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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Duterte presidency - a 'disaster' for criminals, drug lords and corrupt officials

"Yes a Duterte presidency will be a disaster. It will be a disaster for drug lords, criminals and corrupt public officials."

This is what Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano had to say in response to Senator Antonio Trillanes IV who said that it will be a disaster for the country if Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte will be elected president in the upcoming polls.

"The only people who are afraid of a Duterte leadership are those who benefit from corruption and unabated criminality. Mayor Duterte already made it clear. If you don't want a peaceful

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PPFFFFFT! - Illegal firecrackers confiscated from ambulant vendors by the Baguio City Police Office were safely destroyed in a drum filled with water by city officials headed by Mayor Mauricio Domogan and Cong. Nicasio Aliping Jr. Domogan called for the total ban of firecrackers and stricter implementation as 11 were injured during the New Year's celebration compared to only nine last year./By Bong Cayabyab

Ang Pilipinong walang
ginagawang masama o ilegal
ay walang dapat na ikatakot
kay Duterte!!!



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Cayetano blasts Poe-Escudero for “Manila-first policy”, rest of the country second priority

“Failure is guaranteed for those who do not even want to try.”

This is what Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano said as he contradicted fellow vice presidential aspirant Senator Francis “Chiz” Escudero’s recent statement that a federalism approach to government would not work well in the Philippine setup.

Reacting to Escudero’s criticism over Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte’s call for a Federal form of government, Cayetano dubbed the latter’s account as a “classic Manila-centric” attitude and remained firm that inclusive growth can only be achieved if power and resources are equally distributed among all the regions.

“It is clear that there are some people who just want to get votes and win but lack the passion and the vision to change the country. They offer the same solutions that have failed miserably in the past and will not go to great extents to create real changes that people want and need,” Cayetano lamented.

“This ‘Manila first, other regions later policy’ of Senator Escudero and his running mate, Senator Grace Poe, is actually the main cause for underdevelopment and the lack of jobs for our people in other parts of the country. It’s apparent that their tandem only wants to limit economic growth and improvement in the National Capital Region,” he added.

Cayetano further said Escudero’s position on the matter is “understandable” because as the former chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance, Escudero would naturally defend the national budget,

which allocates one-third of the country’s funds to Metro Manila while other regions only get two to four percent each.

The senator also took a jab at Escudero for questioning his motive in backing Duterte’s call, stressing that he has been supporting the same agenda even before his tandem with the Davao mayor was formalized.

“For the past two years, I have been pushing for the decongestion of Metro Manila by decentralizing government and promoting countryside development. This has been my call since the very beginning,” Cayetano pointed out.

“It happens to be very much aligned with Mayor Duterte’s Federalism approach. We share the same vision, that’s why I chose to support him. Dahil pareho kaming naniniwala na ang kailangan ng bansa ay isang gobyernong magbibigay ng matapang na solusyon at mabilis na aksyon,” he added.

Cayetano has long been urging government to fund more programs that will promote development among other regions in the country. He earlier stressed that bolder solutions and swifter action are needed to attain inclusive growth, as many Filipinos living outside the metropolis still feel left behind.

“The very essence of Federalism is to ensure that growth and prosperity are spread to every part of the Philippines, not just in Manila. It’s a pity that Senators Poe and Escudero are against this. Kawawa naman ang ibang parte ng bansa kung sila ang mamumuno,” Cayetano concluded. *Office of Senator Alan Peter Cayetano*

Mayor to POSD personnel: implement rules with maximum tolerance

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio Domogan recently reminded the POSD personnel to implement the clearing operation in the city public market with maximum tolerance during their meeting last Jan. 4 at the Baguio City multi-purpose hall.

It has been reported that a significant number of pick pockets decreased ever since the city implemented the clearing operations in the city.

However, despite the continuing clearing operations in the public market, there are still willful ambulant vendors who continue to vend their products along the sidewalks and street.

Because of this, Domogan reiterated the duties and responsibilities of the POSD personnel in implementing the rules and regulations

in the implementation of clearing operation in the city.

Aware of the challenging and strenuous work of the POSD personnel, Domogan stressed, “You (POSD personnel) should be careful with your actions because your (POSD personnel) actuations will be reflected to the city government especially us, city officials.”

“Do your duties in accordance with the rules and regulations,” The mayor added.

Also, Domogan urged all stall owners not to still vend their products along the sidewalks and streets because it is a clear violation of the rules and regulations set by the city.

“On the other hand, abusive POSD personnel will be dealt with accordingly by the city,” ended Domogan. */PIO*

Comelec Voter Care Center in Baguio launched

BAGUIO CITY - The Commission on Elections launched the COMELEC Voter Care Center in this mountain resort last January 7 at the COMELEC Compound. Said center will serve as a venue to bring the COMELEC closer to the people.

“The establishment of the CVCC is the very first hotline and action desk entire the Philippines,” said COMELEC officer Atty. John Paul Martin during the press conference.

The CVCC aims to enhance the level of awareness and knowledge of the people on COMELEC related matters.

Also, the hotline is an effective way to listen to, counsel callers, disseminate information and refer callers to services and resources for further help.

“The hotline number for CVCC is (074)-422-1991 for polling and precinct number and other concerns you can dial our locals 112, 113, 114, and 117, for printing voters’ ID is 115, while reporting anomalies just dial 111,” said Martin.

“The services of the CVCC will be piloted in the city of Baguio to provide details for registered voters, the printing of ID and certification in this city only. But, we can address other services like reporting of anomalies even from other municipalities,” Martin added.

The CVCC will be manned by COMELEC personnel and on-the-job training students from the University of the Cordilleras, University of Baguio and Saint Louis University with two shifts. Though there will be no monetary benefits to be given to the OJTs, the experience and training itself is already priceless, pointed out Martin.

“Once the pilot testing is successful, there is a big possibility that the said program will also be introduced in the other part of the country which will be available all year round,” ended Martin.

The twitter account of COMELEC Baguio is @ComelecBaguio while the facebook account is facebook/ComelecBaguio. */Jho Arranz*

Mayor to strengthen anti-drug abuse bodies in barangays

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Monday vowed to strengthen the Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Councils (BADACs) to intensify the anti-drug abuse campaigns at grassroot level.

The mayor said that while the drug problem in the city is not as prevalent as in other areas, the city needs to exert more effort to eradicate the menace considering that it preys on the youth.

“The drug problem is a continuing challenge to us because it affects our so we have to see to it that we eliminate this problem totally,” the mayor said.

He said the barangays can contribute a lot to the campaign since they know their own constituents and environs and would be able to determine irregular activities including drug-related ones.

The BADACs were first formed in the city as part of the mandate of the City Anti-Drug Abuse Council (CADAC) which spearheads the implementation of anti-drug abuse program in the city.

CADAC was created as per Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Memorandum Circular No.

98-227 dated December 1998 mandating the creation of local anti-drug abuse councils from the provincial, city and barangay levels.

CADAC serves as the focal point to which various organizations and individuals work in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programs on drug abuse prevention. The body was also tasked to provide an effective mechanism for the coordination of services and programs for the campaign and to obtain funds, deploy volunteers and make use of facilities and technical expertise.

The CADAC program focuses on “addressing the local drug situation of the city and provide a sustainable institutional support to the implementation of the program consistent with the National Anti-Drug Abuse Program of Action as formulated from the Dangerous Drugs Act and other subsequent issuances of the Dangerous Drugs Board and other authorities.

At present, the CADAC is headed by the city mayor with Councilor Roberto Ortega as action officer. */A Refuerzo*

DENR regulates entry of tourists to ‘La Presa’

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) had been installing checkpoints to prevent the hauling of construction materials and regulate the entry of visitors to sitio Pungayan, popularly known as ‘La Presa’ in Mount Kabuyao, Tuba, Benguet following an order from DENR Central Office.

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer Julio Lopez disclosed in Provincial Peace and Order Council meeting that the establishment of checkpoints manned by a team of forest rangers was upon instructions of the DENR Central Office to protect the forest reservation which had been swarmed by tourists and enterprising businessmen after it has been popularized by a teleserye.

Lopez said this was enforced after the DENR filed a case against 13 individuals who built semi-permanent and permanent illegal structures in La Presa in violation of the Revised Forestry Code

or Presidential Decree 705.

The DENR established a main checkpoint upon entering Sto. Tomas to track construction materials that may be transported and might be used for the illegal construction of structures within the La Presa area, according to Lopez.

Another checkpoint was installed upon entering La Presa in Mount Kabuyao to control the entry of visitors. Lopez clarified that they want to protect the forest reservation, and not to overload the carrying capacity of the site especially with the expected influx of tourist this coming holidays.

As defined by the World Tourism Organization, carrying capacity means, “the maximum number of people that may visit a tourist destination at the same time, without causing destruction of the physical, economic, socio-cultural environment and an unacceptable decrease in the quality of visitors’ satisfaction”.

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BAGUIO OVAL GETS RUBBERIZED TRACK IN TIME FOR CARAA

BAGUIO CITY- Barring any unexpected rains in the next few weeks, Baguio City will be welcoming the delegates to the Cordillera Administrative Region Athletic Association (CARAA) with a brand new rubberized track on February.

