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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!! BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Thieves Getting Bolder, City Victimized Anew

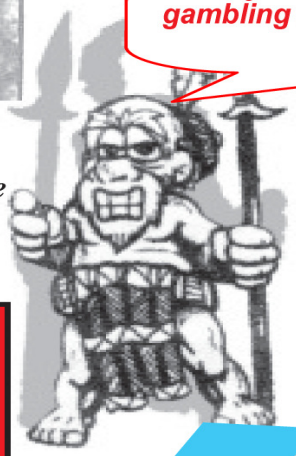
BAGUIO CITY – Criminal elements can strike anytime, this was expressed by City Mayor Mauricio Domogan during the weekly Ugnayan Press Wednesday answering to queries on the theft which happened at the City Treasury Office.

Reports reveal that cash amounting to 135,690 thousand pesos has been carted away by an unidentified culprit inside the city's one stop shop in broad daylight during office hours.

Accordingly, Revenue Collection Officer Merceditas Dela Pena placed the cash inside a box on top of her table after collecting monies from the tellers.

She however left her table unattended to get cedula booklets which was the perfect opportunity for the 'man of steal' to strike. Cont. on page 9

MGA JUETENG KUBRADOR. Laganap na talaga ang juteng sa Baguio City at La Trinidad. Handang mag testigo at mag execute ng affidavit and dalawang kobrador. Basahin sa LG Komentaryo sa pahina 7 hinggil sa isyung ito.



Mga pinuno ng simbahan at iba't-ibang relihiyon, aantayin pa ba ninyong maging gambling capital of Luzon ang Baguio at La Trinidad? Kilos na!!!

4 Local Heroes Awarded Gawad Kalasag...

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LG KOMENTARYO ISANG PALAISIPAN

ANG ONE STRIKE POLICY NI BACALZO!!

TOTOO KAYA O ISANG PALAISIPAN ang mga salitang binigkas ni Police Dir. Gen. Raul Bacalzo? ....page 7

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Napunta nga kaya sa city naten?!

BY GRACE BANDOY

HAKA-HAKA O KATOTOHANAN

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Mga Medias este MEDIA na Puros Ingay !!!

BY : KENSHI

Lawmaker Wants Total Log Ban in Danger Areas

Long-Term Protective Measure Against Natural Disaster

Severe flooding that engulfed different parts of the country has prompted Senator Chiz Escudero to call for the immediate imposition of the total log ban in areas identified as disaster-prone by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Records from the environment and natural resources agency show there are 1,618 municipalities across the country which are considered disaster hotspots.

Escudero explained the total halt to all logging activities should also include natural forests regardless of logging concessions issued by the government to certain companies to prevent environmental tragedies.

"This must be executed now to avoid further destruction of our environment and the senseless lose of lives and properties. It would be a shame on our part to watch lives flicker out before us when we can very well do something to prevent this," Escudero said.

The senator acknowledged that while the imposition of the total log ban would affect some livelihood as indigenous people and other communities rely on forest resources, the banning should be coupled with alternative sources of income for affected entities.

"This is now or never. Aside from the loss of lives, the country is stepping back further from development as we incur an annual average of P6.6 billion in economic losses based on the study of the United Nations," he added./Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

Woman Drug Pusher Convicted in Benguet

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - A woman drug pusher covering up as vegetable vendor was sentenced by the court last week to life imprisonment for sale and possession of shabu four year ago.

In a 12 page decision handed down by Judge Marybelle L. Demot-Mariñas of the Regional Trial Court Branch 8 in La Trinidad, Benguet last January 7, 2011, Amy O. Dasigan is convicted to life term and P.5million-peso fine; and additional 12 years and one day to 14 years and eight months incarceration, and P300 penalty of for having been found guilty beyond reasonable doubt of violating Section 5 (Sale of Dangerous Drugs) and Section 11 (Possession of Dangerous Drugs) respectively of Republic Act 9165 (The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002).

Dasigan, a high school undergraduate, native of Daet, Camarines Norte and resident of Bayabas, La Trinidad, Benguet, was arrested by operatives of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency – Cordillera (PDEA-CAR) in a buy-bust operation on December 9, 2006 in Bayabas, in which six sachets or .52 grams of shabu were confiscated from her.

PDEA filed cases against Dasigan for sale and possession of dangerous drugs docketed under Criminal Case Numbers 07-CR-6703 and 07-CR-6702, respectively.

For four years, the PDEA CAR headed by its Regional Director Edgar Apalla had been diligently following up the case.

"All told, the prosecution evidence has overcome the presumption of innocence of the accused. Her guilt having been established beyond reasonable doubt, her conviction is proper in both cases", the Decision reads.

According to PDEA-CAR, Dasigan, who is now 46, had been supplying shabu to her patrons at the La Trinidad Vegetable Trading Post.** (with reports from PDEA)/PIA

Health committee to probe reported Exploitation of 'OJT' Nurses

Senator Pia S. Cayetano will lead the Senate's very first committee hearing of the New Year on Tuesday, January 11, 2011.

The Senate Committee on Health and Demography, chaired by Cayetano, will lead a joint meeting together with the committees on finance, labor, employment and human resources development on pressing issues concerning the country's nurses and other medical professionals.

The joint panel will take up Cayetano's Philippine Senate Resolution No.166, which seeks to look into reports of registered nurses and nursing graduates who are being employed by certain hospitals as "on-the job trainees" (OJTs) and made to pay for their training, work experience and certification, instead of being hired as regular hospital staff.

"It is unfortunate that some of our nurses who are seeking employment overseas are forced to enter into such onerous arrangements in order to comply with the two-year work experience requirement for overseas employment," said Cayetano.

"In their desire to get hired abroad, some nurses are constrained to work in hospitals as OJTs even without pay or for salaries below the minimum wage," she added, while noting that OJT nurses are reportedly made to pay to pay between P5,000 to P7,000 for their certification in the course of their 'training period' or 'work experience' with the hospital which may last from 6 weeks to 8 months.

"These reported money-making schemes contribute to the problem of local unemployment and underemployment among our nurses and, if found true, is very demeaning to the nursing profession. We also need to see how these questionable practices are dealt

Cont. on page 9

Snow Snafu Hearing Leaves Blizzard of Unanswered Questions

BAGUIO CITY – The hearing initially intended to clarify issues surrounding the December 'snow show' snafu left more questions unanswered.

Thus assessed the City Council Committee on Public Protection and Safety (CHPPS) chair, councilor Edison Bilog, during a post-public hearing interview, January 14.

An inquiry on the snow show was conducted at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Session Hall, 9am, the same day.

Present in the panel during the hearing were Bilog, Coun. Elmer Datuin, P/Supt. Andrew Cayat, city budget officer Leticia Clemente, and Hotels and Restaurants Association of Baguio (HRAB) chief Anthony De Leon.

Contrary to his over-the-microphone declaration that "everybody should now move on," Bilog admitted his colleague's answers to questions raised during the forum only served to cast cloud over funding and sponsorship issues raised during the forum.

It could be remembered Datuin, as chair of the City Council Committee on Tourism and Special Events (CTSE), generated local and national interest over the project through media weeks leading to the first show held December 4, 2010.

Consequently, an estimated 50-thousand heads gathered along Session Road only to be frustrated by what some was described as a 'soap suds exhibit.'

Harsh public opinion soon fol-

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JUETENG
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(SGD) Odell P. Aquino The Junction- OIC

DENR Red: Autonomy Vital for the Region's Natural Resources

BAGUIO CITY – Achieving regional autonomy will play a vital role for the Cordillera Administrative Region's development, as far as its natural resources are concerned.

This was stressed by Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-CAR) Regional Executive Director Clarence Baguilat during a Regional Development Council (RDC) meeting last week.

According to Baguilat, Cordillera has a greater advantage in terms of its natural resources with the region's rich land, water, mineral and forest potential and achieving an autonomous state would be vital in its utilization, as well as protection and preservation - for the region and its people's development.

'I for one want to see this realize and not just a pursuit as under an autonomous state, we will be given a greater advantage to do more in dealing with our rich natural resources,' Baguilat said.

To stress his point, Baguilat cited that Cordillera is very low on titling land with the region having only 15 percent Alienable and Disposable (A&D) lands and 85 percent forest lands.

It is only Congress that can reclassify forest lands to A&D but through autonomy we can do more, as we can have our own legislative assembly which would make it easier for us to re-classify lands, he ex-

Cont. on page 9

A CHILD-FRIENDLY BAGUIO PUBLIC LIBRARY. This Grade One student reads a book under the playhouse located at the Children's Section of the Baguio City Public Library at Burnham Park. The Children's Section houses this giant playhouse, numerous toys and kiddie books. The public library has hundreds of thousands of books and periodicals which the public may read or have copied. No fees are collected except for xerox services. The public is encouraged to visit the library and make reading a habit (again)/ G.Bandoy

DENR Completes Geo-Hazard Mapping in CAR

BAGUIO CITY – Geo-hazard assessment in the Cordillera Administrative Region has been completed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

This was bared by DENR Regional Executive Director Clarence Baguilat in a radio interview over DZEQ Radyo ng Bayan Baguio.

