

MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

## K to 12 Graduates can be Employed, DepEd says

COMPLIMENTRY COPY



Baguio's children wave the Philippine Flag as parade participants march down Session Road during the celebration of Philippine Independence Day June 12./ By Bong Cayabyab

L A TRINIDAD, Benguet - Students who will graduate under the K to 12 can easily obtain employment or they can put up their own business because they will acquire technical and vocational skills, said an official of the Department of Education (DepEd) Cordillera.

DepEd assistant regional director Sebastian Tayaban said that with the added two years in the secondary school, students will polish their abilities in arts and technical vocational and entrepreneurship.

The K to 12 graduates will have additional skills and learning and they can have a choice if they continue to pursue college or join the workforce as early as after high school, he said.

Under the K-to-12 which establishes a "universal kindergarten" and introduces Grades 11 and 12 to high school education in public and private schools, students may choose a career track based on aptitude, interests, and school capacity. They may choose among five tracks: Business and Entrepreneurship; Humanities and Social Sciences; Science, Technology, and Engineering; Sports; and Technical-Vocational during their senior high school.

The six year high school education was started last year with the Grade 8 students now as the first graduates in 2018.

DepEd started the K-12 program with a kindergarten curriculum making it mandatory for five year old children to attend school to prepare them for elementary education.

Studies showed that children who attended preschool significantly improved their school performance.

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*Dapat mas bigyan ng pansin ang kalidad ng edukasyon at hindi ang pagtapos lamang nang isang kurso sa kolehiyo. Pakatatandaan na ang edukasyon ay para maka kamit ng karunungan at hindi lang titulo!*





## PCSO Branch Opening here a Relief to Thousands of Patients

The recently opened Baguio-Benguet branch of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office near the city post office will stabilize operations soon, to the relief of thousands of indigent patients who no longer have to travel to Metro-Manila or to

Urdaneta, Pangasinan for support from the charity service arm of the national government.

Dr. Ernieli Dancel, Urdaneta branch manager who was designated to open and head the branch here, said the local office is into hiring personnel to normalize its operations. The recruitment, especially

that of a social worker to evaluate medical support applications, was delayed due to the ban on hiring due to the recent elections.

She clarified that pending the hiring of augmentation personnel, the present staff of six continue to process applications for medical fund support averaging 15 to 20 a day.

Dancel revealed that the PCSO board is also expected to adopt a policy upping the ceiling of medical support grants that can be approved by branch offices from P10,000 to P50,000 to give substance to

the on-going decentralization scheme.

The PCSO recently transferred processing of fund support applications from its office at the Lung Center in Quezon City to its branch and regional offices to bring closer its services to the needy.

According to a resolution passed by the city council last April, however, the decentralization scheme would be rendered ineffective unless a branch or two are also

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## Lawmaker, There is no Room for the Practice of Child Labor in a Growing Phl Economy

In commemoration of the World Day Against Child Labor being held this week, Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano turned his attention to one of society's underrepresented sectors: the youth.

Cayetano urged the government to create more opportunities for Filipino families to address the rising number of child laborers in the country, particularly those who drop out of school to work in hazardous conditions.

"There is no room

for the practice of child labor in a growing Philippine economy," he said.

Cayetano expressed concern over the rising number of child laborers in the country. He cited a report by the National Statistics Office (NSO) indicating that there are currently 5.5 million child laborers aged 5-17 in the country, around 3 million of which are exposed to environments that are considered hazardous

brought by poor working conditions.

Cayetano also noted an International Labor Organization (ILO) study that showed that the dropout rate for elementary students has increased over the last three years from an average of 5.99 percent in 2007-2008 to 6.28 percent in 2009-2010.

"It is truly disheartening to find out that while the government tries to provide free elementary and high school, orphaned children

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## A Cordilleran is Top Philippine Soldier for 2013

The Cordillera is once again brought into the limelight as one of its proud sons, Colonel Romeo Brawner Jr. from Baguio City, is chosen as one of the awardees for this year's search for The Outstanding Philippine Soldiers (TOPS). TOPS is an annual recognition program by the Metrobank Foundation, Inc. & the Rotary Club of Makati Metro, for the members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), that honors and recognizes their dedication, bravery, professionalism & sacrifices in the military service. This was announced in a ceremony at the AFP

Headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo on June 10, 2013.

Col. Brawner was born in Baguio City, and studied at the Special Education Center and UP College Baguio High School. He studied for one year in UP Diliman before coming back to Baguio when he entered the Philippine Military Academy as a cadet and later graduating number two in his class, the Makatao Class of 1989. He was also a "Baron" or Corps Commander of the Cadet Corps. He later served as military instructor at his alma mater.

He is the son of

the late Justice Romeo Brawner Sr. and Dr. Lenora Fe Brawner. Justice Brawner served as RTC Judge of Baguio City and La Trinidad, Benguet and then later became Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeals. He was also appointed as Commissioner of the Commission on Elections. Dr. Brawner is presently the President of the Philippine National Archery Team.

Col Brawner has two masters degrees, a Master of Science degree in Information Management from the Ateneo de Manila University and a

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## Chelsea, Youngest Dialysis Patient, Passes on

The youngest kidney patient undergoing hemodialysis treatment at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center has gone to the great play room in the sky.

Ten-year old Chelsea Benito had yogurt for breakfast on her hospital bed early last Tuesday morning. After washing it down with water and then told Billy, her 43-year old dad, it was her last meal.

"I'm going to another place," Billy recalled Chelsea telling him. "Please tell Mama so," she had

advised just before she passed on at 7:18 a.m.

Her mother, Cecilia (nee Abance), was then on her way to the intensive care unit of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center, to relieve her husband from his overnight watch.

"She was asking for her mom and when I told her she was on her way, she said she could no longer wait for her," Billy said waiting for the pine casket to arrive in their ancestral home in Bengao, Bakakeng here.

The girl's medical case generated a stir, especially among Samaritans who had been pooling resources since last year to cope with the cost of hemodialysis, related procedures and medications needed for Chelsea to survive.

Billy and Cecilia had rushed

the kid to the hospital last July, when she was suddenly feverish, feeling weak and began throwing up. It had something to do with her kidneys, the doctors said. They advised Billy to bring Chelsea further tests at the National Kidney and Transplant Institute in Quezon City.

Before the couple could raise the amount for the tests, Chelsea's blood pressure shot up and her vision blurred. Tests showed kidney failure, necessitating hemodialysis treatment, initially at three times a week until her condition stabilized.

People from all over contributed to sustaining her lifetime treatment, a four-hour blood-cleansing procedure each time, eventually reduced to two times a week.

There were a lot of people to

Cont. on page 7

## Another Kidney Patient Calls out for Help

It's supposed to be "Kidney Month", an annual observance that should tell and remind us, at least annually every June, to take care of our twin bean-looking organ that works in "filtering the blood, balancing fluid levels, helping control blood pressure, help make red blood cells and maintaining healthy strong bones".

