

Cordillera dangerous





Intramuros, Manila Tel. No. 5279632 or 5274478 Fax 527-3390 Cmail - ppi1@mozcom.con

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan branded the proposed exclusion of Baguio City from the renewed pursuit of autonomy in the Cordillera as dangerous and would render the city as an orphaned local government.

The local chief executive claimed the argument that it is better for Baguio City to go back to Region I is again misplaced since the people will suffer transacting business with regional offices in San Fernando City, La Union and Dagupan City, Pangasinan.

"We are just making the situation difficult for our people in such case. We are lucky to be included as part and even the center of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) with the establishment of most of the regional line agencies in the city making life easier for our people and our fellow Cordillerans, thus, we have to strive to be part of the Cordillera in an autonomous set up or in a federal state or an autonomous region with a federal state," Domogan stressed.

Cont. on page 6

Ang ์siyudad ng Baguio ay likas na kasapi sa Cordillera!!! Junction News

ind us on



PANAGBENGA **OPENING PARADE**

: Due to rains after only 6 elementary schools have performed, Baguio Flower Festival Foundation, Inc. co-chair-Mayor Mauricio Domogan declared that all 12 contestants will participate in the Panagbenga Street Dancing on February 25 and the remaining 6 contestants who were not able to not perform last Feb. 1 will continue the dance competition in Athletic on the same Bowl date./ Rj Cayabyab



NEWS

City's revenue from taxes increased

 $B_{\rm city\ has\ generated\ a}$ appraisal and accounting where 318 have been total of P252,873,123.37 revenue on real property tax last year or an increase P17,025,432.90 of compared to as P235,847,690.47 in 2015. It also generated an income of P26,924,106.61 from the collection of transfer taxes from the transfer, subdivision and consolidation of real properties representing an increase of P933,933.56 compared to the previous year.

This was reported by the city assessor's office headed by Almaya Addawe in Monday's flag-raising ceremonies.

The report revealed that P1,701,000 was generated from the issuance of certifications in 2016 or an increase of P370,400 from the collections of 2015.

'The city assessor's office has two main functions - to discover and list all real properties and to equitably value real properties. To ensure that all properties are treated uniformly, the office's procedures must conform to state laws dealing with property taxation using practices," it stated.

In 2016, the city assessor's office appraised a total of 4,072 new real property units, with an assessed value of P641,759,738.74, including discoveries and new assessments derived from newly-issued building and occupancy permits from the city buildings and architecture office.

The report revealed that the increase in the assessment and issuance of new tax declarations from 1,912 in 2015 to 4,072 last year is attributed to the approval of city ordinance no. 15, series of 2016, granting amnesty to applicants for electric and water connections in the

The city assessor's office also conducted an appraisal of school buildings of the various city public schools last year to provide the general services office (GSO) data for the assets and property management inventory of city-owned properties and for insurance purposes.

A listing of 547 schools Gaby Keith#

where 318 have been assessed. The city assessor's office is targeting to complete the assessment of the remaining 229 school buildings by the end of this year.

The report stated that one of the office's top accomplishments of 2016 was the submission of a proposed General Revision in September that came as a result of the city council's positive response to Addawe's presentation during an executive-legislative meeting in July of last year.

In October, 2016, the Bureau of Local Government and Finance issued a certification that the proposed revision has conformed with Local Assessment Regulations.

"To date, the proposal is pending at the city council for deliberation and recommendation. The city assessor's office is very optimistic that the legislative body will be convinced to adopt our recently submitted New Schedule of Market Values," the report stated./

BLISTT officials urged to salvage proposed law

AGUIO CITY **D**Local officials and concerned stakeholders in the Baguio-La Trinidad-Itogon-Sablan-Tuba-Tublay (BLISTT) area were urged to salvage the proposed law creating the BLISTT Development Authority by getting their acts together for the removal of the objectionable provisions and retain the good ones to pave the way for inclusive growth within the jurisdictional coverage, Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan said here recently.

