

THE WEEKEND JUNCTION



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

Pahayagang palaban!!!

NCIP Grants Injunction For Busol Squatters



OVER EXTENSION - Even the sidewalk along Lower Bonifacio Street fronting Saint Louis University is not spared by greedy vendors and businessmen further congesting the area to the detriment of the public./By Bong Cayabyab

BAGUIO CITY – National Commission on Indigenous Peoples Cordillera (NCIP-CAR) hearing officer Brain Masweng granted the petition for writ of preliminary injunction of the occupants of illegal structures within the Busol watershed.

This after the city government filed contempt charges against the hearing officer before the Supreme Court.

Masweng in two orders dated August 14 issued the writs of preliminary injunction against the city of Baguio, the city building and architecture office, the

public order and safety division and the Baguio demolition team “ordering them to refrain, cease and desist from implementing Demolition Advice dated May 20, 2009, Demolition Order NO. 33 series of 2005, Demolition Advice dated July 20, 2009 and Demolition Order No. 69 series of 2002.

The demolition orders cover the structures of Alexander Ampaguey Sr., Julio Daluyen Sr., Concepcion Padang, Carmen Panayo, Magdalena Gumangan, Marion Pool, Lourdes Hermogeno,

Cont. on page 10

LG KOMENTARYO, ISANG PALAISIPAN

MGA TAXI NA BULOK para sa isang tourist city na katulad ng Baguio?! Go to page 7

DOH Monitors Compliance On Maximum Drug Retail PricesP2

Alay Sa Kalinisan judges appointed..P3

BENECO Asked To Replace Posts....P3

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

on page 5

Filipino parents a failure in properly raising up their children

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



FAIR AND SQUARE

on page 5

On Being Fair, Just And Equitable

BY JAMES S. VALEROS



Anong karapatan nitong NCIP na suwayin ang korte Suprema?!!



Itawes Police Officer Gets Star Rank....P12

Baguio Emergency Response Groups Win National Awards.....P12

Gov't pays P1.67-B Daily in debt payments

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero said yesterday the government is paying its creditors about P1.67 billion daily to pay off its current debt of P4.8 trillion pesos, and it will increase further as it borrows even more to make up for shrinking revenues.

"Our daily debt service bill alone of P1.67-B is more than enough to fund the budget of the Philippine General Hospital for 2009. It is enough to construct 757 school buildings with four classrooms each and will wipe out the country's 40,000 classroom shortage in approximately two

weeks," he pointed out.

Last year, Bureau of Treasury statistics show that P612.7 billion of the total national government budget was allocated for debt servicing — a staggering P1.67 billion a day. At least P340.5 billion was used to cover the principal, while P272.2 billion was allotted to cover interest payments.

According to reports, National Treasurer Roberto Tan has confirmed plans to raise over US\$2 billion in foreign commercial borrowings next year, higher than earlier planned, to finance a bigger-than-expected budget deficit.

Escudero also debunked the Palace claim that the administration did not rack up debts totaling P2.4 trillion from 2001 to 2005, far bigger than the previous three administrations.

"The Palace should look harder. On the BSP website (http://www.bsp.gov.ph/spei_2006/tab27.htm), they will find that total gross domestic and foreign borrowings from 2001 to 2005 totalled 2.439 trillion," Escudero said.

The Arroyo government doubled the country's national debt from P2.8 trillion in 2001 to P4.8 trillion last year, according to

Cont. on page 10

Anti-Torture Bill Requires Military, Police To Bare All Detention Centers

Opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero said yesterday the reconciled anti-torture bill requires the military and police to submit a monthly report listing all detention centers, including safe houses, to the Commission on Human Rights (CHR).

"Once passed into law, we expect the authorities to disclose this information on a regular basis. No more secret hideouts or holding areas where detainees may

be subjected to torture," said the 39-year old lawmaker.

"Those who torture people, especially for their political beliefs, should be put away for life. Torture has no place in today's society," he said.

The reconciled anti-torture bill, which was approved by the bicameral conference on Monday, penalizes those who maintain secret detention centers or fail to include a detention center in the list provided to the CHR.

Escudero, chair of the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights, said he expects both Houses of Congress to ratify the consolidated version by next week. The proposed law seeks to penalize perpetrators of torture, particularly persons in authority or those acting on their behalf.

"Every Filipino's hope is for the President to sign the anti-torture bill as soon as it reaches her desk," he said.

Cont. on page 10

Lawaker sees senate okay of rewards For whistleblowers, Witness protection program

After the speedy approval of the anti-torture bill in the bicameral committee conference this week, opposition Sen. Chiz Escudero yesterday said he will now focus his efforts in getting the Senate to pass two measures aimed at curbing corruption in government.

In a statement, Escudero said that

now up for approval on third reading are measures that would empower both houses of Congress to craft its own witness protection program and set up a reward system for whistleblowers on grafters in government.

"These two measures will further deter the commission of graft and corruption in government and will reward those who

risk everything to testify against thieves plying their trade in the corridors of power," said Escudero who co-authored both bills.

The proposed Whistleblowers Act sets up a reward system for those who will step forward and expose graft and corruption in government.

The highest reward is P5 million if the testimony of the

Cont. on page 10

DOH Monitors Compliance On Maximum Drug Retail Prices

BAGUIOCITY—President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, through Executive Order 821, prescribed a Maximum Drug Retail Price to selected drugs and medicines that took effect August 15.

In a Kapihan forum Wednesday, Department of Health (DOH-CAR) Health Operations Division head, Dr. Amelita Pangilinan stressed that this would be a

big help in improving the plight of our poor people, through access on quality and low cost medicines.

According to Pangilinan, the DOH through the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD), is now strictly monitoring the compliance of drugstores and hospital pharmacies to EO 821 and constantly submitting their monitoring reports to their central

office "on-line", for a faster and real time monitoring of related drug/medicine prices, in the region.

"There are already monitoring systems in place to assure the strict compliance on EO 821. BFAD was tasked to go-around and report compliance report to the DOH central office on line and we are also now educating the public on the EO.

Cont. on page 10



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Odell "Bombito" Aquino - OIC

Atty. Thomas Tayengco-Legal Adviser

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Gerry P. Binwagan
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BENECO Asked To Replace Posts

BAGUIO CITY – The city council approved a resolution authored by Councilor Nicasio Palaganas “demanding that (Benguet Electric Cooperative Inc.) replace its concrete electric posts all over the city with stronger and sturdier ones without awaiting the results of the investigation why these posts were ever installed when they are easily toppled by the slightest gust of wind during storms.” Palaganas said that the City Disas-

ter Coordinating Council (CDCC) reported hundreds of fallen electric posts in the city and Benguet over the three days of continuous rains brought by typhoon “Kiko” last week. “According to the city disaster coordinating council, the concrete electric posts falling in the city were toppled down by slight gusts of wind, unlike most of those in Benguet where falling trees nearby or their falling branches contributed to their top-

pling down,” Palaganas noted. He said this latest incident of falling Beneco concrete electric posts “is another proof that these concrete electric posts are fragile and made of unsuitable materials, like 8 mm – 10 mm short reinforcing bars and spliced assembled wires about 10 mm – 12 mm in diameter, and were so poorly built that they could not withstand stormy gusts of wind.”

Cont. on page 10



LAST PGMA SCHOLARS. Welding trainees under the PGMA Scholarship program of the TESDA - CAR in Loakan test the new Electrode Holders donated by Atty. Faustino Olowan last Friday, said donation will help the trainees in effectively practicing the skills being acquired under the welding program at TESDA. They are part of the last batch of the PGMA Scholarship. Future trainees will soon have to pay for their training, thus the call to invite sponsors in providing scholarships to deserving future trainees./By Grace Bandy.

