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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

# Baguio now has new Athletic Bowl!

**B**AGUIO CITY –It's a job well done! This was the combined shout of sports runners and other sports enthusiast as well as public officials as the Baguio Athletic Bowl rubberized track was finally unveiled to the public January 29, with top city and Education and Public works officials leading the opening.

After dawn, an Igorot ritual was conducted to escort good fortune for the track oval. The inauguration then proceed with Catholic blessings as well as the first run on the oval – a 5,000 meter run participated in by 120 runners from a broad spectrum of sports enthusiasts in this mountain resort city.

The enthusiasm for the rubberized track comes as the city is about to host the regional DepEd sponsored meet, the Cordillera Admin-  
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**AT LAST!** – DPWH-CAR regional director Danilo Dequito, Congressman Nicasio Aliping Jr., councilors Betty Tabanda and Richard Cariño cut the ceremonial ribbon marking the opening of the newly renovated Athletic Bowl, January 29. The project, now called the first phase of the rehabilitation of the Baguio Athletic Bowl, costs Php 50 million and included not only the reroofing of the dilapidated stands but also the construction of offices for the city government as well as the completion of 75% of the bleachers. – Photo by RJ Cayabyab

Hay, sa wakas, nabigyang pansin din ang pangangailangan ng ating mga kakawawang mga atleta.



## ABANGAN!

Simula March 30, maiinit na 12 election issues!

- > Maiinit na exposé hinggil sa mga iba't-ibang kandidato!
- > Alamin kung karapat-dapat nga ba silang iboto!
- > 15,000 copies per issue - libreng ipamimigay!

Elections 2016 bi-weekly issues soon to come!

**Painit na nang painit!**

Abra reports 1st COMELEC gun ban violator •page 3

Duterte-Cayetano says Philippines on the brink of becoming a narco state, commits to end "drug chaos" for the people •page 10

Elem. and secondary classes suspended on February 1; college on February 27 •page 10

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Tabanda wants congress to reverse Pnoy's SSS veto  
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**Taxi operators, drivers reminded to post notice of fare discount** •page 10

MAGKASANGGA TAYO

- >Mga Korap na Abogado dapat mabulgar!!!
- >Binay- Chiz ang pag-asa ng PINAS!!!

•page 5 BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



Lawyer's Code of Professional Responsibility



(Promulgated June 21, 1988)

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FAIR AND SQUARE

Yes Sirs, there is a moratorium in the city.

•page 5 BY: ATTY. JAMES S. VALEROS





## Businesses and locators in John Hay sign up with BCDA; affirms Sobrepeña's CJHDevCo has no authority over John Hay



Inbound Pacific (IPI) which operates the Mile-Hi Center and Cantinetta inside Camp John Hay, has recently signed two lease agreements with the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) for a total contract price of P60.52 million. (L-R) Engr. Joshua Bingcang (VP-Business Development & Operations Group - IPI), Mr. Ramon Salvador (General Manager - IPI), Mr. Jose Ma. Esteban, (Owner - IPI), Atty. Arnel Casanova, (President and CEO - BCDA), Dr. Jamie M. Agbayani, (President and CEO - JHMC), Ms. Aileen Zosa, (EVP - BCDA)

The state-owned Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) said more firms and locators doing business in the John Hay Special Economic Zone (JHSEZ) have entered into lease agreements with BCDA after Sobrepeña-led Camp John Hay Development Corporation (CJHDevCo) lost its privilege to manage the special economic zone.

"The firms have recognized that CJHDevCo has been divested of its authority to manage and administer the John Hay Special Economic Zone and want to merely protect their investments, thereby preferring to do business directly with BCDA," President and CEO Arnel Paciano D. Casanova said.

Inbound Pacific, Inc. (IPI), a former sub-lessee of CJHDevCo, which operates the Mile-Hi Center and Cantinetta, has recently signed two lease agreements with the BCDA for a total contract price of P60.52 million.

Inbound Pacific's first contract involves the lease

of the 6,275-square meter Mile-Hi Center comprised of retail and restaurant facilities, while the second contract involves the lease of the 261-square meter Cantinetta Restaurant and Café also within the JHSEZ.

Casanova pointed out that the CJHDevCo has no more authority over the John Hay Special Economic Zone and is operating without a legal basis. He said that CJHDevCo can no longer avail of fiscal and non-fiscal tax incentives offered in the economic zone. CJHDevCo has changed its status to a VAT Registered Enterprise and has started passing on VAT charges to its customers and sub-lessees.

"The business locators now recognize BCDA's authority over John Hay after the lease agreement of CJHDevCo has been rescinded by virtue of the Final Award rendered in the arbitration under the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (PDRCI)," said Casanova. The Final Award was also confirmed by Branch 6 of the Regional

Trial Court (RTC) of Baguio.

Following the confirmation of this rescission, the Notice to Vacate was served by the Ex-Officio Sheriff of the First Judicial Region, RTC Baguio Branch 6 to CJHDevCo and all persons claiming rights under them.

Casanova added, "We are taking control of the Camp and the businesses are voluntarily signing up with BCDA. This affirms that the Sobrepeña-led CJHDevCo has no more authority to do business inside the John Hay Special Economic Zone."

"We welcome Inbound Pacific, Inc. and we look forward to working with them towards the development of the John Hay Special Economic Zone into a wholesome family-oriented tourism complex," Casanova said.

Casanova said the new lease contracts mark the start of a new and favorable business environment in the economic zone. He added that other firms have expressed their interest to sign and invest with the BCDA.

## Tabanda wants congress to reverse Pnoy's SSS veto

BAGUIO CITY – Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda sought to appeal to President Benigno S. Aquino III and the Congress "to take immediate measures to alleviate the plight of the indigent Social Security System (SSS) pensioners."

In a proposed resolution, Tabanda asked the Congress to override the President's veto of the pension hike.

She further asked the President to work out the possibility of the national government's subsidizing the amount needed and for the inclusion of the indigent SSS pensioners receiving less than P2,000 in the social pension fund of the Dept. of Social Welfare and Development.

Tabanda said the President's veto of House Bill 5842 or "An act mandating a (P2,000) across-the-board increase in the monthly pension with corresponding

adjustment of the minimum monthly pension under the Social Security System, amending for the purpose Section 12 of Republic Act No. 1661 as amended, otherwise known as 'SSS act of 1997,' albeit done "because of dire financial circumstances," has put to a disadvantage the indigent SSS members.

"The veto would deprive the about two million SSS pensioners who have been waiting for the increase to take effect since the present P1,200 a month pension they are receiving is hardly enough for their daily subsistence," she said.

She said a good number of the SSS pensioners are indigents and have no other source of income or livelihood.

"Certain alternative courses of action may be undertaken to alleviate

the plight of the pensioners. Congress may opt to override the veto of the President by a two-thirds vote or, the national government may subsidize the funding requirement for the pension increase should the fund of the SSS not be sufficient to cover the additional cost," she said.

"If the two alternatives offered above are not feasible, then the indigent pensioners receiving less than P2,000 monthly pension can be included in the social pension fund of the DSWD."

"These are gestures shall reflect the sincerity of the government in caring for its retired persons who contributed much for the attainment of the goals the private sector and which redounded to national progress," Tabanda said.

Tabanda's measure will be discussed at the city council soon./ A Refuerzo

## Traffic Advisory for Panagbenga 2016

BAGUIO CITY – Road closures, one-way and two-way road schemes, parking areas, and road contingencies for Panagbenga 2016 were presented to public utility vehicle (PUV) operators and drivers in a forum at city hall last Wednesday.

The 21st version of the Baguio Flower Festival or Panagbenga starts Feb. 1, with traditional and community-led activities for five weeks ending March 6. Some of the activities are on main roads, thus the need for vehicle passage re-routing. Some main roads are closed from 12:01 AM of February 1 for the flower festival opening parade, for the grand streetdancing parade on Feb. 27 and floral float parade on Feb. 28.

Included in the closure are both sides of South Drive-Teacher's Camp-Panagbenga Park-Camp John Hay Rotunda up to Session road and Magsaysay Avenue intersection; both sides of Abanao-Magsaysay intersection-Abad Santos-Calderon intersection; Abad Santos drive; and Athletic Bowl.

Roads to be closed from 4AM of mentioned dates are Magsaysay Avenue (junction of Bonifacio st.) up to Abanao-Harrison intersection; Shanum street junction-Harrison road up to junction

Rizal Park; and Abanao junction Magsaysay avenue junction with Shuntog st.

On Feb. 29 up to March 6; Session road up to Session Rd-Magsaysay Avenue junction is closed for Session Road in Bloom; with vehicle passage from upper Mabini to lower Mabini street. Abad Santos Drive is closed from Feb. 1 to March 6 for the Baguio Blooms event.

According to Baguio City Police Office Traffic Management Bureau (BCPO-TMB) head Leon Talleo, all roads will be immediately opened after the activity. PUV drivers however are advised to acquaint themselves with the re-routing, loading and parking schemes, follow the set traffic rules and regulations, and maintain discipline among themselves. This was reiterated by newly-appointed BCPO officer-in-charge George Daskeo.

Signages shall be posted in appropriate places, it was known.

Blue trunkline PUVS or those passing through Magsaysay Ave. shall unload passengers at Slaughterhouse and go back to the place of origin. There were suggestions that due to huge cement culverts along the roadside, u-turn should be done further up the road. This is being considered and those concerned informed,

Talleo said.

Trancoville jeepneys going toward the central business district through Magsaysay ave. shall use Bonifacio st. and Rimando road towards place of origin. Aurora Hill jeepneys turn around the rotunda and use Rimando road going back. Passenger loading and unloading may be done in Bonifacio st.

Yellow trunkline jeepneys or those using Naguilian road shall take Shuntog st and Abanao road, back to Naguilian road.

Red trunkline jeepneys, or PUVs passing through Teachers' Camp or Leonard Wood road shall use Gen. Luna Rd and Happy Glenn Loop back to their place of origin. Loading and unloading may be done near the BENECO office, the advisory states.

Green trunkline jeepneys, those using Loakan road shall unload at old Camp John Hay gate in front of Nevada square, back to their place of origin. PUVs passing through Kennon road shall load and unload along Harrison or Gov. Pack road. PUVs using Marcos Highway shall traverse Legarda and Kisad roads back to their place of origin.

