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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

City to upgrade sewage treatment plant

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio Domogan last week directed the City Buildings and Architecture Office (CBAO) to prepare the program of work for the upgrading of the Baguio Sewage Treatment Plant (BSTP) at South Sanitary Camp barangay to jumpstart the crucial project and expand the now 30-year old facility.

In his administrative order, the mayor tasked the office headed by Engr. Nazita Banez to come up with detailed engineering plans, cost estimates, Critical Path Method and Program Evaluation Review Technique network of activities for the project in coordination with the Wastewater, Water and Ambient Air Management Division of the City Environment and Parks Management Office and the City Engineering Office.

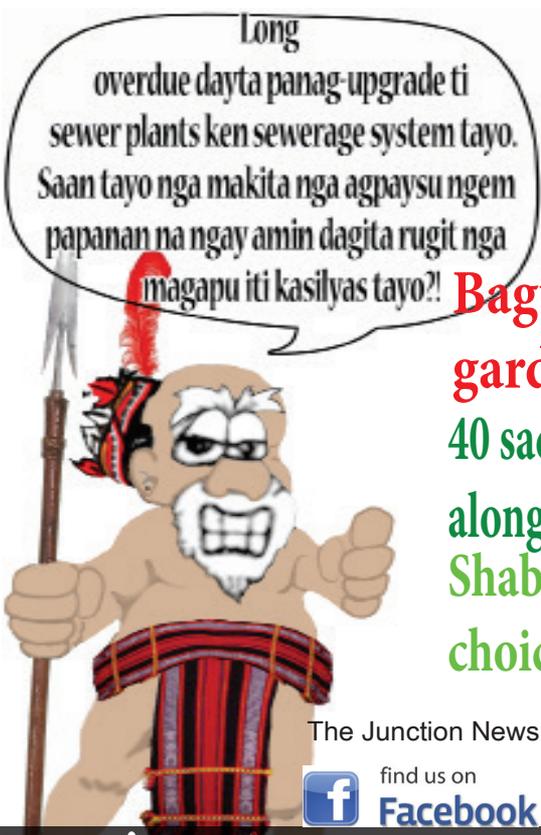
Newly installed CEPM Officer Ruben Cervantes said the POW will serve as the parameter in assessing the offers being received by the city for a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) venture.

CEPMO will also use the POW as basis in determining the funding that will be proposed for the facility for inclusion in the budget for year 2020, he added.

The mayor said that the BSTP is **Cont. on page 7**



STRAWBERRY MAYOR - La Trinidad Mayor Romeo Salda and Annjulye Espadero of Valley Bread unveiled the Giant Strawberry Cake to highlight the 38th Strawberry Festival of La Trinidad, Benguet last week. The giant cake served more than 12,000 slices of cake for local residents and tourists who came during to the capital town of La Trinidad over the weekend./ **RMC PIA-CAR**



Long overdue dayta panag-upgrade ti sewer plants ken sewerage system tayo. Saan tayo nga makita nga agpaysu ngem papanan na ngay amin dagita rugit nga magapu iti kasilyas tayo?!

RDC orders probe on weak internet signals in Mt. Prov. •page 3

Baguio folk embracing urban gardening, organic farming •page 8

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City starts implementation of towing ordinance

BAGUIO CITY – The City Engineering Office (CEO) announced the implementation of the towing ordinance earlier passed by the local legislative body to help clear roads and streets from motor vehicles obstructing the smooth flow of traffic.

Engr. Januario Borillo, chief of the CEO's newly created Traffic and Transport Action Division (TTAD), said since its implementation in January this year, some 40 motor vehicles were towed for being illegally parked in various streets of the city.

He said of the 40 towed vehicles, 10 were dilapidated and stalled vehicles, while the owners of the 30 other vehicles were imposed fines prescribed under the ordinance.

Borillo disclosed barangay officials and residents wanting vehicles towed for obstructing streets in their places

should get in touch with the CEO TTAD for them to dispatch any of the city's two trucks to the place subject of the complaints.

"We coordinate with people within the vicinity of the towed motor vehicles for them to inform the owner to coordinate with us on how to claim their vehicles," Borillo stressed.

He added the towed motor vehicles are brought to the city's pay parking area in Burnham Park or in the CEO compound in Lower Rock Quarry for safekeeping while awaiting the owners to claim the said vehicles after paying the prescribed fines.

Under Ordinance No. 78, series of 2018, the local government shall assess the owner of the towed motor vehicle storage fees amounting to P500 for the first 24 hours and P500 daily until such time that the towed vehicle is retrieved.

Further, towing fees

will also be assessed by the local government to the vehicle owner which

amounts to P1,500 for light vehicles weighing less than 4,500 kilos for the first 4 kilometers, P2,500 for medium vehicles for the first 4 kilometers, and P4,500 for heavy vehicles for the first 4 kilometers.

The ordinance stipulates that an additional P200 for every kilometer exceeding the 4-kilometer limit will be assessed the vehicle owner from the point of towing to the impounding area.

Borillo said that upon receipt of complaints on the presence of stalled or illegally parked motor vehicles in the city's roads and streets, a truck will be dispatched to tow the complained motor vehicles to the impounding area.