Alay Sa Kalinisan judges appointed

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Reynaldo Bautista, Jr. through an Administrative Order issued last week has appointed members of the board of judges for the continuance of the Barangay Clean and Green Contest for this year. The program, spearheaded by the city government serves to intensify the efforts of the barangays, non-government organizations, various sectors and most specially, residents of the city to maintain cleanliness in their respective surroundings.

“There is a need to inspect and evaluate the accomplishments of the barangays relative to criteria set for the contest,” the AO from the mayor stated. Contest winners, for individu-

als and groups, shall be given cash prizes and plaques. Art Tibaldo and Doming Urbano of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall oversee Garbage Disposal Areas, Waste Segregation Areas and Compost Pits; Reynaldo Umayat of the Department of Education will look over school and sports areas. Police Officer Ruben Tamiray of the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) has for his responsibility cleanliness in turning points, parking, loading

and unloading areas, computer shops and side walks. Eufronia Muyano of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-CAR) looks over main streets and residential areas; Tess Manzano of the Alay Sa Kalinisan, Inc., shall be responsible for looking over the materials recovery facility (MRF), junk and recycling areas; Kristoffer Dance of the Public Order and Safety Division, for Business areas and satellite

Cont. on page 11

Centennial Activities On

BAGUIO CITY. The slated centennial activities may be traditional or innovative but will surely cater to people of all ages and inclinations, as September 1 draws near, with varied goings-on in chosen venues around the city. All activities revolve around the theme, “Fostering a Culture of Caring.” This August 27, the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Baguio (HRAB) sponsors a Centennial Quiz Bee, as Maryknoll Sanctuary Gallery

presents the “Baguio then and now: Aerials, Panoramic Views and Re-photography exhibit. On August 29, a presentation “Sampong Dekada,” shall be held at the Baguio City High School Auditorium, while a Music Festival Grand Finals, “Kalikasan at Kabuhayan” goes on at the Baguio Convention Center. A “Karadkad” Health Festival also goes on until August 30 at the Melvin Jones, Burnham Park.

Earlier activities include arts workshops, musical and cultural shows, educational and entertainment programs, golf tournaments, fellowships and religious celebrations, tree planting and floral shows.

On August 30, the Baguio Triathlon takes place, while on the 31st, a Sister City International Summit takes place, with SM City having “Our Baguio: 100.” On September 1, the city wakes with the pealing of all church bells and sounding off of sirens at 6 AM. A “Mambunong performs a Bakdiw (chant) at upper Session road, as the centennial parade starts at 8 AM. Four floats shall be fielded along with the parade; the Centennial Float, Flower City Float, Wood Carving Float and “Abong” Float, showing Baguio’s evolution through the years. The Baguio Centennial Program starts at 11AM at the Athletic Bowl, Burnham Park where centennial awardees shall be

Cont. on page 11

RESEARCH & STATISTICS

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We believe that the Golden Rule applies to animals, too. We don't accept the prevailing notion that "people come first" or that "people are more important than animals." Animals feel pain and suffer just as we do, and it is almost always humans making animals suffer and not the other way around. Yet in spite of how cruelly people behave towards animals – not to mention human cruelty to other humans- we are supposed to believe that humans are superior to other animals. If people want to fancy themselves as being of greater moral worth than the other creatures on this earth, we should begin behaving better than they do, and not worse. Let's start treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves.

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno

www.linisgobyerno.org

Ninoy's "Undelivered Speech"

(This is the entire statement as it appears in "A Testimony by Ninoy," a pamphlet published on September 1, 1983 by the Human Development Research and Documentation office of the La Ignaciana Apostolic Center as Human Society No. 21)

I have returned on my free will to join the ranks of those struggling to restore our rights and freedoms through nonviolence.

I seek no confrontation. I only pray and will strive for a genuine national reconciliation founded on justice.

I am prepared for the worst, and have decided against the advice of my mother, my spiritual adviser, many of my tested

EDITORIAL

friends and a few of my most valued political mentors.

A death sentence awaits me. Two more subversion charges, both calling for death penalties, have been filed since I left three years ago and are now pending with the courts.

I could have opted to seek political asylum in America, but I feel it is my duty, as it is the duty of every Filipino, to suffer with his people especially in time of crisis.

I never sought nor have I been given assurances or promise of leniency by the regime. I return voluntarily armed only with a clear conscience and fortified in the faith that in the end justice will emerge triumphant.

According to Gandhi, the WILLING sacrifice of the innocent is the most powerful answer to insolent tyranny that has yet been conceived by God and man.

Three years ago when I left for an emergency heart bypass operation, I hoped and prayed that the rights and freedoms of our people would soon be restored, that living conditions would improve and that blood-letting would stop.

Rather than move forward, we have moved backward. The killings have increased, the economy has taken a turn for the worse and the human rights situation has deteriorated.

During the martial law period, the Supreme Court heard petitions for Habeas Corpus. It is most ironic, after martial law has allegedly been lifted, that the Supreme Court last April ruled it can no longer entertain petitions for Habeas Corpus for persons detained under a Presidential Commitment Order, which covers all so-called national security cases and which under present circumstances can cover almost anything.

The country is far advanced in her times of trouble. Economic, social and political problems bedevil the Filipino. These problems may be surmounted if we are united. But we can be united only if all the rights and freedoms enjoyed before September 21, 1972 are fully restored.

The Filipino asks for nothing more, but will surely accept nothing less, than all the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the 1935 Constitution — the most sacred legacies from the Founding Fathers.

Yes, the Filipino is patient, but there is a limit to his patience. Must we wait until that patience snaps?

The nation-wide rebellion is escalating and threatens to explode into a bloody revolution. There is a growing cadre of young Filipinos who have finally come to realize that freedom is never granted, it is taken. Must we relive the agonies and the blood-letting of the past that brought forth our Republic or can we sit down as brothers and sisters and discuss our differences with reason and goodwill?

I have often wondered how many disputes could have been settled easily had the disputants only dared to define their terms.

So as to leave no room for misunderstanding, I shall define my terms:

1. Six years ago, I was sentenced to die before a firing squad

Cont. on page 9



PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

NCIP above the law???
Mga bulok na Taxi – OK pa!!!

BY: ODELL "BOMBITO" AQUINO



THE BRAIN MAN- Atty. Brain Masweng ang sikat na hearing officer ng NCIP. Paanong hindi magiging sikat ang abogagong ito este abogadong ito eh pangalan pa lang sikat na, as in Brain Masweng, oh kita niyo na mga dear readers. Ang ibig sabihin nito ay itong si Atty. Masweng ang siya lamang may Brain at tayong lahat, lahat ng opisyal ng Baguio pati na ang Korte Suprema ay walang **BRAIN**. Hi!Hi!Hi! Ngunit sa aking palagay, itong si Atty. Brain Masweng ay feeling untouchable, bakit mga dear readers, nakalimutan na ba ninyo na ang NCIP ay under the office of the President?!!! Kaya abangan na lang natin mga dear readers kung ma-sa-cite for contempt ng Korte Suprema itong si Atty. Brain "Untouchable" Masweng.

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OLD TAXI GOOD AS NEW- Base sa aking pag-unawa hinggil sa liham mismo ni Atty. Federico Mandapat ang Regional Director ng DOTC-CAR (basahin ang kanyang liham sa pahayagang ito sa pahina 7). Ang isang luma at bulok na taxi na mahigit 13 years old at expired na ang franchise ay maaari pang ma-revive at mabigyan uli ng panibagong prangkisa na good for another 13 years. Ye-he-hey. Ye-he-hey. Bery Gud! Bery Gud! Ayan mga dear readers, malinaw na sinasabi na pu-pwedeng ma extend ang prangkisa ng mga sasakyan na kahit na bulok na at luma na at lampas na sa kinaukulang taon ng serbisyo basta mapalitan lamang ang chassis ay OK na. Bery Gud! Bery Gud! Mabuhay ka Atty. Federico Mandapat! Ang iyong pag-payag ng ganitong diskita este diskarte ay isang makataong hakbangin at para sa ikabubute ng lahat, lalo na ang mga operator ng mga bulok na sasakyan na hindi na makabili ng bagong sasakyan. Marami talaga kayong matutulungan. Hinggil dito at makaka-asa kayo na mas marami akong ma-irerekomenda na pupunta sa inyong opisina para hingin ang inyong tulong. Mabuhay kayo Atty. Federico Mandapat. At kayo naman na may mga bagong taxi na naiinggit sa mga luma at bulok na sasakyan kung saan kapareho niyo na ang mga ito sa modelo, aba eh mahina kayo, hindi ninyo alam itong ganitong istayl eh. SORI na lang kayo.