Baguio Rep. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr. said that the Taiwanese consultants hired to undertake the job has started the work January 6 and that they have until February 5 to complete the task. The CARAA opens on February 6 with Baguio as host.

"This is a project long in the waiting because the Athletic Bowl complex has not received any kind of development work for the last 30 years," Rep. Aliping said.

The three phase project has a total budgetary allocation of P115 million.

The first phase involved the modernization of the main bleachers of at the east end of the compound. The second phase was for the extension of the main bleachers as well as the concreting of the oval track. And the third involved the installation of the rubberized track.

The third phase was delayed for almost a month because of the unexpected rains in November.

"The concrete track needs to be totally dry in order for the adhesive to fully bond with the surface," explained Engr. Louie Gacad, project engineer of contractor RUA construction which is doing the entire project.

"It will probably take the Taiwanese consultants two weeks to finish the entire job and another two weeks for the rubber compound to fully cure and adhere to the surface," Gacad added.

"With the rubberized track, and lawned field together with the already existing Olympic size swimming pool, the city is now ready to host national events like the Paloro Games," Rep. Alipingsaid.

Aliping added that he is working for the allocation of another P50 million to fully complete the Athletic Bowl complex.

The fourth phase will mean the construction of a modern west end bleacher stands as well as for the lighting of the oval track./Carl C. Taawan



NDCP'S CALL - Military officers from the Indian Navy, Malaysian Army, Nigerian Air Force, Pakistan Air Force, Sri Lanka Army receive the symbolic key to the city from Mayor Mauricio Domogan and City Administrator Atty. Carlos Canilao in front of City Hall during a courtesy call. The military officers from the Philippine allied countries along with 65 military officers and selected executives from the civilian local government and the private sector who are undergoing a year-long Masteral course in National Security Administration under the National Defense College of the Philippines, The NDCCP is the country's highest center for education and research on defense and national security./By Bong Cayabyab

Dengue cases up

BAGUIO CITY- Health authorities led by Department of Health (DOH-CAR) Officer-in-Charge (OIC) Dr. Amelita Pangilinan, and Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC) officials said precautionary measures for dengue fever should be enforced year-round.

There is no set pattern for Dengue fever seen lately, Pangilinan said, unlike before that the change in weather predicts the decrease or increase in cases.

A four-year cycle pattern for Dengue was earlier observed.

The Cordillera region registered a 300% Dengue fever increase as there were 10,593 cases in 2015; from the 2,645 in 2014.

The provincial health offices reported the number of cases, as follows: in 2014 and 2015, respectively; Abra, 594 to 1,012, a 70% increase; Apayao, 282 to 1,080, up 283%; Baguio, 385 to 1,710, up 344%; Benguet, 545 to 2,045, up 275%; Ifugao, 213 to 772, a 262% increase; Kalinga, 352 to 2,434, up 591%; Mountain Province, 92 to 745, a 710% increase; and non-CAR, 182 to 795, up 377%.

There were 4 deaths in 2014; and 12 in 2015; 4 females and 8 males. Abra had one female and two male fatalities; Apayao with a male and female fatalities; Baguio City, a female and 2 male fatalities; Kalinga, 2 male fatalities; and non-CAR,

a male and a female.

Victims are from less than a year infant, up to 61 years and above, with more males affected. There was clustering of cases in different areas in the Cordillera region, it was reported.

Positive results for viral culture isolation are confirmed cases, Pangilinan said.

Self-protection from mosquito bites, including wearing of long-sleeved shirts and long pants is recommended, Pangilinan added. Fogging in areas when warranted of outbreak; search and destroy; cleanliness campaigns in the community; proper disposal of garbage, reporting and immediate action on possible mosquito breeding places, is appropriate, she further said.

A suspected case would have symptoms of: at least two days fever with intense headache, body pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, flushed skin and rash, with need to consult a physician. Signs of bleeding are considered an emergency case.

The report was delivered in a Kapihan forum at the DOH regional training center, last Thursday, with City Health Officer Rowena Galpo, BGHMC Chief Emmanuel Acluba and Health Emergency Management Coordinator Dr. Larry Haya, DOH-CAR Emergency Mgmt Coordinator Clark Dizon and other concerned officials present./Julie G. Fianza

Total firecracker ban pushed

BAGUIO CITY - Regional and city health authorities, police and fire officers collectively agreed to push for a total ban of use, sale and manufacture of firecrackers through a city ordinance in the wake of injuries caused by legally-bought pyros.

Self-imposed discipline and cooperation is also recommended.

These were discussed during the assessment Kapihan at the DOH regional training center last Thursday morning.

Department of Health (DOH-CAR) Officer-in-Charge (OIC) Dr. Amelita Pangilinan; Pangilinan rued that firecracker injuries occurred despite the scare tactics employed; graphics showing gory details of human body devastation due to minute or gigantic firecrackers.

Earlier campaigns against firecrackers showed how to properly use said pyros, with more injuries treated in the hospitals.

A comparative report yielded a regional count of fireworks and firecracker related injuries of 70 in 2014 and 61 in 2015. Reports in 2011, 2012 and 2013 showed 50 to 58 cases per year.

Provinces that registered a decrease in said incidents were Abra, from 29 in 2014 to 25 to 2015; Kalinga, from 1 case in 2014 to zero in 2015; and Mountain Province; 6 in 2014 and a single case in 2015.

No data is registered in

2014 for Ifugao, and a case in 2015; while Apayao had 14 cases in 2014 and 2015; Baguio City's 9 cases in 2014 upped to 11 in 2015. There was an increase from 6 cases in 2014 to 9 in 2015, in Benguet Province. Said cases were reported Dec. 21 2015 up to midnight of Jan. 5, 2016.

City Health Officer Rowena Galpo reported that aside from the 11 cases, there is a case from Itogon, Benguet and another from Urdaneta, Pangasinan. Monitoring was done in seven sentinel hospitals in the city.

A signature campaign for a total firecracker ban is ongoing until January 28; it was known from Fire Officer Jesus Yango.

Baguio City Police Officer (BCPO) Deputy Director Laureano Alexis Marinas reported that there were no incidents of indiscriminate firing among soldiers and policemen including private gun-owners and security guards. This, Marinas said, is attributed to an active campaign; headed by City Mayor Mauricio Domogan. Gun muzzle taping was also done.

The Commission on Election (COMELEC) ban for gun replicas also apply, Marinas said.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), represented by Atty. Samuel Gallardo, advocates responsible consumerism. Monitoring for firecrackers was done, including the im-

Clean city air still pushed

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio Domogan assured vehicle owners that smoke-belching testing will be done in a more convenient setting, given the noted increase in those interested in voluntary testing.

There are plans to buy more smoke-belching testing machines, to eliminate public utility vehicle and private car drivers' waste of precious time waiting for their turn, the mayor said.

The spacious Baguio Convention Center compound is eyed to be the testing venue, making it accessible and more convenient for vehicle owners, instead of the City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) Sanitary Camp

area.

The mayor said operations will be coordinated with the Transport Council, Roadside Monitoring and air ambience group, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and concerned agencies.

Tampering with vehicles to hide smoke-belching, however was observed.

Mayor Domogan thus appealed to private testing centers to strictly implement standards, and consider the pollution brought about by improperly maintained vehicle running in the streets. The biggest source of pollution in the city is vehicle exhaust, it was known.

Air quality should be considered for the city constituents' health, the mayor ended./Julie G. Fianza

sition of safety stickers for other holiday materials, including toys and lights. Penalties await violators, he said.

Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Regional Office representative Josesito Dollente reported that there were no firecracker-related fire incidents. Fire incidents were mostly due to faulty electrical wiring, unattended cooking and negligence over lighting materials.

From the Police Regional Office (PRO-COR), P/ SInsp. Gemma Braganza of the Police Community Relations reported that a total of P76,410.00 worth

of firecrackers was confiscated with 221 regional operations. Abra yielded P21,140 worth; Apayao - P530; Baguio - P52,425; Kalinga - P2,315; while Benguet, Ifugao and Mt. Province had no confiscations done.

Though thankful for a zero-casualty report, Dr. Pangilinan clarified that the 61 cases may still increase pending reports from other areas. She is hopeful that firecracker-related injuries further decrease next year.

The theme for the no-firecracker campaign is, "Sa Ingay Walang Sablay, Sa Paputok Goodbye Kamay, Kaya 'Wag Pasaway."/Julie G. Fianza

COA: Another institution Aquino damaged

The Commission on Audit had been, even through martial law, one of the most prestigious agencies of our Republic, its reputation untainted by graft or partisanship.

With just a few months remaining for this inglorious Administration, the COA will be left as another institution damaged by President Benigno Aquino 3rd, who has turned it into a political weapon.

Even in this rather late stage of the electoral game, this yellow regime is using the COA for its political ends, as in a report mysteriously leaked the other day alleging unliquidated funds of the Office of the Vice President. The next day, of course, as if on cue, was another accusation against Binay by former Makati vice mayor Renato Bondal – yes, the same accuser whose allegations have been proven false, yet hogged the headlines of the Philippine Daily Inquirer's front pages for 44 nearly consecutive days. (See <http://www.manilatimes.net/inquirer-vs-binay/155669/>) It's the familiar flurry of accusations for a vilification campaign.