Vital as the organ is, fact is kidney failure cases are increasing, as shown by the steady rise in the number of patients seeking life-time, yet expensive, twice- or thrice-a-week hemodialysis treatment at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center.

Fact is not a week passes without a patient asking if it's his or her turn to appeal through media, even while this competition of the distraught has to be tempered - to one patient each week - as cushion against donor fatigue.

This has become a "patient of the week" series. The patient this week is Leonard Nalos, 30, jobless due to illness, married with a two-year old daughter, high school graduate, native of San Quintin, Pangasinan and residing at Purok 8, Sto. Tomas Rd., Baguio and a Roman Catholic.

Those are his identifying information, taken from the social case study report prepared by social welfare officer Florecita Tul-an of the city social welfare and development office.

Ofelia (nee Boldoken), Leonard's wife, submitted last week his permission to have his story told, so that readers may be able to respond and extend their support to sustain my treatment".

That was when 10-year old Chelsea Abance Benito, the youngest patient undergoing dialysis treatment at the BGHMC, died. The kid passed on two weeks after fellow patient, 14-year old Ana Fontanilla of Rosario, La Union, also once the youngest, died.

Leonard's condition was diagnosed last February, after he was rushed to the hospital due to feeling of numbness and weakness. He had been a carpenter for years a work he became more focused on, especially after his daughter Ira, now two, was born.

"Now that he could no longer work, his family is dependent on the help extended by their relatives, social worker Tul-an wrote. "Their last recourse is the assistance they could get from different agencies.

Leonard's number is 09288163994, and his wife's is 09084672238.

As this is being written, Evangeline Udani, a mother of four, asked that her family's gratitude be extended to an anonymous Samaritan who, late last month, handed her P20,000.

The amount was in response to her appeal for her son, 28-year old kidney patient Jeffer Udani who is also undergoing twice-a-week hemodialysis treatment at the

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## Dads Appeal for City's Inclusion in APEC Meeting

BAGUIO CITY – The city council on Monday formally asked the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) national organizing committee to consider the city of Baguio as one of the venues for its sectoral meetings when the country hosts the 21-nation APEC meeting in November 2014.

In an approved resolution, the body said that based on the records of its tourism office, the city successfully hosted both local and international conventions in the past and of recent and thus can host some of the sectoral meetings prior to the actual APEC economic leaders forum.

The sectoral meetings are relatively smaller in number and thus are within the city's means, Councilor Elmer Datuin who authored the measure said.

"The city of Baguio can showcase the best of the Philippines in terms of its unique climate and its cultural heritage which can become one-of-its-kind experience to a visiting convention participant," the resolution noted.

Datuin said the distance between the main convention site in Metro Manila and the city would not be a problem as by the time of the APEC sectoral meetings are held, the extension of the North Luzon Expressway would have been finished and the travel time from Metro Manila to Baguio City will be "within the acceptable and standard time."

The body also assured that the Baguio Loakan Airport will be available for chartered flights by arrangement of the APEC organizing committee.

The organizing committee earlier did not include Baguio in the list of nine cities to be visited by the APEC due to accessibility issues.

"The city of Baguio is willing to discuss possible incentives to the organizing committee should the City be considered as one of the venues for the said sectoral meetings," the body said.

Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas said the city has to serve its intention to be included in the APEC scene to avail of the chance to rev up its tourism industry and so that it will not be accused of "sleeping on a possible opportunity."

In another move, the body agreed to create a committee to look into the discontinued construction of the circumferential road at the Kennon Road site which Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia said was the reason why Loakan residents insist on crossing the runway in getting to their destination. /A Refuerzo

## Lawmaker Proposes 3-in-1 Solution to Address Jobless Growth

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano has proposed a 3-in-1 solution through the development of construction cooperatives and the funding of labor-intensive infrastructure and agricultural projects to be implemented by the said cooperatives as a means to address the problem of jobless growth plaguing the country.

Cayetano explained that these infrastructure projects will include irrigation systems, farm to market roads and the like.

This proposal came after the National Economic Development Au-

thority (NEDA) released a report that revealed that agriculture posted the most significant drop in job generation, pushing the jobless rate up to 7.5 percent in April of this year.

Cayetano pointed out that with 31 percent of Filipinos engaged in agriculture, any decrease in jobs in the sector would translate to a number of lost employment opportunities for the people, especially in the rural areas.

"Thirty-one percent is a big number. And if you look at the poverty incidence report of the Na-

tional Statistics and Coordination Board (NSCB), you would see that a big percentage of this is among the poorest in the country. Poverty incidence among our fishermen is 41.4 percent, while it is 36.7 percent for our farmers," he said.

Cayetano explained that in lieu of capital, the government will lend construction equipment and provide construction materials while the labor and entrepreneurship aspect will be provided by the cooperative with the profit distributed

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## Legal Action Mulled Against BCDA for Breach of Conditionalities

BAGUIO CITY – Fed up with years of disregard and disrespect of the supposedly established conditions to the development of the former military reservation here, city officials last week served intention to undertake drastic steps including the filing of legal action against the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) for failing to comply with the 19 conditionalities set under Resolution Numbered 362, series of 1994 for the development of Camp John Hay.

The city council last Monday authorized city legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes "to determine the necessary steps to be undertaken to compel compliance with the conditionalities."

The body took cue from Mayor Mauricio Domogan who urged the passage of a measure that authorizes the city legal officer to undertake legal steps to address the BCDA's continued disrespect of the conditions.

The mayor also

earlier asked the body to refine Resolution No. 146 series of 2013, which urges the BCDA to allow the Department of Education (DepEd) to continue the construction of a high school building at Hillside barangay, to express the city's sentiment.

"This must be reworded to the effect that the BCDA should implement

and respect the 19 conditionalities and stop and desist in continuing to interfere in areas like the school site in Hillside which it had agreed to be excluded from the John Hay Reservation," the mayor said in his marginal note to the resolution.

Last Monday, the city council approved Resolution No. 153 series of 2013 requesting the Camp John Hay Development Corporation to strictly comply with the 10 con-

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**Photo shows P S U P T EDWIN REY BUTACAN, PESE, Regional Chief, RHPU-COR, leading the personnel during the conduct of random drug testing conducted by the Regional Crime Laboratory Office, PRO-Cordillera led by PSI ALEX B I A D A N G held at RHPU-COR office in compliance to the memo from Director, HPG on PNP Personnel Involved in Illegal Activities.**



Photo shows personnel RHPU-COR led by PSUPT EDWIN REY BUTACAN, PESE, Regional Chief, RHPU-COR showing their samples of urine during random drug testing.

