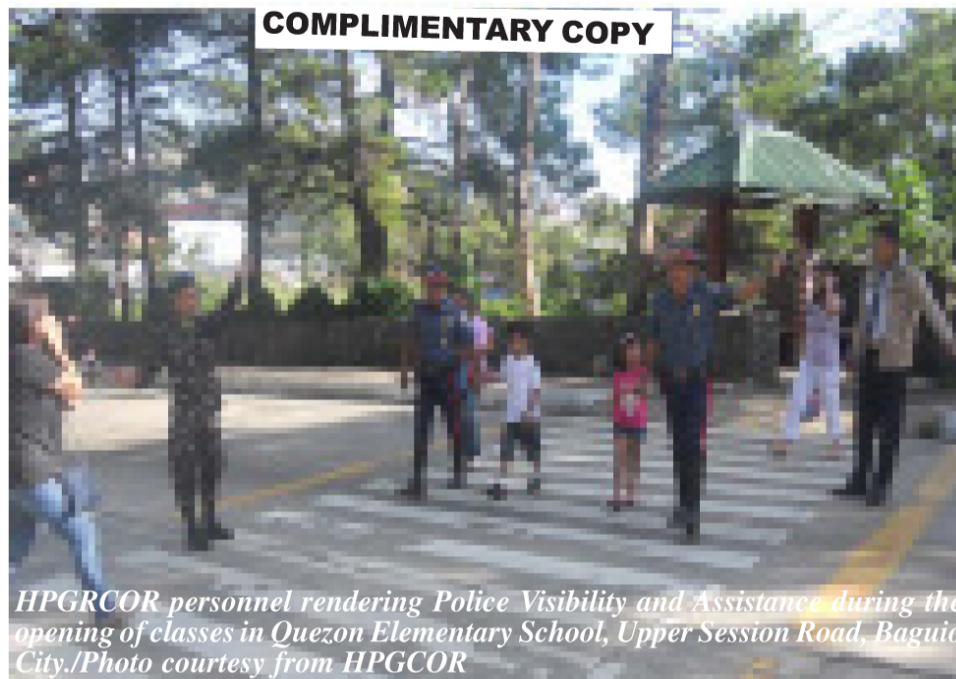


MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

## NSO Baguio Office Clogged By Clients; Director Calls for Public Patience and Understanding



HPGRCOR personnel rendering Police Visibility and Assistance during the opening of classes in Quezon Elementary School, Upper Session Road, Baguio City./Photo courtesy from HPGRCOR

BAGUIO CITY - Parents and students rushing for the enrollment for school year 2013 - 2014, are clogging the National Statistics Office (NSO) Census Serbilis Center - Baguio City Outlet with clients reaching as high as 1,883 in a day.

NSO-CAR Regional Director Olivia Gulla, in an interview over PIA Hour Radio Program, disclosed that their service area which can accommodate around 200 persons in any given time is now clogged by clients with the long lines reaching the sidewalks where the NSO office is located.

Despite the constant public reminder for parents and graduates to get their NSO documents for school or board exam requirements, clients peak up every month of May.

Gulla called for public understanding and support as they have already implemented a quota of 1,200 clients a day to assure a better, safer and more convenient service to the public.

She explained that the daily quota, which took effect last May 22, is for safety precaution and convenience of their clients with the limited space in their service area, especially with the hot summer morning and the unpredictable rains in the afternoon.

According to Gulla, from January of this year their average

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*Kayo sa NSO, imbisna hingi kayo ng pasensiya, gawan niyo ng magandang sistema ang pagbigay ninyo ng serbisyo sa publiko! Hindi na kayo naaawa sa inyong mga kliyente!!*



MONDAY MUNDANE

Where is my Bantay's bantay?

**page 5**

BY: GLOR ESPERANZA



ADVOCACY MINDANOW

WHERE ARE THE BATS & FIREFLIES?

**page 4**

BY: JESUS DUREZA





## File Campaign Expense Reports, Candidates Told

Time to report the millions of pesos spent during the campaign.

Commission on Elections Chairman Sixto Brillantes Jr. reminded candidates in the May 13 elections to file their campaign expense reports before the poll body or face sanctions. All candidates, including those who lost, are required to file their statements of election contributions and expenditures (SECE), he said. Deadline for the SECE is June 13 at 5pm, exactly a month after Election Day.

Winning candidates who fail to submit their expense reports will not be allowed to assume office on June 30, said Brillantes who explained that the poll body has reached agreement with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to bar non-filers from assuming local office.

Brillantes said they will immediately check after the deadline who among national and local candidates failed to submit their SECEs. This is a departure from the old practice where filings were not checked right away because of the volume of filers.

"Our initial thrust is to check who submitted already. Then, we will publish their names and also say those who failed to submit will not be allowed to sit so that they will be forced to file their contributions," Brillantes said in Pilipino.

Non-filers or late filers will also face administrative fines of between P10, 000 to P30, 000 for first offense and P20, 000 to P60, 000 for the second offense. The fine depends on the elective position.

Brillantes said the audit will be done later. He said those who underreport their expenses will face perjury and election offense charges. *Mikha Flores/VERA Files is put out by veteran journalists taking a deeper look at current issues. Vera is Latin for "true".*

## Patients Grateful to Anonymous Samaritans

Whoever they are, this item is for those gentle souls out there who recently reached out to patients fighting for dear life.

"Whoever they are, please thank them for us," Noli Estras, a 44-year old tricycle driver and father of four from Sison, Pangasinan, asked the media last Wednesday.

The day before, he met two men who handed him cash, saying it was for his youngest child, 19-year old Rossana who is into the thick of her second bout against

cancer of the blood.

Mostly likely, the two were fathers like him. Perhaps, they were even granddads.

The first called up Noli at about three o'clock Tuesday afternoon. He said he wanted to know if he could meet Noli in front of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center so he could hand P4,000.

"Receive this as my support to your daughter," Noli quote the

man as saying in Ilocano. Noli asked if he could get his name, but the Samaritan replied, "Babaamon (Never mind)".

An hour later, another man called, asking if Noli was still in Baguio. Noli answered 'yes' as Rossana was still recovering from the effects of her first after-relapse chemotherapy at the BGHMC the day before.

Noli met the man, who identified himself as "Lakay Neil", below the

Cont. on page 7

## City Awards Lupong Tagapamaya 2012

The City government awards the Lupong Tagapamayapa 2012 through the Special Services Division last June 2 during Baguio City Hall's Flag Ceremony.

Imelda Village won 2012's Lupong Tagapamayapa Incentive Award (LTIA) among 24 barangays and will represent the city in the National competition. The said barangay defeated 2011's champion Irisan Village who only came 1st runner up in the recent LTIA.

A P30,000 incentive was given to the Imelda Village while Irisan received P25,000 pesos.

Other barangays in the top five were: Upper Rock Quarry (2nd runner up) with P20,000, Pacdal (3rd runner up) with P15,000, Lourdes Subdivision (4th runner up) with P10,000, and Middle Quezon Hill (5th runner up) with P8,000.

P5,000 incentive was likewise given to barangays Fairview, Gibraltar, Middle Quirino Hill, Pinget, and Pinsao Pilot Project.

Among the other finalists were Alfonso Tabora, Andres Bonifacio, Bakakeng Central, Brookspoint, Holy Ghost, Leonila Hill, Loakan Proper, Lower Rock Quarry, Palma-Urbano, Pinsao Proper, Quezon Hill, Sto. Nino, and Upper QM.

LTIA 2012 awards committee is led by Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan and DILG-Baguio Director Evelyn Trinidad.

The search for the best performing barangay in the city for the Lupong Tagapamayapa Incentive Award for 2012 started on Feb 19 and ended Feb 28 this year with the aim to recognize the efficiency of barangays in settling disputes within their community outside the formal courts of justice.

