

# THE WEEKEND JUNCTION



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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

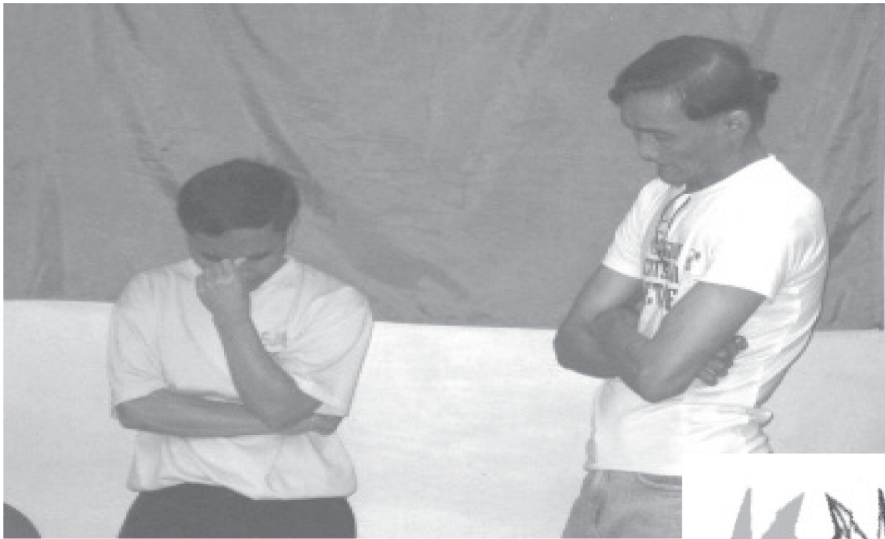
BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

***Pahayagang******palaban!!!***

## Guilty Beyond Reasonable Doubt

*Wal II's Gunman Receives Sentencing*



BAGUIO CITY- After nearly 3 years, the gunman of a college student was finally sentenced to 40 years of imprisonment, while the mastermind still remains in hiding.

Baguio RTC 3 Judge Fernando Vil Pamintuan, on November 26, in his 39-page Decision, found the gunman of the late Jude Wal II, guilty beyond reasonable doubt and sent him to Muntinlupa to serve the rest of his 40-year jail time.

It is to be recalled that Jude Wal II, a very

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*The accused Rolando Tomon [at left] and Ernesto Genetiano [the triggerman] in the killing of Jude Wal II listening to their very guilty sentence at the Regional Trial Court Branch 3, sala of the Hon. Fernando Vila Pamintuan./Photo by Odell P. Aquino*

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**KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS**

*"Rotary service must be understood everywhere"*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



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## City renews fight against AIDS

BAGUIOCITY—hundreds of supporters joined the Fun Run Friday morning to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual HIV/Aids Conference here.

Spearheaded by the Aids Watch Council, Inc. (AWAC), Session Road turned bright red as hundreds jogged down hill to be part of the Fun Run dubbed "Run for Aids" which culminated at the Baguio Convention Center.

Participants are mostly from the Baguio Association of Restaurants and Bars (BARS), the Baguio City HIV Surveillance Team, City

Health Services Office-Reproductive and Wellness Center (RHWC), Department of Health-Center for Health Development (DOH-CHD-CAR), DOTC Action Team and Transpharma Inova Pharmaceuticals.

The event is to highlight the celebration of World Aids Day themed "Universal Access and Human Rights".

The celebration is also to promote the fight against the dreaded disease and to issue a statement that different sectors are doing something to stop its spread.

The campaign

against aids has been strengthened due to the increasing number of cases being reported in the country.

Though the number of persons positive for Aids in the city remain to be low compared to other areas in the country, it is still the priority of health workers to work double time to insure its containment.

Authorities believe Aids can be prevented if we follow three simple practices which include abstaining from sex, being faithful to one partner and using the condom./paul.rillorta

## City Granted Power to Screen Ancestral Land Claims

BAGUIOCITY

— The city government will now have a hand in the processing of applications for certificates of ancestral land claims (CALCs) as it was granted the authority to screen these applications through a local screening body before they can be handled by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP).

Mayor Mauricio Domogan bared this last Wednesday saying the NCIP has passed a resolution mandating the creation of a city clear-

ing committee to screen CALCs in the city.

This development boosts the city's bid to protect its land and avoid a repeat of the Forbes Park lot fiasco where large tracts of forest land had been issued Certificates of Ancestral Land Title (CALT) under dubious circumstances.

The mayor said this was an offshoot of their meeting last year between city officials led by him then in his capacity as congressman, then mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. and national government officials Oversight Committee on In-

digenous Peoples (IP) chair Sylvestre Bello III and NCIP Secretary Eugenio Insigne in the wake of the Forbes Park lot controversy.

He said that during the meeting, it was agreed that no processing of CALTs will take place unless these had been cleared by the local screening body.

The NCIP issued Resolution No. 090 series of 2009 establishing the Clearing Committee that will initially screen and evaluate applications before the same can be acted by the NCIP.

A screening  
Cont. on page 10

## Spare Children from Firecrackers - DOH

BAGUIOCITY — With the data that majority of firecracker related injuries reported last year involved children as victims, the 'Iwas Paputok' campaign of the Department of Health (DOH) for this year focuses on children. According to Dr. Donna Tubera of the City Health Services Office, firecracker-related injuries during the Christmas and new year revelry decreased by

26 percent compared to that of 2009. However about 50 percent or half of the firecracker related injuries reported involved children below 11 years old.

For the Cordillera region, DOH-CAR 'Iwas Paputok' coordinator Elnoria Bugnosen, reported that 58 of 84 cases or 69 percent of the fire cracker related injuries recorded last year involved children below 15 years old. Of the total, six were 0-4

years old, 25 belonged to 5-9 years old bracket and 27 were 10 to 14 years old children.

DOH data also showed that a 9 year old boy, in San Juan Abra was hit by a stray bullet and three other children have their fingers amputated and some suffered eye injuries

The data of fire related injuries came from the reports of the various hospitals in the region within the monitoring period of Dec 21 to January 4 This

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## POSD, Bocap trade Legal blows over BRGY. Malcolm Gambling den raid

BAGUIOCITY — "They were trying to elude us, scampering in all directions when we approached the target site. When we got there, there were no bingo players save for three

suspected hired hands operating what seemed to be jueteng."

Thus, related Public Order and Safety Division (POSD) chief Fernando Moyaen of events transpiring

during joint POSD-Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) raid of a suspected gambling lair at 22 Jacinto St., Barangay Malcolm Square, November 29.

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## JUETENG NOTICE TO OUR DEAR READERS

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The Junction- OIC



THE JUNCTION

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## Composting Machines due Dec. 8

BAGUIOCITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan Wednesday said the delivery of the awaited Environment Recycling System (ERS) waste composting machines has been moved from Dec. 2 to Dec. 8.

But the slight delay in the expected time of arrival of the machines would not put the city behind its target schedule of installing the units before Christmas day, the mayor said.

He said the Japanese firm that would supply the machines had assured that the machines would arrive in the country by Saturday (Dec. 4) and

will be transported to the city on Dec. 8.

The Japanese technicians are also expected to arrive in the city on Dec. 4 to begin ground preparations for the installation of the machines at the Irisan dumpsite area. Installation and break-in would take around ten days, the mayor was told.

But even if the machines are not yet installed, the Japanese subsidiary Pro Tech Machinery Corporation assured that it will begin hauling out the city's wastes this week. The hauling will be for free as per the memorandum

of agreement earlier signed by the parties.

The mayor did not allot any funding for hauling out wastes beginning January next year banking on the deal with Pro Tech.

The ERS machines are expected to convert 48 tons out of the 66 tons of biodegradable wastes of the city daily.

The remaining 18 tons will be composed using other existing technologies of the city.

The company also will also take charge of hauling out residual wastes./ A Refuerzo

## DOH Warns Public Vs Counterfeit Drugs, Vitamins/Food Supplements

BAGUIOCITY – The Department of Health (DOH) reiterates its warning to the public against counterfeit drugs and vitamins/food supplements already proliferating in the market.