He urged motor vehicle owners to strictly comply with existing traffic and parking rules and regulations to prevent their vehicles from being towed and avoid paying fines./ **Dexter A. See**



MAY THE BEST MAN WINS - Incumbent city Mayor Mauricio Domogan and incumbent Congressman who are both running for the Lone District of Baguio this coming May Elections shake hands while exchanging pleasantries during City Hall flag raising ceremonies. The two will be up against former Congressman Nicasio Aliping former Mayor Peter Rey Bautista and businessman Rafael Wasan./ **By Bong Cayabyab**

Measles cases in baguio on the decline but alert still on as mass immunization fails to reach target

BAGUIO CITY – Measles cases in the city had tapered off in the past week but the city remained on the alert level amid the failure of the mass immunization campaign to reach its 100 percent target.

City Health Officer Dr. Rowena Galpo on Tuesday said the incidents peaked from the last week of February until the first week of March but had begun to decline on the fourth week of March.

mandated of local government units under Dept. Order No. 11-2017 or Omnibus Franchising Guidelines issued by the Department of Transportation (DOTr).

It will detail the route networks, transport modes and required number of units per mode to deliver public land transport services and will serve as basis for the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board (LTFRB) in issuing franchises for public utility vehicles.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan recently formed a multi-sectoral team to spearhead the formula-

She said that as of March 26, the city recorded a total of 218 cases with no fatality from January 1 as against last year's four cases for a 5,000 percent or five-fold increase thus the city maintained its alert level status.

Galpo also revealed that the mass immunization campaign started last Feb. 18 reached only 40 percent of the target population of 34,450 children and that they expect only 10 to 20 percent more would be added when the vaccination drive ends on Sunday.

"I don't think we can cover 100 percent of our target in the last week of the campaign but even though the mass vaccination period ends, we will continue to look for the children that we missed," Galpo said.

She however said that they are in the process of mapping up their target population to revalidate their record of unimmunized children in case there was a disparity between the numbers of their target and accomplishment.

Galpo said factors that may have contributed to the low turn-out were

their limited manpower and the loss of confidence of some parents on vaccination.

She said the dengvaxia scare that swept the country contributed to the decrease in the number of fully immunized children which ideally was pegged at 95 percent.

She said that in the past three years, the number dropped to 80 percent.

The mass immunization drive dubbed "Oplan Culex" also administered vaccines against Japanese encephalitis, another mosquito-borne infectious disease and polio and dispensed Vitamin A to target children.

To date no cases of Japanese encephalitis was recorded in the city although a handful of incidents had occurred in the city every year since 2016.

Apart from availing of the immunization program, the health office advised the public to observe health protocol to avoid contracting infectious diseases by keeping babies away from crowded places and building body resistance by practicing a healthy lifestyle./ **Aileen P. Refuerzo**

Stakeholders asked to ready data as transport route planning begins

BAGUIO CITY – Transport associations, barangay officials and other stakeholders here were advised to prepare their data on the commuting population and transportation units for consideration in the drafting of the Local Public Transport Route Plan (LPTRP) for the city.

City engineering office

traffic and transportation management division chief Januario Borillo last Tuesday said consultations with the various sectors and surveys will be conducted in the coming weeks to gather data and proposals needed to draw the plan which will determine the public transportation routes in the city based

on passenger demand and corresponding public transport services.

Borillo whose division facilitates the consultations said this is the proper time to bring out and resolve questions and problems on existing public utility vehicle routes in the city like which routes are oversupplied with PUV units and which ones are in need of more.

He reiterated that the challenge is on achieving a balance between the supply of public utility vehicles and the demand of the commuters.

Borillo said concerns like why the Trancoville and Aurora Hill trunklines are being allowed to serve a longer route and others can also be tackled in the planning.

The LPTRP is →

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40 sacks of garbage hauled in plogging along Kennon, Bued River

TUBA, Benguet - More than 40 sacks of solid wastes were collected during the "plogging" event along the Bued River and Kennon

Road last week. In celebration of the World Water Day, the Environmental Management Bureau-Cordillera, in partnership with the local government unit of Tuba including the barangays along Kennon Road conducted a one day plogging along Kennon Road and Bued River last March 22.

EMB-CAR Information Officer Claire Luminang explained that plogging is a combination of jogging while picking up litter along the path. It started

as an activity in Sweden in 2016 and it spread to other countries following the increased concern about plastic pollution.

As a work out, it provides variation in body movements by adding bending, squatting and stretching to the main action of running, hiking or walking.

The plogging activity was conceptualized to clean up Bued river and Kennon Road which is still closed to traffic. At the same time, to provide physical exercise to the participants composed of government employees from the different line agencies in the region, Tuba municipal employees, barangay officials and folks along

roadline and other volunteers from the private

sector. The more than 100 volunteers were divided into two groups - one group was deployed at the Camp 6 Barangay where they started the plogging activity while the other group started from the Camp 1 Barangay Hall. Both groups converged at the Camp 3 Barangay Hall where all the wastes were collected and a simple program was held.

In her message during the program, EMB-CAR Regional Director Ma. Victoria Abrera encouraged the public to be disciplined particularly in proper waste disposal and management.

"Cleanliness and discipline should be a way of

Cont. on page 5



Benguet farm - Despite the effects of the El Nino, farmers in the province of Benguet particularly along Natubleng in Buguias learn to cope with the effects of the extreme drought due to El Nino using water pumped from the rivers to their farm lands./RMC PIA-CAR

72 Cordillera barangays still drug-affected

BONTOC, Mountain Province - Some seventy two barangays in the different parts of the Cordillera remain to be drug-affected based on the recent assessment conducted by the Oversight Committee on Barangay Drug Clearing program.

