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THE JUNCTION

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

Compensation Law Gives True Meaning to EDSA

The signing of the reparation law, which will provide P10 billion in compensation to human rights victims of martial law, gives true meaning to the celebration of the 27th anniversary of the EDSA revolt, Senator Chiz Escudero said.

The law aside from providing financial compensation, also more significantly provides recognition to Filipinos who suffered under the martial rule of Marcos.

Escudero, chairman of the Senate committee on justice and human rights, sponsored the measure, known as the Human Rights Victims Reparation and Recognition Act of 2012.

The signing of the law during the People Power revolt festivities was fitting since the events of 1986 that led to the ouster of Marcos and Cory Aquino's ascendance to the presidency marked the beginning of the rendering of justice for martial law victims, Escudero noted.

"While it took all of 27 years for the state to finally recognize the atrocities it inflicted on Filipinos whose democratic rights were suppressed under Marcos, the compensation law seeks to give justice to victims of the dark days of oppression and hopefully give an assurance that it will

Cont. on page 8



PERFECT SPOT - A mendicant belts out a song accompanied by his electronic musical instrument before passersby during the Session Road In Bloom./By Bong Cayabyab

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Sana manawari ay makamitan na ng mga Human Rights Victims nuong panahon ni Pangulong Marcos yung matagal na nilang karampatang compensation.

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ALIPING for Congressman, and kayo HILO at HIBANG !!! Para sa pagbabago at kaunlaran-JOEMOL NA!!!

NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



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DOKUMENTARYO PUBLIKO

Problema sa Mga Water Delivery!!! KapitanTulis-an, sino sya??? Bansot na BOBO!!!

BY: KYLE DE GUZMAN



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Improved Market Ready for Public Use

BAGUIO CITY – the opening of the rehabilitated Block 4 of the city's public market will greatly improve the public mobilization here.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan during the Weekly Ugnayan Presser Wednesday said, 'vendors who are qualified can move-in after the Inauguration of block 4.'

Domogan said 'the city is committed to develop the entire public market because it is the heart of the city.'

It can be recalled that former City Fire Marshall Richard Villanueva recommended the immediate closure of parts of the public market especially Block's 3 and 4 for being a nuisance and a fire hazard.

Domogan said, 'other parts of the market will also be improved.'

The newly rehabilitated block 4 is designed for open vending and can accommodate 331 vendors.

The facility will cater to livestock, RTW, Sari sari, fruits and vegetables.

Guidelines on the line of businesses as well as rules and regulations for its use lies with the Baguio City Market Authority (BCMA).

Domogan said 'the renovated block 4 will feature 'improved working conditions' for all categories of vendors including safety and protection of consumers./paul rillorta

Lawmaker : COA Report Shows Why 6.6 Not Felt By People

Senator Alan Cayetano said today that the Commission on Audit (COA) report on the Priority Assistance Development Funds (PDAF) expenditure of certain senators exposes why the milestone economic growth of 6.6% achieved by the Aquino Administration has not been felt by the people.

"The people that I have spoken with while I've been going

around the country - farmers, fisherfolk, construction workers, market vendors - say that they have yet to feel the 6.6% economic growth achieved by the P N o y administration. Now we know that one of the reasons is that the funds that had been allocated for them by the government were diverted," Cayetano said.

Cayetano lauded COA for exposing that almost P200 Million

from the PDAF of certain senators went to a bogus organization. "It is unfortunate that it still boils down to corruption," Cayetano said. "But at least, through these reports that are made public, we are on the first step towards correcting the system. And with this change, I remain positive that soon our people will feel the benefits of economic growth in terms of lower prices, and increased jobs and

EMB, NGO, City Inks Ties in River Rehab

BAGUIO CITY – a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been entered between the City Government, the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and different non-government organizations for the protection, clean-up and rehabilitation of major rivers here.

The MOA, an offshoot of the Salaknib ti Waig Program launched this month intensifies the city's campaign in conservation and protection efforts for inland waterways thru a public and private partnership.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan who represented the City government during the symbolic signing of the MOA last February 26 acknowledged the adopters important role in ensuring that the government and its partners are working hand in hand in addressing the deteriorating condition of the water tributaries.

Domogan said, 'the essence of the MOA is to showcase the importance of team work from all stakeholders to reach a common goal which is the eventual restoration of the Sagudin-Balili River and its tributaries to its natural grandeur.'

According to City Environment and Parks Management Officer Cordelia Lacsamana, there are at least eight organizations who have adopted tributaries passing through 19 barangays of the city.

The organizations who took part in the agreement and officially 'adoptors' are Saint Louis University represented by its president Rev. Fr. Jessie Hechanova, University of the Philippines represented by Chancellor Raymund Rovillos, University of Baguio PICE represented by its president Mikael Manuit, Rotary Club of Baguio-Cluster I-C represented by its president Atty. Elizabeth Rillera-Fernandez, Pines City Colleges represented by its vice president for Academic Affairs Abigail Bersamin, Goshenland represented by its Chief Executive Officer Atty. Alexander Bangsoy, MJ Gas Corporation thru its Proprietor Mary Jane Gacad.

The adopted creeks runs from Cabinet Hill-Teachers Camp, Marcoville, DPS Compound, Engineer's Hill, Salud Mitra, Upper General Luna, Holy Ghost Proper-Sumulong, M. Roxas, Imelda Village, ABCR, Brookside, Holy Ghost Extension, Happy Homes, South Sanitary Camp, North Sanitary Camp, Alfonso Tabora, Camdas, Trancoville and Private Road Magsaysay covering a total span of 9.025m.

Part of the activities incorporated in the action plan for each adopter includes information drives, community house visits, formation of community work groups, river clean-up and monitoring./paul rillorta

Nut Bolting and Screwing Signs on Baguio's Trees.

The signs of the times are hurting, visually to us and literally to trees on which they are being nailed, bolted or strung, in violation of an ordinance the city council passed 23 years ago.

Cont. on page 9

Mayor Reaffirms Stand on Ancestral Land Claims

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Wednesday reiterated that the city government will continue to respect the claims of ancestral land applicants in the city as long as these are legitimate Igorot claims qualified for disposition as ancestral land under existing laws.

The mayor issued the clarification anew to dispel accusations that he has adopted an anti-ancestral land claimant stance.

The mayor explained that he is only after bogus ancestral land claims that seek to undermine protected areas like the Forbes Park, Wright Park and other forested areas that put the interest of the city and its people in peril.

"We have nothing against ancestral land claims as long as these are legitimate. Of course, we are opposed to false claims which undermine our protected areas," the mayor reiterated.

He said the city is in fact doing its best to protect and help the legitimate ancestral land claimants.

He said the city will soon come up with guidelines for the issuance of clearances and building permits for lands covered by Certificates of Ancestral Land Titles (CALTs).

He said the guidelines will help speed up the issuance of the necessary permits for CALT holders and at the same time help deter illegitimate ones from undertaking constructions.

The mayor maintained that legitimate claims are those Igorot claims classified as alienable as ancestral land as per section 78 of Republic Act No. 8371 or the Indigenous People's Rights Act.

The said section provides a special provision that the city of Baguio "shall remain to be governed by its Charter and all lands proclaimed as part of its townsite reservation shall remain as such until otherwise reclassified by appropriate legislation."

Section 78 also provides an exemption that "prior land rights and titles recognized and/or acquired through any judicial, administrative or other processes before the effectiveness of this Act shall remain valid..." which means that Igorot claims recognized before November 1997, the date of IPRA implementation, are qualified as ancestral claims.

Among those recognized are Igorot ancestral claims screened under Special Administrative Order No. 31 and Dept. Administrative Order No. 02 issued by the Dept. and Environment and Natural Resources.

The mayor said all claims that fall under these circumstances are recognized by the city./A. Refuerzo

OSG Seeks Reconsideration of CA Decision on Wright Park CALTs

BAGUIO Park.

CITY – The Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) sought reconsideration of a Court of Appeals (CA) decision dated January 15 denying its petition for certiorari, prohibition and mandamus over the Original Certificates of Ancestral Land Titles (O-CALTs) issued by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) over lots located in the city including Wright

In a motion for reconsideration, a copy of which was furnished the city mayor's office last Feb. 20, the OSG sought the setting aside of the decision and the nullification of the resolutions, O-CALTs and all derivative titles issued by the NCIP in favor of the heirs of Josephine Molitans Abanag and Cosen Piraso.

plotting of the parcels of land covered by said O-CALTs showed that the lots "overlapped and encroached upon the boundaries of 47 public properties including properties titled in the name of the City of Baguio, national, city and barangay roads and mineral reservations, and 12 private properties including areas with pending claims before the NCIP."

But the CA in a decision rendered last week... Cont. on page 9



THE JUNCTION

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Council Questions John Hay Portion's Segregation in Boundary Survey

BAGUIO CITY – The city council wants the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources Cordillera (DENR-CAR) and its surveyor to explain the segregation of a portion of Camp John Hay from the coverage or jurisdiction of any barangay in the city as reflected in the political boundary index map prepared by the surveyor H.O. Noveloso surveying office.

The body said that the political boundary index map of the Baguio Cadastral Survey CAD 1216-D prepared by Engr. Hipolito O. Noveloso should reveal the factual political boundary of each barangay of the city and the exclusion of the said John Hay portion

Zone from the Cont. on page 9

Mayor Amends Existing Rules on the Conduct of Night Market

BAGUIO CITY – It's been years that the experimental Night Market at Harrison Road has been operating and several problems are still being encountered by the city. Thus, Mayor Mauricio Domogan came out with amendments to the existing rules and regulations to be strictly implemented by the City Treasury and the Public Order and Safety Division (POSD) through Administrative Order No. 033, series of 2013 which is to be followed by the participating vendors in the said night market in order to effectively address the problems that cropped up since its implementation of the aforesaid order.

It is remembered that the conduct of night market in the city on an experimental basis was protected in Administrative Order No. 203, series of 2006 pursuant to the

provisions of Ordinance No. 006, series of 2001.

The city mayor ordered the continued implementation of the night market to measure its impact to the tourism industry of the city and the generation of income to its residents.

There will be a screening process for interested new applicants wherein the applicants should comply with the requirement. A Night Market ID will be issued to the vendor upon approval of his/her application and payment of registration fee.

Vendors should maintain cleanliness on their designated vending areas at all times and food vendors are required to provide proper disposal of wastes.

On the other hand, eleven designated POSD personnel will monitor the night market with the assistance of two uniformed PNP

personnel. Roving POSD personnel will monitor and remove illegal vendors/peddlers on other areas of the Central Business District before and while the night market at Harrison is on-going.

The implementation of other policies and guidelines for compliance of the vendors will be done by the POSD personnel by issuing Notices of Violation to erring vendors.

Violation and/or non-compliance of a vendor to any of the rules and regulations set forth in the Administrative Order shall be cause for the suspension or permanent removal of the vendors from the Night Market. And, continued violation of members of an Association shall be a cause of the suspension or permanent removal of the Association Leader.

The Night Market is now one of the tourist attractions of the city said the mayor and at the same time has helped many residents in their livelihood. Cont. on page 10

City Fast-Tracks Permits, TOR to Reoperate Asin Hydros

BAGUIO CITY – The city government will speed up the completion of the requirements to secure the necessary permits to resume the operation of the Asin mini-hydro power plants and to come up with the revised terms of reference (TOR) to rehabilitate and privatize the management of the facilities.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Wednesday said the city's applications for a provisional permit to operate the plants before the Dept. of Energy (DOE) and for a certificate of compliance before the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) are now in the works and are being fast-tracked to resume the operation of the mini-hydros which has been discontinued since October last year after the Benguet Electric Cooperative Inc (BENECO) ceased buying the power output due to the lack of COC and purchase agreement with the city.