## DPWH Urged to Clear Road Right-of-Ways Along National Roads, Take Stock of Kennon Illegal Structures

BAGUIO CITY – The city council last Monday urged the Dept. of Public Works and Highways city engineering district (DPWH-BCDEO) to remove all obstructions including structures built

by squatters on road-right-of-ways (RROWs) of all national roads in the city.

The body at the same time asked the department to submit a list of structures within the RROWs along Kennon Road including buildings that the

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# Quagmire

Some Catholic bishops “flunked” President Aquino for “failing to curb poverty” even as the Philippines’ economic growth outstripped that of other Asian countries. “Growth has not trickled down to the poor,” scoffed National Secretariat for Social Action’s Bishop Broderick Pabillo. “On a scale of one to ten, I’d give Aquino a grade of three.” All citizens have the right to speak. Did Pabillo grade all bishops in 16 archdioceses and 72 dioceses? Some, maybe? “Who made me a judge or a divider over you?” the Master replied when pestered to rule on a squabble.

“Tell the truth” in the State of the Nation Address in July, Cebu Archbishop Jose Palma urged the President. Rising-GDP data are a mystery “amid hunger besetting a larger population.”

Is this a slur by imputation? That’s not the Palma we respect. The National Statistical Coordination Board, World Bank, and Standard and Poor’s have not fudged data. Quod grati asseritur, gratis negatur. “What is freely asserted can be freely denied.”

Church critics admit that Mr. Aquino heeds the commandment “Thou shalt not

## EDITORIAL

steal.” In contrast, a former president is being tried for

plunder. A chief justice was impeached for muddling tax returns. But P-Noy hasn’t curbed pork barrel excesses. Today’s Ombudsman has a backbone.

By implementing the Framework Agreement between the government and Moro Islamic Liberation Front, Mr. Aquino is turning swords into ploughshares. A Conditional Cash Transfer program benefits 3.8 million of the poorest families. Still, the number of poor people hasn’t budged. Over half a million women seek underground abortionists due to patchy family planning services.

So, what’s causing the static? Among others, the bishops of Lipa and Bacolod blacklisted candidates who had backed the passage of the reproductive health bill. “Team Patay” instead coasted to decisive wins. These prelates clustered contra-RH bill legislators in “Team Buhay.” They were whipped.

“The Catholic Church would not be alive because Team Patay lost,” wrote Ateneo de Davao’s Fr. Joel Tabora. “Nor would it be dead if Team Patay won. The Church is diminished if bishops reduce it to a political party. Over-identification of the Church with particular political parties is historically inimical to the Church’s mission.”

In the polls’ aftermath, some pastors found themselves without a flock. “The sheep did not heed them... A stranger they will not follow,” said the Good Shepherd. “They will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.”

Electioneering prelates are bogged in a quagmire and still don’t know it. That is pathetic. Instead, they inflict “flunking grades on those who, in equal good conscience, supported the law. That is tragic.”

See this controversy in the context of the G8 summit. The leaders of eight industrialized nations—Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States—will gather in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, on June 17-18 to forge ways of meeting critical problems. This is the G8’s 38th meeting since 1976.

“Enniskillen is painting fake storefronts on closed-down businesses,” the Irish Times reports. Imelda Marcos once masked slums with flimsy painted walls whenever VIPs visited. “No one is fooled,” says Phil Flanagan, former owner of a papered-over butcher shop. “It is like when your mother-in-law is coming to visit and you give the house a tidy up.”

It’s not all sham. The World Bank boosted this year’s funding for child nutrition from \$230 million to \$600 million. And the European Union pledged an extra \$500 million for related projects. “Stunting has become the most prevalent nutritional challenge in developing nations. Worldwide, 165 million children are affected.” (In Philippine kindergarten and primary classes, 562,262 pupils are “severely wasted.”)

“An international preferential option for the poor should be part of the G8 summit conversation,” wrote the heads of national Catholic conferences of bishops from eight countries. “Your focus on agriculture and nutrition is timely in a world that has made great strides in improving food production and distribution.”

The bishops include, among others, France’s André Cardinal Vingt-Trois, Leo Jun Ikenaga, SJ, archbishop of Osaka, and US Cardinal Timothy Dolan. Improve nutrition, reduce hunger and poverty, and strengthen just taxes, trade and transparency policies, the bishops urged.

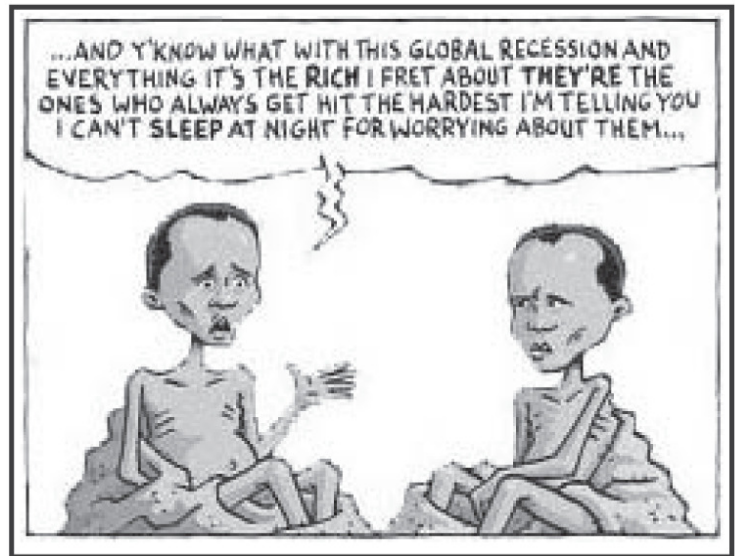
“As a human family, we are only as healthy as our weakest members,” they pointed out. “[Still] far too many of God’s children go to bed hungry. Lack of nutrition is a tragedy that has lifelong consequences... By asking first how a given policy will affect the poor and vulnerable, you help assure the common good of all is served.”

“Man is not in charge,” said Pope Francis, the bishop of Rome. “Today, money is in charge, money rules... God did not give the task of caring for the earth to money, but to us... Instead, men and women are sacrificed to idols of consumption...”

“A culture of waste has become the common mentality that infects everyone,” the Pope noted. Human life is no longer perceived as a primary value to be respected, especially if poor or disabled, or if not useful, such as the unborn child and the elderly.

“Our grandparents were very careful not to throw away any leftover food,” the Pope said. “Everyone [should] reflect on the problem of thrown away and wasted food.” Identify ways so saving food becomes “a vehicle of solidarity” with the needy./

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## MONDAY MUNDANE

### False Progress

BY: GLOR ESPERANZA



The government seems to brag about the 7.8% increase of the country’s GDP that even the media presents it as if Filipinos’ lives have actually improved in the next ‘Tiger Economy’. But who wouldn’t want to hear good news once in a while? With the alarming number of depressing content in news seen, heard, and read in media every day, it sure is a relief to hear something that will bring ‘music to our ears’. Indeed, the increase in our economy’s growth is definitely worth broadcasting, but not celebrating? I don’t think so.