Baguilat explained that the Geohazards Mapping and Assessment Program of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB – DENR) is an important component of the government's disaster management and mitigation program in order to reduce the loss of lives and properties brought about by natural disasters.

"It involves both the identification of areas of the country that are prone or susceptible to various geologic hazards like rain-induced landslides, floods, flash-floods, storm surge, coastal erosion, sea-level rise and other natural events. The output of the program is equally important for land use planning, land development and the emerging concern on climate-change adaptation," he said

According to Baguilat, the maps were already printed and distributed to the different Local Government Units (LGUs) and other government offices. We even conducted orientation on how to use it and be able to incorporate them in their respective land use plan and zoning, he added.

He said that office is conducting continuous information dissemination in order to increase public awareness.

Aside from reforestation, other climate change mitigation initiatives being conducted by DENR includes agro-forestry projects to help address poverty that prevails in upland areas, Baguilat added. /Mari Cruz/PIA-CAR

Claimants Delay Relocation Site Development

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - The engineering works of the identified relocation site for typhoon victims in Tawang, this town, has been put to halt land claimants by at least seven families.

The 3.3 hectare lot owned by the Benguet State University was awarded thru a Presidential Proclamation by then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo as permanent relocation site for at least 300 families from Little Kibungan in Puguis who were displaced by typhoon Pepeng in 2009.

According to BSU Vice President for Administration Alfredo Tipayno, the lot has no claimants when it was still in the name of the university. The claimants only came in when the lot has been started to be developed by the La Trinidad municipal government, he said.

Upon assuming office in July last year, Mayor Gregorio Abalos coordinated with the Benguet Provincial Government, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Public Works and Highways and other agencies to start on the engineering works and develop the lot into a residential area.

The lot was also cleared by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for ground works. Road opening began as an initial step to ready the site for the anticipated construction of homes.

But the mayor said that with these land claimants, there is setback in the construction of houses and development of the area which in turn, delays the relocation of typhoon victims.

Abalos said a negotiation with claimants did not give way to an agreement thus he advised the claimants to bring their case to the courts to decide./ Redjie Cawis/ PIA

US Envoy Apologizes to 3 IPs for Clinton Forum Incident

BAGUIO CITY – United States (US) Ambassador to the Philippines Hon. Harry Thomas Jr. through National Commission of Indigenous People (NCIP) Chairman Atty Roque Agton Jr., sent a letter of apology to the three Cordillerans involved in an untoward incident with an aide of former US President Bill Clinton, in the latter's forum in the Philippines, titled 'Embracing Our Common Humanity,' at the Manila Hotel last November 10.

The said apology letter dated December 14 was received by the NCIP last December 22 and was forwarded to Vladimir Cayabas, an IP in Cordillera and school administrator of NIIT-Baguio, last January 4.

In the letter, Ambassador Thomas expressed his sincere apology for the incident and calls on the NCIP to convey the message to Mr. Vladimir Cayabas and his two other companions. The Ambassador expressed that it was unfortunate that those unaware of the richness of the Filipino culture and tradition often fail to appreciate its historic significance and value in the partnership of the two nations.

In response to the letter, Mr. Cayabas stressed, 'On behalf of the IPs in Cordillera, the Philippines and around the globe, we are honored for the letter that's a clear act of admission of such absurd deed. However basing on accountability, the apology should come from the former president Clinton, including the event organizers.'

'Besides, the letter did not specify what actions or reprimand, given to the service agent to give him lesson. I am just hoping that the letter of apology is a really sincere one, not just an act in the compliance to the elements of diplomatic protocol, just to wands their hands from their guilt,' Cayabas added.

It can be recalled that during former President Bill Clinton's 'Embracing Our Common Humanity' forum, the three IPs from Baguio, headed by Mr. Cayabas wore their native attires including a native Cordilleran G-string, which became a subject of a an altercation and a humiliating experience from Clinton's aide, in view of the forum's participants.

In reference to incident, the NCIP wrote US Ambassador Thomas' office, strongly condemning the arrogant treatment and discriminatory behavior of Clinton's aide and demand a public apology (from both Mr. Clinton and his aide).

According to Atty Agton's letter, the trio being educators were very eager to listen to the talk of Mr. Clinton on 'Embracing our own humanity, which is why they came all

Cont. on page 11

News For Our Cook

"The cost of fish and vegetables are up," our cook wailed to the wife on return from the wet market. "Cooking gas is up too. Will this continue in 2011?"

They probably will.

years of food price uncertainty, World Bank president Robert Zoellick told the Guardian.

Governments and agencies fret over volatile fuel prices, depleted water availability and climate shock. Global Climatic Risk Index for 2011 lists the Philippines as seventh, among 10 countries, most vulnerable to disastrous climate impacts".

Drought compelled Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to extend, into 2011, an import ban on Russia's Black Sea region wheat. Floods in Pakistan crimped food supplies.

EDITORIAL

For Filipinos, like half the world's population, rice prices have a short fuse. Ample harvests in Thailand and Vietnam ensure adequate stocks for the first quarter, FAO adds. We've locked up import contracts with Hanoi, since self-sufficiency targets always eluded our grasp.

Food prices could come under pressure if other cereals become more expensive in 2011. Biofuels already compete for food crops, FAO director general Jacques Diouf noted. A third of U.S. maize, last year, went to ethanol for gas guzzlers.

The DG also has news for our cook: "Global cereal prices won't come down at any time soon."

"To a people famished and idle, the only form in which God dares to appear is work and the promise of food", Mahatma Ghandi once wrote :He had an insight into the explosive force of hunger and it's capacity to wreck. "Don't ask a hungry man to guard your rice," a Tibetan proverb counsels.

Food riots erupted December in Mozambique, where 12 died. Clashes followed in Algiers over similar cost spikes. In Iran, riot police poured into the streets after fuel and food subsidies ended. Sri Lanka remains edgy.

Food cost in India surged by 17 percent. Already reeling from extremist attacks on it's Coptic Christians, Egypt treats similar inflation as a tinderbox. These tower above the Philippines relatively "benign" inflation --- so far.

That could change in 2011. La Nina, for example, is likely to hit the region soon. So are effects of the severe winter on the traditional "North American" bread basket.

Even more basic for us, Filipinos, are "fundamentals" often ignored in our daily political squabbles. Like what?

Like how many Filipinos are there to be fed? Are there 94.01 million of us today as some government offices estimate. Or are we really 99.9 million? Some international agencies and U.S offices work by that projection.

Results of the seven-year delayed national census haven't been released so far. Undercounting complaints are rife. The Commission on Elections concede that voting population numbers in Maguindanao, Basilan and similar warlord redoubts are stuffed.

Population today is historically unprecedented in size, density or migration patterns. President Bengino Aquino says he'll heed no-re-election provision in the Constitution. So, when he hands over Malacanang, come June 2016, his successor will have to "multiply the loaves and fishes" for 101.6 million Filipinos.

Never before were our farms and fishing grounds called upon to feed such chronically hungry multitudes. The 7th nutrition survey found more kids, below five years, are emaciated, shorter and skinnier. The proportion of ill-fed pregnant women has inched up.

One in 10 Filipinos work abroad. Here, many drift into city slums. Others encroach on ecologically-brittle uplands or overcrowded coastal villages.

The systems that place food on our tables of our children are severely strained. "IUU" or "illegal, unreported and unregulated" fishing result in depleted catches, warns Magsaysay Awardee and marine bioliogist Angel Alacala.

What separates us from starvation is three or four inches of topsoil. It takes over a century to form an inch of that topsoil. But a heavy downpour, in a country where less than 18 percent of forest cover is left, that can wash a century's accumulation away in an hour.

