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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

# Barangays asked to send volunteers for anti-graffiti vandalism training

**B**AGUIO CITY – The Anti-Graffiti Task Force (AGTF) is urging all the city's 128 barangays to send their volunteers for training this year, 2017, so that they can assist in the on-going campaign against graffiti vandalism.

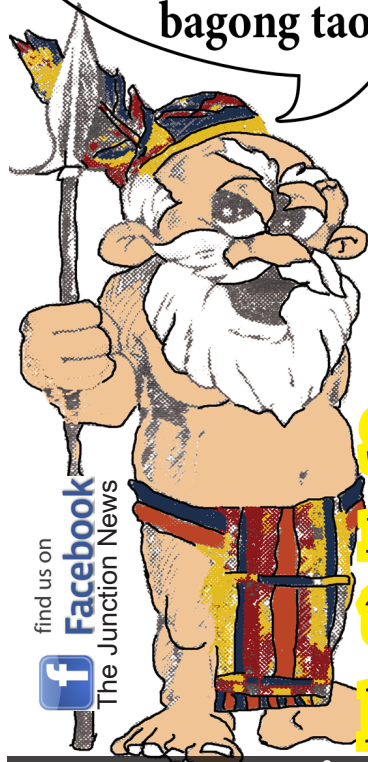
Task force operations volunteer Ross Goze said only 62 representatives from 31 barangays have undergone the training-seminars so far since these started in the last week of June, 2016. The AGTF is co-chaired by Mayor Mauricio Domogan and CJ Neiderstadt.

Lectures and trainings on the implementation of ordinance no. 41, series of 2008, or the Anti-Graffiti Code of the City of Baguio, are being held at the task force office at Baguio Convention Center. Volunteers can visit or call the office at **Cont. on page 6**



Say **NO TO FIRECRACKERS!!!**

**Iwasan**  
ang paputok ng walang  
perwiso at maging maayos  
ang panimula ng ating  
bagong taon!!!



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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

**Inquiry on "collateral victims" stymies drugs campaign**  
BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



EL MAESTRO SPEAKS

**That Thing Called "New Year's Resolution"**  
BY: CLYDE B. SACPA





# Sixth baby of construction worker chosen lucky christmas baby to empower women in CAR

**B**AGUIO CITY – The sixth child of a construction worker and a housewife became this year's Silahis ng Pasko Baguio Lucky Christmas Baby.

Baby boy Jacob Mapanao was born at 12:30 a.m. Dec. 25 through normal delivery at the Baguio General Hospital to parents Teresa Mapanao, 33 and Alfie Gallardo, 37 of Asin Road here with the help of attending physician Ellaine Loise Vilorina.

He is the youngest in the couple's brood of six with two girls and four boys, the eldest of whom is 11 years old.

Brother Jerick who came before Jacob is 1 year and 7 months old and is

suffering from cerebral palsy and development delay.

The annual search was spearheaded by the city government through the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) headed by Betty Fangasan, the National Correspondents Club of Baguio (NCCB) led by former councilor Narciso Padilla, the Office for Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) and Baguio balik-bayans.

Fangasan and Padilla who as in the past years was clad in Santa Claus costume personally supervised the selection.

The baby received prizes consisting of cash gift, baby clothes and baby blankets from Bonnie and Josephine Delinela,

blanket and rice from CSWDO, biscuits from Padilla, grocery items from the OSCA, and baby pillow set from the Federation of Baguio Senior Citizens Association.

Social welfare aide Dolores Busacay said Jacob's parents who hail from La Union and met and fell in love while working at the Maharlika Livelihood Center were still unmarried.

"They had planned to get married but due to financial constraints, they were not able to pursue the wedding," Busacay noted.

The family now stays at Asin Road as caretaker of the house of Alfie's boss at the construction company./Aileen P. Refuerzo#

## DOH-CAR reiterates call to avoid firecrackers during New Year revelry

**B**AGUIO CITY- The Department of Health – Cordillera encourages the public anew to have a safe celebration of the New Year and to avoid injuries due to fireworks and firecrackers.

The DOH-CAR is continuously reminding everybody particularly the children not to use any fire cracker, firework or any pyrotechnic material this holiday season and but instead use other means of merry making.

DOH-CAR Health Emergency Management staff nurse Clark Dizon said that the DOH has

already monitored two firecracker related injuries, both in the province of Abra on December 24 and 26 due to the use of the implosive device "boga."

The victims were identified as Mark Rebaula, 21, who had a contusions and redness of the eyes and Ernesto Lachica, 8 years old, who had blast burns.

Records from DOH Cordillera show that there were 63 firecracker and fireworks related injuries in 2015 all over the region. Abra had the highest with 25, Apayao with 14, Baguio City with 11, Benguet with

9, Kalinga with 2, and Mountain Province and Abra with 1 each.

The youngest patient was 3 years old and the oldest was 59 years old. Most of the victims were males and most injuries were caused by piccolo.

The health department strongly advises parents and caregivers not to allow children to use firecrackers during the holiday season. The DOH reiterates the risks of injuries brought about by unsafe use of fireworks and firecrackers especially among children.

Instead of firecrackers or fire

crackers, the public is encouraged to use safe merry-making instruments and alternative noise-makers such as 'torotot', car horns, or by playing loud music.

**B**AGUIO CITY - The Soroptimist International assures continuation in their advocacy on women rights and women empowerment in Baguio City and the rest of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) in 2017 and beyond.

Soroptimist International of Northern Central Luzon District (SI NCLD) Program Director Myrna Winsted said that they will continue to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

Winsted explained that Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization for women who use their collective power to provide women and girls with the resources and opportunities they need to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

The name Soroptimist was coined from the Latin 'soror' meaning sister, and 'optima' meaning best. Soroptimist is perhaps best interpreted as 'best for women'. "Soroptimists are women at their best, working to help other women to be their best," she added.

She said the organization is particularly concerned with providing women and girls access to education as this is the most effective path to self-determination.

The Soroptimist International of Northern Central Luzon District is composed of five chartered clubs namely SI of Baguio, SI of Pines City, SI Faith of Itogon, SI of Cordillera and SI

of Igorots. SI NCLD is currently headed by District Director Chona A. Nerez, who was the former president of SI of Cordillera.

The clubs, Winsted said, are very vocal in their fight to help stop violence against women. She explained that to increase awareness, the clubs observe the 25th of each month pursuant to the United Nations Program, the "Violence against Women Day."

Among its programs, the SI NCLD is actively promoting the "Orange the World" campaign by giving away orange whistles and orange bookmarks that list all the police stations in Baguio.

To realize the spirit of the Adopt-a-School Program Law (RA 8525), Soroptimist clubs introduce projects that would be instrumental in addressing the resource needs of the schools as well as providing students with programs that enhance the quality of the students' learning.

In addition, the Adopt-a-Barangay Program serves as a stage for Soroptimist clubs to manage their impact projects. Established in 1981, this project has contributed to the impetus for Soroptimist growth in the Philippines through service to women and girls in the barangay. A sound working relationship with local officials and barangay women fosters cooperation, facilitates logistic arrangements and ensures the success of projects ben-

efitting women and girls in the community. Projects focusing on basic education, women's health and family spacing, and livelihood projects are at the heart of this program.