After the awarding, Mayor Domogan commended the barangays who participated in the search, stating he hopes that this awarding will serve as a continuing inspiration and challenge in administering justice in their respective areas. Domogan also encouraged other barangays who were not awarded or non-participants to take LTIA as a challenge to perform better in the coming years. /GESperanza

## Concert Proceeds Prop up Six Patients

When played by those who, for years now, have been fleshing out its humanitarian message, folk and country music goes a long, long way.

That's precisely what happened in the aftermath of "Baguio Reunion", a concert-for-a-cause mounted last May 20 by the Association of Government Information Officers - Cordillera (ASGIOCO), initially to help three

gravely ill patients in their battle for medical deliverance.

Given the spontaneous audience and sponsorship response to the three-hour musical treat led by expatriate lead singers Conrad Marzan and Mhia Tibunsay, gross collection breached the P110,000 mark, allowing a total of 99,600 cash support released as of last week to six

patients and to a musician in need.

The latest beneficiaries who each got P5,000 were Jail Officer 1 Jonathan Bayubay Bulwayan of the regional office of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, jeepney dispatcher Randy Almoite of the Crystal Cave route and Eufemia Santos, an em-

ployee of the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board.

Guitarist and vocalist Dolpo Pedronio, who almost skipped his folkhouse set just to perform with the reunited Foggy Mountain Band that evening, received P3,000.

Midway into the concert, support of P27,200 each was distributed to the three original beneficiaries: 10-year old Chelsea Benito, the youngest among 179 hemodialysis patients at the BGHMC; Jun Willy of PTV4 who is also undergoing dialysis for kidney failure; and Linda Fines, a staff member of the Department of Tourism who is fighting cancer.

Jail officer Bulwayan, who will turn 27 on June Cont. on page 7

## Baguio not Included in APEC Conference's Shortlist of Potential Venues

The city of Baguio was removed as one of the considered venues that will hold the 2015 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and related meetings in the country. Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan confirmed this in the weekly Ugnayan and said that this was the issue they have discussed during a meeting with Hotel and Restaurant Association of Baguio (HRUB) and Loakan Airport representatives last Wednesday.

Domogan stated that one of the probable main reasons behind this is the absence of commercial flight in the city which is the flight from Manila to Baguio and vice versa. According to Domogan, the Loakan Airport did not pass the aviation safety requirement of APEC's shortlist of probable cities. The Mayor further explained that under such requirement, Loakan must be completely closed to pedestrians and animals, using it exclusively for airport services provided that a bypass road will be constructed.

Domogan said in the meeting that he recalls appropriating P12 million to Loakan Airport for the purpose of the bypass road construction. However, according to Domogan, the Loakan Airport representatives in the meeting reasoned that they think the budget was re-aligned to other projects. Domogan ordered Loakan Airport to inform the city council as well as HRUB within three days regarding what happened to the said appropriation.

If ever it was found out that the budget was re-aligned to other purposes, the Mayor stated that the city government will find funds even just for the construction of foot trail. He said this is just as important for the distance from the other side of the airport to PMA will be made closer via foot trail for pedestrians.

Domogan further added that the city was not informed of a bid that a municipality can pass to the APEC committee for them to include in the shortlist. That is why Domogan ordered Department of Tourism (DOT) CAR Regional Director Purificacion Molintas to get the requirements of the said bid and to identify the committee behind the process. The City will then comply with and meet the requirements of the summit and partner with the private sector particularly HRUB to pass a bid to the APEC committee.

9 cities are contending to host the 2015 APEC summit namely Metro Manila, Cebu, Tagaytay, Clark, Subic, Iloilo, Bacolod, Boracay and Davao. According to the Mayor, Albay submitted a bid to likewise host some of the APEC conferences. And Baguio City is very much qualified to hold one of the conferences as well, points the Mayor.

It will be the second time for our country to host this global forum with 20 expected world leaders to discuss different issues with a main thrust to boost economical and political ties. Philippines hosted its first APEC summit in 1996 in Subic.

The host of the APEC Economic Leaders' meeting must have the capacity to accommodate 63 heads of states, and foreign trade ministers. Over 3,000 to 4,000 delegates will arrive for the APEC Cont. on page 7

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## Caucus on Dev't Programs First in Mayor's Agenda

AGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan's first order of business for his fresh mandate as chief executive is to gather executive and legislative officials for a caucus to chart the development direction for the city in the next three years.

"The first thing we will do after June 30 (the start of the term of the new officials) is to conduct an executive-legislative planning session where we will take up and agree on development programs to be pursued in the coming three years," the mayor told his Ugnayang **Panlungsod** media briefing last Wednesday.

The mayor said this is part of participatory leadership which he has been advocating since the start of his term as chief executive.

Although the mayor had bared his administration's development thrust early on, he expressed reception to new ideas that the incoming set of officials may proffer during the planning session.

"We hope that with our continued teamwork and cooperation, we can achieve all our development goals in partnership with the private sector," the mayor said.

The mayor earlier said he intends to continue his unfinished projects and programs on infrastructure development, educational and social services, peace and order and environmental protection.

An inauguration program is being prepared for incoming city officials to mark the start of their terms of office. Outgoing city officials will also be feted.

The new set of Baguio officials are outgoing Councilor Nicasio Aliping Jr. who will replace incumbent Rep. Bernardo Vergara in Congress, Domogan and Farinas who were reelected to their respective posts as mayor and vice mayor along with council reelectionists Edison Bilog, Betty Lourdes Tabanda, Isabelo Cosalan Jr., Elmer Datuin, Richard Carino, Peter Fianza, Fred Bagbagen and newly elected councilor Joel Alangab who will have to leave his post as Association of Barangay Councils (ABC) president, comebacking councilors Roberto Ortega, Leandro Yangot Jr., Faustino Olowan and Elaine Sembrano./A Refuerzo

## 3 Arroyo Co-Accused in PCSO Plunder Case Allowed to Post Bail

A Sandiganbayan division on Friday allowed three of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's co-accused in the P366-million PCSO plunder case to post bail due to lack of strong evidence proving their guilt.

Given a chance to secure temporary freedom by the Sandiganbayan First Division were Sergio Valencia, Manuel Morato and Raymundo Roquero, all former officials of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO).

"An evaluation of the prosecution's evidence... shows no great presumption of guilt against these three direc-

tors," the court said, adding it finds "that the evidence presented against them at this point and stage of the proceedings, do not show evident proof of their guilt. They can therefore be allowed to post bail."

Valencia, a former PCSO board chairman, and Morato, former board director, were each ordered to post P500,000 bail for their temporary release, while Roquero, also a former board director, was ordered to post a higher bond, P700,000, for turning himself in only last January 18, or four months after the

issuance of the arrest warrant against him.

No ruling was issued, however, on the separate petitions for bail filed by Arroyo and former PCSO budget and accounts manager Benigno Aguas.

The Consti-  
Cont. on page 7

## City Officials Urged to Look Into The Improvement of Loakan Airport

BAGUIO CITY — Baguio Country Club (BCC) General Manager Anthony de Leon urged re-elected as well as newly elected officials of the city to look into the improvement of the Baguio City Loakan Airport to further boost the tourism industry not only of the City but the Cordillera region as a whole.

In his opening message during the launching of BCC's latest marketing campaign featuring Ms. Universe 2012 runner-up Shamcey Supsup and BCC image model, and its updated website last week, De Leon said one of the reasons why Baguio City was not included in the list of 9 possible venues for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit to be held in the Philippines at the latter part of 2013, was that the Loakan airport does not pass international standards, particularly the situation where vehicles, persons and animals cross the runway at any given time.

He said that along with their continued marketing of the Club is the promotion of the city's various tourism sites and event offerings. From the humble beginnings of the Baguio Country Club to what it is today, de Leon said the Club has always carried with it its commitment to reach out and help in the promotion of the City as a major tourist destination not only in the national but in the international scene as well.

