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THE JUNCTION

WEEKEND

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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

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Sunstar Baguio on Vergara Ballot Theft/Tampering Presscon, False and Misleading - W. Acosta

Baguio City- It now appears that the Vergara and Balanag camp has broken its silence as they held a press conference on May 29, 2015 at the Dads Restaurant along Session Road, a restaurant owned by Gladys Vergara in the presence of some COMELEC officials etc..., to show that there was no such ballot tampering. However, instead of achieving the intended objective of portraying Vergara and Balanag as totally innocent and devoid of any involvement in the huge criminal accusations of whistle-blower Mr. Worthy Acosta, the reverse could have been the outcome and effect, as the presscon could have instead opened a so called hornet's nest, confirming indeed that the ballot box was short of the supposed to be number of ballots.

Immediately, after the baseless Baguio Sunstar issue on May 30, 2015 with its banner - "COMELEC clears Bernie" on June 4, 2015 the consultant of this paper Mr. Freddie Farres sent an e-mail to the Sunstar Editor Ms. Mary Ann Cacdac requesting from her as to what could have been the basis for their headline banner stating that the COMELEC had cleared Bernie. Unfortunately, as of this writing (June 6) the e-mail inquiry has not yet been responded to by the Sunstar Editor **Cont. on page 9**



At top left is former Mayor/Congressman Bernardo Vergara, one of the accused in the criminal offense (violation of the Omnibus Election Code) for ballot tampering. At top right is the whistle blower-accuser Mr. Worthy Acosta. At bottom left is Mr. Ferdie Balanag, one of the accused for ballot tampering. At bottom right is the baseless and misleading Sunstar Headline dated May 30, 2015./Photos provided by RG

Dapat sana ay paspasan na ng COMELEC ang pag resolba ng reklamo kina Cojuangco, Vergara, Balanag et.al., nang hindi na magamit ang nasabing issue sa darating na halalan! At sa mga pahayagan na katulad ng Sunstar, sana ay sa susunod siguraduhin ang impormasyon na inyong iniimprenta at sa nakaraan ninyong misleading headline, nais naming manawagan kay kagalang-galang na Peter Rey Bautista, dapat sibakin ang Editor at ang sumulat ng kwentong barbero!!!

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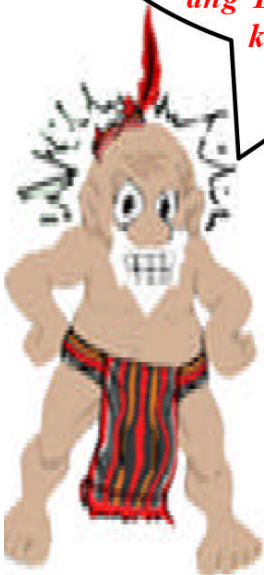
BY: BATAS MAURICIO



Sino ang nagsasabi ng totoo, si Vergara o si Acosta? Kayo ang maghugsa!

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BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



Grace's Residency Issue: Talk About Deja Vu, Lawmaker Says

Says “The issues hurled at Senator Grace Poe are *deja vu*. It has already been seen in 2004, when the same issues were thrown at her father, the late Fernando Poe Jr. or FPJ when he ran for president. Hindi na siguro nakakagulat. Pero nakakalungkot na ‘yung ginawa sa ama, ginagawa at gagawin din sa anak,” Senator Chiz Escudero today said.

The senator, who was the campaign spokesman of FPJ in 2004, came to the defense of Senator Grace Poe who is bombarded with residency and citizenship issues for the 2016 Elections. Poe has yet to confirm her candidacy but is considered one of the stronger contenders for president for the 2016 polls.

Escudero also pointed that it was only last month when the camp of Vice President Jejomar Binay expressed preference for Poe as his running-mate in the 2016 Elections. “Punirma lang siya sa committee report; tinanggihan lang siya at hindi kinakausap, biglang disqualified naman ngayon,” the senator from Sorsogon said.

“Para sa akin, ano bang pinaghuhugutan ni Congressman Toby Tiangco. Of all people, dapat alam niya. Dahil auntie niya mismo, kapatid ng biyenan niya, eksaktong ganito ang nangyari,” Escudero said, pertaining to the case of former first lady and current representa- **Cont. on page 6**

Baguio Recipient of Good Financial Housekeeping Award

Award BAGUIO CITY – the city government here is a recipient to the 2014 Seal of Good Financial Housekeeping Award (SGFH) handed over by the DILG.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan personally received the Award Monday given by the DILG Cordillera Administrative Regional Office under Regional Director John Castaneda and handed over by DILG City Director Evelyn Trinidad.

Also present are Vice Mayor Edison Bilog and Councilors Betty Lourdes Tabanda, Elaine Sembrano, Elmer Datuin and Fred Bagbagen.

The award cites the city government of Baguio incessantly advanced the principles of accountability and transparency in local governance by complying with two major areas during the 2014 Seal of Good Local Governance assessment.

The two areas are Full Disclosure Policy of Local Budget and Finances, Bids and Public Offerings and Accounting and Auditing Standards, Rules and Regulations.

The award is a pre-qualifying achievement to the Seal of Good Local Governance which qualifies the city government to implement infrastruc-

Lot Claimants Undertake Voluntary Demolition at Busol

Busol BAGUIO CITY — Owners of the illegal structures at the area designated for a tree nursery at the Busol watershed fulfilled their commitment to voluntarily demolish the shanties after the ten-day grace period granted to them by the City Government.

Engr. Israel Galvez of the city buildings and architecture office said the occupants said the occupants were the in the process of taking down the shanties as of last Thursday.

The City Government agreed to defer the implementation of the demolition for ten days after the occupants appealed for more time to consider voluntarily demolishing the structures.

The ten-day reprieve expired last Sunday.

The area has been designated as a tree nursery and field office of the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources, the Baguio Regreening Movement and the city environment and parks management office.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said that with the resolution of the legal issues involving the squatters at the watershed, the City will pursue the demolition of all ille-

ture projects funded under DILG's Bottom-up-Budgeting Program.	Officer Dr. Estrella Bisquera.
	Also acknowledged

Also cited are City Budget Officer Leticia Clemente, City Planning and Development Officer Engr. Evelyn Cayat, City General Services Officer Romeo Concio, City Accountant Antonio Tabin

and former City Human Resource Management

gal structures to protect the reservation which supplies a third of the city's water needs.

Apart from the nursery site, demolition notices will be issued to the owners of the small and large structures in the other parts of the watershed.

He also directed the investigation of alleged new structures and the filing of new cases against those who will continue to defy the law.

The Supreme Court issued a decision in 1989 denying land registration over the forest reservation maintaining that "forest lands are inalienable and possession thereof, no matter how long, cannot convert the same into private property... and the courts are without jurisdiction to adjudicate lands within the forest zone."

In a decision dated Feb. 4, 2009, the Supreme Court cited the same decision saying the “declaration of the Busol Forest Reservation as such precludes its conversion into private property” and reiterated the same in succeeding decisions dated Feb. 27, 2013 and Feb. 14, 2014. *A Refuerzo*

Officer Dr. Estrella
Bisquera.

Also acknowledged are OIC BCPO City Director Rolando Miranda, Fire Chief Fernan Bangyod, City Jail Warden Elvin

Jail Warden Elvis Danglose and City Jail Wardess Mary Anne Tresmanio.

LGUs must pass crucial evaluations in business friendliness and competitiveness, environmental protection, law and order and public safety, disaster preparedness and social protection among others.

SGFH a component of the Seal of Good Local Governance which the DILG awards to provincial, city and municipal governments for proper financial house-keeping and other areas

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Expatriates, Veterans and Cockers Prop up Baguio-Benguet Patients

Benguet Patients

An expatriate Cordilleran in Japan, retired military servicemen from overseas and cockfighting aficionados are keeping alive the culture of caring that was Baguio's theme when it marked its centennial in 1909.