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Sa susunod na isyu ng pahayagang ito ay ating tatalakayin at hihimayin ng husto ang requirements for processing for titling ng ancestral land claims. Ag isang layunin natin ay para mabigyan ng konting linaw ang ilang mga opisyal na nagbubulag bulagan at nag tatanga tangahan. **ABANGAN !!!**

FAIR AND SQUARE

On Being Fair, Just And Equitable

BY: JAMES S. VALEROS



There is something unexplainable when while LTFRB-CAR is questioning the franchises or Certificates of Public Convenience, CPCs for short, issued to PUJ and taxi operators between the years from 1996 to 2006 for possible violations of the moratorium under LTFRB Memorandum Circulars No. 96-002 and No. 98-026, it does not do the same with the CPCs of van operators or holders of CPCs under Vehicle for Hire service.

Pardon me, but I believe this is wrong if we go by the fact that LTFRB-CAR is not only poised but already accepting applications for conversion of UV and Vehicle for Hire service to GT or Garage to Terminal Service, without doubting and questioning at all whether or not these vans or vehicles for hire have also violated the moratorium.

For if they did, which is the case as will be shown shortly following, then it is improper and inequitable to automatically convert the CPCs of the vehicles for hire to GT service while the CPCs of the PUJ and taxi service are being questioned and held for possible sanctions

To my mind, the CPCs or franchises of all these vans under vehicle for hire denominations were issued mostly, if not all, between the period when vehicle for hire was adopted as a mode of service in 1997 until it was supplanted by the policy of conversion under Point-to-Point (P2P) Express Service in 2005 and later under the Garage to Terminal (GT) Service in 2007. Since the grant of these CPCs for vehicle for hire coincided with the period of moratorium but the applicants did not secure the consent of the LGU or any resolution coming from the City Council recommending their exemption to existing moratorium, then they were irregularly issued in violation of the rules of the Board, moratorium Circular No. 98-026, in particular.

It will be recalled that when the CPC applications of these vehicles for hire were being filed with the LTFRB, they were opposed or contested by no less than the City Mayor then, Mayor Bernie Vergara, and some of the City Councilors and cause oriented citizens, including the DOTC-CAR Regional Director now, former Councilor Atty. Federico Mandapat, Jr. However, all LTFRB Regional Directors during the period preferred to frustrate the desires of Local Government and granted these franchises just the same, in gross disrespect to our local officials and the resident public, and in patent breach of its own rules.

The Resolution allegedly secured by the Cordillera Van Federation from the City Council recommending their exemption from the existing moratorium in BLIST for purposes of conversion to GT Service will not cure the irregularities in the grant of these Vehicle for Hire franchises in violation of the moratorium. Therefore, we believe they should also be questioned by LTFRB-CAR just like the PUJs and taxi franchises, before they would be allowed to be converted to GT service — **to be fair, just and equitable.**

My point here is that if the CPCs of vans or vehicles for hire are assumed regular and valid for purpose of conversion, then LTFRB-CAR should also extend and apply the same presupposition as a policy, to all other CPCs or operators of PUJs who, in fact, are merely applying for extension of validity of their franchises.

The other point is that why extend the privilege of conversion to GT Service to only the Cordillera Van Federation? In the first place, the Federation is not a franchise holder, a Utility Vehicle or Vehicle for Hire unit entitled to this conversion. What is there in the Federation that other vans or vehicle for hire operators do not have? Relation, money or influence, the latter are just asking?

My last point is that in fairness to the city and its residents, the City Council should not only propose but also be disposed to

Cont. on page 9

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Filipino parents a failure in properly raising up their children

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



FILIPINO YOUTH GROWING UP TO BE VIOLENT: If ever anyone of us is still trying to determine whether we, Filipino parents, failed in our duty to bring up our children properly, the GMA Network "24 Oras" news exclusive on young boys and girls having a rumble in the middle of Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City Wednesday night was one stark proof that we are failures in child rearing—and in nation-building as well.

If we collate this incident with reports of the young freely mixing it up with one another in other places in the country, particularly in Baguio City, the picture becomes clearer: the future of a peaceful Philippines is indeed very grim, and what is slowly unfolding is a widespread tendency to be violent among the future generations of Filipinos.

We parents must admit we failed to heed the Biblical admonition on raising our kids properly, found particularly in Proverbs 22:6, which says: "Train the child in the way that he should go, and when he grows old, he will never depart from it."

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FILIPINO PARENTS FAILED TO BRING UP THEIR CHILDREN PROPERLY: Either we did not train our children at all, busy as we were with other things while they were growing up, or we simply failed to give them any training, not knowing any better.

What is more telling is that, we failed to heed the command for all of us parents, under Deuteronomy 6:7-9, that we should teach our children to love God above all else wherever we maybe, or whatever we maybe doing.

Deuteronomy 6:7-9 is quite categorical and insistent on teaching our children about love of God. Listen: "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

Whatever it is, we will surely reap our rewards for this failure. For in Ecclesiastes 12:14, the assurance is that God will bring every deed to judgment, whether good or bad, whether hidden or known.

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PRIMER ON OVERSEAS ABSENTEE VOTING LAW, PART I: Someone from the yahoo group "OFW-News" who goes by the monicker "Moonglow" uploaded the other night some kind of a primer on overseas absentee voting, posted earlier by GMA.tv.

Because of its significance among overseas Filipino workers who may want to exercise their right to vote in 2010, I am reprinting this primer here, directly taken from Moonglow's posting, so the public may know:

"Q. Who are qualified to vote as overseas absentee voters? A. All citizens of the Philippines abroad, who are not disqualified by law, and who are at least 18 years of age on the day of the elections.

"Q. Who are disqualified to vote as overseas absentee voters? A. Under the OAVA, the following are disqualified to vote: • Those who lost their Filipino citizenship; • Those who expressly renounce their Philippine citizenship and pledge allegiance to a foreign country, except dual citizens as referred to under Republic Act No. 9225;

"• Those who are convicted in a final judgment by a court or a tribunal of an offense punishable by imprisonment of not less than one (1) year, including those found guilty of disloyalty as defined in Art. 137 of the Revised Penal Code;

"• An immigrant or a permanent resident who is recognized as such in the host country; and • Any citizen of the Philippines

Cont. on page 9

CORDI NAWI

*The Papal Letter on Sunday
(10th of a Series)*

BY: EMILIO LIWANEN



Human Traditions

The words of Jesus Christ originally addressed to the Jewish teachers of his day could rightfully be applied to the Roman teachers of today. Jesus warns His followers to flee from observing the traditions and commandments of men, because observing them would constitute open disobedience of the law of God. "He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men [such as Sunday observance]. For laying aside the commandment of God [such as the fourth commandment, which commands us to observe Sabbath as a day of rest], ye hold the tradition of men... Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition." Mark 7:6-9.

There is a Spanish proverb which says, "por tradición se perdió el mundo." It means "by tradition the world was lost." The great apostasy of the Constantine era was caused by the infiltration pagan traditions of men which called themselves Christians.