According to the recent survey of Social Weather Stations (SWS) conducted March this year, 11.1 million Filipinos are jobless with 25.4 percent unemployment among Filipinos aged 18 and above. Since 2005, SWS mentioned that unemployment only went below 20% thrice. This is now contradictory to President Aquino administration’s claim on the economic growth and Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) statement that the number of job offers we have this year is greater than those of job seekers. While the latter may be considered to be true, most of these vacancies are seasonal jobs and blue collar jobs. Making up a huge percentage of job seekers are college graduates who are considered to be over-qualified for blue collar jobs. As a result, a lot of them remain jobless as these jobs require less than the skills and education they have required. Additionally, a lot of companies require work experience. This is now a problem for a lot of fresh graduates who seek for jobs just to gain this, but then it goes back to the mismatch of qualifications again, leaving a number of them jobless.

Asking around in the Kalayaan Job Fair 2013 in the city, call centers are still the agencies where most applicants line up. And I saw familiar faces, some my batch mates, some my friends, all who are degree holders applying for call center agents. A couple of them said whatever job will do for now, long as they are employed and have a source of income. I can’t help but to think if finishing a degree is really that important now if the industry needs very little professionals. And seeing a herd full of able people who should be applying for jobs relevant to their degrees but instead settling for less makes me bat an eye lash to the trumpeted economic growth. In fact, I do not buy it. It is then true that if the progress is not tangible to the lives of Filipinos, it should not be hailed oh-so highly in the first place, because the current administration is just making a fool of Filipinos, but more of themselves.

Then again, results do not happen overnight, as they say. But unemployment has been on the rut since 2005. With all the GDP increase reported from that year to the present, Filipinos should be expecting a change by now. So shall we wait longer? Well, a lot of Filipinos are getting more impatient, that’s for sure. Year in, year out, a lot of us leave the country in hopes for a better life instead of seeking for jobs in our homeland. How will we if opportunities are minimal and the salaries are unsatisfactory? So in the end, you cannot blame people’s practicality.

I sure hope that this progress they have reported will be seen any time by now assuming that is how economy works. If not, then the government will have a lot of explaining to do.



## PALSIT

DAGITI  
SANGGUNANG

## KABATAAN

BY: LEONARDO ROSQUETA  
AGUNOY

THE youth is the hope of the Motherland. Daytoy ti panangmatmat ti Nailian A Bannuar ti Pagilantayo a ni Dr. Jose P. Rizal kadagiti padatayo nga agtutubo. Mamatitayo unay ti kinapudno ti namunganayan (nangrugian/nakaisimpunan) daytoy a sirmata ni Dr. Rizal. Isu nga agtamedtayo la unay iti kaadda ti masasao a consejo dagiti pada nga agtutubo nga isu ita ti SK wenno Sangguniang Kabataan. Dagitoy a kakabsat nga agtutubo nga idauluan ti SK Chairman ken SK Kagawad, naitalek kadakuada iti gundaway a makipaggamulo iti pagsayaatan ti gimong a nakaikamenganda. Naisangrat (naisagara) a kibinnulig dagitoy iti panagdur-as ti lugar a pagkamenganda. Naisangrat wenno adda kadakuada ti sirmata ti national ken local government unit a matubay (madamili) dagitoy a nasayaat, pagtalkan, pangnamnaan a kas umili wenno future leader ti pagilian.

Napadasantayo met ti nagtakenm iti consejo dagiti pada nga agtutubo. Nairagupitay met kadagiti nadumaduma a function ti sangguniang kabataan. Ket, nagsayaat a panunoten nga adda met dagiti pagsayaatan dagiti lumugar a naaramidan. Ti laeng adalna, no dadduma, adda dagiti consejo ti agtutubo a di met nasayaat ti pannangiwanwanda ti pagrebbenganda. Mababay-an dagitoy (saan a maatibay dagiti kameng ti consejo ti barangay) ken madlawan a kasla awan turongen a nasayaat ti pannangimatonda met ti gamuluenda a pundo manipud iti IRA share a maalada iti local government. Adda dagiti agtutubo a nakaturong laeng ti panunotda iti sports. Saanda maikkan ti kinapateg ti aglawlawda a kas koma ti kinamanagdalalus, tumulong iti pannakatagiben dagiti muyong iti aglawlawda. No adda tree planting, ma-picture ti activity. Kalpasanna, mabaybay-an metten dagiti inmulada. Anian a ragsak dagiti kalking a mangan kadagiti mula!

**DAGITI SANGGUNANG KABATAAN** Adda pay dagiti SK officials a baybay-anda ti pagrebbenganda kadagiti kamengda. Kadagiti social activities, masansan nga awanda! Ti SK Chairman, masansan nga awan no adda ti session dagiti barangay officials! No pannagawatan ti honorarium, addan!

Gapu ta makita iti dadduma a lugar a di met unay agratrabaho dagiti SK iti jurisdiction dagitoy, adda dagiti arimekmek a nasaysayaat la koman a ma-abolish ti Sangguniang Kabataan laengen!

Ania ti masayo met dita, kakabsat? Rumbeng kadin a waraen ti consejo dagiti pada nga agtutubo? Wenno kasapulan laeng iti pannakaiwanwan dagitoy tapno kadinnanggay ida iti pannakaipatungpal dagiti development project ti barangay?

Adda inadawtayo a singasing mainaig iti pannakapataud ti kasapulan a naruay a seedlings a mabalin nga imula. Adda koma madutokan iti barangay nga agaywan iti nursery tapno sindadaan latta a masibogan, maikkan iti abono dagiti patubo a kayo. Tapno iti panawen ti panagtutudo, natalubon dagitoy nga imula. Narigat kadi nga aramiden daytoy?

Saan a dakes (ken pagrebbengan) dagiti pada nga agtutubo ti makibinnulig iti barangay iti panagmulada ti kayo iti masakopan ti barangay. Saan a dakes no agbalin a project ti tunggal agtutubo a mulaanda ti kayo ti solar ti familiada. Tapno iti kasta, makanayan met a mangnayon ti muyong iti aglawlaw a kas ti ipatpatungpal ti national greening program ti gobierno ni Juan de la Cruz.

Pada nga agtutubo, agtignaytayon! Kuna ti mararaem a senadortayo idi: "Kilos na kabataan!"

**PAGPAMPANUNOTAN:** In all things it is better o hope than to despair. — JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE.#

## KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

115<sup>th</sup> Independence Day:  
are we really free?

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



**LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS:** "... But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today..." (Deuteronomy 8:18, the Holy Bible).

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**ARE FILIPINOS REALLY INDEPENDENT NOW?** It is funny that even as the Philippines and the Filipino nation were celebrating their 115<sup>th</sup> year of independence on June 12, 2013, it is undeniable that both the country and its people remained under the tight grip, control, subjugation, and domination of foreigners in almost every aspect of their lives.