EDITORIAL

I had been asked in the comments section of my column why I haven't written much about the allegations against Binay. My simple answer is: Why should I, when the Philippine Daily Inquirer, which claims to have the biggest circulation (Manila Times is just no. 4 among the broadsheets) seemed to have found as its newest cause this year the demonization of the Vice President? Why should I help it in its project, which could have been undertaken for not-so-noble reasons?

I am not only talking about its news sections. Columnist Solita Monsod, its most widely read columnist, must have written over 50 columns against Binay, with many of the occasional contributors trying to show off, unsuccessfully, their polemical skills to vilify the candidate. Fair play, I say, so I have presented the other side to the allegations, most of which, I think, had been indisputably debunked as pure lies. And these lies, the Ombudsman insists, should be investigated in the courts.

For example, both the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) records showed that the Batangas estate belonged to a Chinese-Filipino businessman, and not to Binay. The Makati Building II's costs were comparable in terms of price per square feet to Senate President Franklin Drilon's Iloilo Convention Center, or to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' (BSP) branches in three provinces, which all had the same contractor. Binay's "crime" is his inarticulateness or his campaign staff's inefficiency in debunking and burying the corruption allegations against him.



The Office of the President's newest attached agency? From left, COA chair Aguinaldo, former Deputy Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs; Fabia, Philippine Information Agency head, 2010- 2012; and Heidi Mendoza, Aquino's crying, or angry, lady at Senate hearings.

But back to the COA. It was astonishing that former chair Grace Pulido-Tan claimed, when she stepped down, at the pork-barrel investigations what her legacy was: the pork-barrel exposés. How on earth could she claim that, given the fact the probe had been ordered undertaken by her predecessor who was appointed by President Arroyo, and when most of those investigated under her administration, and charged, were opposition figures like senators Enrile, Estrada, and Revilla?

Pulido-Tan herself said two years ago that a special audit was also being undertaken to investigate the pork-barrel funds released during Aquino's Administration, from 2010-2012.

The report had been completed and I myself viewed a TV report in 2013 by broadcast journalist, Anthony Taberna, about that investigation. A camera even panned a copy of the actual report.

Two years after it was completed, COA hasn't released the report. And she has the gall to claim that she did her part in Aquino's anti-corruption crusade?

Is it because the COA itself received P143.7 million in 2012 from President Aquino's scandalous "Disbursement Acceleration Plan" (DAP), which the Supreme Court has ruled unconstitutional? Or was it because Pulido-Tan has been angling for a position in the Supreme Court when it announced a vacancy in 2012? (Aquino, instead, appointed Marvic Leonen, who is as inexperienced in legal practice as the Chief Justice is. Is Tan still hoping she will be the last Aquino appointee in April 2016, when Justice Martin Villarama retires?)

In the past, those appointed by Presidents as COA chair and members were people of

Cont. on page 5



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

**Rude taxi driver:
rudeness runs in family**

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "...I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation..." (Exodus 20:5, the Holy Bible).

-000-

RUDE TAXI DRIVER: HIS PARENTS WERE PROBABLY RUDE, AND SO WILL HIS OWN CHILDREN BE RUDE LIKEWISE: The taxi driver who acted rudely against his passenger is now facing the possibility of having his driver's license permanently cancelled. But, even if his license is nullified forever, or even if he is thrown in jail for a long time, that will not change him for the better. His being rude, his being arrogant, and his being mired in sin, is already deeply ingrained in him.

Rudeness and arrogance were most probably imbibed by him from his own parents who, in turn, would have surely been rude and arrogant too, having similarly imbibed such bad manners from their very own parents. Sinfulness brings about curses that are visited not only on sinners, but even on their children to the third and fourth generations.

The only way to stop sinfulness from seeping into succeeding generations of our families is for fathers and mothers to firmly decide to stop wallowing in sin and in bad manners. Making this decision to stop sinning and acting rudely and with a criminal mind is going to be hard, unless we seriously turn to God, by knowing His Word and obeying His commands.

-000-

FRAUD INVALIDATES MARRIAGE: When a marriage is attended by fraud, it could be declared invalid by virtue of a court decision, according to Art. 45 of the Family Code of the Philippines. The question, however, is this: what is the "fraud" that can invalidate an otherwise valid marriage? Art. 46 of the same Code provides the instances where fraud can be said to be present.

Art. 46 says that any of the following circumstances shall constitute fraud referred to under Art. 45: (1) non-disclosure of a previous conviction by a final judgment of a crime involving moral turpitude; (2) concealment by the wife that, at the time of the marriage, she was already pregnant by another man.

Also, the following constitutes fraud: concealment of sexually-transmissible disease, regardless of its nature, existing at the time of the marriage; concealment of drug addiction, habitual alcoholism or homosexuality or lesbianism, existing at the time of the marriage. No misrepresentation or deceit as to character, health, rank, fortune or chastity shall constitute fraud.

-000-

THE YOUNG MUST ALWAYS SUBMIT TO THEIR ELDERS: Here is an advice that young people must always heed: the young must always submit to their elders, and must clothe themselves with humility toward one another, because "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

The reminder to the young is that they must humble themselves under God's mighty hand, that He may lift them up in due time, casting all their anxiety on Him, because He cares for them.

Young people must also stay alert and of sober mind all the time, remembering that the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. The young must resist the devil, standing firm in the faith, because it is of general knowledge that the family of believers around the world is undergoing sufferings too.

-000-

PLEASE WATCH OR LISTEN: "Tambalang Batas at Somintac", a news-commentary radio program, aired at DZEC 1062 kHz and other Radyo Agila provincial stations, at <http://www.eaglebroadcasting.net/radyoagila> and at www.youtube.com (type DZEC Radyo Agila Tambalang Batas at Somintac 1062 Live), 6 to 7 in the morning, Philippine time. Phone: 0922 833 43 96, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

Pres. Aquino commends PNP for fewer firecracker-related cases

BAGUIO CITY, Jan. 5 (PIA) -- President Benigno Aquino III commended the Philippine National Police (PNP) for its efforts in reducing the casualties during the New Year celebrations.

"Congratulations and please pass the JOB WELL DONE to all. HAPPY NEW YEAR," the President's text message to PNP Chief Director General Ricardo Marquez read.

Aquino, who celebrated New Year here in the City of Pines, stressed the effective law enforcement campaign of the PNP that resulted in the "all-time low" casualty record during the New Year.

In his text message to the Chief PNP, President Aquino cited the report of Health Secretary Janette Garin on New Year's Day that showed only 384 medical emergency cases recorded by DOH. Garin added in her report that DOH hospitals performed only nine amputations and noted zero cases of firecracker ingestion.

This was 57 percent lower than the five-year average and 54% lower than the recorded cases last year, according to Aquino.

The Health Secretary attributed the steep reduction in firecracker-related injuries to effective law enforcement by the PNP against prohibited firecrackers.

The President earlier directed the PNP to strictly enforce the nationwide ban on illegal firecrackers and indiscriminate firing of guns during the holiday season.

In the Cordillera region, the DOH-CAR reported lower firecracker-related injuries with 49 this year compared to 70 cases last year. From Dec. 21 2015 to January 4, 2016, the DOH recorded 18 cases in Abra, 14 in Apayao, 9 in Baguio City, 6 in Benguet, and one each for Ifugao and Mountain Province.

The DOH also reported no recorded death due to indiscriminate firing and no amputation and firecracker ingestion in the region./RMC- PIA CAR

DSWD assures support to families of SAF heroes

BAGUIO CITY, Jan. 8(PIA) -- Almost a month into the first anniversary of the Mamasapano encounter in Maguindanao, the bereaved families of the Special Action Force (SAF) heroes from the Cordillera received livelihood assistance from the government.

Department of Social Welfare and Development Sec. Corazon "Dinky" Soliman said that the DSWD has released Php 1,694,536.90 worth of livelihood assistance to the families of the 13 Cordilleran SAF members who were killed in the Mamasapano incident on January 25, 2015.

"Nagbigay napo kami ng livelihood assistance program sa 13 families ng SAF from Cordillera ayon sa kanilang na identify na proyekto," said Soliman who was the guest of honor during the Regional Multi-Stakeholders' Conference on Community Driven Development last December 28 at the Pines View Hotel here.

The financial assistance is from the Sustainable Livelihood Program of the DSWD, she said, adding that DSWD continues to help and support in any way the bereaved families of the Cordillera SAF members.

The family members including some parents of the slain SAF, received the first tranche of the livelihood assistance corresponding to 70% of the proposed project cost. The remaining 30% of the proposed funding assistance will be provided upon the full utilization of the release.

DSWD-Cordilleras OIC- Regional Director Janet Armas added the livelihood assistance is still part of the interventions being given to the families of the SAF heroes to help them recover.

The DSWD has provided earlier last year financial assistance and psychosocial interventions to all the families of the SAF in the Cordillera.

Meanwhile, Police Regional Office – Cordillera Acting Regional Director PCSupt. Ulysses Abellera said that the PNP also has been continuously helping the bereaved families of the Cordillera SAF members.