About 74 to 81 million tons of near-irreplaceable soil are lost annually. "Fighting soil degradation makes

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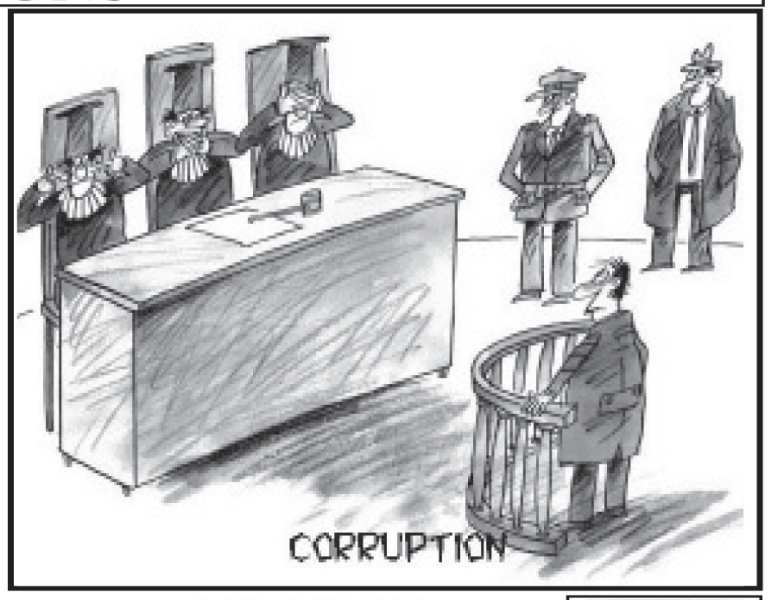

MOSH PIT

Pen pen de sarapen....
183 Milyon ni Vergara for 2010
Napunta nga kaya sa city naten?!

BY GRACE BANDOY

Recently ay ni-release po ng office ni apo congressman Vergara ang breakdown ng mga pinagkagastusan niya for the year 2010 (6 months lang po yun since June po siya nag-start to work as Congressman) from the fund na ibinigay po sa kanya ng national government natin.

Ang amount na ito po ay nagkakahalaga ng whopping 183 million pesoses. Bahala na po kayo mag imagine kung gaano po karami yun.

Karamihan po ng perang ito ay napunta sa mga inPERAstructure projects ng lolo ng Baguio that includes the following:

Yung pag gawa nga daw po ng Circumferential road (????????),

Ang pag ayos daw po ng City Camp lagoon at paglagay ng tunnel doon,

Pag ayos daw po sa mga kalsada sa Gibraltar Road going to Mines View Park

Pag ayos ng kalsada sa Burnham Park

Pag ayos ng kalsada sa Session and Magsaysay road (???)

Sa Malcolm Square and Igorot Garden (??)

Sa Naguilian – Bokawkan junction road

Pag ayos din daw po sa BGH flyover (????)

Nagbigay din daw po si Vergara ng scholarships sa mga students, ng fund for indigent patients sa BGH and livelihood assistance daw po sa mga several groups (let's hope and pray yung mga amounts na sinabi niya pong ibinigay sa mga projects na eto eh the same amount na natanggap nila!!).

As for his infrastructure projects eh wala pa ho tayong nakikitang inumpisahan man lang.

Start na naman po ng 2011 and siyempre the office of the Congressman will receive his 2011 budget anew para naman po sa mga projects niya for this year, kaya dapat po siguro na umpisahan na niya ang mga projects for last year para hindi po magkapatong patong ang mga milyones na yan kung saang opisina man po nakatago ang mga yan di ba?!

Baka ubusin lang po ang perang yan ng mga ipis at daga na most of the time eh umuubos po sa mga tinatago nating kung anu ano. Magpipiyesta sigurado ang mga kutong lupang yan sa pagkitkit pag nahanap kung saan nakatago ang mga million peso bills na yan.

And, hindi po kaya nagkaroon ng hocus pocus sa isinagawang "public consultation" para po dun sa blasting (mga pagsabog) na allegedly ay gagawin sa City Camp lagoon para po dun sa paglagay ng tunnel doon?! Isa po ito sa multi-million projects ni Vergara for 2010.

Nagsagawa po kasi ang office ng DPWH at ni Vergara ng public consultation ukol dito pero allegedly po ay ni isang miyembro ng media ay wala daw po inimbitahan?! Nagulat na lang daw po ang karamihan ng media coz tapos na pala ang tinuringang public consultation na yun!

Hindi po kaya niluto ni Apo Vergara and ng DPWH ang ap-

Cont. on page 9

DIRETSAHAN

Nakawan sa City Hall-Inside Job!!! Patuloy and Jueteng , ano pa inaantay nyo-TAYA NA !!!

By Rudy "Bantay Siyasat" Garcia

Nakawan sa City Hall, NASALISIHAN Ba o NAKIPAGSABWATAN? Ito ngayon ang tanong ng mga pipol op Baguio na ating nakakausap hinggil sa nangyaring umano'y nakawan sa City Hall, one stop Business area noong Enero 11, 2011, bandang alas tres (3:00 PM) ng hapon. Natangayan ng halos isangdaang libong piso na koleksiyon ang isang empleyada sa city treasurers office na nakakapagtaka dahil ang pera ay nasa loob ng counter umano at nasa tabi lamang niya. Ang tanong, sino ngayon ang may kasalanan? Opkors iyong empleyado dahil din sa kanyang kapabayaan, o baka naman tutulog-tulog lang itong si madam kaya hindi niya namalayan kung sino ang sumalisi sa kanya? Sa palagay ko mahihirapan itong tanga..este taga ingat yaman na "justify" ang insidenteng ito, at anupaman ang kanyang magiging rason sigurado ko na dadaan ito sa butas ng karayom. Sa kabilang banda, hindi dapat sisihin ngayon ang mga "sekyu" sa nangyaring nakawan, bagkus ay dapat pagtuunan ng pansin ang posibilidad na may "inside job" sa nangyari kasi baka hindi naman "SALISI" kundi "SALI-NA! ingat yaman? Baka nakaw yaman! Hay buhay!!

OoOoo

Aba, at bumilib tlaga ako ditto kay kapten REYNALDO CORDOVIZ at ang kanyang mga opisyal ng Barangay Kagitingan dahil hindi na sila nagpakatumpik-tumpik pa sa paghuli ng isang "kubrador" na nangongolekta ng "bet money" para sa "jai-alai" kuno, pero marami ang naniniwalang ang kubrahang jai-alai ay prente lamang ng huweteng, oh di ano na ang nangyari?, pagkatapos ng "hulihan blues" sa kagitingan, marami na ang nakisawsaw, huli ditto at raid doon, kaliwat kanan, hinintay pa niya na may mag- "straight jab" bago sila sumugod at nakisuntok ayun at knock-down tuloy ang "jai-alai" ng mga super alalay ni mayor, he!he!he! teka, sabi pala ng mga nahuhuli ay magdedemanda raw sila dahil legal naman daw ang kanilang aktibidad, ooows, talaga? Anader bingoteng legal battle in da making? Haay, at ang mga damuhong mga abogago, este…abogado, sa gusto ring kumita, ipinipikit na lamang ang kanilang mga mata sabay Kanta ng… "ay hab trihans da left en da rayt hold dem apart so klin en brayt, klap dem soply wan tu tri, klin bingoteng, jai-alai en loteng ni luding, ar gud to si" hay yay yay!

OoOoO

Marami ang nagrereklamo sa mga nakaparadang sasakyan sa mismong "sidewalk" malapit sa harapan ng SLU COLLEGE sa Bonifacio St. sa halip kasi ditto dumaan ang mga tao ay hindi na dahil hindi ito madaanan bunsod ng mga nakaparadang sasakyan, kaya naman sa kalsada na lamang dumadaan ang mga tao lalo ang mga estudante na maari nila itong ikapahamak. Baka hinihintay lamang ng mga hinyupak na opisyal op Baguio na may mangyari muna ng di kanais nais bago sila kumilos. Kung hindi, ano pa ang hinihintay nila, KILOOS NA!!

Marami ang nagrereklamo sa mga nakaparadang sasakyan sa may sidewalk ng Bonifacio St. malapit sa SLU college. Makikita sa larawan ang sidewalk na ginawang paradahan ng mga sasakyan bunsod para sa kalsada na lamang dumaan ang mga tao. At ano naman kaya ang ginagawa ng mga pulis trapiko sa nasabing lugar? ***(BY: PETER VALENCIA)***

Eto ang eksena sa may bukana ng one stop business area sa City Hall matapos na matangayan ng humigit kumulang na isangdaang libong pisong koleksiyon ang isang empleyado ng City Treasurers office, bandang hapon ng Enero 11, 2011, kungsaan ay hindi pa umano natutukoy at nahuhuli ang suspek. Kinakailangan pa bang may mangyari na namang insidente bago maghigpit ng seguridad ang City Hall? Hindi kaya ang nangyari ay isang "salisi" o "Sali-na" as in sabwatan?

HAKA-HAKA O KATOTOHANAN

Mga Medias este MEDIA na Puros Ingay !!!