The local chief executive pointed out some local officials in the BLISTT expressed their objections to some of the provisions of the proposed law filed with the House of Representatives thus it is best for them to get together and identify the objectionable provision and propose alternatives to guarantee the enactment of the law that will surely be beneficial to the concerned local governments.

"We have to salvage the bill because most of its contents are good. We have to closely work together to assess the

bill, iron out the provisions that seem not to be helpful in the realization of the BLISTT Development Authority and propose alternative provisions that will improve the said items in the bill," Domogan stressed.

Earlier, the Itogon municipal council passed a resolution interposing several objections to some of the contents of the bill creating the BLISTT Development Authority, particularly the requirement for the member local governments to shell out an annual 5 percent from their annual budgets to sustain the management, administration, and operation of the authority.

Domogan also learned that other local governments are also intending to come out with similar resolutions interposing an objection to the provision and these might derail its desired passage into law in the 17th Congress.

According to him, even the city's finance officers raised concern over the provisions being questioned by other local officials, saying that the best thing to do is for them to unite on the matter and propose a possible alternative which they will have to discuss the soonest while the bill is still pending before the House committee on local governments.

One of Domogan's suggestions is for the proponents of the BLISTT Development Authority bill to incorporate in the provisions of the proposed law the contents of the memorandum of understanding that was signed by all the local chief executives of the BLISTT to at least start the operation of the BLISTT Governing Board and the BLISTT Development Council which conduct meetings periodically to discuss the concrete priority programs and projects in the said growth area.

Earlier, the Regional Development Council (RDC) in the Cordillera approved the creation of the BLISTT Governing Board and the BLISTT Development Council to jumpstart the work that will result in the realization of the long overdue proposal to create the Metro Baguio growth area./By Dexter A. See#

duties and responsibilities of both parties in the conduct of the festival.

He added the local government and the BFFFI are always open to suggestions and recommendations on how to improve the conduct of the annual festival to boost the sustained growth of the local tourism industry beneficial to the robust economic growth for the city.

He pointed out it is still best for the event to be government-led and private sector-supported in adherence to its main purpose which was to elicit the participation of all concerned sectors to ensure the successful conduct of the events lined up for the monthlong festival./By Dexter A. See#

Takeover of Panagbenga by city must be studied

BAGUIO CITY - The event, mayor Mauricio 2005 when two groups proposal to revert G. Domogan said here conducted the major the management of the Panagbenga to the local Baguio Flower Festival Foundation, Inc. (BFFFI) must be carefully studied by the concerned quarters to prevent the uncontrolled privatization of the city's crowd-drawing

recently.

The local chief government from the executive claimed the wrong about the proposal proposal for the local but we need inputs government to manage the flower festival is laudable but the advantages and disadvantages must be seriously studied tionally known flower considering lessons from festival,"

events of the festival.

"There is nothing from all the concerned stakeholders to further improve the annual staging of the interna-Domogan

stressed.

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On the proposal the local government to bid out the staging of the festival to interested organizers, Domogan warned the proponents of the

expected massive commercialization of the festival because the organizers will be inclined to source out funds from sponsors to bankroll the month-long festivities as the city will no longer shell out funds as its counterpart.

While admitting that there is already commercialization in the festival by the BFFFI, he explained the scrapping of the city's funding support to the organizers and the total privatization of the festivities will open the floodgates for the massive commercialization of the festival that will defeat its purpose of being a government-led and private sector-supported festival, its identity from the start.

a resolution reverting the management of the festival from the BFFFI to the city, he recommended that the local legislative body must enact an ordinance outlining the duties and responsibilities of the concerned parties involved to address the loopholes uncovered during the previous staging of the festival under the BFFFI.