The mayor said the plants need to re-operate the soonest possible time to prevent stagnation of the facilities. He said the city also needs the revenues generated by the plants to finance the upkeep of the machineries and the salaries of the employees assigned to maintain the plants.

Engr. Ransam Avance, hydro plant supervisor and member of the Asin Hydro Power Plant technical working group (TWG) said they are now completing the requirements for the DOE to issue the provisional permit. The provisional permit is a requirement in the renewal of the city's COC by the ERC.

City administrator Carlos Canilao said they expect the DOE to issue the provisional permit within a month's time once the city completes the requirements.

As to the TOR for the privatization of the plants, Canilao said the TWG will revise the terms since the old one is no longer applicable after the bidding for the project failed twice last year.

Avance said the terms will likely be scaled down from the original intention of upgrading the plant to just restoration and management to ensure immediate implementation of the project.

Avance explained that pursuing the upgrading direction will take longer time as the city will be required to secure a new COC instead of just renewing its existing certificate.

The Asin minihydro rehabilitation and operation is a priority project of the city government which aims to maximize the power generating potential of the plants and restore their viability./A Refuerzo

Mayor Backs BIR Tax Campaign

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan expressed support to the 2013 tax campaign launched by the Bureau of Internal Revenue Cordillera (BIR-CAR) last Wednesday to drum up support to the drive anchored on the regional office's P4.3 billion revenue collection target for this year.

"I know it's easier said than done but we have to do our homework to pay and help collect taxes if we want to enjoy quality services essential to our daily living that can be derived from the fulfillment of our obligation of conscientiously paying our taxes," the mayor challenged.

The BIR-CAR's 2013 tax campaign with this year's battle cry, "I love the Philippines, I pay taxes correctly," kicked off in a rousing program last Wednesday led by BIR-CAR regional director

Eduardo Bajador and graced by BIR deputy commissioner Lilia Guillermo.

Bajador committed to work harder to achieve

Cont. on page 10

Campaign Against Politicians During the Panagbenga Effective

BAGUIO CITY – The Baguio Flower Festival's main attractions, the Panagbenga street dancing and float parades, over the weekend were free from politics despite the presence of some national candidates in the area.

Organizers of the 18th Baguio Flower Festival or the Panagbenga 2013 said that the campaign against politicians during the festivities was very effective in maintaining the events free from political campaign.

"The campaign against political campaigners is working," said Anthony De Leon, co-chairman of the BFF Executive Committee.

"I guess we made our policies and guidelines well known that it will be to the disadvantage of the politicians should they choose to go against it," De Leon added.

The BFF had earlier announced that no politicians shall be allowed to join in the street and float parades on February 23 and 24, respectively.

De Leon added that the floats who joined this year's parade came from private corporations and they indicated that there are no politicians riding on their floats as well.

In the past, some politicians built their own floats in which they rode on during the parade.

The Commission on Election is also credited for making the Panagbenga apolitical.

COMELEC has been very strict in ensuring that no politicians will not to use festivals or occasions as for their campaign, said BFF chairman Freddie Alquiros.

"Nakatulong na din ang pagiging strikto ng COMELEC na hindi pwede gamitin ang Panagbenga at maglagay ng float ang mga kandidato," (The strict rules of COMELEC has helped in making sure that the politicians would not use the festival in campaigning or even making use of their own floats.), he stressed.

Alquiros mentioned that there was a foundation who joined the Panagbenga festivities last years but it was disallowed by the COMELEC from joining this time.

Meanwhile, just after the parade during the weekend, several senatoriables and their supporters were seen along the city's busy roads handshaking everyone and making sure that they be noticed./JDP/RC-PIA-CAR

DILG Leads Implementation of P211.8m Peace and Development Projects in CAR

BAGUIO CITY – The Department of Interior and Local Government – Cordillera Regional Office (DILG-CAR), in partnership with several local government units (LGUs), will be implementing P211.8 million worth of peace and development projects in the region this year.

The projects, which is under the

PAMANA (Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan), a priority program of the administration of President Benigno Aquino III, aims to strengthen peace and development

Cont. on page 10



The Best of Pangabenga 2013./ Photo by Bong

Three In A Row

Typhoon "Crisis" jabbed Mindanao's underbelly, before it barreled out to sea Thursday. May we now watch 33 candidates for 12 Senate seats sashay on stage?

Hold it. This is the third hurricane, in as many years, in a region where typhoons hit, at most, once every 12 years or so. Mindanao was safely wedged below the upward beaten track of typhoons.

Not any more. "Crisis is an ominous warning of climate change impact", wrote Simon Tisdall of the UK's Guardian. "The Philippines (must) adapt to rapidly deteriorating climatic trends at great cost..."

"Pablo" proved the world's deadliest 2012 typhoon. It flattened much of Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley, with winds gusting up to 195 miles per hour. A category 5 storm, "Pablo" packed more punch than the US category 2 hurricane "Sandy". A total of 1,067 corpses were recovered, but 800 remain missing.

"It'd take 10 years to replace the coconut crop," estimates New Bataan Mayor Lorenzo Balbin. "Some villages in Compostela Valley may be too unsafe". Today 15,000 victims still huddle in evacuation centers. Another 200,000 are sheltered by relatives or friends.

Rewind to 2011. "Sendong" battered Misamis Oriental and Lanao then. Rains caused floods to surge 11 feet in an hour and wiped out a community, perched on "Isla de Oro"

EDITORIAL sandbar. In 1911, A storm, in 1911, dumped what was then a record rainfall of 46 inches within a 24-hour period on Baguio City. Sendong's death toll exceeded 1,453. Some will never be accounted for.

These were macabre replays of November 1991. Typhoon "Uring" ripped through Leyte. In Ormoc City, where Anilao river meanders to the sea, the delta island community of Isla Verde was wiped out. A memorial for the 8,000 people killed has been built since.

"How do we explain the decreasing number of years in occurrence of destructive typhoons affecting southern Philippines?" marine scientist and Magsaysay Awardee Angel Alcala asks. "Since the 1980s, typhoons hitting the country, below the 10-degree latitude, seem to be increasing in frequency at year's end."

Low-latitude typhoons destroy the coral reefs along their paths. Here, only 4 percent of the coral reefs here remain in pristine condition "Pablo" ravaged the Cantaan Giant Clam Sanctuary and shattered live coral cover on Camiguin reefs. "Of greater concern is their effect on the biodiversity, including fishery," Alcala said. "We stand to lose sea food sources on which coastal communities depend."

Mean temperatures are rising by 0.14C per decade, says the UN's inter-governmental panel on climate change says Since the 1980s, annual mean rainfall increased. "Yet two of the severest droughts ever recorded occurred in 1991-92 and 1997-98."

"Trees fail to flower," Aetas huddled at the Bataan mountaintop meeting told Fr. Shay Cullen. "Bees are disappearing. Storms blow away our nipa huts as never before." The Aetas echo what scientists elsewhere note, Viewpoint (PDI/Aug 27, 2102) pointed out.

Large numbers of bats that pollinate plants are threatened, says the "Mammal Review". At University of Bern, experiments of 1,634 plant species show "spring flowering and leafing advances 5 to 6 days per year for every degree Celsius of warming," the journal "Nature" reports. The additional water needed by a plant community that sprouts a week earlier is staggering.

Scientists track steadily rising sea levels around the Philippines — and slumping water table. Floods swamped the Philippines last year. The most severe drought, in half a century, blistered the US and swaths of Eastern Europe.

The Arctic ice cap is melting at speeds never recorded since satellite monitoring began 30 years back, Norwegian Polar Institute cautions. "We want our children to live in an America that isn't threatened by the destructive power of a warming planet.", President Barack Obama said in his 2013 State of the Union message.

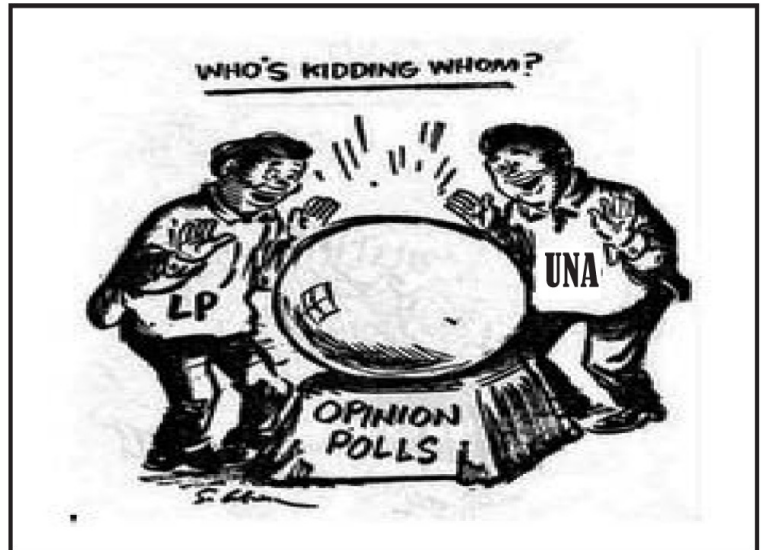
Warming seas here now wash farther inland. A 20-centimeter sea level rise estimate, over the next 40 years, is obsolete. This affects food production through land erosion and degradation.

Typhoon-related costs, since the Philippine government set up a climate change commission in 2009, crested at 2.9% of GDP. They've been spiraling more since, reports commission head Mary Ann Lucille Sering "Extreme weather is the new normal. ... Opinion surveys show Filipinos rated global warming as a bigger threat than rising food and fuel prices."

"Every year I hope governments will provide leadership humanity so badly needs", Kumi Naidoo of Guardian Professional wrote. I hope they'll act beyond short-sighted electoral cycles and corrupt influence of elites. At the UN Climate Talks in Doha, we heard Philippine climate change commissioner Narevdev Sano say, "We have never had a typhoon like Bopha (Pablo) wreak havoc in a part of the country that never saw a storm like this in half a century.... Other countries face the same threat. We must take responsibility for the future we want. If not us, then who? If not now, then when? If not here, then where?"

Survival is the key word in the kilometeric title of Republic Act 10171. It authorizes President Aquino to sign a check, up to P1 billion annually, to ward off weather gone out of whack. The new law is a first response to growing clamor for action. More needs to be done.

"My prediction is that in 2013, countries will start listening more", Naidoo adds. Women's movements, trade unions and religious organizations will seek to avert catastrophic climate change. "There are no decent jobs on a dead planet."



THE PEACE COMBATANT

We must peacefully claim Sabah and close the issue

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



The "stand-off" in Sabah, which started early February 2013, has resulted to an expected result: 14 lay dead, 12 of them Filipinos while two are Malaysians. The death toll may increase if more bodies are found or if some of the wounded dies. Armed followers of the "Sulu Sultanate" were reported to be under pursuit by Malaysian soldiers who apparently have launched the assault.

It is a dark day for all of us. Muslim Filipinos are our brothers and to see them dead in Malaysia is both sad and disturbing. At the same time, seeing that we have indirectly caused the death of two Malaysians is also disturbing. Of course, some would see the Malaysians as the territorial grabber in the dispute. However, most likely, the Malaysians who lay dead know nothing of the issue. To the Malaysian soldiers, they were simply doing their duty and the Filipinos who barricaded themselves down were the transgressors and the intruders.