Together, they have pooled a fund of P147,400 and \$300, of which P56,647.76 and \$100 have so far been distributed to 22 patients and a student here and in Benguet.

Members of the Baguio post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, most of whom served in the United States Navy, made the initial thrust, raising P25,400 under the direction of outgoing and incoming post commanders Larry Senato and Willy Totanes during their induction of officers last April.

Of the amount, P4,340 went to the purchase of medicines for Helen Vicente, a 61-year old widow with nine children who has been suffering from diabetes for 19 years now. The patient lost her husband to kidney disease a few years back.

From the same fund, P1,400 was used for the laboratory tests, catheter and medicines of Mordayne Gay by removing the lumps by surgery and recommended her for six cycles of chemotherapy distanced every 21 days.



Naslangan, a five-year old girl from Sinto, Bauko, Mt. Province who is fighting lymphocytic leukemia.

Three thousand pesos paid for the initial tuition fee of Cherry Ann Enrade, 16, who is

Realinza, a 16-year old computer student whose father, Andres, a security guard, died when he was hit by a pine tree which fell while he was assigned at the Busol Watershed at the height of a storm several years ago.

Other beneficiaries were dialysis patient Josalyn Balisbis (P2,200), a 35-year old man suffering from schizophrenia (P1,162.50); a widower who lost his daughter to kidney disease last year

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 THE JUNCTION 

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Freddie J. Farres - Consultant

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May Agus
Marcy Tambiac

Opinions expressed by the opinion writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of this paper.
**Our articles and stories (news/features) are ready to go for printing without the involvement of the editor and publisher who happen to be on leave.*

City Strengthens 100 Meter Tobacco Ban in Schools

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan has ordered the strict implementation of the ‘no sale of tobacco products’ in the 100 meter radius of schools in this mountain resort.

The order came just in time for the opening of classes for public schools this June.

Domogan said, “the strict implementation of this law will prevent children from being exposed to cigarettes and its harmful effects.”

As per Republic Act 9211, Section 10, the sale and distribution of tobacco products is prohibited within one hundred meters from any point of the perimeter of a school, public playground or other facility frequented by minors.

Any person, business entity or establishment selling to, distributing or purchasing a cigarette or any tobacco product will be fined the amount of P5,000.00 or imprisonment of not more than thirty days, business licenses or permits shall be cancelled or revoked.

If the violation is by an establishment or business entity, the owner, manager, or the most senior officer shall be liable for the offense.

The city government also strengthened its Anti-Smoking Policy thru the continuous enforcement of Administrative order No. 28 series of 2012 which created the Implementation Committee for the 100% Smoke Free Environment Policy of the Civil Service Commission and enforcement of City ordinance No. 8 series of 2008 or the Comprehensive anti-Smoking Ordinance.

Domogan said, “warning the public on the ill-effects of smoking and enforcing the no smoking policy is the best way of protecting the people from the dangers of smoking.”

The Philippines is a signatory to the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

The city council is also slated to amend the Comprehensive Anti-Smoking Ordinance of the city to make it more effective.

The new comprehensive anti-smoking ordinance enumerates in detail the places where it is prohibited to smoke and further strengthens the tobacco Regulation Act./Paul Rillorta

Safety of Boarding Houses Reviewed

BAGUIO CITY – The present state of student boarding houses in the city may trigger a revision of the minimum safety and sanitation standards for such establishments to make them realistic and in tune with the times.

This developed as reports from the members of the boarding house inspection composite team on the conditions of these establishments showed the need for the updating of the old ordinance regulating the operation of these businesses and for the revision of the standards based on the present day scenarios.

Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda said that if the provisions of the old ordinance or even the present National Building and Fire Safety Codes will be imposed particularly on the three-square-meter-per-person “air space” requirement alone, a considerable number of lodging houses will have to be closed for violations. And if the City will insist that owners comply with the requirements on the provision of enough air space, study hall, reception area and bathroom for every ten persons, among other requirements, students will have to contend with exorbitant rent.

Tabanda said both options cannot just be done considering the plight of the students.

Engr. Candido Delos Santos **Cont. on page 9**

IEC, Awareness Best Weapon Against HIV-AIDS

BAGUIO CITY – The fight against Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV-AIDS) goes on through education and right information campaign, even after the international AIDS candlelighting ceremonies at SM Center, May 29.

This was advocated in messages of Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Committee chair on Health and environment protection Councilor Fred Bagbagen, Health Services Office (HSO) head Dr. Rowena Galpo, Department of Health OIC Amelita Pangilinan, other medical personnel and health advocates.

The message was echoed by Marlene de Castro of the Baguio Center for Young Adults (BCYA), as she emphasized that each should employ intelligent decisions, and use discipline with responsibility when confronted with AIDS-related situations. Government agencies, non-government organizations are within reach for persons needing help, she said.

Audience during the forum are members of the Baguio Association of Bars and Entertainers (BABES), aside from government personnel and concerned private individuals.

As to information, the national AIDS prevention control programs was launched in the Philippines in 1988; and later, surveillance, organization of persons with AIDS, establishment of the Bahay Lingap in 1995, an AIDS international congress in the Asia and the Pacific in 1996, an AIDS congress with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in 1997. The Philippine Information Agency (PIA), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and the mass media joined the information campaign.

There is no known technology nor medical cure for AIDS, thus everyone should keep safe and healthy, Councilor Bagbagen cautioned. It was for this purpose that exercises including the popular Zumba dance-fitness program is endorsed

AIDS, though preventable, is transmitted through unprotected sex, blood transfusion, needle and syringe use specially among drug users, and breastfeeding. Statistics now show a steep increase in AIDS cases due to rapid transmission, and now termed as “epidemic,” causing alarm among health and medical personnel. The cases show the vulnerability of every individual, thus the need for precaution.

For those infected, researches on pain treatment caused by AIDS infections are being done, Dr. Galpo said in her message.

A voluntary, confidential and free diagnostic HIV testing is provided, including pre and post counseling, in coordination with the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC) and DOH-CAR, Dr. Pangilinan said in her message. Early diagnosis, treatment, care and support, including a non-stigma approach and non-discriminatory environment is favorable for infected persons, it was known.

The ABCDE for the prevention of AIDS are: Abstinence; Be Faithful; Careful Sex; Don’t Share Needles; Education and information.

Other offices represented in the forum include the Baguio AIDS watch council, City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO), Department of Education (Dep-Ed), Family Planning Organization of the Philippines (FPOP), the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC), among other national and local agencies./Julie G. Fianza



“GOOD FINANCIAL HOUSEKEEPING” - Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG-CAR) City Director Evelyn Trinidad confers the 2014 Seal of Good Financial Housekeeping Award to the City Government of Baguio represented by Mayor Mauricio Domogan and Vice Mayor Edison Bilog Monday during the Flag Raising ceremony./Photo by Paul Rillorta

House to Ratify Proposed Open High School System Bill

Baguio Representative Nicasio M. Aliping, Jr. announced yesterday that the House of Representatives is expected to ratify a bicameral conference committee report establishing an open high school system in the country.

House Bill 4085, to be known as the “Open High School System Act,” establishes an Open High School System (OHSS) as part of the Department of Education’s (DepEd) alternative secondary education program to provide secondary education through the open learning modality.

Rep. Aliping, vice chairman of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and co-author of the bill said that, “The measure will provide equal opportunity for adults and children of high school age who are out of school to avail of free open high school education through the distance learning modality.”

The measure authorizes public secondary educational institutions certified to practice open learning through self-instructional materials, multi-channel learning and school-family-com-

munity partnership as qualified OHSS implementers.

Under the measure, the OHSS shall be open to all youth and adults who have finished elementary education, as well as high school qualifiers of the Philippine Educational Placement Test (PEPT) and the Alternative learning System (ALS) Accreditation and Equivalency (A&E) Test.