Pending before the local legislative body is a proposed resolution reverting the management of the Baguio flower festival from the BFFFI to the local government starting next year after the Commission on Audit (COA) found the absence of a memorandum of agreement between the local government and Instead of enacting the BFFFI defining the

NEWS

Council issues stern warning versus police officials in Tadeo case BAGUIO CITY - C. Tadeo, a traffic officer dent Gregorio M. Lim to their separate letters not be blamed once they headquarters during the city Council of the Baguio City Police and Deputy Regional requesting for the second take action and take action and take action.

issued a stern warning against officials of the Police Regional Office tive body made it clear (PRO-COR) in the Cordillera to appear before Director Chief Superits regular session on March 20, 2017, to shed light on the controversial transfer of SPO3 Alberto tion Senior Superinten-

Office (BCPO), to Apayao. The local legislato PRO-COR Regional intendent Elmo Francis

Sarona, Deputy Regional Director for AdministraDirector Senior Superintendent Angelito A. Casimiro as well as PO3 Joseph Canlas, Lim's alleged security escort, that it will be their last chance to appear before its regular session on March 20, 2017 in deference

re-scheduling of their supposed appearance last Monday due to their claim they are attending equally important concerns.

The members agreed that the second re-setting of their appearance would be the last and they should

erring police officials who seem not to honor the supervision and control of the local government over the local police force.

However, Camp Dangwa insiders revealed Lim and Casimiro were allegedly in the regoinal

ance before the council while Sarona was on his way back to the regional command after attending an emergency meeting in Camp Crame.

JU WEEKET ON

The council agreed to the request of Lim and Cont. on page 6

Government urged to include other income in tax sharing scheme

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan urged the national government to include other sources of income in the lump sum fund being equitably divided among local governments to increase the share of local governments from the income derived by the government from various sources

The local chief executive said the current practice of the national government is to segregate a portion of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) collection to be divided between the national government and the local governments in a 60-40 sharing scheme pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Code of the Philippines.

"The reason why local governments are getting a meagre share from the national government is because not all the sources of revenue are included in the lump sum fund where the local governments get their 40 percent share, now called the Internal Revenue Allotment," Domogan stressed.

He pointed out the national government should be fair in sharing its income and resources by including in the lump sum fund the collection of the Bureau of Customs (BOC), the fees collected by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) and other revenue-generating agencies so that local governments will get a bigger share of the fund that goes to priority development projects of local governments as well as improved delivery of basic services to the people.

To help spur rural development, he suggested that the collection from all revenue-generating agencies be pooled together in a lump sum fund whereby a portion will be segregated purposely to pay the national debt while the remaining balance will be equitably divided between the national government and the local governments.

According to him, currently, the income from the operations of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) and other government-owned and controlled corporations remain with the national government but local governments also deserve an equitable share of the income derived from these revenue-generating offices.

Domogan argued providing local governments increased share from the revenues generated by various **Cont. on page 5**



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On July 21, 2016, RA 10905 "An Act Requiring All Franchise Holders or Operators of Television Stations and Producers of Television Programs to Broadcast or Present Their Programs With Closed Caption Options."

The author of the law, Sen. Grace Poe, chairperson of the Senate committee on public information and mass media, said the measure is consistent with the Philippine government's commitment when it ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2008.

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OPINIONS

February 4-10, 2017

'Opinions' in Amnesty Int'l report *'obviously not the norm' – PNP*

The Philippine national Police (PNP) on Wednesday, February 1, said it has always "observed and upheld human rights" as it slammed an Amnesty International report that detailed stories of alleged police corruption and abuse in President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs.

"We take strong exception to opinions raised in the latest report of Amnesty International," the PNP said in a statement, noting that the cases cited in the report were *"obviously not the norm, despite a higher number of police operations that have* resulted to inevitable fatal encounters with criminal elements lately."

EDITORIAL

In a report released on Wednesday, Amnesty International said that killings in the drug war were fueled by an "informal economy of death." Police were allegedly being paid to kill suspected drug personalities.

In study conducted over two months, which featured 33 cases resulting in 59 deaths, Amnesty International said police planted evidence, faked official reports, and even paid killers to get rid of drug targets. In 2014, the group released a report on torture in the PNP.