By : KENSHI

Ano ba itong pinag iingay ng mga miyembro ng medias este media at pati na rin ang ilan kolumnistang nagsusulat sa pahayagang ito na laganap raw ang jueteng at mga iligal na sugal ? Sa aking pag kakaalam dala ng aking patuloy na pag-iikot sa buong lungsod ng Baguio at pati na rin sa kalapit na munisipyo ng La Trinidad at mga ibat ibang lugar sa Benguet ay wala pa akong nakikitang iligal na sugal na jueteng. Ang aking na kikita at base na rin sa ipinararatig sa akin ng aking mga kaibigan ay ang laganap na pasugalan ng mahjong. Katunayan ay mayrooon mahjongan dyan sa Palma St.. Dyan sa Suello Village at sa Aurora Hill mayroon din mahjongan at marahil ay mayroon pang mga ibang mahjongan sa iba pang mga lugar sa Baguio at benguet . Itong mga mahjongan na aking binabangit ay hindi mga one table at mag 2 to 4 tables, kaya ito ay iligal . Kaya kung ao sa mga aiingay nag a emdias este mga edia na nagsasabi na mayrron jueteng sa Baguio aba eh mag pakita kayo ng pruweba at ebidensiya at huwag lang kayo puros salita, puros kiao-kiao na para kayong mga p_ _ _ _ g hindi binayaran. Sa palagay ko itong mga media na ingay ng ingay hingil sa mga iligal na sugal kasama na pati na jueteng ay gustong makinabang sa jueteng o baka naman ay sila yun sinasabi na nagsasagawa ng oplan pakilala o di kaya ay yun mga AC-DC as in attack and collect, defend and collect. Hoy mga medias este mga media na sobrang ingay, maging mga medias sa radio o sa print ano kayo-**OPLAN PAKILALA O AC-DC ?**

####

Kung bakit ang dami naman mga isyu na dapat talakayin ang mga medias este mga media eh kung bakit iligal na sugal ang parati nilang nais isulat o ikomentaryo pati na sa radio. Mayroon jan isyu hingil sa napakagandang makina na binili ni Mayor Domogan para isugpu ang matinding gastos sa paghakot ng basura. Mayroon din isyu hingil sa nakawan sa city hall. Mayroon din isyu sa matinding personal na gastusin na gustong i-charge ng mga Konsehal at Konsehales as official expenses. Mayroon din isyu sa mga lakbay **GOOD TIME** aral ng mga lokal na barangay officials kung saan parati na lang within the Philippines ang kanilang biyahe at pinupuntahan. Bakit ba hindi gawin ang lakbay **GOOD TIME** aral sa Amerika o sa Europa para ng sa ganoon ay mas matuto at mas ma wise ang ating magagaling na mga barangay kupitan este barangay kapitan at pati na rin ang ating mga gagowads este kagawads. Mayroon din yun malapit ng pumutok na isyu ng bingoteng as in fund raising for the barangays na disguised as fund raising ngunit ang tutuo ay isang uri ito ng jueteng or iligal na pasugalan . Kung bakit naman kasi ang tagal pang lumabas ang basbas ng isang opisyales hingil sa pag umpisa ng Bingoteng, sige na, umpisahan nyo na ng magkaroon na ng tutuong sugalan sa Baguio, nang sa ganoon ay mayroon tutuong ma isulat at ma komentaryohan ang ilan mga medias hingil sa sugal. Mayroon din yun matagal ng isyu ng burnham park fencing na daan milyones na salapi ang siyang pinaguusapan, ngunti ito ay pinangungunahan ni the Most Holy Reverend Bishop Carlito Cenzon. Kung marami lang akong espasyo sa kolum na ito ay marami pa akong ma isusulat na mga isyu . So ano say ninyo **KAYONG MGA NOISY MEDIAS este MEDIA NA PUROS INGAY AT KIAO-KIAO**, magkalap kayo ng ebidensya at mag sampa ng reklamo sa kinaukulan opisina at huwag **PUROS KIAO-KIAO !!!**

Editorial

.....from page 4

combating insurgency child's play," the late National Scientist Dioscoro Umali once said.

The lethargy that chronic hunger spawns is so widespread we take it for granted. Like Lazarus waiting for scraps at the gate, it melds into the woodwork.

Eradication of hunger, however, is not a benevolent luxury. It is essential for our survival as a human community. We must tamp down hunger without pawning the natural resource base of suceeding generations. "We do not inherit the land from our parents," the Indian proverb says. "We merely borrow it from our children."

Rising temperatures meanwhile widened the "Tropical Belt", notes Nature Geoscience. "In the Philippines, rice yields drop by 10% for every one degree centigrade increase in night-time temperature", BBC's Richard Black writes.

Adapt or starve may be ultimate option that an altered tropical belt could offer. PNoy's shucking off ambitions of a prolonged presidency can help us all look beyond today's political pygmies. We must tell our cook./J.L.Mercad

1st-APLUMA!

Why only now?

BETTER late than never? I don't think so.

I'm referring to the decision of concerned government agencies to impose stricter requirements for bus drivers, some of whom are wreaking havoc on main thoroughfares like their personal playground.

This is another case of knee-jerk reaction of government officials who just lie and wait for another life to be sacrificed before reacting instead of acting early to prevent disasters. An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure, as we always say.

Now, the Department of Transportation and Communications and the Land Transportation Office (LTO) are requiring drivers to show a certification that they have undergone a road safety program from agencies such as the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

With his new policy, drivers will have to submit the certification before they can be allowed to drive public buses.

But these moves will not bring back to life the victims of recklessness of bus drivers. The damage has been done already and no amount of program could resurrect them from the dead.

-000-

Sad to say, the Aquino government has no one to blame but itself. It could not blame the past administration for this mess as some of the worst bus accidents happened during its term.

In August last year, months after P-Noy assumed office, at least 35 people were killed after a bus plunged into a 100-meter ravine in Northern Luzon.

In December, at least four people were killed after a bus fell into a 50-foot ravine in Pagbilao town in Quezon province.

Last Sunday, seven people were killed along the Southern Tagalog Arterial Road when a bus rammed into a passenger jeepney.

-000-

But just like DOTC and LTO, we are hoping that this knee-jerk move will prevent future road accidents involving buses and make our roads safe for motorists.

We are also hoping that transport groups will not meet this program with protests because the government only wants to reduce, if not totally eliminate, road accidents.

There's no harm in cooperating. Please join the cause for a change.

-000-

For comments and suggestions email *esns03@yahoo.com.*

10 Tons-Weight Limit To Be Imposed Along Kennon Road

BAGUIO CITY - Government agencies are now putting up measures to ensure the safety of motorists along the scenic and historical Kennon Road with the expected influx of tourists for the Panagbenga in February and the summer season.

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)- Cordillera Regional Director Edilberto P. Carabbacan said restriction on any types of vehicle with a gross weight of 10 tons shall be strictly implemented along Kennon.

Carabbacan said they will strictly implement the current ceiling of 10 tons gross weight limit for the sake of public safety.

The bridges along Kennon road are old and weak that is why heavy trucks are not allowed to pass in order to prevent further damages, Carabbacan said.

Cont. on page 9

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Antidote vs. rains, floods and winds

By: Batas Mauricio

LIFE'S INPIRATIONS: "Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away…" (Psalm 37:1-2, the Holy Bible).

-ooo-

ANTIDOTE VS. RAINS, FLOODS AND WINDS: The eastern regions of the Philippines, Australia and Brazil all have a message not only for Filipinos but for the entire humanity: it is now time to earnestly and sincerely seek God, read His Word and obey His commands.

Otherwise, the rains, floods and winds being experienced by all these places now will also happen in many other regions and cause more death and destruction. Jesus Christ warned all of us about the coming of these rains, floods and winds, which will cause the "great fall" of everyone, in Matthew 7:24 to 27 of the Bible.

The only way to stop these rains, floods and winds is to do exactly what Jesus Christ said in those Biblical passages: listen and know His Word and commands, and then comply with them. If we do not do that, a "great fall" is waiting for all of us, courtesy of rains, floods and winds.

-ooo-

ABUSE OF OFWs PREDICTED BY THE BIBLE, TOO: The investigation being proposed by the Blas F. Ople Center to find out if officials of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration are colluding with illegal recruiters to victimize overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) should also include officials and employees of Philippine embassies and consulates abroad.

Reports reaching BATAS INTERNET TV (at www.batasmedia.com) indicate that many embassy and consulate personnel are themselves the source of problems for the OFWs in their areas, principally by doing nothing even when our countrymen are being publicly abused and maltreated.

Nevertheless, the Blas F. Ople Center may do well to know that in the Bible (Deuteronomy 28:32), a nation whose people no longer listen to God and no longer obey His commands will have their children sent to other nations, where they will undergo hardships and difficult lives. I guess the Center can learn something from this Biblical verse to help our OFWs.

-ooo-

NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS COMING TO PHL INCREASING: So, the Bureau of Immigration is saying that the number of foreigners and Chinese immigrants to the Philippines doubled in 2010, compared to the figure in 2009.