For his part, Mayor Mauricio Domogan, who was also present during the event, acknowledged the issue saying that the city government has been coordinating in the past with the Air Transportation Office (ATO) as they are the ones managing the airport. He said the local government will continue to do so until a solution that will serve the best interest not only of the tourism sector but the concerned community and the entire city as well is reached.

He also took the opportunity to thank the tourism and business sectors present for giving him the fresh mandate to serve the city as mayor and solicited their continued active participation to achieve good governance and sustainable urban development./JDP/ JBZ- PIA CAR

## City Calls Attention to Local Code Requirements on Water Applications

BAGUIO CITY – Can the city impose its own requirements on water permit applications vis-à-vis those of the National Water Resources Board (NWRB)?

The city council will thresh this out to firm up future actions on NWRB requests of posting of water permit applications being directed to the body.

Councilor Peter Fianza opined that the body need not tackle such requests as "posting of water permit applications should be ministerial" based on NWRB procedures.

But Councilor Perlita Rondex expressed apprehension that the body's lack of action over the requests might

be regarded as disinterest to matters affecting the state of the city's surface or ground water.

"I'd like to know whether not approving the application is equivalent to the city's giving up its right to say something about how the city council cares for the city's surface or ground wa-

Cont. on page 6

## City to Send Team Abroad for Waste Management Plant Inspection

Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan said in weekly Ugnayang that the city is finalizing the sending of a Technical Working Group to visit the operation of the waste-to-energy plant in Europe.

The Mayor hopes that the Technical Team will go there by the end of June this year. Domogan explained that the waste to management plant complements and supplements the City's Environmental Recycling System (ERS) operation.

He further describes that after the materializing of 48 tons of biodegradable waste, the garbage will continue to be processed by the ERS then the rest of the garbage will be go through the waste-to-energy plant.

However, Domogan clarifies that he will not be going with the Technical Team to examine this plant. What is important is that the members of the city council will check the feasibility of the plant before continuing its implementation in the city.

"To see is to believe. Importante na tignan muna nila 'yan at makakatulong yan sa discussion to pursue the city's direction to have the waste-to-energy plant for disposing our garbage." The Mayor reasoned.

Last year, Domogan had chosen the proposal of waste-to-energy technology from Germany Dominion Clean Energy to solve the city's solid waste management problem. The National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) has also issued clearance for the city to proceed with the project.

In an interview last year, General Services Officer Romeo Concio said the waste energy facility will be able to process mixed waste. He added that the facility would require a minimum of 200 tons of garbage daily for it to be able to produce electricity. The city produces 160 tons of garbage daily but adding the waste from business establishments, the city is expecting to reach the 200 tons minimum for the said project to be feasible.

The City government required the Dominion Clean Energy to post a P30 million bond that will be forfeited in the event that the project will fail after 90 days of full operation./G.Esperanza

**PILLARS OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM: Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) Branch 4 Presiding Judge Ma Clarita C.Tabin reports on the various reforms on the justice system and accomplishments of the trial courts here during City Hall's flag raising ceremonies June 3./By Bong Cayabyab**





## Shriveled seeds

Did the hunting of fruit-eating birds lead to the shriveling of tree seeds, asks the journal Science in its latest issue. This can damage, beyond previous estimates, already-stressed tropical rainforests.

Deforestation in Brazil resulted in trees that yielded smaller, frailer seeds. "The story we are documenting... is common in other tropical areas around the world," explains Spain's Prof. Pedro Jordano. "(That's) where big mammals and birds are disappearing." As in the Philippines?

Jordano and Sao Paulo State University scientists sifted through more than 9,000 forest seeds. They factored in issues like soil fertility to thinning forest cover. Seeds were significantly smaller, they found. They were less likely to regenerate.

"Kung ano ang binhi, siya ang bunga," a Tagalog proverb says. "What the seed is, so is the fruit." In the parable of "The Sower," many of the seeds also didn't sprout. Some were "trampled underfoot." "Birds of the sky" devoured others. Most fell on rocks or thorns, and withered.

Loss of birds triggered today's shrinking seeds, writes BBC's science reporter Rebecca Morelle. She quotes Jordano: "The main factor was the disappearance of

## EDITORIAL the large frugivore (fruit-eating) species... One of

our major surprises was how deforestation influences the evolution of plant traits—all within a few generations."

Brazilian birds, like the "toucan" and "cotinga," have been hunted to near extinction. In the Philippines, 89 birds are endangered. The Philippine eagle is the best known. Also threatened are the Philippine cockatoo, Cebu flowerpecker (*dicaeum quadricolor*), Visayan wrinkled hornbill and amphibians, including the panther flying frog.

The Ticao Tarictic hornbill and the Sulu bleeding heart are gone for good. "If we don't preserve our endemic feathered treasures, they'll just be remembered in stamps," says ornithologist JC Gonzales. Inexplicably, "songbirds exposed to polluted environments sing more," says a feature on exotic birds in cities. "But they also die early."

Like Philippine rainforests, Brazil's Atlantic timberland "was once home to a vibrant array of plants and animals." But the launch of sugar and coffee plantations, in the early 19th century, altered the forest cover radically. Today, just 12 percent of Brazil's original forest remains.

Less than a quarter of Philippine rainforests are left. In 1595, they blanketed 27.5 million hectares. But a logging mafia wrecked that "heirloom." Log exports topped 11.1 million cubic meters in 1974, then slumped to 841,000 cubic meters a decade later. The forests still have to recover.

Juan Ponce Enrile's logging firm "chain-saws" the last rainforest in Samar. Will tree stumps crown his checkered career? Enrile seesawed from a fake martial law ambush to People Power hero, jack-knifed into coup plots, then emerged as a firm chair of impeachment process.

Forest depletion denudes the mind. A Negros and Panay survey discovered that most schoolchildren have no concept of natural forests. When asked to draw, they depicted neat rows of plantation trees. Some "baby-boomers think molave (Philippine mahogany) is a street sign," a forester explained.

Until the early 1980s, the word "biodiversity" rarely cropped up, even in scientific meetings. It means the complex web of life forms. This coils within a species or system and can unravel. This is richest along the equator: in fishing grounds along Western Pacific coasts and rainforests. Tropical forests cover 6 percent of the earth but contain more than half the world's plant and animal species.

Biodiversity in a large number of tropical forests, however, is still eroding, says a 36-nation study in Asia, Africa and Latin America. At the rate of today's depletion, there is concern "whether tropical forests will continue to function as 'arks' for biodiversity and natural ecosystem processes."

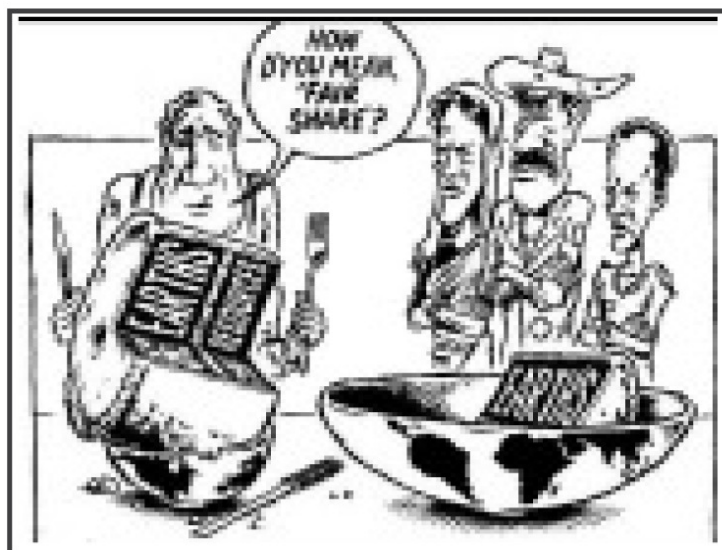
William Laurance of James Cook University (Australia) led the study team. It pinpointed hunting as one of the main threats to biodiversity in protected areas. "About 85 percent of these reserves suffered declines in surrounding forest cover in the [past] 20 to 30 years. In contrast only 2 percent gained surrounding forest."