Still, the PNP insisted on Wednesday that it has "always observed and upheld respect for human rights as a fundamental principle in policing and is the institutional foundation of all training programs for police units and personnel."

"The police cannot help being typecast as alleged violators of human rights partly because of the basic nature of its law enforcement function that constantly places the police in cross swords engagement or armed contact with criminal elements," it said.

The report came out a few days after President Rodrigo Duterte dissolved the PNP's Anti-Illegal Drugs Group (AIDG) and ordered a stop to all police anti-illegal drugs operations, effectively ending the PNP's role in his drugs war.

Cases

Duterte announced the decision on Sunday, January 29, as more details about police involvement in the kidnap and murder of South Korean businessman Jee Ick Joo - right in Camp Crame, the police headquarters - became public.

The incident, which sparked outcry at home and abroad, prompting some sectors to call for the resignation of top cop Director General Ronald dela Rosa. The PNP chief tried to resign twice but was rejected by Duterte both times.

The Jee case isn't the first time the PNP has been accused of abuse in the war on drugs. Mere months into the campaign, the Senate called for a probe into supposed extrajudicial killings by police.

One of the witnesses who testified before the Senate was cited in the Amnesty International report – a case of a drug suspect and his father slain inside the jail cell where they were detained.

But the Senate probe, after a switch of leadership, eventually concluded that the killings were neither state nor Duterte-sponsored. In a separate statement also released on Wednesday, Malacañang used the Senate probe's findings as a defense against the report.

In November, Criminal Investigation and Detection Group personnel from Eastern Visayas killed a supposed drug lord protector, Albuera Mayor Ronald Espinosa Jr, also inside his jail cell in Leyte.

Police said Espinosa fought back, a claim the National Bureau of Investigation has debunked.

PNP statement

We take strong exception to opinions raised in the latest report of Amnesty International which claim, that police plant evidence, take under-the-table cash, fabricate reports, and paid killers on police payroll.

These are obviously not the norm, despite a higher number of police operations that have resulted to inevitable fatal encounters with criminal elements lately.

The PNP has always observed and upheld respect for human rights as a fundamental principle in policing and is the institutional foundation of all training programs for police units and personnel.

The police cannot help being typecast as alleged violators of human rights partly because of the basic nature of its law enforcement function that constantly places the police in cross swords engagement or armed contact with criminal elements.

The PNP would like to point out that of the 4,744 murders under investigation that both local and foreign observers wrongfully refer to as "extra-judicial-kill-

ing", 3,459 were determined to be non-drug related incidents 662 of which were motivated by personal grudge, 15 were related to property dispute, 16 were crimes of passion, 10 were "rido" or family feud, 11 were work-related and 2 were atrocities committed by threat groups. On the otherhand, only 1,285 incidents had something to **Cont. on page 6**



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS The evil that has grown

into cops

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO

LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned..." (Isaiah 9:2, the Holy Bible).

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PURPOSE OF THE MAGI VISIT WHEN JESUS WAS BORN: The narration of the birth of Jesus, our God and Savior, won't be complete without mentioning the visit to Bethlehem of the Magi, or the wise men from the east who were led by a star in the sky in their search of the "King of the Jews". Who were they, and what exactly was the reason for their presence at the manger?

WHY THE DISPARITY IN TREATMENT OF CRIMINALS? The year was 2016. In the first few days after a new president was inaugurated, hundreds of people who were known or suspected to be drug addicts, drug pushers, or who were believed to have anything to do with illegal drugs, particularly shabu, were killed outright and without mercy.

-000-

The verdict was that, these people had to die, for they were considered responsible for the drug menace that has made criminal monsters out of Filipinos, even if the only thing there was against them was pure suspicion and their reputation as being involved in drugs.

Fast forward to 2017. Policemen have been pointed to as kidnappers, murderers, and extortionists who have made a mockery of the new president's war against illegal drugs. Yet, they remain alive today, and are even given the opportunity to debunk the accusations against them. The question in many people's mind is: why the disparity in treatment of criminals?