Likewise, the Adopt-a-PNP WCPD is an example of a strong GO-NGO partnership towards addressing the plight of women and children who are victims of abuse and violence. This program upholds not only the dignity of the women victims of abuse and violence, but also helps policewomen obtain the appropriate tools to carry out their jobs.

According to its members, being a Soroptimist is very rewarding and fulfilling. The various activities are fun and exciting, from the fund-raising events to the club projects like Teen Dating and Early Pregnancy, AVID Readers Club, Tree Planting, Live Your Dream, Dream It Be It and medical missions. With their latest program on "Water Is Wealth For Women," their efforts will not go unrecognized.

But it is not just all work for the Soroptimist; they also have club collaboration activities or district-wide activities that foster camaraderie among their clubs.

Early this month, the Soroptimists from all the five clubs that make up SI NCLD joined the SIPR Choir Competition which was held in Manila where it awarded the 1st prize for excellent performance. /JDP/RMC PIA-CAR#

Local government units are also urged to foster community firework display.

In the BLISTT areas, or Baguio City, La Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan, Tuba and Tublay, the local government units banned the sale and use of firecrackers during the New Year celebration to avoid untoward incidents such as fires, injuries or even death.

Meanwhile, all DOH retained hospitals, and facilities nationwide are placed in a "Code White Alert" status from December 21, 2016 up to January 5, 2017. The "Code White Alert" level puts all hospital personnel on standby for deployment and augmentation as the need arises for additional medical and other services.

In case of an injury due to firecrackers, DOH advises that the wounds must be immediately washed with clean running water until all visible dirt and gunpowder residue are removed. The patient must immediately be rushed to the nearest health facility for proper medical attention. /JDP/RMC-PIA CAR#



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*\*Our articles and stories (news/features) are ready to go for printing without the involvement of the editor and publisher who happen to be on leave.*

## City MIS to automate building permit application, public assistance-complaints desk next year

**B**AGUIO CITY – The management information system division of the city budget office targets the automation of the building permit application process and the public assistance and complaints desk (PACD) next year.

City budget officer

Leticia Clemente said these are the latest phases in the computerization program of the city government after the completion of the Real Property Tax Assessment and Computation System (RPTACS), the electronic Business Permit and Licensing

System (e-BPLS), payroll, leave administration, biometrics or time-keeper systems, the Legislative Tracking and Information System, city website upgrading and the general services office information system (GSOIS) which automated all office processes and stream-

line the procurement, inventory and asset management functions of the city general services office (GSO).

The building permit process automation will be a component of the City Building and Architecture Office (CBAO) Information System while

the online PACD will be used as an entry level support for the Citizen Relation Management (CRM), according to MIT officer-in-charge Mario Diaz.

The CBAOIS aims to improve the CBAO office operations and targets the reduction of the process-

ing time and transportation expenses of the applicants, according to Diaz.

He said it will provide a venue and channel via the Internet for online submission of building application and attachments of digital copy as reference for review and

**Cont. on page 7**

## City fire releases advisory on fire safety certificates

**B**AGUIO CITY – The Baguio City Fire Station under Supt. Jose Fernand Bangyod has released the procedure for securing fire safety inspection certificate for 2017.

Business establishment owners were encouraged to follow said steps to facilitate easy and expeditious processing of the renewal and issuance of new certifications.

As per the advisory, the applicants are advised to: log in to their Facebook accounts; search for "Baguio City Fire Business Renewal Forms;" click on the "Files" tab; look for the applicable checklist (in PDF format) and click "Download;" print the downloaded document in long bond paper (8.5 in x 13 inch); and fill-out the first page only.

The printed documents should be brought to the fire station along with the other requirements when processing the certificates.

For new business permits, the following are the requirements: Assessment Form (City Treasury Office Form No. 1-A); Official Receipt of payment from CTO; for Real Estate Lease Business, Official Receipt of Real Estate Tax (Building) or Tax Declaration; and applicable safety checklist.

For business permit renewal: Assessment Form (CTO Form No. 1-A); Official Receipt of payment from CTO; Previous Fire Safety Inspection Certificate (2016); for REL Business, Official Receipt of Real Estate Tax (Building) or Tax Declaration; and applicable safety checklist.

In a separate advisory, Bangyod informed that public that the BCFS and the Bureau of Fire Protection Cordillera did not authorize any civilian or person to conduct fire safety inspections in households nor did they endorse any kind of firefighting product.

Prior to this, the BCFS had received reports that some individuals posing or introducing themselves as safety practitioners permitted by the BCFS were going house-to-house purportedly to conduct inspections of the household Christmas lights, LPG hose and tank, circuit breaker and fire extinguisher. They were reportedly selling products at excessive costs and were taking items which they considered as defective and may cause fire.

"We are advising household owners not to entertain or allow these individuals to enter their premises. Please call the nearest Philippine National Police or BFP station for help or to report any activity related to this issue," he said. /Aileen P. Refuerzo#

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The author of the law, Sen. Grace Poe, chairperson of the Senate committee on public information and mass media, said the measure is consistent with the Philippines government's commitment when it ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2008.

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# Condoms in schools won't cut it

There is no quick fix to the problem of HIV and unwanted pregnancy among our youth, but we must start quickly on the path toward the right solutions

The Department of Health's plan to distribute condoms in public high schools may stem from good intentions. But with all due respect, it is unlikely to achieve the goal of reducing the incidence of HIV/AIDS among our youth nor in the reduction in teenage pregnancies. On the contrary, it may even backfire.

For sure the statistics are alarming: As early as 2013, a survey done by the University of the Philippines Population Institute showed that 1 out of 3 Filipino youths aged 15 to 24 has had pre-marital sex. More alarming than this is the fact that 78% of those who had pre-marital sex for the first time in this age bracket did not use any protection against pregnancy or sexually transmitted infections (STIs or STDs).\*

Not surprising then is the significant rise in incidence of HIV among the same age group as well as a rise in teenage pregnancy noted from 2014 to 2016. In the month of March 2016 alone, there were 736 new cases of HIV reported. Of these, 28% were in those between 15 to 24 years of age. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of these adolescents and young adults got their HIV through sexual contact broken down as follows (8.3% from male-female sex, 53.9% from male-male sex, and 37.2% from sex with both males and females). Only 1% got their HIV from needle sharing among Intravenous drug users.\*\*

## EDITORIAL

The increase in teenage pregnancy also reflects the increase in unprotected sex at an early age.

Yes, we have a problem. In fact, the Philippines is rightly described as a country at risk for a "full blown" HIV epidemic. As reported by the DOH, in the month of March alone, 736 new cases of HIV were reported. This translates to around 26 new cases a day as compared to only 1 a day in 2008, 4 a day in 2010, and 17 a day in 2014. And as these are just the reported and documented cases, this number is, in all likelihood, a gross underestimation of the true number of HIV cases in the Philippines. Indeed, while other countries are now slowly bringing the incidence of HIV down, ours is rising very quickly. Time to grab the bull by the horn.