BFAR promotes sanitary fish vending

BAGUIO CITY, Jan. 8- -The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in the Cordillera Region(BFAR-CAR) through its Fisheries Postharvest and Marketing Division is promoting the use of clean and suitable equipment for fish vending, ensure sanitary conditions of vending sites, and make quality fish products available in the locality.

To keep fish from risk of contamination, BFAR recently gave four individual fish vendors at the Baguio City Public Market stainless fish stalls each. These will replace the traditional large woven bamboo tray (bilao) or the piece of plywood put on top of plastic crates where fish and fishery related products are put for display.

"I am thankful that BFAR was able to provide this equipment. We cannot afford to buy this one but now we will have improved fish stalls to use every day", said Geneve Ramos, a recipient.

Another recipient, Mercy Dacumos, is grateful for the stainless fish stall that would replace 'that piece of flat square wood' which she had been using to display her products since she started selling fish and fishery products in the 1980s.

To institute postharvest management systems and marketing strategies that would maximize the use of the fish stall, the BFAR is set to award more than 100 fish stalls this year. Identified recipients are registered fisherfolk in the BFAR's Municipal Fisherfolk Registration System. They were expected to properly utilize said equipment in their operations and shall ensure the fish stall is always in proper working condition and observe the necessary diligence in its safe-keeping./ Rodelyn Q. Foronda-BFAR

Igorot Karateka makes...

from page 10

and Tapaz towns in Capiz.

As in his previous homecomings, Chees, upon arrival at the Manila Airport, called on his aging teacher, Shihan Kunio Sasaki, the missionary master who, in the 1960s established the Japan Karate Association branches in Manila and here in Baguio.

"Without Master Sasaki, I and many other Filipino practitioners of Shotokan karate would not be where they are now," the student noted.

Chees spent three years as assistant to Sasaki in the latter's gym in Manila, an experience that prepared the Igorot student for his exposure in international competitions.

Chees eventually migrated to Germany where he was recruited as a member of the German national karate

team. His stint with the squad proved fruitful as he kept on winning the kata event in international competitions.

This string of victories in the international martial arts scene was capped by his topping the kata event in the 1993 World Shotokan Championships in Germany.

"For that tournament, I would spend winter days in the forest perfecting the basic movements Master Sasaki taught and I was only too glad it paid off with that victory for the German national team which adopted me," he recalled.

"Wherever I am now, I owe it to Master Sasaki and to Master Edgar Kapawen Sr.," he said, referring to his mentor and fellow Bontoc who heads the Northern Luzon headquarters of the JKA./Ramon Dacawi.

He added that the National Headquarters has also opened a trust fund for donations from the police officers and from other individuals who want to help in any way the families of the fallen SAF heroes.

In July last year, children of the SAF were granted "educational assistance certificates" and 60 relatives of the SAF 44 were given scholarships under the Presidential Social Fund and the Commission on Higher Education.

Surviving kin of the SAF 44 received, "a total of P69,566,524.88 in lump sum benefits, P1,016,995.70 pension benefits and P35,367,333.00 donations from the Senate of the Philippines, Congress, Local Government Units, PNP, other government agencies and private donors as of July last year.

Some local government units and private individuals and groups have extended financial aid directly to the SAF 44 families and are not recorded by the PNP or the DSWD./ JDP/RMC- PIA CAR

NGCP appeals for public support in securing transmission facilities

BAGUIO CITY, Jan. 8(PIA) -- The National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) appeals to the public to help in safeguarding transmission facilities following the bombing of several transmission towers in Mindanao recently.

NGCP North Luzon Corporate Communication and Public Affairs Officer Lilibeth Gaydownen called on the public to report any suspicious activities at NGCP transmission lines and to help safeguard and secure transmission facilities to ensure safe and continuous power transmission service.

At least 16 towers of the NGCP – six of them last December-were bombed by lawless elements causing power interruptions in Mindanao.

"Nakakalungkot dahil ang epekto ay nagkakaroon ng deficiency on power generation in Mindanao," said Gaydownen.

The bombing of a tower last Christmas Eve caused two generation facilities, the government's National Power Corporation-owned Agus 1 and 2 to be cut off from the Mindanao grid. As a result, as much as 150 MW of power was isolated from Mindanao consumers. Failure to restore the tower will further aggravate the supply deficiency in the region and longer rotational power interruptions may be expected.

NGCP warns that further bombing incident in any area in the country may prevent customers from enjoying uninterrupted electricity.

Although there were no recorded threats or bombing incidents affecting NGCP transmission lines in North Luzon, Gaydownen said that they are still on heightened alert following the bombing of one of the towers of the Lepanto Consolidated Mining Corporation in Mankayan, Benguet in December.

Gaydownen said that they have coordinated with the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines to help in securing the different transmission facilities of the NGCP particularly in the Cordillera region where several vital installations are located./JDP/ RMC- PIA CAR

Editorial

...from page 4

unquestionable integrity, without the slightest taint of partisanship, such as Teofisto Guingona (chair 1986 to 1987), Eufemio Domingo (1987-1993), Celso Gangan (1994-2001), Guillermo Carague (2001-2008) and Reynaldo Villar (2004-2008), who ordered the special pork-barrel audit. It had also been a tradition for the other two members of the commission to be appointed among the COA's veteran auditors, especially for those who spent their entire professional career in the agency.

Contrast that to Aquino's appointees to the COA:

• A nearly retired Heidi Mendoza – who had vowed to pin down Binay on corruption charges many years ago, jumping several pay levels – was appointed as one of the three COA commissioners. It was Mendoza who provided Ombudsman Conchita Carpio-Morales, when she testified in Chief Justice Renato Corona's impeachment trial, with grossly false analysis that artificially bloated his bank accounts. For that monumental fabrication that whipped up a mob against the Chief Justice, she, together with Carpio-Morales, should have resigned their posts.

• Jose A. Fabia was appointed a COA member in 2014. Who is he? The Director-General of the Philippine Information Agency since Aquino assumed office, up until 2012, when he reached the government's retirement age. He replaced a former Liberal Party Cadiz City mayor Rowena Guanzon, who served only a year, since she was given what Aquino thinks is a more important task, as Commission on Elections member. (I am hopeful, though, that Guanzon, at the end of the day, would live up to her lofty principles.)

• Aquino in March appointed Michael G. Aguinaldo as COA chair. Aguinaldo was the Deputy Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs of the Office of the President since Aquino assumed office, and reportedly his classmate in their Ateneo days.

Isn't that, in his hubris, Aquino's way of practically telling the country: "The COA, one of my favorite political weapons, has been attached to the Office of the President"?

It is a wasteland of damaged institutions that Aquino will be leaving us with when he steps down in office a few months from now./tiglaomanilatimes@gmail.com/www.rigobertotiglaomanilatimes.com

Campaign for ordinance on ban on sale and use of firecrackers gets public support

BAGUIO CITY - - With more than 15,000 signatures supporting an ordinance banning the sale and use of firecrackers in the city during the holiday season, hopes are high that the city council would finally pass such measure.

The Bureau of Fire Protection - Baguio City is leading the signature campaign to support an ordinance prohibiting the sale and use of any kind of firecracker and exploding pyrotechnics in the city with the aim to reduce the number of injuries related to firecrackers to zero.

Councilor Elmer Datuin, chairman for special events

and tourism, said he will sponsor said measure in the city council.

There is pending ordinance on the ban of firecracker in the council but it is not a priority, Datuin said. With the people now showing their support for the passage of an ordinance banning the sale and use of firecrackers, he expressed confidence that it will be finally passed this time.

An ordinance is seen to give more teeth in not allowing the sale and use of firecrackers during the holiday revelries that sometimes result to injuries and even death. This would

penalize people who use firecrackers.

For the past years, an administrative order by Mayor Mauricio Domogan was implemented to ban the sale of firecrackers.

As of press time, there were 11 firecracker incident victims in the city during the recent revelries.

Fire Superintendent Joe Ferdinand Bangyod of the Baguio City Fire Department said people must think of safer and Earth-friendly ways of celebrating the Christmas and New Year holidays in the coming years./JDP/JBZ PIA CAR



COMELEC CVCC LAUNCHING - Adding more teeth that the election is for the people and not for the candidate, the Commission on Elections launched the COMELEC Voter Care Center; the first COMELEC hotline and action desk in the country to cater services and calls from the public. Signing the Memorandum Of Understanding are Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Cong. Nicasio Aliping Jr., City Election Officer Atty. John Paul Martin, COMELEC commissioner Luie Tito Guia and other representatives and concerned agencies. The Twitter account of COMELEC Baguio is ComelecBaguio and the Facebook account is facebook/ComelecBaguio./By Bong Cayabyab

Botanical Garden stall holders keen in paying rentals

BAGUIO CITY - About 20 stall holders at the botanical garden had a meeting with mayor Mauricio Domogan and City Environment and Parks Management Office last Tues., Jan. 5.

It is remembered that said stall holders were operating many years back without paying rental fees to the city government of Baguio which the Commission on Audit questioned it.

Because of this, the city urged the stall owners to pay a reasonable amount of rental fee.

During the meeting, it was agreed upon that the stall

holders will pay P5,000 lump sum to the city government here in order to off-set the number of years of operation at the Botanical Garden.