A Foreshadow of the Future

After citing Constantine's civil Sunday Law, John Paul II hints in section 64 that his followers should work today towards enacting new civil legislation calling for Sunday observance. "It would therefore be wrong to see in this legislation of the rhythm of the week a mere historical circumstance with no special significance for the Church and which she could simply set aside."

The papacy is working actively but diplomatically to revive its ancient supremacy and its ancient traditions. Surprisingly, in America, a land traditionally Protestant, a significant majority of the congressmen and congresswomen of the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., identify themselves as Roman Catholic. Even in the United States Supreme Court, a meaningful proportion of the nine justices in Roman Catholic.

Through its militant order, the Society of Jesus, the papacy carries out worldwide its secret agenda. Members of the society, called Jesuits, through their scholastic influence, openly indoctrinate the minds of the affluent young who attend Catholic schools, colleges, and universities. Jesuits, with their fundamental principle being "the end justifies the means," have infiltrated most major denominations and governments, either in person or through their pupils, and are devoted to "the re-establishment of the papal supremacy" and Sunday civil observance.

The historical heritage of the Jesuits is sufficient to foreshadow the coming papal-protestant world supremacy. The order was originally established in the 16th century by a former Spanish soldier to overthrow Protestantism. It was part of the papacy's "counter-reformation measures." Speaking on the Jesuits, E.G. White wrote, "Cut off from earthly ties and human interests, dead to the claims of natural affection, reason and conscience wholly silenced, they knew no rule, no tie, but that of their order, and no duty but to extend its power." "There was no crime too great for them to commit, no deception too base for them to practice, no disguise too difficult for them to assume." "[Under] the sacred name of Jesus, who went about doing good, the most criminal and deadly purposes were often concealed." "By this code, lying, theft, perjury, assassination, were not only pardonable but commendable, when they served the interests of the church. Under various disguises the Jesuits worked their way into offices of state, climbing up to be the counselors of kings, and shaping the policy of nations. They became servants, to act as spies upon their masters. They established colleges for the sons of princes and nobles, and schools for the common people; and the children of Protestant parents were drawn into an observance of popish

Cont. on page 9

IT Businessmen Optimistic Of The Economy

TRINIDAD, Benguet— The effect of global financial crisis where even multi-national companies cut cost by massive lay off of workers, shorter workdays and time or even total shutdown of operations seem to have not affected much this capital town with entrepreneurs confident about the way business is going.

Valley Bread's Eric Espadero said business is still relatively stable, although he admitted that there was a 20% decrease in their sales with consumers buying less due to cost-cutting. Their supply of raw materials also decreased, affecting production.

Despite these, Espadero said there was

est rates, and monitoring prices so that unscrupulous businessmen will not take advantage of the consumers.

Meanwhile, Alex Berad, proprietor of Saparan Livestock said they are experiencing stiffer competition these days because there are more farmer-businessmen venturing into livestock. "Farmers who bring their fresh vegetable to the lowlands haul livestock and poultry products back here," he explained.

"We have all-weather roads now that a lot of farmers have also invested in their own trucking business. Besides, livestock business is quite easier to manage than other businesses where they have trade secrets

like in the case of maintaining tasty and delicious breads by Valley Bread," he added.

But like Espadero, Berad remains optimistic that their sales will also soon pick up. "Election period is just around the corner and because of the practice of serving "pinikpikan" during gatherings or campaigns by Benguet politicians, we will still prevail," he added.

"We just have to look at the brighter side of things all the time. I believe our economy is on the rise and local economy will pick up fast for as long the private and government sector complement each other," Berad said. / JB Zambrano/PIA

no retrenchment in Valley Bread. He is optimistic that with the dollar remittances going up, local consumers have more cash to buy goods.

Espadero said he believes the government is doing its part in helping the business sector, in terms of financial assistance by providing loans with affordable inter-

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

SAMMY D. MOGA
Applicant

Case No:2004-BAG-CAR-0921

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA - LA TRINIDAD and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on Sept 8, 2009 at 9:00 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.

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 FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 119th day of August 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer



Linis Gobyerno

MGA TAXI NA BULOK para sa isang tourist city na katulad ng Baguio?!



Isang luma na pam-pasaherong behikulo (taxi) mahigit trese anyos (13 years old) maaari palang mabigyan ng extension ng prangkisa na parang panibagong prangkisa basta't magpalit lamang ng chasis ng sasakyan? Ito ba ay totoo, ito ba ay ligal??? Good news sa mga may-ari ng mga lumang sasakyan, mag palit lang kayo ng chassis at OK na, hanap buhay na muli!!! Bad news para sa publiko, bulok at lumang mga taxi ang inyong masasakyan, enjoy your not so safe ride. Saan kayo papanig? Ating malalaman sa mga darating na araw kung ano ba talaga ang legal at tama hinggil sa isyu na ito.

Sa dakong ito ay ating pupunahin at kokomentaryohan ang liham ni Atty. Federico Mandapat na inyong mababasa sa kanang bahagi ng pahinang ito!

1. The narration of office procedures on franchising and registration of Public Utility Vehicles, not to mention the face lifting in the response letter of Director Mandapat, were superfluous (referring to par. 2 to 6, 9 & 10 of the Letter). They were not relevant and necessary to be able to answer the questions / issues posed by Linis Gobyerno. Kung ano man ang silbi ng useless na kiao-kiao na ito ay wala rin naman!!!

2. Kaya nga tumawag muna itong si Atty. Valeros sa LTO bago niya sinulat ang kanyang colum/artikulo; in fact mismong ang hepe ng LTO na si Mrs. Teodora Caguicla ang kanyang nakausap at kinompirma mismo ng LTO na mayroon silang na irehistro na Toyota FX taxi circa 1996 as model 2009, by mere changing of chassis. Sapat na dapat ang impormasyon na ito na nagmumula sa publiko o kung sino mang Juan Dela Cruz para kay Director Mandapat to have acted motu proprio to ask directly Mrs. Caguicla if the report is true; and if true, what are the particular taxis registered. Why still expect Atty. Valeros to identify or describe the particular taxi when he has all the power and capacity to do that! The Director is being naïve and is trying to "escape between horns" so to speak. **ANO BA NAMAN YAN R.D. MANDAPAT, NAG TATANGA-TANGAHAN KABA O ANO???**

3. Tutuo na maraming nai-file na mga petition for change of chassis itong si Atty. Valeros na nireport kay RD Manapat nitong si Mr. Edilberto Bungaoen, Acting CTDO of LTFRB-CAR; **however, not one thereof involved petition for change chassis of taxi.** Precisely, Atty. Valeros knew that it is prohibited by Dept. Order No. 96-965, as amended by Dept. Order No. 2004-12 which reckons the phasing-out of taxi units based on **DATE OF MANUFACTURE**, not change of chassis or the rebuilt of taxi unit, as what Mr. Bungaoen probably still believes and further insists.

4. Ano kaya ang ibig sabihin nitong si Mr. Bungaoen ng kanyang sinabi ang "A talk without basis/proof is just a gossip to be trampled upon?" Marahil ay he will trample upon the face of LTFRB Chairman Alberto Suansing who was the one who said during the meeting with the Regional Directors in Pacdal on 24 July 2009 **that changing the chassis of taxi units model 1996 will not do to convert it into Model 2009.** In fact, he further suspected that the chassis was not even changed at all but "pinukpok lang," based on his experience as former LTO Chairman.

5. Kung tutuo nga na hindi involved at walang kinalaman itong si RD Mandapat sa mga nagaganap, bakit hindi na lang niya sagutin ng diretsahan ang tanong imbisna sasabihin niya na ito ay "totally unfair, baseless and unfounded accusation." Or, why doesn't he require Mrs. Caguicla to explain, especially after Chairman Suansing had given his opinion formally at the Directors Meeting? Or, why did he not require Mrs. Caguicla to explain why she allowed the Coekin Taxis with Plate Nos. AYR-600 & AYR-799 to be registered as Model 2009 in the manner taken by him when he required the nine (9) LTO personnel to explain for "upgrading the year model of taxis. Is it probable that Director Mandapat did not know the taxis above registered by Mrs Caguicla when almost all in the LTO premises knows it?