Edgar Afalla, regional director of the Cordillera office of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA-CAR), said there were some 40 barangays in the different parts of the region that were reverted back to drug-affected status based on the results

of the validation conducted in the said barangays that were earlier cleared by police operatives and anti-narcotics agents.

Of the 72 drug affected barangays in the region, Abra accounted for the most number of barangays with 31 followed by Baguio City with 23, Kalinga - 7 barangays, Kalinga and Apayao with 5 barangays each and Ifugao with 1 drug affected barangay while Mountain Province remains to have zero drug affected barangays.

Afalla claimed that of the 40 barangays that were

reverted to drug affected status, Baguio City accounted

for the most number of reverted drug affected barangays with 18 followed by Abra with 12 barangays, Kalinga - 6 barangays, 3 barangays in Benguet and 1 barangay in Ifugao while Apayao and Mountain Province did not have barangays that were reverted to drug affected status.

The PDEA-CAR official reported during the first quarter joint meeting of the Regional Development Council (RDC-CAR) and Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) chaired by Baguio city Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan that two barangays in Baguio city, namely Lopez Jaena and Aurora Hill proper, were cleared by the oversight committee from being drug-affected.

According to him, of the 359 drug-affected barangays, Ifugao accounted for the most drug-affected barangays with 93 followed by Abra with 86, Mountain Province - 79 barangays, Kalinga - 38 barangays, Apayao - 31 barangays, Benguet - 28 barangays and Baguio City - 4 barangays.

Earlier, he added, there were some 739 barangays in the different parts of the region cleared by the

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Stakeholders asked to...

...from page 2

tion of the plan in the city.

During the initial consultation held recently, DOTR Cordillera Officer-in-Charge Regional Director Robert Santiago emphasized that under the Omnibus Franchise Guidelines, local government units can establish or create new routes or modify existing ones to meet the demands of passengers in their localities.

Traditionally, the DOTR's Road Transport Planning Division (RTPD) determines the public transportation routes that are for franchising based on requests from PUV operators and other private individuals and corporations resulting to problems on integration and interconnection.

With the order, cities and municipalities can prepare their respective LPTRPs guided by a manual provided by the DOTR focusing on intricacy and intramunicipal trips which will be subject to the finalization by the department./Aileen P. Refuerzo

RDC orders probe on weak internet signals in Mt. Prov.

BONTOC, Mountain Province - The Regional Development Council (RDC-CAR) directed the infrastructure committee and the Committee on Indigenous Peoples Concerns to coordinate with the giant telecommunication companies wanting to put up their cell sites in the different parts of the province to identify the problems they are encountering and recommend interventions that will effectively and efficiently address the weak internet signal province-wide.

The RDC-CAR chaired by Baguio city Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan stated the need to identify

the issues and concerns why the telecommunication companies cannot put cell sites and towers to improved internet signals for better access to communication by the people living in the different parts of the province.

Ralph Pablo, regional director of the Cordillera office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-CAR), said that if the areas targeted by the telecommunication companies for their cell sites are within forest reservations, these companies need to apply for the issuance of a forest land use agreement for the use of the area for such purpose.

However, if the land falls within a private land titled under the name of private owners, the telecommunication companies must seek the consent of the owners of the property.

Domogan rallied local officials to extend assistance to the telecommunication companies to put up their cell sites in their areas of jurisdiction to ensure improved internet signals thus facilitating access to information and the latest developments in the world for users.

He also urged land owners to be reasonable in their rental demands for the lease of their properties by telecommunication

Cont. on page 5

DENR, Boliney LGU led

river clean-up drive

BOLINEY, Abra - In celebration of the World Water Day, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in coordination with the local government unit here, led a clean-up drive along the Ikmin River, one of the main tributaries of the Abra River.

More than 100 workers from the Community Environment and

concerns tackled during the exit conference was the waste from piggeries which are directly dumped into nearby creeks which flow down to the Ikmin River. With this, Engr. Joyce Ann Mangsat of EMB is working with the LGU on the implementation of a memorandum with all barangays prohibiting households to directly dump their piggery's wastes to the creeks.

One of the major

Cont. on page 5

Coming soon: Water wars

By: Rodel Lasco (www.rappler.com)

It is 2384 BC and the Sumerian states of Lagash and Umma are at war. Both cities lie along the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, while the fertile plains of Guedana lay between.

The reason for the conflict? Disagreement over water. A border embankment was established by the old King and an alliance treaty was put in place, but Prince Ila of Umma ignored the treaty and dared to cross the border...

Fast forward to the present and water remains a hot-button issue in many parts of the world. Scientists are predicting that nations will wage war over water as populations increase while freshwater supplies remain constricted. Metro Manila's water shortage is a timely reminder of this incipient crisis.

The problem

Why has water been a contentious resource in history? Part of the problem is the miniscule amount of fresh water on the planet. While almost three-quarters of the earth is covered with water, most of it is salt water which is not directly useful for human needs. Of all water in the planet, only 3% is fresh water. Of this, almost 80% are trapped in ice caps and glaciers, and are thus not readily available. The rest are mainly below ground and only 1% is in rivers.