Because of that, the question that really dampened the celebrations for 2013 is this: 115 years after our forefathers declared our independence from foreign domination, are we really independent now? We can answer this by simply looking around us.

Who has control of big businesses here in the Philippines? Who has control of the government? Is there a native Filipino who owns department stores, or any airline company, or any other company that deals in hundreds of millions of pesos? How come a great number of our elected officials now only have two or three letters in their names, or are known to be scions and descendants of men and women who came from foreign soils?

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**FILIPINOS STILL ECONOMICALLY DOWN-TRODDEN:** Even now, Filipinos are economically down-trodden, as admitted by our own government. According to figures released just the other day by the National Statistics Office, unemployment among Filipinos even increased uncontrollably, at 7.9 percent of the total labor force, this year, despite reports that our economy grew by 7.8 percent.

Filipinos who have jobs dwindled in number, from 37.840 million in April to 37.819 million for the same period last year. From 2.8 million who had no jobs last year, we now have 3.06 million unemployed this year, which figure stands on record as the highest unemployment rate after President Aquino took power in 2010.

And yet, in the face of these grim prospects for Filipino workers, 11 businessmen from the Philippines who either are foreigners who migrated to the country or who descended from foreigners who made the Philippines their second home easily made it to the list of world's richest, with their individual assets running into billions and billions of dollars, according to a list of world's richest released by the influential Forbes' Magazine.

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**SPIRITUAL DIMENSION TO CONTINUING FOREIGN DOMINATION:** Why is this happening? Some will say it is because Filipinos are not business-minded and are generally lazy and lacking in motivation to embark in economic enterprises that will enable them to earn more. Others will claim that foreigners doing business here have a better advantage because it is they who already have the resources to make more money.

And, all of them maybe correct. But in trying to find an explanation for this continuing economic and even political subjugation of Filipinos by foreigners right in our own territory, it would do well for every native Filipino to remember that there is a spiritual dimension to this, that the Bible actually predicted such a foreign domination to happen to any nation that no longer listens to God and no longer obeys His commands.

This spiritual dimension and prediction of continuing foreign domination can be read in Deuteronomy 28:15 and 43-44. Non-believers may say it was just a mere coincidence that the Bible made this prediction and that it is in fact occurring in our country now, but nothing will be lost (and everything to be gained, in **Cont. on page 7**

## ADVOCACY MINDANOW

On Cebu Pac Flight  
5j971

BY: JESUS DUREZA



I was in Manila Sunday evening when I first got word that Flight **5J 971** of **Cebu Pacific** stuck its nose in the mud upon landing at the **Davao Airport**. At first I thought it was one of those incidents where relieved and unscathed passengers and crew would hug each other thankfully after a dangerous — but safe landing. I went to bed with a pleasant thought about how a tragedy was averted, how lives were saved and how grateful the public must be to the pilots. But that was NOT so.

The following morning, I woke up to the news hearing about how badly the passengers felt they were reportedly mishandled. And how the Davao airport authorities miserably failed in promptly responding to an emergency situation. Even **Mayor Sarah Duterte Carpio** was very critical. The public was angry; **Ateneo de Davao** in a flash announced a boycott, others threatening to file cases.

To me, these are expected as an aftermath. But let's not forget: it could have been worse. Or worst! (I had handled the worst, by the way.)

**HUMAN** — There are two aspects in dealing with the incident: the human and the machine. Or the combination of the two.

How the human side can be sorted out will take time. The passengers went through a traumatic experience. They are aggrieved. Emotional wounds, not of the physical kind, also take time to heal. Even the pilots and the crew, including airport officials are human too, although there are higher expectations from them due to the nature of their jobs.

I was really amused listening to an official of the **Civil Aviation Authority of the Phil. (CAAP)**, a **Capt John Andrews** (bless him) who quickly concluded: "It's pilot error but let's wait for the results". Pre-empting, posturing or grandstanding? He's human. Even **Fr. Joel Tabora, SJ**, Ateneo rector and who was not there being a non-passenger, could not hold his peace and wrote immediately the morning after telling Cebu Pacific about an Ateneo boycott. He's human too.

**MACHINE** — On the other hand, the technical part will have its own technical way of resolving by examining the machine. I have learned from some experience in handling similar crisis situations in the past that at this stage, it is still **PREMATURE** to determine what is the actual story behind the accident without the technical report completed. Of course, some initial facts are extant for all to see. More so in this age of cell phones and the internet. A throng of information can be gathered in a flash from the passengers themselves, their first hand information, their perceptions and impressions. Some even had video and picture recordings as it happened. Everyone has a story to tell. All of these are vital in coming out with the total picture of what could be the cause — or the collective causes — at the end of the day.

**ORANGE "BLACK" BOX** — The reality is: the public demands quick and credible answers. But let me repeat. Let's all wait for the deciphering and transcription of the "black box" which, I understand is still being done in Singapore. It will tell the story of what actually happened technically to the plane. It contains recordings of data of the whole flight: the engine condition, wind, speed, weather — including conversations of the pilots in the cockpit — a whole range of vital information to give the investigators some basis to come to a conclusion. By the way, the "black box" is actually NOT BLACK in color but in luminous **ORANGE**, obviously intended for easy retrieval if something bad happens to the aircraft.

NAVIGATING — In

Cont. on page 6



## Lawmaker Proposes 3-in-1... from page 3

to the its members.

"This solution is 3-in-1 because (1) the agricultural sector is given a boost in helping farmers be more productive; (2) more jobs are created in the agricultural sector; and (3) the more jobs that are created because of the labor-intensive nature of agriculture and construction, the more the profits will go to farmers and construction workers and cooperative members instead of to the contractors," he said.

Cayetano said that in highly urbanized areas, small infrastructure projects can be assigned to such cooperatives such as the construction of basketball courts, waiting sheds, minor building repairs, pathways and the like.

In this light, Cayetano called for the collaboration of the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) to pilot such projects nationwide to help the 7.8 percent gross domestic product (GDP) growth trickle down to all poor Filipino families especially in the rural areas.

"The economy is on the right direction we just have to innovate and intervene to make the trickle down effect faster by creating jobs," he said as part of his PTK (Presyo, Trabaho, Kita) legislative agenda and commitment to help end the problem of high prices, lack of jobs, and low income plaguing Filipino families at present./  
**WEBSITE:** [alanpetercayetano.com/](http://alanpetercayetano.com/)  
**FACEBOOK:** [Alan Peter Cayetano/](https://www.facebook.com/AlanPeterCayetano/)  
**T W I T T E R :** [@alanpetercayetano](https://twitter.com/alanpetercayetano)  
**YOUTUBE:** [alanpetercayetano](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

## Legal Action...

from page 3

ditions including the approval of permits.