Jeepney lines not affected by traffic scheme may go

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## Abra reports 1st COMELEC gun ban violator

**B**ANGUED, Abra - The Bangued Municipal Police Station had recorded the first violation of COMELEC gun ban in the province on January 21.

The violator identified as Maximo B. Ascano, 66, of this capital town was apprehended while attending a wake. .

The apprehension was easily conducted with the help of a concerned citizen who texted the Bangued Police.

The Bangued PNP headed by PSupt. Hendrix Borillo-Mangaldan is now preparing the filing of appropriate charges against Ascano.

Meanwhile, members of

the Joint Provincial Security Control Center (JPSCC) composed of Atty. Mae Richelle B. Beronilla, Provincial Election Supervisor, PSSupt. Antonio P. Bartolome, PNP Provincial Director, and Lt. Col. Monib T. Mamaro, Battalion Commander of the 24 IB, Philippine Army committed to implement the COMELEC Gun Ban and all such other provisions of the Omnibus Election Code to protect the interest and welfare of the general public especially during the election period from January 10 to June 8, 2016./ *Maria Teresa B. Benas - PIA CAR, Abra*

## Baguio's 2016 budget, AIP approved

**B**AGUIO CITY - The city Council last Wednesday approved the city's 2016 budget amounting to P1,622,910,000 along with the 2016 budget and the Annual Investment Plan (AIP) listing the city's priority projects.

The approved budget is higher by P121,400,000 than last year's approved financial plan pegged at P1,501,510,000.

The income component is broken down as follows: personal services - P605,875,000; maintenance and operating expenditures - P523,606,000; capital outlay - P129,143,000; non-office expenditures - P90,990,000; disaster risk reduction management fund - P72,946,000; and development fund - P196,350,000.

The expenditure is distributed as follows: beginning balance - P160,000,000; tax revenue - P385,900,000; non-tax revenue - P223,010,000 and external sources - P850,000,000.

The approved amount includes the P4 million for the city's hosting of the Cordillera Administration Region Athletic Association (CARAA) meet this February.

The AIP which lists the major and barangay projects of the city has a total allocation of P196,350,000.

The major development projects identified under the AIP are the second phase of

the development of the Integrated Solid Waste Disposal site covering the two-hectare engineered sanitary landfill, land development, access road and weigh bridge at Sto. Tomas Central with a total amount of P50 million and the partial rehabilitation of the Baguio Convention Center with a total cost of P40 million.

Other major projects listed were the various barangay development projects with a total cost of P28 million, rehabilitation and preservation of the Asin minihydro, P25 million; construction, installation or repair of traffic facilities, P12 million; parks improvement P10 million; continuation of City Hall improvement, P8 million; and continuation of improvement of swimming pool and facilities, P7 million.

In his budget message, Mayor Mauricio Domogan said the budget is geared at sustaining the city's thrusts on maintaining the integrity of the environments, sustained economic growth, poverty reduction and empowerment of the poor, accountable and participatory governance and safe and resilient city.

"We have set our thrust early in my first term and our budgets have always been geared towards continuity and sustainability of programs that address the priorities defined in our plans," he said.

"Our fiscal policies as pro-

## Domogan creates local Human Rights Action Center

**B**AGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio Domogan last week created the Baguio City Human Rights Action Center (NHRAC) and organized the Baguio City Human Rights Action Team (BCHRACT) to take charge of human rights concerns including human rights promotion and complaints on human rights violations.

The creation of the said center is in line with the Commission on Human Rights (CHR)'s Human Rights Action Center and Rule of Law (HRAC and RoL) strategy to mainstream human rights principles at the grassroots level and to enable the city government to undertake its mandate to respect, protect and fulfill human rights within its jurisdiction.

In Administrative Order No. 8 series of 2016, the mayor designated city administrator Carlos Canilao and acting city legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes as chair and co-chair respectively of the team with the city social welfare and development officer, city planning and development coordinator, city health services officer, city public information officer, Philippine National Police human rights affairs officer, schools division superintendent and the presidents of the Baguio Center for Young Adults and the Baguio City Federation of Persons with Disabilities as members.

The team will be tasked to develop and implement the human rights plan of the local government unit; propose to the Sanggunian the integration of human rights programs, projects and activities in the annual budget appropriation; recommend appropriate legislations to the

nounced in our budget call abides by the good financial housekeeping component of the seal of food local governance of the Department of Interior and Local Government by adopting the bottom-up budgeting in the allocation of resources to address poverty issues,"

"We have engaged the

Human Rights Committee of the Sanggunian; utilize available resources for human rights promotion activities at the City of Baguio; and spearhead and coordinate the implementation of human rights programs, projects and activities.

The team will also serve as hubs for Access to Justice Network; provide legal and /or paralegal assistance to victims of human rights violations; encourage participation of local government officials and CSOs in human rights promotion activities; mobilize sectoral groups and locally-based people's organizations and civil society organizations in the community to participate in human rights activities; serve as information centers on Human Rights Programs and Services, including referral systems within the City level, among others.

The CHR-CAR headed by officer-in-charge regional director Romel Dagumol recently facilitated the organizational meeting of the BCHRACT members led by Canilao.

He said the HRAC and RoL "widens the democratic space" for civil society, non-government and people's organizations to be part of local governance particularly on addressing issues and concerns on human rights, rule of law and access to justice.

BCHRACT's formation is based on the Dept. of Interior and Local Government-CHR Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 series of 2014 entitled Mainstreaming Human Rights through Rule of Law and Access to Justice at the Level of Provinces, Cities, Municipalities and Barangays./ *A Refuerzo*

civil society organizations in every step of local governance to ensure that the needs of the community are addressed in this budget proposal. To optimize the use of our limited resources, austerity measures are established yet we will not sacrifice efficient and effective urban public service delivery," the mayor said. /*A. Refuerzo*



**CR PHOTO GALLERY AND FLOWER GALORE** - City hall's utility worker Danilo Dizon makes sure that the comfort room at City Hall fronting the Mayor's Office gives real comfort to the public with flowers and plants and a small photo gallery featuring Baguio's parks and landmarks. - *By Bong Cayabyab*

## BRM calls for stronger partnership for watershed protection

**B**AGUIO CITY - - The Baguio Regreening Movement (BRM) calls for stronger public and private partnership for the continuing protection and preservation of the Busol Watershed, the city's main watershed.

BRM Chairperson Erdolfo Balajadia made the call during a kapihan media forum Thursday, where it was tackled that even as fencing of the Busol watershed is already on-going, illegal structures and settlers within the forest reservation have yet to be removed in spite of a Supreme Court order.

"I urge the people to cooperate with us; we are trying to protect the environment. Because in the first place para sa atin 'to - ikaw, ako, at sa inyo,"

Balajadia also called on the City Council to push for the enactment of the Environment Code for the city.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources Assistant Regional Director Augusto Lagon, informed that P11 million funds is available for on-going fencing of the Busol

watershed. This is part of the P16 M DENR Secretary Ramon Paje committed for the protection of the Busol watershed when he visited Baguio last year. The remaining P5M will be allotted for re-greening projects for Busol, he said.

Baguio Water District General Manager Salvador Royeca also reported that more than 20 organizations donated for the fencing project, to complete the P32M needed funds to fence the Baguio side of the said watershed.

Royeca also reported that 12 fence spans were already constructed from the P3M donated by BWD and P1M from the Benguet Electric Cooperative.

Other BRM partners that joined the forum were the Baguio City Police Office headed by City Director PSSupt. George Daskeo, City Legal Officer Atty. Melchor Rabanes, NBI chief investigation Darcy Binay-an, City Building and Architecture Office Representative Engr. Orlando Genove, and Private Sector Volunteer Rogelio Gose. (*JDP/CCD & Abigail Clemente - PIA-UC Intern*)



# IS THERE A PLAN 'P'?

## If Aquino couldn't trust Roxas, why should we?

If presidential candidate Manuel Roxas 3rd looked so morose at the Senate hearing the other day on the Mamasapano massacre – especially when Senator Juan Ponce Enrile grilled him on why he did not do anything to save the massacred police commandos – it was most probably because he has already been mourning the fatal impact of that incident on his bid to be the next Philippine President.

Enrile snarled at him and Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin: “You two are in charge of the nation's security! You on internal security, Secretary Gazmin (who sat beside Roxas) on external security, but you did nothing [to save the 44 Special Action Force troopers]?”

Indeed, Roxas by his own admission, said that he was informed of Oplan Exodus, its success in killing a wanted international terrorist, Marwan, and of the troopers' difficulties at about 7:00 in the morning, after which, he said, he promptly informed President Aquino through an SMS message of what he just learned.

## EDITORIAL

“What was Aquino's response?” he was asked. Roxas said, “He replied: ‘thank you.’”

Didn't Roxas find that response strange? Did he not get angry that the police, which was supposed to be under him, undertook probably the most important anti-terrorist operation ever in the country, and he knew nothing about it?

Why did he not ask Aquino about it when they were on the presidential jet for an hour-and-a-half just sitting, watching the clouds pass by on their way to Zamboanga City?

What kind of a head of our internal security was he? An international terrorist was terminated, there was an operation still ongoing in which the troopers were in some trouble, yet Roxas didn't even take the initiative to discuss these important developments with the President?

Almost the whole day of Jan. 25, 2015 in Zamboanga, Roxas was with Aquino, getting messages that indicated that the police troopers were trapped in enemy territory, and the defense secretary – who could have given express orders to the military to save the SAF troops – was by his side.

Yet Roxas didn't bother to ask – to demand – that Aquino call for an emergency command conference to determine exactly what was happening and plan how to save the SAF members who were still locked in battle.

He was exchanging text messages with his police officials, of course. But no, he did not bother to ask for a command conference. Why?

“When I got the reports of an encounter, it seemed just another encounter in the normal course of events. There was no sense of urgency,” he said. He thought it was just another encounter, in which an international terrorist is killed in a raid deep into Muslim insurgent territory?

What did the police officials need to do to emphasize to him a “sense of urgency?” Show him pictures of bloody SAF troopers on the ground?

Roxas' excuses could have sounded logical if he were in his office in Manila, and moving from meeting to meeting. But he wasn't. The whole day he was with the President, ranking police and military officers, and with defense secretary Gazmin, as reports on the carnage in Mamasapano trickled in.