According to DOH Regional Director Myrna Cabotaje, counter-

feit drugs may contain harmful ingredients or lack the necessary ingredients and have low concentration of active ingredients, which could affect its efficacy.

Cabotaje also stressed that all drugs or medicines being sold in the country must pass or register with the

Food and Drug Administration or (FDA). 'Imported drug or medicines brought in the country is also considered as counterfeit drug because it is not registered under FDA', Cabotaje added.

Meantime, DOH-CAR Licensing, Regulation and

Cont. on page 10

## DOH Brings Philippine Generics EXPO 2010 to Baguio City

BAGUIOCITY – With more and more people now buying generic drugs, the Department of Health (DOH) in partnership with SM Supermalls conducted last Monday the Baguio leg of the Philippine Generics Expo 2010 at the SM City Baguio.

The cutting of ribbon for the opening of the Expo was led by DOH Assistant Secretary Elmer Punzalan. He was joined by Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP) AVP Mr. Eufe Tantia, Mr. Rodolfo Kintanar of Philippine Chamber of Pharmaceutical Industry Inc. (PCPI) and DOH-Cordillera Regional Director Myrna Cabotaje.

According to Cabotaje, the Gener-

ics Expo aims to further promote awareness on the use of Generics Drug as a quality, safe and affordable medicines to the public.

'We want the people know that through Generics, there are equivalent drugs that are affordable and with same quality and efficacy as the branded ones,' Cabotaje stressed.

A recent SWS survey shows that 55 percent of Filipino people who are buying drugs and medicines are now going for generics drugs.

In his message, Punzalan called on everybody especially the media to help in the advocacy and promotion of the use of Generics drugs so that the people would know that there are affordable, quality

and safe drugs.

'Kami ay nananawagan na tayo ay magtulungan para gawing mura ang gamot. Huwag na nating antayin na marami pa ang pumanaw dahil sa hindi makabili ng mahal na mga gamot. Ang gamot at kalusugan ay karapatan ng bawat Pilipino,' Punzalan said.

The Asec advised the public to ask their doctors about the generics counterpart of their prescribed medicines. He also shared that he was hospitalized at the Philippine Hearth Center and he survived by using generics for his maintenance drugs.

Punzalan also assured that generics drugs have the same efficacy as it passed through the strict

**ILLEGAL PARKERS BEWARE. Traffic policemen remove the plate of this illegally parked vehicle along Session Road as the city's traffic enforcers are strictly implementing traffic rules in the city to lessen the worsening traffic situation especially along the city's major thoroughfares.** GRACE BANDROY



## City on the Double to Reclaim, Protect Forbes Lot

BAGUIOCITY – The city government has stepped up anew efforts to protect and recover the lots within Forbes Park forest reservation which were issued Certificates of Ancestral Land Title (CALTs) in favor of the heirs of Lauro Carantes.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan

Wednesday said he will bat for the intervention of President Benigno Aquino III in urging the Solicitor General to file for the reversion of the CALTs issued by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) over the lots to enable the city to reclaim and further protect them.

The mayor said

it was one of the concerns he intended to take up with the President during his visit here last week had he been given the chance to confer with Aquino.

The mayor said the city had to raise its guard over the area as the land claimants have reportedly begun constructions on the

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

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno

www.linisgobyerno.org



## The Polite Word

"The pendulum of the mind alternates between sense and nonsense, not between right and wrong," Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung wrote. Wait. Doesn't that fit President Benigno Aquino III's waffling on the Freedom of Information bill? He oscillated from fervid "cross-my-heart" support to aw-shucks back pedaling.

In contrast, Corazon and Benigno Aquino Jr stood, without ifs and buts, for transparency in government. Did it ever occur to P-Noy that his waffling smudges the "draw-the-sand-line" stance his parents took?

Recall the 14th Congress' closing day... Prospero Nograles (Davao) and Pedro Romualdo (Camiguin) led pro-Arroyo congressmen in that hoary swindle dubbed "slaughter by roll call."

## EDITORIAL

Only 128 House members showed up ---seven short of the 135 needed merely to

ratify an FOI committee report, already approved by the Senate and Lower House... Some congressmen had been discreetly shooed away. All the Arroyos, were "no-shows": Diosdado M.; Ignacio T.; Maria Lourdes and Juan Miguel.

So did congressmen who whitewashed the World Bank road bidding scandal: Reps. Elpidio Bragaza and Roger Mercado. Malalcanang allies Jesus Crispin Remulla; Pastor Alcover, Jovito Palparan vanished.

"In doing so, they built another "firewall" for the anticipated--now coming to pass --exposes of sleaze against their patron: Gloria Macapagal Arroyo", Viewpoint noted then. "They fractured the Constitutional directive for transparency". The FOI bill would have implemented that mandate.

The day after the Lower House "massacre", the President pledged to fast track FOI in the current Congress. Thus, Rep. Lorenzo "Erin" Tanada (4th District, Quezon) predicted early approval of a reintroduced measure. That'd make FOI the "very first legacy" of the 15th Congress under the Aquino III administration," Tanada declared.

An FOI would give citizens "access to official records, documents and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions, or decision." That'd cover the politically volatile area of tax money.

In addition, government research data, used as basis for policy development, shall be afforded the citizen subject to limitations provided by law.

An FOI is not new. Sweden put the first FOI ever, on it's law books, in 1766. The opposition had been denied financial data on the party in power's spending. Since then, 85 countries have adopted FOIs of varying effectivity.

"Interminable delays and stonewalling in requests for information led the US to write an FOI law in 1966 (amended in 1974) South Africa adopted an FOI after apartheid's collapse.

"All indicate a fundamental shift in governance that recognizes the ownership by people of government information," notes "Comparative Media Law Journal. All of this before WikiLeaks too.

But "fortune has a fickle heart and a short memory," the Chinese proverb warns. In his first State of the Nation address, P-Noy didn't spare a line about retrieving the gutted FOI measure.

"Many of us are puzzled. This (is) an uncharacteristic omission" by the President," fretted Inquirer columnist Cielito Habito, "No one beyond P-Noy's innermost circle seems to know the real reason for the omission. One can only hope it's not an ominous sign that enemies of transparency are gaining some headway in the new leadership."

"Man does not live by bread alone, although he sometimes must swallow them," the late Adlai Stevenson once said. P-Noy's underlings swallow his grand pledges on the FOI piecemeal.

In a 4-page statement to the House public information committee, Presidential Communications Operations Office head Herminio Coloma Jr., without blinking, "expressed concern that

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## KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*"Rotary service must be understood everywhere"*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



**ROTARY PUBLIC IMAGING TO BE WAGED ON NATIONAL LEVELS:** Public imaging (or "public relations" for others) which will brand the kind of service Rotarians give to the poor and the disadvantaged will now have to be waged on national levels in 2011-2012 to make Rotary more appreciated and better understood in the Rotarians' individual countries, incoming Rotary International (RI) President Kalyan Banerjee said the other day.

In a meeting with the members of RI Public Imaging Resource Groups for the Pacific (led by past District 3810 Gov. Lyne Abanilla of the Manila Bulletin) and Zone 7 (Philippines and Indonesia, led by past District 3830 Gov. Chit Lijauco of Philippine Tattler Magazine) on December 1, 2010, Banerjee at the same time strongly commended Filipino Rotarians for doing a "tremendous job" of promoting Rotary through public relations in media.

Banerjee and his wife were in the Philippines for a two-day visit, principally to preside over the "10<sup>th</sup> Philippine Conference on Rotary Concerns" held under the auspices of the Philippine College of Rotary Governors at the swanky Crowne Plaza Hotel in Pasig City. The college is an association of all past district governors of Philippine Rotary.

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**NEW ROTARY PREXY BARES PLANS:** Excerpts of the other points Banerjee discussed with Abanilla, Lijauco and other members of Rotary's PR team from the Philippines:

O Rotary International (RI) is changing the way it looks at public imaging. While nobody in RI talked about this before, and public imaging was a matter addressed only to the club presidents so that public relations efforts lacked continuity, Rotarians will now undertake PR activities at the highest levels in every country.

O Rotary will now seek a "national cohesive image" for Rotarians in their respective countries, giving Rotary districts (which is the grouping of different Rotary clubs in a contiguous territory) the responsibility to come up with public imaging projects, by themselves or in cooperation with other districts in the country.

