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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Anti-gambling sentiment in city stoked with fresh moves vs. jueteng, bingo, casino



GOING BANANAS!!! Delivering the product is no problem to this cariton hauler. His problem and the stall owners problem is where to unload them bananas, after the fire that gutted the fruit section last Monday morning./Monch David

City to help vendors displaced by fire.....p3

Domogan asked to fund burnham park fencing......p12

Dads select sto. tomas as landfill site......p3

BAGUIO CITY – The anti-gambling sentiment in the city appeared to have been stirred anew as government officials mount fresh actions against jueteng, bingo and casino operations.

The city council last Monday approved a resolution "condemning in the strongest terms the resurgence of an illegal operation of Bingo sa Barangay in the city."

On Sunday, over 40 barangay captains issued a manifesto "expressing support to the continuing drive against jueteng."

On Thursday, Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. assured that he will stand by his position not to allow the operation of casino in Camp John Hay or anywhere in the city.

The mayor was reacting to a city council move the other week calling for an investigation into reports of a covert casino

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Lumang tugtugin na yan. matagal na yan Anti-Gambling ninyo, wala naman nangyayari, puros kayo salita!!!

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PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN



MAYOR, CONGRESSMAN, MGA KONSEHALES Ano pa ang inaantay ninyo???

BY: ODELL "BOMBITO" AQUINO



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DIRETSAHAN

KONSEHALANG DOBLE KARA!?!?

By Rudy "Bantay Siyasat" Garcia

Domogan asked to fund burnham

park fencing

BAGUIOCITY-The city council last Monday approved a resolution requesting Mauricio Rep. Domogan to allocate P10 million for the fencing of Burnham Park.

"Burnham Park has been chosen as Baguio City's One-Town-One-Product (OTOP) to highlight tourism as the city's most significant commodity," Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas who proposed the resolution said.

He said this "necessitates the city to install a fence all around the perimeter of Burnham Park for the protection of its resources and the maintenance of its natural and aesthetic value."

Farinas said the fencing would also mean protection of the tourists and the general public especially at night or in the early hours of the morning.

"With the provision of the perimeter fence, criminal elements will have to reckon with the security which the fence provides and shall have difficulty escaping should they intend to commit their criminal acts within the fenced border of the park," Farinas reasoned.

"For reasons of scarce financial resources, the Honorable Congressman Mauricio Domogan is hereby respectfully requested to allocate (said amount) for this purpose," the measure reads./aileen p. refuerzo

I stand on the side of press freedom

The right-of-reply issue has nothing to do with fearing media nor with the 2010 elections. Rather, it has everything to do with imposing unnecessary restraints on media.

This is not the first attempt to pass a right-of-reply bill in the Senate. A similar bill was filed in the pre-martial law chamber but did not pros-

Then as now, the position of Eddie Monteclaro, president of the National Press Club at that time, remains relevant.

He said: "The right of reply is better than realized through editorial discretion and voluntary acts rather than through forcible dictation through state machinery which infringes upon a basic freedom.'

Public vants, as they say, live in glass houses,

and they must steel themselves from criticism while in the service of the people.

I have had my share of criticism and continue to be pilloried, at times, by the media. When one is on the side of truth, however, one does not need to fear media.

We cannot legislate responsibility. Selfregulation is the best option. I have crossed the line; I stand on the side of press freedom./ Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Ombudsman pressed for inventory of pending cases on her desk plaint, but also the chance to respond to

Senator Chiz Escudero today said with or without an impeachment case filed against Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez, an inventory of the pending cases filed before her office should immediately be made available.

Escudero said that he had already asked the Ombudsman for a list of cases pending in its office, but what she did was furnish him a list of those filed with the Sandiganbayan.

"What I wanted was a list of those pending, not those filed. Those cases that have gathered dust in her desk. Those that celebrate birthdays at the back burner. If we get that list, then we will know who among our colleagues have cases pending before her office, and from there we can determine whether that person should inhibit himself from the impeachment hearings," he said.

The senator welcomed the filing of the impeachment complaint against Gutierrez, saying it would grant her the opportunity to fully answer all the questions being raised, not only in the impeachment comthe nagging public perception that she is biased in favor of the appointing power.

Escudero said impeachment is the only legal, constitutional way of removing the Ombudsman from office.

"Another way is voluntary, which is resignation, a move she should have done a long time ago. But if she does not want to resign, then let the impeachment complaint against her take its course at the Lower House, Escudero explained.

Asked whether Gutierrez can be compelled to take a leave

Cont. on page 10

Lawmaker wants 'Presidential power of the purse' removed

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero on Friday said he is pushing for the repeal of two laws that enable the President to exercise considerable power over the national purse, stressing that the allocation and disposition of public funds should solely be a Congressional prerogative.

"The Constitution exclusively grants to Con-

gress the power to authorize certain officials, including the President, to augment any item in the general appropriations law for their respective offices from savings in other items of their respective appropriations. But these two laws allow the President to do more, which I believe is an encroachment of the Executive on the powers of the

Legislative," Escudero said.

The two laws, Presidential Decree No. 1177 and Book VI of Executive Order 292, specifically grant the President power and authority on the preparation, disposition and management of the national budget, which by practice actually supersedes any policy that may be laid down by Congress under any appropriations law.

"In a way, it is an informal veto of

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City to help vendors displaced by fire

BAGUIO CITY – Stallholders displaced by the fire that razed the city market last March 2 will retain their posts.

City officials led by Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. agreed to fasttrack the clearing of the burned area and put up temporary structures at the same spot to enable the displaced vendors to resume their businesses.

The mayor said they earlier considered transferring the vendors to a temporary locations like the sinkhole area along Magsaysay Avenue, the slaughterhouse compound or at the Ganza parking lot but this was ruled out in a meeting last Thursday.

Reports from the Bureau of Fire Protection revealed that 242 stalls were gutted by the fire which occurred at 2:46 a.m. and razed Buildings 1 and 2 of the vegetable section and tobacco section. Nine other adjoining stalls were also destroyed.

Initial damage

was placed at P6 million in terms of city properties destroyed. The vendors losses were estimated at P40 million.

Investigations pointed to faulty electrical installation or overload as the cause of the fire.

The blaze occurred amid the city's Panagbenga festivities and ironically at the onset of the Fire Prevention Month which is observed every March./aileen p. refuerzo



Fire at the Market that started before 3 AM on March 2, 2009. /Photo by: Monch David

Dads select sto. tomas as landfill site

BAGUIO CITY – An isolated lot ideally located at the city outskirts in Apugan-Sto. Tomas here has been chosen as the permanent site of the city's engineered sanitary landfill.

The city council last Monday unanimously voted to select said site out of the five locations recommended by the Technical Working Group and endorsed by the City Solid Waste Management Board (CSWMB) though chairman Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr.

The council's move was prompted by Councilor Rocky Thomas Balisong's motion for a joint and collective approval of the site which according to the alder-

man "appears to be the most advantageous" among the sites as per the study done by the TWG.

The area which measures close to three hectares had the highest acceptability rating among the five locations recommended by the TWG.

City Environment Management Office (CEMO) head Romeo Concio said the Sto. Tomas site was most advantageous since it is located within the city and would require the least development cost of P61 million.

Concio said that after completing the

official documents for the site's selection, the city council will also have to officially identify the area as disposal site as a requirement of the law.

He said the city will also begin the process of conducting a survey on social acceptability to satisfy the requirements of the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources.