Did he not find it strange that Aquino the other day suddenly asked him to go to Zamboanga ostensibly to check what really happened in the reported bomb attack in the city, only to be told when they got there that an international terrorist had been killed in Mamasapano near Cotabato City, an hour away by helicopter from where they were?

Roxas' last excuse was pathetic: “I didn't even know there was an operation going on. We were blinded, and we didn't know we were blinded,” referring to the fact Aquino had not informed him and defense secretary Gazmin of Oplan Exodus. “The entire morning I and Voltz (Gazmin) were looking at each other, wondering what was happening,” he even dared to say.

The President didn't trust him and Gazmin enough to tell them about Oplan Exodus.

When he found out about it early in the morning, Roxas did not even have the guts to ask Aquino what was really going on, who had the task of informing the President about the progress of the operation and why the President blindsided him on such an important operation, to demand that the Zamboanga visit be cut short so that the entire presidential party could focus on taking immediate action to save the lives of the SAF troops under him. That would have been leadership.

Men with just an iota more of integrity would have resigned right there and then, refusing to accept and dignify the President's act of going over his head in the chain of command and demonstrating to the whole world that he didn't trust his interior secretary. And this guy of weak command sinews and moral fiber wants to be President of this Republic?

Aquino himself couldn't trust Roxas with Oplan Exodus, why are they, then, asking us to trust him to run the country?

The Mamasapano and “Yolanda” disasters were litmus tests for Roxas to show his leadership. He utterly failed. The Mamasapano hearing the other day provided the last nails for Roxas' political entombment.

### Plan “P”

I have been hearing rumors that given Roxas' inability to demonstrate his leadership and his low poll ratings, Aquino and his Yellow Cult – worried that they could end up in jail this year if they lost power – are launching a Plan B, or rather Plan “P” which involves shifting their support and resources to Sen. Grace Poe-Llamanzares.

The talk is that Roxas has been forced to rely almost entirely on the Araneta-Roxas wealth, rather than on the Liberal Party-Yellow Cult's campaign kitty, and that the new Interior Government Secretary Senen Sarmiento had been given explicit instructions to wait for express orders from Aquino and Senator Franklin Drilon on the release of DILG funds for use in the May election campaign.

The Mamasapano hearing provided us with indications that Aquino may have, indeed, shifted his support to Llamanzares. Llamanzares appeared to be supportive of the plot to clear Aquino of any accountability for the Mamasapano massacre, and seemed to want the hearing to end as soon as possible. Aquino's lawyer, Senate President Franklin Drilon, was on Llamanzares' side the whole time, and had been seen whispering to her from time to time.

Although I admire very much presidential candidate Rodrigo Duterte for his anti-elite worldview,

Cont. on page 5



## BIG NO TO CORRUPT JUDGES!!!

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

**UAAP must be disbanded**

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



**LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS:** “...in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit...” (Ephesians 2:22, the Holy Bible).

-000-

**WOMANIZING IS A CRIME, AND A SIN, WHETHER DONE WITH FINESSE OR NOT:** So, is it ok to be a womanizer if it is done with finesse? And, can we be clarified, when is womanizing, particularly of a very-much married man, done with finesse? Can philandering and adultery, which cause family break-up of families every time they are committed, be any less a crime or a sin if done with finesse? Oh well, how long will Filipinos put up with those who openly advocate adultery and sinfulness?

-000-

**UST MUST TELL THE TRUTH ON ALLEGED GAME FIXING AT UAAP:** I appeal to the University of Sto. Tomas to come out with an official statement explaining the truth about reports in the social media which say that it had disbanded its basketball team at the University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP) and fired the team's coach allegedly because of game fixing during its championship match with the Far Eastern University team last year. Is this true or not?

-000-

**UAAP MUST BE DISBANDED:** But whether it is true or not, I always thought that the UAAP should itself be disbanded, for its failure to achieve what it set out to do among student athletes when it was first organized---that is, to develop sportsmanship and good character, not only as an athlete, but as a human being. One needs only to watch any UAAP game to realize that players, coaches, and students alike have imbibed nothing but shameless self-aggrandizement, greed, and the attitude of winning at all cost.

-000-

**WHO CAN SOLEMNIZE MARRIAGES IN RP:** Let me list down here the people who have been authorized by the Family Code of the Philippines to perform marriages in our country, as an offshoot of a question that we featured in this column the other day. Under Art. 7 of the Code, there are five groups of people who can solemnize marriages in the Philippines. The first group are judges and justices, within their courts' jurisdiction.

Then, any priest, rabbi, imam, or minister of any church or religious sect duly authorized by his church or religious sect and registered with the civil registrar general. Third, any ship captain or any airplane chief or pilot, but only when those who are to be married, passengers or crew members, are at the point of death, and only when the ship is at sea or the plane or is in flight, or when they are at stopovers or port calls.

The fourth group are military commanders who are commissioned officers of units to which a chaplain is assigned and, in the absence of a chaplain, during military operations, but only when those to be married are at the point of death. The last group are consul generals, consuls, or vice consuls, in their areas of assignment.

-000-

**HAVE YOU BEEN BROUGHT NEAR TO JESUS?** Members of the Anak ng Diyos Kadugo Ni Kristo (Children of God Blood Kin of the Christ) Church are being asked, what is the Biblical basis for their assertion that they are a part of those who were “sent” by Jesus Christ under John 20:21. I put quotation marks on the word “sent” because it has a special meaning for AND KNK members, and it is that, they are sent to preach the Gospel and to save souls, as a fulfillment of the end-time work of Jesus.

There are many Biblical bases of this claim, of course, but among my favorites are those found under Ephesians 2:11-22. In sum, these verses in Ephesians give the assurance that we who are “far away”---meaning those who were not originally part of God's nation---have been brought near by the blood of Jesus (that is why AND KNK members claim they are “blood kin” of the Christ) through faith in Him as God and Savior.

And so we believe, deep in our hearts, that we are “no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In Him, the whole building is joined together, and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord...”

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



## FASTRACK

>Business Permit One Stop Shop Doing Great  
>Lt. Col. Marcelino bust, another fallacy ???  
(reprint from last week)

BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



## MAGKASANGGA TAYO

>Mga Korap na Abogago dapat ma bulgar!!!  
>Binay- Chiz ang pag-asa ng PINAS!!!

BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



## FAIR AND SQUARE

Yes Sirs, there is a  
moratorium in the city

BY: ATTY. JAMES S. VALEROS



**Business Permit One Stop Shop Doing Great-** I had the fortunate experience of having to renew and secure a couple of business permits at the Baguio City Hall and I must say that I was impressed. I was expecting the usual, bunch of papers and accompanying exercise that goes with having to go from one office to another securing the approval/clearance of that particular office, all told working on a business permit could take a couple of days to a week, it turns out, that was then. I was pleasantly surprised when after I secured a barangay clearance, the only other document I was going to show to the other offices (several at that) was a piece of 2 inches X 4 inches piece of paper, just that. I had to ask the guy at the one-stop-shop a couple of times if this is all I needed to bring, and yes indeed that's it as they're trying their best go paperless. From the health dept stop, to the Cepmo stop, to the treasury and up to the Fire station, everything was a breeze, no hassle. Just fall in line and that's it, it was an amazing experience.

I asked around who was responsible for this and I learned that it was the now acting city treasurer Mr. Alex Cabarrubias (am not sure if I spelled his name right); therefore, what I did was to drop by again at his office to confirm that it was indeed his brainchild to go paperless. Great work, Sir Alex. The public needs less hassle, and the with so much available technology, government should make things easier for the transacting public. In fact, more transactions should be done on line.

If I may also suggest, why not make securing your community tax certificate (cedula) also online at least for those who are renewing? After all, the basic information of the person is already in your data base, and this suggestion also goes for the annual realty tax payments which I believe can also be done on line.

I hope Sir Alex you can look into this couple of suggestions from this humble columnist.

Oh, and at the Fire Station headed by Sir Bangyod, Sir if I may also suggest, why not have your guys, those literally writing the basic information do it instead in front of a computer, para hindi na magsusulat and perhaps you can also integrate it with the system of the city so that once again mapabilis ang proseso? Although, if I may say the process of securing the fire clearance was already fairly fast enough given the volume of clients.

To these two (2) gentlemen, Sir Alex Cabarrubias, Acting City Treasurer and Fire Chief Joe Fernand Bangyod, Saludo Ako sa inyo. MABUHAY PO KAYO !!!

####

**Lt. Col. Marcelino bust, another fallacy** - What a waste, Ltunay na nakapanghihinayang as most of us will say. Those in the position of Lt. Col Marcelino or those in a similar position given the extremely huge temptation to a do A BAD-BAD deal and go to bed with the enemy and become one with them is as some would say nakapanghinayang at bumigay sa matinding tukso. No need for me to discuss the cons of drug dealing, no if's and but's for drug dealers more so for producers, the death penalty as what they do in China and elsewhere is justified as far as I am concerned. It is such an absurd cop-out for anyone to imagine and/or even consider the idea that Marcelino was doing intelligence work (front line ground intel work at that), no way. Even bagitos and those with basic intel training will know that common-sense alone will tell you that Marcelino is and can no longer be that type of intel operative. He is fairly known, in other words, lalakad pa lang siya, sunog na siya. Therefore, WTF, was he doing entering the factory with their own key with the company of an alleged informant? It is simply incredible for anyone to believe that he was there doing undercover/covert intel work, no way Jose!!!

Question now is, paano palulusutin si Marcelino aside from the possible technical legal maneuvers that some extremely corrupt Judge will cherish, or are once again going to witness one insulting but highly ridiculous moro-moro scenario? I hope that for the numerous victims of drug use/abuse etc..., the wheels of justice will take its turn accordingly so that this will be one glaring example for those that are in power and have the position to not go to bed with the enemy they have sworn to go against.