O This "national cohesive image" envisions Rotary to be better known, better involved and more responsive on issues of far bigger importance to a particular country or territory.

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**ROTARY TO USE SOCIAL NETWORKS:** Banerjee, who hails

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## 1st-APLUMA!

*Si Boy na lang sana*

I HOPE that Tourism Secretary Alberto Lim is sincere when he said that all stakeholders will be consulted before coming out with a new tourism thrust, after the scrapping of the much-maligned "Pilipinas Kay Ganda" theme.

Tourism Congress, a federation of 75 tourism associations, said Lim failed to consult them regarding the rebranding of DOT's programs.

The group said the embarrassment that "Pilipinas Kay Ganda" caused the DOT could have been prevented if they were only consulted.

Some officials of Tourism Congress also revealed that Lim does not recognize the organization for opposing his appointment to the post.

How could Lim do this? Tourism Congress is an entity created by the Tourism Act of 2009 to act as the private sector consultative body to assist the government in the development of tourism policies and programs.

How could you ignore the organization created by law to help DOT? Unless Lim wants to create an impression that he can do it all by himself, just like what happened to "Pilipinas Kay Ganda".

Lim should know that tourism is a very critical aspect of the economy and he needs everyone's help to make it succeed. He is not a one-man show. Lim should remember that there is no "I" in the word TEAM.

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Lim, as executive director of Makati Business Club then, was a prominent figure during the past administration as he often criticized the business direction of the Arroyo government.

Lim's scathing comments about the Arroyo government landed him on pages of broadsheets and tabloids. Lim's opinions even made a believer out of me, seeing him as an ideal man for the job.

But after what happened to "Pilipinas Kay Ganda", I sincerely believe that Noy noy made a colossal mistake in appointing Lim instead of talent manager Boy Abunda.

Abunda was being pushed by 1st-APLUMA, the group which I head, as Tourism Secretary before Aquino appointed Lim to the post.

With his broad talent on promotions, truly Boy Abunda could have been a better choice as Tourism secretary as we said before.

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Kung may dapat isumbong na mga abusadong "boss" sa trabaho o government officials, problemang medical atbp., isumbong n'yo sa 1st-APLUMA (website (<http://1st-apluma.yolasite.com>)). Just provide us all the details through our Public Serbilis section. You can also email them through [unangapluma@yahoo.com](mailto:unangapluma@yahoo.com).

### Editorial

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some provisions of the FOI bill may hinder or endanger government operations."

"There's a need to balance the broader right advocated by the bills with ensuring that government operations will not be paralyzed by gratuitous requests for information," he said. Provisions granted access to information that government decision-makers or project managers currently use. Offices could be swamped by an overload of requests for access to information.

Malacañang belatedly discovered that the Constitution spells out "very limited instances where the president is given the privilege of certifying a bill as urgent, as in calamities, presidential spokeswoman Abigail Valte scrambled to add. "That's another reason for the President's decision not to certify the bill as urgent."

What is the polite word for B.S.? "Bovine ordure" constitutionalist Joaquin Bernas suggested in describing, if I recall right, Bicol gerrymandering to accommodate GMA's son.

Look at how the US Freedom of Information Act has operated. It processes about 2 million requests a year. More than half deal with veterans tracing documents. About five percent came media.

## Pepeng Victims in Baguio to be Relocated in Benguet

BAGUIO CITY. — At least 220 families affected by typhoon Pepeng in Baguio City will be relocated at a project site of the National Housing Authority in Tadiangan, Tuba in Benguet.

Baguio City Councilor Isabelo Cosalan, Committee Chair on Housing and Urban Planning said that the NHA has approved the request of allotment of lands for typhoon Pepeng victims.

The area although located in Tuba and beyond the political boundary of the city was identified by the NHA as relocation site, Cosalan said. The location is a stone throw away from Irisan Barangay, he added.

The one storey house will be built on a 40 square meter lot which includes two rooms with a kitchen, living room and comfort room. This is not much but at least it will help the families who suffered during the typhoon, said Cosalan.

Cosalan explained that the house that would be built for the beneficiaries is payable in a very minimal payment at a very economical payment scheme. The beneficiaries will be allowed to pay these houses in the next 30 years. They will pay P250 for the first five years and P500 for the succeeding months until 30 years or until payment will be completed.

Beneficiaries are typhoon victims particularly from Cresencia Village, Irisan, Bakakeng Central, parts of Minesview and City Camp. The list of names is already with the screening committee of NHA and the city government.

Cosalan cleared that most of the listed beneficiaries have totally damaged houses during the wrath of typhoon Pepeng.

The area in Tadiangan is already being developed by the NHA. Roads are in place and other infrastructure will follow. Utility services will also be available as soon as the area will fully be developed, Cosalan added. /Redjie Cawis/ PIA

## 2 Killed, 3 Injured In A Vehicular Mishap In Kalinga

TABUK, Kalinga - Two people were killed while three others were injured after the tricycle they were riding was hit by a speeding passenger jeep at around 9:00PM last Nov. 28 along Roxas St. in Dagupan, Tabuk, Kalinga.

Killed were Isabelita Segoma, 45, resident of Laya East, Tabuk City and Fernando Anog, businessman and a resident of Dagupan West, Tabuk City. Injured were Alexander Segoma, the husband of Isabelita and their two daughters, Arlene 13, and Arni Jaden, 6.

According to Alexander Segoma, driver of the ill fated tricycle, they were heading home after a religious fellowship when while traversing the provincial road particularly at the intersection of Roxas St. they were hit by a jeepney driven by a certain Dominador Estoque of Dagupan West, Tabuk. The jeepney he said dragged the tricycle a few meters from the impact area.

The crossing was only a few meters away from the house of Fernando Anog, whom the Segomas are about to drop off before heading home.

The driver of the PUJ including the vehicles involved are now under the custody of the Tabuk police. \*\* ggdmallig/PIA-Kalinga

Cory Aquino dismantled the Marcos censorship machine and smashed padlocks on the papers and broadcast stations. "The media's power is frail," she said from bitter experience. "Without the people's support, it can be shut off with the ease of turning a light switch.

At the Inquirer's 25th anniversary meet, PNoy recalled his father lived by the belief that --quoting Ninoy -- "A free media is indispensable if a democracy is to function efficiently, if it is to be real. The people, who are sovereign, must be adequately informed all the time."

PNoy can always plead loss of memory, of course. After all, "the pendulum of the mind alternates between sense and nonsense, not between right and wrong." But for PNoy to spurn his parents' sterling legacy is ---what's is the polite word for dung?/J.L. Mercado

## Christmas in Baguio activities bared

BAGUIO CITY – Activities are plentiful this month in the city: athletics, lighting up, spiritual musicals, family-oriented events; environmental and health-focused programs, and a grand fireworks display to cap the season of nativity.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan last week during the regular Ugnayan detailed out the festivities and invited the general public to “celebrate with us,” this season. There are events and awesome sights which would serve as “feast for the eyes,” he said.

The month opened with a colorful mardigras parade in the morning along Session road for daycare children, with the formal lighting of the giant Christmas tree at the lower portion of the same road in the evening. Both activities saw city officials led by Mayor Mauricio Domogan.

At Abad Santos Drive, Burnham Park, a Christmas Village and bazar with echo environment, recyclable, health products and services shall run up to January 2.

December 1 marked the start of the City of Lights competition, citywide, up to January 2 of next year. Judges shall be going around to evaluate lighted-up houses and business establishments.

Burnham Park and City Hall grounds were brightened up Thursday evening, Dec. 2, with Mayor Domogan switching on the lights as witnessed by guests and spectators. The event was joined by the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) grounds being lighted up at 6PM on the same date. Centennial celebrant Saint Louis University (SLU) also lighted up Session road going to Melvin Jones with a lantern parade Saturday evening of Dec. 4, before the first-ever 15-minute snow show at the upper portion of the city’s main road.

Enchanted lake of lights is also featured today, Sunday, at Burnham Lake; with a romantic repeat: “Venetian Night” at the same venue on December 18.