UP students launched, in 1910, the first formal reforestation program at Los Baños. In 1917, President Sergio Osmeña opened Cebu's Camp 7 reforestation project. It still exists in a province where forest cover is less than 2 percent. The key project of his grandson, outgoing Rep. Tomas Osmeña, is a bare 296-hectare reclaimed plot. South Road Properties is semi-desert.

Only 30 percent of reforestation projects succeed. "People hardly recognize the benefits from protecting the environment." Connivance sabotaged the program. When the forests go, so does the topsoil which produces food. Over half (52 percent) of the country is eroded.

In the Ateneo University publication, "Forest Faces: Hopes and Regrets in Philippine Forestry," Peter Walpole writes: "Regeneration is taking place as secondary forests regain their original stature. Cogon (*imperata cylindrica*) fields, that blanket logged-over areas, shelter a new generation of pioneering seedlings. (This) is a phoenix forest that could restore and regenerate our landscape. There is hope. But it needs a nurturing hand."

Climate change, however, unleashed three typhoons, within three years, on Mindanao. In the past, a storm slammed the island once every 17 years or so. It may deny us the time needed to reverse shrunken tree seeds./Juan L. Mercado



## ADVOCACY MINDANOW

### WHERE ARE THE BATS & FIREFLIES?

BY: JESUS DUREZA



**BATS** — I remember those childhood days when every late afternoon just before sundown, the skies would darken due to thousands of bats flying low overhead heading towards the mountains and the forests to forage for food at night and then fly back early morning towards their roosting places in the trees near the sea. And slept when daybreak came. A tree would look like a laden, black christmas tree populated by bats, hanging upside down. Like clockwork, they winged back to the foraging places at nightfall. And back again to roost by daybreak.

When I visited our barangay last week, I kept looking and waiting till sundown but I didn't see the bats anymore.

**FIREFLIES** — When I went to the highlands along the **Davao-Bukidnon** road a few days ago, I spotted a solo firefly in the ceiling in the middle of the night. There used to be thousands of them in a big tree nearby some **20 years ago** when I first came to that place. I stared at the ceiling for a long time and watched it with fascination, gracefully and softly blinking. Now, I was so thrilled seeing a single one.

I don't see many of them anymore.

**RIVERS** — I was reading an email from **INTERNATIONAL RIVERS FOUNDATION**, an **Australia**-based environment advocacy group and I was reminded about what I experienced when I was handling **Mindanao** for **Malacanang** several years ago. I would always notice the "dying" rivers from the air everytime I crisscrossed the region on board helicopters or small low-flying planes going somewhere.

One interesting common observation (and you can check this out today): populations like towns or cities — or even barangays in most cases — cluster around rivers or lakes or bodies of water. During those early years, our forefathers knew that life was better when they lived where there were available water for food, transpo, and other life-sustaining necessities.

Unfortunately today, our rivers are "dying". I always felt bad seeing from the air cleavages along hillsides or what used to be waterways that no longer had water running down the slopes — or if any, they were in trickles. Many riverbeds today have wide spaces without water. And seldom would I see rivers that have sparkling or clear water, mostly brownish and muddy.

When I was a kid in our barrio (now barangay), going to the river to take a bath or fish was always a delight. Today, our river is so silted and must have chemicals in the water due to banana plantations and a sugar mill around its banks that parents shoo their children away from the water. Even the fishes are no longer there. Or if there are, they must be laden with toxic substances not fit for consumption.

**DEVELOPMENT?** Some say this is the price of development. Yes, definitely times have radically changed. For the better? I dunno. But I am sure there must be a way to revive those dying waterways and bring back the bats and the fireflies.

Remember the famous line: "**WE DID NOT INHERIT THE EARTH. WE MERELY BORROWED IT FROM OUR CHILDREN.**"

So, what do we return to them when their own time comes around to get back what we borrowed? How do we return the bats, the fireflies, and the sparkling rivers that are no longer around? Have we lost them forever? **I AM SURE THERE MUST BE A WAY!!**

**ADVOCACY MINDANOW FOUNDATION, INC. (AMFI)**/Follow us at Twitter: **AMFI Mindanow** /Email us: [info@advocacymindanow.org](mailto:info@advocacymindanow.org)/Visit us: [www.advocacymindanow.org](http://www.advocacymindanow.org)



PALSIIT

**SUMANGBAY DAGITI  
TUDO A KASLA  
ALLAWIG  
BY: LEONARDO ROSQUETA  
AGUNOY**



ITA nga isursurattayo daytoy a salaysay, nagsasaruno iti tunggal naladaw a malem ti isasangbay ti tudo a kasla allawig. No ania daytoy nga allawig? Nakapigpigsang agpulpuligsang nga angin a mangisangbay ti tudo a napigsang. Uray la maspak dagiti sanga ti kayo a dalapusen dayta a kasla allawig a mangitunda iti panagdanag dagiti lumugar. Idi ngamin napalabas a bulan ti Abril, masansan manen nga adda ti napigpigsang nga alipugpog. Nagdamagtayo iti maseknan nga ahensia no apay a kasta ti mapaspasamak? Normal kadi wenno abnormal a kas met laeng ti unpredictable weather condition ti pagilian?

Gagangay kano a mapasamak ti panagalipugpogna iti napigpigsang kadagiti lugar nga asideg/raked dagiti bantay.

Ti ngarud panagtudona iti napigpigsang a kasla allawig, gagangay kadi met? Mabalin a kasta. Nupay kasta, nasken latta met ti panagan-annad. No apay a masatayo daytoy? No ngamin bumayakabak sa agpaut iti sumagmamano nga oras, adu a danum daytan ti maumong kadagiti lungog. No aglipias, agtuloy daytoy nga agwaras uray pay kadagiti patad. Ditoy Ilokos, napeggad ti layus. Aglipias ti danum iti lansad dagiti narabawen a karayan. Agaluyo met dagiti mapupok a danum. Mateppang dagiti naturod a daga. Agallin nga agtinnag iti baba dagiti pimmingka a daga. Maigabur kadagiti kalsada. Mangitunda ti desgracia kadagiti motorista no agkurang ti kinasiput ken kinamanagannadda. Perjuicio nga estalope ti sumaruno a mapasamak.

Napeggadeng ti kasasaad dagiti kabambantayanayo. Nabayagen nga adda existing laws ti pagilantayo iti pannakaiparit ti panagkaingin/panaguma dagiti kakailian. Ngem, ania, aya, ti pudno a mapaspasamak? Dagiti man maseknan nga ahensia ti pagsaludsodantayo: Pudno kadi, appo nga adda iti ahensia nga awan met ti matiltiawan a mangpupuer dagiti kabambantayanayo tapno lumawa ti bangkag/uma dagiti umili iti bakras ken patad dagiti kabambantayanayo? No awan gapu ta awan dagiti report wenno naireklamo dagiti testigo, di la mabalin nga adda koma met panawenyo a mapan mangsarungkar kadagiti mapupueran a paset dagiti kabambantayan a sakopen ti jurisdictionyo, apo?

Agkarareggaay ngaminen dagiti kabambantayanayo. Narukop unayen ti daga agsipud ta masansan metten a mapupueran. Naibus metten dagiti kayo ta pukanen wenno kalien met dagiti umili ti puon (pungel) dagitoy tapno lutuenda nga uring.

Banagna, magidday dagiti kabambantayan. Magaburan dagiti lungog karaman ti lansad ti karayan, burubur, kali/aripit, irrigation canal kdp.