This is not news, and is to be expected, if one reads the Bible in Deuteronomy 28:49, which warns that God will raise a nation "whose tongue you do not understand" against those who no longer listen to, and obey, Him.

-ooo-

HOSPITAL TRAINING FEES FOR NURSES NOT ILLEGAL: It is good that Health Secretary Enrique Ona will investigate reports that our nurses are being required by hospitals to pay for the training they will get, but, let me ask: should not anyone wanting to undergo any training pay a fee? Especially if the nurses are training in preparation for a work abroad?

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ONE STRIKE POLICY !!!

TOTOO KAYA O ISANG PALAISIPAN ang mga salitang binigkas ni ka galang-galang na hepe ng pulisya na si Police Director General Raul Bacalzo? Basahin ang sumusunod na balita hinggil sa kanyang sinabi on the very first day of his assumption in office.

The Philippines' new police chief — Raul Bacalzo — starts his first day on the job by denying allegations that he is a protector of the illegal numbers game called "jueteng" even as he vows swift action against cops found to be coddling "jueteng" operators.

Newly installed Philippine National Police (PNP) Director General Raul Bacalzo on Friday vehemently denied allegations that he is involved in illegal gambling and other criminal activities as he vowed to implement a **"one-strike policy" against police officials found to be in cahoots with operators of the "jueteng" illegal numbers game.**

"I had been a victim of special attacks by character assassins who have unfairly and baselessly linked my name to the operations of illegal numbers game — all of which I vehemently and strongly deny," Bacalzo said in a statement.

Bacalzo, who was officially sworn in as the 16th chief of the PNP on Friday, also denounced the release of a "white paper" that purportedly shows his ties with criminal syndicates.

The new police chief said his critics only want to ruin his name.

To show his seriousness in eradicating jueteng operations across the Philippines, Bacalzo said the PNP will be implementing a "one-strike policy" against jueteng coddlers in the police force. Under the policy, he said police officials in areas where jueteng operations persist will immediately be removed from their posts.

He said he also plans to deploy "secret agents" in different areas in the country to uncover cops involved in jueteng operations.

Bacalzo also vowed to restore the credibility of the Philippines' police force, which was tainted in the recent Manila hostage tragedy. One way to do this, he said, is for the police to catch major jueteng operators and their protectors.

"I am confident that we can still attain the credible status of the PNP," he said in his speech after his oath-taking ceremony on Friday.

A group of junior police officers earlier accused Bacalzo of being a jueteng protector himself.

But the new police chief said this could not be possible since he has been assigned to the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame, Quezon City for a long time, making it implausible for him to have links with jueteng operators in the provinces.

The Malacanang presidential palace defended Bacalzo, saying he has a spotless record in the PNP.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda noted the allegations against Bacalzo in recent statements given to the media by jueteng whistleblower Sandra Cam and some junior PNP officers.

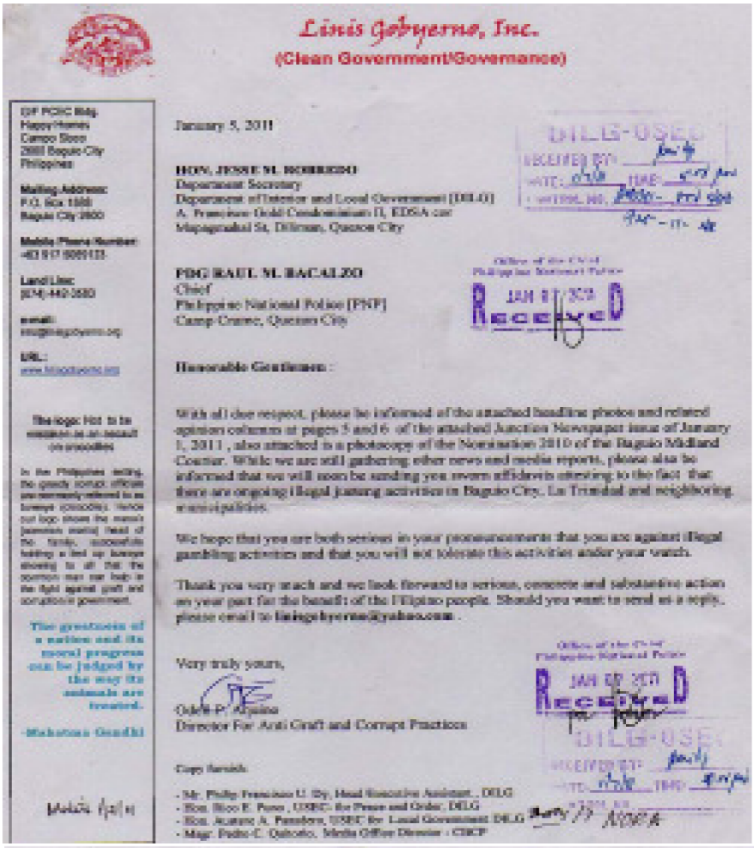
Lacierda said Malacanang will immediately order an investigation of Bacalzo if Cam can support her allegations, urging her to present evidence to Malacanang.

He also said Bacalzo has expressed willingness to undergo an investigation to clear his name.

In his statement, Bacalzo denied knowing Cam."I do now know personally this person Sandra Cam. I have never met her and I have never been assigned anywhere in Bicol," he said.

Newly installed Philippine National Police chief Director Gen. Raul Bacalzo (left) joins his predecessor Jesus Verzosa as they salute after the turn-over ceremony at Camp Crame, Quezon City. (Reuters)

Inyong mababasa ang dalawang liham na ating pinadala sa tangapan ni DILG Secretary Jesse Robredo at PNP Police Director General Raul Bacalzo. Abangan ang kanilang aksyon.



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The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.

-Mahatma Gandhi

January 5, 2011

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Department Secretary
Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)
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Mapagmahal St, Diliman, Quezon City

PDG RAUL M. BACALZO
Chief
Philippine National Police (PNP)
Camp Crame, Quezon City

Office of the Chief
Philippine National Police
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Honorable Gentlemen :

With all due respect, please be informed of the attached headline photos and related opinion columns at pages 5 and 6 of the attached Junction Newspaper issue of January 1, 2011 , also attached is a photocopy of the Nomination 2010 of the Baguio Midland Courier. While we are still gathering other news and media reports, please also be informed that we will soon be sending you sworn affidavits attesting to the fact that there are ongoing Ilegal jueteng activities in Baguio City, La Trinidad and neighboring municipalities.

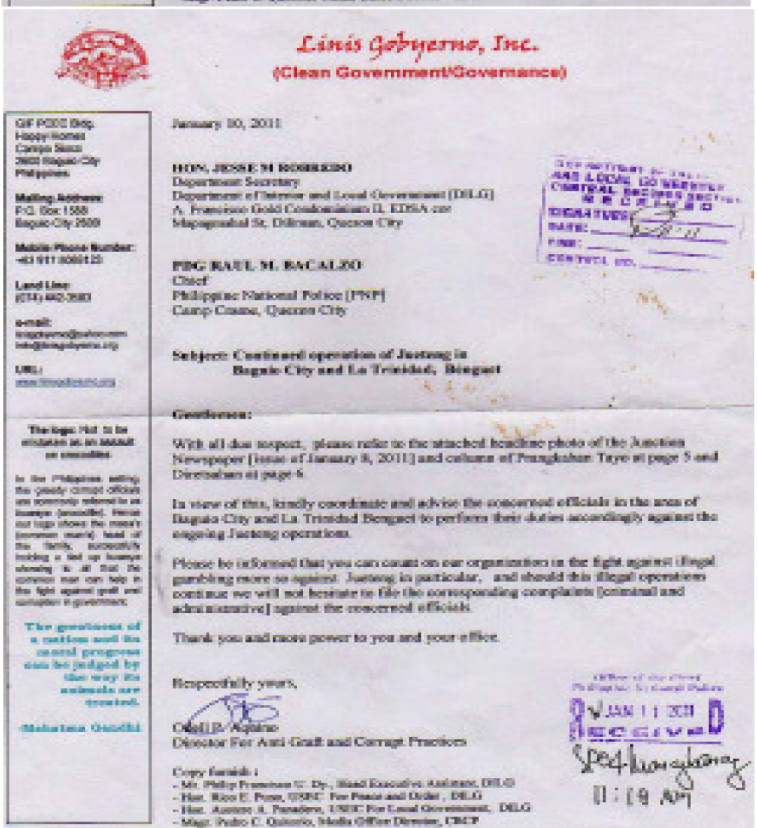
We hope that you are both serious in your pronouncements that you are against illegal gambling activities and that you will not tolerate this activities under your watch.

Thank you very much and we look forward to serious, concrete and substantive action on your part for the benefit of the Filipino people. Should you want to send us a reply, please email to linisgobyerno@yahoo.com .