The historical background of the Sabah case is a lot more complex than what is apparent. The relatively popular version of the issue is that the Sabah claim arose because in January 22, 1878 the Sultan of Sulu entered into a lease contract with Gustavus Baron Overbeck and Alfred Dent over Sabah. As discussed in an earlier issue of the Peace Combatant, it was a perpetual lease with an obligation on the side of the party of Overbeck and Dent to perpetually pay the Sultan of Sulu an annual fee of 5,000 dollars perpetually.

The party of Overbeck and Dent was also given the rights and powers of the Sultanate over Sabah. In addition, under the perpetual lease contract signed by the Sultanate of Sulu, the rights of Overbeck and Dent were deemed extendable to their successors and assigns with a provision that should the land be transferred to a foreign nation, the consent of the Sultan of Sulu would be required. Of course, a possible loophole in our Sabah claim (which only a competent court has the authority to rule) is that the earlier acts of receipt of payment can be interpreted as consent by the Sulu Sultanate of the transfer of rights and authority on Sabah to Malaysia. It is possible for Malaysia to argue that the transfer of rights from Overbeck and Dent to the British and eventually to Malaysia had the consent of the Sultan of Sulu.

Unfortunately, we are making the analysis based on a translation of the document believed to be originally in Arabic and it remains possible that there can be alternative interpretations of what are contain in the document. The new interpretations can be damaging either to the Filipino or Malaysian claim.

In any case, what is urgently needed is for the claim to be filed and for a competent court to rule on the claim and counterclaim of Malaysia and the Philippines.

There is another angle that has to be assessed. It is turning out that that given the Philippines' or the Sultanate Sulu 1878 lease document with Overbeck and Dent, the Sultanate of Sulu actually acquired Sabah from the Sultan of Brunei in 1704 as a way of saying thank you to the Sultanate of Sulu's assistance to the widespread rebellion in Brunei in the early 18th century. It may not take long before Brunei will claim that the claim of the Sultanate of Sulu over Sabah is weak because the Sultan of Brunei did not actually transfer the ownership of Sabah to the Sultanate of Sulu.

Worst, a plebiscite was held in Sabah shortly after World War II in which the people of Sabah were made to choose between joining Malaysia or the Sultanate of Sulu. The plebiscite yielded a result in which the Sabahans joined Sabah and not Sulu. Thus, Malaysia can claim that there was a peaceful rebellion that took place in Sabah negating the authority of the Sultanate of Sulu, assuming there was such an authority in the first place. In other

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Aquino government's bias vs. Sabah claim

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth..." (1 John 3:18, the Holy Bible).

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AQUINO GOVT'S BIAS VS. SABAH CLAIM: Excuse me but the reactions coming from officials of the Aquino government about the on-going stand-off in Sabah involving the followers of Sultan Jamalul Kiram III are outrageously off-tangent, and are only showing that the government already has a bias against the claim of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo over Sabah, despite its pretense to the contrary.

As I see it, these reactions now of Aquino's officials only serve to justify the decision of the Sultan and his followers in acting on their own to pursue their claims, because help from the government is not forthcoming, even if the Sultan earnestly asked for it earlier.

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DOJ, PNP: SULTAN AND FOLLOWERS COMMITTED CRIMES: Let us take first the warning of Justice Secretary Leila De Lima that the Department of Justice is investigating the possible involvement of some individuals whom she thinks funded the Sabah trip of the Sultan's followers and who she said could therefore be sued for inciting to war or for other crimes. This presupposes, quite unfairly, that the Sultan and his followers committed a crime in going to a place that they own in the first place.

Then, Director General Alan Purisima of the Philippine National Police is threatening that he will arrest the Sultan's followers if they will come back to the Philippines still carrying their firearms. This smacks of double standard. Why? Well, there are many other Muslims in Mindanao who are carrying high-powered firearms who are not being arrested. So, why single out the Sultan's followers?

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SULTAN KIRAM'S LETTER TO PNOY, PART II: Anyway, here is the second installment of the October 15, 2012 letter of Sultan Jamalul Kiram III to President Aquino on the Sabah issue: "The North Borneo Company ceded North Borneo to the British Crown on June 26, 1946. Shortly thereafter, effective July 15 of the same year, the Crown issued the North Borneo Cession Order in Council, which annexed North Borneo and Labuan as part of the British dominions.

"The unilateral action violated the spirit of the original lease agreement and set the stage for a long-drawn process of reclaiming what was once historically part of the sovereign territory of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo. On July 31, 1963, in a sincere attempt to resolve the Sabah issue through peaceful and diplomatic means, the Philippines, Indonesia, and the Federation of Malaya signed the Manila Accord.

"(In that accord) the parties took note of the Philippines' claim and the right of the Philippines to continue to pursue it in accordance with international law and the principle of the pacific settlement of disputes. They agreed that the inclusion of North Borneo in the Federation of Malaysia would not prejudice either the claim or any right thereunder."

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'OPERATION MERDEKA' AND SABAH: "Unfortunately, this diplomatic route was shattered by a covert mission in 1967 to reclaim Sabah, known as 'Operation Merdeka'. The plan was compromised when the Tausug and Sama recruits, upon knowing their true objective, refused to comply out of fear that the plan would mean not only fighting fellow Muslims in Sabah, but also possibly harming their own relatives living there. In March 1968, the infamous

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ADVOCACY MINDANOW

LIFT SABAH FOOD BLOCKADE, DEADLINE

BY: JESUS DUREZA



A word of caution to **Malaysia**. Malaysia should refrain from pushing the button. My recommendation is for Malaysia to LIFT its announced "deadline to vacate" and the food blockade imposed to scuttle the Sultanate's resolve. Extending it to a few more days won't work. It will only lead to the brink.

Now that the **Philippine** government is grappling with the incident and has indicated that it will help handle the situation, it may be best for Malaysia to just leave the matter, for the meantime, to the Philippine side to resolve the so-called "stand off". **THIS WILL NEED COOLING OFF TIME** so deadlines won't help. I strongly suggest that the Philippine backchannels, official or otherwise, must work round the clock to convince Malaysia to LEAVE THE MATTER TO THE PHILIPPINE SIDE TO RESOLVE THIS. Time is of the essence. Malaysia must also be given a "graceful exit" of lifting its declared "deadline" by making it appear that it is merely acceding to a "friendly neighbor's" request. After all, this way Malaysia will pass on the onus of the problem to the Philippine side. And Filipinos, I know, will have a way of quietly resolving it in time. For the moment, this is a Filipino problem that only Filipinos can resolve.

MY OWN SABAH "ENCOUNTERS" —I had my own share of "encounters" with this ticklish **SABAH issue** when I was with government in **Malacanang** during **FVR's** and **GMA's** time.

I recall when the four countries under the **BIMPEAGA (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines East Asian Growth Area)** were set to sign a document setting up a facilitation center to be based in **Kota Kinabalu**, the document hit a snag when the address of the center was written in the draft Agreement as "**Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia**". The Philippine **Foreign Affairs** department in **Padre Faura** declined to affix the Philippine signature because it will indirectly accept Sabah as part of Malaysia.

Again, when backchannels were suggesting that we open a Philippine consulate in Sabah ostensibly to protect the Filipinos there (due to their numbers and recurring problems), our government firmly but courteously declined. A **Philippine Consular Office** in Sabah can be interpreted to mean that we officially acknowledge Sabah as within Malaysian territory.

All of these were done discreetly but "with grace and aplomb", cognizant of the Philippine pending claim but balancing with the imperatives of international diplomacy.

On the **Sultanate of Sulu** side, there were behind-the-scene efforts to adroitly handle the **Kirams** to keep them assured that they were "not sidelined" and kept them from feeling aggrieved and that we were not somehow squandering away their proprietary interests they held dear. This worked during **FVR** and **GMA's** time. Remember one of the **Kirams** was even included in the previous Administration's senatorial slate? Remember one of the **Kirams** in the recent past was given a high position in the sports commission? That was the whole point! How the Aquino government handled this now, I have no way of knowing at all.

For **President Aquino** to publicly accuse recently some personalities of conspiracy in allegedly staging this Sabah "stand off" scenario to torpedo the **MILF** peace negotiations is, with due respects to the President, too haphazard and premature for a head of state to do at this early stage. There are many factors at play.

NOT ON RADAR —As part of my **BIMPEAGA** tasks in the past, as the highest Philippine official, I had traveled several times to Sabah together with Philippine government officials and the private sector. There were no hassles at all and we were dealing with our neighbors in purely

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MAGKASANGGATAYO

ALIPING for Congressman, ano kayo HILO at HIBANG !!! Para sa pagbabago at kaunlaran-JOEMOL NA!!!

NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



ALIPING for Congressman, ano kayo HILO at HIBANG !!! - Magiging matindi ang bakkaban ng mga magkakatangali para Tonggnessman este Congressman. Anjan si Mark "Chekwa" Go, Bernie "Bulldozer" Vergara at Nicasio "Squatter Protector & Land" Aliping. Sa ngayon ay hindi pa ako sigurado kung sino sa dalawang kandidato, kung si Mark "Chekwa" Go o si Bernie "Bulldozer" Vergara ang ating susuportahan at ikakampanya. Ngunit isang bagay ang nasisiguro ko at yun ay hindig hindi natin masusuportahan itong si Nicasio "Squatter Protector & Land" Aliping, hindi pa naman ako hilo o hibang mga dear readers, katonayan ay ikakampanya ko na hindig hindi dapat ibotos itong si Nicasio "Squatter Protector & Land" Aliping, hindi pa kung malasin po tayong lahat at nagtagumpay ang isang Aliping ay para na rin tayong kumuha ng bato na ipinalo sa ating mga ulo. Sa tutuo lang, tignan ninyo kung ano ang naging accomplishment nitong si Aliping sa kanyang pagiging isang Tonggsehal este Konsehal at walang wala kayong makikita na kahanga-hanga nothing worthy or substantial ika nga !!! Siyanga pala ma iba nga pala tayo ng kuwentuhan, sinong Konsehal ang bagman ng Jueteng? Sinong Konsehal ang nang aagaw ng lupa ng may mga lupa? Sinong Konsehal yun bumili ng paso na at wanted na sasakyan ng Financing Company at nang huhulihin mismo ng Financing at Hiway-Patrol (HPG) ay nagmamatigas pa at at kung sinso sino pa na military ang tinawagan at ninaame drop? Sinong Konsehal ang mahilig mag kasino? Sinong Konsehal ang dala-dalawa ang chika babes ngunit napaka tipid magbigay ng sustento sa isa niyang chika babes kung saan mayroon siyang junior? Kaya inyong pakatatandaan kung wala na kayong pakialam sa kapakanan at future ng ating mahal na siyudad ng Baguio at gusto na ninyong lumala ang pag papatakbo eh di si Aliping ang inyong iboto at sabay kumuha na rin kayo ng Bato at ipalo na rin ninyo sa inyong mga ulo. **Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! ALIPING FOR CONGRESSMAN, NI SA PANIGINIP HINDI OOBRA, ANO KAYO HILO O HIBANG!!!** Kung ikokompara naman natin itong si Mark "Chekwa" Go at si Bernie "Bulldozer" Vergara aba eh, medjo mahirap ikompara ang dalawang ito sapagkat pareho silang mayroon matinding track record. Itong si Mark "Chekwa" Go ay matinik sa Negosyante at naging Manager ng isang malaking multi national na katulad ng Texas Instruments (TI), at ito naman si Bernie "Bulldozer" Vergara ay subok na sa dinami -dami ng mga projects na kung atin siyang ikokompara kay dating Tonggnessman Domogan ay walang sinabi at binatbat itong si Domogan sa dami ng ating nakikitang mga projects ni Vergara, kaya sa ngayon ang napaka simple lang na katanungan ay ito kayang si Mark "Chekwa" Go o itong si Nicasio "Squatter Protector & Land" Aliping ay kakayanin kaya nila makakuha o maka deliver ng kahit na one fourth (1/4) ng mga kasalukuyan projects na nagagawa ni Bernie "Bulldozer" Vergara? Yaan po ang pinakamatinding katanungan sa ngayon mga dear readers???