Also, beginning this year, said stall holders will pay rental fee of P150 per square meter per month.

Domogan directed the CEPMO to prepare the contract of lease indicating the terms and conditions which will be subsequently forwarded to the city council for confirmation. Once confirmed, the stall holders will start paying their obligations with the city /Jho Arranz

DA assures El Nino mitigation fund

BAGUIO CITY, Jan. 8 (PIA) - - With the forecast of what the El Niño can bring to farmers and livestock growers, the Department of Agriculture assures that mitigation plan and funds are set in the regions.

DA Cordillera Regional Director Dr. Lorenzo Caranguian, in an interview over DZEQ Radyo ng Bayan, disclosed that with the impact of El Niño expected to be felt this first or second quarter of 2016, the agriculture department already made estimates and forecast of damage as well as mitigation plans.

Caranguian shared that DA's estimate based from the projection of municipal and provincial agriculture offices nationwide, will affect around 23,640 hectares of rice, corn and high value crops planting areas which will result to production loss of around 31,354 metric tons of rice corn and high value crops.

For Cordillera, he shared that the region is far better than the other areas in the country as the tail end of the cold front and past typhoons have brought colder weather and rains in the region which is beneficial to the agriculture sector.

Duterte presidency...

from page 1

country and a corrupt-free government, then don't vote for him. If you want crimes and illegal drugs to thrive in our communities, then don't support him," Cayetano said.

Cayetano belied Trillanes' claims that Duterte does not have a comprehensive platform that he would implement if he wins the presidency.

"Maybe Sen. Trillanes is not paying enough attention. Of all the presidential candidates, only Mayor Duterte has bold solutions to address crime, corruption and illegal drugs. He also has a comprehensive framework on how to spread development to the regions and alleviate the plight of the working people. This is what the Filipino people find inspiring in

Mayor Duterte," Cayetano said.

Today, Mayor Duterte and I will officially unveil our platform and start touring the country to present our platform to the broader public. Everyone is very much welcome to attend and listen," Cayetano added.

It was reported that part of the Duterte-Cayetano tandem's platform include, among others, reducing by half the country's crime rate and number of big-time drug lords operating in the country by mobilizing the military to help the police force. They also pushed for workers to have a living wage and the implementation of federalism to promote regional development./Office of Senator Alan P eter Cayetano

Nevertheless, Caranguian assured that P62 million worth of mitigation projects are approved for the Cordillera region and that they are now only waiting for the fund release.

The mitigation projects he said includes optimization of production in non-vulnerable areas through provision of certified seed for rice and hybrid seeds for corn, and provision of seedling trays, coco coir dust (sowing media), compost and plastic mulch for high value crops, as well water and crop pest management projects and other production support.

For livestock, mitigation projects to be implemented include provision of biologics such as multi-vitamins, vaccines, antibiotics and dewormer.

Caranguian also advises farmers and livestock workers to do their part and do also mitigation projects on their own if they are already feeling the effect of El Niño.

He urged farmers who have resources to start their own mitigation projects now and do not wait for the government intervention./JDP/CCD with reports from DA - RAFIS

1006 youngsters gave birth last year

BAGUIO CITY - Out of the 9672 registered live births for the period covering January to November last year, there were 18 mothers below 15 years old and 988 mothers ages 15 to 20 gave birth in the city of Baguio revealed civil registration officer Sylvia Laudencia.

This means that 10.41% of the total registered live births in the city are a result of early teenage pregnancy.

"This only shows that parents have shortcomings in molding their children and inculcating in them good values. It is our (parents) responsibility and obligation to keep an eye to our children on their daily activities," stressed mayor Mauricio Domogan.

Also, there were 5132 legitimate registered live births or 53.06%, and 4534 illegiti-

mate registered live births or 46.88%.

On the other hand, there were 4953 registered male live births while there were 4719 registered female live births on the same period.

Meaning, 51.21% of the total registered live births for the said period were male and 48.79% were female.

However, there were 1351 male deaths and 943 female deaths on the same period.

With the said figure, Domogan said "males die earlier than female because males have more vices compared to female."

With regard registered marriages, a total of 1496 couples were registered, 597 were through civil ceremony, 467 were through church rites and 432 through other rites/Jho Arranz

DENR regulates entry...

from page 2

It was learned that despite the issuance of the Temporary Environmental Protection Order issued by the Court of Appeals in last year and the Permanent Environmental Protection Order of the Sto Tomas reservation which also covers Mt. Kabuyao issued on May 26, 2015, owners did not abide voluntary demolition of their structures even with the information campaign and notices issued to them, said Lopez. Structures were

continuously being built even after the issuance of PEPO, he added.

The said orders are in compliance to the Writ of Kalikasan, a legal remedy for a right to a balanced and healthful ecology, filed earlier by petitioners against Baguio City Congressman Nicasio Aliping et al in the development of his property within the reservation area./JDP/SCA-PIA-CAR, Benguet

FEATURE

UK newspaper: "PHL new breeding ground for ISIS jihadis"



Photo from the UK newspaper, Daily Mail, showing ISIS recruits training in Mindanao. Caption reads: "Recruits are forced to crawl under a fence of barbed wire as a commander lets off occasional gunshots."

Three weeks ago, I wrote a column entitled, "ISIS' rise and terror should tell us to junk and bury BBL now."

There I pointed out that the two Islamic armed organizations differ in their approach. The Moro Islamic Liberation Front's (MILF) strategy is the Maoist style of raising a conventional guerilla army that would demand from the central government the right for Muslims in the Philippines to form their own independent state.

The Islamic State for Iraq and Syria (ISIS) is also using that strategy, but on a grander and faster scale, using the billions of dollars it receives as financial support from its Saudi Arabian sympathizers and revenues from the oil wells it has seized and taken over.

The MILF's difference from the ISIS, though, is that the Middle East jihadist organization openly espouses, finances and undertakes horrible terrorist attacks that kill mostly civilians, as in their recent carnage in Paris and California, and mass beheadings of people outside of their faith. At least the MILF claims that's not the way it operates.

Both, though, have the same goal – the establishment of an Islamic state. That of ISIS is the medieval grand vision of a global caliphate. That of the MILF, is a Bangsamoro (which translates to Moro Nation) at the heart of Mindanao, disguised at this stage as merely an autonomous entity with an "asymmetric" relationship with the Philippine nation state.

What President Aquino and his bleeding-heart negotiators refuse to see in their obsession for the Nobel Peace Prize is that to set up an Islamic state isn't just a fervent dream for Muslims. It is an injunction for every Muslim to contribute to the establishment of such an Islamic state.

That is the reason why there is no autonomous entity anywhere in the world under Muslim leadership. For an independent state to allow the creation of such a Muslim-dominated area would mean its political dismemberment: the Muslim rulers in such an entity would use their territory to strengthen their army for their eventual secession. We would have been the only suckers in the world to have fallen for such lies by the MILF.

What I did not expect when I wrote that article was that the ISIS was not just in touch with the MILF to recruit potential jihadists. They have also been directly going to the Muslim masses to attract jihadists for training to fight both in Mindanao and in the Middle East.

The London-based Daily Mail the other day had a major feature on ISIS' operations in the Philippines, with several accompanying photos, as well as embedded videos. The article's title: ISIS unveil the Philippines as their new breeding ground for jihadis with their latest propaganda video featuring a secret Filipino jungle training camp.

The text of the article is, however, short as it is mainly a

video-based report:

The Philippines has become the latest ISIS target for expansion after the jihadi group released its first propaganda video of a terror training camp in the Filipino jungle.

"Several jihadi commanders are shown urging Filipinos to travel to Syria to join ISIS before revealing the group have already started their own terror camp in the Philippines.

The footage shows the 'soldiers of the Caliphate in the Philippines' working on their fitness and agility by completing a series of assault course drills.

A small group of recruits, each wearing similar black clothing and masks, are shown climbing up rope ladders, crawling under barbed wire and practicing with weapons.

The Filipino government has long said that support for ISIS in the Philippines was limited to local bandits claiming allegiance to the group.

However, the latest propaganda video suggests that the jihadi group has earmarked the Philippines as a potential site for establishing further new bases.

The new video comes after eight members of a criminal gang that pledged allegiance to ISIS were killed in a firefight with the military in the southern Philippines last month.

The hour-long battle took place in Palimbang, a remote town in the south – home to the predominantly Catholic nation's Muslim minority and the scene of decades of conflict.

The bandits were from Ansar al-Khalifa, a small group that declared its support for ISIS in a video circulated on the Internet last year, regional military spokesman Major Filemon Tan said.

The larger Abu Sayyaf group has also pledged its allegiance to ISIS and is holding at least four foreign nationals hostages.

The group is demanding millions of dollars in ransom for their safe release and have released several videos threatening them with execution.

Tan told AFP that five black flags similar to those used by Islamic State fighters were recovered from the bandits after the clash.

Criminal gangs operate kidnap for ransom and extortion activities alongside Muslim and communist separatist campaigns in the restive south.

While the relatively new Ansar al-Khalifa had extorted from businessmen and stolen cattle from farmers, it had no proven links with Islamic State – also known by the acronym ISIS – national military spokesman Colonel Restituto Padilla said.