-000-CRIMINALITY IS AN EVIL THAT HAS BECOME PART OF POLICEMEN: Would push-ups and cases against rouge policemen correct their involvement in crimes? The answer is a clear no. As everybody had been saying all along, it would need much more than push-ups and criminal prosecutions for policemen engaged in crime to change. The Philippine experience shows this to be so.

Engaging in a crime, while in police uniform yet, is an evil that has grown into, or has become part of, many policemen, whether or not top government or police officials will care to admit it or deny it. Amazingly, however, no less than the president already made an admission: 40% of the police force are active criminals.

What then should be done? Send the erring policemen to Mindanao, or shame the rouge cops in front of their families? Yes, we can do these things, but the real change will come only if the minds and hearts of every policeman---whether lowly ranked or star-ranked---have been made to fear and love God above all else, which this present president is not even thinking of! Failure is sure to come, six years or so later! Cont. on page 6



Exclusion of Baguio...

from page 1

Earlier, Rep. Mark Go, who even used the word 'Igorotak' as one of his campaign slogans, proposed that Baguio City should be excluded from the regional autonomy quest because the city is multi-cultural which is not suitable for the autonomous set-up.

However, Domogan claimed the development of the city reached its peak when it became part of CAR and most of the regional agencies were established in the city creating thousands of employment opportunities not only for Cordillerans but also for others from the lowlands coupled with the implementation of numerous development projects that came from the regional line agencies based in the city.

He explained the renewed quest for regional autonomy does not intend to discriminate members of other tribes who opted to reside in the city and other parts of the region because the term Cordilleran as defined in the new draft of the autonomy bill is inclusive, referring to indigenous peoples and non-indigenous peoples who are domiciled in the region, thus, there will be no discrimination in such case.

Domogan pointed out those who experienced transacting business with regional offices in Region I know how difficult it is compared to the existing situation that the regional line agencies are right in the city.

He called on Cordillera congressmen to get their acts together and refile the new draft of the autonomy bill to start the ball rolling and for everyone to be actively involved in the information and education campaign for the establishment of the autonomous region with a complete slate.

Autonomy advocates had time and again asserted that self-governance will help spur economic growth regionwide and will help move people out from the shackles of poverty because it will allow the regional government to have greater control of the region's resources with lesser restraint from outside forces, thus, programs and projects will be in accordance with the prevailing situation in the region and not hostage to national priorities./*By Dexter A. See#*

Government urged to...

from page 3

agencies will help them become more independent through the increased priority development projects that will translate to better local income and improved delivery of basic services in preparation for the move to shift to a federal form of government in the coming years.

He claimed issues on revenue-generation and taxation will surely be a sensitive issue once the government will start shifting from the current presidential form to federal because each of the states that will be established will have the power to impose taxes within their prescribed geographical jurisdiction.

He rallied local officials to join in calling the attention of the national government to include its other sources of revenue in the share of local governments from the nationally generated taxes among other revenue sources./By Dexter A. See#

More funds needed for Athletic Bowl multipurpose structure

BAGUIO CITY – The local government still needs additional funds to complete the multipurpose building within the premises of the Baguio Athletic Bowl between the main grandstand and the Baguio City National High School (BCNHS) fronting the swimming pool to accommodate indoor games and to serve as additional quarters of athletes among others,

COMMENTARIES magkasangga tayo

Digong pinalaki ng husto ang ulo ng PNP!!!

By: Nestor "Paken" Castro

A no ba namang klaseng Presidente itong si Digong, para lamang sa isang kaso ng isang Koreanong negosyante na kinatay (allegedly) ng mga opisyales ng PNP mismo sa PNP headquarters ay nawalan na siya ng tiwala sa PNP-AKG. Paano na yung libu-libong mga EJK (allegedly) sa ating mga mahihirap na kababayan, ok lang ano Mr. Digong? Ayon nga kay Teresita Ang Sy ang isang matinding advocate against kidnapping sa Chinese community ay mayroon halos isang dosenang tokhang for ransom na naganap na bagama't hindi lang inirereport sa mga kapulisan.