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JOEMOL NA, PAGBABAGO NA — panahon na mga dear readers, huwag na natin pag aksayahin ng panahon at boto itong si The Great, The One, The Only Mauricio "ERS/TRASHLIDE etc..." Domogan, dapat na siyang palitan ng isang tunay na nagmamahal sa ating siyudad ng Baguio. Anong klaseng tao o nilalang ang inyong matatawag sa isang liderato na Three (3) terms ng Tonggnessman este Congressman at Four (4) Terms ng Mayor ay hanggang sa ngayon ay ayaw pa na bumitw

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DOKUMENTARYO PUBLIKO

Problema sa Mga Water Delivery!!! Kapitan Tulis-an, sino sya??? Bansot na BOBO!!!

BY: KYLE DE GUZMAN



Hello, Good day mga ka-BERKS! Hay, etong EXPOSE ko ngayon para sa Dokumentaryo Publiko ay talagang patok. Na napag-uusapan lalo na sa mga Misis ng Tahanan. At mga establishments na ang puhunan sa kanilang negosyo ay Tubig. Hay Apo, mga ka-Berks! Ako po ay naha-highblood! Dahil sa mga kawalaghiyaan at sa mga katiwalian na pinagagawa ng mga may-ari ng Water Deliveries. Sa akin po na na-research talaga ay minamanmanan at sinubukan at talagang aking napatunayan na talaga palang mga Tarantado ang mga ibang watyer deliver na ito. Sino sino ang mga namanmanan ko na ganito, sila ay ang Y-H-L - Water Delivery, K-B-S- Water Delivery, G-L-A- Water Delivery. At marami pa malamang na ibang mga water delivery. Eh paano ba naman, sobrang panloloko naman sa mga taong masa ang ginagawa. Akalian mo kung 10 drums ang order mo gagawaing 5 drums lang para yung 5 drums ibebenta sa iba. At eto pa may kagaguhan pa, aalukin ka pa na kung gusto mo ay ilagay na din yung natitira daw na 10 drums sa kanilang truck delivery. Ay sus Apo! Yun binebenta nila ay yun kulangsa binigay sayo. Kaya ang labas ay dalawang beses ka nagbayad at doble ang bayad mo sa pinadeliwer mo. At magsales talk pa na bukas at sa ibang araw ay mahirap ang delivery dahil wala daw stock na tubig kuno. Hay at ang usapan pa ng mga lintik, ay kalahati sa opisina ng mga may-ari ng mga water delivery at kalahati sa mga empleyado. Hap malinaw na panloloko talaga. Tubong lugaw ang mga water delivery na eto. At eto pa ang matindi mga ka-Berks ha! Mga Dugyot mga Salahula! Akalain mo pinaghugasan pa ng paa ng mga Boy at magmumumog pa ang mga Delivery Boyat ibubuga sa loob ng Delivery truck ang pinagmumugan. Yaks!!! Ay naku at take note, nakita na ng may-ari ng water delivery ang ginawang kadugyutan, ay dedma lang! Sus, kawawa naman ang masang publiko. Sa mga lintik na water delivery na eto! Ang lagay eh, kulng na nga ang tubig na delivery, hindi pa safe dahil sa salahula at sinahula po! Hay mga ka-Berks, advice ko lang po maging Aware at Beware po kayo sa mga mapag-samantalang mga water delivery at bilang tulong po sa inyo kaya po ko po eto sinusulat at ini-expose ngayun sa aking Dokumentaryo Publiko na column ay upang mapalalahanan kop o kayo, para kayo ay maging listo at maging manman nang hnd kayo madehado ng mga Water Deliveries.

Pahabol lamang po sa dating bestfriend ko daw (kuno!) Na si A-NO-D-E-O-U-LL! Hoy Bugok! Umayos ka! Bistado na sa ka-walang hiyaan mo at pagka-ganid mo sa pera! Advice ko lang, huwag ako ang iba-black mail mo! Kasi wala kag madedelehensiya sa akin wala na akong pera noh! Sus, kasi baka akala mo totoo yung 4M? Hahaha! Sad to say my friend. Drawing lang yun ng isang taong kasing BOBO mo! Kung ako sayo mag shine ka na lang ng sapatos sa Burnham! Baka dun magkapera ka! Sabi nga basta Bansot ay Salot! Hehehe!

At para sa isang Punong Barangay na puro katiwalian ang ginagawa, yun pala isang tulisan kupitan siya. Mahilig manggulang, mahilig mangantso at manloko. At sama-sama pa sa pangangampanya sa isang politiko (polpolitiko)!!! Na puro ka-istiran ang alam, kaya pareho silang partners in crime. Magka partner sa panloloko, magka partner sa pang-iistir. Sa mga tao! Dahil ang aga pa para sa pangangampanya, and to think na almost 7 months na nila eto ginagawa. May mga foreigner na ginagantso. Hoy kayong dalawang partners in crime, mag ingat kayo, God is watching you.

Lawmaker : Make Public Education Absolutely Free

"We should make public education absolutely free," Senator Alan Cayetano said today when asked to comment on violations by several schools on the ban on imposing graduation fees issued by the Department of Education (DepEd). "Otherwise, we will continue the sad cycle of children dropping out of school just to support their families. In this case, the students skip their graduation rites because they cannot afford it."

Cayetano argued that the only way to make this memorandum effective is to cover the fees incurred by schools. "In Taguig, we don't have this

problem because the city continued my program of ensuring that there is enough budget to cover all expenses not only for graduation, but also uniforms, text books, school supplies, the electric bill, and even the prom," he said.

Cayetano defended teachers and heads of universities by explaining that the reason why they are doing this is because they are not making enough income or have insufficient MOOE (Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses). "A lot of schools do not have enough income, so we cannot blame them for having to resort to charging fees for special occasions like

graduation," Cayetano said. "But in Taguig, in continuing my educational programs, the city has been waiving the graduation fees of all 34 public schools in Taguig for the past two years."

Cayetano said that for this year's graduation, Taguig City is sponsoring the graduation fees of 17,613 public school students. This is in addition to the scholarships given by the city to all students of the graduating class and also to the most outstanding student of each class in all levels both in elementary and high school.

"I am proud to share that Mayor Lani has been able to continue and im-

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Frontline Service Providers Oriented on Child Protection Laws

BAGUIO CITY - Direct service providers and member agencies of the Anti-Child Abuse Network (ACAN) are oriented on child protection laws in order to equip them in identifying and understanding pertinent laws that will protect the young against all sorts of child rights violations.

Social Worker Liza Bulayungan of the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWADO) informed that the activity aimed to enhance the skills, knowledge and attitude of service providers which include Philippine National Police (PNP) officers, social workers, members of the Barangay Council for the Protec-

tion of Children (BCPC) in the city who have direct contact with the Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP).

"Everyday, we read and hear news about cases of children who are victims of abuse, either physical, sexual, psychological in nature. It is also unfortunate that our children are not exempted

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BIR Rolls-Out Mobile Tax Collection System in the Cordillera

BAGUIO CITY - The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) has launched

the Mobile Revenue Collection System (MRCOS) in line with its thrust to improve tax collection schemes especially in municipalities that are without banking establishments or accredited tax collection agents.

Lilia Guillermo, BIR Deputy Commissioner - Information Systems Group during the BIR's tax campaign in Cordillera at the SM City Baguio, Wednesday, disclosed that the MRCOS is geared towards a more efficient tax collection for the achievement of the projected target of P 1.2 trillion in collected taxes this 2013. It aims to address the concern of some accredited agents who are tempted not to remit their collection due to the absence of banking establishments in the area.

"There are still a lot of municipalities that do not have banks. Upon agents' collection of taxes in those municipalities it will take them time to travel back to the office premises without the main office knowing how much exactly they have collected; the agents are susceptible to committing acts of corruption," Guillermo said.

The technology is aimed at the improving tax compliance and the elimination of physical travel to and from office and taxpayer's premises, she added.

BIR Cordillera Regional Director Eduardo Bajador, in a separate interview, explained that MRCOS will use a cellular phone like technology which will enable revenue collection officers to remotely perform tax mapping and collection.

"The technology also has the ability to serve as a mobile cash register and is directly connected to a receipt printer", he added.

Under the said scheme, one accredited BIR officer will be delegated to a certain municipality and will perform collection.

The door-to-door collection using MRCOS will bring convenience to taxpayers and at the same time promote prompt taxpaying. In the Cordillera, it will be very helpful in reaching far-flung areas to improve tax collection in the region, according to Bajador.

The technology can also be used in cities but only during the deadline of income tax filing to help alleviate long queues for those who opt to beat the last day of paying their income taxes, he said.

Meanwhile, Bajador reiterated BIR's call to taxpayers to file their income tax returns as early or before the April 15 deadline to avoid rushing and the inconvenience of going into longer queues as the deadline nears./JDP/CCD-Gloria Diane Rivera and Mark Peter Tiongco/PIA interns

OWWA-CAR invites OFWs, Their Children and Dependents to Apply for Scholarships, Training Programs

BAGUIO CITY - The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration-Cordillera Regional Office (OWWA-CAR) is inviting children and dependents of overseas Filipino workers in the region to apply for scholarships

and training programs being offered by the agency.

OWWA-CAR Regional Director

Manuela Peña explained that the OFWDSP which offers a P20,000 educational assistance per year is open for application to a OFW Dependent Scholarship Pro-

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Bokod holds Ambuklao Adventure II

BFP-CAR Kicks off EMB-CAR Strengthens

Observance of Fire Prevention Month

Advocacy on Solid Waste Management

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - The Ambuklao Adventure of Bokod local government takes its second wave of thrill and fun for enthusiasts to delight on what nature has to offer coupled with the town's manmade landmark sites.

Ambuklao Adventure II on March 2-3, 2013 in sitio Ambuklao is a combination of jeepney ride, trekking and boat riding.

The trekking adventure takes off on March 2 at the Provincial Capitol through Labey, Tublay all the way to Mt. Patoktok until mid morning.

After viewing at Mt. Patoktok summit towering about 1,425 meters above sea level, participants will proceed to Peses for lunch then off to Banao for jeepney ride to Ambuklao Heritage site which also serves as campsite for trekkers.

In the heritage site in Sitio Sombrero in Ambuklao under the administration of community stakeholders are schools, sports facilities, chapel and a municipal building as the place was the former seat of Bokod municipal government.

The next day will be travel to the spillway of the famous Ambuklao Dam and boat riding to Balet then back to campsite.

The two-day adventure ends with a closing program in the afternoon through testimonials, giving of tokens and certificates.

Registration fee for this event is P1,500.00 inclusive of transportation from Baguio to Ambuklao and back, meals, tour guide fee, souvenir and certificate./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

Hotels Fully Booked for Panagbenga Festivities

BAGUIO CITY - Baguio Flower Festival Executive Committee co-chairman Anthony De Leon said that hotels, inns and other accommodation in the city of Baguio were fully booked so some tourists opted to check in hospitals in the city just to have a glimpse of the highlight of the Panagbenga festivities during the weekend.