6. Sa pagiging maiwas at pasikot-sikot at hindi direktahang pag-sagot ni RD Mandapat ang mga katanungan ng Linis Gobyerno

Cont. on page 10

August 7, 2009

MR. ODELL P. AQUINO

Director for Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices
Lines Gobyerno, Inc.

Dear Mr. Aquino:

In response to your letter dated July 15, 2009 and received by this office on July 16, 2009, allow me to narrate to you our office procedures for franchising and registration of public utility vehicles.

A Certificate of Public Convenience (CPC) or franchise for short is issued to an applicant by the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) and is valid for FIVE (5) YEARS extendible for the same period upon application. This franchise could however be suspended or cancelled for violation of the terms and conditions thereof.

Registration of motor vehicles on the other hand is done by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) where the details of the vehicle are indicated such as the **year model**, chassis and engine numbers, color, make and such other matters to describe the vehicle are indicated.

The LTFRB relies on the year model of the vehicle as indicated in the Certificate of Registration (CR) issued by the LTO in determining whether or not the public utility vehicle (PUV) such as a taxicab, is still qualified for registration in line with the thirteen (13) years maximum period pursuant to Department Order (DO) No. 96-965 as amended by DONo.2004-12.

A franchise can exist even without a motor vehicle such as when the owner of the franchise files a Dropping or Substitution of the motor vehicle subject of the franchise for being either phased out due to the thirteen (13) year period or it becomes no longer road worthy before the expiration of the 13 year period. The LTFRB and LTO conducts an inspection of the motor vehicle if it is still road worthy prior to their approval of the application for substitution of a dropped unit and eventual registration.

There had been instances in the past where old model vehicles were given a current year model such as those imported second hand motor vehicles thru Subic bay, Cebu or Fort Irene in Cagayan province, are given the year model by the LTO on the same year they were first registered here in the Philippines and these vehicles are being substituted for phased out or dilapidated PUVs. So the year model as appearing in the CR issued by the LTO is controlling.

Atty. James Valeros should have identified the taxi unit he referred to in his column in the July 11-17, 2009 issue of the Junction in order that our investigation could focus on the very unit described to be dilapidated. As stated by Teodora D. Caguicla of the LT - Baguio City, the commentary may not be accurate. Edilberto B. Bungaoen, Acting CTDO of the LTFRB-CAR, averred that there is no transportation law or

Cont. on page 9

Republic of the
Philippines
First Judicial
Region
Regional Trial
Court
Branch 7
Baguio City

IN THE MATTER
OF CORRECTION
OF ENTRIES IN
THE CERTIFICATE
OF LIVE BIRTH OF
DARRYL OYAN

DARRYL M.
OYAN,

Petitioner,

SPECIAL PRO-
CEEDINGS CASE
No. 1944-R

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF
BAGUIO CITY,
Respondent,

X—X

NOTICE OF
INITIAL HEARING

Before this
court is a petition
filed by Darryl Oyan
through Atty. Eric O.
Estimada alleging
as follows:

1. That he is of
legal age, single,

Filipino citizen and
a resident of LC 118
Lubas, Rockside,
Lubas, La Trinidad,
Renguet where he
may be served with
summons and other
court processes;

2. That
resnondent CIVIL
Registrar of Baguio
City is impleaded as
nominal party, it be-
ing the custodian of
all personal arid
civil records within
the territorial
boundaries of
Baguio City and
may be served with
summons and other
court processes
through the Office
of the Local Civil
Registrar (LCR) of
Baguio City;

3. That he was
born on November
22, 1987 at Baguio
City in whose local
civil registry the
fact of his birth were
duly reported and
registered;

4. That how-
ever, his Certificate
of Live Birth con-
tains erroneous en-
tries which are:

a) Item num-
ber 2 of his
Certificate of Live
Birth, wherein it
was stated that his
gender is female
when in truth and in
fact he is a male.

The mistake in

the gender of the pe-
titioner probably
occured when the
nurse who prepared
the birth certificate
had mistakenly be-
lieved that the child
is a female as the
given first name is
"DARRYL" which is
a universal name.
Copies of
petitioner's Certifi-
cate of live Birth
arid Medical Certifi-
cate were attached to
the petition and
marked as Annexes
"A" and "B", respec-
tively;

b) Item number
12 of his Certificate
of Live Birth
wherein it was stated
that his parents got
married on June 28,
1987 at Divisoria,
Cagayan De Oro
City when in truth
and in fact his par-
ents got married on
June 29, 1987 at La
Trinidad, Benguet
and was solemnized
at the Office of the
Municipal Mayor by
the then OIC Mayor
of La Trinidad,
Benguet. The dis-
crepancy in the date
of marriage of his
parents was brought
about by the honest
mistake of the infor-
mant who is his fa-
ther that he got mar-
ried on June 28,

1987 instead of June
29, 1987. Also, the
discrepancy in the
place of marriage of
his parents occurred
when his father
thought that what
the nurse asked was
his own birthplace
so his father sup-
plied Divisoria,
Cagayan De Oro
City. The facts of
marriage of his par-
ents were stated In
their marriage con-
tract, a copy of which
was attached to the
petition and marked
as Annex "C";

5. That the above
mentioned entries
are erroneous and
incorrect and should
be corrected so that
the true and accu-
rate facts would re-
flect in the Certifi-
cate of live Birth of
the petitioner as
well as to prevent
confusion;

6. That the pe-
tition was filed to
rectify the errone-
ous entries in the
birth certificate of
the petitioner which
will redound to his
benefit and advan-
tage. Furthermore,
the petition was
filed only for the
above lawful pur-
poses and that no in-
terest of any third
person would be ad-
versely affected by
reason of the said

petition.

WHEREFORE.,
finding the petition
to be sufficient In
form and substance,
let the same be set
for hearing before
this court located at
Room 313, 3rd floor of
the Justice Hall.
Baguio City on Sep-
tember 25, 2009 at
8:30 o'clock in the
morning at which
place, . date and
time, the petitioner.
shall be allowed to
substantiate his pe-
tition. and any inter-
ested person may
show cause, If there
be any. why the pe-
tition should not be
granted.

Let a copy of
this Notice of Initial
Hearing, together
with a copy of the pe-
tition

and its annexes,
be served upon the
Honorable Solicitor
General, Makati
City, Metro

Manila, the
City Prosecutor of
Baguio City and the
Office of the respon-
dent Local Civil

Registrar of
Baguio City, Also,
furnish copies of
this notice to the
Civil Registrar
General,

National Statis-
tics Office, the Of-
fice of the Clerk of

Court for publica-
tion, the petitioner
Darryl Oyan
and his counsel

Also, let this
Notice of Initial
Hearing be pub-
lished at the ex-
pense of the peti-
tioner, once a week
for three (3) con-
secutive weeks at
The Junction News-
paper , a newspaper
of general circula-
tion in the City of
Baguio and the
whole Cordillera
Region, the first
publication of which
that shall not be later
than September 6,
2009.

The Process
Server is hereby di-
rected to post cop-
ies of this notice on
the bulletin boards
of this Court, the Jus-
tice Hall, the City
Hall, the City Market
and the post Office
all of Baguio City.

SO ORDERED,

DONE IN CHAM-
BERS this 27th day
of July, 2009 at
Baguio City,
Philippines.

MONA LISA V.
TIONGSON-
TABORA

Presiding Judge
Dates of Publica-
tion August 15, 22
and 29, 2009

First Northern Luzon Invention Contest And Exhibit Held In The City

BAGUIO CITY – The Department
of Science and Technology (DOST),
through the Technology and Applica-
tion and Program Institute (TAPI)
held the first Northern Luzon Inven-
tion Contest and Exhibit at the Baguio
Convention Center last August 18-
20.