Scheduled snow shows shall be done at 6PM on Dec. 5, 10, 11, 12, 16 up to the 31<sup>st</sup>, except Dec. 27 and 28. Artificial snow shall fall for fifteen (15) minutes for city folks at upper Session road.

Sports activities include the Kafagway Sportsfest on December 12 at Malcolm Square, and Sumo Soccer on Dec. 12 and 19 at Melvin Jones, Burnham Park. A photo walk is scheduled on Dec. 20 at the Igorot bandstand.

Musical treats start today, December 5, with the Baguio City Lights and Music Festival at Abad Santos Drive, the Drum and Lyre Parade Competition on December 8 along Session road to Melvin Jones, Burnham Park.

On Dec. 12, there will be a Children’s Christmas Cantata during regular worship service at the United Church of Christ of the Philippines (UCCP) at Westside, Burnham Park while the Christmas Offering Presentation “One Voice, One Melody,” shall be at 4 PM, at the SM Event Center.

The elimination round for Christmas Rhythm will be on Dec. 13-15 at the Baguio Convention Center, the Maryknoll Sanctuary Choir Concert will be at the Baguio Cathedral on Dec. 18 at 7:30 PM; with the finale at the Melvin Jones Grandstand on Dec. 22.

A Christmas cantata by the youth and adults shall be done during regular worship services at the UCCP; while awarding of the drum and lyre competition shall be on Dec. 22, 7PM at the Melvin Jones Grandstand. An Ecumenical concert dubbed as “Worship Explosion,” will be on Dec. 31 at 8 PM to 1 AM at the Baguio Convention Center.

On December 7 to 10, the City Social Welfare and Development Office conducts the quest for the Lucky Christmas Family, December 11 will be a “Special Day for Special People” at Malcolm Square, December 22 is Share-a-Toy day at the SM events center, and December 26 is Baguio Lucky Balikbayan Christmas day at Sunshine Park.

December 7 at the SM events center is reserved for a Christmas Cultural Special Events; Dec. 8 is Immaculate Conception Day and Aurora Hill Fiesta; Dec. 16-24 is the annual simbang gabi in various churches in the city; Dec. 18-19 will showcase “Parol on Wheels,” along Session road.

Dec. 30 is a regular holiday being Rizal Day; and on December 31, the whole nation welcomes New Year with a grand fireworks display at the Melvin Jones Grandstand./juliegfianza

## Communities Urged To Address Malnutrition

BAGUIO CITY

–The communities are urged to do help address malnutrition as it remains to be a challenge for the Cordillera region even

Department of Health (DOH-CAR) Regional Director Dr. Myrna Cabotaje bared that even though malnutrition rate in the region is 20 percent lower compared to the national prevalence of 26.2 percent, there are still some problematic areas. Abra, she said, has a 40 percent malnutrition prevalence.

During the Regional Nutrition Awarding ceremony here last week, Cabotaje stressed that there is no national strategy in combating malnutrition. We have to accept the fact, see the problem and localize our strategy. We need the help of all sectors, she said.

Through this nutrition awarding, we hope that we inspire others to work better for the development of our fellow Cordillerans,’ Cabotaje added.

The event’s keynote speaker, Ms. Ellen Villate, the Country Director of Helen Keller International, an NGO devoted to preventing blindness and reducing malnutrition in the world, shared the same view.

According to Villate, the work of nutrition

workers is not easy and no matter how hard the work is, nutrition problem remains to be a task but they should not lose hope as there are reason to do more.

Villate challenged the Barangay Nutrition Scholars to continue with their work and keep up the high performance. ‘Commitment should be stronger than the obstacle,’ she said.

She also compared the Barangay Nutrition Workers with the International Cable News Network (CNN) heroes who are honored for the simple things they have done that changes life.

‘The simple things you did in the barangays for nutrition - giving vitamin A supplement, counselling mothers on breastfeeding/ complementary feeding and teaching mothers to plant vegetables in their backyard, on birth spacing etc. There is a long list of simple things that you do and if we do it collectively and as many, we really can change the picture,’ Villate said.

“We have to work hand-in-hand with the people in the community,” she stressed.

The said awarding was initiated by the Cordillera Regional Nutrition Council

(RNC) headed by the National Nutrition Council (NNC-CAR). Having failed to hold an awarding last year, the RNC awarded both the 2008 and 2009 Outstanding Nutrition Program Implementers and Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars.

NNC-CAR OIC June Falancy and DILG Assistant Regional Director Robert Mangangay, joined Cabotaje and Villate in giving the awards.

For the Regional Outstanding Nutrition Program Implementer – Provincial level, the province of Ifugao won the Green Banner Award for both 2008 and 2009. In the Municipal level, Green Banner awardees were Asipulo, Ifugao (2009) and Lagawe, Ifugao (2008).

For the 2008 Outstanding Barangay Scholars, Ms. Mila Buya of Sagubo, Kapaangan Benguet won First Place, followed by Ms. Rosa Gano of Hungduan and Ma. Lourdes Gamueda of Baguio City.

For the 2009 Outstanding Barangay Scholars, Ms. Magdalena Sacpa of Central Kapaangan, Benguet won first place, followed by Ms. Jocelyn Tognaon of Amduntog, Asipulo, Ifugao and Ms. Rosalina Caya-os of Irian, Baguio City, who won second and third places, respectively./Lito Dar/PIA



## SLU to Establish a Halfway Home for Boys

BAGUIO CITY – Saint Louis University (SLU) is celebrating its 99<sup>th</sup> Foundation Anniversary this December and this mark the countdown for its Centennial Year in 2011.

In a kapihan forum held last week to launch the event, the University will be giving free medical and other health related services, concerts and exhibits, focusing on school teachers in its annual 'Handog ng SLU sa Baguio', from December 4 to 5 at the Melvin Jones Football Field in Burnham Park. This carries the theme 'Pagpupugay sa mga Guro'.

Founded in December 1911, SLU is now the biggest university in Baguio with an enrollment population of about 27,000 during the first semester and 25,000 this second semester.

Known for its quality education, SLU ranks no.1 outside of Metro Manila and third nationwide in performance of schools in various licensure examinations based on the compi-

lation of statistics by the Educational Statistics Task Force.

With the continuing success and growth of SLU, it never forgets to return the favor back to the community. For its centennial year, SLU will be establishing the Sunflower Centennial Halfway Home for Boys.

According to SLU President Fr. Jessie Hechanova, the Halfway Home for Boys will be the university's contribution to the city of Baguio in addressing the problem of increasing number of street children in the city.

Fr. Hechanova explained that the Halfway Home will be catering to neglected and abused boys ages five to 17 years. 'We will have to start in small-scale, focusing on small groups, about 5 to 15 kids, which we can respond to,' Fr. Hechanova added.

The SLU Sunflower Centennial Halfway Home for Boys aims to address the reality of children in need of special protection in Baguio City, and in the whole re-

gion of Cordillera. It aims to give these children a protective refuge while facilitating possible family reintegration or a referral to a long-term child-caring institution.

Focusing on the boy's holistic development, the said Halfway Home, will be providing basic home-based care, psychological assessment and psychotherapeutic interventions, educational assistance, spiritual formation, sports and other recreational activities, expressive art programs, family counseling and therapy, parenting enhancement seminars/workshops, legal consultations, follow-up outreach programs and case management.

To support the Halfway Home's initial operation, SLU will be tapping the assistance of its alumni and other known groups in the city like Rotary Clubs. Private contribution from the community is also welcome. /Lito Dar/PIA

## CSWDO Warns Begging is Illegal, Carolers to Get Permits

BAGUIO CITY – With the Christmas season in and beggars are again expected to roam the city streets, City Social Welfare and Development Officer (CSWDO) Betty Fangasan is reminding the public that begging is illegal.

Fangasan said under the existing Anti-begging Ordinance of the city, authorities can arrest beggars and send them back to where they came from.

Fangasan also warned against people who use kids and persons with disabilities (PWDs) in such modus operandi. Such act is a form of exploitation and punishable by law.

According to Fangasan, there are a lot of government organizations, non government organizations and People's Organizations who are very willing to share gifts or some things this Christmas season. She advised these people, especially the PWDs to go to their office so that they can help and link them to the proper offices or organizations.