But is distributing condoms to public high schools the solution? I think not. Rather than this knee-jerk reaction, I believe we can adapt some aspects of the documented successful programs in Latin American countries, particularly in Mexico, that utilized social marketing to bring down the incidence of HIV and pregnancy among the youth. These Latin American countries, Mexico in particular, are very similar to us in many ways, both demographically and culturally. Like us, Mexicans are predominantly Catholic. Like us, there is a very big divide between rich and poor. Yet despite the widespread poverty, Mexico, like the Philippines, has a very high literacy rate, and many have access to technology.

What did they do right? They targeted the young males in the equation. They utilized social marketing to educate the young men and try to change their attitudes, their outlook, and their behavior.

All too often, and in most countries including the Philippines, the efforts at reproductive health and gender sensitivity and education are directed toward women. But real life tells us that in societies like the Philippines and Mexico, where machismo is part of life, where certain "rules" of what it "means to be a man" are so ingrained in our culture, our young men often find themselves pressured to behave in ways that are potentially destructive to themselves and to their partners. Addressing only the female part of the equation will not get us far.

Take, for example, some traditional attitudes about masculinity found to have been prevalent among the Mexican youths surveyed:

- Men have more sexual urges than women
  - Men (not women) have the right to decide when and where to have sex
  - Sexual and reproductive issues are women's concerns
  - Men have the right to outside partners or relationships while women do not.
  - Child care or parenting is primarily a woman's issue
- Do these sound familiar?

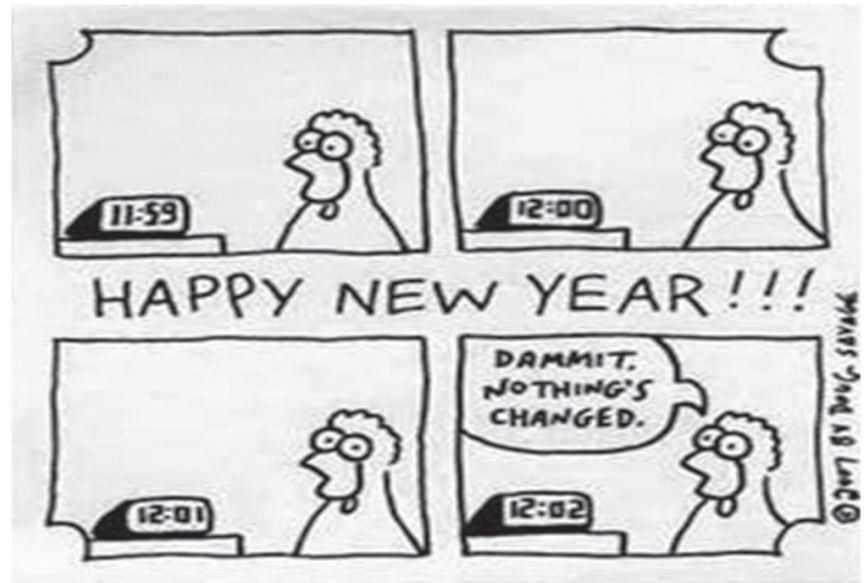
These attitudes sustain and support behaviors of men that include:

- Not using condoms (many actually get angry when their girlfriends ask them to use one)
- Not seeking health services
- Relegating reproductive health issues to women
- A propensity for casual sex
- Not taking an active role in caring for children they father

REDEFINING MANHOOD. Condom use goes up from 58% to 87% after a program that seeks to redefine 'what it means to be a man' is implemented in Mexico and Brazil

Redefining manhood

Cont. on page 7



## KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Inquiry on "collateral victims" stymies drugs campaign*

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



**LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS:** "... Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him... For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere: 'He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts'..." (John 12:37-41, the Holy Bible).

-ooo-

**WHY ARE PEOPLE "BLIND" ABOUT JESUS?** In John 12:37-41 of the Bible, a reference was made to Isaiah's declaration (written in Isaiah 6:9-10) that God has blinded the eyes and hardened the hearts of many, to prevent them from seeing and understanding the truth about Jesus. To me, this explains why many fail to realize the truth that Jesus is God and Savior, and is God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Why did God do this? Read on!

-ooo-

**INQUIRY INTO "COLLATERAL VICTIMS" STYMIES DRUG CAMPAIGN:** This call for compensating the so-called collateral victims in the Duterte government's campaign against illegal drugs made by Sen. Panfilo Lacson, and the formation of a task force to investigate the cases of collateral victims made by the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC), will only stymie President Duterte's efforts to rid our country of the scourge of drugs.

Yes, there is a need to find out if some or all of those who have been killed in the past several months after Duterte was installed president were erroneously murdered, or were rubbed out to silence and prevent them from disclosing who their cohorts were in pushing drugs among our people, to make those responsible for these killings accountable for their misdeeds.

Yet, this will surely slow down sincere and genuine police efforts to track down addicts, pushers, and drug syndicates. The thought of being held answerable somehow, some time, will freeze many a policeman's heart, so to speak, who will now be compelled to think what will happen to them once Duterte's support for them is removed, either because his term has expired, or he has been ousted earlier, as some are hoping.

-ooo-

**LET US JUST PUT OUR TRUST IN DUTERTE:** So what must we do? It is clear this problem is like the case of a man who is made to choose between the devil and the deep blue sea, as a popular song intones. Many Filipinos would not want the fierce illegal drugs campaign being waged by the Duterte government to slacken or slow down now.

Indeed, one shudders to think where would the Philippines be at this point of its history if Duterte did not win the presidency, or was prevented, by one subterfuge or another, from assuming the highest position in the country. The drugs menace is simply too overwhelming and has become so pervasive with the collaboration of many high officials in government.

My suggestion is that, let us take Duterte on his word that he himself will personally answer for any collateral death or damage in his campaign against drugs. He has repeatedly announced he will hold himself personally liable for

Cont. on page 5

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## EL MAESTRO SPEAKS

*That Thing Called "New Year's Resolution"*



BY: CLYDE B. SACPA

It's the start of the New Year 2017 and most of us are expressing and telling to other people what is their New Year's resolution. This is the craze every January, to have a New Year's resolution which is often than not forgotten is the time goes by. This is one of the reason why when I hear people say this is my New Year's resolution I would just nod but in my mind I am sure that the possibility of them completing that goal till the end of the year is bleak.

What is the reason behind this? Are these people lazy? Are these people don't know how to put their words into action? The answer is NO. These people are great as all people are. They just got entangled with the complexities of thing they set up for themselves that made them give up. How are we going to achieve what we set up in our New Year's Resolution? Here are some tips.

First, set an attainable goal and write it down. How will you know if it is attainable? You have to come up with an evaluation system to determine that. Usually attainable means starting small. Having a simple and small goal is better than having big and ambitious ones because if an obstacle will arise it will be manageable.

Writing your goal will make you remember it and will put you into perspective. When you write it be sure to be very specific. If you are not good in writing the sketch it or create a picture of it and always find time to look at and read those written New Year's Resolution.

Second, set a month or time of evaluation preferably in the mid-year. The reason for this evaluation is to check how far you've come since setting up the goal. If you see that nothing has been done or what you're has no effect then you have to change strategy on how to achieve the goal. If you found out that you have achieved the goal already then you can now write a new goal coinciding with your prior New year's Resolution.