The Philippines is surrounded by bodies of water, but our main sources of consumable water are rivers and ground aquifers which are recharged by monsoonal rains. Because of our small islands and steep slopes, our watersheds can capture and store only a limited amount of fresh water. When rains fall below their normal amount, we immediately experience water shortage.

As the planet warms, our climate will fluctuate even more between extremes and could lead to greater water demand. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Emissions Scenarios, increased water stress will be experienced starting 2020 – next year!

As reported in the Philippine Climate Change Assessment Reports, our climate scientists are projecting more rainfall in some parts of the country but less in others, the net effect of which is uncertain. Global warming could also lead to worse droughts, more severe flooding, and increased water shortage particularly in areas where water resources are already under stress from growing water demands and inefficiencies in water use.

What we can do

Avert a water crisis, can we? Long-range planning coupled with timely action is essential, but both need political will on the part of our leaders. As one Jedi master said, "Do. Or do not. There is no try."

Stopgap measures can help but they are, by nature, temporary and can even make the problem worse in the future. Supply and demand drivers need to be addressed simultaneously for greater effect. On the demand side, consumers need to do their share in lowering their water footprint.

Recently, while dining in a buffet restaurant, I noticed that servers were quick to replace the plates of diners. Suddenly, it dawned on me: the water and effort needed to wash all those plates. Since then, I use my plate as many times as possible whenever I occasionally find myself going buffet – to the surprise of servers! Each of us can do little things to help conserve water. (READ: Domino effect: Water crisis causing more trash, hurting businesses)

On the supply side, government agencies, in tandem with the private sector and with the participation of civil society, must prepare and implement a road map that will ensure continuous supply of water, factoring in population, climate change, and economic growth forecasts. Such actions will entail trade-offs which are typically painful to some sectors. Our policy makers must therefore be bold enough to pursue lasting solutions in spite of the certain obstacles that are bound to sprout. (READ: [ANALYSIS] The economics of Metro Manila's burgeoning water crisis) **Cont. on page 5**



KAKAMPIMO ANG BATAS

Ihalal mo ba ang lapastangang pulitiko?

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



INSPIRASYON SA BUHAY: "... Dapat mong malaman na sa mga huling araw ay darating ang mga panahon ng kaguluhan. Sapagkat ang mga tao'y magiging maibigin sa sarili, maibigin sa salapi, palalo, mapagmataas, mapagsamantala, suwail sa magulang, walang utang na loob at lapastangan sa Diyos..." (2 Timoteo 3:1-2, Bibliya).

-000-

MGA PULITIKONG LAPASTANGAN, NAGLITAWAN NA: Tiyak kong marami sa atin ang nakasaksi sa lantarang paglapastangan at pambabastos sa sambayanang Pilipino ng mga kandidato sa mga lokal na posisyon na humarang, pumigil, o nagpasikip sa daloy ng trapiko sa maraming lansangan sa bansa sa unang araw ng kampanya noong Biyernes, Marso 29, 2019.

Naganap ang paglapastangan at pambabastos na ito ng mga nasabing kandidato sa pamamagitan ng kani-kanilang mga motorcades, o parada, kasama ang kanilang mga taga-suporta, para maipakilalang tumatakbo sila mga posisyong-lokal sa halalan sa Mayo 2019.

Marami ang pinerhuwisiyo ng mga kandidatong ito, partikular sa mga ordinaryong manggagawang Pilipino na nahuli sa pagpasok kanilang mga opisina dahil sa bigat ng trapikong likha ng mga walang-kaundangang pulitiko. Kasama dito ang isang judge ng Regional Trial Court sa Nueva Ecija na dumating sa kaniyang husgado ng two hours late.

-000-

IHAHALAL MO BA ANG LAPASTANGANG PULITIKO? Ang hindi maipaliwanag ng maraming mga kababayan natin sa ganitong inaasal ng mga pulitikong Pilipino ay yung maliwanag na kaalaman ng mga pulitikong ito na nakakaperhuwisiyo sila sa mga motorcades nila sa mga taong sinusuyo nila upang bumoto sa kanila sa darating na halalan.

Bakit kaya kahit alam na ng mga pulitiko na nakakasama sa mga magiging botante nila ang kanilang mga pagkilos ay ginagawa pa din nila ang ganoong mga gimik? Dahil iniisip kaya ng mga pulitikong ito na tanga ang mga botanteng Pilipino kaya di nauunawaan ng mga botanteng ito na mali na ng ginagawa ng mga pulitiko?

Tanga na nga kaya talaga ang mga botanteng Pilipino, at wala ng pag-asa pa silang makapag-isip ng maayos pagdating sa mga mala-demonyong inaasal, inuugali, o di kaya ay mga ikinikilos, ng mga pulitiko? O, baka naman nagpipikit na lamang ng mata ang mga botante sa kasamaan ng mga pulitiko kasi nababayaran naman ang mga botanteng ito pagdating ng eleksiyon? Kayong mga nagbabasa ng kolum na ito, iboboto ba ninyo ang lapastangang pulitiko?