De Leon said that they have monitored some tourists who had themselves admitted in a hospital in the city just to have a place to stay for the Pangbenga which is now on its 18th year.

"May mga turista na nag check in sa mga ospital pero pagdating ng parade days magaling na sila," said De Leon.

The BFF organizers also reported that the hotel members of the Hotel and Restaurants Association of Baguio were fully booked during the weekend and some reservations were made months even before the festivities in Baguio City started.

"Home stays and transient houses are making money this time of the year in the city," De Leon said. He added that they received reports that transient houses or private house being turned into guest house were also filled up by tourists.

Burnham Park also became camping grounds wherein tourists and even some locals put up their tents at the different part of the park just to have a place to sleep for the nights of February 23 and 24.

BFF Chairman Freddie Alquiroz, however, assured that the parks remained clean and tidy even after the tourists made it their homes for two nights.

In a statement by Mayor Mauricio Domogan, he said the city was filled with up to 2.2 million tourists during the Panagbenga Grand Street Dancing and Float Parades during the weekend.

Tourist spots in the city as well as other nearby municipalities such as La Trinidad, Itogon and Tuba were also filled with tourists last week.

The monthlong Panagbenga festivities will run until March 3./RC-PIA CAR

BAGUIO CITY - The Bureau of Fire Protection - Cordillera (BFP-CAR) launched the observance of Fire Prevention Month Friday with a Unity Walk for a Fire Free and Fire Safe Nation and a press conference at the BFP-Baguio Fire Station.

BFP-CAR Assistant Regional Director for Operations Fire Chief Inspector Angelico Albert Buyayo said this year's Fire Prevention Month, takes the theme, "Sunog at Sakuna Paghandaan, Kalikasan ay Pangalagaan nang Matamasa ang Pag-unlad ng Bayan" (Be prepared against fire and fire-related accidents, and protect the environment for the country's development), to outline the importance of fire safety awareness in the progress of the people and nation building.

Buyayo also disclosed that most of the BFP scheduled activities nationwide are anchored on an intensified fire safety and prevention advocacy down to the barangay level as although fire occurrences are unforeseen events, it is still a fact that fire can be prevented. In the Cordillera Region, the BFP activities will include house to house fire safety inspection and fire prevention awareness campaign conducted for the whole month of March in coordination with the different barangays regionwide. All fire stations in the region will also conduct a three-day open house on March 8 to 10, wherein school children and barangay folks will be invited to witness lectures on the use of fire truck and other emergency management vehicles and equipment, as well on the proper use of fire extinguishers and on other fire safety and prevention tips. Fire prevention games and contests for elementary and high schools will also be conducted in provinces and two cities in Cordillera. The firefighters themselves will join in the BFP Fire Olympics at the Baguio Athletic Bowl on March 18.

Buyayo disclosed that in 2012, a total of 206 fire incidents - 186 structural and 17 vehicular fires - were recorded in the entire region. Records show that out of the 186 structural fires, 106 were residential and mostly due to open flames such as cooking or kitchen management accidents.

Benguet recorded the most fire incidents with 66, followed by Baguio City with 54, Mt. Province with 27, Abra with 25, Kalinga with 15, Apayao with 10 and Ifugao with 9. The figures include both structural and vehicular fires./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Comelec-Kalinga ups Preparation for May Elections

TABUK CITY, Kalinga - - The Commission on Elections (Comelec), Kalinga provincial office is doing the necessary preparations to ensure that no delay, interruption, machine glitch and other forms of neglect shall occur during the election period.

According to Provincial Election Supervisor Atty. Dexter Barry Cawis, four Comelec representatives from will be attending the trainors training on the operation of the precinct count operating system (PCOS) on February 25-27 in Baguio city.

The trainors will in turn train Board of Election Inspectors (BEIs) in the province by early March after training of another three trainors, he added.

On March 4-6, another training will be conducted here for municipal and provincial board of canvassers.

After all these capability building activities, the PCOS road show 2013 will be conducted in all Cordillera region provinces and will be held March 18-23 in the provinces of Apayao and Kalinga.

"The PCOS machines will be tested of their reliability, demonstrate actual feeding of mock ballots, and hands-on manipulation of the machines," Cawis said.

BAGUIO CITY - The Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR) Cordillera Regional Office reiterated their call to the public to properly segregate their waste and help address our growing concern on garbage which pose dangers to the environment and the health of the people.

Over 12 years since the passage of Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, the public and the local government units who are the key stakeholders and implementers of the law are not fully aware of the purpose of the law as well as its implementing rules and regulations, according to EMB-DENR OIC Regional Director Oscar Cabanayan.

"If only all stakeholders will only do their part in the implementation of RA 9003 especially on the proper segregation of garbage in every home, we can reduce or problem on garbage disposal by 50 percent", he said.

To strengthen the advocacy on ecological solid waste management (ESWM) in the region, the EMB-CAR on Tuesday called on several government agencies for the organization and re-activation of the Regional Ecological Center (REC) which will be the repository of all data, information, best practices and latest technologies on ESWM in the Cordillera.

Invited to be the among the core group of the REC are the regional offices of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) and the City Government of Baguio.

Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) Samuel Cirilo, who was designated by Cabanayan to head the REC, explained that the objectives of the organization of the REC are: to facilitate training and education in ESWM, establish and manage a comprehensive solid waste management information database, promote the development of a recycling network, to act as the hub for networking of local government units, non government organizations and industries, to provide or facilitate expert assistance in pilot modeling of solid waste management facilities as well as to act as a clearing house for cleaner production and cleaner technologies on ESWM.

Cirilo also stresses that the invited REC core agencies will each spearhead a committee that will help in the attainment of the REC's objectives. They enjoin other agencies, non-government organizations, academic institutions and other civic groups to be part of their respective committees.

"Garbage is now part and parcel of day to day living. Yet, the inherent and usual culture/attitude of the majority, if not all towards the proper management and disposal of one's waste remains primitive or to the old style of "who cares" attitude. As such, part of the REC's mission/vision here in Cordillera is to transform that usual mind, for the public to take good care of their own waste, so as all together we can reduce, if not eliminate the dangers post by not properly dispose or un-manage garbage, to this present generation and to the future generations to come", Cirilo stressed./JDP/CD-PIA CAR

He informed that they have already screened 204 PCOS technicians to oversee the operation of 204 PCOS machines in Kalinga's voting precincts.

Kalinga has a total of 995 precincts and 259 clustered precincts with a total of 60,002 registered voters for District I, 83,377 for District II or an overall total of 143,379.

Simultaneous with these skills build-up will be a seminar on random audit of precincts. "The actual work of the 6-member audit team for Kalinga will be after

Compensation law...

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not happen again," Escudero said.

Under the law, the amount of compensation to be awarded to the victims is proportionate to the gravity of the offense inflicted on them through a point system that is a basic component of the law.

Victims who died or who disappeared are given 10 points, while those tortured and, or sexually abused gets from six to nine points, for instance.

Political detainees get from three to five points while those who can prove that their rights were violated under the Act are awarded from one to two points.

Escudero noted that the Marcos compensation law is unique since it is the first time that a state recognizes a previous administration's abuse on its citizens through reparation and recognition.

He said the recognition given under the law provides victims of martial law who do not need financial compensation the rendering of justice from the state.

"The expanded coverage of the law includes not only monetary compensation but also non-monetary benefits such as social and psychological assistance on victims of atrocities through different concerned government agencies. Instead of merely calling it compensation bill, we now call it the reparation bill," Escudero said.

The law also created a Human Rights Claim Board from where a victim of human rights violation during the Marcos regime is qualified to file a claim as stated in section 16 of the Act.

Also under the law all those involved in the class and direct action suit in Hawaii against Marcos and all victims recognized by the Bantayog Ng Mga Bayani Foundation were accorded the same conclusive presumption of being human rights victims defined under the law.

"Conclusive presumption means that any person who has secured or can secure a favorable judgment or award of damages from any court in the country arising from human-rights violation shall be considered conclusively as a victim without need of further proof," Escudero said.

Those who will seek relief through the law for the first time may claim compensation under section 18 which states that "the

Board may take judicial notice motu proprio of individual persons who suffered human rights violations."

The compensations will come from a P10-billion fund held in escrow, plus accrued interest, which was part of the amount transferred to the Philippine government by the Swiss Federal Supreme Court as part of the billions of pesos the Marcoses were suspected to have stashed abroad./Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

Kakampi mo ang Batas....

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Jabidah Massacre took place.

"The outrage to this massacre fuelled the formation of a militant Muslim secessionist group, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), whose original fighters were reportedly trained in a secret camp on Pangkor Island, Malaysia. The blowback of this failed operation embarrassed the Philippines government internationally for violating the spirit of the 1963 Manila Accord..."

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REACTIONS? Please call me at 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0922 833 43 96. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com, mmmauriciojr111@gmail.com.

Advocacy Mindanao

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economic engagements. Political, like sovereignty issues were not on our radar screen.

BIMPEAGA, as a matter of fact was set up by **President Ramos** and **Prime Minister Mahathir** (who came to Davao just to launch it) to emphasize the primacy and need for economic cooperation amongst neighboring countries in the south. In the process, the political issues took a back seat, effectively relegating "sovereignty issues" in the "back burners". In fact, it became a non-issue. **GOOD NEIGHBOR** — Now that the "cat is out of the bag", Sabah will be a lingering issue for sometime. No doubt it will have a bearing on our relations with Malaysia next door, which has been a good neighbor in the ASEAN and BIMPEAGA sphere. It will have security implications. It has international ramifications. It may affect in some way the on-going peace negotiations with the MILF where ancestral domain issues which deal on territorial claims for the Bangsamoro are major sticky points. With the public resurrection of the Sultanate claim,

the question begs to be answered: why is the ancestral domain claim of the MILF purportedly in representation of all **Bangsamoro** EXCLUDING Sabah when there is historical basis for such claim? Of course, for obvious reasons, Malaysia's earnest and key role as peace talks facilitator will be put under cloud. For sure, **MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari** who still nurses some ill feelings on the way he was treated by the Malaysians during his arrest and detention there, will use this development as a platform to pursue his "claim Sabah" campaign. His disdain on the Malaysian-brokered MILF Framework Agreement is too public to ignore. I can't help but suspect that some of Chairman Nur's MNLF elements are part of the armed contingent now in **Lahad Datu**.

SECURITY IMPLICATIONS— But I am more worried about the effect of all this on our relations with Malaysia, our next-door neighbor which has been a good ally in the **ASEAN** hemisphere. It has also serious security implications for the Philippines because we have "opened our barracks" to Malaysians who know exactly the **AFP** capabilities (and weaknesses), especially in Mindanao with Malaysian military forces actively engaged in ceasefire work in every nook of our southern region. They know every detail of our **AFP**'s operational status in the south, to the last detachment on the ground. Of course, armed hostilities between us and Malaysia is far fetched but it's good to point this out for our own reality check.

MALAYSIAN ELECTIONS TOO —

Now, the Aquino administration is confronted with it and is compelled to deal with it. The timing of the eruption of the issue during our own May election campaign period is also unfortunate. We know how it is when some political candidates will use this as an issue in the campaigns.