**Mga Korap na Abogago dapat ma bulgar-** Sabi nga nila you can run but you cannot hide, sabi rin nila IGNORANCE OF THE LAW DOES NOT EXCUSE ANYONE, more so if lawyers ARE INVOLVED and they want to make it appear that they are always above the law at ang daming palusot, palusot ditto palusot duon. Ang tanong ngayon ay paano ma bubulgar ang isang abogago? Simple lang mga dear readers, una sa lahat ay alamin nyo ang loife style nila, sila ba ay maluhog, sila ba ay mayroon mga anak sa labas ( isang matinding basehan para ma deisbar ang isang abogago) at mga ibang mga kaso katulad ng sa isang abogago na may malaking utang nap era sa kanayang kliente, bawal din mo yan ayon sa Code of Professional Conduct for Lawyers. Bilang Director for Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices ng Linis Gobyerno. Sa totoo lang ay hindi tayo nagkukulang sa mga info na ipinararating sa atin. Kadalasan ay ang proseso ng pag-beripika or yung sinasabing verification process on the information we receive ang kelangan bigyan ng mas matinding oras at panahon ng ating mga researchers ng sa ganoon ay maganda-ganda ang ating maging expose kung saan gagamitin na rin natin para ebidensiya sa reklamo na ating isasampa sa maaring sa Office of the Ombudsman (OMD) , sa Supreme Court (SC) o kadalasan ay sa Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) na kung saan ay sa aking pag kakaalam ay napakadaling lutuin ng akusadong abogago ang reklamo sa kanila.

Natutuwa ako na wala akong kakilalang corrupt na Abogago sa Baguio at Benguet, Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! (O REALLY???). Kayo po ba mga dear readers, may kilala po ba kayo na mga korap na Abogago sa Baguio at Benguet??? Kung mayroon kayong mga info, aba eh, huwag na kayo mag-atubili and send to me the info and leads at atin itong ibe-verify at garantisadong i-eexpose natin ang nasabing ABOGAGO na nagmamalinis. Kaya naman, nakahayag sa isyu na ito sa pahina 7 ang sinasabing Code of Professional Conduct for Lawyers para sa kaalaman ng ating mambabasa na kung ano ang kanilang dapat na maasahan mula sa kanilang abogago sapagkat alam naman na ito ng ating mga Abogago ngunit karamihan sa kanila ay hindi nila ito pinapansin.

PWEEEE.... SA MGA KORAP NA ABOGAGO AT GAHAMAN NA MGA HUWES!!!

#####

**Binay- Chiz ang Pag-asa ng PINAS-** Pasensya na Poe mga supporters ni DU30 at All4GP, sapagkat ang inyong lingkod ay isang dakilang supporter ni Vice-President and soon President Jejomar Binay at Keso (Chiz) Escudero. Ano ba talaga mapapala natin kay DU30 kung hindi mga salvage dito at salvage duon, patayan dito at patayan duon, takutan ditto at takutan duon, ngunit paano na ang ating ekonomiya??? Eh kay Grace Poe, paikutin lang siya ng mga nakapaligid sa kanya. Nakikita naman natin ang nangyayari kay Presidente Abnuy, na isa ng dati ng pol-politiko, naging 1-term congressman at 1-term senatong ay ganuon-ganun na lang kung paikutin siya ng kanyang mga JOWA . Hi! Hi! Hi! Eh di lalo na ang isang Grace Poe na isang walang-kawalang karanasan at kaalaman sa Governance and Philippine Politics. Samantalang si Binay ay subok na sa pag hahatid ng serbisyo publiko lalong lalo na sa mga dukha , sa mga masa etc..., at si Senatong Escudero na future VP ay matinik sa mga polisiya maging sa local, and international policies. KAYA MGA DEAR READERS, BINAY-CHIZ NA sa darating na halalan.

## Editorial...

## from page 4

*the Mamasapano hearing added to my suspicion that his bark may be worse than his bite.*

*He has been bragging that he knows what really happened in the Mamasapano massacre because he was there, hinting that he was in the confidential briefings with the President. While he says the information he holds is confidential, he may be forced to disclose what he knows in a Senate hearing. But Enrile issued an open invitation for him to attend the hearing. He made no appearance at the Senate and we don't hear his bark over Mamasapano any more.*

*The only presidential candidate that has been unscathed by this Mamasapano hearing is Vice President Jejomar Binay. Quite cleverly, and in contrast to Duterte, he has kept his mouth shut - after commiserating profusely with the SAF 44 relatives last year, and the image embedded now in the public's mind is that of Binay saluting a huge mural of the fallen troopers./tiglaio.manilatimes@gmail.com*

**M**any times in the past during meetings of transport operators, I myself would hear the Honorable Mayor Domogan say there is no moratorium existing in the city.

Always, I would take these pronouncements lightly believing that the Mayor did not truly mean them. For, politicians as we all know, say one thing on one occasion and on the next utter the opposite, as if everything is but a joke.

It is no longer a joke, however, when a high official of the DOTC-CAR (which office implements supposedly the moratorium) facing an administrative charge for neglect of duty would consider the same pronouncement of the Mayor as if it were a gospel truth.

Allegedly, this happened during the transport dialogue / forum on 26 November 2015 attended by no less than the LTFRB Chairman, Atty. Winston Ginez, his Board Members, Congressman Aliping and Mayor Domogan. Here, the DOTC official facing an administrative charge in a case, claimed that the Mayor emphatically repeated his previous pronouncements that there is no moratorium in Baguio City.

Being so, she alleged she did not commit any violation of the moratorium in accepting new CPC or franchise application from 2003 to 2007. Hence, there is no neglect of duty committed basing from what Mayor Domogan declared in the forum.

In the context of his pronouncement, nevertheless, I still believe the Mayor did not strictly mean what he said during the forum. For, he also said he will continue to endorse new franchise applications if there exists a public need and the requirements therefor are complied with. The requirements he was referring to are the Route Measured Capacity survey being done only by DOTC personnel and the LGU recommendation for exemption to the moratorium. This suggest that the Mayor admits the fact that there is truly a moratorium in Baguio City but that filing of application and grant of the franchise is subject to the above requirements.

It will be remembered that Mayor Domogan approved Resolution Nr. 292, Series of 1998 passed by the City Council (yours truly drafted the proposed resolution thereof which was sponsored in the Council by Atty. Richard Cariño). The resolution as titled states:

(2)

**RECOMMENDING TO THE LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD (LTFRB) EN BANC FOR THE IMMEDIATE AMENDMENT OF ITS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. 96-002 DATED 10 JANUARY 1996 SO AS TO INCLUDE, IN CLEAR AND UNMISTAKABLE LANGUAGE THE SUSPENSION OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS OR ISSUANCE OF FRANCHISES TO OPERATE PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLE SERVICES IN OR TOUCHING BAGUIO CITY, WHETHER IT BE ALONG INTRA-CITY ROUTES OR INTER-CITY AND INTRA-REGIONAL ROUTES. AND WHETHER IT BE FOR NEW APPLICATIONS FOR FRANCHISES OR MERE PETITIONS FOR AMENDMENT OF LINE.**

The resolution as recommended became LTFRB Memorandum Circular No. 98-026 imposing a moratorium in Baguio City and BLIST. The implementation of the moratorium was strengthened further by the issuance a DOTC Memorandum dated 26 June 2006 stating that only the Department Secretary can grant exemption to the moratorium. In view of this mandate, many franchises were revoked by the Secretary, and LTFRB-CAR personnel responsible for allowing the issuance of franchises in violation of the moratorium were administratively charged. Based on the foregoing facts, it is doubtful whether the Honorable Mayor could have meant what he said many times that there is no moratorium in the city.

Yes Sirs, there exist truly a moratorium in Baguio City since 1996 and LTFRB-CAR should not have accepted the filing of new franchise applications and caused the grant of the same, thus, further congesting traffic in the city. Unfortunately it did, thereby accounting for the thousands of illegally issued franchises conveying at great risk the riding public in the city and BLIST.



## Baguio now has new...

from page 1

istrative Region Athletic Association (CARAA), which opens on February 6.

"It's a job well done," enthused Department of Public Works and Highways-CAR (DPWH-CAR) Director Danilo Dequito as he congratulated main contractor RUA Construction and tartan track installer Spurway Enterprises. Dequito gave special mention to Baguio Rep. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr. for working for the allocation of funds from the national government to finance the rehabilitation of the Athletic Bowl.

"This is just the second phase of the entire project," Dequito said, adding that more government allocations will be forthcoming to complete the renovation of the 70 year old sports complex of the city.

"It's a dream come true!" Rep. Aliping cried saying that the first two phases of the work has already improved the condition of the then dilapidated Athletic Bowl. He also thanked the DPWH-CAR for constructing a world-class sports facility in time for the

CARAA.

"We also have to thank Speaker Feliciano Belmonte, for facilitating the release of funds for this very vital piece of infrastructure," Rep. Aliping added.

"This is a product of unity and cooperation among the various offices concerned," Rep. Aliping said.

He explained that the first phase of the work was for the rehabilitation of the west-end stand including the repair of its roof as well as 75 percent of the bleachers. The new west-side bleachers also house office spaces for the city government's use and cost a total of P50 million.

The second phase which cost a total of P60 million included the renovation of the remaining 25 percent of the bleachers and the construction of an Olympic-size track oval.

Baguio District Engineer Alexander Castaneda said that the new bleachers can now accommodate 6,500 spectators.

He added that additional amounts will be forthcoming to finance the construction of the east-side bleachers,

the fencing of the rubberized track oval and the construction of a more aesthetic awards grounds just below the Athletic Bowl grand stand.

"This will cost another P50 million, and the fourth phase will include the lighting facilities for the track oval which will probably be allotted by 2017," Castaneda added.

Meanwhile, the top five winners of the 5,000 meter run male category are Cesar Castaneto (first); Ray Mart Quesada (Second); Vinson Ramos (Third); and Dino Mantilez and Jojo Sugot, fourth and fifth, respectively.

On the distaff side, Cristabel Martes, a 2-time gold medalist in the South East Asian Games, grabbed the top prize, followed by 9-year old Mabini Elementary School pupil Aira Gali, Cherish Joy Bugaoan, Kaizelle Vergara, and Agustina Angunayon.

The winners received P5,000 (first), P4,000 (second), P3,000 (third), P2,000 (fourth), and P1,000 (fifth) courtesy of Rep. Aliping. /Carl Taawan



**AT LONG LAST!** - Baguio athletes try out the newly inaugurated rubberized athletic oval made possible by the pooled funds from the city and national government and Baguio Rep. Nicasio Aliping Jr./Bong Cayabyab

## Tuba dad seeks 'healing' of Baguio relations, appeals for settlement of Asin hydro rental issues

**B**AGUIO CITY – Tuba municipal councilor Roger Kitma has appealed for "healing" of the relations between the Baguio city government and Tuba residents and appealed to the city officials here to work out the settlement of the issues on Asin mini-hydroelectric plants.