The city government has issued the same plea over the years with the mayor expressing disappointment over the bodies' disregard of the conditions particularly when BCDA challenged the city's authority to impose business and building and occupancy permit requirements on new constructions within the John hay Special Economic Zone.

Another concern cited by the mayor was the BCDA's interference in barangay issues including those involving ancestral land claims and even the construction of school buildings like what happened in Hillside barangay.

The mayor also questioned the BCDA's plan to exclude the open or unoccupied spaces in the barangays from the segregation process which is in violation of condition no. 14 as stipulated in Resolution No. 362-94.

The city council also last Monday approved Resolution No. 152 series of 2013 asking the BCDA to fast-track the segregation of the 13 barangays based on the said condition.

"Condition number 14... states that 'The BCDA shall exclude all affected barangays from the John Hay reservation... What is supposed to be segregated are 'all affected barangays,' not individual residences. Hence the survey should be of barangays, not the land where structures have been built on."

In the said resolution, the body also the BCDA "in the meantime not to disturb the tenure of the present government and other public structures in the areas to be segregated."

"The move by the BCDA (to stop the construction of additional classrooms meant for incoming fourth year students at the Hillside Annex of the Baguio City National High School) jeopardizes the tenure of the present government structures which are long existing even before they took over the management of Camp John Hay," the resolution noted.

"While this only covers in the meantime schools and Day Care centers, there is a fear that eventually this will cover all public structures including possibly barangay hall, covered courts, other educational institutions and other government structures."

"There is no need for any contract of usufruct to be executed with BCDA if only BCDA will immediately cause the segregation of the barangays as contained in the (conditionalities)," the body noted.

The barangays eyed for segregation from the John Hay reservation are Camp 7, Country Club Village, Greenwater, Happy Hallow, Hillside, Loakan-Apugan, Loakan-Liwanag, Loakan Proper, Lower Dagsian, Lucnab, Military Cut-Off, Sta. Escolastica Village and Upper Dagsian./ A Refuerzo

## DPWH Urged...

from page 3

newly constructed or are in the process of construction.

This came on the heels of the inquiry conducted by the body on squatter infestation on these RROWs.

The inquiry attended by DPWH-CAR lawyer Maria Dionesia Guillermo and concerned city department heads yielded that one of the causes of the delayed action on the problem was the seeming redundant and unclear procedure on removing these obstructions.

Councilor Perlita Rondez said the DPWH Department Order No. 52 series of 2003 mandates district engineers to "immediately remove or cause the removal of all obstructions and prohibited uses within road right-of-way of all national roads within their respective jurisdictions" and this is enough basis for action from the department.

Guillermo told the forum that the DPWH's power in dealing with such concern is limited as per D.O. 52 prompting them to refer such reports or complaints to the city government.

The city government through the legal office acts on said concerns based on its established anti-squatting procedures which take time due to the required investigation process.

But Rondez said D.O. 52's express provision for the district engineers to act on these structures is specific and clear.

Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia sought action on the mushrooming structures along Kennon Road starting with the conduct of a census of the illegal structures along the stretch./A Refuerzo

## 104th Baguio Chapter ... from page 8

Baguio City Police Office, City Supervising Tourism Operations Officer and the City Public Information Officer. The secretariat will be from the Mayor's Office and the City Administrator's Office.

Mayor Domogan said that "there is a need to create an executive committee to oversee and ensure the successful conduct of the prepared activities in line with the city's upcoming Charter Day Anniversary through the conduct of appropriate and proper planning, drawing up of the necessary guidelines, rules and regulations and policies as well as its subsequent systematic implementation to help attract the influx of domestic and foreign tourists as well as entertain local residents in this mountain resort".

The said executive committee will have to plan the fitting activities of the city's charter day celebration and to oversee its proper execution and implementation.  
\*\*Jho Arranz

## City Partakes ...

from page 8

tion activity has enlightened the minds of the people and has increased awareness on the importance of voluntary and unpaid blood donation. It was also because of this activity that new and existing blood donors were encouraged to donate regularly through the year and at the same time maintaining a healthy lifestyle", said mayor./ Jho Arranz

## City Marks 115th ...

from page 8

coming from distant places in order to have best quality education from our schools, colleges and universities. Dr. Pama then appealed to the new officials to assist by ensuring that the students are safe in the city and having dormitories that can provide clean, safe and affordable shelter.

Further, the three universities in the city are centers of excellence and these are in the field of criminology, information technology and teacher education.

Dr. Pama said and pledged that the "academe will continue to play their role in providing good quality education since education is a shield not only against the tyranny of conflict and oppressions, but more against the tyranny of ignorance".

"We hope our political leaders realize that we, in the academic community continue to look at your public careers in an optimistic light, and we hope that we can continue to be your partners in our common aspirations for the development in our home community", said Dr. Pama.

The UC Percussion and Orchestra and UC Center for Creative Productions performed during the simple ceremony. The singing of the Baguio March and Baguio Hymn was led by the City Hall Choir.

The program was followed by a parade which was participated by the city officials and various sectors of the community together with the different school marching bands namely: Baguio City National High School Marching Band, Pines City National High School Marching Band, Saint Louis University- High School and College Marching Band./Jho Arranz

## Advocacy Mindanow... from page 5

the meantime, Cebu Pacific will have to be patient and resilient to take in stride all the criticisms. This is expected. It comes with the territory. The accident already happened and what took place cannot be altered or changed. How Cebu Pacific will handle it from here on is what will matter most. For one, from initial reports and comments about how the airline crew performed, both in the plane and on the ground, there is a need to perhaps REVIEW OR EXPLAIN its crisis management responses and operational templates.

I am confident Cebu Pac boss man **LANCE GOKONGWEI**, a simple unassuming but hardworking top executive, a young scion but steeled with long experience with a steady hand and keen mind and whose heart is in the right place, is in the pilot's seat to steer and navigate this difficult journey.

**POLICY ISSUE**—But while we are on the subject, I cannot help but revive one policy issue that I took upon myself years ago. I recall this because of the criticisms directed at Davao's CAAP.

When I was Davao congressman ages ago, one of my pet bills in Congress was for the creation of a Davao International Airport Authority. It was to "localize" the office and detach it from central ("imperial") Manila and leave its operations and management in the hands of the local government and private sector of Davao. Unfortunately, the Air Transport Office (ATO now CAAP) and its mother agency, the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) opposed the bill. I was angry then because **Cebu City's** airport authority was previously approved. In fact, Cebu has now a full pledged and operating airport authority. Evidently, DOTC was afraid it could create a domino effect that would emasculate it of monopolistic control over all big airports. The bill was archived in the bowels of the congressional committee and never got to see the light of day.

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

**HENRY S. CHIU**

Applicants

Case No:2012-CAR-0053

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

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Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on July 3, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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WITNESS, the Honorable **CELINA B. CLAVER** - Regional Director this 7th day of June 2013.