-000-

MGA MAKASARILING PULITIKO, IBINABALANG DARATING: Kung tutuusin at bubulay-bulayin ng mas malaliman, hindi maikakaila na ang mga ginagawa ng mga pulitikong Pilipino sa ngayon ay pagpapakita ng kanilang sagad-sa-butong selfishness, o pagmamahal sa kanilang mga sarili

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DISPATCH FROM CRAME

On the ICC case vs Xi

Jinping

BY: SEN. LEILA DE LIMA

To quote Edmund Burke, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

In a remarkable move, just days prior to the effectivity of our withdrawal from the Rome Statute, with the help of former DFA Sec. Albert del Rosario and former Ombudsman Conchita Carpio-Morales, along with fishermen, filed a communication before the International Criminal Court (ICC) for crimes committed in the disputed South China Sea against China President Xi Jinping.

In their aggressive and systematic attempt to control the whole of South China Sea, including our territorial waters, China has not only committed a wide-scale and almost irreversible destruction of the environment, but has also deprived our fishermen, as well as those from our ASEAN neighbors, of their food and livelihood.

Ilang beses na ba natin narinig ang ating mga mang-ingisda na humihingi ng tulong sa ating Pangulong Duterte na ipagtaggol sila laban sa panggigipit at pang-aapi ng mga Tsino sa West Philippines Sea? Mayroon bang naging aksyon ng Pangulo dito maliban sa pagtatanggol sa Tsina?

The kowtowing of this administration to China would be absurd if it wasn't so tragic for our fellow Filipinos. Duterte's reactions against reports of bullying by China in the West Philippine Sea have always been: a) to doubt if the Filipino fishermen are telling the truth; b) to scare us that China will wage war on us if we do anything that offends them; or c) blame Pres. Noynoy Aquino.

It is also clear where this administration's loyalty lies. DFA Secretary Teddy Locsin just recently assured China that the Duterte government would look out for the welfare of Chinese in the Philippines and heaped praise for China's ruling communist party. It was also just reported that Pres. Duterte is going back to China again this year; already his fourth visit in three years in office.

Because of the inaction and disinterest by this administration to do anything in spite of mounting evidence of Chinese abuses in our territory, our fisherfolks, backed by two illustrious and highly respected public figures, have no choice but to take matters in their own hands. It was a good thing that we still had the opportunity to go to the ICC and show the world that our citizens would not stand China's destruction of our natural resources and intimidation of our fishermen.

Dumating na ang panahon para pagbayarin ang Tsina sa kanilang pang-aabuso sa ating karagatan at sa ating mangingisda ng naaayon sa batas.

I ask my fellow Filipinos to support this initiative and vote for candidates who have the courage to stand up against China. It is time for us to defend our country and our future.

Editorial...

...from page 4

Being an archipelagic nation, it is unlikely that the Philippines will be embroiled in a water war with a neighboring country. However, unless we act wisely, we may find out too late that the enemy is not without, but within. – Rappler.com

Rodel Lasco, PhD, is an author of several Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, including the forthcoming sixth assessment report. He is the executive director of the OML Center, a foundation devoted to discovering climate change adaptation solutions.

Kakampi mo ang batas

...from page 4

lamang. Maliwanag na walang pagmamahal ni katiting man lamang ang mga pulitikong Pilipino sa ngayon, kaya't kahit nakakaperhuwisiyo na sila sambayanan, okay ang sa kanila.

Ang ganitong mga pulitiko ay ibinabala noong unang panahon pa man na magdadatingan sa daigdig. Ang sabi ng mga nakasulat na babala, sa mga huling kapanahunan, magiging sakim at mapagmahal lamang sa kanilang sarili ang mga tao. Wala silang galang at pag-ibig sa kapwa, lapastangan sa karapatan ng iba, at walang pagkilala o pagkatakot sa Diyos.

Ayon sa mga babala, mamamayagpag pansumandli ang ganitong mga tao, subalit itinatakda nila ang kanilang sarili at ang kanilang mga mahal sa buhay sa isang hinaharap na sinusunog sila ng apoy, at kinakain ng uod, ng walang katapusan. Ang problema lang, isasama ng mga taong ito, na maliwanag na isinumpa, pati na ang kanilang mga taga-suporta. Makinig ang may tenga, tumingin ang mga may mata!

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TAWAG NA PARA SA MGA TANONG, PAYO, AT TULONG:

Sa mga nais magtanong, o humingi ng tulong, sa akin, maaari po kayong tumawag o mag-text sa mga numero ko: 0977 805 9058, 0917 984 2468, 0918 5740193 at 0933 825 1308, o mag-email sa batasmauricio@yahoo.com, o magpadala ng inyong mga mensahe sa aking Messenger sa Facebook (Melanio Lazo Mauricio Jr. Salamat sa Diyos sa Ngalan Ni Jesus!

Shabu, marijuana remain...

...from page 7

the provinces of Kalinga, Ifugao, Mountain Province and Benguet as their major routes and exit points.

According to him, the average price of shabu as of February 2019 within the region is P6,250 per gram and P21,062 per bulto while the average price of marijuana in the region during the said period was P125 per gram and P7,666 per kilo.