Dagiti pada nga adda tarakenna a nakaparnged kadagiti bangkag, bakante a talon wenno kadagiti kapanagan, ditayo unay agtaltalek ti kasasaad ti panawen. Ta daytoy layus, alisto met unayen nga urayen ti isasangbayna. Daytoy bumayakabak a tudo ti maysa a kangrunaan a makaigapu ditan. Numona ta iti sardam no agtudo, naimas ti pannaturog. Awan ngamin ti lamok a mapuyatan bayat a sibsiblokanda iti pannakairidepmo tapno libasan a takawandaka iti daram. Diaske a lamok, birkogda iti dara. Agsepepda ti dara ti tao, kasla aswang.

Adda koma alad/pakad/sanggana a kayo ti dagatayo aglalo no bakras agsipud ta no lumukneng bayat ti kaadda ti napigsang a tudo, iyanud ti danum. Agumanna ta dagam agsipud ta italawna nga igabor iti lungog. Kailala ta daga a ginatatang iti nangina sa met laeng italaw ti agayus a danum. Agmulatayo ti adu a kayo. Tapno addanto ramut nga adu a mangigawid iti lumukneng a daga.

PAGPAMPANUNOTAN: Destiny is no matter of chance. It is a matter of choice: it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved. — WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Biazon, it is time to quit!*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



**LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS:** "... Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing..." (1 Thessalonians 5:11, the Holy Bible).

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**"THEY ARE THE SAME CROOKS":** If you go around to ask how people view the in-fighting among senators that led to the resignation of Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile as Senate President, the visible reaction is that, people really do not care about what is happening in the Senate, and that we should not be believing the charges and counter-charges of each senator against their colleagues. This reaction is usually capped by the statement: "They are all the same crooks anyway!"

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**FIGHTING OVER THE MONEY OF THE PEOPLE:** This is pathetic, not only because it shows the very low level of concern that our people have over matters of utmost importance in our daily lives which allows the crooks and the corrupt to thrive, but more because it is the people who really suffer when their leaders not only fight against one another, but fight over the misuse of funds which could have been devoted to more productive ventures like providing livelihood programs for the poor and the marginalized, or funding the collegiate education of impoverished but intelligent children.

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**SENATORS AS WOLVES IN SHEEPSKIN:** Indeed, in the case of many of our senators who have been in the Senate for as long as we care to remember, we cannot even attribute to any of them any law that truly redounded to the benefit of the Filipino people. In fact, in many of the laws that they pushed and crafted, the undeniable reality is that there had always been something there that favored the rich, the mighty and the powerful, even when those laws are being labeled as pro-poor or pro-marginalized. Talk about wolves in sheepskin!

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**LABOR CONTRACTUALIZATION LAW:** Take the case of the law that allowed the so-called "contractualization of labor" in the Philippines. Under this law, any employer can now prevent any laborer from becoming a regular employee by giving that employee a contract of employment that would allow him or her to work for only five months or shorter.

This law is a curse against laborers because it deprives them of their "security of tenure" or their right to continue with their jobs. Yet, this piece of legislation originated from the Senate and from senators who styled themselves as champions of the poor.

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**CHINESE PRODUCTS CAUSE CANCER AMONG PINOYS:** In Angeles City, there is a commotion among enlightened citizens there about construction products imported from China and allowed to be sold in local stores in the city which cause ailments among the people that use them, such as skin rashes, eye irritation, and difficulty in breathing. It appears that the Chinese products contain asbestos, which is even confirmed to cause cancer among humans.

Angeles City Auxiliary Bishop Pablo David is asking: how come the Department of Trade and Industry gave the go signal to sell those asbestos-laden products, and how come the Department of Health is not doing anything to stop this scourge? Well, what the bishop should ask is this: what million reasons could have prompted the agencies concerned to close their eyes in this case?

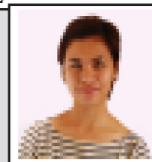
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**BIAZON, IT IS TIME TO QUIT:** This item from the Inquirer of June 06, 2013 is totally **Cont. on page 7**

MONDAY MUNDANE

*Where is my Bantay's bantay?*

BY: GLOR ESPERANZA



With very busy environment of the City Market during mornings, there are a couple of things you should watch out for. You may bump into other market-goers who just like you carry two full plastic bags on each hand or, given the human congestion and how fast some vehicles pass by in the middle of the road in the city market, they may bump into you as well. I'm still surprised I have never heard of anyone being run over in that place.

One thing you should also keep an eye of is the heavy carriages of vegetables and other trade that may hit your head whenever the person carrying the load walked past you. Just like what happened to me some time ago when a couple of guys who were each carrying a medium-sized box walked towards me. Fortunately, I docked my head just in time we were parallel to each other. For reasons unbeknownst to me, though, I looked back immediately to read what was written in those boxes. One of them read 'fragile'. After a fraction of a second, I saw something peeped into a hole on the box. It seemed like a nose trying to sniff the outside air. With the little whiskers and spots close to its nose, that moment I knew it was an animal in there—and a dog no less.

Baguio is known for *asocena*, the illegal slaughtering of dogs for food trade. In spite of the reports on incidents being a little hush-hush at present, this inhumane practice is still up and running behind closed doors. In fact, in a report of ABS-CBN just last year, the increase of Korean nationals in the city has boosted the local dog meat trade. In the same report, it was mentioned that eating dog meat is nothing but a norm in Korea, and Cordillerans have dogs cooked for offerings during rituals. Under the Animal Welfare Act of 1998, however, the law does not prohibit the slaughtering of animals when it is done for rituals of indigenous communities. Nevertheless, under this Act along with the Anti-Rabies Law and Consumer Act, dog carnage for meat trade is by all means illegal.

For years now, I have always wondered why we don't have any Animal Welfare groups in the city of Baguio that even non-government groups are unheard of. I have only encountered individuals who are passionate in fighting for animal rights. Usually, these individuals report to the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) located in Quezon City or the nearest and most accessible animal welfare group which is unlikely located in our city proper. And the last resort is to get the help of any government agency who also has the capability to address issues on animal rights.

But it's still different from having a special group who exclusively deals with the humane and ethical treatment of animals. They know better than anyone who is there in other government agencies who are juggling from one issue to another. An animal welfare group will give their utmost attention to your plea unlike other agencies or officials who will most likely shun these kinds of concern, as they are 'not as important' as other public matters.

I asked my dad recently about this question why we don't have any recognized local animal welfare groups. He looked at me as if I was kidding. He said that eating dog meat lies in the traditions of many Cordillerans, and they will most likely laugh at the existence of such groups in the city. I know he was exaggerating when he said that but it is still clear that many of us ignore this very important matter. It seems that even the law could not get in the way of this illegal practice.

But even so, I still wish to see a formation of a group on animal rights in the future that will be recognized not only by the local government but also the people of Baguio. Residents who truly care for animals will have them as partners in eradicating the illegal dog meat trade in the city and other inhumane treatments to animals while promoting humanity overall. Who's with me?



## Dengue Alert on Anew

**BAGUIO CITY** – The dengue fever alert is on anew in the city as the Baguio Health

Department city epidemiology surveillance unit (CESU) reported a 120.83 percent increase in the number of cases from January to May 31 this year.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Friday tasked the barangays here to take the lead in undertaking preventive measures through regular clean-up activities to search and destroy mosquito breeding places and continually educate their constituents on seeking early medical attention in case of affliction.

CESU head Dr. Donnabel Tubera said the city recorded a total of 106 cases from January to May 31 this year as against the 48 cases listed during the same period last year.

Statistics in the past four weeks showed a clustering of cases in Pinsao Pilot Project where three cases were reported. Two cases were reported in Bakakeng Central and one case each in barangays Bakakeng Norte, Camdas, Country Club Village, Dominican Mirador, Engineer's Hill, Fairview Village, Gabriela Silang, Gibraltar, Guisad Surong, Happy Hollow, Irisan, Lucnab, Private Rd Magsaysay, New Lucban, Pacdal, Pinget, Upper Rock Quarry, Sto. Tomas Proper and Slaughterhouse Compound.