Kapag isang Koreano ay kinatay sa isang mala karumaldumal na sitwasyon ay biglang nagulantang itong si Mr. Digong at bigla nang nawalan na ng tiwala sa PNP at pati na rin sa NBI.

Katawa-tawa sapagkat biglang ipinatigil sa PNP ni Mr. Digong ang operasyon laban sa droga at PDEA na lang daw ang magsasagawa ng mga operasyon. Ano kaya ang akala ni Mr. Digong, mga santo-santita ang mga na sa PDEA? Hi! Hi!

Sa tutuo lang ay hindi naman kataka-taka ang naging pag-asta at pag-kilos ng PNP sapagkat dati naman nang katanggap-tagggap ang impormasyon at ang imahe na ang PNP ang isa sa pinaka-korap among the government offices/agencies kaya hindi naman kataka-taka ang nangyari sa Koreano.

O ngayon, porket Koreano at foreigner ay nagulantang itong si Mr. Digong ngunit kung kapwa Pinoy na mahihirap ay ok lang na katayin sila at case closed pa, at siyempre ay full back up si Mr. Digong sa kanyang kapulisan.

Nakalimutan na ba ni Mr. Digong ang kanyang mga paulit-ulit na pronouncements on national TV na mayroon na siyang mga signed na parol at pardon para sa mga kapulisan na makukulong? Nakalimutan na ba ni Mr. Digong ang kanyang pinagsasabi na full support at back up siya sa mga kapulisan hinggil sa kanilang mga pinapatay at bibigyan pa niya ng parangal ang maraming mapapatay at siyempre sabi rin ni Mr. Digong na tutulungan niya ang mga kapulisan pag dating sa kanilang mga legal defense na kung kailanganin nila ng abogago este abogado ay bibigyan niya sila ng abogago. Sa tutuo lang ay hindi lang naman ito ang mga pinag sasabi ni Mr. Digong na sa aking palagay at sinabi na rin sa akin ng ilan sa aking mga kaibigang pulis na tunay na lumakas ng husto ang kanilang loob sapagkat full support si Mr. Digong sa kanila.

Kung tutuusin ay wala namang masama sa magsabi ng full support ka sa mga pulis basta alam nila na pare-parehas ang trato niya sa lahat at walang palakasan na katulad ng nakita natin sa kanyang pagtrato kay P/Supt. Marcos na ang kanyang grupo ang kumatay kay Mayor Espinosa the alleged drug lord, pero wala rin. O ngayon sa dinami-dami ng pinagsasabi ni Mr. Digong hinggil sa suporta sa PNP at sa mga encounter, pagpatay etc..., malinaw naman na pinalaki niya ng husto ang ulo ng maraming mga kawani ng PNP, kaya kung sabihin nila sa ingles ay You Created a Monster Mr. Digong, a monster that will eventually eat you up alive.

Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan said here recently.

The local chief executive claimed the P60 million earlier earmarked by the local government for the project is not sufficient to complete the needed structure beneficial to the athletes wanting to avail of the use of the sports facilities of the city.

"We are still sourcing out additional funds to complete the project because we want more \longrightarrow

EL MAESTRO SPEAKS

Modernization and Environmentalism Not Modernization vs. Environmentalim



JU AND TON 5

BY: CLYDE B. SACPA

Few days ago, the DENR released a memo ordering the closure and suspension of some mining companies that did not adhere to the guidelines of government with regards to environmental protection. I am not against the environmentalists. In fact I am one of them but this decision will result to something more catastrophic which can be equated to environment destruction.

El Maestro Speaks blog and column usually talks about education and leadership but I think we must make an exception this time especially if the job of 1.2 million people, a job that provides education to their children is in danger of being taken away.