He revealed that for the first three months of this year, there were 168 drug personalities that were monitored to be listed and operating within the different parts of the region and they are both categorized as target list and watch list personalities wherein there are 14 target listed and 37 watch listed personalities in Abra, 1 watch listed drug personality in Apayao, 50 personalities target listed and 22 watch listed personalities in Baguio, 4 target listed and 18 watch listed drug personalities in Benguet, 1 watch listed drug personality in Ifugao, 6 target listed and 13 watch listed personalities in Kalinga and 2 watch listed drug personalities in Mountain Province./By Dexter A. See

72 Cordillera barangays...

...from page 3

oversight committee where Abra accounted for the most cleared barangays with 186 followed by Kalinga and Benguet with 107 barangays each, Baguio City – 102 barangays, Apayao – 97 barangays, Ifugao – 81 barangays and Mountain Province – 65 barangays.

Afalla noted there has been a continuous influx of local and foreign tourists in Buscalan, Tinglayan, Kalinga and that there has been alleged swapping of shabu and marijuana in Buscalan and Tabuk city, Baguio over the past several months.

Moreover, PDEA also disclosed there has been continuous cultivation of high grade marijuana in Tinglayan, Kalinga and Kibungan, Benguet through the years, thus, the need for the intensive monitoring of foreign tourists in the said areas and for the police, military and anti-narcotics agents to do stringent intelligence monitoring of drug personalities who are from the lowlands bringing in shabu in the region.

Afalla assured the massive conduct of marijuana eradication operations in the said areas aside from strong collaboration with the barangay anti-drug abuse councils (BADACs) concerned and other law enforcement agencies in the said areas./Dexter A. See

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

VIRGILIO M. FERNADEZ
Applicant
CASE No. 2005-BENG-CAR-996
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on March 26, 2019 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate TX Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on April 16, 2019 at 2:00 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time 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) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable ENGR. ROBERT ALLAN I. SANTIAGO, Regional Director, this 29th day of March 2019, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

40 sacks of garbage...

...from page 3

life," said Abrera who led the team coming from Camp 1 together with Tuba Mayor Ignacio Rivera.

"The activity (plogging) solves the problem temporarily, it is just a pinch of a solution of the problem on garbage. Kahit na pulutin natin lahat ng basura sa kalsada, it won't end unless we are disciplined," she said.

For his part, Rivera called on the public particularly motorists plying Kennon Road to refrain from using the road as a dumping area of garbage. He noted that when Kennon Road was opened for motorists, litters can be found along the road. It is important for road users be disciplined as well, he said.

In February this year, more than six tons of solid waste garbage were hauled from the whole stretch of the Bued River from Baguio City to Camp 1 in Tuba, Benguet following the massive clean up drive led by the DENR-Cordillera family. (JDP/RMC- PIA CAR)

DENR, boliney LGU led...

...from page 3

This is also pursuant to the Clean Water Act.

Vice-Governor Ronald S. Balao-as during the event urged the people of his hometown, Boliney, to actively participate in the reduction of fecal-coliform at the Ikmin River for safe water supply. He also appealed for the continuous support and assistance of the DENR in the preservation of the wildlife and protected areas of Boliney particularly the Bani hot spring

The World Water Day celebrated every March 22 advocates the importance of clean water and sanitation in the development of local communities. This year's celebration was anchored on the theme "Leaving No One Behind." (JDP/MTBB/CAGT-PIA CAR, Abra)

RDC orders probe on...

...from page 3

tion companies and local officials need to intervene to address this matter which has been relayed to the region's policy-making body as one of the problems being encountered by telecommunication companies wanting to put up their cellites in strategic parts of the province.

In its 2017 second quarter meeting in Bontoc, the RDC-CAR discussed the matter of weak internet signals in the province but no significant development on the issue was reached over the past two years due to the excessive lease rentals of private lands being demanded by lot owners for the use of their properties as cellites.

Local officials and people from the different parts of the province have time and again complained on the weak internet and communication signals from the telecommunication companies operating in the province./Dexter A. See

World Water Day Balili river clean-up

BAGUIO CITY – Government agency employees, barangay officials, students, volunteers and personnel from the City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) joined efforts in cleaning Balili river's winding 17.25 km within city boundaries last March 22.

The World Water Day endeavor led by the CEPMO, Wastewater, Water and Ambient Air Management Division (WAMD) Salaknib ti Waig Program led by Engr. Moises Luzano yielded 441 sacks or approximately 8.82 tons of garbage of plastics, sachets, candy wrappers, plastic bottles, slippers and other mixed materials, it was reported.

Balili river with headwaters in the city which winds its way to La Trinidad Valley, Sablan and Tublay, Benguet was scoured by volunteers armed with garbage bags and materials to haul the

garbage stuck in rocks or floating in the currents.

Sagudin-Balili river and tributaries was declared Water Quality Management Area (WQMA) through Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order 05, 2013 which would need protection, preservation and revitalization due to pollution over time.

Said river earlier classified as Class A, is intended for public water supply source but has to undergo conventional treatment to meet water standards, thus the need for clean-up drives conducted by local government units, barangay officials, stakeholders and constituents.

Other activities to clean the river, or rehabilitate water sources is strongly encouraged as environmental concerns are on focus with earth day celebration being done this month.

Barangays within Balili river tributaries from

which more than 1000 kgs of garbage were collected are Private road-Mag-

saysay, and Pacdal (main), while those with 101 to 880 kgs are Sto. Nino-Slaughterhouse, Camdas, A. Tabora, Trancoville, Happy Homes, North and South Sanitary Camp, M. Roxas, Holy Ghost Extension, Honey-moon-Holy Ghost ABCR, New Lucban, and Gibraltar (main), St. Joseph-Navy Base.