The OHSS will adopt the K to 12 Enhanced Basic Education Curriculum using the standards and learning competencies of different subject areas of the program.

The DepEd is tasked to administer the OHSS and create an OHSS Unit to assist the Department in performing its functions.

It will be responsible for the training of the open high school teachers, teacher advisers, and community advisers, which will be done in coordination with the LGUs and the non-government organizations concerned.

Rep. Aliping has authored and co-authored bills that seek to improve education and help deserving indigent students finish their studies./Carl C. Taawan

Replay Buttons

Late in May, the Catholic Church beatified the martyred Bishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador. Will similar recognition come someday to Mindanao?

That's where missionaries Tulio Favali and Fausto Tentorio were likewise murdered. The two were members of the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions (Pime). "Why do you wish to be a priest, even though priests are being killed?" someone once asked Favali. His reply: "So that they will have more priests to kill."

Established in 1850 in Italy, the Pime is now in 17 countries, including the Philippines. Its roster includes 18 martyrs and one canonized saint.

As in El Salvador, paramilitary operatives of counterinsurgency groups in Mindanao have tarred popular movements for change as "subversive." Their agents smeared Pime missionaries—whispering about the Communist Party of the Philippines' praise for Father Tentorio, for example.

EDITORIAL

Pope Benedict XVI met these smears head on. He asked Giuseppe Pinto, then the Vatican's apostolic nuncio in Manila, to convey his message to Filipinos. Tentorio was "a good priest, a fervent believer," the Pope wrote. "For many years, he served the people of the Philippines in a courageous and indefatigable way."

Benedict's statement was published in the Vatican's official daily, *L'Osservatore Romano*.

Who slammed the replay button?

For years, opponents within the Vatican blocked the cause of Blessed Oscar Romero. "But with the presence of Pope Francis, a sensible Latino who knows Latin America, the process was revived," then finally pushed through, writes Bernardo Barranco, the president of the Center of Religious Studies, an institute in Mexico City. "It acknowledged a figure of the Church who has been denied for decades."

Romero was shot while saying Mass by a junta gunman. A "truth commission" later concluded that former army major Roberto d'Aubuisson ordered the killing. He was never tried. Impunity enabled him to establish the conservative Arena party, which governed El Salvador until 2009. He is now in the opposition.

"For a whole generation of Christians in Latin America, Romero's murder demonstrated the barbarity of military dictatorships," writes Barranco. Romero morphed from a timid bishop to an outspoken prelate after El Salvador goons gunned down a Jesuit priest who defended the poor.

In the Philippines, it has been four years now since the murder of Tentorio (or "Father Pops").

Last October, a caravan disembarked in Arakan, North Cotabato. The caravan members heard Mass concelebrated by 15 priests. The theme of the liturgy was Pope Francis' call: "Go. Do not be afraid. Serve the people."

They recalled that after arriving in Kidapawan, Father Pops stayed in the village of Kabacan to learn the local languages.

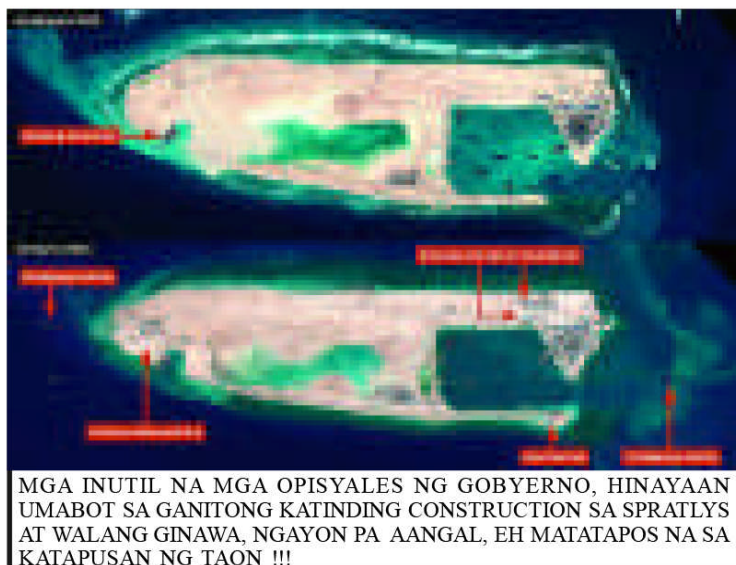
He trekked to far-flung villages to reach the neglected tribals and farmers. And he taught them how "to unite into organizations where they developed a new kind of education that empowered them to struggle for their rights."

Lawyer Gregorio Andolana documented "some investors racing to exploit the natural resources of Arakan." He pinpointed the corrupt politicians who feared that the organized farmers and tribals would no longer sell their votes.

These politicians considered priests like Tentorio and Favali as subversive. For some, this was sufficient motive for an extrajudicial killing.

After many appeals to the President, a new spe-

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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

'Animus revertendi' and Grace Poe

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!" (Hebrews 9:14, the Holy Bible).

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ANIMUS REVERTENDI AND GRACE POE: Is Sen. Grace Poe really disqualified from running for the presidency in 2016 in view of her declaration in her certificate of candidacy when she ran for senator in 2013 that she had been a resident of the Philippines for less than 10 years, as Malabon Rep. Toby Tiangco of the United Nationalist Alliance (UNA) is saying?

The answer is no, Poe is not disqualified on ground of residency. She can run for the presidency or for any other elective position, for that matter, even if she has not resided in the country for 10 years or more immediately prior to an election, according to Supreme Court decisions dealing precisely with candidates who have not continuously resided in the places where they intend to run, and thus have not completed the residency requirement under existing election laws.

The decisions of the tribunal make use of the so-called doctrine of "animus revertendi", which says that even if a candidate is not an actual resident of a town or city but intends to return to it every now and then, that candidate can be allowed to run for any political position in that place. This doctrine, I believe, can apply to Grace.

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IS GRACE POE A NATURAL BORN FILIPINO? Be that as it may, UNA may want to look into whether or not Grace is a natural born citizen under the Philippine Constitution, so as to entitle her to run as president or vice president in 2016.

This should be a more substantial argument, if UNA now sufficiently feels that the candidacy of Vice President Jejomar Binay is threatened by the seemingly surging and apparently unstoppable popularity of Grace. Again, as we all know, only those who are natural born citizens can run for the presidency or vice presidency of the country.

Now, what is a natural born citizen, and how does this affect Grace? According to the Constitution, a natural born Filipino citizen is a Filipino citizen who did not have to do anything to perfect his or her Filipino citizenship. In the case of Grace, while it can be argued that she was originally a natural born citizen, he having acquired US citizenship meant renouncing her Filipino citizenship.

WHAT US CITIZENSHIP DID TO GRACE POE: When Grace returned to the Philippines and made a vow to become a Filipino citizen again, that meant she was becoming a Filipino citizen once again as a consequence of that vow. For all legal intents and purposes, therefore, Grace had to perform an act so she could become a Filipino citizen once more. Anyway one looks at this situation, it is clear that

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MAGKASANGGA TAYO

Sino ang nagsasabi ng totoo, si Vergara o si Acosta? Kayo ang maghusga!

BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



Umiinit mga dear readers ang bakbakan nila Worthey Acosta ang whistleblower-accuser na nag akusa kina Margarita Ting-ting Cojuangco, Bernardo Vergara, Ferdie Balanag et.al..., ng pagnanakaw at pag tampera ng mga used ballots nung nakaraang halalan. Nitong nakaraang linggo ay nag pa prescon si Apo Vergara sa kanilang restawran na Dads at kanilang ipinakita na walang nangyaring tampering of the ballots or the ballot box. Sa nasabing prescon ay dinaluhan ng mga miyembro ng Comelec-CAR at ng mga ibat-ibang medyas este media at mga abogago este abogado ng mga akusado at nang whistleblower. Ang nakakatawa ay kung bakit ang Sunstar Baguio na pagmamay-ari ni Peter Rey Bautista (X-Baguio City Mayor Bautista) ay iginawang headline banner na si Vergara ay na iclear na raw ng COMELEC. Ano kayang comelec ang ibig sabihin ng Sunstar, commission on elections kaya o commission on electioneering o baka commission on lecturing? Sigurado naman na walang kinalaman itong si Peter Rey Bautista sa ganitong mga headlines sapagkat si dating Mayor Bautista ay involved lamang sa management bilang General Manager at ang direktang involved ay ang sumulat na si Giovani Joy Fontanilla at siyempre inaprubahan ng Editor-In-Chief na si Mary Ann Cacedac. Tsk! Tsk! Tsk!, ayokong gamitin ang salitang koryente sapagkat, hindi ko maisip kung paano sila makokoryente samantalang malinaw naman na walang ano man dokumento na ibinigay nuong presscon na dinaluhan ng isa natin consultant na si Bombito "MR. M" Aquino, na nag sasabing dismiss na ang reklamo sa Comelec, eh di saan nakuha ni Ms. Fontanilla ang kanyang nasabing na clear na si Vergara at kung bakit pinalusot ni Editor Cacedac ang isang baseless claim, magkano kaya, magkano kaya, magkano kaya ang iginastos sa presscon??? Hi! Hi! Hi! (**AGA AMO TAYON**) !!! Panawag ko kay kagalang-galang ginoong Bautista, Apo Peter Rey, sa aking palagay dapat na ma sanction ang Editor at Writer ng iyong pahayagan para ng sa ganoon ay hindi magmukhang nabayaran ang Sunstar na maglabas ng isang impormasyon na walang basehan. Hingil naman sa kaso ng theft and tampering ng mga used ballots, kung sa nakaraan katulad ng akin idineklara sa aking nakaraang kolum hingil sa isyu na hati na ako ay hati (50-50) pag dating sa isyu na ito, sa ngayon ay naging 70-30 na ang aking pananaw. 70% in favor of the whistleblower and 30% in favor of the vergara camp. Bakit kaninyo, katulad din ng aking idineklara sa nakaraang kolum ay madali naman patunayan na nagsisinungaling si whistleblower accosta kung bubuksan ang ballot box at makikitang walang kulang na balota eh di ibig sabihin ay walng nanakaw na balota, eh ngayon na binuksan ang ballot box ay lumalabas na mayroon ngang mga kulang na balota. Aba, eh possible ngang nagsasabi ng katotohanan itong si ginoong whistleblower Acosta!!! Kayo ang humusga mga dear readers, bastat maka aasa kayo na sa pahayangang ito at sa UPLAND News online systems ay inyong mababasa ang buong katotohanan hingil sa ballot theft and tampering issue na ito. **MABUHAY PO KAYONG MGA INDEPENDENT MINDED KONG READERS NA HINDI BASTA BASTA NAGPAPADALA SA MGA SULAT-SULAT O SABISABI NG MGA IBANG MGA TRYING HARD NAMAGMEDIAS ESTE MEDIA !!!**

DIMENSIONAL ROAD

Anti-discrimination Laws Mandated: Human Rights' Vigilance

BY: MARVIN WACNAG LIDAWAN



"It is often easier to become outraged by injustice half a world away than by oppression and discrimination half a block from home." Carl T. Rowan

Discrimination happens because of age, disability, race, language, culture, beliefs/religious affiliations, ethnicity, sexual preferences, gender as well as the educational institutions where graduates earned their degrees. According to Dictionary.com, it is a treatment or consideration of, or making a distinction in favor of or against, a person or thing based on the group, class, or category to which that person or thing belongs rather than on individual merit. Without statistical analysis for the emergence of figures to prove their occurrences, we hear multiple accounts encountered by countless individuals which elucidate bias incidents.

The discrimination-related experiences of fellow citizens reverberate for everyone's awareness not to mention multiple accounts of individuals who kept them in long-endured silence. But whether these forms of discrimination are told or not, the bottom line is they are all victims of unjustified prejudice who deserve restitution of citizen's legal rights. Despite the drawbacks of the governments' efforts in finding solutions for these impartiality, some of these discrimination-related problems are being addressed by the country's law-making bodies.

In the government service, the case on job search discrimination isn't much a piercing controversial issue. A republic act governs how applicants are absorbed into the Philippine Civil Service (PSC). According to Republic Act No. 7041, it is an act requiring regular publications of existing vacant positions in government offices. In here, Section 1 stipulates "that it shall be the policy of the government to promote efficiency in the allocation of personnel in the civil service, as well as transparency and equal opportunities in the recruitment and hiring of new personnel." It further specifically points out in its Section 2 that "The duty of all Chief Personnel or Administrative Officers of all branches, subdivisions, instrumentality and agencies of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations with original charters, and local government units, to post in three (3) conspicuous places of their offices for a period of ten (10) days a complete list of all existing vacant positions in their respective offices which are authorized to be filled, and to transmit a copy of such list and the corresponding qualification standards to the Civil Service Commission not later than the tenth day of every month." It further explains that "Vacant positions shall not be filled until after publication: provided, however, that vacant unfilled positions that are: primarily confidential; policy-determining; highly technical; coterminous with that of the appointing authority, or limited to the duration of a particular project shall be excluded from the list required under this Law." Furthermore, its Section 3 focuses on publication of vacancies which defines that "The Chairman and members of the Civil Service Commission shall publish once every quarter a complete list of all the existing va-

cant positions in the Government throughout the country, including the qualification standards required for each position and, thereafter, certify under oath to the completion of publication." It further reiterates that "The said publication shall be posted by the Chief Personnel or Administrative Officer of all local government units in at least three (3) public and conspicuous places in their respective municipalities and provinces: provided, further, that any vacant position published therein shall be open to any qualified person who does not necessarily belong to the same office with the vacancy or who occupies a position next-in rank to the vacancy." It finally affirms that "The Civil Service Commission shall not act on any appointment to fill up a vacant position unless the same has been reported to and published by the Commission."

Republic Act No. 6725 which is an act strengthening the prohibition on discrimination against women with respect to terms and conditions of employment, amending Article 135. In its Section 1 on Discrimination Prohibited, it articulates that "It is unlawful for any employer to discriminate against any woman employee with respect to terms and conditions of employment solely on account of her sex." It has been specified that "The following are acts of discrimination: (a) Payment of a lesser compensation, including wage, salary or other form of remuneration and fringe benefits, to a female employee as against a male employee, for work of equal value; and (b) Favoring a male employee over a female employee with respect to promotion, training opportunities, study and scholarship grants solely on account of their sexes. This is interlinked with the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) advocating the National Machinery for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (NMGWE) that continuously focuses on the presence of Republic Act 9710 called Magna Carta of Women (MCW)." The MCW is a comprehensive women's human rights law that seeks to eliminate discrimination through the recognition, protection, fulfillment and promotion of the rights of Filipino women, especially those belonging in the marginalized sectors of the society. It conveys a framework of rights for women based directly on international law.

Base from the information obtained from the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), Republic Act 7277 which was mandated on March 24, 1992 by the late President of the Philippines, Corazon C. Aquino, is an act providing for the rehabilitation, self-development and self-reliance of disabled person and their integration into the mainstream of society and for other purposes. "Title two focuses on the rights and privileges of disabled persons chapter One (1) specifically tackles on the legal rights for employment under Section 5 on equal opportunity for employment which affirms that "No disabled persons shall be denied access to opportunities for suitable employment. A qualified disabled employee shall be subject to the same terms and conditions of employment and the same compensation, privileges, benefits, fringe benefits, incentives or allowances as a qualified able-bodied person. Five percent (5%) of all casual, emergency and contractual positions in the Department of Social Welfare and Development; Health; Education, Culture and Sports; and other government agencies, offices or corporations engaged in social development shall be reserved for disabled persons."