"This group is trying to ride on the popularity of the ISIS, but they're not really ISIS," he told AFP. "We view them as mere criminal gangs."

Tan said the military was verifying intelligence reports that one of the eight killed was an Indonesian national."

Chiz chides Comelec; says OSG vs poll body's position on Poe

Sen. Francis "Chiz" Escudero said the position of the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) recognizing Sen. Grace Poe as a natural-born Filipino citizen only bolsters the Commission of Elections' (COMELEC) wrong and unfair decision against his presidential running mate.

According to Escudero, the OSG's comment submitted to the Supreme Court runs contrary to the decision of the COMELEC to cancel Poe's certificate of candidacy for president on grounds of citizenship and residency.

In a 27-page comment filed with the high court in connection with the petition filed by defeated senatorial candidate Rizalito David challenging the decision of the Senate Electoral Tribunal (SET) which ruled that Poe is qualified to hold public office, the OSG maintained that the senator is a natural-born Filipino.

"The Solicitor General, the statutorily appointed lawyer of the Philippine government, and 10 other solicitors are of the firm belief that Sen. Grace Poe is a natural-born Filipino. This is vindication for the majority of the SET, who were criticized by some sectors for deciding supposedly based on political and emotional considerations," said Escudero, the frontrunner in various pre-election surveys for vice president.

"No less than the OSG recognizes that the Constitution and its framers never wanted to discriminate against foundlings and that foundlings were always meant to be natural-born Filipinos—which is what Sen. Grace has been saying all along," he added.

The OSG, led by Solicitor General Florin Hilbay, has also told the high tribunal that it will not file a comment on behalf of the COMELEC, citing its position in the SET case.

Escudero said he is confident that the magistrates will see the logic and legal arguments of the OSG when they convene to tackle Poe's petition seeking to reverse the rulings of the COMELEC to disqualify her from the presidential race.

"From the beginning, the poll body did not hide its bias against Sen. Grace. The COMELEC acted unfairly on her filings and dismissed the voluminous documentary evidence she submitted that would prove her accusers wrong," the veteran senator said.

He added: "I believe that even our own government lawyers would find it difficult to defend the COMELEC." /Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

Comelec gun ban starts January 10

BAGUIO CITY - - The Commission on Elections (Comelec) reminds the public that total gun ban will start on January 10 until June 8, 2016, the election period for the May 2016 national and local elections.

Atty. Julius Torres, Comelec Cordillera regional director, bearing of firearms and other deadly weapons is strictly prohibited during the election period.

Only law enforcers in full uniform and who are on official duty will be allowed to carry firearms outside of residence, he said.

Police Cordillera Regional Director, P/CSupt Ulysses Abellera, said Comelec check points will be placed in strategic areas to strictly implement the gun ban. The propagation of loose firearms he said is one of the main causes of violence during election period.

The Comelec enjoins the Philippine National Police to ensure that human rights are observed when manning Comelec checkpoints and in implementing the gun ban. /JDP/JBZ-PIA CAR

We really should thank Senator Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. for heroically resisting this stupid Administration's massive steamrollers (and ATM machines) that would have created an "ISIM" in the south – the Islamic State for Islands of Sulu and Mindanao. Most of those who voted for the passage of the Bangsamoro Basic Law in the House of Representatives were, of course, Liberal Party members, including vice presidential candidate Leni Robredo. /tiglaomanilatimes@gmail.com/www.rigobertotiglaomanilatimes.com

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
Branch 59

ADDITIONAL
FAMILY COURT OF
BAGUIO CITY

IN THE MATTER
OF THE ADOPTION
OF ZACHERY JUR-
VEY TAGUDAR
VILLANUEVA,
AND CHANGE OF
HIS NAME IN HIS
CERTIFICATE OF
LIVE BIRTH FROM
ZACHERY JURVEY
TAGUDAR VILLAN-
UEVA TO ZACHERY
JURVEY VILLAN-
UEVA DREU,

SPS FRANCISCO
D. DREU JR. AND
MICIELLO GRACE
V. DREU,

Petitioners,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF BA-
GUIO CITY Herein
represented by SYL-
VIA R. LAUDENCIA
and JOSEPH SOLIVA
BUMACAS,

Respondents.

X-----X

**SPEC PRO No. 482A
FOR: ADOPTION**

ORDER

The petitioner-spouses
Francisco D. Dreu Jr. and
Miciello Grace V. Dreu
filed this verified petition
praying that after notice,
publication and hearing,
the Court shall issue a
Decree of Adoption:

a. Declaring Zachery
Jurvey Villanueva, for
all legal intents and
purposes, as the child
of petitioners, who shall
be thereafter known as
Zachery Jurvey Villan-

ueva Dreu; and
b. Ordering the
Local Civil Registrar of
Baguio City to issue an
amended birth certifi-
cate of Zachery Jurvey
Villanueva as the child of
the petitioners pursuant
to R.A. 8552.

Finding the petition to
be sufficient in form and
substance, let the same be
heard before the Regional
Trial Court, Branch 59,
Baguio City on June 13,
2016 at 10:15 o'clock in
the morning, at which
place, date and time, the
petitioners shall prove
their case. Any person
interested may appear
and show cause, if any
there be, why the petition
should not be granted.

Let a copy of this
Order be published at
the expense of the peti-
tioners in The Junction,
a newspaper of general
circulation in the City
of Baguio and Benguet
province once a week
for three (3) consecutive
weeks.

The petitioner-spous-
es are directed to make
an appointment with
the Court Social Worker
for the purpose of con-
duction the required
case study on the minor
ZACHERY JURVEY VIL-
LANUEVA. The Court
Social Worker is required
to submit to the Court the
case study not later than
June 13, 2016.

Furnish a copy of this
Order to the last known
address of Joseph Soliva
Bumacas at number 73
Palma Steet, Baguio City.
SO ORDERED.

D O N E I N
CHAMBERS, this 5th of
January 2016 at Baguio
City Philippines.

(SGD) IVAN KIM B.
MORALES
Judge

Publication Dates:
January 9, 16 and 23,
2016

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE INTESTATE ESTATE OF GASPAR DOMINGO

Notice is hereby given that the
intestate estate of Gaspar Domingo,
who died on September 25, 1976 in
Baguio City, Philippines, has been
extrajudicially settled by his heirs
through that deed of Extrajudicial
Settlement of the Intestate Estate of
Gaspar Domingo, acknowledged on
October 29, 2015 before Philippine
Consul Voltaire O.C. Mauricio, Em-
bassy of the Philippines, London,
United Kingdom, and entered in his
notarial register as Doc. No. 9679;
Service No. 26968; O.R. No. 0120.

Publication Dates: December 26,
2015, January 2, and 9, 2016

Most Cordillera towns craft local shelter plan

BAGUIO CITY, Jan.7 (PIA) - - Majority
Of the municipalities in the Cordil-
lera Administrative Region (CAR) have
completed their Local Shelter Plan (LSP),
a roadmap to address local government
housing requirement.

The Housing and Urban Development
Coordinating Council (HUDCC) extended
assistance in the completion of 65 LSPs of
the 77 municipalities in CAR for 2016-2024,
according to HUDCC Director for Regions
1, 2 and CAR Michellene Inay during a
recent meeting of the Regional Develop-
ment Council -Sectoral Committee on Social
Development (RDC-RSDC).

The LSP lays down a comprehensive per-
spective of housing situation and allows con-
vergence among concerned government insti-
tutions and other interested organizations to
work together in providing shelter for those
in need.

Inay said through workshops and
writeshops, target setting of housing require-
ment is more or less realistic as it identifies
those who are really in need, where are they
located, what are their sources of income,
and those who cannot afford to build one.

LGUs are encouraged to prioritize families
located in danger areas such as top of the hill,
landslide areas, along river banks, creeks and
other critical locations, said Inay.

With the advent of the Climate Change
Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction
Programs, recent issuances called for the
mainstreaming of both to ensure that iden-
tification of housing sites are hazard free and
safe, she added.

The formulation of LSP is anchored on
Local Government Code of 1991, Republic
Act 7279 otherwise known as Urban Devel-
opment and Housing Act and the Philippine
Development Plan.

The value added of a established shelter
plan according to Inay allows the conver-
gence of resources which in a way will aid
LGUs to undertake their housing projects
with the Department of Social Welfare and
Development (DSWD) thru their core shelter
program, Department of Public Works and
Highways (DPWH) on road access, Depart-
ment of Health (DOH) on sanitary facilities
such as water sources and sanitary toilets
among others.

Meanwhile, RDC Private Sector Rep-
resentative Marietta Paragas who recently
attended the National Social Development
Committee Consultative Meeting in Iloilo
shared updates on government housing
project under the National Urban and Devel-
opment Framework.

Nationally, there is lack of alienable and
disposable (A & D) lands for government
housing project. Of the 767,108 hectares
delineated where some were already used
for other purposes, only 275,679 hectares
are A&D.