Lastly, conduct a final evaluation in the final month of the year. Check if you have achieved those goals that you have written. If you did the congratulations that will be the greatest Christmas gift that you have given to yourself. If you didn't, don't lose hope because a new January is coming and it's time again to write your New Year's Resolution. I'm sure this time you can achieve it. #

## PALSIIT

*KASANO METTEN DAGITI MULATAYO?*



BY: LEONARDO R. AGUNOY

SAAN met ngatan a karkarna kadatayo, kakabsat, iti lagip wenna kadawyan a pannakipagpaspaset iti tinawen nga Arbor Day ditoy pagilantayo, kakabsat. Babaen daytoy iti Proclamation no. 237, s. 1988. Iti pagilian a Filipinas, ramrambakan ti Environment Month iti sibubukel a bulan ti Junio a mangkallawit iti imatang ti publico a mangsalaknib ken mangispal ti rekursos naturales ti pagilian.

Ti Arbor Day, naparnuay babaen iti Presidential Proclamation 643 series of 2004, tapno agtignay ti individual, grupo dagiti mangisaksakit iti aglawlaw. Daytoy a pasamak, namunganay idia Nebraska City, Nebraska, United States ken dadduma pay a pagilian ti lubong.

Iti local a gobierno, nangruna kadagiti barangay nga adda iti away (village), dagitoy ti pakasarakan kadagiti nalalawa a daga. Adu kadagitoy ti bakante a lote, uray ti private land. Nasayaat no ikalikagum a mulaan ti

## Kakampi mo...

from page 4

any such collateral death or damage, if only to save the future generations of Filipinos from drugs. It wouldn't be foolishness to take him on his word, would it?

-ooo-

**PUNISHMENT PREVENTS KNOWING WHO JESUS REALLY IS:** In John 16:25, we see the clarification from Jesus, our God and Savior, that He had been using figures of speech---or words that hide what He really intended to mean---when He was giving messages to people during His time. Why did He do that? He did not want His messages understood by those whose eyes were "blind" and whose hearts were "hardened" by sinfulness.

It is therefore a punishment for a person not to see and not to understand who Jesus really is. In Isaiah 6:9-10, God directed Isaiah to tell the sinners, "... 'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.' Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed..."

-ooo-

**PLEASE LISTEN:** "Ang Tanging Daan" (The Sole Way): a Bible study and prayer session online could now be heard, 24 HOURS a day, in the Philippines and the world at [www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan](http://www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan) or [www.facebook.com/ANDKNK](http://www.facebook.com/ANDKNK) (and look for "Ang Tanging Daan" broadcasts). Phone: 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058. Email: [batasmauricio@yahoo.com](mailto:batasmauricio@yahoo.com).#

akinkukua ti bakante a daga ken kasta met kadagiti agay-aywan iti daga. Ita, mapasungadan ti kalgaw (summer). Kasano ti panangsaluadtayo dagiti naimulatayo idi sakbay, kaaldawan ken kalpasan ti Arbor Day? Siempre, kasapulan dagiti immulatayo ti dam-eg wenna sadurno a sibogna tapno saan a matay dagitoy gapu iti sagrapandanto a tikag.

Malagipko, idia pagilian a Japan, nakangatngato ti real property tax a pakairamanan ti daga. Ti ar-aramiden dagiti Japon, ikalikagumda a sukayen ken mulaan dagiti bakante a dagada. Tapno iti kasta, agbalin dagitoy a productive a pangsubbot iti nangato a buis nangruna iti amiliar ti daga.

Ditoy Kailokuan a dalan ti naruay a layus no agbag-bagyo, pakairanudan dagiti maseknan a lumugar no adu ti mapatanorda a kayo iti aglawlawda. Nangruna dagiti mabalin nga aramaten a pagtarikayo iti pag-taengan. Adu ita dagiti mabalin nga imula a patubo/nagtubo a kayo. Nasayaat unay no maimula dagitoy tapno adda mauray a pakairanudan iti masakbayan.

Dagitoy pada nga agtutubo, nalag-an met kadakuada a trabaho no kadagiti tree planting activities iti masakopanda a barangay. Dagitoy pada nga agtutubo ti kangrunaanto a makipagtawid kadagiti tumanor a muyong iti aglawlaw.

Dagitoy pada nga agtutubo ti pakaipaagsepan ti kinapateg ti nasalun-at nga aglawlaw. Nasken ngarud a maimula iti panunotda ti kinapateg ken akem dagiti naruay a muyong iti aglawlawda.

Adda pagsasao a no place like home. No kasta man, paset koma ngarud dayta a kinapudno iti panangdungngoda iti aglawlawda. Ipangrunada ngarud ti agaramid ti pagsayaatan ti lugar dagitoy pada nga agtutubo.

Masuot ti kinasirib ti maysa nga ubing. Nagsaludsod ti lolo iti masirib nga ubing a lalaki: "Apok, pugtuam man no sibibiag 'toy iggemko a tumatayab wenna natayen?"

Di nagpangngadua ti ubing a simmungbat iti saludsod ti lolo daytoy, kalpasan iti apagapaman a panagpanunotna iti kasayaatan nga isungbatna.

"Lolo, no ibagak a sibibiag, pis-item. No ibagak a natayen, dimo pispis-iten."

Napnek ti lolo ti sungbat ti apokona. Nagbu- ➔

## MAGKASANGGA TAYO

*Rolex pambili ng Bigas? Pwedi!!!*

(Reprint from last week)



BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

I tong si Secretary Pinol ng DAR ay nagkuwento na ipinasaoli daw niya ang isang regalo na binigay sa kanya. Siya daw ay nagulat na isa daw itong Rolex (Oyster Series). Alam naman natin na kapag ganito katitindi ang halaga ng regalo nito na nasa halos kalahating milyong piso, at mayroon isang matinding kapalit ito para sa nagbigay at lalung-lao ng ma-oobliga na mag-bigay ng kapalit o pabor ang nakatanggap para sa nagbigay. Ayon sa Republic Act (RA) 6713 o kinkilala rin na Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees ay:

**"Section 3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the term:**

(c) "Gift" refers to a thing or a right to dispose of gratuitously, or any act or liberality, in favor of another who accepts it, and shall include a simulated sale or an ostensibly onerous disposition thereof. It shall not include an unsolicited gift of nominal or insignificant value not given in anticipation of, or in exchange for, a favor from a public official or employee.

(d) "Receiving any gift" includes the act of accepting directly or indirectly, a gift from a person other than a member of his family or relative as defined in this Act, even on the occasion of a family celebration or national festivity like Christmas, if the value of the gift is neither nominal nor insignificant, or the gift is given in anticipation of, or in exchange for, a favor.

**Section 7. Prohibited Acts and Transactions.:**

(d) Solicitation or acceptance of gifts. - Public officials and employees shall not solicit or accept, directly or indirectly, any gift, gratuity, favor, entertainment, loan or anything of monetary value from any person in the course of their official duties or in connection with any operation being regulated by, or any transaction which may be affected by the functions of their office."