Many may not be aware of this but there is **ALSO** the forthcoming elections in Malaysia THIS YEAR. The controversy will be a factor, no doubt. This may be internal Malaysian matter but I am informed reliably that there is some quiet rancor and insecurity amongst **Tausugs** who are in Sabah now and who are not even involved in the so-called "stand off". The **ROYAL**

INQUISITION COMMISSION in Malaysia had started to look closely at the **IMMIGRATION CARDS (IC)** system that granted resident or legal status to some Filipino Muslims, mostly **Tausugs** from Sulu as part of some political move to downscale the voting strength of Sabahans in the forthcoming Malaysian elections. Many **TAUSUGS**, mostly Sultanate "subjects" who are long time residents there were affected. The campaign was the cause of many forced repatriations. My calculation is that while the actual body count involved in the "stand off" is said to have 200 to 300 warm bodies, the feeling of insecurity and grievance is pervasive amongst many Sabah residents who came from Mindanao. **THEY ARE POTENTIAL "ACTORS" IF THE SCENARIO IS MISHANDLED.**

I was also reliably informed that Malaysian opposition leader **Anwar Ibrahim**, the **Former Deputy Minister of Malaysia** who was charged and detained but was acquitted of sodomy charges, had met sometime ago with Chairman Nur Misuari (also charged and detained and also acquitted for rebellion). They did not talk about their cases for sure. Yes, they discussed this "IC" cleansing issue in Sabah. What came out of that meeting was still unclear.

WAY FORWARD — One way forward is to pursue it as "proprietary" issue to protect the rights of the Sultanate of Sulu. From my own assessment, the Sultanate appears insecure due to the reported approaching

Conf. on page 9

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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

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
La Trinidad, Benguet

RURAL BANK OF BUGUIAS, INC.,
TADIAN BRANCH,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

KEVIN DOMINGO &
HARRIET DOMINGO,
Mortgagors,

FORECLOSURE
CASE NO. 13-EXF-1683

FOR: EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135 AS AMENDED

X———X

SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

Upon petition for foreclosure of real estate mortgage under act 3135 as amended filed by the RURAL BANK OF BUGUIAS, Tadian Branch, herein represented by its manager, ROGELION CALAYAN, of legal age, Filipino citizen, and with residence at Tadian, Mountain Province, Philippines against KEVIN F. DOMINGO, a minor/ now of legal age, Filipino Citizen, herein assisted by his mother HARRIET F. DOMINGO, widow, a Filipino Citizen and both residing at # 315 Balili, La Trinidad, Benguet, in a real estate mortgage dated November 23, 2009. That as of July 23, 2012, the outstanding obligation amounted to ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P 150,000.00), Philippine currency, exclusive of agreed interest, attorney's fees and expenses.

That the undersigned announces that he will sell at Public Auction on APRIL 2, 2013 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in front of the Bulwagan Ng Katarungan, Justice Hill, La Trinidad, Benguet to the highest bidder for cash and in Philippine Currency the mortgaged property together with all improvements thereon to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T- 67563

" xxx A parcel of land (Lot 1-A-5, Psd-CAR-015688) being a portion of Lot 1-A, Psd-CAR-000330, situated at urban code 131113, Barangay of Km. 6, Asin Municipality of Tuba, Benguet, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the S., along line 1-2 by Lot 1-A-4 of the subd. Plan., on the NW., along line 2-3 by Lot 1-B; Psd-CAR 000330; on the N., along line 3-4 by Lot 1-A-6 of the subd. Plan.; on the SE., along line 4-5 by Perpetual Alley (1.00 m. wide) portion of Lot 1-A-2 of the subd. Plan.; along line 5-1 by Perpetual Alley (1.00 m wide) portion of Lot 1-A-3 of the subd. Plan. Beginning at a point marked "I" plan being N.32 deg. 22'W., 2,744.54 m from BLIM # 1, Tuba Benguet, thence.,

N. 75 deg. 38'W., 35.06 m to point 2;
N. 24 deg. 44'E., 18.49 m to point 3;
S. 75 deg. 41'E., 35.05 m. to point 4;
S. 24 deg. 39' W., 9.25 m. to point 5;
S. 24 deg. 43' W., 9.26 m to point of beginning ;xxx"

Prospective buyers/bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the real property herein-above described and the encumbrances thereon if any there be.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on April 24, 2013 at the same time and place without further notice.

La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, February 28, 2013.

FOR: THE PROVINCIAL SHERIFF EX-OFFICIO OF

BENGUET
By: (SGD) JOHN MARIE O. OCASLA Sheriff IV

Publication dates : March 2, 9 and 16, 2013

Advocacy Mindanao

from page 8

"expiration" of the lease payments. It is also aggrieved because Malaysia reportedly increased the amount of payments for Sarawak, another tenement similar to Sabah's situation. The IC "cleansing" which has negative viral effect on Filipino Muslims in Sabah and its ramifications in Malaysian politics is another matter. Let's not forget the Misuari-MNLF factor. These must all be taken into account.

MARHATABAT — A final word. A premature and reckless move by Malaysian authorities, even as a public avowal of its non-negotiable policy of Malaysian territorial integrity may trigger a more complicated scenario. I am not making this up or sound threatening. But it is publicly known that the TAUSUGS of Sulu (and many of them are now EMBEDDED in communities in Sabah) value their honor and dignity. Muslims refer to this as "marhatabat". They value this more than life. USE OF FORCE TO RESOLVE THIS WILL ONLY WORSEN THINGS.

What is crucial is how the "stand off" can be handled with great sensitivity and balance. I trust the two governments will accordingly calibrate their actions. The "sovereignty issue" can be dealt with at another time. But returning this to the back burners, as it was, may be difficult to do now.

Lawmaker.....

wages."

from page 2

Reacting to accusations by the United Nationalist Alliance (UNA) that it was the Liberal Party (LP) that blew up the expose, Cayetano said that the issue is beyond politics because it concerns the people. "*Ito ay pera ng tao, hindi ng pulitiko.* (This is the money of the people, not of politicians.) Regardless of the personalities involved, we need to take measures to ensure that this kind of irresponsible and corrupt handling of the PDAF - or even the MOOE, for that matter - does not happen again, because corrupt practices like this hinder the people from feeling the benefits of economic growth."

Cayetano stressed that there is a need to focus on the true issues at hand instead of casting blame on each other. "*Issue hindi intriga. PiTiK, hindi pitikan,*" he said as he asked both the candidates and the people to focus instead on addressing the country's concerns related to PiTiK: Presyo, Trabaho, Kita.

Cayetano went on a Listening Tour of Bulacan today, with stops at the Office of the Governor and Barasoain Church, as well as for a meeting with senior citizens of Bulacan. He joined the Team PNoY rally in San Fernando and Guagua, Pampanga./ Office of Senator Alan Peter Cayetano

Nut Bolting.....

from page 2

ment or both at the discretion of the court. Ong's team found that even government agencies had nailed signs on trees at the Burnham Park, the city's main picnic and recreation area. Obviously unaware of the ordinance, well-meaning students doing community work had also wired and wrapped around trees "No Littering" tarpaulin signs.

A sign with the text "No Parking BWD" was wired to a tree while a black plastic trash bag was also wired to another tree.

Bicycle-for-hire concessionaires at the main park removed their respective come-on signs and other attachments on trees, including a wall clock, after the team handed them copies of the ordinance, Ong said in a report.

"While the trees have been cleared of signages, trash bags, etc., it is suggested, however, that the City Environment (and) Parks Management Office remind the biking concessionaires to also clean their area," the report said.

The report comes in the wake of a plea from environment officials for wannabes seeking senatorial, congressional and local positions, together with party-list representation in the May polls to spare trees of their campaign posters and to make their bids "environment-friendly".

The report also serves as a warning to candidates who face fine and imprisonment under the ordinance, or voters' censure that may spell their defeat in the polls, especially if they are ironically running on a pro-environment platform./Ramon Dacawi.

OSG.....

from page 2

dered last January 15 denied the OSG petition on grounds that the OSG failed to exhaust the recourse of appeal before the NCIP and that the petition was filed beyond the allowable 60-day filing period.

The CA also maintained that "there is no basis for the exclusion of the city of Baguio from the coverage of the IPRA (Indigenous Peoples Rights Act)" and that "the finality of Civil Reservation case No. 1 GLRO Record No. 211 does not defeat fresh claims of the indigenous peoples and communities over their ancestral land in the City of Baguio."

The OSG in its motion argued that the appeal procedure under the IPRA "does not apply" to the OSG because "it was not a party to the proceedings before the NCIP."

Moreover, it contended that the questioned resolutions and titles "are null and void ab initio; hence, the petition should be allowed despite the lapse of the sixty-day period within which to file a petition."

The OSG also maintained that the NCIP "has no jurisdiction to issue the (CALTs) within the city and the Baguio Townsite Reservation in view of their express exemption from the coverage of the IPRA."

The OSG cited section 78 of the IPRA law which provides that the city of Baguio "shall remain to be governed by its Charter and all lands proclaimed as part of its townsite reservation shall remain as such until otherwise reclassified by appropriate legislation."

"...While the Honorable Supreme

Court (in the case City Government of Baguio v. Atty. Masweng) held that the exemption of the City of Baguio from the IPRA cannot be ipso facto deduced from Section 78 because the law concedes the validity of prior land rights recognized or acquired through any process before its effectivity, reliance on this pronouncement is misplaced since the ruling cited did not provide guidelines or enumerate in what particular instances the recognition of prior land rights could be compelled," the OSG noted.

"In fact, in Masweng, the Honorable Supreme Court held that private respondents therein did not have a definitive and recognized ancestral land claim within the City of Baguio and as such it was declared that they were not entitled to an injunction writ from the (NCIP)."

The OSG said it is the same in this case as the private respondents' "alleged rights over the subject parcels of land were never recognized in any administrative or judicial proceedings..."

The OSG further argued that there is no law allowing the CALTs, assuming that they are valid, to be converted into Torrens Certificates of Title.

"There is no provision under Presidential Decree No. 1529 or the Property Registration Decree that allows the conversion of CALTs into TCT."

The city government has a separate petition before the NCIP calling for the cancellation of the O-CALT 130 and derivative titles and resolutions that overlapped with the 4,000 square meter property titled under the city government within the Wright Park.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan expressed hopes that the CA will reconsider the decision and recognize the intent of section 78 of the IPRA which provides an exemption that "prior land rights and titles recognized and/or acquired through any judicial, administrative or other processes before the effectivity of this Act shall remain valid..." which means that Igorot claims recognized before November 1997, the date of IPRA implementation, are qualified as ancestral claims.

The mayor said that as per section 78, the legitimate claims are those Igorot claims classified as alienable as ancestral land including Igorot ancestral claims screened under Special Administrative Order No. 31 issued in 1990 and Dept. Administrative Order No. 02 issued in 1993 by the Dept. and Environment and Natural Resources./A Refuerzo

Council.....

from page 3

made it inaccurate as Camp John Hay remains encompassed by different barangays.

"The city of Baguio has 129 barangays and Camp John Hay as a basic Local Government Unit is not one of them," Cosalan noted.

The body earlier asked the DENR-CAR to submit the result of the police boundary survey project undertaken by H.O. Noveloso Surveying Office for the city's conformity and in the plan transmitted by DENR-CAR regional director Clarence Baguilat, it was seen that an area identified as Camp John Hay is segregated possibly referring to the John Hay Specific Economic Zone of the John Hay reservation.

The aldermen said this entry needs to be corrected before the said plan will be approved./A Refuerzo

Mayor Amends.....

from page 3

hood. However, Mayor Domogan stressed the importance of cooperation of the vendors and strict compliance on the rules and regulations set by the city.

The said Administrative Order took effect last Feb. 22, 2013.