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



## K to 12 Graduates... from page 1

nificantly do better in high school than children who did not, Tayaban, a lawyer said.

Education officials are continually holding dialogue with parents, students, the private sector and other education stakeholders to improve the quality education in the country./JDP/JBZ-PIA CAR

## Kakampi mo ang Batas... from page 5

fact) if we take heed of what the Bible is saying: listen to, and obey, God's commands, so we can reverse our sorry fortune.

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**REACTIONS?** Please call me at 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0922 833 43 96. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com, mmauriciojr11@gmail.com.

## Another Kidney Patient... from page 2

BGHMC.

Jeffer had wanted to study architecture and even worked for seven year at the Chowking branch in Candon, Ilocos Sur to be able to save for his education. While enrolled in the course at the University of the Cordilleras, he was diagnosed for end-stage renal failure in January last year./ Ramon Dacawi.

## A Cordilleran is Top... from page 2

Master of Business Administration with focus on Management of Technology from the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. He was also an exchange student to the European School of Management in Oxford, United Kingdom. In 2011, he was invited by US Ambassador Harry Thomas to be the lone representative of the Philippines to the prestigious US International Visitor Leadership Program that focused on Foreign Policy.

Upon graduation from PMA, he joined the Philippine Army serving as Platoon Leader in Nueva Ecija. Later, he trained with the Special Forces and became Company Commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Company that operated in Agusan Norte, Agusan Sur, Surigao Sur and Davao, all in Mindanao. He also was the Battalion Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Forces Battalion that operated in Samar, Leyte, Bohol and Cebu in the Visayas. During these assignments, he performed combat and non-combat missions that contributed to the overall campaign of the government against the New People's Army in these areas.

During his stint as Battalion Commander, he co-developed with Governor Edgar Chatto of Bohol, a strategy for counter-insurgency called the Prosperity Program, that combined the Bayanihan Team concept of the AFP and the Purok Power Movement of the Province of Bohol. In this strategy, several stakeholders from the local government, the armed forces, the po-

lice, the academe, the church and the private sector, cooperate and collaborate to address issues at the Purok level to alleviate poverty and prevent the resurgence of insurgency in these areas. Because of the success of this concept in Bohol, it is now being adapted in the overall AFP Campaign against insurgency.

Another project that Col. Brawner undertook while he was Battalion Commander was the construction of a two-classroom school building in the Island of Pamilacan, Bohol. In partnership with a US-based NGO called "Vaccines for the Philippines" that provided the funding, his battalion worked hand-in-hand with the members of the NGO and the local residents in constructing the school, in the true spirit of bayanihan. With the school now built, the young students residing in the island do not have to cross the sea via a 30-minute boat ride just to study in the mainland. In another area, his battalion also helped in the construction of a medical clinic and birthing center in the hinterlands of Buenavista, Bohol.

Col. Brawner was once the Spokesperson of the Philippine Army and then later on of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. During these assignments, he was able to project a healthy image of the Filipino soldier as a protector of the Filipino people who respects and fights for their human rights.

When asked how he felt about receiving the award, Col. Brawner said that he is honored yet humbled because he believes that all awards and promotion come from the Lord. He also thanked Metrobank Foundation Inc. and the Rotary Club of Makati Metro for giving the awardees an opportunity to represent the best in Philippine soldiery. Brawner also added that he will use this venue to encourage the Filipinos to join the government's advocacy in creating a "Culture of Peace" by convincing the armed groups to embrace peace by abandoning the armed struggle.

Col. Brawner is married to a Baguio lass, the former Ms. Melody Valeros, his classmate in UP Baguio High School, and now a Public Relations consultant of the John Hay Management Corporation. They have three children, Kiele, 19, Romeo III, 18 and Zuri, 6.

## PCSO...

from page 2

opened in the Cordillera and in Mindanao where, as per the website of the PCSO, no district or regional office is found.

The resolution, authored by city councilor Peter Fianza, asked the immediate setting up of district and regional offices in the two regions, both of which belong to the country's poorest.

With this omission, the resolution said, patients from Baguio and the Cordillera had to line up at the Urdaneta branch or in Region II, in the process competing for attention and support with the constituents of the two regions.

Fianza pointed out that "juxtaposed to this inequity is the reality that patients from outside Baguio and the Cordillera, such as those comjign from Regions I, II and III, are drawn to Baguio City for their medical and hospital needs as the city is indisputabl the medical center of Northern Luzon".

The city council resolution noted that regular hemodialysis patients of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center who were lining up at the Urdaneta branch were told that only three patient applications from the BGHMC would be approved per week. This, despite the fact that the BGHMC has the biggest number of dialysis patients, 179 as of last March.

The resolution came on the heels of a letter-appeal from mayor Mauricio Domogan asking the increase in the allocation for BGHMC patients in Urdaneta and the opening of a PCSO branch ere.

Referring to the city council resolution, PCSO director Mabel Mamba wrote city-vice mayor Daniel Farinas, saying "in the province of Benguet, the branch office will transfer to the Post Office Loop, Upper Session Road, Baguio City".

Mamba added that "for Kalinga and Apayao, patients are attended to at our Isabela and Cagayan branches while the branch offices in these provinces have not been established yet".

For patients seeking fund support, the branch office here is actually along Fr. Carlu, corner of Post Office Loop./Ramon Dacawi.

## Chelsea, Youngest... from page 2

thank, prompting Billy to decide on a three-night wake, knowing some of the Samaritans who contributed to extending Chelsea's life would like to be at the vigil.

Tribal patriarchs, however, advised on an early burial, in keeping with tradition in relation to Chelsea's young age.

The kid was buried last Wednesday at the ancestral cemetery at Bakakeng that the Ibaloy community had protected for years now. The funeral mass was held at the Divine Mercy Church in Atab, the parishioners of which were the first to pool funds for Chelsea's medical needs.

Among those who responded to the family's appeal for help were friends and former school mates of Baguio poet Edgar Maranan who e-mailed them of Chelsea's grim fight.

Only last May 20, Baguio folk and country musicians led by Conrad Marzan and Mhia Tibunsay gathered in a reunion concert for Chelsea and two other patients - Jun Willy of PTV4 who is also undergoing hemodialysis, and Linda Fines, a staff member of the Department of Tourism who is battling breast cancer.

Just before the concert, the office of Rep. Bernardo Vergara issued a guarantee letter providing one month free hemodialysis sessions for Chelsea at the BGHMC./Ramon Dacawi.

## Lawmaker ...

from page 2

and those from poor families still opt to work and abandon school due to worsening poverty situation that leads to high prices, lack of jobs, and low income," he said.

Cayetano stressed that in response to these alarming statistics, the government must generate more jobs and programs like those that he has suggested as part of his PTK (Presyo, Trabaho, Kita) legislative agenda to address the livelihood woes of the country.