The Sentro ng Alternatibong Cont. on page 8

PDEA, PRO-Cor Nab Drug Personalities in Separate Operations

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet — The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency-Cordillera and the Police Regional Office—Cordillera scored big with the dismantling of a drug den in Baguio City and the arrest of various drug personalities in separate operations in the region.

Armed with a search warrant issued by Judge Reynaldo Alhambra of Regional Trial Court Branch 53, Manila, PDEA-CAR swooped on a drug den at Lower Quirino Hill night of May 30 resulting to the arrest of drug den maintainers and three drug users. Also confiscated were 1,016.2317 grams of marijuana dried leaves, six sachets of methamphetamine hydrochloride weighing 3.1072 grams and 18 tablets of diazepam and other drug parapherna-

lia.

PDEA-CAR Assistant Regional Director Gil Castro identified the arrested drug personalities as Annabell Del Rosario Atienza, 41, micro financing officer and her common-law husband, Robert Manalili David, 26.

Castro said Atienza and David were members of a notorious drug group operating in Baguio City and La Trinidad, Benguet.

The suspects are now detained at the Baguio City Jail and are facing cases for violation of Republic Act No. 9165 otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Meanwhile, the Police Regional Office Cordillera arrested four persons involved with illegal drugs in Benguet and Abra.

Cont. on page 8

Significant Number of Meat Products Condemned

BAGUIO CITY - The city government here is firm in protecting the people from acquiring illnesses related to eating double dead meat.

During the Monday flag raising ceremony at city hall, city veterinarian, Dr. Brigit Piok disclosed that 48,513 hogs, 2,464 cattle, 107 carabao, 711 goats and 147,505 poultries for a total 199,300 livestock and poultries were inspected and passed for the period of January to May 2015.

A total volume of 6,119,897 kilograms of meat and meat products and 4,007,578 kilograms of fish and fishery products were inspected by passed for the same period.

In the slaughterhouse, the city has confiscated a total volume of 8,019.70 kilograms of meat and meat products because of liverfluke infestation, hemorrhagic/pneumonic, foul odor, gangrenous, brittle and enlarge, cirrhotic, hemorrhagic condition, and "double dead".

While in the city and satellite markets, the city has confiscated at total volume of 2,386.05 kilograms of meat and meat products, and 20 kilograms of green mussel (tahong) because of mishandling, no accompanying meat inspection certificated ("hot meat"), no accompanying auxiliary invoice (source was positive of red tide), adulteration, decomposition with greenish discoloration.

Because of numerous unscrupulous meat vendors in the city mixing the bocha with fresh meat which the sell to customers, mayor Mauricio Domogan recently formed a task force to monitor the sale, proper and hygienic handling of meat and meat products in the in the city market through Administrative Order No. 030, series of 2015.

This is in support with Republic Act 7394 also known as the Consumer Act of the

Cont. on page 9

OWWA to Treat OFWs, Families on June 7

BAGUIO CITY - Overseas Filipino Workers, Balik Mangagawa and their families are in for a day of fun and surprises this Sunday, June 7, as the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration - Cordillera Regional office is set to spearhead a Migrant Workers' Day celebration.

OWWA Cordillera OIC Regional Director Evelyn Laranang, in an interview over PIA Hour, invites OFWs and OFW returnees in the Baguio - Benguet area for the celebration set at the St. Vincent Parish Multi-purpose Gymnasium along Naguilian Road, here.

This is an annual OWWA event pursuant to Republic Act 8042 or the Migrant Workers Act of 1995, which instituted policies on overseas employment and established a higher standard of protection and promotion of the welfare of migrant workers, their families and other OWS in distress.

This year's celebration theme is "Kasanyan at Husay sa Paggawa, Proteksyon ng

Migranteng Mangagawa (Work skills and talents, protection of migrant workers), to highlight the importance of globally competitive Filipino workforce in overseas employment.

Lined-up activities include skills demo, OFW livelihood product display and selling, free medical services and film showing on migration realities and anti-human trafficking campaign.

There will also be songs and dances, fun games, line-dancing for the participants and other surprises.

"These activities aim to promote skills development as well as healthy lifestyle to OFWs and their families, as well as provide advocacy campaign on common migration problems including human trafficking", Laranang said.

OWWA expects around 500 participants to join in this celebration which will start at 10:00AM with Baguio City and Benguet officials as invited guest speakers. /JDP/CCD - PIA CAR

Baguio City High School Welcomes More than 7,000 Studies

BAGUIO CITY — The largest high school in Baguio City and the Cordillera region welcomed more than 7,000 students during the first day of school on June 1 Monday.

Baguio City National High School (BCNHS) Principal Dr. Elma Donaál said that the main campus recorded 6,404 enrollees with 5,145 in the regular classes and the rest in the Special Programs in the Arts and Sciences, Science Technology and Engineering Programs and the Open High School Program.

The Fort Del Pilar Annex inside the Philippine Military Academy has 801 enrollees while the Hillside Annex has 154 students.

The BCNHS has only two remaining annexes as the other annexes were already converted to national high school status.

According to Donaál, among those they welcomed are the Grade 10 students who will be the first to graduate in the Senior High School under the K-12 program of the Department of Education.

"With the number of enrolled students today, there are already several sections of the Grade

Grace's Residency...

tive of the 2nd district of Ilocos Norte, Rep. Imelda Marcos.

Marcos ran for representative of the first district of Leyte in 1995 and wrote in her Certificate of Candidacy (COC) that she has been a resident of Leyte for only seven months when the requirement was one year.

Escudero said that according to the Supreme Court, it is the fact of residence and not the statements made in the COC that will form the basis whether a person or a candidate is a resident of a certain place or not.

"Alam naman siguro nila 'yan. Alam ko at tiyak ko, kung nag-research talaga sila, malalaman din nila 'yan," said Escudero.

He also recalled that since FPJ died December 2004, Poe then decided to stay and reside in the country. If and when Poe decide to run for president, according to Escudero, it will not be difficult to prove

10 who are using makeshift classrooms such as the library, science laboratories, the Home Economics rooms and the auditorium," said Donaál.

She said they are still waiting for the completion of a new building which should cater to several sections.

The principal added that the number of enrollees is still expected to increase since the enrolment will still continue until next week.

On Friday, the BCNHS recorded 6,972 enrolled students and it is expected to reach the 7,000 mark or even more next week.

She reminded parents and students that late enrolment in the BCNHS will be done

from page 2
her residency in the country.

Escudero added that not only the animus revertendi or the intent to return is applicable to Poe's case, but also the actual physical residence in the country. The doctrine has been used by the Supreme Court as a basis to decide in several election-related cases.

"So, pagsamahin mo ang dalawang 'yon, sobra pa at dagdag pa 'yun sa sitwasyon ng ibang tao. Marami nga at may ilang kongresista diyan ang tinitirhan nilang bahay ay iba sa tinatakbuhan o kinakatawan nilang lugar. So sana, maghumus-dili, ika nga, at manalamin ang ilan sa mga nagsasalita," Escudero said. /OFFICIAL WEBSITE: <http://chizescudero.com/OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE: https://www.facebook.com/senchizescudero>

OFFICIAL TWITTER ACCOUNT: @saychiz

only after 4:00PM or after the dismissal of classes. She also urged the students coming from the different far flung areas in the city and nearby towns of Benguet to enroll at schools in their communities or near their homes.

Meanwhile, DepEd Baguio Divisions Superintendent Francis Bringas reported that the city welcomed at least 50,000 students in the different public schools today.

Bringas said at least 18,000 pupils in the elementary and 35,000 students in high school have enrolled in the various public schools in the city but the number is still expected to increase in the coming days with some still enrolling. /JDP/ RMC- PIA CAR

EDITORIAL

cial investigating team for unsolved cases is now conducting an in-depth review of Tentorio's killing. We want to see results, says Fr. Peter Geremia of the Pime.