The event aims to strengthen the
participation of inventors and re-
searchers from the different parts of
the country. Winners from this
event will represent the Northern
Luzon cluster to the national contest
slated on November. This activity
also aims to provide a venue, for lo-
cal inventors to exhibit and promote
their inventions, as well as to give en-
couragements to other people, who
are potential inventors and research-
ers.

In a kapihan forum, DOST-CAR
regional director Ben Ladilad lauded
the talent of the region's inventors.

He also stressed that event like this
would be a very good venue for lo-
cal inventors to showcase their
products, as well as to encourage
other potential inventors and re-
searchers, especially the younger
generation.

According to Engr. Ramon
Makam, of TAPI, aside from the prize
money for the winners of this North-
ern Luzon Cluster, they will also pro-
vide travel support assistance when
they join the national invention con-
test.

The invention contest has five
categories: Invention; Utility Model;
Industrial Design; Creative Re-
search; and the Sibol Award or Stu-
dent Creative research. Initial reg-
istration has drawn 32 participants
from regions I, II and CAR. In the
same forum, Ladilad also stressed
that the government, through the
DOST and its attached agencies,

provides various assistance to "Re-
search and Development or RnD"
projects. They are funding projects
through the Philippine Council for
Agri-forestry Resources Research
and Development (PCARRD) while
the Philippine Council for Energy
Industry Research and Develop-
ment is providing assistance to re-
searchers along that line.

Ladilad also explained that
DOST offers a lot of funding as-
sistance. The Micro-Small Me-
dium Enterprises (MSME) technol-
ogy upgrading program, is an inter-
est-free lending program that aims
improve production capacity, pri-
marily on equipment. They also pro-
vide working capital assistance,
through the Technology Resource
Center , with a very minimal inter-
est rate.

In support of MSMEs, DOST
also provide free technical ser-
vices, such as training and free
laboratory services. DOST-CAR's
laboratory is now capable of analyz-
ing 18 elements./Lito Dar/PIA

LG KOMENTARYO

..... from page 7

department order that prohibits the change of the chassis of PUVs. As a matter of fact, Valeros himself have filed/authored countless applications for change chassis, copy of their reply to the memorandum issued by the undersigned for them to comment on your letter and the column of Atty. Valeros, are hereto attached as annexes "A" and "B".

Your claim about talks that there is grease/bribe money amounting to P70,000.00 for the approval of franchise extension and asked me if I am involved or aware of this, is totally unfair, baseless and an unfounded accusation.

I have caused the renovation of our LTFRB office and was able to negotiate for the construction of a new LTO building at Pacdal, Baguio City which is nearing completion. I have ordered that all transactions in both the LTFRB and LTO must be done thru window transactions only and any violation would be dealt with drastically and the head of the office will be primarily answerable. I have likewise prohibited persons without any authority (fixers) to transact business with our offices.

For your information, I have already uncovered hundreds of irregularly or illegally issued franchises at the LTFRB-CAR and are now the subject of an extensive investigation where the grantees were issued show cause orders to explain why their franchises should not be cancelled or revoked.

For LTO, there are so many illegally up-graded year model units such that the year model of a taxicab will be altered for example, a 1995 year model unit is up-graded to 1998. I have and will be issuing the appropriate memorandum to require nine (9) LTO personnel to explain why no administrative case be filed against them for having been part of the illegal up-grading of the year model of these taxicabs. Consequently, the taxicab will be given three (3) years or more as the case may be, to operate beyond the thirteen (13) maximum number of years to operate. If I have any participation or knowledge of the anomalous practice you made mention of in your letter, it would be preposterous for me to be undertaking these investigations as the personnel involved would definitely point to me as a co-conspirator.

Hoping that this will clarify the issues you raised.

Very truly yours,

ATTY. FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. Regional Director

Batas

..... from page 5

abroad previously declared insane or incompetent by competent authorities in the Philippines or abroad..."

More of this in subsequent issues...

-ooo-

PRAYING OF THE ROSARY IS BIBLE BASED: Roman Catholic Christians practice the praying of the Holy Rosary, which is something that is balked at by others who believe in Christianity on the argument that praying the Rosary is paganistic in origin.

I did some reading on the matter, and indeed, there is nothing in the Holy Bible that says Christians should pray the Rosary, as there is even no mention of the Rosary in any pages of that Book.

But when one looks at the mysteries of the Rosary, one begins to understand that whoever conceived and thought of this prayer, dedicated to Mary, the Virgin Mother of Christ, actually was following the examples of many leaders of the Christian faith, enshrined in many pages of the Bible, where they resort to repeating the history of the Israelites, from their exodus to their arrival at the Promised Land, as a means to strengthen their faith.

Just look at the story of Gideon, in Judges 6 and 7 of the Bible, and you will see what I mean. Before Gideon finally relented to be used as God's chosen one to deliver his people from the Midianites who were causing them sufferings, he had to recount Israel's story all over again.

This is what is happening when a Roman Catholic prays the Rosary: he is actually repeating a tried and tested tradition of Christian leaders, for he is reminded of the full and entire story of Christ, from the announcement of his birth by the Angel Gabriel to his Ascension to Heaven, taken directly from the Bible itself.

-ooo-

REACTIONS? Please email them at batasmauricio@yahoo.com, or at www.batasmauricio.com.

Cerdi Nawi

..... from page 6

rites". This history is being repeated now and will continue to be repeated in 21st-century America.

"The Chirsitian world will learn what Romanism really is, when it is too late to escape the snare. She is silently growing in power. Her doctrines are exerting their influence in legislative halls, in the churches, and in the hearts of men. Throughout the land she is piling up her lofty and massive structures, in the secret recesses of which her former persecutions will be repeated."

By God's grace, may we prepare for the coming Laodicean Sunday law. May we be among those who will be able to stand for truth, for God, and for eternity. Amen.

To be continued...

Fair and Square

..... from page 5

control the number of vans that is only necessary to operate and serve sufficiently the city and its commuters. The Council failed to do this duty during the uncontrolled issuance of vehicle for hire franchises by the LTFRB, it is its chance to do this now, to recover from its past failure. At least in authoring a proposed Resolution limiting the GT units to those with base of operations in Baguio City only, the gutsy Councilor, Atty. Lulu Tabanda (kudos for her) has started to show that the Council is now probably poised and ready to exercise political will to rationalize the operations of public utility vehicles in Baguio City. Hopefully?

As far as I am concerned, there is a need to legalize the vans or vehicles for hire before allowing them convert to GT service. . And as a corollary, extend the same legalization to other PUVs which in the same manner violated the moratorium.

Fairness, not to mention justice and equity, demands it!

Editorial

..... from page 4

by a Military Tribunal whose jurisdiction I steadfastly refused to recognize. It is now time for the regime to decide. Order my IMMEDIATE EXECUTION OR SET ME FREE.

I was sentenced to die for allegedly being the leading communist leader. I am not a communist, never was and never will be.

2. National reconciliation and unity can be achieved but only with justice, including justice for our Muslim and Ifugao brothers. There can be no deal with a Dictator. No compromise with Dictatorship.

3. In a revolution there can really be no victors, only victims. We do not have to destroy in order to build.

4. Subversion stems from economic, social and political causes and will not be solved by purely military solutions; it can be curbed not with ever increasing repression but with a more equitable distribution of wealth, more democracy and more freedom, and

5. For the economy to get going once again, the workingman must be given his just and rightful share of his labor, and to the owners and managers must be restored the hope where there is so much uncertainty if not despair.