Barangays with less than 101 kgs of garbage collected are Upper Gen. Luna, DPS compound, Marcoville, Salud Mitra, Imelda Village, and T. Alonzo.

Lower Magsaysay, Brookside, Holy Ghost Proper, Engineers Hill, Cabinet Hill-Teachers Camp have re-scheduled their clean-up while Lualhati barangay had its clean-up earlier that week.

Engineers Sofronio Pascua and Sunshine Telio of the CEPMO supervised the clean-up from the headwaters to the tributaries. */Julie G. Fianza*

The proposed STP for the city market will address the problem of vendors directly disposing their wastewater at the main sewerage system contributing to the overloading and clogging while the one at Lower Quarry will cover areas that are not being served by the BSTP.

Cervantes said a septage facility is now operational at the BSTP specifically for liquid wastes drawn from private septic tanks by private septage haulers.

He said wastewater from septic tanks is so concentrated and needs a separate treatment facility.

Apart from these new facilities, the city employs measures to prevent pollution of the river system by making the connection to the city sewerage system compulsory and by requiring buildings to have their own septic tanks. */Aileen P. Refuerzo*

Mayor bats for regulation... ...from page 8

percent comes from surface sources, thus, the need for the imposition of the needed regulation on the operation and existence of deep wells in the city to reduce the possibility of the sources of potable water being significantly affected.

Earlier, Domogan was able to bring the matter to the attention of the association of water districts in the country during their recent convention that was held in the city and that his proposal for the devolution of the power to regulate the operation of deep wells got the support of the said group.

He underscored that it is the water district with the assistance of the local governments that are familiar with the prevailing situation in a certain area, especially when it comes to the sources of water that is why whatever application for the operation of deep wells must pass through them so that its impact to the water supply of a certain area will be given due consideration.

He emphasized that the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) will definitely oppose the move of the LWUA to deliver to the water districts the power to regulate the operation of deep wells but what should matter in this case is the sustainable of potable water supply in areas where water districts operate. */Dexter A. See*

Cordillera to send 744... ...from page 8

by the time they will arrive in Davao City.

The Cordillera had its best finish in the Palarong Pambansa in 2015 when it landed fourth place after the week-long sports competition held in Tagum city, Davao del Norte.

Gumuwang claimed the Cordillera delegation will continue to rely on combative sports as one of the major sources of medals but it will also set its sights on other sports disciplines, including team sports, as possible medal producers for the region to improve its medal haul and standing in the annual national sports competition.

According to him, the region's athletes are now in the height of their preparations for the

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

JOSELITO S. FERNANDEZ
Applicant
CASE No. 89-01-1246
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on March 26, 2019 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA - GUIASAD and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on April 16, 2019 at 2:00 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time 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) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable ENGR. ROBERT ALLAN I. SANTIAGO, Regional Director, this 29th day of March 2019, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

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

ENID TRINIDAD
Applicant
CASE No. 97-01-1633
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on March 26, 2019 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate TX Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on April 16, 2019 at 2:00 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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WITNESS, the Honorable ENGR. ROBERT ALLAN I. SANTIAGO, Regional Director, this 29th day of March 2019, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

Baguio folk embracing... ...from page 8

organic agriculture program was able to gain the support of regional agriculture officials who committed to provide organic agriculture farmers with the needed vegetable seeds for them to sustain their production of organically produced vegetables.

Further, Yangot revealed that organic farmers in the city are now in the directory of the agriculture department who will be provided with the needed interventions in the implementation of their desired projects for them to succeed in their chosen endeavor considering that agriculture also thrives in urban centers like Baguio city. Earlier, the local government established the city agricultural division that is currently attached with the City Veterinary Office to oversee the implementation of sustainable programs and projects geared towards improving the state of the local agriculture industry, especially in an urban setting to help provide added sources of income for the people. */Dexter A. See*

Shabu, marijuana remain... ...from page 8

that marijuana products are coming from some areas in Tinglayan, Kalinga and Kibungan, Benguet and records show that personalities from the lowlands in cahoots with local drug personalities are allegedly smuggling marijuana in different forms from the said areas going to some parts of Luzon using major highways in **Cont. on page 3**

Palarong Pambansa to ensure their readiness for the expected stiff competition from their competitors from other regions because of the continuous improvement of the trainings of athletes with the acquisition of new coaches and young and talented athletes from the grassroots level.

Gumuwang appealed to individuals and groups interested to extend whatever assistance to the members of the Cordillera delegation to get in touch with the coaches of the different sports disciplines or regional and division officials of the education department to ensure their support will be properly acknowledged and given due credit by the responsible officials assigned for the said purpose. */Dexter A. See*

Baguio folk embracing urban gardening, organic farming

BAGUIO CITY – A local legislator is elated over the warm reception of residents in the different barangays on the urban gardening and organic farming program being initiated by the concerned government agencies and the local government purposely to help in producing adequate healthy food for the populace.

Councilor Leandro B. Yangot, Jr., chairman of the Committee on Market, Trade, Commerce and Agriculture, said that since the launching of the government's urban gardening and organic agriculture project several years ago, numerous residents in the different barangays have been enticed to actively participate in the said program that resulted to the significant increase in the production of organically raised agricultural crops consumed by no less than the

residents themselves.