Expect also carolers to pop up during this season. As it is also a form of solicitation that is expected during Christmas, Fangasan reiterated that those who will be caroling in the city should get a permit from the mayor's office and a barangay permit when caroling in the barangays.

Fangasan called on the carolers on the streets to exercise caution as they might pose danger to motorists and to themselves.

Meanwhile, the CSWDO is expected to cater to about 4,000 kids this Christmas. This will be done through the help of their usual partners such as the Silahis ng Pasko, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists, the Diwa ng Pasko, John Hay Corp. and other willing donors such as the Brent School and Baguio Achievers School, among others.

Just last Wednesday, The National Correspondents Club of Baguio (NCCB, in partnership with CSWDO, the city government of Baguio and Sportscope Baguio, launched the 'Silahis ng Pasko'. The Children-Parents Mardi gras, was joined by about 4,000 kids and mothers dressed in their own produced and designed Christmas costumes. This was followed by a grand opening program and the Miss and Mr. Little 'Silahis ng Pasko sa Baguio 2010 awarding ceremony./Lito Dar/PIA

now focusing on product development which is one of the government's main thrusts under the present administration.

DOT Regional Director Pura Molintas affirmed that they have already given focus on product development in the recently held 'The Best of the Cordilleras Festival', wherein they have hired artistic talents to choreograph the performance of each of the existing festivals in Cordillera, which include the Adivay of Benguet, Matagoan of Tabuk, Kalinga, Lang-ay of Mt. Province and

Ullalim festival of Kalinga.

'Product development will be the new trend and this will also be depicted in this coming Panagbenga 2011,' Molintas added.

DOT is also focusing on tourism infrastructure and this includes shortening the travel time from Manila to the Cordillera Region, using Baguio City as the main hub. According to Molintas, Air Philippines, has signified its intention to schedule flights from Manila to Baguio.

In a related development, Molintas lauded the City government of Baguio for partnering with private groups in organizing various events for this yule-

tide season. 'It is expected that tourist arrivals always increase during this time of the year and it is an advantage to have something new to offer,' she said.

Alongside the thrust of the PNoy administration of promoting public-private partnership, the private sector is always ready to undertake a partnership with the government and just looking for marketability of their business. The LGUs, on the other hand, should provide the environment and all the support to develop the viability of the private sector businesses as long as it is socially accepted by the community,' Molintas stressed./Lito Dar/PIA

## DOT Focuses on Product Development to Promote Tourism

BAGUIO CITY – The Cordillera region has been getting fair share of foreign tourist arrivals in the past ten years as shown in the fact sheet recently released by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB-CAR).

Based on the NSCB fact sheet, about 700,000 foreign tourists visited Cordillera in the past

10 years. The United States, South Korea and Japan are the top three tourist markets comprising of 18.7 percent, 11.4 and 10.4 percent of the total foreign visitors, respectively.

The increasing trend for foreign tourist arrivals in Cordillera started in 2002 with about 41,100 visitors. Constant increase was noted as it rose to 53,700 in 2003,

57,400 in 2004, 70,600 in 2005, 76,800 in 2006, 92,600 in 2007 and 113,100 in 2008.

The world financial crisis though has taken its toll in the tourism sector in 2009 as foreign tourist arrivals suffers a 20 percent decrease or 89,900 arrivals as the NSCB data showed.

Meanwhile, to further boost the region's tourism industry, the Department of Tourism is

REGIONAL TRIAL  
COURT, BRANCH  
9

[FAMILY COURT  
FOR BENGUET]  
FIRST JUDICIAL  
REGION  
La Trinidad,  
Benguet

IN THE MATER OF  
THE PETITION  
FOR ADOPTION  
OF THE MINOR  
RHEA MAE  
MENTIN,

SPOUSES RENATO  
B. MENTINAND  
M A R I E T A  
PADSING

*Petitioners,*

X—X

SPECIAL  
PROCEEDINGS  
CASE NO. 10-A-  
0968

ORDER

**P e t i t i o n e r**  
Spouses Renato B. Mentin and Marieta Padsing, through counsel filed this verified petition for Adoption praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, the subject of adoption minor RHEA MAE MENTIN be declared free from all obligations with respect to his parents and vice versa, be declared for all legal intents and purposes as the adopted child of petitioners and for them to acquire the reciprocal rights and obligations arising from parents -child relationship, including the right of said child to use the surname of petitioners and change of her name, henceforth, she will be known as RHEA MAE P. MENTIN and direct the Local Civil Registrar of La Trinidad, Benguet to effect said adoption in her birth certificate .

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

tial requisite in adoption cases, said report should be submitted to the Court before the initial hearing on March 3, 2011 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 petitioners in the Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province, once a week for three [3] consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than November 28, 2010. All persons interested may 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 La Trinidad, Benguet; the Court Social Worker; the Junction Newspaper; the petitioners and counsel.

**SO ORDERED.**

This 24th day of  
November 2010 at  
La Trinidad,  
Benguet.

By: (SDG) FRANCIS  
A. BULIYAT Sr.  
Presiding Judge

Publication Dates:  
November 27,  
December 4 and 11,  
2020

## Batas

.... from page 4

from India, said his presidency at RI for 2011-2012 will try to put in more resources for public imaging, if necessary. This is aimed at installing public imaging coordinators in every country, so that Rotarians in that place can come up with some kind of a "national branding" that would immediately identify them.

Trainings and seminars, which have already been approved in principle to be funded by the RI Board, will be conducted for these coordinators, and the first of such trainings will be started February 2011, Banerjee explained, adding that he wants to move quickly on this project.

He also underscored the need for Rotary to be involved with other agencies in pursuing its mission to provide "service above self", particularly those from governments in every area, and to develop Rotary's use of social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and even YouTube.

## Guilty Beyond Reasonable Doubt .....from page 1

promising graduating Accountancy student of SLU was gunned down in the morning of January 28, 2008, while driving his younger brother to school. Several months after the incident, with the aid of local pastor, the gunman and the lookout surrendered to the authorities, admitted to the crime, and squealed on the mastermind, who was later identified as a certain Joseph Marrero. This is the same Joseph Marrero who tried to run twice as Baguio City Councilor (but lost on those 2 occasions). Marrero is still in hiding as of presstime. While the hired gunman, identified as Ernesto Genetiano was sent to Muntulupa, the lookout identified as Rolando Tomon was discharged as State Witness against Marrero.

The Decision narrated Genetiano was hired by Marrero to kill "either the father or the son" Wal. Genetiano on the other hand sought the assistance of Tomon as his lookout as the former is not very familiar with Baguio City. The killing was plotted and executed, with Marrero's promise to pay Genetiano P100,000.00 plus he will buy out the 5-hectare land where Genetiano's small house is erected. Both promises were not fulfilled, as accordingly, after the murder, Marrero no longer answered the gunman's calls nor replied to his text messages. Marrero however made one last phone call to the gunman after 2 months but in that call, he denied having made the promise to the gunman.

The courtroom was filled with emotions while the Decision is being read on November 26, as the victim's family and friends are being reminded of the details of the gruesome killing. The last pages of the decision detailed the last minutes of the Jude Wal II. The Decision reads:

"According to Genetiano, the gunman, when the vehicle stopped for the red traf-

fic light, he walked his way towards the van of the victim, whom he and co-accused Tomon had already made surveillance, and upon instruction of Mastermind co-accused Architect Joseph Marrero, Genetiano positioned himself on the road near the driver seat and holding the Caliber .45 which was given to him by the Mastermind, he fired to the unknowing and unsuspecting victim Jude Wal II, all the 10 bullets that the caliber .45 had. Probably, the victim at first did not even know that hit him, but being an educated person, he must have realized while he was still conscious that he was being fired at given the sound of the firing gun. Victim Jude Wal II must have been startled and had seizures because of the continued pumping of bullets to his body coming from somewhere, he did not know. The victim must have experienced some pain and suffered tremendously, and must have realized too late that he was being fired at. In all probability, victim Jude Wal II could just have turned his head and glanced for a while at his attacker before he drew his last breath. His gunshot wounds on the right temple, on his neck, and chin could have been because he turned his head to the gunman. The victim died immediately or instantaneously and he must have wondered as to the meaning of his tragic death at the hands of his assassins whom he did not even know. It was a cruel death for an innocent person, and certainly undeserved for Jude Wal II who might not have an inkling what his killing was all about. Yet victim Jude Wal II saved his father's life in the process, for the instruction of the Mastermind was to kill either father or the son. It was the son who was killed and sacrificed at the altar of the wicked criminals."