Afterwhich, a full-blown feasibility study on the site will be made preparatory for the city's application for an Envi
Cont. on page 10

Farinas: Bid out asin hydo operation

BAGUIO CITY – Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas proposed a resolution authorizing Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. to negotiate and receive bids for the operation of the Asin minihydroelectric plants.

In his proposal, Farinas said the city needs to tap all its income-gener-

It's P1 billion after all.

on Monday pegged the city's 2009 budget

at P1 billion barring

warnings from the

city's financial experts

of negative repercus-

sions if the city adopts

a financial plan higher

than the proposed P950

done "jointly and col-

lectively," came after

Vice mayor Daniel

Farinas informed that

Bautista Jr. has informally agreed to a P1

earlier pushed for a

The mayor had

The body's move,

Reinaldo

million.

Mayor

billion figure.

BAGUIO CITY -

The city council

Dads peg budget at P1B

ating capabilities in these times of global economic difficulties and one of the resources that can be fully utilized is the these hydro plants.

"The operation of the Asin Hydroelectric Power Plants is an income generating resource and/or asset of the City Government that can be tapped to supplement its financial capability and any delay in the operation of said plants could mean lesser income on the part of the city," Farinas noted.

He said the city

Cont. on page 10

P950 million figure believing that a conservative budget

would be more applicable in view of the expected effects of the global economic

He however expressed wish to adopt a P1 billion budget this year to

coincide with the centennial celebration of the city.

After the executive-legislative meeting last week where the pros and cons of a P1 billion budget were ventilated and weighed, he agreed to further study the matter and work out a compromise.

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RESEARCH & STATISTICS

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PROBLEMA Sa Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB-CAR)?

Send us an email at info@hlurb.net or text/call 0917-5069123 and we will post the information at www.hlurb.net.

Magsumbong at mag-ingay para mabawasan ang katiwalian sa Gobyerno!!

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

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno

www.linisgobyerno.org

Good Cop, Bad Cop

Congress' bid to legislate "right to reply" kicked the proverbial hornet's nest Filipino balikbayans, theology professors to online editors skewered House Bill 3306 and Senate Bill 2150.

These bills shred liberty of expression, Inquirer asserted Philippine Press Institute, Kapisanan ng mga Brodkasters and other groups protested. So has the Commission on Human Rights. Compulsory replies, they stress, is verboten "prior restraint."

Author Sen Aquilino Pimentel dug in. "Show me reasoned arguments for withdrawing this measure." This assumes monopoly on reason. And he dumps burden of proof on the press.

"Any prior restraint... must hurdle a high barrier," Justice

EDITORIAL

Antonio Carpio wrote in his tightly-reasoned concurring opinion

for the National Telecommunications case (GR No 168338). "Such prior restraint is presumed unconstitutional. (And) government bears a heavy burden of proving constitutionally of such restraint."

Thus, authors like Sen. Francisco Escudero withdrew support. "We recognize editorial functions are privately exercised prerogatives," Rep. Juan Edgardo Angara wrote.

Cebu Citizens Press Council filed a carefully-reasoned protest a full year before today's quagmire. Anchor "Che-Che" Lazaro fretted these bills violated "prior restraint" in ABS-CBN's "Media In Focus" program last November. Did anybody listen?

From New Mexico, retired professor Antonio Marquez cautions: "Be wary of good-cop-bad-cop drills. President Arroyo pledged a veto. She's the good cop. Justice Secretary Raul Gonzales backs the bill. He's the bad cop. In the end, all would gag the press—for political survival."

"Test this bill in specific cases. Some 193 officials ran off with fertilizer plunder grants. Bill author Monico Puentebella got P5-mllion. Would the 192 get equal space or airtime as Puentebella?"

On Internet, "legislated right of reply would be more preposterous, "writes Nini Cabaero, Sun Star's online editor.

"A website is venue for online journalism. It's updated several times a day as news develops. Or it can be removed at will". If RoR bills became law, aggrieved parties – say those zapped for ZTE broadband scams or collusion in World Bank road bids – an shape web pages, based on their grievances, not the news.

Do their replies stay in the webpage one minute? Quarter of an hour? As long as the offending story stayed on said page? "What is adequate compliance?"

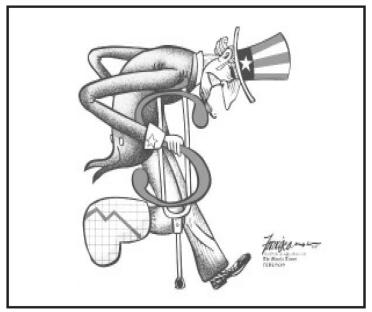
"News can break at anytime," Cabaero notes. What if a major story happens, say the President steps down? Web pages would be immediately recast. That's the character of internet. Today, editors have the prerogative to recast. Pimental & Co. would muscle aside editors and decide.

"Website journalists are governed by the same principles" imposed on print and tv journalists, she wrote We "work in a continuous 24/7 cycle of news assessment. Articles are uploaded, moved, or deleted". Online editors make judgement calls based on assessment of events and news values. They do not act on whim, certainly not on chip-on-their-shoulders complaints.

Internet's unique character makes it possible for websites to dodge RoR laws, Cabaero notes. Posted in one minute, a reply can be removed the next. Will it stay only for as long as the source views it? Or when editors say enough?. We'd see a cat-and-mouse game emerge. "It could come to that if the right of reply bill became law".

"Media self-regulation is an innovative approach to democracy," writes Fr. Aloysius Cartagenas of Seminario Mayor

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PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

MAYOR, CONGRESSMAN, MGA KONSEHALES

Ano pa ang inaantay ninyo????

Email: aquino_odell@yahoo.com
BY: ODELL "BOMBITO" AQUINO



Inyong mababasa mga dear readers ang isang liham mula sa Linis Gobyerno kung saan ang inyong lingkod ay siyang Director For Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices. Umaasa pa rin tayo na ang ating mga kagalang-galang (kuno/daw) na mga opisyales ay gagampanan ang kanilang nararapat na gawin ng sa ganoon ay lahat ng tanga este taga Baguio ay mabigyan ng koryente, maging mahirap o mayaman!

January 29, 2009

HON. REINALDO BAUTISTA JR. Mayor, Baguio City HON. MAURICIO DOMOGAN Congressman, Baguio City HON. VICE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILORS Baguio City Subject: Present situation on Electrical Service Connection Dear Honorable Gentlemen and Ladies:

I am sure you are aware that to avail of a legitimate electrical connection, a new applicant with the BENECO will only be given connection if the applicant has either of the following (Building Permit, Occupancy Permit or Certificate Of Final Electrical Inspection). Unfortunately, only those whose land(s) have certificate of titles and after due compliance with the CBAO requirements are given building permits and/or related permits. Certainly the numerous residents whose houses or dwellings are built on Tax Declarations or similar other informal settlers who only have rights to speak off cannot avail of a building permit and/or occupancy permit, hence they will not be entertained by the BENECO for legitimate electrical service connections.

Given this situation, word is, some corrupt officials involved in providing Certificate Of Final Electrical Inspection charge fees ranging from P15,000 to P25,000 or even more, all this money going straight to the pocket of some corrupt officials. In fact, as I write this letter to you we are finalizing complaints to be filed against some government officials at the Office of The Ombudsman on this very same issue(s).

On the situation of informal settlers we would want to make it very clear that we do not condone any form of squatting whether it be done on private or public land and therefore our laws on squatting should be implemented to the fullest extent. However, experience has shown that whether or not an informal settler can avail of electricity does not deter or will not prevent or even deter crime of squatting, as the consequence of squatting is borne from various reasons, but unfortunately it is the whole family unit (children included) of the informal settler that suffers and is penalized due to non-electrical service.