When I saw this news on Rappler, I posted a question asking what the government's plan are for those that will be laid off due these mining companies closure/ suspension. The result, I got a lot of comments saying I don't care about the environment, that I have a wrong mindset and so on. Maybe I do have a wrong mindset but this wrong mindset still continues to think the same.

Let's study this. When media asked about the guidelines or bases of this suspension, there was no definite answer. It would make the person like me question the process. Did some people pull some strings to make this happen? Or, they just hate mining so much that they are working hard to eliminate it in the country and this is the first step?

Mining is not the only occupation that destroys the environment. Everything that human does destroys the environment. To give way to gardening, they cut down all the trees. (You don't believe me? Go to the northern part of Benguet). They use strong chemical that destroys the fertility of the land. Illegal loggers cut down trees. I can write more but I think that highlights my aforementioned statement.

In my humble point of view, what protects the environment is doing everything with a great sense of responsibility to everything around us. Responsible agriculture, Responsible Mining that is the campaign we must have. Because whether you don't like to admit it, the mining industry brought and continues to bring bright future for our kids. Take the mining companies in Benguet as an example, for generations they have brought food and education to a lot of people.

What I am trying to say here is that caring for environment is essential to our survival, but so is the life and future of our fellow countrymen. Can we not find a way to make modernization and environmental protection co-exist? If other countries can, why can't we? #

indoor games to be confined within the premises of the Athletic Bowl during local, regional, national and international sports competitions hosted by the city," Domogan stressed.

He said the plans for the initial phase of the project is being completed by the City Buildings and Architecture Office (CBAO) which will, in turn, be publicly bidded out while the additional funds are being sourced out to ensure the continuous implementation of the project in the coming months.

The P60 million programmed by the local government for the multipurpose building is its counterpart for the rehabilitation of the city's sports facility through the Department of Public Works and Highways–Baguio City District Engineering Office (DPWH-BCDEO) in preparation for the potential hosting of the 2018 Palarong Pambansa if the city will be able to qualify for the bidding. **Cont. on page 6**

LEGAL/JUDICIAL NOTICES

Kakampi mo...

from page 4

Republic of the Philippines **REGIONAL TRIAL** COURT, BRANCH 9 (FAMILY COURT FOR BENGUET **PROVINCE**) FIRST JUDICIAL REGION La Trinidad, Benguet IN RE: PETITION FOR DECLARA-TION OF PRESUMP-TION OF DEATH OF ABSENTEE JULIAN DULALAS SR. y SUMALPONG.

y BANG-ITO, Petitioner

SPECIAL PRO-CEEDINGS CASE NO. 16-E-0142 x-----x

ORDER

Petitioner, through counsel, filed this verified Petition praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, an Order will be issued by the Court declaring absentee Julian Dulalas Jr. y Sumalpong Presumptively Dead, pursuant to law.

WHEREFORE, finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, it is hereby set for hearing on April 6, 2017 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning before the session hall of this court, Justice Hall, La Trinidad, Benguet. All persons interested may appear and show cause, if any, why this petition should not be granted.

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the petitioner in the Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in **Baguio City and Benguet** Province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, once a week, fore three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than February 19, 2017.

Furnish copies of this ORDER, together with copies of the Petition and its annexes, to the Office of the Solicitor General; the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; and, the Philippine Statistics Authority. Furnish also copies of this ORDER to the Junction and petitioner and counsel. SO ORDERED.

This 17th day of January 2017 at La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines. (SGD) MARIETTA S. BRAWNER-CUALING Presiding Judge **Publication Dates:** January 21, 28 and February 4 2017 Republic of the Philippines **REGIONAL TRIAL**

COURT FIRST JUDICIAL REGION La Trinidad, Benguet OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE

LALING DULALAS IN RE: Application for Notarial Commission for and in the Municipality of La Trinidad, Benguet

JUDGE

JOANA ATTY. MARIE C. ORALLO, Petitioner.