Aside from helping in the government's efforts to enhance food security for the people, the alderman explained that the implementation of urban gardening and organic agriculture in the will definitely contribute in empowering residents to maximize the use of their limited spaces to produce food for their families as well as beautify their surroundings with the use of recycled containers instead of dumping the same in the disposal sites.

"We continue to succeed in our efforts to empower residents to embrace urban gardening for them to be able to contribute in significantly improving the supply of organically produced agricultural crops that will cater to their daily supply of food and provide additional supply of crops that could be sold in the available markets to

help generate added income for the said families," Yangot stressed.

He claimed that one of the successful urban gardens in the city is the strawberry production area of the Bilis strawberry farmers in barangay Sto. Tomamas School Area and the cutflower production area in barangay Happy Hollow which are now frequented by residents and tourists wanting to be provided with adequate supply of strawberries and cutflowers.

According to him, some residents in the city are now also engaged in tilapia raising after they were empowered to be actively involved in the city's organic agriculture program to help in improving the supply of organically produced vegetables because of the rapidly increasing demand for the said type of agricultural crops.

He stated that the city's urban gardening and

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Cordillera to send 744-member delegation to Palaro

BAGUIO CITY – The Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) will send a 744-member contingent to the prestigious Palarong Pambansa hosted by Davao city on April 27 up to the first week of May this year.

Agustin Gumuwang, chief of the Education Support Services of the Cordillera office of the Department of Education, said bulk of the athletes and coaches comprising the region's contingent to the annual national sports competition comes from Baguio city which won the overall championship

performances in combative sports thus the region's athletes are trying to improve their performance in the upcoming sports competitions to increase the projected medal haul from various sports disciplines.

"Our combative athletes are the fear of other regions that is why they are recommending the scrapping of the combative sports in the Palarong Pambansa because contract sports is not good to the young children but higher authorities maintained their position to retain the presence of combative sports in the upcoming sports competitions," Gumuwang stressed.

The Cordillera delegation will leave for Davao City on April 23, 2019 to maximize their high altitude training in Baguio city and ensure their fitness for the said competition though the members of the advance party will leave the region earlier to ensure that the billeting schools of the athletes, coaches and chaperons are ready

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Cont. on page 7



Kennon plogging - More than 40 sacks of garbage wastes was collected and hauled from the one-day "plogging" activity along the Bued River and Kennon Road last week in celebration of the World Water Day. Plogging is a Swedish fitness trend that combines jogging or running while picking up litter along the road. RMC-PIA-CAR

Mayor bats for regulation of deep wells by water districts

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan applauded the efforts of the Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) to devolve to the water districts the regulation of the operation of deep wells in their areas of jurisdiction to prevent the proliferation of illegal deep wells in the different parts of the country that tend to compromise the sustainable supply of potable water for the people.

Domogan was able to air his sentiments to LWUA Administrator Jesli Lapus, who was his colleague in the 13th and 14th Congress, when the latter visited the city to spearhead the inauguration of the new building of the Baguio Water District

(BWD) recently.

He expressed his gratitude to Administrator Lapus for initiating the preparation and the subsequent issuance of an administrative order that will devolve to the water districts the regulation of the operation and presence of deep wells in their areas of jurisdiction to abate the continuous presence of illegal deep wells that could affect the supply of potable water for the people in the different parts of the country.

"We are elated over the latest development that we were able to get from Administrator Lapus because it is really the water districts with the assistance of the local governments that are familiar with the prevailing

situation in their places that is why the concerned water district and local officials should be allowed to be the ones to regulate the operation of deep wells in their areas of jurisdiction," Domogan stressed.

He said that the proliferation of illegal deep wells pose a serious threat to the stability of the identified major sources of water in the city that is why there is an urgent need to regulate the operation and existence of deep wells in the different parts of the city.

According to him, more than 70 percent of the sources of water in the city come from underground sources while the remaining almost 30

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Shabu, marijuana remain drugs of choice in Cordillera – PDEA

BONTOC, Mountain Province March 27 – The Cordillera office of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA-CAR) disclosed that shabu and marijuana remain the drugs of choice in the region based on the results of anti-drug operations that were conducted by police operatives and anti-narcotics regionwide over the past several months.

PDEA-CAR regional director Edgar Afalla claimed that marijuana plantations are believed to be located in the hinterlands of Tinglayan, Kalinga based on the results of the previous marijuana eradication operations that were jointly conducted by combined police operatives

and anti-narcotics agents.

Further, Afalla reported during the first quarter joint meeting of the Regional Development Council (RDC-CAR) and Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC-CAR) chaired by Baguio City Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan that a total of 9 positive marijuana eradication operations were conducted based on the information received by authorities that marijuana is present in the said areas.

He added that marijuana hashish and marijuana hash oil are reportedly processed in some areas in Tinglayan, Kalinga and marijuana plants are reaped, dried and compacted into bricks and discretely transported

outside the region.

However, the PDEA-CAR official reported that there was no presence of alleged illegal shabu laboratory in the region but the Cordillera remains the transshipment point of shabu from the lowlands to the different parts of the region.

"Tactical interview of arrested drug personalities disclosed that the supply line of shabu entering the Cordillera comes from the National Capital Region, and CALABARZON passing through the major entry points of the region using public utility buses and private vehicles by some drug personalities in the region," he quipped.

On the other hand, Afalla noted

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