Tubera said the highest age group affected was between 10-19 years old with seven cases and 20-29 years old with six cases. Fourteen of the patients were male and eight were female.

Tubera said the city health office conducted entomologic survey in selected barangays and distributed long-lasting insecticide treated nets (LLIN) curtains in 12 elementary schools particularly Crystal Cave, Roxas, San Carlos, San Luis, Pacday Quinio, Magsaysay, Pinsao, Rizal, Dona Aurora, Aguinaldo, Baguio Central School and Dona Josefa.

On June 25, the health office will launch the "Mag 4 o'clock Habit, Araw Araw" campaign in Baguio Central School, as part of the celebration of the Dengue Awareness Month and ASEAN Dengue Day this month.

During the monthly Association of Barangay Councils (ABC) meeting with the mayor last Friday, Tubera apprised the barangay officials on the status of dengue cases and on the measures to be undertaken to prevent the occurrence of more afflictions.

The barangays have been designated as focal points of the "Search and Destroy Campaign" through the "Aksyon Barangay Kontra Dengue" (ABKD) anti-dengue drive of the Dept. of Health in cooperation with the Dept. of Interior and Local Government (DILG).

The said campaign is a part of DOH's Integrated Vector Management (IVM), an evidence-based campaign to reduce mosquito density through community participation.

The city health office is continually advocating the "4S Strategy" in its anti-dengue campaign in the barangays.

The 4S stands for Search and Destroy which involves the clean-up of surroundings and removal of stagnant water that serves as breeding ground for the deadly mosquitoes; Seek Protective Garment which prescribes the use of long garments, mosquito nets along with the use of insect repellants to protect the body from mosquito bites; Secure Immediate Medical Consultation where persons with dengue fever symptoms are advised to seek medical attention; and the Say No to Indiscriminate Fumigation and Say Yes to Fumigation only in times of Outbreak.

Dengue fever is an infection caused by dengue virus which is transmitted by the bite of an infective female Aedes mosquito.

The signs and symptoms of dengue fever are: on-and-off fever lasting for two to seven days; loss of appetite; nausea/vomiting; abdominal pain; body weakness; small reddish spots on chest area, arms and legs; bleeding signs (nose and gum bleeding, vomiting blood, bloody stools and abdominal pain); restlessness; weak, rapid pulse; cold, clammy skin; and difficulty in breathing.

Persons that manifest these symptoms must remember the following: High fever should be treated by sponging and giving paracetamol and not aspirin as it may cause bleeding and/or gastric irritation and must increase fluid intake or use oral rehydration solution.

Persons with second stage symptoms like flu-like symptoms, bleeding, abdominal pain must be brought to immediately to the nearest health center or hospital for treatment./A Refuerzo

## Six Brgys...

Badecao, Jr. placed 2<sup>nd</sup> with P20,000.00 cash award, Pacdal Barangay under PB Roberto Medina placed 3<sup>rd</sup> with P15,000.00 cash award, Lourdes Extension Barangay under PB Benjamin Macadangdang placed 4<sup>th</sup> with P10,000.00 cash award and Middle Quezon Hill Barangay under PB Editha Ibarra placed 5<sup>th</sup> with P8,000.00 cash award.

Fairview Barangay, Gibraltar Barangay, Middle Quirino Hill Barangay, Pinget Barangay and Pinsao Pilot Project Barangay received P5,000.00 each as consolation prizes and a Plaque of Recognition.

Meantime, other barangays who joined the search were also given Plaques of Appreciation namely, alfonso Tabora Barangay, Andres Bonifacio Barangay, Bakakeng Central Barangay, Brookspoint Barangay, Holyghost Proper Barangay, Leonila Hill Barangay, Loakan Proper Barangay, Lower Rock Quarry Barangay, Plama-Urbano Barangay, Pinsao Proper Barangay, Quezon Hill Barangay, Sto. Nino Barangay and Upper Q.M. Barangay.

The five member team who evaluated the barangays are Assistant City Prosecutor Ruth Bernabe, DILG City Director Evelyn Trinidad, BCPO representative Atty. Eleonora Tabdi, ABC President Coun. Joel Alangsab and Alberto Tomas of the Special Services Division of the Mayor's Office.

The search was focused mainly on the performance of the participating barangays in handling cases brought before them for settlement and proceedings as mandated by the Katarungan Pambarangay Law and how they have effectively and efficiently handled the same.

The barangays who participated in the search were recognized and awarded last Monday (June 3) in simple rites during City Hall's Flag Raising Ceremony.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said, "The successful awards should encourage other barangays to participate and showcase their best practices for the next search."

"I hope that other barangays will be challenged to perform better not only for themselves but for the benefit of their constituents," he said.

Domogan said, "the Lupon which serves as an avenue in settling disputes in the barangay level has a vital and essential role to play."/paul rillorta

## Baguio Seniors...

have regular financial support from relatives.

A total of 206 indigent senior citizens, 145 females and 61 males benefited from the grant totaling P309,000.00.

Under Republic Act 9994 or the Expanded Senior Citizen Act of the Philippines, the Social Pension is given to indigent senior citizens whose eligibility is determined by the DSWD.

The senior citizen is then entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to P500.00 to augment the daily subsistence and cover medical needs.

Beneficiaries of the aid are those 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.

Domogan said, 'he is happy to see indigent senior citizen's who came personally to get their cash grant and proud that the law which he principally sponsored and have fought for is now benefitting them.'

## from page 8

Senior citizens who were unable to come physically during the distribution of their Social Pension Grant will be visited by the DSWD and their benefits will be handed to them personally at their residences./paul rillorta

## City Calls...

## from page 3

ter," Rondez said.

Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia said the city may be able to impose its own rules in accordance with Ordinance No. 13 series of 2007 or the Water Code of Baguio City which he said requires water permit applicants to secure clearances and requirements with the city before they can conduct ground drilling activities.

"Our water code states that although the national office can issue permits and can post (applications) even if the matter does not pass through the city council, the applicants have to first get permit from the city before they can break the ground (for their water projects)," Balajadia noted.

The water code provisions require water applicants to secure permits and clearances from the City Water Resources Board and from the Baguio Water District.

It also imposes requirements for accreditation of water well drillers, annual verification of water sources and extractors and water distributors.

The code was passed to address the lack of control over water extraction and other threats to the availability of water resources within the city.

Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas agreed that the body

should study the procedure that it will adopt in acting on requests for posting of such applications and called for a review of matters brought up before the council related to said concern.

The body for the meantime decided to call NWRB's attention to the city's water code by furnishing it a copy of the city's ordinance./A Refuerzo

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

ELMER PATAUEG SR.

Applicants

Case No:93-CAR-879

### NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ/JITNEY Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - AURORA HILL and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on June 26, 2013 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/their evidences.

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

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing 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 28th day of May 2013.

(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

ERNESTO LACORTE JR.

Applicants

Case No:98-BC-127

### NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ/JITNEY Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - AURORA HILL and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

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WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 28th day of May 2013.

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



## NSO Baguio... from page 1

daily clients stands at 1,430, and it went as high as 1,883 clients last May 21, wherein most of the clients were even requesting for multiple documents.

Aside from their walk-in clients, the Baguio Outlet is also processing the daily requests for NSO documents from their BREQS (Batch Request System) partners that SM City Baguio; NSO-Ifugao; NSO-Abra, and the Local Government Units (LGU) of Dolores, Abra; Bontoc, Tadian, Bauko, Barlig, Paracelis of Mountain Province; Alfonso Lista, Ifugao, and Tinglayan, Kalinga.

The BREQS is where the public can also patronize or go to apply for their NSO documents which will allow them to save time, money and effort of travelling to Baguio.

Gulla reiterated their appeal to the public to plan their schedule for getting a birth certificate for school or board examination purposes, and for those going to the NSO, not to bring in companions especially children, as they will add up to the congestion in the service area.