Judge Pamintuan describes the shooting of victim, Jude Wal II as an "Execution Mafia Style - No Miss, No Mercy. It was an evil designed in hell, and beyond forgiveness by an angel."/J.P.Binwagan

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

**NORBERT BANGCAWAYAN**

**Applicant**

**Case No: 2001-01-1532**

### NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Extension of Validity a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation and passengers and freight on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA - QUEZON HILL and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on on January 10, 2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

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

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 2nd day of December 2010.

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



## Lagawe Holds Mass Oathtaking For Barangay, SK Officials

LAGAWE, Ifugao- The newly elected barangay and Sanguniang Kabataan officials in the 20 barangays here took their oath before Mayor Ceasario Cabbigat in a mass oathtaking on November 29 at the Lagawe Central School Open gym.

In his welcome message, Vice Mayor Martin Habawel Jr urged the new officials to be united in attaining development in this capital town. "Let us hold hands and lead our people in the narrow path towards development," he said.

He also advised the officials to be honest and be models of good governance just like what President Benigno Aquino III always say to public officials. He called on the public to support the newly elected barangay and local officials towards a better Lagawe.

Governor Eugene Balitang in his inspirational talk said that in order to achieve development, there should be an equal distribution of projects, programs and services especially in far flung barangays. "We cannot say that the capital town is developed when its only in the center where development can be seen, we should also bring development to far flung barangays, he said.

He also stressed on giving priority to major projects such as road networks and electrification in far flung barangays which can benefit more people. For nearby barangays, Balitang said that non- infra projects like social and health services should be given priority.

Balitang also encouraged the officials to revisit their own barangay development plan stressing on keeping the environment clean to help prevent the proliferation of diseases.

In his message, Cabbigat underscored that the barangay development plan serves as the bible of the barangay where priority projects are listed. He urged the barangay officials to visit the municipal and provincial offices and source out funds for their priority projects.

Meanwhile, Rosendo Dumapi, the outgoing President of the Association of Barangay Captains said that based on his experience, proper coordination and unity among the officials are really needed in order to achieve genuine development. As the capital town, we should show good example to other municipalities, he said. \*\*Vency D. Bulayungan/PIA-Ifugao

## Pinukpuk Barangay Holds Special Election

T A B U K , Kalinga – The special barangay and Sanguniang Kabataan elections in barangay Baay, Pinukpuk was successfully conducted last November 27 amid tight security by the police and Army forces.

Canvassing was conducted at the Pinukpuk Municipal Hall since there is no available light source in the said barangay. Winners were immediately proclaimed after the counting that lasted till 3:30 AM of Sunday.

Proclaimed winners were Paquito Maling as the Barangay Chairman with the following as K a g a w a d s :

Banggowoy, Roger; Basitao, Cerela; Falluyan, Divina; Naganag, Antonio; Gaayon, Avelino; Dulnagon, Mauricio; Liw-asan, Roy. Elected SK Chairman is Charity Lappao

It can be recalled that the Commission on Election declared failure of election in said barangay during the scheduled October 25, 2010 barangay and SK polls after armed men snatched and burned the election paraphernalia for the four precincts in Baay.

Meanwhile, two ballot boxes in the town of Tanudan which are the subject of protest were recently reported stolen from the Treasury Office at the

Tanudan Municipal Hall located at the Poblacion last November 20.

Police reports said unidentified perpetrators entered the Tanudan Municipal Hall through the second floor porch. They reportedly gained entry in the Treasury Office located at the first floor by destroying the padlock using a 16mm steel bar.

The perpetrators left with two ballot boxes containing the election paraphernalia of precinct 1A and 2A of Mangali which are the subject of election protest filled in court by Candidate Marcelo P. Bayubay. The case is under follow up. \*\*\*Pinggd/PIA-Kalinga

## Ifugao Heritage Office Proposes P10m Project To Rehabilitate Rice Terraces

LAGAWE, Ifugao-The provincial government here proposed a P10M conservation program for the Ifugao Rice Terraces World Heritage sites.

Renato Patacsil, Project Coordinator of the Ifugao Cultural Heritage Office (ICHO) said the amount will cover the restoration of the damaged and abandoned rice terraces which will eventually maximize rice production of the terraces owners and optimize the function of the Ifugao Rice terraces.

The said amount is also intended to fund activities to impart to the rice terraces owners the economic value and sense of belongingness and restore the dignity of the Ifugao Rice Terraces (IRT) as they are the prime stakeholders. It will be used to rehabilitate and make operational the Communal Irrigation System (CIS) and to restore the universal value as well as the heritage value of the rice terraces; strengthen partnership of the local government units and terraces farming communities in the implementation of the IRT conservation plan and management of the watershed area that includes protection, planting and enhancement that contributes and minimize the practice of small scale illegal logging and slashed and burn in the watershed area.

The conservation program also aims to deepen the appreciation of the local people of the universal value of the Ifugao rice terraces and to encourage massive participation in the implementation of the project.

"Furthermore, we hope that through the efforts of all stakeholders such as the Local Government Units and the farmers, the terraces will be delisted from the list of endangered world heritage sites," Patacsil said.

Patacsil said that ICHO is expected to restore 5,384 cubic meters of eroded stone walls in the municipalities of Banaue, Kiangnan, Hungduan and Mayoyao, considered as the four heritage sites; rehabilitate and make functional six CIS supplying water to approximately 110 hectares in said heritage sites and enhance and protect 100 hectares of woodlots. \*\*Vency D. Bulayungan/PIA-Ifugao

## Tanudan Receives Ambulance From PCSO

TANUDAN, Kalinga – This 4<sup>th</sup> class municipality received recently from the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) a new ambulance.

Tanudan Mayor Johnwell Tiggangay informed that the project materialized through the Public-Private Partnership being initiated by the Iluminada Dinulong Panabe (IDP) Foundation and the local government unit.

Tiggangay said IDP made the first move when it submitted to PCSO a request for an ambulance for

Tanudan. "It was IDP's initiative seeing the dire need for health facilities in the municipality and after consulting with the Rural Health Unit (RHU) personnel," he said.

He said on November 15, the group together with Tanudan Councilor Casiano Panabe went to PCSO Manila to receive the unit.

Tiggangay expressed his gratitude to the IDP, its founding chairman and staff for their voluntary deed in helping the people of Tanudan. "We are grateful to IDP that it is true to its mission to provide better health services to the com-

munities of Tanudan," he said.

"Tanudan will not prosper without outside support. Its income and internal revenue share can not finance all the needs of the municipality," Tiggangay said as he also called on other civic-spirited individuals and groups to follow IDP's good example.

Meanwhile, IDP Chairman Lumen Panabe reiterated her foundation will continue to reach out to those in need not only of health and sanitation but educational and livelihood assistance, employment opportunities and small infrastructure projects. \*\*PIA

## City Granted Power

.... from page 2

committee has been formed during Bautista's term headed by the city mayor himself. Domogan is expected to retain if not improve the composition of the committee.

The mayor said a strict screening is necessary considering the complex situation of the city being a Townsite Reservation as against the Indigenous People's Rights Act (IPRA) law provisions.

He said that as per Section 78 of the IPRA law, the city is exempt from the provisions of the IPRA as the section provides that "it will remain to be governed by its Charter and all land proclaimed as part of the townsite reservation shall remain as such..." but the section also provides that "prior land rights and titles recognized and/or acquired through any judicial, administrative or other processes before the effectivity of this Act shall remain valid" thus Igorot claims that exist before November 1997 are therefore covered by the IPRA law.

The role of the committee, he said, would be very crucial as it will determine if the claims are legitimate and therefore qualified under the IPRA law or not. / A Refuerzo

## Space Children

.... from page 2

year's Iwas Paputok Campaign adopts the theme, 'Ilayo sa Disgrasya ang mga bata, Walang batang magpapaputok.' As a key promotion, the DOH also adopts the slogan 'Bawal Bumili, magbenta o gumamit ng pailaw at paputok ang mga kabataan.'