Filipinos will find the Romero case instructive. After years in which the process was stalled, Pope Francis' beatification decision was "a surprise and a thrill for everyone," said Simeon Reyes, a spokesperson for the Catholic Church in El Salvador.

"There were always priests who were not in agreement with him," said Gaspar Romero, the slain bishop's brother. "But the Vatican has recognized him as a man of faith, a man who spoke for the neediest, defending the poor from injustices, and who was killed for it."

Romero's case for sainthood became bogged down in Church politics, recalls Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, who guided the beatification cause through the process.

Over the years, Romero's opponents argued that he was too politically controversial and a follower of "liberation theology," a movement within the Church focused on fighting injustice and inequality.

"A mountain of paper, unfortunately, weighed down" Romero's

...from page 4

case. Will that be the case in Mindanao?

Pope Francis bypassed senior prelates to pick the second Filipino cardinal from Mindanao, Orlando Quevedo of Cotabato.

The violence that Romero encountered, including the killing of his fellow priests, "radicalized [him] and made him aware that the repression had no limits, that they would attack anyone equally, including the Church," said Jose Jorge Siman, a friend for many years.

A prayer, wrongly attributed to Romero, says it is also for martyred missionaries Favalí and Tentorio:

"The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work...."

"Nothing we do is complete, which is saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us... We plant the seeds that one day will grow...."

"We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that... We may never see the end results... We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not mes-

siahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." / Juan L. Mercado

Sunstar Baguio...

from page 9

that it is in the COMELEC report? Can you kindly email to us a copy of the COMELEC report at wala kami nun?

Whistleblower & Accuser (Acosta) - "It was during the opening and inspection of the ballots, you can even ask Chuck Tinte (ABS-CBN TV Patrol Northern Luzon) who reported it last Saturday or Friday. I was not furnished by COMELEC but I'm sure of it. They are bragging that what was left on the ballot boxes were not tampered, I do not know why are they bragging about it when in fact nobody claimed that it was tampered. On my affidavit, it was the stolen ballots (one that I got from the CP 5 ballot box) that was tampered and not what was left inside."

Junction Reporter (Sermi)- One thing puzzling us is sa damidami ng mga officials na pwede mo i-link, if we are to consider the denial of the Vergara camp, why did you link Vergara and Balanag and not some other politician etc..., what can you say about this?

Whistleblower & Accuser (Acosta) - "Because it is the truth. I cannot link anyone who are not involved at the same time I cannot absolve someone involved."

Junction Reporter (Sermi)- Sino po ang inyong lawyer, you stated in your email letter that he was present during the Baguio presscon of Vergara. Can you kindly email to us his cp number and email address?

Whistleblower & Accuser (Acosta) - "Atty. Francisco Sibayan"

Junction Reporter (Sermi)- In the Facebook releases of Balanag he posted cases of alleged estafa that you have been involved in. Can you give us an update on your alleged cases

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

PHOEBE DIWAG
Applicant(s)

Case No: 2000-BC-067

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ-Jitney for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: Baguio Plaza - Atok Trail and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on June 17, 2015 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paoal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 28th day of May, 2015.

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

and any other info you feel you can share with us.

Whistleblower & Accuser (Acosta) - "I expected these things already. I have one case in Pasig and that has already been dismissed. They are the one accusing, they should be the one to prove this. Maraming alegasyon saakin, marami kasinungalingan. Pero inaasahan ko na 'to. Siyempre credibilidad ko sisirain nila para di maniwala saakin ang tao pero ang ebidensya kakampi natin."

In a related news report, at the May 29, 2015 TV Patrol Northern Luzon report by Mr. Chuck Tinte, ABS-CBN Northern Luzon Reporter - "Sa records ng COMELEC Baguio, pitong daan at isang balota ang laman ng ballot box na binuksan mula sa Precinct No. 5 sa Asin Road. Nang bilangin ang balota higit tatlong daan lang ito. Tumanggi munang mag-bigay ng pahayag ang COMELEC Baguio, pero sinabing maaaring sa ibang ballot box inilagay ng Board of Election Inspectors o BEI ang mga ballots. Sinubukan nga naming kunahan ng pahayag ang mga BEI pero tumanggi sila."

Further to this, in our interview with this paper's Consultant and Executive Director of the Linis Gobyerno, Mr. Freddie Farres when we asked for his comment and reaction on the clearly misleading Sunstar Baguio Headline, he said "ang mga binigyan ng reponsibilidad na magpatakbo ng isang pahayagan, dapat ay kanila itong seryosohin at hindi bale ng mahina ka magsulat o kahit na mali-mali pa ang spelling, grammar o tenses mo at yung mga pagkakamali na yun ay madaling pagpasensyahan. Ngunit ang pagsusulat ng report lalo na at headline story pa man din ay dapat na straight news at parating may factual basis at hindi imbento lamang. I am sure the papers Owner/Manager Mr. Peter Rey Bautista had nothing to do with this and I can just only hope that Mr. Bautista will not tolerate an obviously misleading and false report and likewise take the necessary sanctions against his paper's editor in chief and reporter. As always, we call on the Vergara and Balanag camp to send in their reactions and comments on this ongoing vital news of public interest. /Sermi

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

AMY M. BANGITAO - Vendor
MARINA C. ANDRES - Vendee
Applicant(s)

Case No: 2013-CAR-329/2015-CAR-310

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for the Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: Baguio City to any point in CAR and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on June 17, 2015 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paoal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 2nd day of June, 2015.

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

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

GEORGE CAOILE
Applicant(s)

Case No: 2003-CAR-663

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: Baguio Plaza - Crystal Cave and Vice Versa to any point in CAR with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on June 17, 2015 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paoal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 28th day of May, 2015.

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

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

NESTOR B. ROSERO
Applicant(s)

Case No: 2002-BC-431

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a Taxi Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: Baguio City to any point in CAR and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on June 17, 2015 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paoal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 28th day of May, 2015.

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

Agus, The Junction Researcher and Reporter in coordination with Odell P. Aquino of UP-LAND NEWS On-Line News Systems

DIMENSIONAL ROAD

Lingap Panlegal (SALIGAN) has supported Senate bills that included Bills 2001 and 2888; An Act Prohibiting Discrimination Against Persons on Account of Ethnic Origin and/or Religious Belief." The (SALIGAN), an alternative law group supported the proposed "Anti-Discrimination Act of 2008", or House Bill No. 3012, plus its counterpart versions known as Senate Bills 2001 and 2888. According to the SALIGAN, "There is a necessity of these laws due to the existence of the acts of discrimination based on ethnicity and religion" Based from their advocacy-manifested statements, "Historical injustices against the Moros and indigenous peoples have placed them in the bottom tier of the society. Conflict and displacement have excluded them from the benefits of whatever development the Philippines have been able to reap. Moros and indigenous peoples are confronted with the additional burden of fighting off biases that obstruct their way for good education, better employment, and access to goods and services. Furthermore, they have asserted that biases against the Moro peoples have been the subject of the Pulse Asia study that was incorporated into the Philippine Human Development Report of 2005.

Meanwhile, according to age Discrimination. Info, Philippine Senator Pia Cayetano currently renews a call

...from page 5 regarding the bill filed in the Senate that seeks to end discrimination in the hiring of employees on the basis of age which is now pending for the second reading at the Senate. Senate Bill No. 29, or the "Anti-Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 2013," aspires to penalize employers; labor contractors or organizations that make a person's age the basis for employment. Cayetano reiterated that "The measure is anchored on the constitutional provision that mandates the State to ensure equality of employment opportunities for all" She too, added that "The basis for employment should be a person's knowledge, skills and qualifications which are necessary to perform a job. A person's age should not be an issue." Cayetano's measures express that "Private and public employers are not allowed to: Print, publish, or cause the printing or publishing any notice of advertisement relating to employment suggesting preferences, limitations, specifications and discrimination based on age, Require the declaration of age or birth date during the application process, Decline any employment application because of the applicant's age, Discriminate against an individual on account of his or her age in terms of compensation, terms and conditions, privileges, promotions and other opportunities and Forcibly lay-off an employee because

of old age."