Hingil sa probisyon na ito ay malinaw naman na pu-pwedeng tumanggap ng regalo ang isang opisyal kung balewala ang halaga ng binigay katulad halimbawa ng isang cake, pie, o simpleng bote ng alak (huwag mamahalin na Johnny Blue, Swing etc...) at kung wala naman siyang inaasahang pabor o transakyon sa nasabing opisina, ika nga ay token of appreciation lamang. Kaya tama lamang na isinaoli ni Secretary Pinol ang ubod ang mahal na legalo. Ang tanong ngayon ay hindi ba alam ng ating mahal na Pangulo ang probisyon na ito? Sigurado ko na alam naman niya ito, kung bakit nag komento pa siya na dapat sana daw ay tinanggap ni Sec Pinol ang legalo at ipinangbili niya ito ng bigas para sa mahihirap?! Ano ba naman klaseng komento ito? Bakit mahal na Pangulo, sa dinami-dami ba ng tinanggap ninyo na mga legalo ibinibili ba ninyo ang kabuuang halaga ng bigas, at anong porsyento o halaga ang ibinubulsa ninyo, at ano naman ang kapalit na natatanggap ng nagbigay??? Ito ay isang malinaw na bayolasyon sa anti graft and corrupt practices act o RA 3019.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS SA AKING MGA DEAR READERS AT SA READERS NG PAHAYAGANG ITO!!!**

liganda ti nagitukit ti patubo a kayo iti bakante a daga ti familiada. Nagsao ti lolo, kalpasan ti panagmulada: "Apok, adda kadagiti dakulapmo ti biag ken masakbayan dagiti patubo a kayo nga inmulata..." immisem ken nagtung-ed ti masirib nga ubing.#



REPUBLIC OF  
THE PHILIPPINES  
OFFICE OF THE  
CITY SHERIFF  
REGIONAL TRIAL  
COURT  
FIRST JUDICIAL  
REGION  
BAGUIO CITYBAGUIO MARKET  
V E N D O R S  
MULTI-PURPOSE  
COOPERATIVE  
(BAMARVEMPCO)

Mortgagee,

-versus-

LUIS V. OLAISS  
Mortgagor.FORE. CASE NO.  
16-688-S  
FOR: EXTRA-JU-  
DICIAL FORE-  
CLOSURE OF  
REAL ESTATE  
MORTGAGE

x-----x

SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF  
AUCTION SALE

Upon petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act. 4146 filed by BAGUIO MARKET VENDORS MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE (BAMARVEMPCO), hereinafter referred to as the MORTGAGEE, executed on October 2, 2012 by LUIS V. OLAISS of No. 40 New Lucban, Baguio City, hereinafter referred to as the MORTGAGOR, to secure his mortgage obligation which as of September 24, 2016, amounts to ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY TWO AND 84/100 (1,133,732.84) PESOS, excluding expenses of foreclosure proceedings, the undersigned Sheriff, will well at public auction on January 26, 2017 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the Hall of Justice Lobby, Baguio City, and all the improvements existing thereon and more particularly described as follows:

HOWEVER, if any reason/s the auction sale on January 26, 2017 will not push through, then notice is hereby given that the auction sale will proceed on February 9,

2017, also at 10:00 in the morning at the same place as indicated above without need of a separate notice.

TRANSFER CERTIF-  
ICATE OF TITLE NO.  
T-78705

"A parcel of land (Lot 2-D-2 of the subd. plan (LRC) Psd-327335, approved as a non-sub-division project, being a portion of Lot 2-D, (LRC) Psd-23192; L.R.C. Record No. F. Pat. No. 236), situated in the Barrio of Res. Sec. "J" (now), Baguio City, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., points 2-3, by Boyok River; on the SE., points 3 to 4, by Lot 2-D-3, on the SW., points 4 to 1, by Lot 2-D-9 (Road); and on the NW., points 1 to 2, by Lot 2-D-1, all of the subd. plan. Beginning at a point marked x x x to point of beginning; containing an area of THREE HUNDRED

Republic of the  
Philippines  
Regional Trial Court  
First Judicial Region  
Branch 60  
Baguio CityRE PETITION FOR  
THE CHANCE OF  
NAME OF THE  
MINOR MATHIAS  
WILLIAM DEVEZA  
KIER V TO  
WILLIAM DEVEZAMA. CLARIBELLE  
D I M A Y U G A  
DEVEZA

Petitioners,

-versus-

ALBERT ZACHARY  
CABJUAN KIER  
III, THE PHIL-  
IPPINE STATIS-  
TICS OFFICE,  
Herein represented  
by LISA GRACE  
S. BERSALES,  
and the LOCAL  
CIVIL REGISTRY,  
Herein represent-  
ed by SYLVIA R.  
LAUDENCA

Respondents,

SPL. PROC Case  
No. 2586-RFOR: CHANGE OF  
NAME

x-----x

(300) SQUARE METERS.  
More of less (complete  
technical description  
found in the title)

Prospective bidders may investigate the Title, rights and improvements of the property with regards to encumbrances, if any there be.

Baguio City, Philip-  
pines, this 12th day of  
December, 2016.

(SGD) ATTY. LINDA G.  
MONTES-LOLOY  
Clerk of Court VI  
& Ex-Officio City Sheriff(SGD) BOBBY D.  
GALANO  
Sheriff IV

WARNING: it is abso-  
lutely prohibited to  
remove, deface or destroy  
this Notice of Sale on or  
before the date of sale  
under the penalty of law.

Publication Dates: Dec.  
17, 24 and 31, 2016ORDER AND NOTICE  
OF HEARING

A verified Petition for change of name in the Certificate of Live Birth of minor MATHIAS WILLIAM DE VEZA KIER V, is filed before this court praying that after notice and hearing, the foregoing Petition be granted and that subject child's name be changed from MATHIAS WILLIAM DE VEZA KIER V to WILLIAM DEVEZA.

In support of her petition, Petitioner states:

1. Petitioner is single, of legal age, a Filipino, with address at 051A Purok 8, Irisan, Baguio City. She is the mother of subject minor, Mathias William Deveza Kier V, whose Certificate of Live Birth is hereto attached as Annex "A" and made part hereof;

2. Petitioner and child have been residing in Baguio City for more than three (3) years now;

3. Respondent Albert Zachary Cabjuan Kier III, herein after referred to as Albert for brevity, is of legal age, single, a Filipino, with address at 61 Amistad Road, Camp 7, Baguio City where he may be served summons and other court processes;

4. Respondent Philip-  
pine Statistics Office, a  
nominal party herein rep-  
resented by Lisa Grace S.  
Bersales, may be served  
notices at the 17th Flr.  
Cyber Pod Centris Eton

Three EDSA, Quezon  
City;

5. Respondent Local  
Civil Registry of the City  
of Baguio, too a nominal  
party, herein represented  
by Sylvia R. Laudencia,  
may be served notices at  
T. Alonzo St., Baguio  
City;

6. Petitioner and Albert  
were intimate sweethearts  
in 2010. Thus, the birth  
of subject child on 19  
February 2011;

7. Prior to giving birth,  
Petitioner decided to  
name her child WILLIAM  
DEVEZA, William being  
the English version of  
Guillermo, the name of  
Petitioner's father;