Tubera said the DOH campaigns for a total ban on the use of illegal firecrackers and for the people to use alternative and safe means of making noise in welcoming the new year.

'Injuries reported are caused by both legal and illegal firecrackers. If LGUs cannot totally ban firecrackers at least the police should confiscate the illegal kinds, which was only being kept hidden by firecracker vendors and it is also better if the LGUs would just designate a certain (wide and open) area for firecrackers lighting and keep the children away from it,' Tubera stressed.

For the public's safety Tubera also called on the law enforcement agencies to ban or enforce stricter measures in assuring that only legal firecrackers are sold by vendors and only at the designated selling area. 'Firecrackers should not be sold on crowded areas, especially not on public markets,' Tubera said.

Tubera reiterated that if adults or parents cannot do away celebrating New Year without firecrackers, the least they can do is ensure to keep their children away from possible harm or injury. /Lito Dar/PIA

## POSD, Bocap Trade

.... from page 2

He quipped, "If it truly were bingo socials, why didn't we find any 'socials' and bingo cards in the area?"

"By all indications," he added, "they were doing something illegal."

Gambling paraphernalia and bet money amounting to P14,335.00 were confiscated by the team during the 4:00pm crackdown.

On the same day, Moyaen, PC/Insp. Nestor Carino, and the mayor's executive assistant III, Policarpio Cambod, filed joint affidavit-complaint tagging Daniel Mirasol (38), Allan Alvarez (27), and Dexter Santos (20) for violation of Presidential Decree No. 1602 – the anti illegal gambling law.

At City Hall, December 1, mayor Mauricio Domogan reiterated anti-gambling stance reminding newly-installed barangay officials of their sworn duty to uphold the law during the 'Ugnayan' presser hosted by DZEQ 'Radio ng Bayan'.

He said, "We cannot guard everybody's activities day and night," as he called on barangay officials and the city's constituents to be vigilant in curbing illegal gambling activities and coordinating knowledge of the same with his office.

He revealed officials of Barangay Malcolm Square offered no explanation since the raid adding, "Apparently, an official of the barangay even claims what was raided was bingo socials legally operating."

"But looking at the reports that reached my office, it is clear they were [running something else] other than bingo."

He added, "I have already advised investigators to look into the identity of this official [and his cohorts] so they could be sued with the three hired hands arrested during the raid."

Curiously, the hired hands who run the controversial gambling operations are all natives of Lipa, Batangas and not from the concerned barangay.

No sooner than Domogan lamented apparent hush and inability of officials at Malcolm Square Barangay over gambling activities in their fief did its chief William Domoguen file complaint against BCPO and POSD elements.

In a complaint dated December 1, Domoguen accused Moyaen, et al. of illegal arrest, grave coercion, robbery, extortion, and usurpation of authority.

Domoguen maintains the raided activity legal by virtue of barangay resolution No. 15-2010 authorizing the conduct thereof.

He likewise cited a decision penned by Regional Trial Court Branch V judge Antonio Estevez, November 30, 2006, declaring barangay councils are vested with authority under the Local Government Code to hold bingo sa barangay to raise funds.

More, he cited an April 18, 2006 or-

der of the same court granting the prayer of the Association of Barangay Councils for a "[t]wenty day restraining order" from date of the said court diktat.

The lower court's decision is challenged by the City Government and the Republic of the Philippines through the Office of the Solicitor General. The case is pending with the Court of Appeals to date.

It could be remembered during an earlier presser meanwhile, Liga public relations officer Benjamin Macadangang revealed, "The board never authorized anybody to operate bingo sa barangay."

"Thus," he added, "any operation of the same should be condemned."/isl

## DOH Warns Public

.... from page 3

Enforcement Division head Dr. Erwin Baclig assured that they are continuously monitoring drug stores for possible selling of counterfeit drugs. He also stressed that they are also into monitoring and confiscation of prohibited drugs and medicines in partnership with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA-CAR).

According to Baclig, they have confiscated a lot of product particularly of unregistered slimming drugs, vitamin supplement and food supplement, which have found to contain prohibited or harmful ingredients.

Baclig also warned small pharmacies and even sari-sari stores, who engage in selling medicines, not to buy medicines on unlicensed direct sellers, who usually do their trade by using a motorcycle or a van to rural areas.

'The public should buy their medicines from reputable drug stores and for pharmacies to buy their supply from registered or licensed dealer. Counterfeit drugs may do the patient more harm than cure them,' Baclig said.

In his visit to Baguio during the Philippine Generics Expo held at SM City Baguio last November 30, DOH Assistant Secretary Elmer Punzalan stressed that reports of counterfeit drugs entering the country and flooding the market are becoming worrisome. He also warned against counterfeit drugs which look like the branded ones.

He advised the public to check the Certificate of Product Registration (CPR) of the drugs or medicines they are buying.

Punzalan encouraged the public to go for generic brands which are cheaper yet as effective as the branded medicines. 'Ang problema sa ilang mga tao akala nila porke mura hindi effective. FDA registered generic drugs have the same efficacy as the branded ones, as it has been strictly monitored and checked,' he stressed.

The Asec advised patients who find it hard to buy branded medicines to ask their doctor for a generic equivalent of their prescribed drugs. /Lito Dar/PIA



## DOD Brings Philippines

.... from page 3

monitoring of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). 'Hindi porke mura ang generic ay hindi na ito effective, mas nakakatakot pa rin ang mga counterfeit na drugs na kadalasan ay kamukha ng mga branded na gamot,' Puzalan added.

The Baguio leg of the Philippine Generics Expo is the fourth of its kind. The others were held at SM Cebu, SM Davao and SM Clark.

Ten companies joined the Baguio Leg of the Philippine Generics Expo 2010 namely PHAP, PCPI, Nathraporm, Winthrop, Pharex, Orient Euro Pharma Philippines Inc.(OEP), Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC), Phil. International Trade Inc (PITC Pharma Inc), Watsons and Hizon Laboratories Inc./Lito Dar/PIA

## City on he Double

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subject lots.

He said the city's Anti-Squatting Committee will issue an order for the summary demolition of the structures being built because these are not covered by building or fencing permits.

He said the heirs themselves appear to be entangled in infighting over the subject lots.

The mayor received a letter from some of the heirs criticizing the actions of their kin relative to the deed of assignments over said lots and asking the city not to issue any permit.

The mayor said the city will continue exerting efforts to recover the lots as the CALTs are clearly spurious.

The mayor said Forbes Park is a protected area and is not one of the Igorot claims qualified for disposition as ancestral land as per section 78 of Republic Act No. 8371 or the Indigenous People's Rights Act.

The said section provides a special provision that the city of Baguio "shall remain to be governed by its Charter and all lands proclaimed as part of its townsite reservation shall remain as such until otherwise reclassified by appropriate legislation.."

He said Forbes Park was never reclassified as alienable before the issuance of the CALTs was made.

Section 78 also provides an exemption that "prior land rights and titles recognized and/or acquired through any judicial, administrative or other processes before the effectivity of this Act shall remain valid..." which means that Igorot claims recognized before November 1997, the date of IPRA implementation, are qualified as ancestral claims.

Domogan said Forbes Park is not one those lands covered by prior land rights.

Moreover, he said there is no evidence that the heirs of Carantes have actual possession of the Forbes Park lots which is one of the basis in establishing their ancestral land claim.

He said the CALTs therefore issued over the reservation are invalid as it violates section 78 of the IPRA law.

he city government last year during the time of former mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. initiated the proceedings to reclaim the lots by asking the Solicitor General to file appropriate cases for the recovery of the subject lots.

The city through its city legal office headed by Melchor Carlos Rabanes in October last year filed a civil case for injunction with prayer for the issuance of a temporary restraining order and writ of preliminary injunction to protect the city's interest on the lots to enjoin the Register of Deeds from processing transactions involving the CALTs after the ROD's denial of the annotation or registration of the city's adverse claim on the assailed NCIP titles.

The case is still pending before the Regional Trial Court here but RTC Judge Edilberto Claravall in November last year advised a status quo on the CALTs.