COMMENTARIES



THE PEACE COMBATANT

Baguio will be deeply affected by the global crisis

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN

(This is a Re-Print of last issues Column)

The news report of a 42% drop in the city's tax share from the Philippine Export Zone Authority indicates that the effect of the global crisis in Baguio City will be severe to more than severe. The 42% drop is clear in the 2008 P67 million tax share plunge from the P156.3 million tax share of the city from PEZA in 2007.

Worst, data indicate that the plunge can be 82% this year.

News says that the plunge is actually P7 million from the usual of P41 billion quarterly. If tax to income probable ratio is considered, what are affected are not merely national and local government income shares but consumer demand from residents as well. We do not have the full data yet, but a number of friends from the PEZA have reported lay-offs and work rotations.

City services like garbage collection services, streetlights, and the like are probably the first ones that will be affected this year. Thus, there can be more uncollected garbage, upswept streets, and unpatrolled sections of the city.

We do not know yet if the crisis will really worsen in 2009 but a worsening is highly possible as the effects of the crisis moves from the financial (credit) sector to the real sectors (production). Besides, this crisis has often been described as a crisis worst than the great depression of the 1930s.

In the 1930s, the crisis indeed worsened from its start in 1929. Today's second great depression (again, recall that today's crisis is described as something worst than the great depression of the 1930s) only started in 2008. A worsening is highly possible as the crisis moves from one sector to another sector before an overall effect. In the 1930s, real US gross national product (GDP) at their 2000 values went from \$865.2 billion in 1929 to \$790.7 billion in 1930, to US\$739.9 billion in 1931, to US\$643.7 billion in 1932, and to US\$635.5 billion in 1933.

US GDP increased to their 1929 value only in 1936. Thus, it can be said that inspite of the US government bailouts in 1932 and 1933, the crisis took at least 7 years to be arrested. Here we are not even talking of GDP per capita!

The more popular interpretation of the US crisis of the 1930s even says that US recovery from the great depression had been associated with war preparations and actual war in World War II! However, **The Peace Combatant** does not wish to exaggerate the picture of the situation. Actual recovery from the great depression may or may not be related at all to World War II.

Nevertheless, **The Peace Combatant** wants to stress that we must not have an over optimistic view of things that the US crisis that is emerging into a world crisis would be solved overnight. There can be a worsening of the city's fiscal position from bad to worse and Baguio City must be prepared for this.

The crisis can even be transformed into a golden opportunity to transform the city into a haven for retirees, international students, and domestic tourists. This can be an opportunity to make the city more competitive for services where the city has a comparative advantage: as a gateway for destinations that boasts of beautiful natural parks, fresh air, mountains, waterfalls, biodiversity, and the like.

It can be a right time for city officials to reconfigure the city. Look at the vicinities of Ayala Avenue, Makati City. In the vicinities of Ayala Avenue, Makati City, street restaurants are feasible because of trees and relatively smog-free environment. Thus, if we do not take care of this city, even the vicinities of Ayala Avenue, Makati City, can beat Baguio as tourist destinations.

We must work to make Baguio City and the rest of our country to become environment and biodiversity-friendly. Of course, there must be equity and social justice as well.

(The author maintains a website at www.geocities.com/arturoboquiren and can be contacted through artboquiren2040@yahoo.com and 0927-536-8431)

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Alyansa ng Mananampalataya: anyone can preach

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



OUR PARENTS WILL NOT BE WITH US FOREVER: Have you ever told your father and your mother lately that you love them? Have you ever thank them for all the sacrifices they have done for you?

This is the theme of an article which is being sent worldwide through the Internet in the last few days, written by a Malaysian writer named Shakunthala Devi, who said that now is the time to express our gratitude to our parents, whose lives will not last forever and who will, one day soon, leave you forever.

Some parts of the article: "Have you ever watched your parents while they were asleep? Your father's body, once big and strong, but now the big is withered and the strong is weaker. Wisps of grey peek out from his hair, wrinkles now `scar' his forehead and face.

"This man works hard everyday and would sacrifice anything to make sure his family is provided for and his children get the best education possible. Or how about your mother, whose soft hands once cuddled and held you close when you were a baby? Now those hands are dry and rough, bearing evidence of the challenges she faced just for us.

"This woman takes care of our daily needs, constantly nagging and scolding us because of her love for us. But sadly, we often misconstrue her love as control and unfairness...

"I suppose I have always subconsciously thought that my parents would always be with me, never growing old. It took that message to make me realize that my parents are not immortal. That they, too, will one day leave the world and me...

"...I'm forwarding that message to all my family and friends to remind them to appreciate what they have now. It will not last..."

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OMBUDSMAN: HE WHO HAS NO SIN, CAST THE FIRST STONE AGAIST ME: I found the reactions of Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez to the impeachment complaint against her quite Biblically-formidable.

It was as if she was saying that the complainants, which included former Senate President Jovito R. Salonga, the first chairman of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, could not cast the first stone against her for they have also grievously sinned at one point or another in their own lives.

This is of course reminiscent of the story of the woman caught peddling herself as a prostitute and who was brought to our Lord Jesus Christ to be stoned to death as her punishment.

Jesus' statement to the crowd, "he who has no sin, cast the first stone", drove the people away, for there was no one among them who had not sinned.

I guess that gambit by Merceditas will prove to be an effective means to keep her opponents at bay in the meantime, because they will be hard put explaining their own misdeeds and wrongdoings, but it will not remove her obligation to answer the charges that have been hurled against her in the impeachment complaint.

-000-

ALYANSANGMANANAMPALATAYA: ANYONE CANPREACH THE WORD: Last Monday, one big proof that the devil is now working to defeat the objectives of the Alyansa ng Mananampalataya (or the Alliance of Believers) in pushing the preaching of the Word of God (the Bible for Christians and the Koran for Muslims) is the big number of text messages questioning my authority to preach.

One text message says the Bible is a closed book and that the only ones authorized to talk about them are the messengers sent by God, and that I am not one of those chosen to be a messenger in view of my lack of training and in view of my being a lawyer "only".

Evidently, the objective of the text messages is to dissuade me and the Catholic and Christian faithful, coming from about 20 or so independent churches who have already agreed to join me in the Alyansa from continuing with this organization, and despite doctrinal

CORDI NAWI

THE SCRIPTURES A SAFEGUARD (Second of 5 Parts)

BY: EMILIO M. LIWANEN (GUEST COLUMNIST)



Many are the ways by which Satan works through human influence to bind his captives. He secures multitudes to himself by attaching them by the silken cord of affection to those who are enemies of the cross of Christ Whatever this .attachment may be, parental, filial, conjugal, or social, the effect is the same; the opposes of truth exert their power to control the conscience, and the souls held under their sway have not sufficient courage or independence to obey their own conviction of duty.

The truth and the glory of God are inseparable; it is impossible for us, with the Bible within our reach, to honor God by erroneous opinions. Many claim that it matters not what one believes, if his life is only right. But the life is molded by the faith. If light and truth is within our reach, and we neglect to improve the privilege of hearing and seeing it, we virtually reject it; we are choosing darkness rather than light

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 16:25. Ignorance is no excuse for error or sin, when there is every opportunity to know the will of God. A man is traveling and comes to a place where there are several roads and a guideboard indicating where each one leads. If he disregards the guideboard, and takes whichever road seems to him to be right, he may be ever so sincere, but will in all probability find himself on the wrong road.