She also called for patience among their clients, as getting impatient or ill-temper with the long lines and the overcrowding will not resolve anything and will only make the inconvenient situation in the Baguio Serbilis Center worse.

Aside from Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates and Certificate of No Marriage or Cenomar, the NSO-Baguio outlet also process authentication of Local Civil Registry (LCR) issued documents, endorsement of newly registered documents with coordination of the

## Kakampi mo ang Batas... from page 5

disturbing: "For a fifth consecutive month, the BOC registered a revenue shortfall. In May, the Department of Finance-attached agency was able to collect P25.9 billion, short by P3.4 billion of its collection target of P29.3 billion.

"Last month, revenues also totaled P25.9 billion, short P1.8 billion of the collection for the same period in 2012, which was P27.7 billion. From January to May this year, the BOC took in a little more than P121.7 billion, some P13.3 billion short of its goal of P135 billion..." Whatever BOC chief Ruffy Biazon may say, it is time to replace him with someone more effective.

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**REACTIONS?** Please call me at 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0922 833 43 96. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com, mmauriciojr11@gmail.com.

## Baguio not Included... from page 2

Meeting in 2015 and 300 - 400 CEO's including 300 - 400 members of the press. 11,000 participants are also expected and more visitors if event is successful.

Hosting the summit is an opportunity to boost tourism where a city can showcase its culture, art, people and heritage for the world to see./G.Esperanza

## Patients Grateful... from page 2

city post office. There, he handed P2,500 to the distraught father.

At angelus last Thursday, a forty-something donor called Noli, for him to meet her at the lobby of the Flavier Building of the BGHMC.

"She told me she's also a cancer survivor and, because of the trauma, apologized for not seeing my daughter," Noli said. "She handed P5,000 support. When I asked who we were indebted to, she just identified herself as "Honey"."

Last Friday morning, Noli also received a guarantee letter from Rep. Bernardo Vergara asking the BGHMC to charge P15,000 from the solon's Medical Assistance Fund for Rossana's treatment.

These gestures proved a windfall for Noli, who earns between P150 to P200 daily driving a tricycle owned by a barangay official of Asan Norte in Sison, Pangasinan.

Rossana was diagnosed in September, 2011 for acute lymphocytic leukemia. With support from Senators Allan Peter and Pia Cayetano and Antonio Trillanes and Rep. Kimi Cojuangco of Pangasinan, she began her protracted treatment protocol at the BGHMC.

Last February, the girl suffered a relapse. It meant she had to start her treatment all over again. The new treatment protocol was pegged initially at P34,200 a month for the "remission induction chemotherapy", to be administered weekly for four to six weeks.

She had her first back-to-square-one chemo last Monday. Because of the prohibitive costs, it was three months delayed.

With a long way to go, she still needs all the help she can get. As she has no cellphone, Samaritans can ring up her father's, perhaps until next Sunday, which will be Father's Day. The number is 09204508497.

Two other fathers who also declined to be identified also kept alive the hopes of 51-year old cancer patient Emilia Tallongen and 21-year old heart patient Crisly Anayasan.

As he usually does when he reads a patient's appeal, one of the two donors had his secretary hand P12,000 to Tallongen and P15,000 to Emilia Anayasan, mother of Crisly.

Tallongen's fight against the big C was also boosted by a P2,500 support from the other Samaritan, also a regular donor who likewise gave P2,000 for Crisly. On top of these, another kind soul deposited P3,000 to Tallongen's bank account.

Tallongen worked for 10 years as street sweeper and is now on her 11th year as barangay nutrition worker assigned at the Campo Filipino District here. In June last year, she noticed a swelling on the left side of her neck. It was diagnosed as Hodgkins lymphoma, or cancer of the lymph nodes. After undergoing surgery, she began chemotherapy.

Crisly, son of a seamstress from San Carlos Heights, Irisan here, was born with a heart defect medically known as ventral septal defect, perimembranous type. For years now, his mother has been working on a possible surgery at the Philippine Heart Center, something she hopes would be done before the boy turns 22 in December.

Samaritans may call Tallongen at cellphone number 09295390281 and Anayasan at 09197421723./ Ramon Dacawi.

## Concert Proceeds... from page 2

17, has been also on twice-a-week hemodialysis treatment for over a year now. He is looking forward to an organ transplant.

Almoite, a 46-year old father of five and dispatcher of the Crystal Cave jeepney line, can now hardly work due to cancer diagnosed as adenoid cystic adenoma of the parotid gland. With nowhere to turn to, he stopped his scheduled six-session chemotherapy last February, after the third session.

Santos, 60 and afflicted with breast cancer, will have her sixth chemotherapy on June 15 at the Notre Dame Hospital here.

The idea for the reunion concert came from Conrad, who is now based in Northern California, and Mhia, now an event organizer for a top hotel in Singapore. Before coming home for a summer break, the two asked friends here to arrange a reunion concert-for-a-cause with fellow musicians here.

Setting the tone of the musical treat, the two blended through the refrain of Billy Dean's song of gratitude, "If It Hadn't Been You": If there hadn't been you, where would I be/If there hadn't been you here for me/I made it through times I never would've made it through/If there hadn't been you. And Garth Brooks' "I Will Sail My Vessel (The River)": "Too many times we stand aside/And let the water slip away./And what we put off till tomorrow/Has now become today/So don't you sit upon the shore line/And say you're satisfied/Choose to chance the rapids/And dare to dance the tide."

The ASGIOCO led by Dr. Manuel Quirino took the cue and did the preparations, in coordination with the Philippine Information Agency headed by regional director Helen Tibaldo.

The Cordillera Association of Regional Executives headed by environment regional director Clarence Baguilat served as ticket and sponsor outlet. To whittle down the costs, Chief Supt. Benjamin Magalong, the regional police director, lent the services of his command's band and musical instruments.

To further save on administrative expenses, BGHMC medical center chief, Dr. Jimmy Cabfit, lent for free the Cancer Building as venue.

Baguio-based musicians, mostly pioneers in the local folk and country scene, signed up for the May 20 fundraiser. It was their latest in years of pro bono performances go all the way back to the '70s at the Gingerbreadman, the first folkhouse here.

Lawyer-lead singer Jose "Bubut" Olarte teamed up with Liza Noble, March Fianza and Dick Oakes in interpreting the Bible-inspired "The Weight", a composition of the American-Canadian group The Band. Liza, Alma Angiwan and Dianne ended their three-song number with another The Band original - "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down".

Bryan Aliping contributed his Igorot love song "Lungayban" while Alfred

Dizon belted out James Taylor's "You Got A Friend".

The PNP folk and band arranged by Supt. Davy Vicente Limmong, the regional information officer, and led by Sr. Inspector Henry Domogan provided the opening and finale pieces. It's composed of SPO2 Greg Guisdan, SPO1 Jerry Soriano, PO2 Dirk Tomas, PO2 Stephen Carantes, PO2 Joel Bastian and PO1 Eugene Ganga.

"Folk and country music has been our response to calls for help since way, way back," Mhia said before her flight back to work in Singapore last May 28. "It's been inspiring to see many coming to celebrate with us the music of simple folks like us, and, in so doing, be able to reach out to the sick and needy."

Before his return to California last May 27, Conrad led fellow musicians to experiencing the Eco-walk environmental program at the Busol Watershed.

"Performing in a concert-for-a-cause and then planting trees have been always part of our visits home," he said./Ramon Dacawi.

## 3 Arroyo Co-Accused... from page 3

tution provides that persons charged with capital offenses are not entitled to bail when the evidence of guilt is strong.

In a 44-page ruling, the Sandiganbayan division said the prosecution failed to present strong evidence against the three.

The court, however, clarified that the grant of bail to the three accused cannot be taken as a ruling on the strength of the prosecution's entire case against Arroyo and the rest but simply to establish a basis to deny or allow the defendants to post bail.