The City Engineer's Office has already prepared a plan for the possible use of the sides of the Melvin Jones as night market vending area which is to be further appraised by the Baguio City Market Authority in order not to violate the city ordinance.

Repainting of slots will be expected since the asphalt works of the DPWH is already through said City Engineer Leo Bernardez./Jho Arranz/PIO-Baguio

DILG Leads Implementation of P211.8m Peace and Development Projects in CAR

DILG.....

from page 3

efforts to conflict affected areas all over the country.

DILG-CAR Local Government Capability Division chief Rene Valera, in a radio interview disclosed that PAMANA projects were first implemented in the Cordillera by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) in 2011 under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Philippine Government and the Cordillera Bodong Administration - Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CBA-CPLA), now called the Cordillera Forum for Peace and Development.

The PAMANA is anchored on three pillars: interventions through policy reform and development, interventions to promote the convergent delivery of services and goods, and interventions to address regional and sub-regional development.

In 2012, Valera reported that OPAPP and DILG identified 23 projects in Sadanga, Mountain Province and the municipalities of Tinglayan, Pinukpuk, Tanudan, Pasil and the City of Tabuk in Kalinga, with a total cost of P50 million for construction of bridges, foot bridge, improvement of communal irrigation system, concreting of farm to market roads, and agro-forest projects.

For this year, the P211.8 million worth of PAMANA-DILG projects will be implemented in the municipalities of Lacub and Ting in Abra; Flora Apayao; Mankayan Benguet; Asipulo and Tinoc in Ifugao; Pinukpuk in Kalinga and the municipalities of Besao, Bontoc, Natonin, Sadanga and Paracelis in Mt. Province.

Valera disclosed that they have already released P9.2M for a PAMANA road opening project in Lacub, Abra last February 8. They are also set to release P20M for a road concreting project in Pinukpuk, Kalinga and P5.6M for a road improvement project in Paracelis, Mt. Province.

He said all projects are with a memorandum of agreement with the concerned local government. Funds are released to the trust account of the concerned LGU through an 80-20 scheme - 80 percent for the implementation and 20 percent after completion. /JDP/CCD-Chelsea Irving and Jaro Nicandro/PIA interns

Mayor Backs.....

from page 3

this year's target noting that albeit the region exceeded last year's collection by P500 million, it missed last year's P3.390 billion target by a measly P38 million.

Guillermo however lauded the region's efforts that led to a 98 percent collection achievement mark and made it the only region in the country to achieve a double-digit collection growth of 16 percent.

Guillermo expressed hopes that the region will outdo its performance this year along with the rest of the country to propel the national bureau's achievement of its 2013 target of P1.2 trillion.

She said the ambitious target was set inspired by the bureau's achievement of its first trillion-peso collection last year. To reach the target, the bureau has launched a 26-point program aimed at heightening the enforcement of tax evasion laws, reengineering the processes to speed up the service and to ensure that improvement compliance to tax laws will be achieved.

Domogan for his part assured that the city government will do its share in improving its tax collection measures.

He said the city has consistently exceeded its tax collection target for the past years and hopes for a repeat this year.

He said that as of last week, the city has collected P149 million in business taxes and P97 million in real property taxes.

He said a total of 7,998 business permits have been signed as of last week which is still 6,000 short of the 14,000 permit target.

He said more permits are up for signing in the coming days as the deadline for business tax payment on March 20 nears.

After the deadline, the city treasurer's office will continue to process licenses year-round but these will be subject to surcharges./A Refuerzo

Magkasangga tayo.....

from page 5

sa katungkulin/kapangyarihan at ayaw pa na bigyan ng pagkakataon ang ibang mga tao na manungkulan, yaan po si The Great, The One, The Only Mauricio "ERS/TRASHLIDE etc." Domogan. Para sa inyong kaalamanitong si The Great, The One, The Only Mauricio Domogan, tatlong termino na siya naging Tongressman este Congressman o 9 years ng Congressman at apat na termino o 12 years na siyang Mayor eh ayaw pa niya bumutiw. **ANG TAWAG SANILALANG NAGANYANAY MAKASARILL, SUWAPANG AT GAHAMAN**, bakit si Domogan lang ba ang anak ng Diyos na mayroon kapabilidad at karapatan na manungkulan at maging Mayor sa siyudad ng Baguio??? Panahon na para sa pagbabago at panibagong liderato, isang tunay na nagmamahal sa siyudad ng Baguio, an original son of Baguio, an Ibaloi, one who will do what is right for the City of Baguio, isang tao na pangangalagaan ang pangalan ng Molintas Family. **JOEMOL IS THE MAN FOR NOW**. Subukan natin siya walang mawawala sa atin kung siya ang magiging Mayor ng Baguio. Ika nga sa ingles- Things can no longer get any worse the way they are and have been under the administration of Domogan, it is a time for change- it is time for **JOEMOL**.

Lawmaker: Make Public.....

from page 6

prove our educational funding program and doubled the city's scholarship fund, going from P100 million in 2011 to P200 million this year. This was done through careful re-allocation of funds and strict budgeting of public resources," he said. "I urge the national government and other local government units (LGUs) to study the model that we used."

Cayetano further suggested that national government should also share this burden with LGUs by allocating part of the budget of DepEd to subsidize graduation fees, especially in the poorer provinces and municipalities. He explained that if this practice can be done in Taguig, there is no excuse not to be able to do it nationally.

Cayetano noted that with the P30 billion increase in the DepEd budget for 2013, the agency has to put equal focus on all important aspects of the Basic Education Enhancement Program and at the same time, relieve the burden of the poor from these additional expenses.

Cayetano encouraged other LGUs to follow in the footsteps of Taguig City and strictly follow DepEd's directive. "Education must be a topmost priority of every LGU, because it is through this that the youth are equipped with the proper knowledge and skills to acquire the jobs they need and earn the wages they deserve," he said.

As chairman of the Committee on Education during the 14th Congress and as Senate Minority Leader in the 15th Congress, Cayetano initiated efforts to make educational loans and scholarships more responsive and easily accessible to deserving students. He was also steadfast in seeking more funding for basic and tertiary education, and for better compensation for public school teachers./office of Senator Alan Peter Cayetano

Frontline.....

from page 6

from this kind of cases and you all know that child victims find themselves selfless", she said.

Among the topics include Republic Act 9775 or the Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009, RA 9995 or the Anti-Photo Video voyeurism Act of 2009 which were discussed by Atty. Maria Nenita Opiana of the City Prosecutors Office.

House Bill 5496 or the Anti-Bullying Act of 2012 was discussed by Atty. Ruth Bawayan, Clerk of Court V of the Family Court of Baguio City; RA 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 was explained by Atty. Ruth Bernabe, Prosecutor II of the City Prosecutors Office.

Bulayungan extended her gratitude to participants for attending the orientation as she stressed that caring for children is not her concern nor the concern of the participants alone but everybody's concern.

She also inspired the participants by reading a passage which will help increase their passion for a continuous delivery of social services to the CNSP.

"Sana sa bawat paglubog ng araw, tayo ay nakapagbigay pag-asa para sa isang magandang umaga sa buhay ng bata, sa muli hindi mahalaga kung magkano ang ating kinikita at anong klase ng bahay, damit o kotse mayroon tayo. Dahil ang buhay ay makabuluhan sapagkat naging bahagi tayo ng buhay ng isang bata. Walang kapantay ligayang madarama sa oras na marinig mo sa bata at magulang ang katagang salamat po dahil naging parte ka ng pagbabago sa buhay ko". (At the end of each day, may we have given hope/inspiration to a child; it does not matter how much we earn, what kind of house, clothes or car we have. Life is meaningful because we have been a part of a child's life. It would be so much joy if you hear a child and a parent say the words 'thank you for being a part in making a new 'me'.)

The activity was a cost sharing and undertaking by all the members-agencies of ACAN./JDP/MAWC - PIA CAR

Comelec - Kalinga.....

from page 7

elections to check if the number of voters jibe with the cast votes, if the compact flash disk were actually inserted on PCOS machines among other tasks.

In another development, Cawis said Comelec coordinated with the Kalinga-Apayao Electric Cooperative to identify non-grid areas as basis for the request of generator sets from Comelec central office.

He also bared that the occurrence of unstable communication problems will be resolved by doing manual ballot and bringing compact flash disk to signal zone areas./JDP/PAB-PIA CAR, Kalinga

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

JOSEPH DULNUAN
Applicants
Case No:2011-CAR-631
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 - PUILEX MINES and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 13, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Padda, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

Atleast 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 by 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 on the 19th day of February 2013.

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

Lawmaker

from page 12

the 800,000 Filipinos in Sabah is being addressed through diplomatic channels. Filipinos living in Sabah were reportedly subject to frequent exploitation by Malaysian authorities since they do not have citizenship, according to Escudero. Escudero also urged the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to immediately set up a representative office in Sabah to document the stateless Filipinos to resolve their status and make available to them basic government services. The welfare of our countrymen who consider Sabah as their homeland should be the focus of the government's negotiations with the Malaysian government," Escudero said. *"Siguro pagkakataon na rin natin ito na tutukan yung kapakanan ng humigit-kumulang 800,000 Pilipino na nandoon sa Sabah na hindi kinikilala ng Malaysia ngunit ayaw din naman nila kumuha ng Philippine passport dahil baka paalisin sila sa Sabah kung nasaan yung trabaho nila."* (It opens the government to the chance of looking into the welfare of 800,000 Filipinos in Sabah who are not recognized by Malaysia but who still choose not to acquire a Philippine passport because of their fear that they will be sent home from Sabah), Escudero said. Giving the Filipinos in Sabah the government's attention is incumbent with what is transpiring right now in Sabah, he said. /Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

Binay.....

from page 12

He also spearheaded the awarding of the 2013 Cavaliers Awardees namely Lt. Gen. Noel Coballes of Class 1980; Maj. Gen. Elmir Delacruz of Class 1979; PSSupt. Alexander Rafael of Class 1986; Capt. Alberto Cruz; Cpt. Marlon Parugrug of Class 2001; 1Lt Dimas Jun Balais of Class 2006; Col. Juan Sanchez of Class 1955; MGen. Guillermo Ruiz of Class 1963; and Maj. Francis Señoron of Class 2000.

Binay also took the oath as an honorary member of PMA Maringal Class of 1988 before PMA Alumni Association Inc. President Lt. Gen. Edgardo Batenga of Class of 1963./JDP/RC with reports from UC Interns

BENECO

...from page 12

100,000.00 respectively.

The staunch opposition by the city council to the proposed salary hike of the BENECO heads came about by way of a proposed legislative measure introduced by city councilor Fred Bagbagen which was included in the agenda of the august body via suspension of the rules.

In the said resolution, councilor Bagbagen revealed that the power utility cooperative had prepared its budget for the calendar year 2013 and which included a proposal to raise the current salaries of BENECO general manager Gerardo Versoza and his department heads to P 200,000.00 and P 100,000.00.

It may be recalled that in 2011 the city council adopted Resolution Numbered 140 interposing strong opposition to the proposal to increase the monthly salaries of the department managers of BENECO as contained in BENECO Board Resolution Numbered 75-2010. A copy of Resolution Numbered 140, series of 2011 was subsequently furnished the National Electrification Administration (NEA) for its information and appropriate action.

Councilor Bagbagen said that consistent with the action as abovementioned, the resolution strongly opposing the pay hike of the BENECO manager and his department heads must also be furnished to the NEA for its consideration. Bagbagen also stressed in his resolution that the general manager's present salary, as well as that of his department heads, are reasonable and are above the salary cap set by the NEA.