In a letter to the city council dated Jan. 29, Kitma asked for the city to reach out and waive its claim for civil damages filed

years ago against members of the Tadiangan-Nangalisan Hydro Ancestral Landowners Association (TNHALA) for allegedly diverting water supply disrupting the operation of the plants, if only to quell the animosity and forge better relations between the parties.

The issuance of the waiver would pave the way for the implementation of the compromise agreement entered in 2010 by the city government

and the TNHALA for the city's payment of the rentals to the residents for the use of their properties traversed by the mini-hydro flume lines.

"Short of saying we are appealing for healing through said waiver, the undersigned now prays that the decision-makers comprising the City would understand that they are dealing with individuals, whose individual participation that gave rise to Civil Case No. 6911-R are practical-

ly indeterminable, making it ripe to be 'overlooked' if only to create better relations," he wrote.

## Traffic Advisory for Panagbenga...

from page 2

on their usual routes, Talleo added.

During the opening, street-dancing and float parades, there shall strictly be no parking in the following places: General Luna, Mabini St., Harrison junction Abanao and Shanum junction Abad Santos Drive, Jose Abad Santos Drive, Athletic Bowl, Luneta Hill Road, Session Road-Military Cut-off Rotunda and Magsaysay Avenue junction, Legarda Road, Magsaysay Ave. junction-Bonifacio Harrison Road-Magsaysay Ave. intersection.

During the Session Road in Bloom, there shall be no parking at Leonard Wood road from North drive junction; Post Office loop junction with Session road up to Fr. Carlu Loop, Upper Mabini st. crossing Session road until Lower Mabini street.

Pay parking for private vehicles within the CBD and nearby areas are available at Center Mall, Porta Vaga/Cathedral, Abanao Square, Marbay and SM. Pay parking at the old city library is open for 24 hours, but vehicles will not be allowed entry within Jose Abad Santos drive towards the parking area after 6:30 AM during the major parades.

The Baguio City National High School can allow 70 light vehicles, only during the streetdancing and float parade weekend.

The Baguio Convention Center can accommodate 30 to 40 vehicles, and recommended as terminal for buses. Quezon and Mabini Elementary Schools can accommodate light vehicle parking for a fee; as with University of Baguio, University of the Cordilleras, Cooyesan and Recoletos Seminary.

In the advisory, one-lane parallel roadside parking with restrictions, some for light vehicles only, are allowed from 6:30 AM until the culmination of the parade, along the following roads:

Gov. Pack road, outbound side only; Naguilian Road; Bokawkan Road: Magsaysay Ave. from Supreme Hotel until Lucban Elementary School; Sto. Tomas North Road from Marcos Highway junction; Gen. Lim St. from Legarda Rd. junction; MH Del Pilar St. (right side ascending lane); Kisad Rd. from its junction with Abad Santos until Kisad Road Extension; Kisad Rd. from Rocio Inn until the PUJ staging area; Military Cut-off from its junction with Kennon road to Kubong Sawali;

Government Center Rd. opposite of PAGASA to the corner of Convention Center; Kalaw St.; Bonifacio St., after the Rotunda up to T. Alonzo St. junction right; Harrison Rd. at the Loading/Unloading Bay in front of UC and on the side of BCNHS; Brent Rd. from Bell Inter-

national School until the junction with Gen. Luna Rd.; Salvosa Drive; Bautista Drive; Abanao St. from its junction with Shuntog St. until Sunshine Grocery; Abanao St. from Corner Zandueta St. to Peña Apartment Corner; Magsaysay Road (from Slaughter area until the Private Road; Leonard Wood Road on the side of the Botanical Garden.

All other roads and streets within CBD not affected by the event venues/routes without parking restriction may be used.

Trucks and buses are not allowed to enter CBD after 6AM of Feb. 1, 27 and 28 and during the events, the traffic advisory states.

One-way roads are: Gen. Lim Street – 1-way descending (from Legarda Road to Kisad Road); MH. Del Pilar Street – 1-way ascending (from Kisad Road to Legarda Road).

All PUJ associations affected by the rerouting scheme should be on express system. Public Utility Vehicles with Loading Terminals along/within the affected areas shall be temporarily restricted from entering such places until such roads/streets are declared clear for vehicle passage.

All vehicles parked along the parade route beyond 6:00AM shall be towed, the traffic advisory read. /Julie G. Fianza

ly indeterminable, making it ripe to be 'overlooked' if only to create better relations," he wrote.

"Kindness and goodness beget kindness and goodness. I am sure that when the City finally reaches out without too much concern for legalities, the hearts of our affected constituents in Tuba would likewise soften up," he said.

Kitma said the opposition filed by resident against the city's intention to revive the operations of the Asin mini-hydros in Nov. 1, 2015, was anchored on two grounds: "the unsatisfied clamor for payment of rentals and the absence of activities that are mutually beneficial to affected Asin residents and the city, that is, the maintenance of flume lines upon which residents depend upon for water used domestically or for farming."

"Indeed it has been a long time since the hydros were operated and the continuing deferral of any activities in the area have left our constituents thereat restive. Our humble projection is that if

the city continues to delay said payments and defer its active presence onsite, the more such delay will create problems insofar as the hydros and relationships between and amongst all affected parties are concerned," Kitma assessed.

He suggested that payment of the computed rentals and the issuance of a waiver be done the soonest possible time "if only to be able to diffuse any growing tensions between the city and the affected residents."

Mayor Mauricio Domogan has time and again expressed hopes that the claims will be settled at the city council the soonest possible time so the rentals can be paid to the affected residents pursuant to the compromise agreement.

The city government and landowners in 2010 signed a compromise agreement for the compensation of the residents whose lands are affected by the pipelines and plant facilities ending a long standing dispute over reparation issues that in the past resulted to disruption of the plants' operations and even led to a court case

between the parties.

As per the agreement, the city will compensate the landowners by way of rentals amounting to three percent of the net surplus from the operation of the mini-hydro plants subject to conditions that the rentals will be retroactive to year 2007 when the city assumed management of the plant; that the rentals will be subject to increase after three years; and that the rentals shall be payable to TNHALA which will assume the task of distributing the amount to the affected landowners.

The agreement was approved by the court and the corresponding amount had been allocated by the city government however, the execution of the agreement did not push through in view of the need to negotiate and waive the claim of the city government for damages before the City Council.

The association earlier appealed to the city council to waive the claim. /A. Refuerzo



# Lawyer's Code of Professional Responsibility (Promulgated June 21, 1988)

## CHAPTER I. THE LAWYER AND SOCIETY

### CANON 1 - A LAWYER SHALL UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION, OBEY THE LAWS OF THE LAND AND PROMOTE RESPECT FOR LAW OF AND LEGAL PROCESSES.

Rule 1.01 - A lawyer shall not engage in unlawful, dishonest, immoral or deceitful conduct.

Rule 1.02 - A lawyer shall not counsel or abet activities aimed at defiance of the law or at lessening confidence in the legal system.

Rule 1.03 - A lawyer shall not, for any corrupt motive or interest, encourage any suit or proceeding or delay any man's cause.

Rule 1.04 - A lawyer shall encourage his clients to avoid, end or settle a controversy if it will admit of a fair settlement.

### CANON 2 - A LAWYER SHALL MAKE HIS LEGAL SERVICES AVAILABLE IN AN EFFICIENT AND CONVENIENT MANNER COMPATIBLE WITH THE INDEPENDENCE, INTEGRITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROFESSION.

Rule 2.01 - A lawyer shall not reject, except for valid reasons, the cause of the defenseless or the oppressed.

Rule 2.02 - In such cases, even if the lawyer does not accept a case, he shall not refuse to render legal advice to the person concerned if only to the extent necessary to safeguard the latter's rights.

Rule 2.03 - A lawyer shall not do or permit to be done any act designed primarily to solicit legal business.

Rule 2.04 - A lawyer shall not charge rates lower than those customarily prescribed unless the circumstances so warrant.

### CANON 3 - A LAWYER IN MAKING KNOWN HIS LEGAL SERVICES SHALL USE ONLY TRUE, HONEST, FAIR, DIGNIFIED AND OBJECTIVE INFORMATION OR STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Rule 3.01 - A lawyer shall not use or permit the use of any false, fraudulent, misleading, deceptive, undignified, self-laudatory or unfair statement or claim regarding his qualifications or legal services.

Rule 3.02 - In the choice of a firm name, no false, misleading or assumed name shall be used. The continued use of the name of a deceased partner is permissible provided that the firm indicates in all its communications that said partner is deceased.

Rule 3.03 - Where a partner accepts public office, he shall withdrawal from the firm and his name shall be dropped from the firm name unless the law allows him to practice law currently.

Rule 3.04 - A lawyer shall not pay or give anything of value to representatives of the mass media in anticipation of, or in return for, publicity to attract legal business.

### CANON 4 - A LAWYER SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM BY INITIATING OR SUPPORTING EFFORTS IN LAW REFORM AND IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

### CANON 5 - A LAWYER SHALL KEEP ABREAST OF LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS, PARTICIPATE IN CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, SUPPORT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE HIGH STANDARDS IN LAW SCHOOLS AS WELL AS IN THE PRACTICAL TRAINING OF LAW STUDENTS AND ASSIST IN DISSEMINATING THE LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE.

### CANON 6 - THESE CANONS SHALL APPLY TO LAWYERS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN THE DISCHARGE OF THEIR TASKS.

Rule 6.01 - The primary duty of a lawyer engaged in public prosecution is not to convict but to see that justice is done. The suppression of facts or the concealment of witnesses capable of establishing the innocence of the accused is highly reprehensible and is cause for disciplinary action.

Rule 6.02 - A lawyer in the government service shall not use his public position to promote or advance his private interests, nor allow the latter to interfere with his public duties.

Rule 6.03 - A lawyer shall not, after leaving government service, accept engagement or employment in connection with any matter in which he had intervened while in said service.