With hopes to continuously experience the implementation of this in the country, we owe much from steadfast government officials who earlier advocated the existence of this rights to be recognized in the Philippine society which currently continuous to benefit all country's citizens. Previously, according to the Sponsorship Speech on "Anti-Discrimination Act of 2011" Delivered at the Senate Floor by Senator Loren Legarda Chair, Senate Committee on Cultural Communities on its 16th congress, she emphatically stated that, "When we entered into an international commitment to end racial discrimination with the ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), we have also made this Convention a part of the law of the land. Our country is also a member of the United Nations General Assembly, which has passed: (1) the 1981 Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief; (2) the 1993 UN GA Resolution on Elimination of All Forms of Religious Intolerance; and 3) The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - all of which provide for non-discrimination based on race, ethnicity, social origin or religious belief."

The Anti-Discrimination laws that were mandated by the legislative and executive administration of the country may not have

PDEA, Pro-Cor Nab...

Joint PNP personnel of Buguias Municipal Police Station (MPS), La Trinidad MPS, and the Regional Anti-Illegal Drugs Special Operation Task Group - Cordillera (RAIDSOTG) arrested two suspected women drug couriers in the morn-

ing of June 2 at Abatan, Buguias, Benguet. Confiscated from their possessions were four pieces of heat-sealed transparent plastic sachets containing suspected "shabu" weighing 20.4grams with a total Dangerous Drug Board value of Php122,400.00, 2 cellular phones, and 6 pieces of P1,000 bill as buy-bust money. In Abra, two drug couriers were also nabbed night of June 2. Operatives recovered and confiscated one heat sealed transparent plastic sachet containing suspected shabu, nine plastic sachets containing suspected shabu residues and assorted drug paraphernalia. The operation of was thru the joint ef-

addressed all the forms of discrimination that are occurring in private and public administration but with the existence of these laws, they trigger the probable emergence of other strict laws that will yield favorable responses to these human behavior-created dilemmas. The government, considering the prejudices and experiences of actual discrimination, foresees urgent need to enact laws in order to address these spreading social cancer which defy the essence of equality in a country where nationalism is a priority. These laws may not come in spurts of seconds but will systematically thrive to dominate these overwhelming societal problems.

marvin wacnag lidawan@gmail.com

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Grace is no longer a natural born citizen. She may have been a natural born citizen before she became a US citizen, but her acquiring US citizenship certainly removed her status as a natural born citizen. That being the case, there is a serious legal issue about whether she can really run for president or not.

I am not against Grace Poe. And neither am I for anyone else. I am part of a group of Filipino citizens who believe that the present system of doing things in the Philippines, particularly in the field of governance, will not yield any

forts of the PNP personnel of the Abra Shield and Bangued MPS.

Appropriate cases are being prepared against the arrested drug couriers for filing in court.

...from page 4 substantial and beneficial change for the long-suffering masses. Yet, I believe that the law must be upheld impartially at all times, no matter who is involved.

-ooo-
PLEASE LISTEN: "Ang Tanging Daan" (The Sole Way), a Bible study and prayer session on radio, airs Mondays to Fridays, 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., at DWAD 1098 kHz on the AM band. For replays, go to www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan or www.facebook.com/ANDKNK and scroll for "Ang Tanging Daan" broadcasts. Phone: 0922 833 43 96, 0918 574 0193, 0917 984 24 68. Email: batamancio@yahoo.com

Confiscated pieces of evidence were submitted to the Regional Crime Laboratory Office for examination and proper disposition. / JDP/RMC-PIA CAR



Branded o hindi, lahat made in China, BAKIT..... magtitiis sa high Price branded merong low Price RUSI naman.

Trade-in accepted

RUSI BAGUIO-BENGUET
Km. 3, La Trinidad, Benguet
CP Nos: 0988-9731349

RUSI TUBA, BENGUET
Brgy. Cadmangan, Tuba, Benguet
CP No.: 0999-885-0843

RUSI BUGUIAS, BENGUET
Brgy. Abatan, Buguias, Benguet
CP No.: 0947-995-1609

Disaster Programs...

P600,000.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said that with the approval of the projects the city hopes to achieve its overall goal of zero casualty and reduced property loss.

The city earlier adopted other projects under the DRRM plan mostly infrastructure programs that were included in the Annual Investment Plan for 2015. The AIP was approved by the city council last February.

The DRRM fund this year totals P67 million.

The projects were based on the three-year Revised City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Plan approved last year by the city council.

The plan covering 2014-2016 serves as the city's guidebook in preparing for and responding to calamities, both natural and man-made including the effects of climate change. It aims to "create a sustainable and enabling environment that increases community consciousness on hazards, aims for zero

from page 10

casualty, reduce human suffering, property damage and protect environment sensitive areas from all types of disasters."

The plan covers the four thematic areas prescribed by the national framework namely prevention and mitigation aimed at identifying and mitigating hazards to prevent potential impacts to the communities and the population; preparedness to achieve zero casualties and the least damage to properties; response to preserve life and provide basic subsistence needs in accordance with quality and acceptable assistance and services during and immediately after the occurrence of a disaster; and rehabilitation or recovery with goal of normalizing the lives of the affected individuals and their families through the restoration of essential services, facilities and socio-economic activities in the affected communities. */A Refuerzo*

City Sets...**from page 10**

can secure an application form at the SSD and submit the same not later than June 30, 2015.

With the search, barangays will realize the importance of improved transparency and public accountability of barangay officials; improved records management; better and efficient monitoring and evaluation system; and to be effective and efficient in local development and governance. */Jho Arranz*

Baguio ...**from page 2**

that directly benefit their constituents.

Compliance with rules and regulations, policies and other standards to attain quality local legislation, development planning, resource generation, resource allocation and utilization, customer service, and human resource management and others is also part and parcel of the award. */Paul Rillorta*

Safety of Boarding...

of the city health service office said this matter has been brought up before and they compromised that for as long the boardinghouse is safe and sanitary — with fire safety apparatus, fire exits and clean rooms and not overcrowded — then it will pass the inspection.

Tabanda then asked the composite team composed of departments concerned with safety, sanitation and security to submit minimum safety and sanitation standards that are reasonable and realistic for consideration in revising the ordinance.

She also asked the team to review the procedures in the grant of business permits to these establishments to ensure that they are strictly complying with the requirements.

Licensing officer Braille Van Reyes said there are 3,590 boarding houses and four dormitories issued permits this year and they are all presumed to have passed the fire and building safety requirements.

Sr. Insp. Nestor Gorio of the Bureau of Fire Protection said the usual violations noted among these establishments are the fire exits which are usually blocked, lack of fire-fighting appliance, alarm, emergency lights

from page 3

and evacuation plan.

He also aired concern over the permanent window grills installed and the lack of back meant to secure the premises against burglars but can hamper escape during fires.

He said they can only recommend to owners not to make these fixtures permanent. He said he will write the council to pass an ordinance to prohibit the installation of these permanent fixtures especially among business establishments for fire safety.

Delos Santos said their common observations during inspections are overcrowding, lack of ventilation and the coed occupancy of rooms.

Policarpio Cambod of the public order and safety division brought up the need for big dormitories to install CCTVs and employ security guards.

Councilor Lilia Yaranon said owners should impose curfew and limited visiting time. She said the composite team should conduct a year-round inspection of these establishments.

Councilor Joel Alangab said the team should conduct a synchronized inspection to make it more effective. */A Refuerzo*

Independence ... from page 10

through the jobs fair.

Regional Director Henry John Jalbuena said, "vacancies for call center agents, customer service representatives, technical support representatives, cashiers, merchandisers, baggers, real estate consultants, sales clerks, porters, delivery truck drivers, helpers, stock clerks and more will be offered by local companies participating in the jobs fair."