God has given us His word that we may become acquainted with its teachings and know for ourselves what He requires of us. When the lawyer came to Jesus with the inquiry, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" the Saviour referred him to the Scriptures, saying: "What is written in the law? How readest thou?" ignorance will not excuse young or old, nor release them from the punishment due for the transgression of God's law; because there is in their hands a faithful presentation of that law and of its principles and claims. It is not enough to have good intention: it is not enough to do what a man thinks is right or what the minister tells him is right His soul's salvation is at stake, and he should search the Scriptures for himself. However strong may be his convictions, however confident he may be that the minister knows what is truth, this is not his foundation. He has a chart pointing our every waymark on the heavenward journey, and he ought not to guess at anything.

It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example. We should day by day study the Bible diligently, weighing every thought and comparing scripture with scripture. With divine help we are to form our opinions for ourselves as we are to answer for ourselves before God.

be continued...

DIRETSAHAN

KONSEHALANG DOBLE KARA!?!?



BY RUDY "BANTAY SIYASAT" GARCIA

Tumitindi na naman ang pulitikahan dito sa bansang Pinas. Mga suki dahil sa nalalapit nang eleksyon at dahil dito lalo tuloy lumalabo ang pinoy na makaahon mula sa kanyang pagkakalugmok. Dahil sa pulitika, sa halip na umangat ang ating ekonomiya ay lalo tuloy itong

bumubulusok pababa.

Kanya kanya na ang batuhan at hanapan ng butas ang administrasyon at ang oposisyon, pero kung lilimiing mabuti ay halos parepareho lang naman sila ng kulay. Uso pa ba sa kanila ang walang iwanan? Kalimitang pinagtatakpan sila kung maliit pa ang butas pero naiiwan kapag ito ay malaki na. Kumbaga, "sungay mo suong mo, buntot mo hila mo"! Iyan ang masaklap na katotohanan mga suki na talagang napakarumi ang laro ng ating pulitika ngayon. Ikaw, kasali ka ba sa maruming manlalarong pulitiko, o isa ka rin sa patuloy na bubulag-bulagan at nagbibingi-bingihan? Kung hindi, anu pa ang hinihintay mo? Gising na suki!!!

00000

Dating Pulis Superintendent Ceasar Mancao, babalik na daw dito sa Pilipinas at handa na daw tukuyin ang mastermind at iba pang sangkot sa Orbito-Dacer double murder case... Pulitika man ito o hindi, ay hindi na importante, ang mahalaga ay lumabas ang katotohanan, at managot ang dapat managot.

Panay naman ang reaksyon sa isyung ito ni Senador Panfillo Lacson... Dapat manahimik na lang muna siya. Putak siya ng putak, nagiging obyus tuloy ang kanyang pag-iingay, bakit apo Senador, nginig na ba tuhod mo?

00000

Katatapos pa lang masunog ang palengke ng Baguio City ay nasunog nanaman ang Korean School sa may Navy Base malapit sa Botanical Garden Park, at ang hinihinalang sanhi ng sunog sa huli ay "Faulty Electrical Wiring" samantalang patuloy naman na palaisipan pa sa mga bumbero ang dahilan ng sunog sa palengke.

Ang tanung ay kung bakit hindi naapula agad ang sunog sa palengke samantalang malapit lang naman ito sa Baguio City Fire Department at ilang metro lang din ang layo mula sa isang presinto ng pulisya, dagdag na merong mga gwardiya na nagbabantay sa lugar, kaya tuloy maraming naglalabasang haka-haka na ito ay sinadya! At isang araw bago ko isinulat ang kolumn na ito ay muntik na namang masunog ang isang gusali dito sa Kayang St. bunsod sa hindi pagkakatanggal ng isang gamit pang medical mula sa pagkasaksak sa kuryente. Mabuti na lamang at alerto ang mga taong nakapansin at nakatawag agad ng bumbero.

Nakakatawang isipin na habang ipinagdiriwang natin sa buwang ito ng Marso ang "Fire Prevention Month" ay magkasunod sunod na may insidente ng sunog. Sino kaya ang dapat sisihin? Sigurado ko, kikilos na naman ang ating mga otoridad para naman sabihin ng publiko na hindi sila nagpapabaya, ang kaso, aanhin pa ang damo kung patay na ang kabayo!?? BUWISHEET!!

00000

Nakakatawa din itong si Apo konsehala ng Baguio City sa panggigisa niya sa isang "Bocap" na isinalang noong nagkaroon sila ng sesyon sa session hall ng city hall. Hanep din ang paglecture nitong magaling na lady Councilor sa pagtukoy sa ordinansa na nagbabawal ang kalsada o sidewalk na gamitin para sa anumang negosyo. Gusto kasi nitong si kapitan na bigyan siya ng permiso mula sa mga opisyal para gamitin pansamantala ang kalsada at sidewalk

Editorial

..... from page 4

de San Carlos in Cebu. Like a "fourth branch" alongside the legislative, executive and judiciary branches, media regulates political power by acting as public watchdog and purveyor of information.

This structure is changing due to "market forces" and burgeoning strength of "civil society". Media must "ensure a common public sphere where everybody can communicate in dialogue." In this new role, masters of press freedom are no longer the media but the citi-

Media's evolving role is advocate and animator of the right to communicate." From simple objective reporters, media becomes moderators supporting citizen participation and working as extensions of democracy.

"In this light, self-regulation, not a state legislative intervention, is the answer as to how to ensure the proper role of media... in a democratizing society. "It disturbs right order to take from the media what they can accomplish by their own initiative."

Those who hold reins of power, in governance and in markets, who opt not to serve the common good, feel threatened. "That fear, rather than lack of understanding, appears to be the root to legislate the right to reply.'

Congressmen like Manila's Bienvenido Abante, meanwhile, dangle sops. In exchange for RoR bills, Congress could allow media to draft implementing rules. That's permitting the press to choose the rope to hang itself with.

We could decriminalize libel offers Speaker Prospero Nograles. That's a different banana. It can stand or fall on it's own merits. But for RoR, the bottom line is: Media has no power or right to swap a constitutional shield for concessions. If that privilege is "I won't back down", Pimentel snaps. Me Tarzan? The press will have no choice but also to stand fast. We'd make the most unlikely Tarzans.

Batas.....

..... from page 4

differences, to push for the preaching of the Word of God.

This is what the devil would not want to happen, is it not? For the Word of God to be preached to all Filipinos, because what he wants is to keep our countrymen forever ignorant of God's commands, laws and decrees.

But we have news for these people—with God's grace and help, the Alyansa is not about to be cowed. We believe that anyone can preach the Bible, for preaching the Bible is a mandate given to all Christians who believe in God, through 2 Timothy 4:1-2, and precisely because each and every part of that Book is "inspired by God" (2 Timothy 3:16).

-000-

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD: The "Ascension of our Lord" is the second "Glorious Mystery" in the Holy Rosary of Roman Catholic Christians, and it speaks about the manner by which the Lord Jesus was taken up to heaven after His resurrection.

Only two of the Gospels contain an account of the ascension. The first account is found in Mark, in its Chapter 16, verses 19

and 20, while the second account is found in Luke, in its Chapter 24, verses 50, 51, 52 and 53.

The Gospels of Matthew and John do not have this story, but the Book of Acts, in its Chapter 1, verses 1 to 11, contain a vivid description of how Jesus was "taken up to heaven.'