8. At the time she gave  
birth at the SLU Hospital,  
Petitioner was surround-  
ed by Albert's Family who  
decided that MATHIAS be  
added to the baby's given  
name, Mathias being the  
Given name of Albert's  
great grandfather. Addi-  
tionally, Albert's family  
decided that the baby's  
surname be Kier V. They  
decided so because the  
baby is the first grandson  
of the grandparents on the  
paternal side;

9. Much as Petitioner  
disliked the addition of  
Mathias for her son's given  
name and the use of Kier  
for the son's surname,  
she was unable to prevail  
upon Albert's family;

10. Hence, subject  
child's being named  
Mathias William Deveza  
Kier. This does not only  
contradict Petitioner's  
decision as to her son's  
name. It is wrong. It  
appears that subject child  
is legitimate when he is  
not;

11. For some months,  
Petitioner and Albert lived  
together after the birth of  
subject child. Petitioner  
couldn't stay much longer  
with Albert. Albert could  
not be a father at all. He  
lied about having jobs.  
He never gave support to  
his son. He even stole peti-  
tioner's belongings;

12. There's just no point  
for an illegitimate son to  
use the surname of an  
irresponsible father who  
gives no support at all  
and whom the son does  
not relate with;

13. Soon, Petitioner  
and son will be traveling  
to the United States of  
America where Petition-  
er's parents reside. To  
prevent complications in  
the travel documents of  
subject child, the Certifi-  
cate of Live Birth must  
be rectified; and

14. Petitioner believes  
it would best serve the  
interest of her child if his  
given name in his Certif-

icate of Live Birth be  
changed to WILLIAM and  
his surname be changed to  
DEVEZA.

xxx

Finding the Petition to  
be sufficient in form and  
substance, let the same be  
heard before the Regional  
Trial Court, Branch 60,  
Baguio City on March 9,  
2017 at 8:30 o'clock in the  
morning at which place,  
date and time, the Peti-  
tioner shall prove her  
case. Any person may  
appear and show cause,  
why the petition should  
not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order,  
together with a copy of the  
Petition and its annexes be  
served upon the respon-  
dent, ALBERT ZACHARY  
CABJUAN KIER III, Local  
Civil Registrar of the  
City of Baguio, who is  
hereby enjoined to file  
its comments and/or  
opposition, should there  
be any. Furnish a copy of  
the Order and Notice of  
Hearing together with  
a copy of the petition to  
the Office of the Solicitor  
General, Office of the  
Civil Registrar General,  
Philippine Statistics  
Authority and the Office  
of the City Prosecutor of  
Baguio City.

At the expense of the  
Petitioner, the Branch  
Sheriff is hereby directed  
to post copies of this  
Order and Notice of  
hearing on the bulletin  
board of the Court, the  
City Hall, and the Post  
Office, all of Baguio  
City. Let this Order  
and Notice of hearing be  
published in a newspaper  
of general circulation in  
Baguio city and suburbs  
for three (3) consecutive  
weeks at the expense of  
the Petitioner.

SO ORDERED.

DONE IN CHAMBERS,  
this 12th day of December  
2016, at Baguio City, Phil-  
ippines.(SGD) MARIA LIGAYA  
V. ITLIONG-RIVERA  
Acting Presiding JudgePublication Dates: Dec.  
24, 31, 2016 and Jan. 7,  
2017

Domogan took note  
of the opinions which will form the BCMA  
resolution on the issue.

He said Resolution No. 19 series of 2013 of the BCMA prohibits the conduct of open markets and other similar activities along streets, roads and sidewalks during holiday season.

He agreed that allowing one group would prompt other associa-  
tions to request their own open markets not only at the city market  
but also in other places like Lakandula St. and even at People's Park.

POSD investigators said the vendors numbering 100 were mostly  
occupants of the less conspicuous areas of Block 4 who seek more  
profit before the season ends.

The city council last Dec. 19 agreed to endorse the request to the  
mayor for favorable action./Aileen P. Refuerzo

Barangays asked...  
from page 1

442-4114 for scheduling purposes.

Goze said trainees are given the general  
overview of the code; the process of gathering  
inventory of illegal graffiti in their respective  
areas; the actual information campaign; the  
proper way of removing illegal graffiti, and  
more.

The code defines graffiti or graffiti vandalism  
as "any unauthorized inscription, word, figure,  
painting or defacement that is written, marked,  
etched, scratched, sprayed, drawn, painted or  
engraved on or otherwise affixed, to the extent  
that the graffiti was not authorized in advance  
by the owner or occupant of the property, or  
despite advance authorization, is otherwise  
deemed a public nuisance. It shall include all  
types of unauthorized markings amounting to  
vandalism and public nuisance.

A property owner is not absolutely prohib-  
ited from authorizing graffiti-type artwork for  
decorative purposes.

The code also mentions other prohibited  
acts, penalties to be imposed for violations and  
other pertinent details for its proper imple-  
mentation./Gaby Keith#

Request for open  
market at block 4 nixed

BAGUIO CITY – The Baguio City Market  
Authority (BCMA) turned down the  
request of some Block 4 vendors to conduct an  
open market at the area fronting their vending  
site on Dec. 29-31 in keeping with an existing  
policy disallowing such activities at the city  
market during holiday season.

In an emergency meeting called by Mayor  
Mauricio Domogan last Dec. 22, the BCMA  
members composed of market superintendent  
Policarpio Tamayo, COMPAC 1 chief P/Insp.  
Romeo Galpo, public order and safety division  
head Paul Cambod and vendors' association  
representative Nancy Alabanza voted unani-  
mously to disapprove the request of the Block  
4 vendors headed by Angelita Sowain and  
Sofia Villanueva.

Tamayo feared that granting such request  
would open the floodgates for more proposi-  
tions from other groups. "We will definitely  
be swamped by requests from other groups,"  
he said.

Galpo and Cambod raised public order  
and security concerns saying it will result to  
traffic and parking problems and increased  
criminal activities in the area.

Alabanza said she promised the vendors to  
ventilate their grievance before the body but  
just the same voted with the majority.

Domogan took note of the opinions which will form the BCMA  
resolution on the issue.

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He agreed that allowing one group would prompt other associa-  
tions to request their own open markets not only at the city market  
but also in other places like Lakandula St. and even at People's Park.

POSD investigators said the vendors numbering 100 were mostly  
occupants of the less conspicuous areas of Block 4 who seek more  
profit before the season ends.

The city council last Dec. 19 agreed to endorse the request to the  
mayor for favorable action./Aileen P. Refuerzo



## City mis targets automation of building... from page 3

evaluation. This in return will provide immediate information on the results of the initial online review and evaluation conducted by CBAO.

Any recommendations before the actual submission of architectural designs and plans will be known to the applicants via the system.

Another system functionality, according to Diaz, is the online tracking of the application status and updates which will use the web technology platform features.

Responsiveness for all platforms of all types of mobile devices is also an

embedded feature. Transparency of information like cost estimates and fees will also be available to the applicants.

Moreover, the CBO-MITD will also target the online payment feature depending on the project progressive output and results from external consultations and support for the financial module of the system.

Diaz said the system is now at its 40 percent development phase. The initial version of the system is targeted to be published on March 2017.