On one of the long corridors of Harvard University are carved in granite the words of Archibald Macleish:

"How shall freedom be defended? By arms when it is attacked by arms; by truth when it is attacked by lies; by democratic faith when it is attacked by authoritarian dogma. Always, and in the final act, by determination and faith."

I return from exile and to an uncertain future with only determination and faith to offer — faith in our people and faith in God.

NCIP

... from page 1

Bernardo Simon, Joseph Legaspi, Joseph Bastan, Marcelino Basatan, Josephine Legaspi and Lansigan Bawas.

As this developed, members of the city anti-squatting team headed by city administrator Peter Fianza conducted another walk-through of the squatted portions of the watershed last Wednesday in its continued effort to map out an effective demolition plan.

Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. earlier said the city government has expanded the demolition plan into a two-year comprehensive plan to ensure that it will be sustained even with a change in the administration of the city mayor's office.

The mayor said that new guidelines have been mapped out to ensure a more orderly and peaceful demolition undertaking and prevent scuffles that marred the previous operations with Fianza also appointed as crisis negotiator before demolition activities will be carried out.

The mayor maintained the city's position that no ruling from lower courts or entities can supplant or overturn the Supreme Court decision giving the city government the imprimatur to pursue the long-delayed demolition.

Thus the city filed contempt charges against Masweng who earlier issued a temporary restraining order that snagged the implementation of the demolition order last July 28./ aileen p. refuerzo

Gov't pays

... from page 2

BSP data.

"What is ironic while our debts have soared, more of our people are going hungry and leaving by the thousands every day regardless of our credit ratings," Escudero pointed out.

He said when the hearings begin for the proposed P1.541-Trillion budget for 2010; Congress should go through it line by line to check on non-essential items.

"We must make sure that every centavo will be earmarked for our people's welfare and not burden them even more with more debts. As it is, we already have mortgaged the future of the next generation," Escudero said./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Lawaker sees

... from page 2

whistleblower involves a public official with a salary grade of 33. The reward ranges from P50,000 to P5 million, depending on the salary grade of the official involved, which is from SG 1 to 33.

"All forms of graft and corruption punishable under our laws are included in this measure," Escudero said. "Aside from the reward, the whistleblower will be entitled to other benefits such as protection and security. They can move forward and begin anew," he said.

Escudero said under the bill, the Office of the Ombudsman shall institute a "Whistleblower's Program" in order to carry out the intent of the law.

The current witness protection law, on the

other hand, empowers only the Department of Justice to undertake the program, he said.

The proposed amendment seeks to allow both houses of Congress to establish their own solely for witnesses or resource persons in congressional investigations in aid of legislation, Escudero explained.

"The cases of Rodolfo "Jun" Lozada, Sandra Cam, Michaelangelo Zuce and many others who have come forward and disclosed what they know of alleged wrongdoing in the government show the limitations of the current law," Escudero said.

Under the proposed measure, the Senate and the House can promulgate their own rules in implementing their respective Witness Protection, Security and Benefits Program for qualified witnesses./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Anti- torture

... from page 2

It criminalizes all forms of torture — physical, mental, psychological and pharmacological, which is done through the administration of drugs. But it limits the application of the measure only to those in government and those acting in their behalf.

The proposed law imposes a maximum penalty of life imprisonment on torturers. Other penalties range from a minimum of 6 months to a maximum of 12 years depending on the gravity of the offense.

The bill also includes provisions for the protection of complainants and witnesses and persons involved in the prosecution, and the establishment of a rehabilitation program for victims. Under the bill, no justification can be offered to justify torture and other inhuman punishments, which will be declared as criminal acts.

Escudero also said that the maximum penalty will also be imposed on those found guilty of crimes against persons those against personal liberty and security, and those against chastity as stipulated in titles 8, 9 and 11 respectively of the Revised Penal Code, if these are attended by torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment.

Rep. Lorenzo Tanada III headed the House panel that included Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman, and Bayan Muna Reps. Satur Ocampo and Neri Colmenares, among others. The Senate was represented by Escudero and Sen. Aquilino Pimentel./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

DOH Monitors

... from page 2

so they will be empowered," she said.

In the same forum, BFAD Regulations Officer Remegio Basilan confirmed that they are currently going around different drugstores and hospital pharmacies to monitor compliance and distributing copies of EO 821. He informed that they started monitoring big drugstores, like Mercury Drug, Watson's, St Joseph and Curamed outlets.

Aside from drugs and medicine prices, they are also monitoring the compliance of government doctors on the health

department's directive on prescribing only generic name of drugs/medicine, Basilan added.

At the national level, DOH Secretary Francisco Duque III on Monday said that 90 percent of drugstores and pharmacies in Metro Manila have complied with the 50 percent price cut on 49 brand names of essential drugs.

Duque also stressed that he got positive responses from consumers whom he interviewed, when he made a monitoring rounds. Duque also asked consumers to keep receipts of their medicine purchases to help identify drugstores that are not complying with the Cheaper Medicines Act, so the health department can investigate and act accordingly against erring drugstores.

"With affordable prices of medicines especially for maintenance medication and antibiotics, patients can now complete their antibiotic courses and become more compliant with their daily maintenance medicines," Duque said./Lito Dar/PIA

BENECO

... from page 3

"In order to prevent loss of life, damage to property and the commission of crimes spawned by the ensuing power outage in the affected areas, it is imperative that the replacement of these concrete electric posts with stronger and sturdier ones be immediately undertaken by Beneco," he said.

In approving the resolution, the body agreed with Palaganas that Resolution No. 107, series of 2009 which called for an investigation on the posts' installation should be immediately implemented.

"The pendency or completion of the act/s required to be carried out by the Beneco and/or other agencies to mitigate the effects of the crash of these posts, or to compensate the damage caused, shall not serve to defer or delay the reparation and/or indemnification of the damage to property or to its owner resulting from the crash or falling down of these posts," the measure further stated./ aileen p. refuerzo

LG KOMENTARYO

..... from page 7

kung saan napakarami pang pasakalye at kiao-kiao, sa aming pananaw ay umiiwas lamang itong si Director Federico Mandapat at naghuhugas kamay ang magaling na Attorney Regional Director Federico Manadapat na ito!!! Hindi ba niya tungkulin ang mag imbestiga at tumbukin ang mga irregularidad sa kanyang ahensiya at ireport ito sa publiko para sa interes ng transparency? Nakaka-insulto ang ganitong kasagutan ng supposed to be ay isang matalino at marunong na Attorney Federico Mandapat.

**ITIGIL NA ANG KORAPSYON!
ITIGIL NAANG KATIWALAAN!
ITIGIL ANG PANLILINLANG SA PUBLIKO!
NAGHIHIRAP ANG TAONG BAYAN
DAHIL SA SOBRANG PAGKA KORAP
NG MARAMING MGA OPISYALES SA
GOBYERNO!!!**

Alay sa kalinisan

.... from page 3

markets; Arnulfo Buccat of the City Health Services Office, for alleys and canals, stagnant waterways, and stray animals; and Walter Aguirre of the City Environment and Parks Management Office with Maria Luisa Meneses of ASKI, for parks, community gardens, hedges and mini-parks.

Dr. Nini Rusgal of ASKI looks over barangay premises, for the whole duration of the contest period.

In another Administrative Order issued, Secretary to the Mayor, Atty Ronald Perez is concurrently designated as head for Community Affairs at the Special Services Division, City Mayor's Office (SSD-CMO), while Community Affairs Officer Laurence Adube is transferred to the People's Law Enforcement Board (PLEB-CMO).

As stated in the AO, there is a need to assign personnel to the SSD-CMO who can "effectively and efficiently deliver and convey the genuine aspirations of this administration for the betterment of the 128 barangays of the city."

The need for the PLEB to have a supervisor with the ability to handle administrative matters; was emphasized for Mr. Adube's transfer as with the lack of manpower (of PLEB) to handle "voluminous cases" in its care.