In Mark, this is how the story is told: "After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed His word by the signs that accompanied it.'

In Luke, the ascension is described in this manner: "When he had let them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left and them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God."

In Acts, the promise of Jesus returning after He was taken to heaven, "in the same way you have seen him go into heaven" was made.

Diretsahan.....

..... from page 6

para sa kanilang barangay fund raising habang pista sa kanilang barangay. Oki sana itong pangangaral ni apo konsehala kung naipapatupad nila ng wasto at patas ang sinasabi niyang "Public places are beyond the commerce of men"! pweh! At bakit sa Session Rd. at sa ibang lugar na pinagdarausan ng Panagbenga ay puwede at ang lugar ni apo Bocap ay hindi? At, totoo din kaya na pag aari ni konsehala ang mga stall na nakatayo sa sidewalk malapit sa isang unibersidad sa Bonifacio st.? Kung totoo, aba ang galing din naman nitong si konsehala at hindi nya nakikita ang kanyang sarili sa salamin. Magsalamin ka naman apo! 00000

Bago na ang hepe ng CIDG-CAR at ito ay ang dati ring hepe ng Baguio City Police Office na si Superintendent Moises M. Guevarra, pinalitan niya ang outgoing (o outgone) na si Atty. Cedrick G. Train. Nagkaroon ng turn-ober o seremonya ng pagpapalit noong Marso 4, alas kwatro ng hapon sa mismong headquarters ng CIDG-CAR.

Ang tanung ay kung may pagbabagong mangyayari partikular sa pis en order ng kordilyera at sa lungsod ng Baguio. Matagal ko nang kilala si hepe Guevarra at alam ko na marami siyang magandang magagawa para manumbalik ang kaayusan at katahimikan dito sa kordilyera at Baguio city, di ba ser? Welcome again sir, Chief Supt Moises M. Guevarra!!!

Pinupuna at Pinapansin from page 4

Prior to the past local/national elections an amnesty to avail of legitimate electrical connection status was granted and thousands allegedly benefited from this, unfortunately prior to the recent past elections this very same idea of an amnesty was used, promised and even exploited by some creative politicians to the disappointment of numerous voters as this amnesty no longer materialized. Certainly Honorable Gentlemen and Ladies you do not want a repeat of this situation.

Should your decisive political action be undertaken at this point to legitimize the numerous illegitimate electrical users and provide electricity to non-electrical users wherein it is still over a year before election season, your honest and sincere actions that will benefit thousands will not be given any political color; however, we believe that our Baguio voters are intelligent enough to know who among our present political leaders have taken their interest and allowed them the benefit of a basic need.

It is good that this stringent requirements for electrical connections are not required for water connection by the BWD, since water is among man's basic needs, so is electricity.

In view of this, I urge you Honorable Gentlemen and Ladies to immediately come up with a solution to this problem. Thousands will benefit from your concern, even if solely on the point of humanitarian considerations. You must act now, please act fast and come up with a solu-

> Sincerely, Odell P. Aquino

Director for Anti Graft and Corrupt

Copy furnished:

- Mr. Gerry Versoza, GM-BENECO
- Engr. Oscar Flores, Head CBAO
- Beneco Board

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

ERIC C. CAMHIT Applicant Case No: 2006-CAR-0149 NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the approval of the Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience (CPC) to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA - PALALI and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 10, 2009 at 9:30 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their

evidences.

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

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a negrey of the apparatume of the product of and may if the use decire.

furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant /s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its

records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 25th day of Frbruaty 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR. **Hearing Officer**

tice of Extra-Judi-

Republic of the Philippines RE-GIONAL TRIAL **COURT FIRST** JUDICIAL REGION OFFICE OF THE **PROVINCIAL** SHERIFF La Trinidad. Benguet

NENITA FERNANDEZ, Mortgagee, .

-versus -

SPS. RAFAEL T. DELSON and FLOR D. DELSON,

Mortgagors.

x-----x

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. 09-EXF-1335

EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE **MORTGAGE** UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED. SHERIFF'S NOTICE

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

PETITION FOR T Η CORRECTION OF ENTRIES IN THE **CERTIFICATE OF** LIVE BIRTH OF ANDREW **CAWAING**

ANDREW Μ. CAWAING. Petitioner.

- versus -

THE LOCAL C I V I L REGISTRAR OF ATOK. BENGUET and the NATIONAL

OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

Upon extra judicial petition for extra judicial foreclosure of real mortgage, under Act 3135 as amended, filed by NENITA FERNANDEZ, with resident and postal address at Purok 7. Navy Base, Baguio City, herein referred as the Mortgagee for the satisfaction of the obligation of SPS. RAFAEL T. DELSON FLOR and D. DELSON, with residence and postal address at No. 27 Add Road, San Carlos Heights, Irisan, Baguio City, herein referred as the Mortgagors, in real estate mortgage duly

entered on 18 January 2008.

That as of 12 February 2009, the above-named mortgagors, SPS. RAFAEL T. DELSON AND**FLOR**

STATISTICS OFFICE(NSO),

> Respondents, X ----X

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE No.09-C-1532

ORDER

Petitioner, through counsel, filed this verified petition praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, the court orders the Local Civil Registrar of Amok, Benguet to correct the following entry in his Certificate of Live Birth as follows:

Family Name :front "Cawaing" to "Cawaing" Date of Birth: from April 22, 1970 to April 22,

DELSON, indebted to the mortgagee in the amount of HUNDRED ONE SEVENTY FOUR THOUSAND PE-SOS, (Php. 174, 000.00), Philippine

Currency, exοf clusive Attorney's fee in the amount of twenty five percent (25%) thereof and the necessary and incidental expenses for foreclosure and sale on public auction

That the undersigned Sheriff announces that he will sell at Public Auction on 17 MARCH 2009 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in front of the Bulwagan ng Katarungan (Benguet Justice Hall), Justice Hall, Trinidad. Benguet, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the mortgage real property including

1972 Name of Father : from Jose Cawa-ing to Jose Cawaing

WHERE-FORE, finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the court sets it for hearing on July 1, 2009 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning before the Session Hall of this Court, Benguet Provincial Capitol. La Trinidad. Benguet and all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any, why this petition should not be granted_

Let this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner in JUNCTION NEWSPAPER, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio

improvements, erected thereon to the following described properties to wit

KATIBAYAN NG ORIHINAL NA TITULO Blg. P-7692 REGISTRY OF **DEEDS OF** BENGUET

Lot No. 1227, Cad 1008_D, Case 3

Beginning at a point marked "1" of Lot No. 1227. Cad 1005-D, Case 3, Publican, Sables, Benguet, being S. 65-10W., 1748.01 m. from BALM No. 1, Cad 1008-D, 5ablan, Benguet thence S. 38-00 W., 18.45 m to point 2; 5.47-3.0

W., 60.82 m. to point 4; N. 55-23 w... 52.83 m to point 6; N_ 19-19 W., 55.94

m. to point 8; S. 17-23 W., 81.27 m. to point 3; S. 56-56 W., 17.43

City and Benguet Province, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later March 1. than 2009.

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

SO ORDERED.

This 25th day of February 2009 at Trinidad, Benguet. By: (SGD0 FRANCIS A. BULIYAT.Sr. Presiding Judge Feb 28 March 7 & 14, 2009

m. to point 7; N. 87-37 E., 91-18 m. to point 1;

THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY (8,740) SQUARE

must be submitted to the undersigned as above stated time and Date. Nonetheless in the event the public should place on the said time and date, it shall be held on March 31, 2009 at the same place and time without further notice.