## CHAPTER II. THE LAWYER AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION

### CANON 7 - A LAWYER SHALL AT ALL TIMES UPHOLD THE INTEGRITY AND DIGNITY OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTEGRATED BAR.

Rule 7.01 - A lawyer shall be answerable for knowingly making a false statement or suppressing a material fact in connection with his application for admission to the bar.

Rule 7.02 - A lawyer shall not support the application for admission to the bar of any person known by him to be unqualified in respect to character, education, or other relevant attribute.

Rule 7.03 - A lawyer shall not engage in conduct that adversely reflects on his fitness to practice law, nor shall he whether in public or private life, behave in a scandalous manner to the discredit of the legal profession.

### CANON 8 - A LAWYER SHALL CONDUCT HIMSELF WITH COURTESY, FAIRNESS AND CANDOR TOWARDS HIS PROFESSIONAL COLLEAGUES, AND SHALL AVOID HARASSING TACTICS AGAINST OPPOSING COUNSEL.

Rule 8.01 - A lawyer shall not, in his professional dealings, use language which is abusive, offensive or otherwise improper.

Rule 8.02 - A lawyer shall not, directly or indirectly, encroach upon the professional employment of another lawyer, however, it is the right of any lawyer, without fear or favor, to give proper advice and assistance to those seeking relief against unfaithful or neglectful counsel.

### CANON 9 - A LAWYER SHALL NOT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, ASSIST IN THE UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW.

Rule 9.01 - A lawyer shall not delegate to any unqualified person the performance of any task which by law may only be performed by a member of the bar in good standing.

Rule 9.02 - A lawyer shall not divide or stipulate to divide a fee for legal services with persons not licensed to practice law, except:

(a) Where there is a pre-existing agreement with a partner or associate that, upon the latter's death, money shall be paid over a reasonable period of time to his estate or to persons specified in the agreement; or

(b) Where a lawyer undertakes to complete unfinished legal business of a deceased lawyer; or

(c) Where a lawyer or law firm includes non-lawyer employees in a retirement plan even if the plan is based in whole or in part, on a profit sharing agreement.

## CHAPTER III. THE LAWYER AND THE COURTS

### CANON 10 - A LAWYER OWES CANDOR, FAIRNESS AND GOOD FAITH TO THE COURT.

Rule 10.01 - A lawyer shall not do any falsehood, nor consent to the doing of any in Court; nor shall he mislead, or allow the Court to be misled by any artifice.

Rule 10.02 - A lawyer shall not knowingly misquote or misrepresent the contents of a paper, the language or the argument of opposing counsel, or the text of a decision or authority, or knowingly cite as law a provision already rendered inoperative by repeal or amendment, or assert as a fact that which has not been proved.

Rule 10.03 - A lawyer shall observe the rules of procedure and shall not misuse them to defeat the ends of justice.

### CANON 11 - A LAWYER SHALL OBSERVE AND MAINTAIN THE RESPECT DUE TO THE COURTS AND TO JUDICIAL OFFICERS AND SHOULD INSIST ON SIMILAR CONDUCT BY OTHERS.

Rule 11.01 - A lawyer shall appear in court properly attired.

Rule 11.02 - A lawyer shall punctually appear at court hearings.

Rule 11.03 - A lawyer shall abstain from scandalous, offensive or menacing language or behavior before the Courts.

Rule 11.04 - A lawyer shall not attribute to a Judge motives not supported by the record or have no materiality to the case.

Rule 11.05 - A lawyer shall submit grievances against a Judge to the proper authorities only.

### CANON 12 - A LAWYER SHALL EXERT EVERY EFFORT AND CONSIDER IT HIS DUTY TO ASSIST IN THE SPEEDY AND EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Rule 12.01 - A lawyer shall not appear for trial unless he has adequately prepared himself on the law and the facts of his case, the evidence he will adduce and the order of its profference. He should also be ready with the original documents for comparison with the copies.

Rule 12.02 - A lawyer shall not file multiple actions arising from the same cause.

Rule 12.03 - A lawyer shall not, after obtaining extensions of time to file pleadings, memoranda or briefs, let the period lapse without submitting the same or offering an explanation for his failure to do so.

Rule 12.04 - A lawyer shall not unduly delay a case, impede the execution of a judgment or misuse Court processes.

Rule 12.05 - A lawyer shall refrain from talking to his witness during a break or recess in the trial, while the witness is still under examination.

Rule 12.06 - A lawyer shall not knowingly assist a witness to misrepresent himself or to impersonate another.

Rule 12.07 - A lawyer shall not abuse, browbeat or harass a witness nor needlessly inconvenience him.

Rule 12.08 - A lawyer shall avoid testifying in behalf of his client, except:

(a) on formal matters, such as the mailing, authentication or custody of an instrument, and the like; or

(b) on substantial matters, in cases where his testimony is essential to the ends of justice, in which event he must, during his testimony, entrust the trial of the case to another counsel.

### CANON 13 - A LAWYER SHALL RELY UPON THE MERITS OF HIS CAUSE AND REFRAIN FROM ANY IMPROPRIETY WHICH TENDS TO INFLUENCE, OR GIVES THE APPEARANCE OF INFLUENCING THE COURT.

Rule 13.01 - A lawyer shall not extend extraordinary attention or hospitality to, nor seek opportunity for cultivating familiarity with Judges.

Rule 13.02 - A lawyer shall not make public statements in the media regarding a pending case tending to arouse public opinion for or against a party.

Rule 13.03 - A lawyer shall not brook or invite interference by another branch or agency of the government in the normal course of judicial proceedings.

## CHAPTER IV. THE LAWYER AND THE CLIENT

### CANON 14 - A LAWYER SHALL NOT REFUSE HIS SERVICES TO THE NEEDY.

Rule 14.01 - A lawyer shall not decline to represent a person solely on account of the latter's race, sex, creed or status of life, or because of his own opinion regarding the guilt of said person.

Rule 14.02 - A lawyer shall not decline, except for serious and sufficient cause, an appointment as counsel de officio or as amicus curiae, or a request from the Integrated Bar of the Philippines or any of its chapters for rendition of free legal aid.

Rule 14.03 - A lawyer may not refuse to accept representation of an indigent client if:

(a) he is not in a position to carry out the work effectively or competently;

(b) he labors under a conflict of interest between him and the prospective client or between a present client and the prospective client.

Rule 14.04 - A lawyer who accepts the cause of a person unable to pay his professional fees shall observe the same standard of conduct governing his relations with paying clients.

### CANON 15 - A LAWYER SHALL OBSERVE CANDOR, FAIRNESS AND LOYALTY IN ALL HIS DEALINGS AND TRANSACTIONS WITH HIS CLIENTS.

Rule 15.01 - A lawyer, in conferring with a prospective client, shall ascertain as soon as practicable whether the matter would involve a conflict with another client or his own interest, and if so, shall forthwith inform the prospective client.

Rule 15.02 - A lawyer shall be bound by the rule on privilege communication in respect of matters disclosed to him by a prospective client.

Rule 15.03 - A lawyer shall not represent conflicting interests except by written consent of all concerned given after a full disclosure of the facts.

Rule 15.04 - A lawyer may, with the written consent of all concerned, act as mediator, conciliator or arbitrator in settling disputes.

Rule 15.05 - A lawyer when advising his client, shall give a

**Cont. on page 8**



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

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF MINOR SALEM (A.K.A. SALEM ARMANI) DALISAN BANWA.

SPOUSES ARMANDO A. LACTAWEN SALVADORA K. LADISAN,

Petitioners,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET and THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY,  
Respondents.

x-----x

Special Proceedings  
Case No. 15-A-1029

#### ORDER

Petitioners, through counsel, filed this verified Amended Petition for Adoption, praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, the prospective adoptee, SALEM (a.k.a Salem Armani) DALISAN BANWA, be declared the legitimate child and legal heir of the petitioners and that he shall then be known as SALEM ARMANI DALISAN LACTAWEN.

WHEREFORE, finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the petitioners are directed to meet and confer with the Court Social Worker for the conduct of the Child and Home Study in relation to this Petition. The Court Social Worker therefore is directed to conduct a Child and

Home Study and submit to this court her REPORTS, incorporating therein her findings and recommendations, and furnishing copies thereof to the Office of the Solicitor General; to the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; and the Office of the Regional Director of the DSWD-CAR, Baguio City. The said offices may or may not file Comment to said REPORTS.

The REPORT of the Court Social Worker should be submitted to this court at least fifteen (15) days before the initial hearing of this Petition, which shall be on March 16, 2016 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the Petitioner in the Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later February 14, 2016. All interested persons may come to court and show cause, if any, why this Petition should not be granted.

Furnish copies of this ORDER, together with copies of the Petition and its annexes, to the Office of the Solicitor General; the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Office of the Local Civil Registrar of La Trinidad, Benguet; the Court Social Worker and the Office of the Regional Director, DSWD-CAR, Baguio City. Furnish copies of this ORDER to the Junction and the petitioner and counsel.

SO ORDERED,  
In chambers, this 27th day of January 2016 at La Trinidad, Benguet.

(SGD) RUFUS G. MALECDAN, JR.  
Acting Presiding Judge

Publication Dates:  
January 30, February 6 and 13, 2016

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of GALO R. REYES who died in Baguio City on October 31, 2014 was extrajudicially settled by the heirs on November 30, 2015 as evidenced by Doc. No.04; Page No. 02; Book No. IV; Series of 2015 of the Notary Public Romeo D. Lopez.

Publication Dates: January 23, 30, and February 6 2016

### TRUST ALL MONEYS AND PROPERTIES OF HIS CLIENT THAT MAY COME INTO HIS PROFESSION.

Rule 16.01 - A lawyer shall account for all money or property collected or received for or from the client.

Rule 16.02 - A lawyer shall keep the funds of each client separate and apart from his own and those of others kept by him.

Rule 16.03 - A lawyer shall deliver the funds and property of his client when due or upon demand. However, he shall have a lien over the funds and may apply so much thereof as may be necessary to satisfy his lawful fees and disbursements, giving notice promptly thereafter to his client. He shall also have a lien to the same extent on all judgments and executions he has secured for his client as provided for in the Rules of Court.