"If the parents of these children have jobs and the means to provide for their families, these children would not have to resort to working just to help make ends meet," he said as he reiterated his proposal of launching a second-phase Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program dubbed CCT II to help CCT beneficiaries get access to capital to start their own businesses.

Cayetano has also proposed an Education to Employment program that will enable young Filipinos to get quality education and appropriate employment upon graduation that matches their skills.

"The high price of education is a deterrent for poor children to gain access to quality education. We need to solve this because education is the sure way out of poverty for our country's youth," he said.

Cayetano explained that the provision of jobs and access to education are the two primary tools to ending poverty and therefore child labor.

"The best way to protect our children is to provide better livelihood opportunities to their families. Education and employment are the true solutions to the problem of child labor," he said./  
**WEBSITE:alanpetercayetano.com/**  
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**T W I T T E R :**  
**@alanpcayetano @senalanoffice/**  
**YOUTUBE:alanpetercayetano**

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

**EULOGIO BUSTAMANTE**  
Applicants

Case No:2012-CAR-075  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**

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WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 7th day of JUNE 2013.

(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

**RAQUEL BUSTAMANTE**  
Applicants

Case No:2007-CAR-0053  
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(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV



## Benguet Agri Office into herb and Plant Concoction as Pesticides

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - The Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPAG) will engage into natural pesticide preparations using different kinds of herbs and plants as natural concoction to boost organic agriculture.

"We are encouraging farmers to adopt the use of organically prepared pesticides as a good agricultural practice and as an alternative to pesticides which are chemically or commercially prepared," OPAG head Lolita Bentes.

Natural concoction is now becoming a trend using herbs, plants and other materials to counter insects and other harmful pests found to be effective and are low cost. The different organic herbs and plants can be concocted and produced as pesticides and may be applied through spraying.

We have to initiate it in the province for appreciation at the municipal level and we will make the process as simple as possible for easy adaptation of farmers on field, she added.

Bentes said their office is on the process of collecting identified planting materials such as lantana, madre de cacao, banana, papaya, sunflower. A greenhouse for such materials was already built.

To house the concoction activities, a Provincial Concoction Center will soon be established with the Department of Agriculture- Cordillera Regional Field Office to earmark P100,000.00 for the center's construction materials. The provincial government will provide the concoction facility, said Bentes.

This is in line the government's organic agriculture program which goal is to ensure organic food sufficiency and promote people empowerment in the region enabling farmers to increase their income through organic agriculture./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR,Benguet

## 104<sup>th</sup> Baguio Charter Day Celebration Executive Committee Created

BAGUIO CITY - The city has begun preparing for the celebration of Baguio Day this September. Mayor Mauricio Domogan issued Administrative Order No. 61, series of 2013, creating the 104<sup>th</sup> Baguio Charter Day Celebration Executive Committee.

Baguio City, being the Summer Capital of the Philippines will be celebrating its 104<sup>th</sup> Charter Day Anniversary on September 1. Numerous government and private-led activities will be expected to be lined up in the celebration of the city's founding anniversary in the coming days in order to spice up the celebration which is expected to be distributed during the whole month of September.

An Executive Committee was created composed of the following: the City Mayor as the chairman, the City Administrator and Chairman of the Committee on Tourism as the co-chairpersons. The members includes the City Accountant, City Budget Officer, City Treasurer, City Engineer, City Building

Official, City General Services Officer, Division of City Schools Superintendent, principals of the Baguio City National High School and Pines City National High School, Executive Assistant IV of the Mayor's Office, representative from the Lone District of Baguio City, SKF President, ABC President, chairman of the Baguio Tourism Council, City Environment and Parks Management Officer, City Health Officer, City Sports Development Officer, City Director of the

Cont. on page 6

## City Marks 115<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

BAGUIO CITY - The city joined the nation in celebrating its 115<sup>th</sup> Independence Day with the theme, "Kalayaan 2013: Ambagan Tungo sa Malawakang Kaunlaran".

A program at the Baguio Convention Center and subsequently a parade highlighted the celebration.

The program started with a processional with Con-

gressman Bernardo M. Vergara, Mayor Mauricio Domogan, members of the city council headed by Vice Mayor Daniel T. Fariñas, guest speaker, Dr. Ricardo P. Pama and representatives from the different churches led by the Rev. Fr. Carlito J. Cenzon.

The Boy and Girls Scout of the Philippines, sectoral representatives of the academe and professionals displayed

the evolution of the national flag through the years. Subsequently, the University of the Cordilleras Chorale led the singing of the Philippine National Anthem, followed by the Panunumpa ng Katapatan sa Watawat ng Pilipinas led by the WWII Veterans and the Boy and Girl Scouts of the Philippines.

"Ang hindi marunong magmahal sa sariling wika ay mas masahol pa sa malansang isda", said the mayor. Celebrating Araw ng

Kalayaan is a sign of giving importance to our national heroes who fought for the country's freedom, he added.

Mayor Domogan urged everyone to continue what our forefathers have fought for and to have cooperation and unity for the development of the city and the country as a whole.

Guest speaker, Dr. Ricardo Pama, president of the University of the

Cordilleras said that "if our theme as we mark the 115<sup>th</sup> year of the Philippine Independence is Ambagan which is to contribute, then we must recognize the role played by many individuals and organizations in the development of our city".

Baguio City, being the undisputed Center of Higher Education in Northern Luzon, a sizeable portion of the city population are students Cont. on page 6

## City Partakes in the World Blood Donor Day

BAGUIO CITY - In observance of the World Blood Donor Day, the city government of Baguio celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary with the theme "Every Blood Donation is a Gift of Life". This year's campaign of the World Blood Donor Day focused on the value of donated blood to patients, not only in saving life, but also helping people live longer and more productive lives.

The Baguio City Blood Council conducted the blood donation activity at the Baguio City Hall lobby from 8:00 AM to 5:00 P.M. last June 14.

It is remembered that Mayor Domogan issued Administrative Order No. 101, series of 2011, creating Baguio City Blood Council that would plan the local blood donation program; form committees to undertake the appropriate strategies to implement the programs; formulate annual operation plan for each strategy; organize various groups for the implementation of the planned activities; formulate policies and procedures for the provision and sharing of human resources, facilities, reagents, blood bags and supplies and funds; organize and supervise an active secretariat; monitor and evaluate the activities of the Local Blood Donation Program, and; report activities and accomplishments and financial transactions on a periodic quarterly basis.

The WBDD aims to create awareness of the role that individuals can play in saving and improving human lives; encourage people to enroll as voluntary blood donors; and provide a springboard for longer-term donor education programs and campaigns to strengthen blood transfusion services.

"Said blood dona- Cont. on page 6



FATHER'S DAY - A father shows his love and care for his child during their bonding moment at the city's premier park./Bong Cayabyab

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