Interested/ Prospective bidder buyers may investigate to the title/ declaration tax themselves the property herein above-described e n c u m b r a n c e s thereof, if any there be

Let, therefore,

m. to point 5; N. 47-37 E., 86.78

Containing an of EIGHT METERS.XXXXX. All sealed bids

auction not take Trinidad, Benguet

a copy of this No-

cial Sale be published at the JUNC-TION NEWSPAPER, a newspaper o f general circulation. Likewise, let a copy of the same be posted in three conspicuous places, one each in the bulletin board of the Municipal Hall and Post Office of Sablan. Benguet, Regional Trial Court - Office of the Clerk of Court and at the Benguet Provincial Capitol Lobby, all La

La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, 19th day of FEBRUARY, 2009.

FOR THE PROVIN-CIAL SHERIFF **EX-OFFICIO OF** BENGUET

By: (SGD JOSELITO SALES SHERIFF IV

Feb 22 March 1 & 8, 2009

Switch off....

.... from page 9

and should do.

The mayor has directed the Baguio police to safeguard our community during the event. He has called on our barangay leaders to mobilize our barangay tanods and on security agencies to alert their guards.

He has directed the city engineering and general services offices to switch off lights on city roads and city government buildings and asked other agencies and establishments to do the same.

'This simple act, in unison with the rest of the world, will contribute to the fight against global warming for humankind's sustainable future," mayor said.

With us in this are the Department of Energy, Green Army Philippines Network, Earth Day Network, Nobel Peace laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, actress Cate Blanchett and -with you - more than 9,999,999 others all over the world.

"Earh Hour will send a strong signal that people all around the world are deeply concerned and expect their leaders to take action before it's too late," said WWF Director General James Leape.

The "Vote Earth" will be presented to world leaders at the Global Climate Change in Copenhagen in December./ Ramon Dacawi.

JUDICIAL/LEGAL NOTICE

GUANSO.

SR.,

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

INTHE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF MINOR JEAXELENE BAWAS ALICO,

Spouses JUNIE T.
DOMAOA AND
V A L E N T I N A
CARINO DOMAOA,
Petitioners,

X ----X

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE NO. 09-A-0943

ORDER

Petitioner spouses Junie T. Domaoa and Valentina Carino Domaoa.: Filipino Citizens with residence at JF-20 Pica., La Trinidad. Benguet. through counsel, filed this verified petition fm Adoption praying that eater due notice. publication and hearing, the subject of adoption JEA XELENE BAWAS ALICO, be declared free from all obligations with respect to her parents and vice versa be declared for all legal intents and purposes as the adopted child of petitioners sad for draw to acquire the reciprocal tights and obligations arising from parents-child relationship, including the right of said child to use the surname petitioners, henceforth, she will be known as JEA XELENE CARINO DOMAOA aid direct the Local Civil Registrar of Bokod. Benguet to effect said adoption in her Certificate of Live

Considering that a Child and Home Study Report of the Social Worker is an

Rirth

essential requisite in adoption saes, said report should be Submitted to the court before the initial hearing on July 15, 2009 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.

WHEREFORE. the Court Social Worker. Ms. Jacqueline Dontogan is directed to conduct a Home and Child Study Report in this case, incorporating therein her recommendation and to submit the same to the court, furnishing a copy thereof to the trial prosecutor deputized to represent the State.

The petitioners are directed to meet with the said Social Worker, for purposes of the Home and Child Study Report

Let this Order be

published at the expense of the petition" in tree Junction Newspaper, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province, once a week for three(3) consecutive weeks. the first publication to be made not later then March 1,2009. All persons interested way come to Court and show cause, if any, why the petition should not be granted

Furnish copies hereof together with a copy of the petition and its annexes to the Office of the Solicitor General; the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet, the Local Civil Registrar of Bokod. Benguet. the Court Social Worker; the Junction Newspaper the petitioners counsel.

SO ORDERED

This 25th day of February 2009 at La Trinidad, Benguet

By: (SGD0 FRANCIS A. BULIYAT.Sr. Presiding Judge

Feb 28 March 7 & 14, 2009

REPUBLIC OF
THE
PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL
TRIAL COURT
FIRST
JUDICIAL
REGION
OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF
COURT
La Trinidad,
Benguet

IRENE GUANSO,

PetitionerMortgagee,

-versus-

SPS. ROGELIO L. IGUALDO and

OFELIA GIGUALDO,

Respondents-Mortgagors

 $X\hbox{-----} X$

CASE N O. 09-EXF-1340

For; Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage Under Act 3135, As Amended

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for sale under Act 3135 filed by IRENE GUANSO, of legal age, married to JOSEPH

Filipino and residing at JC-34, Km. 5. La Trinidad, Benguet, herein referred to as the Petitioner-Mortgagee, against SPS. ROGELIO L. IGUALDO and OFELIA IGUALDO, both of legal ages, Filipinos and residents of JB-37, %. 4, Central Pica, La Trinidad, Benguet, herein referred to as the Respondents-Mortgagors to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of September 5, 2005 amounts to FOUR HUNDRED EIGH-TEEN THOUSAND HUNDRED SIX FIFTEEN PESOS (Php418,615.00), Philippine Currency , excluding interest and penalties and other charges accruing thereon until fully paid; and all cost and expenses of the foreclosure proceedings, the undersigned deputy sheriff will sell at public auction on March 1[^], 2009 at 10:00 o'clock i n the morning or soon thereafter i n front o f the Benguet Justice Hall (BULWAGAN KATARUNGAN). Justice Hill, La Trinidad, Benguet, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, scribed real property including all improvements thereon and hereinafter called the mortgaged property, to wit:

TAX DECLA-RATION ARP No. 99-016-01748

"Camotal land situated in Wangal, La Trinidad, Benguet known as Assessor's Lot i63 a n d bounded as follows: North by Wt 164; South by Lot 162; East by Lot 164 and West by lit 019, containing an area of .0648has. and assessed a t P770.00 for the c u r r e n tyear."xxxtogether with all improvements now existing or which may hereafter b e erected or constructed therein, which the MORT-GAGORS declare that they the absolute owners. free from any liens and encumand/or brances from any adverse claim whatsoever."

sealed All bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date. Nonetheless, in the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on April 14, 2009 at the same place and time without further notice.

Interested bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of said property and the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Let, therefore, a copy of this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale be published at the JUNCTION, a newspaper o f general circulation. Likewise; let a copy of the same be posted in three conspicuous places, one each in the bulletin boards of the Municipal Hall of La Trinidad: Benguet, Regional Trial Court-Office o f the Clerk o f Court and at the Benguet Provin-Capitol cial Lobby, all at La Trinidad, Benguet.

La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, this 19th day of January, 2009.

FOR THE PROVINCIAL SHERIFF'S EX-OFFICIO OF BENGUET

BY: (SGD)BY: JOHN MARIE O. OCASLA Sheriff IV

Feb 28 March 7 & 14, 2009

Switch off for an hour on march 28

the following de-

Please turn off your lights from 8:30 to 9:30 evening of March 28, when Baguio joins the rest of the country and the world in Earth Hour.

By doing so, you'll help save 560 megawatts of electricity and help the country to contribute 10 million participants to the world goal of reaching out to one billion people in 1,000 cities.

Your doing so will be a vote for Earth and against the biggest threat to life on Earth – global warming.