Rule 16.04 - A lawyer shall not borrow money from his client unless the client's interest are fully protected by the nature of the case or by independent advice. Neither shall a lawyer lend money to a client except, when in the interest of justice, he has to advance necessary expenses in a legal matter he is handling for the client.

### CANON 17 - A LAWYER OWES FIDELITY TO THE CAUSE OF HIS CLIENT AND HE SHALL BE MINDFUL OF THE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE REPOSED IN HIM.

### CANON 18 - A LAWYER SHALL SERVE HIS CLIENT WITH COMPETENCE AND DILIGENCE.

Rules 18.01 - A lawyer shall not undertake a legal service which he knows or should know that he is not qualified to render. However, he may render such service if, with the consent of his client, he can obtain as collaborating counsel a lawyer who is competent on the matter.

Rule 18.02 - A lawyer shall not handle any legal matter without adequate preparation.

Rule 18.03 - A lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to him, and his negligence in connection therewith shall render him liable.

Rule 18.04 - A lawyer shall keep the client informed of the status of his case and shall respond within a reasonable time to the client's request for information.

### CANON 19 - A LAWYER SHALL REPRESENT HIS CLIENT WITH ZEAL WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE LAW.

Rule 19.01 - A lawyer shall employ only fair and honest means to attain the lawful objectives of his client and shall not present, participate in presenting or threaten to present unfounded criminal charges to obtain an improper advantage in any case or proceeding.

### NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT /PARTITION OF THE ESTATE OF PURIFICACION A. SORIANO

That an Extrajudicial Settlement /Partition of the Estate of the late Purificacion A. Soriano who died intestate on April 21, 2015 at Baguio City was extrajudicially settled and partitioned by her heirs on November 15, 2015 before Notary Public Louella Xylee T. Apilado and entered in to her notarial registry as Doc. 389, Page 79, Book 5, Series of 2015.

Publication Dates: January 16, 23, and 30, 2016

Rule 19.02 - A lawyer who has received information that his client has, in the course of the representation, perpetrated a fraud upon a person or tribunal, shall promptly call upon the client to rectify the same, and failing which he shall terminate the relationship with such client in accordance with the Rules of Court.

Rule 19.03 - A lawyer shall not allow his client to dictate the procedure in handling the case.

### CANON 20 - A LAWYER SHALL CHARGE ONLY FAIR AND REASONABLE FEES.

Rule 20.01 - A lawyer shall be guided by the following factors in determining his fees:

- (a) the time spent and the extent of the service rendered or required;
- (b) the novelty and difficulty of the questions involved;
- (c) The importance of the subject matter;
- (d) The skill demanded;
- (e) The probability of losing other employment as a result of acceptance of the proffered case;

(f) The customary charges for similar services and the schedule of fees of the IBP chapter to which he belongs;

(g) The amount involved in the controversy and the benefits resulting to the client from the service;

(h) The contingency or certainty of compensation;

(i) The character of the employment, whether occasional or established; and

(j) The professional standing of the lawyer.

Rule 20.02 - A lawyer shall, in case of referral, with the consent of the client, be entitled to a division of fees in proportion to the work performed and responsibility assumed.

Rule 20.03 - A lawyer shall not, without the full knowledge and consent of the client, accept any fee, reward, costs, commission, interest, rebate or forwarding allowance or other compensation whatsoever related to his professional employment from anyone other than the client.

Rule 20.04 - A lawyer shall avoid controversies with clients concerning his compensation and shall resort to judicial action only to prevent imposition, injustice or fraud.

### CANON 21 - A LAWYER SHALL PRESERVE THE CONFIDENCE AND SECRETS OF HIS CLIENT EVEN AFTER THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT RELATION IS TERMINATED.

Rule 21.01 - A lawyer shall not reveal the confidences or secrets of his client except;

- (a) When authorized by the client after acquainting him of the consequences of the disclosure;
- (b) When required by law;

### NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE AMONG HEIRS

Notice is hereby given that the Estate of the late AIDA JONSON TOLEDO who died intestate on 25 October 2015 in Baguio City without will, consisting of the following property: Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-55730 "A parcel of land (Lot 1, Psd-CAR-000719), being a portion of Tsi-V-1568-Amd. Townsite Sales Patent No. 1308). Situated at Res. Sec. "B", Baguio City, Island of Luzon... had been the subject of EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE AMONG HEIRS on 26 January 2016 as per Doc. No. 768, Page No. 154, Book No. XXXVIII, Series of 2016 of the Notarial Registry of Atty. James S. Valeros of Baguio City.

Publication Dates: January 30, February 6, and 30, 2016

(c) When necessary to collect his fees or to defend himself, his employees or associates or by judicial action.

Rule 21.02 - A lawyer shall not, to the disadvantage of his client, use information acquired in the course of employment, nor shall he use the same to his own advantage or that of a third person, unless the client with full knowledge of the circumstances consents thereto.

Rule 21.03 - A lawyer shall not, without the written consent of his client, give information from his files to an outside agency seeking such information for auditing, statistical, bookkeeping, accounting, data processing, or any similar purpose.

Rule 21.04 - A lawyer may disclose the affairs of a client of the firm to partners or associates thereof unless prohibited by the client.

Rule 21.05 - A lawyer shall adopt such measures as may be required to prevent those whose services are utilized by him, from disclosing or using confidences or secrets of the clients.

Rule 21.06 - A lawyer shall avoid indiscreet conversation about a client's affairs even with members of his family.

Rule 21.07 - A lawyer shall not reveal that he has been consulted about a particular case except to avoid possible conflict of interest.

### CANON 22 - A LAWYER SHALL WITHDRAW HIS SERVICES ONLY FOR GOOD CAUSE AND UPON NOTICE APPROPRIATE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

Rule 22.01 - A lawyer may withdraw his services in any of the following

(a) When the client pursues an illegal or immoral course of conduct in connection with the matter he is handling;

(b) When the client insists that the lawyer pursue conduct violative of these canons and rules;

(c) When his inability to work with co-counsel will not promote the best interest of the client;

(d) When the mental or physical condition of the lawyer renders it difficult for him to carry out the employment effectively;

(e) When the client deliberately fails to pay the fees for the services or fails to comply with the retainer agreement;

(f) When the lawyer is elected or appointed to public office; and

(g) Other similar cases.

Rule 22.02 - A lawyer who withdraws or is discharged shall, subject to a retainer lien, immediately turn over all papers and property to which the client is entitled, and shall cooperate with his successor in the orderly transfer of the matter, including all information necessary for the proper handling of the matter.

## Lawyer's Code of... from page 7

candid and honest opinion on the merits and probable results of the client's case, neither overstating nor understating the prospects of the case.

Rule 15.06. - A lawyer shall not state or imply that he is able to influence any public official, tribunal or legislative body.

Rule 15.07. - A lawyer shall impress upon his client compliance with the laws and the principles of fairness.

Rule 15.08. - A lawyer who is engaged in another profession or occupation concurrently with the practice of law shall make clear to his client whether he is acting as a lawyer or in another capacity.

### CANON 16 - A LAWYER SHALL HOLD IN



## WANTED REPORTER/RESEARCHER

The Junction Newspaper is in need of two (2) Researchers/Reporters. Male/Female/LGBT preferably single, with a lot of common sense. Willing to work long and odd hours, not afraid to write and expose the facts regardless of who is/are involved. Must have news writing experience. Knowledge and background in sales and marketing is an advantage. Competitive salary and allowance awaits the successful applicant. Open to undergraduates.

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## Panagbenga 2016 opens SAF 44 Heroes remembered

**B**AGUIO CITY – Panagbenga 2016 opens Monday, Feb. 1 with elementary schools' drum and lyre parade down the main thoroughfares from the Panagbenga Park, and performance at Melvin Jones football grounds.

Spectators along the parade route expect to see children in flower motif or Cordillera-inspired costumes and props related to nature and the environment. The performers' garb may also be biodegradable or recyclable materials; including decoration for their movable musical ensemble. Those assisting the group must be in appropriate and coordinated attires.

Dance steps may be creative ethnic-inspired in relation with this year's theme: "Bless The Children With Flowers." The Panagbenga hymn must be incorporated with the group's choice of music or medley.

No dangerous stunts, or the use of confetti is allowed, it was known.

There are five judges at the street parade, and five at the field presentation, it was announced by Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda during the Kapihan last Wednesday. Tabanda, tasked as a member to select the judges assured those present of the judges' impeccability.

"Those chosen are definitely top rate and experts in their field, experienced in national and international floral competitions," Tabanda said. Stringent screening is a must, as the judges must not be related to any participant, she added.

In a media forum last week, it was known from the Baguio Flower Festival Foundation Incorporated (BFFFI) and Hotel and Restaurant Association of Baguio (HRAB) officers; hotelier Anthony de Leon and Freddie Alquiroz that preparations in coordination with concerned agencies are

on-going.

Traffic plans were presented by the Baguio City Police Office Traffic Management Bureau (BCPO-TMB) headed by P/ Supt. Leon Talleo; with newly appointed BCPO Officer-in-Charge George Daskeo.

According to Daskeo, an augmentation force from the Police Regional Office is expected for security during the activities. Volunteers are also deployed along the parade routes and event venues.

Other Panagbenga activities scheduled are: February 1 to March 6, Baguio Blooms exhibition and exposition at Lake Drive, Burnham Park; Feb. 4-5, International Tourism and Hospitality Students' Convention and 5th National League of Tourism Student Skills Olympics; Feb. 9, Chinese Spring Festival; Feb. 14, Color Fun Run; Handog ng Panagbenga Sa Pamilya Baguio at the Melvin Jones Grandstand and Football grounds; Let A Thousand Flowers Bloom, Kite-Flying Challenge, Panagbenga Fancy Dress/Costume Competition, Fireworks Display;

Feb. 19 to 21, PMA Grand Alumni Homecoming; Feb. 19, Golf Tournament For A Cause; Feb. 22, Boyce Avenue Concert; Feb. 27, Mr. Panagbenga Muscle Showdown at Baguio Convention Center; ABS CBN Kapamilya Karavan; Pacific Extreme Combat at the Baguio Convention Center; Feb. 27 to 28, Sponsor's and exhibitor's Day at the Athletic Bowl; Feb. 29 to March 6, Session Road In Bloom; March 5, Pony Boys' Day at Wright Park; Panagbenga Princess Pageant; Handog Pasasalamat at Melvin Jones Football grounds; March 5 and 6, 14th Open Scrabble Tournament; March 6, Tambalang Saya; Closing Ceremonies and Grand Fireworks display at the Athletic Bowl and other areas in the Central Business District./Julie G. Fianza

**B**AGUIO CITY - Widows and family members of the 44 Special Action Force heroes from the different parts of the country felt that their fallen loved ones were given full honors as heroes with their first death anniversary commemoration in the Cordillera region last January 16.