Very truly yours,

Odelia P. Aquino
Director For Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices

Copy furnish:
- Mr. Philip Francisco U. Dy, Head Executive Assistant , DILG
- Hon. Rico E. Puno , USEC for Peace and Order, DILG
- Hon. Austere A. Panadero, USEC for Local Government, DILG
- Maj. Pedro C. Quiroito, Media Office Director - CIICP



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-Mahatma Gandhi

January 10, 2011

HON. JESSE M ROBREDO
Department Secretary
Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)
A. Francisco Gold Condominium II, EDSA cor
Mapagmahal St, Diliman, Quezon City

PDG RAUL M. BACALZO
Chief
Philippine National Police (PNP)
Camp Crame, Quezon City

Subject: Continued operation of Jueteng in Baguio City and La Trinidad, Benguet

Gentlemen:

With all due respect, please refer to the attached headline photo of the Junction Newspaper [issue of January 8, 2011] and column of Pangkalan Tayo at page 5 and Dirtybaboy at page 6

In view of this, kindly coordinate and advise the concerned officials in the area of Baguio City and La Trinidad Benguet to perform their duties accordingly against the ongoing Jueteng operations.

Please be informed that you can count on our organization in the fight against illegal gambling more so against Jueteng in particular, and should this illegal operations continue we will not hesitate to file the corresponding complaints [criminal and administrative] against the concerned officials.

Thank you and more power to you and your office.

Respectfully yours,

Odelia P. Aquino
Director For Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices

Copy furnish :
- Mr. Philip Francisco U. Dy , Head Executive Assistant, DILG
- Hon. Rico E. Puno, USEC For Peace and Order , DILG
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- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno www.linisgobyerno.org

Mosh Pit

... from page 4

proval ng kontrata ng blasting and tunnelling na yun, kaya po hindi nag imbita ng media, para walang kumontra?!

Hindi po kasi biro ang magpasabog at maglagay ng tunnel dito sa ating city. Hindi po kasing stable ng ibang lupa sa Pilipinas ang Baguio kung kaya't kailangan pag aralan ng mabuti ng DENR ang kahit anong major activity na maka kaapekto po sa mga lupa natin.

Milyon milyon po ang nakalaan sa project na ito na gagawin ng DPWH at ng opisina ni Vergara.

Hindi rin po kaya lumabas sa public consultation ang pag-explore ng ibang means para ma solve ang pagbaha sa City Camp lagoon? Basura lang naman po kasi ang reason for flooding there, then, why not implement stricter rules on garbage handling in those areas na lang?

Kaunti lang po ang magagastos ng gobyerno natin sa pag bigay ng mas istriktong mga dapat sundin sa pagtatapon ng mga basura doon. Kesa naman po gastusan ng milyon milyon ang pagpapasabog doon at paglagay ng tunnel.

Baka lalong makasama pa yun sa unpredictable na kalagayan ng mga lupa natin dito sa Baguio di ba, and magkaroon ng karumal dumal na effect?!

Ang wish ko lang po eh mapunta nga pong totoo sa mga inilistang projects ni Apo Vergara ang mga milyon milyon na yan, kahit karamihan po sa mga projects na yan (para sa akin) eh mga nonsense (lalo na po yang mga infrastructures na yan!). Sa tingin ko lang po eh hindi naman po mga kailangan at ginawa lang para may makurakot ang chosen few.

Sana eh huwag na pong gawin ang sadyang pagsira sa mga kalsadang okay naman para lang may masabing project nila.

I wish hindi po mapunta sa mga bulsa bulsa ng mga kung sinong mga tao diyan ang pera ng people of Baguio. Dapat po bantayan natin ang mga pondong ito na ginagamit lang ng mga ilan sa pagpapayaman ng katakot takot....let's make sure those projects listed are really implemented well and worth their multi-million peso price tags.

Health commitee to Probe

... from page 2

with under the existing regulations of the Department of Health (DOH), which is tasked to oversee the operations of hospitals in the country."

Among the main resource persons invited to the hearing are: Health Sec. Enrique Ona; Labor Sec. Rosalinda Baldoz; Dr. Teresita Barcelo, President of the Philippine Nurses Association; Alvin Cloyd Dakis, President of the Association of Young Nurse Leaders and Advocates; Dr. Ruben Flores, President of the Philippine Hospitals Association; Dr. Rustico Jimenez, President of the Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines; Carmelita Divinagracia, President of the Association of Deans of Philippine Colleges of Nursing; and Dr. Leah Paquiz of Ang NARS (Nurse Advocates for Rights and Socio-Economic Political Responsibility).

Aside from PSR No.166, the joint hearing will also take up PSR No. 304 introduced by Sen. Loren Legarda which seeks to formulate a comprehensive policy to protect nurses, and various bills seeking to establish a Philippine National Health Research System: Senate Bill No. 257 by Sen. Antonio 'Sonny' TRILLANES, SBN 1083 by Sen. Manny Villar and SBN 2029 by Sen. Edgardo Angara. #/Office of Senator Pia Cayetano

Snow Snafu Hearing

.....from page 2

lowed over social networking sites and the tri-media prompting Bilog to file a measure calling for an investigation of the melee.

"Unfortunately," Bilog lamented, "the same people who demanded answers over media never showed up… they lost their opportunity to ask questions which is why we announced the same closed."

He sadly observed, "It seems the people, [despite earlier plaints they have raised against organizers] would rather forget the incident ever occurred."

During the forum Datuin's was resolute in keeping the identity of the 'donor' of the P400-thousand project under wraps.

Despite repeated and rephrased questions as to the identity of said donor, he maintained "it was donated by a private individual."

He likewise maintained, "The show was at no cost to the city;" or that "there were no contracts cancelled as there was none entered into in the first place."

This, apparently to calm suspicion government money was put to waste in line with the activity. The budget officer confirmed no public money was spent for the snow show.

Bilog during a separate interview however suspected a Japanese national known to be one of Baguio's biggest trade fair organizers who pitched in money for the activity.

He said, "The suspicion dawned on me when Datuin mentioned the snow-making machines were of Japanese technology."

The same Japanese businessman was seen lurking near the stage area during the holding of the December snow shows.

Meanwhile, Cayat reporting on untoward incidents during the December 4 show claimed there were only 3-cases of theft and 6-cases of missing kids reported.

He admitted the kids' safety was placed at risk during the activity which was expected to gather a crowd of no more than 5-thousand.

He added only 32-uniformed policemen were present along Session Road before the activity started.

Apparent from crowd reactions during the hearing however is the fact that a lot more 'untoward incidents' occurred than those which were reported.

Despite frustration over the low public turnout in the hearing, Bilog meantime vowed he will use the experience as tool for legislating laws to secure big audiences of similar events in the future.

He likewise vowed, "I will ask that a detailed list of projects funded under the Office of the City Administrator (OCA) be submitted on the next budget hearing to ensure the people's money is actually used for the same."

OCA budget for Christmas 2010 activities is 500-thousand. A 100-percent increase is proposed by the said office for 2011.

"This time around," Bilog vowed, "We shall ensure that only specific tourism projects are funded from said fund."/*isl*

Thieves Getting Bolder, City Victimized Anew

.....from page 1

The cash is from the collection of community tax payments for the day.

This is a warning to employees to take extra precaution, Domogan said citing negligence on the part of the employee.

What happened there does not have to do anything with the guards, Domogan exclaimed.

But our security personnel should always be on alert, he added.

A full investigation is being undertaken so measures can be placed to deter similar incidents in the future.

Installation of additional CCTV cameras is also being considered though Domogan said what is needed is vigilance and extra care when handling something of value.

Domogan also expressed alarm over the increasing theft and robbery cases despite reports from the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) that crimes have decreased./ paul rillorta

DENR Red Autonomy

.....from page 3

plained.

Baguilat also stressed that with regional autonomy, investors could directly deal with the region. 'We do not need to be dealing anymore with our national officials and following national laws for our region's resources,' he said.

In a separate interview, Baguilat assured that pushing for the region's mining sector can co-exist with goal of becoming the watershed cradle of Northern Philippines.

According to Baguilat, though it may be true that past mining activities posted danger or harm to the region's watersheds, he assured that with the new mining laws in place and with wider regional and sectoral representations and consultations that are now being conducted, the two could co-exist in pushing for the region's development.

On the issue of small-scale mining, Baguilat also stressed that local government units are now working for their regulation as well as advocating responsible mining to said sector as what Benguet Governor Nestor Fongwan has started./Lito Dar/PIA

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

ANA BESTRE - Vendor
ANNALIZA D. BESTRE - Vendee
Applicant
Case No: 2002-BC-256

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for ht e Sale & Transfer with Dropping & Substitution a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and 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 on January 31, 2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) 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 21th day of December 2011.