The World Wildlife Fund took the cue from Australia, where 2.2 million people and 2,100 businesses in Sydney reduced the city's energy consumption by 10.2 per cent in the first Earth Hour on March 31, 2007.

The equivalent effect of that, according to our own Department of Energy, is taking 48,000 exhaustemitting cars off the road for an hour.

M a y o r Reinaldo Bautista Jr. has enjoined all of us for the massive switch-off

But when you do, be sure you've done security measures that you can

Anti -gamling.....

..... from page 1

operation in John Hay.

The mayor said that to date, his office has not received any application for casino operation anywhere in the city and if ever there will be, he will deny the same.

He said his office is also looking into the proliferation of unauthorized lotto outlets in the city.

He said there are at present 22 lotto outlets operating in the city but only four have the necessary permits.

On the bingo action, Association of Barangay Councils (ABC) president Councilor Joel Alangsab, who proposed the resolution to the city council, said he received reports that the bingo operation has been restarted by some punong barangays without the approval of the ABC.

"Since there is no official endorsement from the ABC or the barangays, much less approval for the use of the nomenclature 'Bingo sa Barangay' from the corporation that owns the patent, the legality of this resurgent bingo sa barangay is put into question," he said.

Alangsab said the Bingo sa Barangay was originally planned as a fund-raising activity for the barangays. As such, it was endorsed by the ABC through Resolution No. 10 series of 2008.

The said resolution was later recalled when majority of the ABC board of directors approved a resolution withdrawing support for the activity prompting Alangsab to stop the activity.

On the anti-jueteng front, the manifesto issued by the barangay captains said they endorsed a petition to eradicate the illegal numbers game in their barangays.

"The barangay captains together with their councils are aware of the operation of jueteng in the barangays and despite coordination with authorities, jueteng still proliferates in the city," they stressed.

The punong barangays resolved "to manifest and express support to the continuing drive to stop jueteng in the barangays by reporting to the proper authorities the existence of this illegal activity and pinpointing the locations of their operations."/aileen p. refuerzo

Ombudsman....

..... from page 2

while the complaint is pending, Escudero said it was also voluntary on her part since impeachment proceedings do not grant Congress the power to impose preventive suspension on the officials involved.

"We cannot compel her to take a leave. Delicadeza, nowadays, appears to have gone out of style. It's really up to her. If she feels she has nothing to hide, then why not go on leave?" he said.

Section 3, paragraph 6, article XI of the constitution grants the senate "the sole power to try and decide" all impeachment cases. Senators sit as judges or jurors where they shall be first required to take an oath or

affirmation to do impartial justice.

NEWS

Moreover, the senate can promulgate its own rules on impeachment "to effectively carry out the purpose" laid down by the constitution. to date, the existing set of rules of the senate on impeachment does not provide for suspension of the official subject of the impeachment.

However, impeachment is a separate and independent case. Hence, the official impeached may be prosecuted, tried and punished in accordance with existing laws./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Lawmaker wants....

..... from page 2

the appropriations made by Congress in the national budget. I believe this is wrong, because the Constitution specifically gives Congress power over the purse," Escudero said.

For the purposes of amending these two laws, Escudero filed Senate Resolution No. 900, which urges the Senate Committee on Finance to undertake a review of the prevailing statutes, "with the end in view of reverting to Congress the true power of the purse as prescribed by the Constitution.

He said that the laws allow room for circumventing constitutional limitations on appropriations. As an example, he said, the Executive branch can withhold the release of certain funds set aside for specific purposes by Congress, which can later be deemed as savings but used inappropriately.

"There is so much room for abuse. We cannot allow certain officials like the President to frustrate the policies laid down by Congress in the General Appropriations Act. Every allocation had been set aside for certain purposes and the will of Congress should be respected," Escudero said.

The senator said the decree was promulgated during the Marcos regime, where executive and legislative powers were being exercised by the President. The specific provisions of PD 1177 relating to these powers were copied verbatim into Book VI of EO 292.

"In my opinion, this is not what the framers of the 1973 and 1987 Constitutions had in mind when they imbued the Office of the President and other high officials with some form of power over the national budget.

There is a need to review these laws and consequently amend, or even repeal, them in order to safeguard the allocation and disposition of public funds," he said.

The senator added that the two laws are also the same statutes that provide for automatic debt servicing, "which have financially tied the country without resistance to its debts to the prejudice of the government's ability to provide allocations for its priority programs and projects, like education, housing or job generation."/Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Dads select....

..... from page 3

 $ronmental\ Compliance\ Certificate\ (ECC)\ from\ the\ DENR.$

Construction or development proper will only begin upon satisfaction of these requirements.

Concio said the city plans to develop the first cell which will require a one-hectare area of the lot. He said this cell can contain the city's wastes for three to five years. The succeeding cells can be developed in future.

The city received a total of 42 proposed sites for the landfill project.

The choices were narrowed down to just five after a thorough study by the TWG. The other four are located in Benguet province particularly Palali in Sablan town, Poyopoy in Tuba; and Virac and Antamok in Itogon.

Results of the cost analysis showed that Sto. Tomas would require a total cost of P61 million while the Palali site would need P77 million. Poyopoy would need P147 million; Virac, P164 million while Antamok would cost the most at P186 million.

The cost assessment includes the development of access road and initial landfill development. Antamok's cost was highest because it included the restoration of an old riverbed.

Mayor Bautista earlier expressed preference for the Sto. Tomas site saying it is the most viable as it will require less cost and would not require the city to deal with other local governments in fulfilling the requirement for social acceptance./aileen p. refuerzo

Farinas: Bid....

..... from page 3

must take advantage of the opportunity to maximize the income generation capacity of the plants "so that the delivery of basic services to its constituents will not be delayed because of funding problems."

"There is a need therefore to authorize the Honorable City Mayor to negotiate and accept bids for the operation of the Asin Hydroelectric Power Plants for its immediate and full operation," he said.

Farinas' measure will be tackled by the city council soon./aileen p. refuerzo

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby taken that the estate of the late SALVADOR T. DICANG, who died intestate on December 10, 2008 at Baguio Ci,y, Philippines, was the subject of an Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate by his surviving heirs on February 16, 2009 and recorded in Notarial Registry of Isagani Z. Mamaril as Doc. No. 159; Page No. 032; Book No. IV; Series of 2009.

Feb 22 March 1 & 8, 2009

Dads peg....

..... from page 3

The local finance committee led by city treasurer Thelma Manaois, budget officer Leticia Clemente and city accountant Antonio Tabin recommended that the city stick by the P950 figure warning that increasing the figure might result to a deficit or a drop in future budgets due to the projected shortfall in the Philippine Export Zone Authority (PEZA) and Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) shares this year and the comparatively low turnout of realty and business tax payments due to the prevailing economic crisis.

They said the city must stick to a conservative budget to cushion any shortfall in revenue collection.

The council's approval of the figure resolved the income component of the city's financial plan.

Farinas said the expenditure aspect will be tackled next with each councilor assigned to handle the budgets of two city departments. There are 28 departments in the city government.

After the assignments are completed, the body will collate all inputs for final deliberation in one session.

Farinas said they intend to complete the process before March 19 to beat the deadline for the budget approval./aileen p. refuerzo

DOLE....

..... from page 12

ployed.

The Department of Public Works and Highways are in need of engineers, carpenters and plumbers who are on the look out for temporary jobs for the 1,260 projects nationwide.

DPWH continues to call for applicants because the recent job fair in its offices netted only 2,000.

Likewise, the police and the Armed Forces are looking for warm bodies.