In another matter, City Councilor Edison Bilog has filed a proposed legislative measure aimed at granting a loyalty cash award of seven thousand five hundred pesos (P 7,500.00) and ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00) for city government employees who have rendered thirty five (35) years of service and forty (40) years of service respectively.

The proposal according to Councilor Bilog finds basis in Commission on Audit Circular Numbered 2013-003 which provides that the loyalty cash award (LCA) for employees covered by Republic Act (RA) numbered 6758 otherwise known as the Salary Standardization Law which also provides that the LCA for those having served for 35 years are to be given P 7,500 pesos while those having served for 40 years are to be given P 10,000.00 pesos.

Bilog said that while the Programs on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) Resolution numbered 01-2002 approved the grant of LCA to city government employees who have rendered continuous service of 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 years nowhere in the said resolution does it mention the grant of LCA to those employees who have served the local government for 35 to 40 years. He stressed that the non-inclusion in the said PRAISE resolution of those employees having served for more than 30 years will deprive them of the benefits and awards due them.

Councilor Bilog further stressed that there is need to expand the coverage of the existing loyalty cash incentive program of the city in order to cover those employees having served the government for more than 30 years. The said expansion, he further added, is also for the purpose of complying with the mandates of the COA./City Council Press Release

OWWA - CAR

from page 6

child or a dependent brother/sister of unmarried active OWWA member OFWs with a monthly salary of not more than 400 US dollars or its Philippine peso equivalent. Applicants must be a Filipino citizen not more than 21 years old and not a recipient of any scholarship award from any government or private institutions.

The available slot is divided per province - 20 for Mountain Province and 12 each for the other five provinces in Cordillera namely Abra, Apayao, Benguet, Ifugao and Kalinga.

Under the said scholarship program, Peña said OWWA-CAR currently has 82 enrolled in various baccalaureate or associate degree. Two scholars have already graduated.

Other scholarship programs are the Education for Development Scholarship Program (EDSP) and the Education and Livelihood Program (ELAP).

The EDSP is a scholarship for qualified dependents of OFWs which provides a maximum of P60,000 per school year assistance to a four or five year baccalaureate course in any college or university while the ELAP is for survivors of deceased OFWs providing P5,000 (elementary), P8,000 (high school) and P15,000 (College) educational assistance per school year for children and P15,000 livelihood assistance to the surviving spouse.

Peña disclosed that OWWA-CAR also offers scholarship and incentive program to seafarers such as the Seafarer's Upgrading Program (SUP) - scholarship for attendance to short-term upgrading courses that are essential to seafarers particularly those who are aiming for promotion.

It also offers short-term training programs for OFWs and dependents such as the Skills-for-Employment Program (SESP) for technical-vocational courses in any Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) accredited school and the Information Technology Program - a free training program which aims to bridge the communication gap between the OFW and his family through the use of internet.

"What active OWWA member OFWs need to do is just visit our office and we will assess what programs and services we can offer them and/or their legal dependents", Peña said./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

The Peace Combatant.....

from page 4

words, Malaysia can say that the Sultanate was already peacefully overthrown in Sabah with the plebiscite and the authority of the Sultan of Sulu over Sabah has ceased to exist even if assuming that there was one in the first place.

Of course, these are only projections on the possibilities. First and foremost is that we do not have access to facts. We do not have access to the original documents and we do not know if the current translations of the documents are faithful to the content of the documents. To resolve the case, it is therefore important for the Government of the Philippines in coordination with and with the appropriate conformity of the Sultanate of Sulu to file a case before the appropriate international courts and resolve the ownership of Sabah once and for all.

The Philippine government itself appears ambivalent on the Sabah question and, thus, filing the appropriate case will greatly clarify what our position is and resolve our case peacefully and justly. Otherwise, more armed initiatives from the Sultanate of Sulu will come and we are caught in position of whether to support or condemn the initiative.

(The author can be contacted through artboquiren2040@yahoo.com, 0927-536-8431, and Facebook)

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

HENRY S. CHIU

Applicants

Case No:88-01-3378

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 - CRYSTAL CAVE and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 20, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS: the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 22nd day of February 2013.

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

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

ARTHUR CARLOS

Applicants

Case No:2001-BC-313

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 - SARILING SIKAP - SAN CARLOS HEIGHTS and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 20, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS: the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 22nd day of February 2013. (SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

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

EDWARD SOLINO - Vendor

TIFFANY ROSE M. FERRER - Vendee

Applicants

Case No:2006-CAR-0013/2013-CAR-159

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Sale and Transfer with 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 - TRANCOCVILLE and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 20, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS: the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 20th day of February 2013.

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

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

NOEL B. UNOS - Vendor

ANTONIO S. JACOB - Vendee

Applicants

Case No:98-BC-043/13-CAR-155

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Sale and Transfer with 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 March 13, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS: the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 20th day of February 2013.

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

Block IV on its Final Stage of Rehabilitation

BAGUIO CITY - City Administrator Atty. Carlos Canilao requested the City Buildings and Architecture Office to prepare a uniform design of the stalls at Block IV of the city market during the Baguio City Market Authority meeting last Feb. 27.

The rehabilitation of the Baguio public market block IV started November of last year and there has been clamor of market vendors to set tables on the stalls for a more presentable and clean facility which the city took into consideration.

According to Atty. Canilao, the city mayor hoped that the inauguration and opening of block IV will already commence this March. A meeting of the BCMA together with the contractor was set Mar. 1.

The moment the rehabilitation is completed, block IV will be inaugurated and at the same time Mayor Mauricio Domogan will award the stalls to the qualified market vendors. /Jho Arranz/PIO-Baguio

Lawmaker Wants Safety of Filipinos in Sabah to be Top Priority

Senator Chiz Escudero lamented the turn of events in Sabah after media reports stated that 10 followers of Sulu Sultan Jamalul Kiram III were killed and four wounded in a clash with Malaysian soldiers while at the same time calling on the government to act quickly to assure the safety of some 800,000 stateless ethnic Filipinos living in Sabah. "It saddens me that the deadline given by Malaysian authorities on our countrymen had lapsed and that violence had to be resorted to in ending the standoff," he said. "Whether we agree or not with what the followers of the Sultan of Sulu did, it is very disheartening to know Filipinos were shot or

massacred as a result of the lapse in the deadline," Escudero said. President Benigno Aquino III had made it clear from the start of the standoff that he was willing to hold a dialogue with the heirs of the Sulu Sultanate over their claim on Sabah if Kiram will order his followers to return home. "It is my fervent hope that the issue will not be dragged into the political arena since it is a delicate issue involving national interest," Escudero said. "My personal view is that the Sabah claim is a personal issue involving the Sultan of Sulu. It's a private right and a private claim. He cannot say, however, that Sabah is part of the Philippines," Escudero added. The sena-

tor said the country's interest should be detached from the private claim of the Sulu Sultanate since involving the whole nation in it may affect our good relations with Malaysia. The incident, however, opens the opportunity for the government to inquire with Malaysian authorities on the condition of 800,000 Filipinos living in Malaysia, Escudero said. He supports the position of the Aquino administration in zeroing in on the welfare of Filipinos who were born and raised in Sabah which is a major humanitarian issue since their stateless status makes them vulnerable to abuse in Malaysia. Interior Secretary Manuel Roxas had said assuring the safety of

Cont. on page 11

City Hall Employees Extend Community Service

BAGUIO CITY - Once again, this year's Baguio Flower Festival was such a big success and this was very evident considering the huge number of foreign and domestic visitors who witnessed the grand street dancing and float parade last Feb. 23 and 24, respectively, in this mountain city. It is for this reason that Mayor Mauricio Domogan issued Administrative Order No. 034, series of 2013 "Declaring 25 February 2013 as community service in the city of Baguio".

A number of guests and participants came in this city to watch the different activities lined-up for the event, thus, there is a need to sustain and maintain the cleanliness of the city.

Despite having volunteers in maintaining the city's cleanliness, city hall employees were directed to give community service in their respective barangays.

This is the city government of Baguio's one way of alleviating in keeping the cleanliness of the summer capital of the Philippines.

Nonetheless, the different offices in the city government of Baguio maintained skeletal forces so as not to hamper public services to taxpayers. /Jho Arranz/PIO-Baguio

Binay Assures Housing Programs for Soldiers

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City - Vice President Jejomar Binay assured housing programs for members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Binay, in his keynote address during the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Alumni Homecoming celebration last week, said that the housing program for Filipino soldiers is just part of the efforts of the Aquino government to improve their lives for their invaluable contribution to the country.

"Ang programang pabahay para sa ating mga kawal ay bahagi lamang ng pagsisikap ng inyong pamahalaan na pagandahin ang inyong buhay bilang pagkilala sa inyong hindi matatawaring ambag sa paghubog ng isang bagong Pilipinas," (The housing

project for the soldiers is just part of the government's efforts to improve your lives in recognition of your invaluable contribution in shaping a new Philippines), said Binay who spoke to thousands of PMA Alumni including other guests and delegates.

"Housing does not only mean a better life for your families but the freedom to do your job of soldiery better," Binay, who is the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council chairman, added.

The Vice President assured all PMA alumni that the Aquino administration will not only improve the capabilities of the modernized armed forces but also the "morale of our soldiers by

providing them not only recognition but also the benefits and assistance that are long overdue."

During the ceremony, Binay led the awarding of the Lifetime Achievement Awards to former President Fidel Valdez Ramos, a member of the United States Military Academy of Westpoint Class of 1953 and former Department of National Defense Secretary retired Major General Abat of PMA class of 1951.

Cont. on page 11

Mall Pushes Green Advocacy to a Higher Level, Aims to Plant 50,000 Trees

BAGUIO CITY - SM City Baguio officials joined by city government heads and celebrity guests, marked the planting of the 30,000th tree in support of the National Greening Program (NGP) within the mall premises in the heart of Baguio last Wednesday.

The "Green Road to 50,000" photo exhibit was also opened inside the mall featuring photos during their tree planting activities in the city and surrounding communities, which started in January 2012.

In addition, SM also launched a green promo giving away free pine tree sapling to shoppers for every P1,500 single purchase or accumulated receipts from February 22 to 25.

SM VP for Operations Engineer Bien Mateo, in an interview, disclosed that when they started the project, they made commitment to the City of Baguio to plant 30,000 trees in two-years time, but as they plant their 30,000th tree, comes their commitment to continue with their green advocacy moving towards the road to 50,000 planted trees.

Aside from the mall grounds, SAM and its partners have already planted pine tree saplings in their adopted part of the Busol Watershed, Burnham Park, various city school grounds, as well as in an area in Tuba, Benguet.

Mateo said these activities are ways promoting public awareness especially to the young ones the importance of planting trees even in their own backyards towards the preservation of the environment for the future generations.

Under the SM Cares, a flagship program under SM's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects, the company partnership with private groups, national government agencies and city government departments in tree planting activities and in ensuring the growth and survival of the trees. It also includes waste management and recycling system. /JDP/CCD-Jan Robert Nicandro, PIA CAR intern

BENECO Salary Hike Opposition and Proposal for Loyalty Cash Award Increase

The City Council during its latest regular session last Monday passed a resolu-

tion strongly opposing the proposal for the increase of the monthly salaries of the general man-

ager and department heads of the Benguet Electric Cooperative (BENECO) to P200,000.00 and P



TIK-TIK SEMENTO - Laborers of a contracting firm rush up the surface treatment and installation of pavement markings from Zanducta Street to Abanao Road before the start of rainy season. /By Bong Cayabyab

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