherapy session.

Tired of figuring out the cost, one such patient, 25-year old Dinton Banta, a carrot washer from La Trinidad, Benguet, had himself anyway attached to the dialysis machine before noon last Monday at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center.

As she helped him for the four-hour treatment, Benita, his 56-year old mother, a farmhand from Kapangan, Benguet, just kept hoping her cellphone (09465507988) would ring with a call from a Samaritan.

Only the day before, the weeklies carried a news item on her son's case and her hope a reader or two would respond to enable Dinton to pay for her next dialysis treatment for kidney failure.

No one called. Instead, Shoshin Kinderhilfe, a small foundation established in southern Germany sent P2,200 to cover the cost of the treatment.

The call came last Tuesday morning. A woman who introduced herself as Au, asked Benita to meet her in front of the Baguio Cathedral.

"She handed me P5,000, saying it came from her office superior who declined to be identified," Benita said. "It's more than enough to cover his treatment on Thursday and next Monday," she added, her face glowing with sheer relief.

As this was being written last Friday, the head Shoshin, former world traditional karate champion Julian Chees, e-mailed he had raised 161 euros over the week-end. As it was not enough, he asked Renate Doth, the foundation secretary, to lend and round it up to 200 euros.

"This will give Dinton two more treatments and another two for his fellow kidney patient, Marilou Matias from Pangasinan," Julian said.

Shoshin had used up its earlier funds with a P10,000 support to Cecilia Cosape Patol who is suffering from leukemia. Previous to this, the foundation helped sustain the hemodialysis treatment of Amor Orpilla, Eduardo MagatSabino AdianMilagros Tait and Requinio Tidlem, aside from medicines for Wilma Tomas, Kthlyn Espada and Moreno Orpilla.

The foundation supported a concert for ailing lawyer-folksinger Nes Mondoc and the transport of patients and their relatives to and from the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office in Quezon city to follow up their applications for fund support.

Beyond providing medical support, Shoshin also provided school fees for two orphaned children whose father, forest guard Andres Realina, was killed when a mature pine fell on him at the height of a storm three years ago inside the Busol watershed.

Among the donors this month was engineer Leonard Licanio who extended dialysis fund support to John Mark Tiyyad, Madeline Ranille. Linbeth Lestino and several other kidney patients.

Among regular benefactors is a family along Session Rd. whose latest support was a P1,500 donation to Dinton.

Last Thursday evening, volunteer driver Jerry Manaois transported 12 patients or their relatives bound for the PCSO, with support from the city social welfare and development office, Rob Ocampo, a couple and a city hall employee who both requested anonymity.

Others looking for a cause to support may visit the renal center of the BGHMC and sponsor a dialysis patient at P2,200 per session. Those in La Trinidad, Benguet may proceed for the same purpose to the Benguet Provincial Hospital where Ranille and Lestino report for dialysis. — Ramon Dacawi.

## The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!



Cong. Bernardo M. Vergara and Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan turnover a new firetruck to the city's firefighting force chief in simple rites after the Monday flag raising ceremony at the City Hall grounds./Photo by: Glenn Pat-ogan

## Residents provide inputs to city's legislative agenda

Working under time pressure that seems to be the compelling rule in workshops, city officials and residents last Wednesday afternoon spelled out a motley of issues they want the city, particularly the city council, to address towards bringing closer Baguio to what it should be.

Dubbed "People's Legislative Congress", the half-day forum at the Baguio Convention Center split after the preliminaries into 12 discussion groups according to the standing committees of the city council, with vice-mayor Daniel Farines and city councilors presiding over the deliberations.

City mayor Mauricio Domogan set the direction with an outline of the city's environmental, financial, social and other governance issues, topped by

the continuing search for permanent solutions to its garbage disposal problem.

City councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda, chair of the local chapter of the Philippine Councilors League that initiated the congress, said the outputs from the citizenry will guide the city council in developing its legislative agenda.

For representatives of persons with disabilities and senior citizens, the main issue was the implementation of the magna carta for the handicapped, particularly their access in and to the urban space through the restoration of the so-called "blue lanes" that allow them to easily cross streets without having to climb pedestrian overpasses.

Former city councilor Virgilio Bautista, who will be installed this Monday as city mayor-for-a-day in observance of "Senior Citizens Month", last week said he will issue an administrative order for the implementation of the

city's equal-access ordinances.

Among others, the youth sector proposed a congress or summit for juvenile gangs and fraternities, apparently to channel their energy to community service projects, a strengthening of reformatory program for youth offenders, establishment of a Baguio Youth Day and youth guidance center and designating a skateboarding facility.

The youth also expressed concern over the increase in teenage pregnancy and the need to check the rising cost of education with the continuing increase in tuition fees.

On the environment, participants pressed for twice-a-week garbage collection, heavier sanctions for improper trash disposal, pollution, demolition of structures in watersheds and waterways, and regulating car-washing, grilling and livestock maintenance in highly populated areas.

Cont. on page 11

THE JUNCTION

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