"The above-stated ruling and pronouncements of this Court must not be construed to mean that We are passing judgment as to the final result or outcome of this case with respect to the bail petitioners or the other accused who did not take part in the bail petitions," it said.

Associate Justice Rafael Lagos penned the resolution, with Associate Justices Efren de la Cruz and Rodolfo Ponferrada concurring.

At present, three other defendants — former PCSO general manager Rosario Uriarte, former PCSO board directors Jose Taruc V and Ma. Fatima A. S. Valdes, and former Commission on Audit chairman Reynaldo Villar — remain at large.

Former COA-Intelligence Fund Unit head Nilda Plaras, also a co-defendant, secured an injunction order from the Supreme Court on the basis of her legal challenge on the validity of the indictment from the Office of the Ombudsman.

The defendants were all accused of conspiracy in the irregular transfers of confidential intelligence funds of the PCSO amounting to P366 million between January 2008 and June 2010.

However, the Sandiganbayan held that documentary evidence and the testimony of government witness Aleta Tolentino presented by the prosecution during the bail hearings do not constitute "evident proof of plunder" against Valencia, Morato and Roquero./KBK, GMA News



## Mayor Ok's Push for Local Flights

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan welcomed moves of the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Baguio (HRAB) calling for the re-opening of the city's only airport here.

In a letter petition to his Excellency President Benigno Aquino III, HRAB Officers called on the president to consider re-opening the Loakan Airport to commercial traffic.

The letter also implores the city government to pass measures which will lead to the airports re-opening by creating a special committee to ascertain state of the Airport, conduct assessment of its facilities and services, implement upgrade and rehabilitation plans and conduct consultations to residents which will be affected.

Domogan said, "agreements have already been reached between the Air Transportation Office (ATO) replaced by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) and the city government years back for the re-opening of the airport."

The first is the total closure of the Loakan Airport to pedestrians and animals to ensure aviation safety and the development of a by-pass road towards Kennon Road to service residents across the runway.

Domogan also said, "a P12 million appropriation from the budget of the ATO has been reserved for the development of the alternate route."

"We still have to check if the appropriation is still available so that we can implement it already but if it has been realigned then we have to look for funds," he said.

The bid to re-open the airport is anchored on the country's selection to host the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit which will be held in November, 2014.

Delegates from 21 APEC nations are expected to attend the week-long event which can pour in millions of dollars for the country and its host cities.

Nine cities were identified as APEC destinations; Manila, Clark, Subic, Boracay, Cebu, Iloilo, Davao, Bacolod and Tagaytay.

However, HRAB said the city was not included in the list of host cities, it also said the city government should consider submitting a competitive bid to be considered one of the host cities like what the City of Albay did.

Domogan admits, he is not aware of the requirements to bid and to what committee should the bid be forwarded to.

"I think that we have to get the requirements first before we can bid," Domogan said.

Domogan said, "if the city can comply then it can submit its interest to bid and host some of the activities of APEC." / paul rillorta

## Baguio Seniors Receive Cash Aid

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan Wednesday (June 5) spearheaded the distribution of the Social Pension Grant to indigent senior citizens here.

The cash assistance project is a pet program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development – Cordillera (DSWD-CAR) in cooperation with the city government

under the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) in partnership with the Office of the Senior Citizen's Affairs.

The financial grant given quarterly amounting to P1,500.00 was personally handed to the city's elderly beneficiaries identified by the DSWD as the poorest of the poor pri-

oritizing those who are aged 77 years and above.

The City Social Welfare Office conducts the evaluation and assessment of beneficiaries who come from poor communities of the city.

They are either classified as among the poorest household who has no means of income or does not

Cont. on page 6

## Baguio Lady Jins Impress Anew in Nat'l All-Women's League

BAGUIO CITY – the Baguio Women's Taekwondo Jins stood out once again during the National All-Women's Taekwondo championships last June 2.

The lady Jins kicked their way to an impressive finish to outclass a strong opposition from the country's leading Taekwondo practitioners at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

Arnold Oglayon, Baguio Defenders and University of Baguio's head coach said the team who competed in the national tourney trained for months for the competition.

"The Jins were impressive. Although they failed to sweep golds in all divisions, they did well and fought impressively against the best in the country," he said.

Ma. Kaye Shanel Romuar who recently gained a slot in the national pool led Baguio's lady jins in their medal haul to bring home a gold in the Juniors Welterweight Advance Sparring Category.

Romuar competed in the Asian Taekwondo Championships held in Myanmar this year under the Philippine Taekwondo Team where she snatched silver.

Gold medal haulers also include Krizzna Chaitania Liporada, Realis Lorena Tabiano, James Emmanuelle Macasaet, Chelsea Xen Tacay and Ashley Janel Salao.

The silver medalists are Kate De Guzman, Jamila Maryse Rillorta, Rain Ramon and Emma Therese Bayubay.

Bayubay, Salao and Tacay recently amassed medals in the just concluded Palarong Pambansa Taekwondo Competitions in Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental.

Ailister Fias-ilon capped the medal haul in sparring with a bronze medal.

In individual Poomsae, sisters Lei and Rein Ramon bagged silver medals each while Jamila Rillorta, Ashley Salao and Chelsea Tacay settled for bronze.

Over-all, the Baguio lady Jins brought home a modest 6 gold, 7 silver and 4 bronze medals. / paul rillorta

## Six Brgy's Ajudged 'Best' in Handling Disputes

BAGUIO CITY – six barangays topped this year's search for the "Most Outstanding L u p o n Tagapamayapa" here.

The search dubbed "Best Performing Lupon Tagapamayapa Incentives Awards

(LTIA)" was launched February this year by the City Government of Baguio through the Special Services Division (SSD) in coordination with the Department of Justice-City Prosecutor's Office (DOJ-CPO), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) and the Barangay Affairs Office.

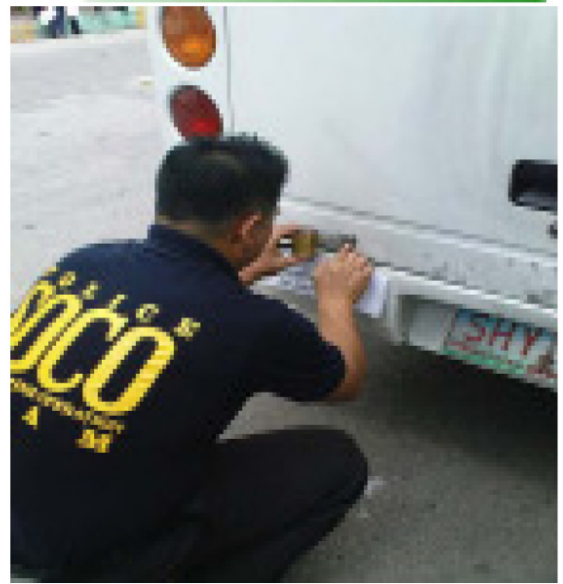
Twenty four barangays participated in the search but Imelda

Village Barangay under the leadership of Punong Barangay Arturo Rapelo, Jr. snared the "Most Outstanding L u p o n Tagapamayapa Award" with a plaque of recognition, cash prize of P30,000 and the chance to represent the city in the National LTIA awards. 2011 LTIA winner Irisan Barangay under PB Thomas Dumalti dropped to first runner-up this time winning a Plaque of Recognition and cash award amounting to P25,000. Upper Rock Quarry Barangay under PB Luis

Cont. on page 6

## The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!



"ROLLER COASTER RIDE" – Scene of the Crime Operatives (SOCO) of the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) conducts scientific investigation of the city government vehicle which was 'taken for a ride' by still unidentified persons in front of City Hall midnight of June 3 and was found abandoned at Military Cut-off. Mayor Mauricio Domogan ordered a full investigation to apprehend the culprit. / Photo by paul rillorta

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