The Philippine National Police recruitment is part of the executive directive to recruit 15,000 police officer Is (POIs) in five years which started in

These new bloods, totaling 7,000, will replace the retiring, dead and dismissed police officers in the last semester of 2008 and for the first semester of 2009.

Applicants will go through series of examinations and training. Those who passed will have the year-long Field Training Program (FTP) at the Police National Training Institute.

And for those considering military careers, the Armed Forces of the Philippines has 6,7000 slots which will be divided among the Army, the Airforce, the Navy and the technical services.

Applicants should be 18 to 23 year olds, physically fit and have obtained at least 72 college units.

And just like their counterparts in the police, applicants must pass examinations and trainings./PIA

Certificate....

..... from page 12

to Washington, Willy C. Gaa, awarded a certificate of appreciation to Filner and his colleagues who pushed the bill to its successful conclusion two weeks ago.

Aside from Filner, other Representatives who supported the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" (ARRA) were Mike Honda, also of California; Hawaii's Mazie Hirono, and Guam's Madeleine Bordallo, who were all present to receive their awards.

Also honored but were not unable to receive their awards in person were California's Darrell Issa, Dana Rohrabacher and Rep. Xavier Becerra, Texas' Chet Edwards, Virginia's Bobby Scott, and Hawaii's Neil Abercrombie. Hawaii's Sen. Daniel Inouye led the procompensation contingent in the U.S. Senate.

Filner and Honda received a token of "Fighting Filipinos" poster from Gaa in recognition of their leadership for Filipino veterans. The reception at the Cannon House Office Building was also attended by close to 90 people, comprised of leaders and members of the Filipino community, veterans groups, legislative staffers and embassy officials.

During the reception, the legislators congratulated the veterans on their victory and expressed their appreciation for the Filipino veterans' patience and faith amid efforts to accord them their well-deserved recognition and benefits.

Among the veterans was 92-year-old Celestino Almeda, who particularly mentioned President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo "for standing by (us) in (our) long quest for justice and equity." Almeda is acknowledged as one of the most active US-based lobbyists in the U.S. Congress.

In a report to the Department of Foreign Affairs about the awards night, the embassy said Almeda was joyful and happy with the outcome of his decades-long efforts. Almeda was quoted to have said "one cannot truly appreciate the light if one has not been subjected to the darkness," as he recounted the suffering and ordeal that he and his fellow veterans experienced and witnessed during the war.

The "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) signed by President Barack Obama last February 17, provides for a lump sum payment of USD9,000 for Filipino veterans and other non-Americans USD15,000 for American citizens. Qualified veterans have until February 16 next year to file their claims. The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs said only living veterans can make claims and estimated there are about 20,000 of them./PIA

Chiz questions....

..... from page 12

vesting the government's resources in the Philippines, she is actually exporting our financial resources.

Escudero added that with the country already in crisis, the President should have stayed here instead to resolve such problems.

"I'm sure Asean wouldn't mind if our share was miniscule. But since we were among those who actively pursued the creation of the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI), we are forced to take a more prominent role."

The CMI was established shortly after the Asian financial crisis in 1997 with the aim of creating a network of bilateral swap agreements among the Asean + three countries (China, Japan, South Korea) to address short-term liquidity problems in the region and to supplement existing financial arrangements

The regional financial meltdown made Asean and East Asian nations aware of the importance of promoting regional financial cooperation to prevent it from happening again and also to ensure sustained economic growth.

Originally, the CMI was intended to be a currency pool for the region, with the bulk to be come from China, Japan and South Korea. However, the economies of the three are now facing a recession while the 10 members of Asean have yet to agree on how much they would contribute.

"The government should put our eggs in our own basket. It should take the lead in showing confidence in the Philippine economy by spending inwards and fill the vacuum that will be left by the global economic slowdown"./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Filipino seamen....

..... from page 12

Japanese ship owners have opened up maritime crew training facilities in the Philippines, even

before the ratification of the Japan Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA).

Filipino seamen comprise a major segment of the overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) sector and have consistently been a major source of dollar remittances that help prop up the country's domestic economy for years now.

Doris Magsaysay-Ho, president and chief executive officer of Magsaysay Maritime Corporation, the largest manning company in the country, said there are over 28,000 Filipinos currently working on Japanese ships who remitted over more than \$3 billion last year.

With more than 25 years of maritime partnership between Japan and the Philippines, Ho said Filipinos now comprise 55 percent of the membership of the All Japan Seaman's Union and are classified as non-domiciled special members.

Under the JPEPA, Hagiwara said Japan also has widely opened its doors to Filipino nurses and caregivers./PIA

DOLE bats for online job interviews

The Department of Labor and Employment is pushing for jobs interviews via the internet.

Labor Secre-Marianito tary Roque proposed at the recent multisectoral job summit in Malacanang the adoption o f internet technology to reduce cost of job hunting for the unemployed.

Roque said internet facilities, which can be set up in DOLE regional offices, will bridge the distance between applicants and their prospective employers who are based abroad.

TESDA reported Filipinos are preferred workers in Canada, Australia and in the Middle East in sectors of health care and construction.

Meanwhile, districts engineering offices, police stations and military camps are opening their doors to the unem-

Cont. on page 11

Certificate of appreciation awarded to U.S. lawmakers who pushed for WWII compensation

MĀNILA, March 4 (PNA) — The Philippine government has officially recognized the key role that American legislators played in the successful passage of a U.S. legislation with a provision for additional compensation of USD198 million for World War II veterans.

At a reception on February 26 hosted by California Rep. Bob Filner at Capitol Hill, Philippine ambassador

Cont. on page 11

Filipino seamen man more than 70% of **Japan's maritime operations**

MANILA (PND) — Filipino seamen are world-class and over 70 percent of Japanese maritime operations are now manned by Filipinos, a Japanese business leader informed President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo recently.

Toshitaka Hagiwara, senior advisor of Komatsu Ltd., bared this information at the 28th joint meeting of the Japan-Philippines Economic Coopera-Committee tion (JPECC) and its Manila counterpart, the Philippine-Japan Economic Cooperation Committee (PHILJEC), which the

President keynoted today, Friday at the Manila Peninsula Hotel in Makati City. Hagiwara is the chairman for JPECC.

Komatsu Ltd., is a world leading manufacturer and distributor of construction and mining equipment, utilities and industrial machinery. The company been operating in the Philippines for decades.

"Over 200,000 Filipino citizens now live in Japan. In addition, and this is not so widely known, Japanese maritime shipping operations now rely on Filipino sailors for about 70 percent of their crew members," Hagiwara said.

Hagiwara said most

Cont. on page 11





BRISK BUSINESS - An enterprising pony boy becomes the center of attraction down Session Road during the "Session Road In Bloom" as local and foreign tourist take a snap shot as they mount his pony for a fee./By Bong Cayabyab

Chiz questions RP contribution to

Asean fund

Sen. Escudero asked where President Arroyo would get the funds for the Philippines' contribution to a proposed billion-dollar "rescue fund" that will serve as an emergency credit line for the members of the regional grouping in

crisis.

Mrs. Arroyo made the proposal during the recent Association of Southeast Nations Asia (Asean) summit held in Cha-am. Thailand. She said the government plans to give at least \$3.6 billion (about P150 bil-

times of economic lion) to the fund.

"There is a disconnect here. Funds are needed here badly to keep jobs, or even hire more, create business, raise taxes, conserve dollars, retain talent, prevent factory closures" Escudero said.

He said instead of the President in-

Cont. on page 11

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