On the CRM, Diaz said it will provide venue for

assistance and complaints directly to the office or department involved via the Internet technology.

"The web chat features the real time communication with the assigned officer of the day of each department," he said.

However, he said the system is still at its beta version while they will work on the development of stable version.

He said training sessions will be conducted to the member of PACD committee and stakeholders.

They hope to publish the system by February 2017./Aileen P. Refuerzo#

## Editorial...

from page 4

The Mexican and Brazilian programs, through the help of Promundo and other international and national NGOs, targeted these young men aged 15-24 and sought to redefine "what it means to be a man" to include "responsible, monogamous relationships, safe and loving sex, and respect for women."

These programs were combined with the on-going programs for women that sought to improve their perception of themselves and to expand their sense of self-efficacy.

And to a large part they succeeded. Altered attitudes translated into new behavior. For one, condom use went up from 58% to 87% after the program. As a young man so simply said: "Before the workshops I had sex with a girl, I had an orgasm, an then left her. If she got pregnant, I had nothing to do with it. But now I think before I act." \*\*\*

So encouraging have been the results that at least 15 countries, including India, have adapted the program and modified it for their own countries. In fact the manual and guide for teachers and facilitators, complete with workshop activities, is downloadable through the Promundo

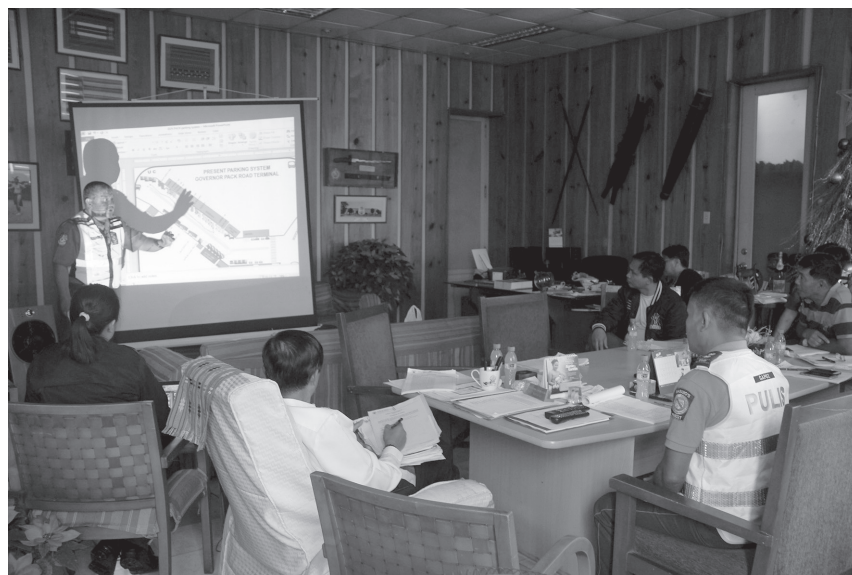
website. This may be of great help to our Department of Education and Department of Health. It is a 6-month program that may be piloted easily for our second year high school students so that they may be educated and their attitudes molded somewhat before they become sexually active or even after they have been initiated into sex.

Social marketing is not social networking. And while social networking can be a part of social marketing, it is but one small part of the multi-sector approach to the problem. For the Philippines, where there is an abundance of talent and creativity, where volunteerism is growing, where technology abounds, the possibilities are limitless and the prospects are bright that we can successfully address the HIV and pregnancy issues among our youth.

I'm sure that we will not lack celebrities willing to act as spokespersons so that our youth may finally realize that it is 'cool' to be a loving, sensitive and responsible male. Our DepEd and DOH can train core groups of male facilitators from among men in the community who can also serve as role models and with whom our young men can be

more open about their feelings, their concerns about their sexuality, the pressures they have to go through. I have no doubt that our universities and our survey companies can come up with simple surveys for baseline and post-program studies on the prevailing attitudes of our youth. I am certain that our brilliant filmmakers can come up with movies or teleseryes that can be used hand in hand with the workshops, posters, and even internet blogs, that will help deliver the message in order to change the landscape and give our youth a chance to evade the bleak future that likely awaits them if we don't act correctly today.

Distributing condoms to public high schools will not cut it. Condoms should be available at health centers where those who need them or want them can avail of them for free. Or they can be distributed through LGUs at targeted places where the likelihood of people engaging in sexual activity is highest, such as clubs and bars. They should not be indiscriminately distributed in schools where doing so may actually give the wrong signals to hormonally charged teenagers and have a negative effect, especially in the absence of properly trained personnel to guide our youth through the tricky and tumultuous path of becoming



**BAGUIO TRAFFIC WOES** - Acting Baguio City Police director PS/Supt. Ramil Saculles briefs members of the Traffic and Transportation Management Committee (TTMC) headed by Mayor Mauricio Domogan on the recommendations and actions to be undertaken by the group to decongest traffic in the city./ By Bong Cayabyab

## DTI partners with media on "e-Presyo" advocacy

CITY OF TABUK, Kalinga - Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Cordillera Regional Director Myrna Pablo urged for closer partnership with media outfits and the provincial consumer networks in the promotion of 'e-presyo' which the Agency launched recently.

With the "e-Presyo", consumers can now be abreast of prices of basic necessities and prime commodities.

With the click of a finger, consumers with android and iPhone cell phone can browse the internet by opening

DTI website at [www.dti.gov.ph](http://www.dti.gov.ph) then go to "CONSUMERS" tab and click on "e-presyo". Consumers see in "e-Presyo" suggested retail prices of basic necessities and prime commodities; monitored prevailing prices and stores with the lowest prices; and comparative prevailing prices (a week ago, a month ago, 3 months ago, and a year ago).

With the creation of the online price monitoring system (OPMS), consumers can check the prevailing prices of basic and prime goods. "This will heighten consumer

knowledge and awareness on prevailing prices, guide consumers on their grocery shopping, and protects consumers.

In a press briefing with local media, also directed DTI provincial personnel to maximize the use of radio in disseminating the salient features of the OPMS.

In response to Pablo's call for media advocacy, Apiong Dalen, announcer of Radyo Natin FM, offered free time slot for DTI to report regular price monitoring updates through her Radyo Natin In Action program. /JDP/PAB-PIA CAR, Kalinga#

## Bontoc karateka delivers support to...

from page 8

hospital bills of 10-year old kidney patient Mary Joy Ligudon, and the rest for the dialysis treatment sessions of kidney patients Marcelino Bacud, Amor Orpilla, Jemaima Gac-oy and Erly Dumansi.

In the wake of the 2013 devastation wrought by super-typhoon Yolanda, Chees led a three-man mission that delivered P2 million worth of rice and relief items to victims in Roxas City, Capiz.

responsible, loving adults. There is no quick fix to the problem of HIV

An outstanding member of the Japan Karate Association, Chees studied under the late Master Kunio Sasaki who introduced the "Shotokan" (knife-hand) style of the martial art in the country and immediate superior Edgar Kapawen Jr. chief instructor of the JKA based at the YMCA of Baguio.

After his three-year in-house apprenticeship with Master Sasaki, Chees

transferred to Germany where he began winning the kata (formal exercise) event in international competitions and. As a result, he was drafted as a member of the German national team.