For the Cordillera region, the Depart-
ment of Environment and Natural Resourc-
es-CAR proposed for 119,000 hectares for A
& D reclassification but the National Delin-
eation Assessment Committee only approved
24,000 hectares incorporated in the proposed
Omnibus Bill filed in Congress, according to
Paragas./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

DOST brings early warning system IEC to CAR provinces

BAGUIO CITY, Jan. 5 (PIA) - - The Depart-
ment of Science and Technology is bringing
in the Early Warning System(EWS) Informa-
tion, Education and Communication(IEC)
forums in the different Cordillera provinces.

The project aims to capacitate local gov-
ernment units (LGUs) for them to main-
stream science-based tools towards efficient
and effective disaster risk reduction and man-
agement, in line with the goal of achieving
a science-based Weather Information and
Climate Change Scenarios for a disaster
resilient Philippines.

The IEC forum started in Bontoc, Mountain
Province last December 1, in Kiangnan, Ifugao
last Dec. 3; Bangued, Abra on Dec. 10 and
Tabuk City, Kalinga on Dec. 15. To complete
the EWS Cordillera road show, the same
forum is set in the province of Apayao and
Benguet this month.

DOST Science Research Analyst Hansi
Dinumla shared that the fora were attended
by provincial and municipal disaster risk
reduction and management officers who
were introduced to the basic concept of early
warning systems and the DOST EWS initia-
tives and projects as well as on the visual-
ization of tools and websites for hydromet
sensors and EWS.

Forum participants were also engaged in
an open forum and 'Way Forward Planning
on the Implementation of Plans for Disaster
Prevention and Mitigation' in the provincial
and municipal levels especially on the estab-
lishment of community-based EWS utilizing
available DOST projects.

The forum specifically aims to train DRRM
officers of all the municipal LGUs and pro-
vincial LGUs of CAR on science-based tools
as results of DOST-funded researches and art
the same time to recommend activities and
initiatives relative to the training to be inte-
grated in their respective local DRRM plans,
Dinumla said.

The DOST is the chair on Disaster Pre-
paredness and Mitigation of the Regional
Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
Council./JDP/CCD - PIA CAR

Kalinga farmers to get P13M El Nino mitigation aid

TABUK CITY, Kalinga, Jan. 5 (PIA) - -
Farmers in the province are set to receive
P13 million funding aid from the national
government to recover from losses caused
by the long dry.

Provincial Agriculturist Domingo Bakilan
disclosed the financial assistance is under the
El Nino Mitigation Program of the Depart-
ment of Agriculture (DA) intended to help
the country's agriculture sector cope with the
brunt of extreme climatic change.

Bakilan informed the aid will reach the
farmers in the next cropping in June following
procurement procedures required, since the
assistance is given in the form of farm imple-
ments.

The P13M shall be downloaded to the pro-
vincial government for the procurement of
certified rice, corn and vegetable seeds, mech-
anized water pump sets and livestock.

According to Bakilan, the aid will be dis-
tributed to partner farmers associations duly
registered with DA through the Office of the
Provincial Agriculturist.

TB detection machine now operational at Benguet IPHO

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet, Jan. 8(PIA) - -
The province is a recipient of the Gene
Xpert machine for the rapid detection and
identification of drug resistant tuberculosis
(TB).

Lodged at the Integrated Provincial Health
Office (IPHO) here, the equipment is part of
the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP)
which aims to eliminate TB cases in the Phil-
ippines by 2020.

"We have low cases of TB in our province
compared to other provinces in the Cordillera
region but it doesn't assure us that there are
only few people suffering from the disease,"
said Governor Nestor B. Fongwan during the
launching and turn-over of the Benguet NTP
Laboratory at the Provincial Health Office
last month.

"Through the Gene Xpert machine donated
by the Philippine Business for Social Progress
(PBSP) through the Department of Health -
CAR, we can now give quality test to people
suspected of the disease," said Fongwan. Case
detection with the use of the Xpert machine
can be availed free of charge.

According to the World Health Organiza-
tion, TB is still one of the world's top health
challenges with new TB cases and deaths of
nearly 1.5M people each year. In the Philip-
pines, TB is still one of the most fatal treatable
diseases.

The recent Philippine Institute for Devel-
opment Studies shows that 712 Filipinos
acquire TB every day but only 632 get their
treatments.

In Benguet, there was low detection rate
of the disease from 2009 to 2014 but with
high success rate or those cured and have
completed treatment, according to Provin-
cial TB Nurse Coordinator Purita Maguen.

There were 86 cases diagnosed in 2009,
67 in 2010, 87 in 2011, 66 in 2012, and 42
in 2014. Treatment of cases for the period
ranged from a low of 81 percent in 2014 to a
high of 96.7 percent in 2012.

"TB is not included in the Top 10 causes
of death and morbidity in the province but
it doesn't mean that Benguet is free of such
disease. This can be attributed to the fact that
most people don't have their check-ups if they
have cough and also for the reason that TB is
difficult to detect," Dr. Nora Ruiz, Provincial
Health Officer, explained.

But with the Gene Xpert Machine, TB
can be easily diagnosed. According to Dr.
Allan Fabella, PBSP Medical Specialist, the
machine can detect Mycobacterium tuber-
culosis complex and resistant to Rifampicin
in less than two hours in comparison to the
standard culture which can take two to six
weeks for the result.

The information generated using the
equipment also aids in selecting suitable
treatment especially those that are resistant
to antibiotics. The machine also requires
minimal technical training in running the
test.

Six patients positive with TB were already
detected utilizing the machine, according to
reports of the IPHO./JDP/SCA-PIA-CAR,
Benguet with reports from Sandy Calado,
Benguet Provincial Government

The assistance is timely to most farmers
here who are reeling from a missed cropping
due to the long water cut-off because of the
major rehabilitation project on the Upper
Chico River Irrigation System.

Bakilan urged farmers to closely coordinate
with their municipal agriculturists to hasten
the distribution of the aid./JDP/LL-PIA CAR,
Kalinga

Officials call on the public to emulate Rizal

BAGUIO CITY, Jan. 4(PIA) -- City Mayor Mauricio Domogan called on the public not to forget the sacrifices and patriotism of the country's national hero.

"We should continue to emulate and make him as a model in our own respective lives," Domogan stressed in his message during the city-led 119th commemoration of the martyrdom of Dr. Jose Rizal last December 30 at Rizal Park here.

"We should not only remember Rizal as hero but the principles and advocacies should be followed and this is the most important thing in commemorating the death and celebration of the life of Jose Rizal," Domogan stressed.

"May the Rizal, the hero in us, continue to manifest

by the lives we live as we continue to advocate the positive changes," he added noting that nowadays, people just remember Rizal as a hero but they fail to emulate the heroism and patriotism of Rizal.

Congressman Nicasio Aliping Jr. also called on the public to continue to live by the values of Jose Rizal.

"Sana ipagpatuloy natin, sa puso at sa gawa, ang temang Rizal 2015: Dangal ng Pilipino, Gabay sa Pagbabago," said Aliping. "Panatilihin ang mabuting halimbawang iniwan ni Gat Jose Rizal sa ating mahal na Inang Bayan," he added.

Meanwhile, Police Regional Office - Cordillera Regional Director PCSupt. Ulysses Abellera said that the sacrifice of the SAF 44 or the

Special Action Force heroes is a heroic act just like what Jose Rizal did for the country. The ultimate test of heroism he said is giving and sacrificing one's life for the country.

"This is also what the SAF 44 did during their heroic act of sacrificing their lives for the country in their mission earlier this year," he added.

Domogan and the Philippine Military Academy Assistant Commandant of Cadets Col. Monico Batle led the wreath laying at the Rizal Park followed by the traditional 21-gun salute.

Other groups in the city such as the AZKO barangay officials, Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation, the Filipino-Chinese Community and the Rizalistas also offered wreath at the Rizal Park./JDP/RMC-PIA CAR



Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan (3rd from left, seated) and Cordillera Elections Officer Atty. John Paul Martin (2nd from left) sign the Memorandum of Understanding to support the installation of the Comelec Voter Care Center in Baguio City. Also in photo are Commission on Elections (Comelec) Commissioner Luie Tito Guia, Baguio Rep. Nicasio Aliping Jr., Comelec-Cordillera Directors Julius Torres and Vanessa Roncal, Philippine Information Agency (PIA)- Cordillera Director Helen Tibaldo, Fr. Manny Flores of the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV), and Engr. Ralph Pablo of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources./PNA

Abrenian kid makes name in US boxing area

SAN JUAN, Abra, Jan. 8 (PIA) -- Eleven year old Chris Jaykob "Blade" B. Ortega was recently declared as Junior Olympic Champion and the world's 7th placer in the 60-pounder division in boxing in California, USA.

Ortega hails from this town but his family migrated to Sacramento, California. He is the eldest son of Jessie Chris and Jennifer Ortega and grandson of Vice-Mayor Rosalinda Billedo-Ortega

of San Juan.

Prior to his recent award, Ortega had won numerous fights with the North California Championship in 2014 and the Central Pacific Region Championship in 2015.

Winning the awards entails so much hardwork for the young Ortega as he started training in boxing when he was eight years old./MTBB - PIA CAR, Abra

IEC on El Nino, Early Warning System held in Ifugao

KIANGAN, Ifugao, Jan. 5 (PIA) -- The Department of Science and Technology-Cordillera Administrative Region (DOST-CAR) and its attached agency, the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration (PAGASA), recently conducted an information and education campaign (IEC) and Forum on Early Warning System (EWS) and the El Nino Phenomenon in the province.