Merlyn Gamutan, widow of PSI Joey Gamutan from Basilan, said she was surprised of the way the Cordillerans accorded such heroic tribute to the police officers who died for the country.

"It's only here that we see how people treat the SAF 44 as heroes," Gamutan said emotionally during the commemoration activities held in Baguio City and Benguet last week.

Several days before the first year anniversary commemoration of the January 25, 2015 Mamasapano incident, the families of the 13 Cordilleran SAF heroes, the Cordillera Heritage Foundation and a businesswoman in Baguio City who refused to be identified, hosted a two-day commemoration in Baguio City and Benguet. At least 37 families of the SAF 44 were represented during January 15-16 events.

The activities kicked off with a candle lighting ceremony evening of Jan. 15 where the families offered prayers as they float candles and flowers at the Burnham Lake.

The next day, there was a prayer walk from Session Road to the Ibaloi Park in Burnham Park for a program that started with Cordillera rituals to appease the gods. The families also got a chance to experience the boodle fight which most of them said were only stories they heard from the SAF troopers.

The commemoration was capped by "tree-bute" in Badiwan, Tuba, and Benguet. The tree-bute is a project of the Cordillera Heritage Foundation where individuals can plant and dedicate a tree for their loved ones as a living

commemoration.

By dedicating the trees to their dead loved ones, the organizers hope that the relatives who planted the trees will take care of them with love and care as they took care of their dearly departed.

The tree-bute site in Badiwan was originally allotted to the Cordillera SAF families when it started on March 15, 2015 after the Mamasapano incident. This was shared on social media which inspired the other families to join.

Meanwhile, the Police Regional Office – Cordillera (PRO-Cor) honored their fallen comrades during the celebration of the 25th Founding Anniversary and Ethics Day of the Philippine National Police on January 25, which also coincided with the first year anniversary of the Mamasapano encounter that killed 44 members of the PNP Special Action Force (SAF).

PRO-Cor officials led by Police Chief Superintendent Robert Quenery, Deputy Regional Director for Administration, together with the widows, children, parents and

## Ifugao school places 4th top school in Criminologist board exam

**L**AMUT, Ifugao - The Ifugao State University (IFSU) located at Barangay Nayon this municipality remains one of the top schools for Criminologist Licensure Examination nationwide.

IFSU received a plaque of appreciation and a certificate of recognition for ranking 4th overall among universities and colleges in the Philippines during the October 2015 Criminologist Licensure Examination.

The award was received by IFSU Main Campus Director Diosdado Aquino last January 16, 2016 during the Joint National Oath-taking and Induction Ceremonies for new criminologists and new members of the Philippine Criminologist Association of the Philippines at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City. The result was released

by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) last November 26, 2015 in which IFSU obtained the passing percentage of 88.89% with 96 of 108 examinees passing the exam surpassing the national passing rate of 32.68%.

IFSU also ranked second overall in 2008, 2010 and 2013 and placed third overall in 2011, 2012 and 2014 for the same examination.

The other top five universities and colleges for the 2015 Criminologist board exam are the University of the Cordilleras, first place with a passing rate of 94.21% (65/69), the King College of the Philippines, Inc.-second with 91.07% passing rate (51/56), and Southern Leyte State University-3rd with passing percentage of 90 (63/70). At 5th is Universidad de Manila with 82.52% passing rate (85/103). (JDP/DBC-PIA CAR, Ifugao)

relatives of the 13 Cordilleran of the Gallant SAF 44 led the wreath laying ceremony at the Heroes Monument in at the regional police headquarters in Camp Dangwa, here to honor and recognize the heroism of the Cordilleran troopers.

There was also a tree planting ceremony symbolizing unity, hope and encouragement that life must go on and that the legacy of these brave men serves as inspiration.

Quenery said the gallantry and bravery of these heroes won't be in vain because they will always be remembered and will be continued for this nation's peace.

He also extended his appreciation and gratitude to all the uniformed men and women who have served with distinc-

tion in law enforcement and public safety.

Wreath laying ceremony was also held for PO2 Franklin Danao at Proper Binablayan, Tinoc, Ifugao led by his family members and the Tinoc Municipal Police Office.

In Kabayan, Benguet, the municipal government declared January 25 as Peterson Carap Day in memory and recognition of the heroism of their son.

The family of Police Senior Inspector Gednat Tabdi also had 'dao-es', a cleansing ritual, with the butchering of a cow and several pigs at their residence in Buyagan, La Trinidad, Benguet. (JDP/RMC/Jillie Ominga, Abi Clemente, Jillie Ominga, and Via Perez-PIA/UC Interns)



**ANOTHER MOTORBIKE FOR THE BAGUIO'S FINEST** - Officers of the Liga Ng Mga Barangay headed by Councilor Michael Lawana and Mayor Mauricio Domogan turn over the key of a motorbike for BPOAC- Sub Station 7 for the maintenance of peace and order in the barangay. - By Bong Cayabyab



## Duterte-Cayetano says Philippines on the brink of becoming a narco state, commits to end "drug chaos" for the people

The tandem of presidential bet Davao City Mayor Rodrigo "Rody" Duterte and Senator Alan Peter Cayetano today warned that if the disorder brought by illegal drugs will not end, the country will become a narco state.

In a statement, Duterte said the country is showing alarming signs of becoming a narco state. "In the national capital region (NCR) where the country's capital is situated, the government admitted that 92 percent of barangays are already infiltrated by illegal drugs. If Manila, the country's seat of power, is helpless to address this, what more the other parts of the country where government presence is weak?" The tough-talking mayor said.

Duterte also noted the presence of international drug syndicates in the country, such as the Sinaloa drug cartel, a Mexican-based group considered the largest and most powerful drug trafficking organization in the west.

"This is a clear national security threat. This is an invasion of a new kind. Drug lords, domestic and foreign, have declared a war against our families and children, and the government is helpless about it," Duterte said.

The duo said if elected, they will implement a combination of national, regional and international strategies to combat drug trafficking. "On the national level, we will strengthen and capacitate our security forces. We will cleanse the ranks of the police and military of the corrupt, provide better salaries and incentives and modernize their anti-narcotics infrastructure," Cayetano explained.

"We will also strengthen the five pillars of our criminal justice system. Drug trafficking thrives best in countries where there is grave insecurity and injustice," Cayetano added.

Meanwhile, on the regional level, Cayetano said they will push to develop the regions, especially those heavily infiltrated by illegal drugs, to provide the people alternative livelihood.

The vice presidential bet also said that internationally, he and Duterte will enforce stricter immigration laws to prevent international drug syndicates from entering the country.

"We will not allow the disorder to continue and our country to become a narco state. We will build a strong developmental state to provide bold solutions and swift actions to bring about real change. Under the Duterte-Cayetano watch, everyone will be afraid of the law, but everyone will be protected by the law," Cayetano ended.

## Elem. and secondary classes suspended on February 1; college on February 27

**BAGUIO CITY** - To pave way for the conduct of this year's 21st edition of the Baguio Flower Festival's grand opening parade in this mountain resort, mayor Mauricio Domogan recently suspended classes in the

elementary and secondary levels, both public and private on Monday, Feb. 1.

On the other hand, Domogan also suspended classes in the college level on Feb. 27, Saturday for the conduct of the grand street parade. Said suspension was announced through his Administrative Order No. 007.

The grand opening parade, which was converted into a competition among participating elementary and secondary schools in this mountain resort will be held on Monday, Feb. 1 to jumpstart the bigger and better activities lined up for the month-long event.

The 11 participating schools will be showcasing their skills in the drum and lyre dance competition this Monday.

Other contingents from the different provinces will also be joining in the said panag-benga grand opening.

Stated in the order, "the grand street parade, which was converted into an open competition and one of the highlights of the festival will be held on Feb. 27 and it will be participated by elementary, secondary, collegiate and other participants who will showcase their sterling and spectacular performances".

This year's Baguio Flower Festival is focused on children with the theme, "Bless the children with Flowers"./Jho Arranz

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**YEAR OF THE MONKEY** - Bell Church performers dance the traditional Dragon Dance at the city hall grounds welcoming the Chinese Lunar New Year's "Year Of The Fire Monkey" during the launching ceremony. The crowd drew Chinese Lunar New Grand Parade will be held on February 9 at 3:00 p.m. (PIX372 and 3752) Chinese Patriotic National High School teachers perform a cultural dance number during City Hall flag raising ceremony to the delight of city officials headed by City Mayor Mauricio Domogan and government workers last January 25./ By Bong Cayabyab

## Taxi operators, drivers reminded to post notice of fare discount

**BAGUIO CITY** - The Department of Transportation and Communication reiterates to taxi operators and drivers of their obligation to post notice of the P5 discount and to deduct it to the final fare of their passengers indicated in the taxi meter.

DOTC Asst. Regional Director Robert Basco explained that the P5 taxi fare rollback in the flag down rate of taxi in the City took effect in April last year. But still many drivers are not complying both in giving the discount and in posting

the notice of discount for the passengers to see.

Said notice is required as a means to prevent or minimize abuses of drivers.

Basco announced that starting Monday, January 25, taxi cabs that do not have the notice will be apprehended and charged which penalty will be P5,000 for the first offense; P10,000 plus impounding of unit for 30 days for the second offense, and P15,000 plus cancellation of franchise for succeeding offense.

DOTC's "flying squad" will be strict in conducting

the said inspection, he said.

Meanwhile, on fare reduction in the region following decrease in minimum jeepney fare in Metro Manila and nearby regions due to cut in diesel and other petroleum products in the world market, Basco said no petition has been filed so far.

The riding public and the jeepney operators association and other consumer groups can file petitions for fare rollback. (JDP/CCD/ Gabrielle Tumbaga & Adlyn Senin -PIA- SLU Interns)

### Ad Rates

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