A pre-registration activity for jobseekers will be on June 8 to 11 from 8 am to 5 pm at the DOLE Baguio Field office located at Cabinet Hill for jobs skills matching. */Paul Rillorta*

Sunstar Baguio...

In Chief.

Likewise, the whistleblower and accuser, Mr. Worthy Acosta got in touch with this reporter, and in our paper's interest to personally hear his side, this reporter requested for a one-on-one interview with Mr. Acosta. Unfortunately, due to security concerns as Mr. Acosta is under the witness protection program, the interview was done on line, phone-in, and through email. Herewith are some of the excerpts of the interview:

Whistleblower & Accuser (Acosta) - "First of all, I would want to state that as of the time of writing this e-mail, Ms. Fontanilla, Sunstar Reporter has not made any contact to me or my lawyer (who was present last Thursday on the Vergara sponsored presscon at the Dad's restaurant along Session Road) to get our side. I added her on Facebook, but until now she has not accepted my friend request."

"Their (Sunstar) Headline: 'COMELEC clears Bernie' is completely false and misleading, the investigation is still ongoing and there is no resolution nor dismissal issued by the COMELEC Law Department."

"Second: 'COMELEC en Banc headed by Atty. Charlie Yap.....' There was no COMELEC en banc member present during the opening of the ballot box, the COMELEC en banc is composed of the commissioners and the COMELEC chairman. Atty. Charlie Yap is a part of the investigation panel of the COMELEC Law Department not the En Banc."

"On the 'CONDITION OF THE BALLOT BOX', if you were there during the opening, the statement of the one describing the ballot box was that the ballot box was slightly opened. I was in shock when I read that the ballot box was declared by Ms. Fontanilla as not tampered. There was not

from page 1

even a report by the COMELEC that says that the ballot box 'was not tampered'. Actually, if you will read my affidavit, you can also see that, I only removed one plastic seal and not all. Because I would just be needing to lift a small part of the ballot box to get what is inside of the ballot box. And lastly the tape seems to be slightly tampered only because I tried to reseal it again (on my affidavit).

"The report (SUNSTAR) also says that there were 980 ballots there, 701 used and 280 other unused. This is only completely false!!! There were only 280 unused found and 300 plus used ballots found. Please see (COMELEC REPORT). This is because the other 300+ ballots were the ones that I got inside the ballot box."

"The camp of Vergara also rejoiced on the fact that the ballots found inside the ballot box was not tampered. OF COURSE! On my affidavit, the ballots that I got from the ballot box was the one instructed by Glenn Chong for me to tamper. Logically, the other ones left on the ballot boxes were not tampered."

"The camp of Vergara is clearly misleading the public. Let us stick with the allegations and not twist the story."

Junction Reporter (Sermi)- In your earlier comment you stated the following: "The report (SUNSTAR) also says that there were 980 ballots there, 701 used and 280 other unused. This is only completely false!!! There were only 280 unused found and 300 plus used ballots found. Please see (COMELEC REPORT). This is because the other 300+ ballots were the one that I got inside the ballot box."

Sir, you said that it is completely false, what is your basis for saying that it is only 280 unused found and 300 plus used ballots, you mentioned

Cont. on page 7



FREE MASSAGE – Students and trainees of Hephzibah Praisers Academe: Tesda Community Training conduct free massage therapy to Barangay Pinsao Pilot Project officials and residents, June 1./Photo by Rj Cayabyab

City Sets for the Search for Best Performing Barangays

BAGUIO CITY - The city government spearheaded by the Special Services Division (SSD) of the Mayor's Office will start accepting applications for barangays interested to join the Search for Best Performing Barangays for 2014.

Said search was conceptualized to recognize excellence in local governance among the barangays not only in terms of their plans and sustainability after the evaluation, this will help the barangays to come up with better and improved plans for their advancement.

It will also provide incentives to barangays for their sustained efforts, conscientious and sensitive to the needs of their constituents as well as their dynamic efforts to make a difference in the life of the most economically deprived residents in the barangay.

The participating barangays will be judged based on the following criteria set by the city: barangay administration and governance, environ-

mental management and protection, infrastructure development, peace and order and public safety, health and nutrition program management, and social welfare development.

Board of judges will be from the Department and Interior and Local Government City Field Office, Non-government organization, Liga ng mga Barangay, Baguio City Police Office, Health Services Office, City Social Welfare and Development Office, City Environment and Parks Management Office, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and City Planning and Development Office.

Out of the 128 barangays in the city, only 31 barangays joined the said search last year. Thus mayor Mauricio Domogan encouraged all the barangays to participate in the search for best performing barangays.

"There will be six major prizes and 25 consolation prizes will be given to the selected barangays," said Domogan.

Interested barangays

Cont. on page 9

Independence Day Jobs Fair Gets Green Light

BAGUIO CITY – the Department of Labor and Employment Cordillera in partnership with the City Government –Public Employment Services Office (PESO) and partner agencies will be conducting the Kalayaan Day jobs fair on June 12 at the University of the Cordilleras here.

More than a thousand local, government and overseas job vacancies for various skills will be up for grabs as part of the 117th Philippine Independence Day celebrations anchored on this year's theme; "Kalayaan 2015, Tagumpay sa Pagbabagong Nasimulan, Abot-Kamay na ng Bayan."

Jobseekers are advised to come early as gates of UC theatre opens at exactly 7:30 am.

Applicants are advised to prepare enough copies of pre-employment requirements such as resume, diploma, Nbi and Police clearances, transcript of records, certificates of training or employment and pictures to facilitate applications.

The Kalayaan Jobs Fair is a yearly event to give opportunity to the unemployed the chance to search for decent work **Cont. on page 9**

Disaster Programs Approved

BAGUIO CITY – The city council approved additional disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) programs amounting to P35 million for this year to be financed under the DRRM fund.

City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council action officer city administrator Carlos Canilao said most of the projects deal with calamity preparedness including the acquisition of disaster supplies and equipment, preparation of information materials and conduct of trainings with a total amount of P24,213,300.

A total of P7.2 million will be used for prevention and mitigation particularly the conduct of assessment and surveys of the hazardous areas and preparation of local sewerage and septage plan and drainage master plan.

Other projects address the rehabilitation and recovery mostly repair and rehabilitation of infrastructures in the barangays to cost P3,377,000 and response particularly the provision of transportation, medical and burial services, assistance and operation fund amounting to **Cont. on page 9**

The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!

City Urges Pet Owners to be Responsible

BAGUIO CITY - Rabies is a deadly viral disease most commonly transmitted through dog bites. Thus, it is the goal of the city government here spearheaded by the city veterinary office to have zero animal rabies case.

City veterinarian, Dr. Brigit Piok reported that out of the 18,000 dog population in the city, their office has vaccinated 14,217 dogs. Also, their office has impounded 689 dogs in public places and neutered 26 dogs and cats. "Our office takes care of dogs that bite people while the bite victim is taken cared of by the health services office," stressed Piok.

Pet owners are reminded of ordinance numbered 025, series of 2000 prohibiting dog owners to allow their dogs loose in the streets and outside their homes, and ordinance numbers 09, series of 2008 stating that dog owners must

register their dogs in their respective barangay offices and to subject their dogs to anti-rabies vaccination every year.

Piok said, "the purpose of having a dog is for a guard, for a pet and for the blind as a guide and for the sick for therapy. The guard dog must always be at its post at home and so with the pet dog, the guide dog and the therapy dog must always be home and well taken cared of."

Mayor Mauricio Domogan urged pet owners to be responsible by following laws and ordinances in keeping his dog. "A responsible pet owner keeps his dog at home and will not allow it to go outside his home to cause nuisance to other people and the community as well. Hindi madaling makagat ng aso dahil mahal ang anti-rabies vaccines," added Domogan.

The city of Baguio has one animal rabies case reported as of this writing./Jho Arranz

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