For this year, Chees and his martial arts students raised 11,286.85 euros in Germany, allowing him to continue reaching out to the sick and needy in the Cordillera./Ramon Dacawi

and unwanted pregnancy among our youth, but we must start quickly on

the path toward the right solutions./ Dr. Minguita Padilla /Rappler.com#



# Samaritans reach out to dialysis patient

As she did in response to previous emergency calls, a retired university professor of anthropology last Christmas deposited P5,000 with the dialysis nurses of the Baguio General Hospital for a kidney patient who almost died for skipping his hemodialysis treatment due to fund lack.

"She came and said the amount was for patient Bryan Kelley Becaca, but, as in her previous visits here, declined to be identified, saying she just wanted to help," nurse Joyce Bayasen said.

A seller of second-hand books also contributed P2,200, the price of one treatment, while Senator Paolo Benigno Aquino shouldered two sessions.

These responses provided respite for the boy's family, giving them lead time to figure out how to sustain his thrice-a-week blood-cleansing session that has to be maintained for a life-time.

"As we had long been squeezed dry, Bryan had to skip two treatment sessions, giving rise to complications, forcing us to have him confined and for hospital to have him undergo emergency dialysis," Claudia, explained Claudia, the patient's mother.

Bryan is the sixth and only boy among seven children of a laborer in Luneta Loacan, Itogon, Benguet. The boy had dreamt of becoming an architect but his plan was shattered in June, 2014 when doctors diagnosed him for end-stage renal failure.

While he was undergoing dialysis that also helped clear his lungs of liquid that accumulated, the boy's sister had to help him breathe with an ambu-bag.

Given the fact that dialysis has to be for a life-time, Becaca's near-death experience is being repeated again and again throughout the country as patients and their families are eventually drained dry by the financial burden of continuous treatment.

This grim reality had led Baguio patients, with support from mayor Mauricio Domogan and the city council, through councilor Peter Fianza, to successfully request Philhealth, the country's medical insurance, to increase its subsidy equivalent to 45 free dialysis sessions to 90 sessions per year.

The 90 sessions-per-year arrangement, however, is reduced when the patient gets hospitalized, with each day of confinement deducted

from the annual allocation.

As patients wait for the new year, when their 90-day annual allocation is renewed, the Baguio Correspondents and Broadcasters Club, the local association of journalists and the Philippine Information Agency is launching this January a signature campaign to make dialysis a free medical service.

The move is towards, once and for all, freeing patients and their families from the constant burden of where to source payment for the next dialysis treatment that, more often than not, comes two or three times a week and for a lifetime.

"Dialysis is being given free of charge in the United States because it is a life-saving emergency procedure," noted a U.S. based Filipino physician.

Meanwhile, people who can help in this season of sharing may call Bryan's cellphone: 09466603344. They may get in touch with him or the hospital dialysis staff during his treatment schedule at 11 a.m on Mondays and Fridays at the B/ Brown Dialysis Center fronting the Baguio General Hospital and at 11 a.m on Wednesdays at the BGHMC./Ramon Dacawi#

## Abreñeans share resources to less-privileged provincemates

BANGUED, Abra – The Badage that 'no one is too poor that one cannot share anything, and even the rich are just as happy to receive a present' is truly applicable as we

celebrate Christmas.

In Abra, various groups and individuals as well as institutions have their own way of reaching out to their fellow Abreñeans.

The Abra Cadua (AC), chaired by Mr. Robert Formoso, a group of Abreñeans here and abroad who have formed friend-

ships through the social media particularly through the Facebook, went to Tineg on December 19 with their wool blankets that symbolize their special care to the less privileged.

This is now their fifth year of doing outreach project through gift-giving on Christmas and during school openings and conducting dental missions with free medicines.

The Annak ti Abra in Canada founded by Ms. Buenavic Bersalona



"Tsip Bato visits Baguio Community".. distributes gifts to children at Burnham Park, Baguio City. With the BCPO Team led by PSSUPT Ramil Saculles, ACD, BCPO.

## Bontoc karateka delivers support to the sick in annual home-coming

In an annual pilgrimage of sorts, former world karate champion Julian Chees returned home to the Cordillera last Christmas and distributed a total of P131,114.57 for the sick and for the construction of a kindergarten school building.

The Igorot martial artist based in Germany spent P79,004.57 for 15 patients and left P52,110 as seed money towards the construction of a kindergarten school in his native village of Maligcong, Bontoc, Mt. Province.

The homecoming kept an annual vow to reach out to people in need, a feeling fueled by the Igorot karateka's early struggle against poverty during his formative years as a miner's son in Lepanto, Mankayan, Benguet.

While in Bontoc,

Chees supported the dialysis sessions of kidney patients Roger Cattel, Mario Lo, Betty Falaweg, Lily Toyorgan, Amelita Baguiwen and Daphne Farong and supported the medical check-up of Milagros Pucnid and treatment of Sheena Pangowen for dengue fever.

Here in Baguio, he extended P3,251.72 fund support to cerebral palsy patient Sarah Bautista and treatment assistance for the dialysis sessions of kidney patients Amor Orpilla, Jan Picana and this writer.

Likewise, the martial artist, head of the JC-Shoshin Kinderhilfe Foundation, also extended P3,000 support for a concert-for-a-cause for patient Francine Safawil of Mankayan, Benguet.

While at the kindergarten class in Maligcong, Chees distributed school pens and other school supplies and set aside a seed fund for the building of a permanent class.

"Having struggled hard for my education, I feel deeply for the children and parents of my home village in their desire to have a permanent structure on which to hold kindergarten classes," the fifth dan blackbelt said.

His latest year-end homecoming came on the heels of his having sent P46,585.97, of which P20,000 was received by Rev. Donald Ssoriano for the reconstruction of the Bethesda Children's Home in Tuding which was destroyed by a fire.

Of the remaining amount P16,000 was used for payment of the

Cont. on page 9

also came back for their gift-giving. This year, they donated books and various library materials to the Nursing Department of the Abra Valley Colleges. They also distributed wheelchairs and medicine to the Abra Provincial and District Hospitals.

This year's special project of the Annak ti Abra in Canada is the scholarship grants to students under the Technical Education Skills Development Authority where 25 students from various municipalities are given free tuition, tools

and even initial food stuff.


In the past years, the organization had been conducting medical-dental-optical mission with free medicines to the parishioners of Bangued.

This year marked a different way and expanded Christmas gift-giving with the Abra Schools Division Office headed by Superintendent Ronald Castillo and the Abra Provincial Police Office headed by PSSupt. Alexander Tagum reaching out to the indigent school children in more depressed areas.

Mayor Corinthia D.

Crisologo and the LGU staff also reached out to all the barangays in their municipality to bring good tidings and make their people feel they care so much for them.

Likewise, a group of friends from Hongkong led by Maria Aurora Bisquera gave t-shirts to the almost 180 inmates of the Abra Provincial Jail. Her group wants to make the inmates realize there is hope for change and reconciliation if only they repent and seriously think of their future as well as their families. /JDP/MTBB - PIA CAR, Abra#

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