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

New BIR-CAR Chief Prioritizes Capacity Building for Revenue Officers

BAGUIO CITY – The new chief of the Bureau of Internal Revenue - Cordillera(BIR-CAR) said he will prioritize capacity building for revenue officers while enhancing tax mapping and collection programs.

Regional Director Eduardo Bajador, who just assumed this January, said that with much higher tax collection target for this year, he is up to the task and ready to continue and implement the BIR's present and new programs.

For his priority this 2011, Bajador stressed that he will provide capacity building through trainings and seminars to the region's revenue collection officers and personnel.

'In any organization the number one asset is the workforce, so I plan to introduce some projects that would equip the BIR tax collection officers, especially those in the municipalities, with more tools and knowledge about our programs and on the new provisions of the new national revenue law, Bajador said.

Bajador pointed out that if revenue officers are well equipped or knowledgeable with the new national revenue code, taxpayers would not experience any hassle in knowing and paying their tax obligations. 'Kung kailangan na turuan din natin sila kung paano mag-compute ng tax, so that our taxpayers won't experience any hassle, such as going back and forth in transacting with the bureau, gagawin natin ito,' he said.

Expecting a much higher tax collection target for this year, Bajador he further enhance the bureau's Run After Tax Evaders, tax mapping as well as IEC campaign. This is to reach out to other sectors that were not tax base on and to further drum out registration of non-taxpayers or underground taxpayers.

Bajador also stressed his confidence that the region has a bright prospect for tax collection from the mining sector particularly on small-scale mining.

According to Bajador ,the Cordillera like CARAGA where he was previously assigned, has a very rich potential for mining. 'We have large (mining) taxpayers in CARAGA, we also have small scale mining there. In CAR, we will try our best in taxing them, pero mag-start muna kami sa IEC campaign, to inform them what tax they should comply on what are their tax obligations. We have to start on informing them and move forward from there,' Bajador said./Lito Dar/PIA

Canadian Surgical team back in Another Mission here Next Week-end

Some Baguio boys and girls are coming home for a humanitarian mission next week, bringing in other Filipino expats and Canadians in the medical field, some for the third straight year, for yet another surgical mission at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center.

For nurse Shirley Pinlac Maas, a product of the Baguio City National High School and the BGH School of Nursing, the mission is becoming an annual pilgrimage of sorts since she swung Operation Rainbow Canada to do cleft palate surgery here in 2000.

So with Dr. Norman Peter Blair, a surgeon serving as the team leader for the third straight year to the annual mission at the BGHMC. He led the Health for Humanity mission in 2009 and the GO-MED (Greater Outreach-Medical/Educational Destinations), a non-profit health support group he heads, last year.

As in the past two years, the 31-member mission will do surgery for free, particularly thyroidectomy, laparoscopic/open cholecystectomy (gall bladder), all types of hernia repairs, breast biopsy/mastectomy, abdominal/vaginal. hysterectomy, tubal ligation and all other gynecological procedures.

BGHMC chief, Dr. Manuel Factora has advised indigent patients availing of the services to sign up at the out-patient, surgery and gynecology departments before the start of the mission on Jan. 23.

The visiting team, who will be assisted by their local counterparts, will do surgeries from Jan. 24 to 28 and Jan. 31 to Feb. 3.

As in their previous missions here and other parts of the globe, the team members will bring in their medical supplies and medicines and personally shoulder their fare and other expenses.

Last year, the GO-MED medical

Cont. on page 11

Arts Festival to be highlighted in Panagbenga 2011

The 20th Philippine Arts Festival, a national event, will coincide with the city's celebration of the Panagbenga, thus the integration of numerous arts and cultural-related events will be highlighted during the Flower Festival.

Expected to be enjoyed by the millions of tourists who will come and celebrate with us are the 1st ever Pinikpikan Cook-Off, the 108 Gongs Performance by various elementary and high school students from the city, the installation of the Axis Art Project by renowned Baguio artist Kawayan De Guia, the Cinemarehiyon Festival by the NCCA featuring films shot in Baguio and the Asia-Africa Film Festival.

ON-THE-SPOT WOODCARVING COMPETITION. This will be one of the highlights of the 2011 Ipitik Festival which is integrated in this year's Panagbenga Celebrations./G. Bandoy

Dubbed the 2100 Ipitik Festival, it is an event of cultural re-vitalization that magically celebrates ritual and old ways even as it breaks the rules of tradition and nonchalantly shrugs off all worries about invention, it bridges a gap between generations of Cordillerans and epochs of Cordilleran history, according to Padmapani Perez, an anthropologist based in Baguio.

The Ipitik will also conduct the 2011 search for the Tapuy Master Brewer, the best rice-wine maker in the region. Also an On-the-spot Woodcarving Competition will be held.

The said festival will run from February 20, 2011 until the end of the said month at the Baguio Rose Garden in Burnham Park.

People of the Cordillera are cordially invited to join the competitions. Interested participants may obtain application forms and contact mechanics from the Ipitik Secretariat at VOCAS (Victor Oteyza Community Art Space), La Azotea Building, Session Road, Baguio City. Deadline of submission of application forms for the contests is February 4, 2011 to the Ipitik Secretariat.

The said festival is expected to add more color to the Panagbenga festival as tourists seem to only come here for the floral and street parades, this 2011 is sure to offer more interesting events for them to watch and participate in.

The 2011 Ipitik is spearheaded by Festival Director Ferdinad Balanag, the office of Congressman Vergara and the office of Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan./ Grace Bandoy

4 Local Heroes Awarded Gawad Kalasag

BAGUIO CITY - Three uniformed personnel who lost their lives in trying to rescue victims of typhoons and a mining engineer from Benguet were among those recognized for their heroic acts during the annual Gawad Kalasag Awards held at Camp Aguinaldo last January 12.

Fire Officers 3 Siegfred Ngoloban and Richard Balusdan and Fire Officer 2 Benedict Tumayan of the La Trinidad Bureau of Fire Protection were posthumously awarded the Gawad Kalasag for their heroism.

The three fire officers were responding to a family buried by landslide during the height of typhoon Pepeng in Buyagan, La Trinidad, Benguet, when another erosion occurred killing them. They were able to rescue then four-year-old Evan Dulnuan Guinaran.

Also awarded in the heroic individual category was Philex Mining Corporation Mine Safety Manager Engr. Joel Son.

Engr. Joel Son was recognized for leading a team from Philex Mining Corporation in the search, rescue and recovery of landslide victims in Kias and Cresencia Village, Bokawkan Road in Baguio City and at the Little Kibungan in Puguis, La Trinidad during typhoon Pepeng. He also led in searching for survi-

Cont. on page 11

US Envoy Apologizes

.... from page 3

the way from Baguio, sacrificing their time, effort and money just to get a glimpse of such wisdom and that they wore also their native attire to impress upon Mr. Clinton of his importance.

The letter also stressed that it was ironic for Filipinos to be driven out by a foreigner from a Filipino establishment and there is no experience more painful and excruciating, than telling an IP to put off his or her native attire or put on a shirt to cover it, which is desecration of our culture and an act punishable under the Indigenous People's Rights Act (IPRA), more so awkward to the forum's theme, 'embracing our own humanity'.

The NCIP also stressed that anybody cannot relate to the connection of the native attire worn by Mr. Cayabas and company to the security of Mr. Clinton, as Filipino dignitaries including former President Fidel Ramos, who also attended the occasion even appreciated such attire. **/PIA

PDEA Nabs Gay

.... from page 12

among users of dangerous drugs in the Cordillera Region. The emerging trend of dangerous drugs use in CAR shows that shabu is being marketed in nightspots, gambling dens and call centers; to GROs, taxi and truck drivers, and college students.

Shabu or the so-called "poor man's cocaine", is an stimulant drug. It excites the central nervous system through inability to sleep, increased alertness, alleviated fatigue, and reduced hunger. It is also known to produce psychological and physical dependency characterized by anxiety, tension and craving for the substance. Such substance-seeking behavior can lead to various crimes and other anti-social

Canadian Surgical team

.... from page 10

team did 78 surgeries (seven hernia repairs, 38 gall bladder removals, three mastectomies and 30 ynecological surgeries), did training for local medical personnel and donated a new suction machine for the BGHMC's operating rooms.

This year, Maas serves as mission planner and coordinator, while GOMED vice-president and fund-raising coordinator Lisa Bruhm will come in as mission planner trainee.

With Dr. Blair's surgical team are doctors Ghee Hwang, Robert Roy, Gail Venuto, David Cannell, Roib Hoskin, Rahul Khosia and resident Sonja Baik.

The nurses are Linda Sidloski, Carmen Catzoela, Kristine Johannink, Carol Schriek, Caroline Schoen, Cheryl Sawyer, Phyllis reader, Barb Taylor, Betty Allan, Recsie Dumaran, Nancy Hantleman, Maureen Shaw and Debbie Schwan.