Mr. Adube was the supervising administrative officer of the SSD for years, often in the field with barangay officials and constituents, before his transfer./juliegfianza

Centennial

.... from page 3

honored with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as guest speaker. The Builders of Baguio Sculpture shall later be unveiled at the entrance of the Botanical Garden as with a Centennial marker at City Hall.

A Commemorative Stamp shall be launched at the Baguio Country Club, while fireworks caps the day at four venues, Cathedral, University of Baguio, City Hall and Camp Allen at 7 AM.

Other activities include the choosing of centenarians, centennial babies, Miss Centennial and the centennial ball.

Activities after the main date includes; Sept. 3, Filipino-Japanese Friendship day, International Peace Theatre Arts and HRAB activities; Sept. 5, Concert as sponsored by the HRAB; Sept. 6, Road Race, Tree-Planting, Drum and Lyre Festival, and Postcard Panoramas of Baguio. Other centennial activities including garden shows and planning sessions for the city are expected for the next months.

Details may be requested from the Baguio Centennial Commission based at the Baguio Convention Center, tel. no. 446-2009./juliegfianza

Baguio Emergency

.... from page 12

Juanito Palaroan, bagged second place in the "best government emergency managers' category, followed by the Baguio City Emergency Medical Service led by Dr. John Tinoyan.

BB-PICAG has been out there for 34 years now, responding to emergencies, rescuing calamity victims, manning traffic, assisting motorists, escorting guests or honing the skills of its members.

The awards were presented to mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr., head of the city disaster coordinating council, after the flag ceremony in front of the city hall last Monday.

"These honors validate the readiness and dedication of our volunteer emergency groups in responding to emergency situations," said city administrator and CDCC action officer Peter Fianza./RD.

Itawes Police

.... from page 12

in the service, he figured prominently in career training, finishing second in Basic Scout Ranger Course, Civil Affairs Course in Fort Bragg, North Carolina and in the Public Safety Officers' Senior Executive Course; and No. 2 in Psychological Operations Course also at Fort Bragg.

His 29 years in service so far earned him 154 medals, plaques and certificates of recognition, including the Academic Award from the National Police College./Ramon Dacawi.

World Karate

.... from page 12

because of her own anti-depressant medication He also set aside an amount to help a family get back to its bearings losing three kids in another landslide at Camp 8 barangay.

One of the first things he did after his arrival here was to see Rosana Divino, a 17-year old scoliosis patient who needed P17,000 for a body brace to prevent her spinal deformity from progressing.

"The fund came from what we pooled with my students in southern German through the Shoshin Kinderhelfe foundation that we put together," he said. "I grew up poor and I feel what it means."

Holder of three world titles, including the kata crown in the 1996 World Shotokan Championships, Chees took his first dan blackbelt from Shihan Kunio Sasaki, the permanent representative of the Japan Karate Association to the Philippines.

After transferring to Germany as a civilian employee in a U.S. Army camp, Chees began topping tournaments until he caught the attention of the German national squad. The team drafted him for the distinction of being the first non-German by birth to joint the pool.

His diminutive figure prompted his focus on the kata event that he would consistently rule after months of training and self-training. He topped the Dutch International Open three times and the British International three times.

"Just go back to the basics," he told lower belts who asked him how he trains when Kapawen handed him his own uniform and frayed blackbelt and ordered him to take over his class at the YMCA of Baguio gym.

"In order to move up, you have to go down," Kapawen, who remains at fourth dan, added.

For the 1996 world championships in Saarbrucken, Chees went down to perfecting the basic kata forms of the shotokan (knife-hand) school, often by his lonesome deep in forest in deep winter.

Retiring from the German team same year, he established the Shoshin (Beginner's Mind) School of martial arts. Since then, he has been consistently a member of the elite team of masters teaching thousands of students in the grueling annual Gasshuku mass training the karate.

A day after the training ended, he took up his promotional exams and passed, after nine years of wearing his fourth dan belt.

"I owe what I am to Sensei (Teacher) Kapawen and Shihan (Master Sasaki)," he said./Ramon Dacawi,

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

DAVID BAWAGAN
Applicant
Case No:2003-CAR-204

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on Sept. 8, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, 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 FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 18th day of August 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

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

MIGUEL ACOSTA, JR.
Applicant
Case No:2001-BC-514

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience with Conversion to LPG Fed Engine to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on Sept. 8, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, 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.

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WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 18th day of August 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

Baguio Emergency Response Groups Win National Awards

They are out there while the rest of us sleep out calamities. We can sleep tight knowing they are among the country's top response teams in times of emergency.

The Baguio-Benguet Public Infor-

mation Civic Action Group (BB-PICAG), called the "tangerine boys and girls" for their orange uniform, copped second place in this year's national Gawad Kalasag awards presented the other week by President Arroyo in

Malacanang.

BB-PICAG, led by Alex Policarpio, was second to "Kabalikat Bicol" in the "best private/volunteer organization" category.

Likewise, the Baguio Fire Station under Chief Insp.

Cont. on page 11

Itawes Police Officer Gets

Another cultural community member has risen to star rank with police Sr. Supt. Samuel Birung Diciano's elevation to chief superintendent early last week.

The promotion comes a year after that of Chief Supt. Eugene Martin, a native of Bontoc, Mt. Province who is now the chief for intelligence at the PNP Headquarters in Camp Crame.

Diciano, who speaks his native Itawes and Ibanag dialects, wore his new uniform last Wednesday when he and regional police director, Chief Supt. Orlando Pestano witnessed assumption of Sr. Supt. Agripino Javier as director of the Baguio Police Office in rites at the office of mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr.

The mayor advised the new city director to adjust to his subordinate officers "instead of

them adjusting to you", saying they were responsible in making the city police office the best in the country for years.

Pestano, on the other hand, noted that strict adherence to the constitutional provision on the supremacy of civilian authority over the military and police is the key to effective police leadership.

Javier, a native of Nueva Ecija and the intelligence officer for Region 1 before his assignment here, said it has been his dream to serve Baguio since after his graduation from the Philippine Military Academy.

"Hindi po kayo mapapahiya (I won't let you down)," he said.

The mayor then turned to Diciano who, he said, started to shine, not because of his receding hairline, but when he began serving

Star Rank

Baguio and the rest of the Cordillera.

The 51-year old Diciano first served Baguio as district commander of the 129 Company of the Philippine Constabulary based at the presidential mansion here. He later became operations officer of the Benguet PNP Command, acting deputy regional director for operations of the Cordillera regional office and now its deputy for administration.

A native of Tuguegarao, Cagayan, he graduated 18th in Class '80 of the Philippine Military Academy. While already

Cont. on page 11



ONE RANK HIGHER FOR BEMEDALLED PNP-CAR OFFICER - Mayor Reinaldo Bautista, Jr. congratulates newly promoted PNP-CAR Deputy Regional Director for Administration Chief Superintendent (equivalent to a rank of One Star General) Samuel Diciano, as PNP-CAR Director Orlando Pestano looks on during a brief courtesy call last August 19./By Bong Cayabyab

World Karate Champ Toasts Promotion With Charity Work

Former world karate champion Julian Chees returned to Germany this week-end after marking his promotion to 5th dan blackbelt by coming home to pay tribute to his late mother, Camfili, and his former teachers and, as usual, reach out to the sick.

Here for a few days, the 49-year old Igorot martial artist brought in P105,000

that he and his martial arts students raised for indigent patients here and in his native village of Maligcong, Bontoc, Mt. Province

"Karate ne sente nashi (Karate has no offense)," Edgar Kapawen Sr., Chees' white-to-brown belt instructor, observed

when he learned his former student was again out there visiting the sick among the poor. Among the recipients were two cancer patients, a hospitalized victim of the recent typhoon landslide at Kias barangay and two toddlers their mother could not breast-feed

Cont. on page 11

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