Apart from the civil case, the city also at the same time filed before the Office of the Ombudsman an administrative case against NCIP commissioners Atty. Eugenio Insigne, Rolando Rivera, Rizalino Segundo, Atty. Noel Felongco, Jannette Serrano-Reisland, Felecito Masagnay and Miguel Imbing Apostol who awarded the subject lots to the heirs of Lauro Carantes.

"The act of respondents in awarding portions of the Forbes Forest Reservation in favor of the aforesaid private individuals is highly irregular, anomalous and illegal in view of the fact that Forbes Forest Reservation is an inalienable forest reserve which was withdrawn from sale of settlement by virtue of Proclamation No. 10 issued on February 9, 1924..." the complaint noted.

The city through an investigation committee discovered that Original Certificates of Ancestral Land Titles were indeed issued on portions of Forbes Park with an aggregate area of 25 hectares.

The CALTs were issued through the NCIP over portions of Forbes Park Parcels I and II on November 12, 2008 and registered with the Register of Deeds, Baguio City on April 7, 2009 covering the following areas all in the name of the Heirs of Lauro Carantes represented by Antino Carantes married to Espenilla Carantes, with residence and postal address at Purok I, Poblacion, Itogon, Benguet: O-CALT-26 containing an area of 89,242 square meters; O-CALT-27 containing an area of 2,327 square meters; O-CALT-28 containing an area of 34,855 square meter; and O-CALT-29 containing an area of 112,603 square meters for a total aggregate area of 239,027 square meters.

The investigating committee found that there was "fraud in the issuance of the four CALTs issued by the NCIP to the Heirs of Lauro Carantes..."

It recommended that reversion proceedings should be initiated for the cancellation of the CALTs and recovery of the lots./A Refuerzo

## Communities Urged

.... from page 12

mothers on breastfeeding/complementary feeding and teaching mothers to plant vegetables in their backyard, on birth spacing etc. There is a long list of simple things that you do and if we do it collectively and as many, we really can change the picture,' Villate said.

"We have to work hand-in-hand with the people in the community," she stressed.

The said awarding was initiated by the Cordillera Regional Nutrition Council (RNC) headed by the National Nutrition Council (NNC-CAR). Having failed to hold an awarding last year, the RNC awarded both the 2008 and 2009 Outstanding Nutrition Program Implementers and Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars.

NNC-CAR OIC June Falancy and DILG Assistant Regional Director Robert Mangangay, joined Cabotaje and Villate in giving the awards.

For the Regional Outstanding Nutrition Program Implementer - Provincial level, the province of Ifugao won the Green Banner Award for both 2008 and 2009. In the Municipal level, Green Banner awardees were Asipulo, Ifugao (2009) and Lagawe, Ifugao (2008).

For the 2008 Outstanding Barangay Scholars, Ms. Mila Buya of Sagubo, Kapangan Benguet won First Place, followed by Ms. Rosa Gano of Hungduan and Ma. Lourdes Gamueda of Baguio City.

For the 2009 Outstanding Barangay Scholars, Ms. Magdalena Sacpa of Central Kapangan, Benguet won first place, followed by Ms. Jocelyn Tognaon of Amduntog, Asipulo, Ifugao and Ms. Rosalina Caya-os of Irisan, Baguio City, who won second and third places, respectively./Lito Dar/PIA

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

SPS. FERDINAND & LEA DEBORAH

FIGUEROA .

Applicant

Case No: 2006-CAR-0044

### NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Extension of Validity a Certificate of Public Convenience with Dropping and Substitution of unit to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and passengers and freight on the line BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on January 10, 2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paoal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidences on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

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

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVIER-Regional Director this 2nd day of December 2010.

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

## DOT Focuses On Product Development To Promote Tourism

**BAGUIOCITY**—The Cordillera region has been getting fair share of foreign tourist arrivals in the past ten years as shown in the fact sheet recently released by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB-CAR).

Based on the NSCB fact sheet, about 700,000 foreign tourists visited Cordillera in the past 10 years. The United States, South Korea and Japan are the top three tourist markets comprising of 18.7 percent, 11.4 and 10.4 percent of the total foreign visitors, respectively.

The increasing trend for foreign tourist arrivals in Cordillera started in 2002 with about 41,100 visitors. Constant increase was noted as it rose to 53,700 in 2003, 57,400 in 2004, 70,600 in 2005, 76,800 in 2006, 92,600 in 2007

and 113,100 in 2008.

The world financial crisis though has taken its toll in the tourism sector in 2009 as foreign tourist arrivals suffers a 20 percent decrease or 89,900 arrivals as the NSCB data showed.

Meanwhile, to further boost the region's tourism industry, the Department of Tourism is now focusing on product development which is one of the government's main thrusts under the present administration.

DOT Regional Director Pura Molintas affirmed that they have already given focus on product development in the recently held 'The Best of the Cordilleras Festival', wherein they have hired artistic talents to choreograph the performance of each of the existing festi-

vals in Cordillera, which include the Adivay of Benguet, Matagoan of Tabuk, Kalinga, Lang-ay of Mt. Province and Ullalim festival of Kalinga.

'Product development will be the new trend and this will also be depicted in this coming Panagbenga 2011,' Molintas added.

DOT is also focusing on tourism infrastructure and this includes shortening the travel time from Manila to the Cordillera Region, using Baguio City as the main hub. According to Molintas, Air Philippines, has signified its intention to schedule flights from Manila to Baguio.

In a related development, Molintas lauded the City government of Baguio for partnering with private groups in organizing various events for this yuletide season. 'It is expected

### BAREFOOT IGOROTA ROAMS SESSION ROAD.

*This NIIT student garbed in Cordilleran tapis walks down Session Road barefoot after a Christmas parade catching the attention of pedestrians. We can only imagine the original Igorota settlers in Baguio walking down the same road barefoot and in their tapises sans the modern-day clothes.*



*GRACE BANDOY*

that tourist arrivals always increase during this time of the year and it is an advantage to have something new to offer,' she said.

Alongside the thrust of the PNoy administration of promoting public-private part-

nership, the private sector is always ready to undertake a partnership with the government and just looking for marketability of their business. The LGUs, on the other hand, should pro-

vide the environment and all the support to develop the viability of the private sector businesses as long as it is socially accepted by the community,' Molintas stressed./ Lito Dar/PIA

## Communities Urged To Address Malnutrition

**BAGUIOCITY**—The communities are urged to do help address malnutrition as it remains to be a challenge for the Cordillera region even

Department of Health (DOH-CAR) Regional Director Dr. Myrna Cabotaje bared that even though malnutrition rate in the region is 20 percent

lower compared to the national prevalence of 26.2 percent, there are still some problematic areas. Abra, she said, has a 40 percent malnutrition prevalence.

During the Regional Nutrition Awarding ceremony here last week, Cabotaje stressed that there is no national strategy in combating malnutrition. We have to ac-

cept the fact, see the problem and localize our strategy. We need the help of all sectors, she said.

Through this nutrition awarding, we hope that we inspire others to work better for the development of our fellow Cordillerans,' Cabotaje added.

The event's keynote speaker, Ms. Ellen Villate, the Country Director of Helen Keller International, an NGO devoted to

preventing blindness and reducing malnutrition in the world, shared the same view.

According to Villate, the work of nutrition workers is not easy and no matter how hard the work is, nutrition problem remains to be a task but they should not lose hope as there are reason to do more.

Villate challenged the Barangay Nutrition Scholars to continue with their work and keep up the high performance. 'Commitment should be

stronger than the obstacle,' she said.

She also compared the Barangay Nutrition Workers with the International Cable News Network (CNN) heroes who are honored for the

simple things they have done that changes life.

'The simple things you did in the barangays for nutrition - giving vitamin A supplement, counselling

**Cont. on page 11**

### RESEARCH & STATISTICS

•implementation of research or research job outsourcing •statistics encoding, computation, construction of statistical tables, interpretation, analysis •research design, advise, and training in/out of Baguio •program/project evaluation or appraisal market, business, feasibility, development issue, risks, and policy research. Email: researchfordev@yahoo.com or call/text 0928951-5680/Landline (074)-426-0178 www.geocities.com/researchfordev