The IEC and Forum on the EWS last December 3 aims to enhance the capacity and ability of disaster managers on disaster prevention and mitigation through the utilization of science-based tools for early warning.

Personnel of the DOST-CAR lectured and presented the DOST EWS Projects, Visualization Tools/Websites for the Hydromet Sensors, Project Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards (NOAH), the Climatex Predict Website and the Introduction to Rain-Induced Landslide.

Last December 14, PAGASA staff headed by Engr. Fredolina Baldonado also conducted a Forum on the El Nino Phenomenon primarily to make the participants understand the El Nino and its consequences and recognize the need for mitigation strategies or interventions.

The event participated by

Tax payment processing on Solon vows to help complete Ifugao tertiary hospital

BAGUIO CITY - Except for the first three days when long queues were noted even at the supposed express lane for senior citizens, tax payment processing at City Hall went on smoothly during the first week of the year.

Acting city treasurer Alex Cabarrubias said no major problems were encountered as city treasury employees rushed to accommodate the first batch of early taxpayers who as expected came in droves.

"The clogging during the first few days cannot be helped because the clients came at the same time in their desire to get the payment done," Cabarrubias said.

Last Thursday, the queues evidently shrunk as the number of taxpayers coming to pay either their business or real property taxes began to trim down.

Cabarrubias said this is due to the fact that many taxpayers have already settled their accounts from November last year.

representatives from the provincial and line agencies was also aimed at communicating climate information and useful forecast to diverse users and decision makers in order to build the capacity of professionals to use climate information in decision-making related to agriculture, water resource management, public health and disaster management.

PAGASA personnel discussed the topics

In fact last December, there was already a throng of clients who paid their real property dues, he added.

The office however expects clients to continue flocking to the city until the deadline for tax payment set in March.

The permits and licensing division of the city mayor's office has received a total of 946 applications for regular business permit as of Friday.

The office expects close to 19,000 regular business permits to be processed this year. Last year, a total of 18,361 permits were issued.

As in the past years, early taxpayers who settled their revenue obligations early received incentives like discounts and "roleta" and raffle prizes.

The city also relaxed its parking rules by depositing service vehicles at the motorpool to give parking room to taxpayers at City Hall.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said they may soon make this a permanent policy./A Refuerzo

on Weather Update, Hydro-meteorological Hazards, Climate of the Place and the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO), Climate Review, El Nino Update and Outlook, PAGASA Products and Services for Agriculture and Water Resource Sector while staff from the Ifugao provincial government also talked about its mitigation strategies for El Nino./DBC-PIA CAR, Ifugao

Solon vows to help complete Ifugao tertiary hospital

LAGAW, Ifugao, Jan. 6 (PIA) -- Senator Teofisto "TG" Guingona III promised the Ifugao people to work hard with officials of the province for the completion of the new Ifugao General Hospital (IGH) located at Barangay Poblacion North this town.

Guingona, chair of the Senate Committee on Health, during his visit to the province today, vowed to work closely with local officials so that the long delayed construction of the IGH shall be completed.

The construction of the new IGH to replace the old and dilapidated IGH which was found to be standing on unstable ground should have started way back in 2008 but due to political bickering and conflicts among local officials, construction was delayed.

The project in 3-phase scheme was finally approved for implementation in 2010. The first phase construction by the provincial government was bided and awarded to local contractors but was found to be defective and again riddled with controversy prompting the Department of Health (DOH) to take over the construction of the second phase.

The DOH engaged the services of outside building contractors, however, some

people claimed flaws and defects in the construction and a protest was lodged to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in 2012 further delaying work.

With the condemnation of the old IGH in 2014, hospital services were temporary transferred to the small and not fully equipped Panopodopan District Hospital in the town of Lamut.

But many residents have reportedly been experiencing poor health services and inconvenience. The situation is also causing them too much financial burden as they have to travel and avail of the services of tertiary hospitals in Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela, Baguio City and even in Metro Manila.

Thus the clamor for the local and national government to fast track the completion of the new IGH.

Meanwhile, Guingona also assured his help for the tourism development of the province with its rich culture, tradition and scenic spots to attract more tourists and visitors.

Lastly, he confirmed his support for the Cordillera's quest for the establishment of an autonomous region in the Cordillera and the amendment of the Philippine Constitution for a Federal form government./JDP/DBC-PIA CAR, Ifugao

City awards cleanest, orderly and most beautiful section in the city market

BAGUIO CITY - The city government here recognized the cleanest, orderly and most beautiful section I the city market last Jan 6 at the Baguio Market Vendors Alliance Consolidated Inc. BAMARVA building.

There were 13 participating sections in the search for the cleanest, orderly and most beautiful section in the city market was participated. The sections include two0-storey market building and market supt. building, sari-sari proper, vegetable proper, tobacco, chicken, rice, flower, block 3, block 4, hangar first floor, ritos alley, meat and fish section/carinderia building and shoes section.

The participating sections were judged based on the cleanliness (absence of trash, litter and other materials in the surroundings, and maintenance of cleanliness,

absence of smell); orderliness (compliance with the rules on extension and uniformity of stalls, orderliness and cooperation with the section as a whole); and beauty (extra ordinary effort of stallholders to liven up the section, appropriateness and quality of decorations plus X factor).

Winning the said search were Vegetable Proper-1st place, Sari-Sari-2nd place, and the Rice Section-3rd place. They received cash incentives amounting to P5,000, P3,000 and P2,000, respectively.

The search aims to promote active participation of all vendors in Baguio City market in maintaining cleanliness and orderliness in the market, and to enhance and develop our city market so as to attract more buyers as well as visitors and tourists./ Jho Arranz

City prepares for CARAA

BAGUIO CITY - The city government's preparations for the hosting of the 2016 Cordillera Administrative Regional Athletic Association (CARAA) meet on Feb. 6-10 shifted to high gear last week.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan last week directed concerned departments to take charge of sprucing up and preparing the various venues and ensure readiness of required personnel, security, logistics and other provisions to ensure the success of the athletic event.

The sporting event is again expected to draw the participation of over 5,000 athletes and delegates from the five provinces and two cities of the region.

The mayor tapped city parks management officer Cordelia Lacsamana, city engineering officer-in-

charge Elpidio Garabiles, city building and architecture officer Nazita Banez, city administrator Carlos Canilao, city health officer Dr. Rowena Galpo, Emergency Medical Service director Dr. John Tinoyan, city general services officer and acting city police director Rolando Miranda for the tasks.

He particularly sought the improvement and rehabilitation of the Melvin Jones Football Grounds and Archery Range, reservation of the playing venues, swimming pool, football field, the Baguio Convention Center and others.

He said security personnel should be on hand throughout the opening program and at the various billeting centers and playing venues.

Medical personnel will

also be deployed complete with ambulances and medical equipment and paraphernalia.

The mayor also stressed the need to fast-track the procurement of all materials and equipment needed for the events to ensure that these will be ready in time for the sports meet.

City sports development officer Gaudencio Gonzales said the city allotted P4 million for the sports activity.

The mayor will meet with the contractor of the rehabilitation of the Baguio Athletic Bowl next week to ensure that the facility which will serve as the seat of the CARAA will be ready for the meet particularly the installation of the tartan track at the race oval.

The city was tapped as venue for this year's regional meet anew after its hosting last year proved successful even while the upgrading of the sports facility was then half done.

The participants then enjoyed the newly refurbished bleachers and stage at the athletic bowl but made do with the compacted dirt

tracks.

The mayor said he will do his best to ensure that the rubberized track oval will be ready for the meet./A Refuerzo

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IGOROT KARATEKA'S DRAWING POWER - Cordillera martial artist Julian Chees is shown with two of his special students in Germany where he is now based. The master as he leads a blind student to the nuances of the traditional "kata" or formal exercise of karate.

Igorot karateka makes annual pilgrimage home

In an annual humanitarian pilgrimage of sorts, former world karate champion Julian Chees has been coming home to the Cordillera to personally reach out to the sick and needy.

Last December, the sixth-dan blackbelt of the Japan Karate Association was in Baguio and his native hometown of Bontoc, Mt. Province where he distributed toys and school supplies to kids and eased the financial burden of indigent patients.

"It's the least a native son coming can do with the support of our martial arts

students in Germany who annually pool stuffed lions and dolls and whatever they could, thereby giving substance to my coming home," Chees said.

He recalled how his students led by Dr. Martina Thaller, Dr. Christiane Schmidt, Kirsten Petro and Arawasi Bottrop collected medicines, ballpens and toys to give substance to their teacher's homecoming.

With the help of his students, Chees was able to pool over P100,000 this year as fund support to patients here and at the Mt. Province

General Hospital in Bontoc town.

"Our support is, of course, never enough, but it sure does give meaning to a native son's coming home," Chees said.

The biggest support from his Julian Chees-Shoshin Foundation came in wake of the devastation wrought by super-typhoon Yolanda at the end of 2013.

In the aftermath of the devastation, Chees personally distributed over P800,000 worth of rice and cash to typhoon victims in Dumalag

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