Admission and pre-operation will be handled by Danielle Delves and Jane Sali, together with interpreter Robert Pinlac. Mission finance manager Sam Sarophim will double in photography with James Emmett and Michael Maas, who will be in charge of logistics. Ted Sidlolski and Eileen Verdejo will handle supplies./Ramon Dacawi.

4 Local Heroes Awarded

.... from page 10

vors of the ill-fated presidential helicopter crash in Tinoc, Ifugao in 2009.

Son was also responsible in looking for a group of treasure hunters who went missing in Mayantoc, Tarlac. He also took part in the road-clearing and blasting operations in Ambuklao Road, Tublay Road and Kennon Road.

The Philex rescuers led by Son encountered various types of high-degree risks to their own lives but they successfully rescued survivors and recovered victims in all their missions.

President Benigno Aquino III led the awarding together with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council headed by Chairman Voltaire Gazmin.

Each of the awardees were given plaque and 50, 000 cash incentive.

The wives of Ngoloban and Balusdan received their award, while the award for Tumayan was received by his daughter. Son accepted his award together with his family.

Also cited for its outstanding display of excellence in disaster risk management and humanitarian assistance was the La Trinidad Municipal Police Station .The police station was hailed for adopting the concept of a community-oriented policing system which significantly contributed to their overall success in handling natural and human-induced hazards.

Philex Mining Rescue group and the Baguio-Benguet Public Information and Civic Action Group were also recognized in the heroic act for groups category for their emergency response and rescue operations during times of disasters.

Gawad Kalasag started in 1998 to recognize and reward civilian and government individuals and organizations for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. The award recognizes self-help or voluntary efforts to protect high-risk communities against disasters.

Kalasag is Filipino term for "shield" used by early Filipinos as a means of protection from attacks of enemies or harmful animals. Relatedly, Gawad KAlamidad at Sakuna LAban, SAriling Galing ang Kaligtasan (KALASAG) was conceived to guard and shelter high risk communities against hazards by encouraging participation of various stakeholders in designing and implementing Disaster Risk Management programs./ Redjie Cawis/PIA

Self Adjudication Of The Estate Of JUAN ANANAYO With Simultaneous Deed Of Absolute Sale

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of the late Juan Ananayo who died on June 27, 2004 at Baguio City have executed a self adjudication with simultaneous deed of absolute sale over a motor vehicle and its franchise bearing plate number AYR 348 as per deed executed before Notary Public Robles G. Calabias, per Doc. No. 202; Page No. 41; Book No. LVIII, Series of 2010

Publication Dates January 8, 15 and 22, 2011

10 TONS - Weight Limit

.... from page 6

The road is narrow and is dangerous for vehicles that are long and heavy to traverse Kennon road, he added.

The Regional Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee (RLECC) will help the DPWH office in implementing the 10 tons truck ban.

The Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC),who chairs the RLECC sub-committee on Public Works, Transportation and Communication, with the law enforcement agencies will work on a 24 hours basis to strictly execute the 10 ton gross weight ban.

Kennon Road was ordered built by American governor General William Cameron Forbes in 1901. Originally called Benguet Road, it was named after U.S. Army Colonel Lyman N. Kennon who was its final builder. With the labor of Igorots and some foreign workers, the road was completed in 1903 and has since become a major route to Baguio City. It is the shortest route from the lowlands.

Millions of local and foreign tourists have since marveled at Kennon's alternating steep rises, dips, and sharp turns, splendid waterfalls and lush vegetation.

However, after almost 100 years of constant use, natural wear and tear aggravated by earthquakes and strong typhoons, some sections of Kennon Road became hazardous./ joseph b zambrano/pia

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

SPS. SAMUEL & JULIE ROSE CAPUYAN
Applicant
Case No: 2004-BAG-CAR-031

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and 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 on January 31,2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) 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 21th day of December 2011.

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

Affidavit of Self Adjudication

Notice is hereby given that the heir of the late Revino Garambas who died on August 10, 2009 at Sablan, Benguet have executed an affidavit of self adjudication over a motor vehicle and its franchise bearing plate number AYK 861 as per Affidavit executed before Notary Public Bartolome Baldas Jr., per Doc. No. 20; Page No. 04; Book No. 91, Series of 2010

Publication Dates January 8, 15 and 22, 2011

The JUNCTION
Pahayagang Palaban!!!

Lawmaker Welcomes PCGG Abolition But not after all assets accounted

Sen. Chiz Escudero is backing proposal to abolish the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), saying the agency's existence is overdue.

The new officials of the PCGG are eyeing to close down the operation of the agency in two years' time after 25 years of recovering monies and properties illegally acquired by the Marcoses and their cronies.

PCGG Chairman Andres said that before the abolition, the commission will turn over all pending litigation against the Marcoses and their cronies to the Department of Justice, while the assets recovered and confiscated to the Department of Finance.

"I agree to the proposal by the current PCGG officials, however, an audit and accounting of all the sequestered assets and its value at that time, especially those that have since been dissipated as well, should be made," Escudero said.

Escudero said the commission should also be able to present to the public the present value of its forfeited assets to address allegations against the PCGG that its officials helped squander the little assets the agency had recovered.

"This is important, to make public all the compromise deals the commission has made in the past. How much did the state gain or lose?" Escudero said.

Escudero said the move to turn over pending cases and the recovered assets to different agencies of the government will augur well for the state's coffers. "It's one less funding for the government which really needs to judiciously appropriate funds to more important things such as education," he added./ Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

PDEA Nabs Gay Pusher in Baguio City

BAGUIO CITY - A homosexual drug pusher was nabbed last January 7 by agents of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency – Cordillera Administrative Region (PDEA- CAR) in a buy bust operation.

The gay drug pusher was identified as Cris Mansion Peñaflor alias "Tita Cris", 36, single, elementary school graduate, pimp, native of Manila and resident of Lower Quirino Hill, Baguio City.

According to PDEA, Penaflor is recorded in the Target List of Drug Personalities. He also is reportedly serving as runner of a very notorious and long-existing drug group in Baguio City allegedly closely affiliated with the Bahala Na Gang.

During the buy-bust operation at a waiting shed in Lower Quirino Hill, Penaflor tried to evade arrest by attempting to outrun the drug law enforcement officers and by swallowing the sachet of shabu, which he just sold for P500 to the agent who posed as buyer.

When frisked by the anti-drug operatives, Peñaflor yielded another sachet of the illegal drug. Also recovered from the suspect was the marked P500 bill buy-bust money.

Cases for violations of Section 5 (Sale of Dangerous Drugs) and Section 11 (Possession of Dangerous Drugs) of Republic Act 9165 (The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002) were filed against Peñaflor before the Office of the City Prosecutor of Baguio City, docketed under IS Number INQ-11-0048.

Investigations reveal that Peñaflor peddles shabu mostly to Guest Relation Officers (GROs) and truck drivers.

Emelyn Fama, Information Officer of PDEA CAR said shabu remains to be a preference

Cont. on page 11

Mayor Bares Timetable for Asin Minihydro Project

BAGUIO CITY – The city government aims to bid out the Asin minihydroelectric plants operation in February, Mayor Mauricio Domogan announced last Wednesday.

The mayor said the draft terms of reference (TOR) for the project which have undergone several revisions have been submitted for finalization in last week's meeting of the Asin hydro technical working group.

He said he is confident that the TOR will be completed before the end of the month for submission to the city council for approval.

"Hopefully, the city council will approve the TOR immediately so that by February, the city could start sending out notices of invitation for bidding to various interested companies," the mayor said.

The privatization of the plants' operations has long been pushed by the city government to restore the viability of the facilities which slackened under its management due to lack of funds and expertise.

However, it failed to materialize as conflict persisted between the city government and the landowners whose properties are affected by the plants' pipelines and facilities over compensation issues that also marred the formulation of the TOR needed to jumpstart the bidding process.

The privatization efforts took off only in October last year when the two parties settled their dispute and entered a compromise agreement resolving reparation issues that in the past resulted to disruption of the plants' operations and even led to a court case between the parties.

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

The other terms under the agreement are that the landowners will have representation in the Bids and Awards Committee to witness the bidding process; and be entitled to privileges and other priority projects; priority in employment to the plant; scholarship programs for the heirs and subsidy in electric bills./A Refuerzo

DIRT-FREE MARKET. Volunteer ambulant vendors at the Baguio Public Market and officers of the Baguio Fire Station join forces to clean up the streets along Kayang Road in Hilltop. The two groups said this clean-up activity will be a regular project of theirs to ensure cleanliness in the City's market area to be able to attract more tourists and impress local citizens as well. / G. Bandoy

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