NOTICE OF HEARING Notice is hereby given that a summary hearing on the above-entitled petition for commission as notary public for and the Province of Benguet filed by the above- named petitioner shall be held on February 17, 2017 at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon before the undersigned Executive Benguet.

Any person who has any cause or reason to object to the grant of the petition may file a verified written opposition thereto on or before the date of the summary hearing.

Let this Notice of Hearing be published once (1) a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in the Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province, the first publication to be made not later than February 4, 2017.

SO ORDERED. La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, this 3rd of February, 2017.

(SGD) JENNIGER P. HUMIDING Executive Judge

Publication Dates: February 4 and 11, 2017 Casimiro to address the invitation letter to their superior who will be the one to cascade the order to them.

Council issues stern warning...

Some councilors asserted the action of Lim's driver and security escort to bring to the city a vehicle that violated the city's number coding scheme is a direct affront to the existing laws and regulations which the police themselves have to strictly implement, thus, the continuous defiance of the police officials to appear before the local legislative body is a grave act because the law enforcers are now becoming the law breakers.

Instead of declaring Lim as persona non grata, some local legislators claim the decision to revive the withdrawn proposal will depend on the police official honoring the invitation as iy is possible to include all to be declared persona non grata once the resolution will be revived.

Even if the council was informed that Tadeo was already reassigned to the regional personnel holding and accounting office, it did not serve as a determent in giving the erring police officials the last chance to appear before them to answer simple questions that arose after the controversial case./By Dexter A. See#

Editorial...

from page 4

from page 3

do with the victim's association with drug activities. We have made significant breakthrough in the investigation of these murders with the arrest of 694 suspects and the identification of 467 others who are believed responsible in 1,212 reported deaths. Criminal charges have already been filed before the courts.

The PNP and every law enforcement agency in the world have different methods and system of reporting crime data. I guess we are just more transparent and liberal in reporting ours such that we are more prone to deeper scrutiny especially *by foreign observers who have very little understanding of the* peculiarities and dynamics of the crime and drug situation in the Philippines./ Rappler.com#

DPWH-BCDEO, **CBAO** officials Judge of the Regional Trial Court, La Trinidad, Benguet.

additional resource persons from the Department of Public Works and Highways-Baguio City District Engineering Office (DPWH-BCDEO) and the City Buildings and Architecture Office (CBAO) to appear before its regular session on February 20, 2017 to shed light in the demolition of the overpass from the city hall building to the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) area.

The CBAO will be required to clarify questions why the office did not request for the condemnation of the damaged overpass before it was demolished while the DPWH-BC-DEO will be requested to respond to clarifications why it did not coordinate its asphalt overlay projects with

BAGUIO CITY – The City the City Engineering Office to make sure that the clearance make sure that the clearance will not be reduced so that the trucks will not ram into the base of the structure.

The local government spent some P5 million for the construction of the overpass from the city hall building to the BCPO area for the benefit of pedestrians wanting to transact with the various offices within the area.

However, the overpass was damaged after it was hit by several times by passing trucks resulting in the weakening of the structure posing a serious threat to the safety of the pedestrians and motorists.

In a previous report, the City Engineering Office found out that the clearance of the overpass from the original pavement up to the structure was reduced following the asphalt overlay projects.

MAGI CONFIRM JESUS IS GOD THE FATHER: The presence of the Magi during the birth of Jesus, as shown in Matthew 2 of the Bible, tells us that it was not only the Israelites---or those considered to be God's chosen people---who knew of the prophecies that God Himself will come to earth from heaven, in the form of a man with flesh and blood, but even other peoples as well.

-000-

That the Magis knew it was God Himself who was born on that first-ever Christmas day was shown by the fact that they travelled long and hard, guided only by a star, just to find the "King of the Jews", and by their bowing down in His presence and bringing Him expensive gifts. The presence of the Magi confirmed that the baby in the manger was no human, but God the Father Himself, worthy of worship and thanksgiving. -000-

PLEASE LISTEN: "Ang Tanging Daan" (The Sole Way): a Bible Exposition and prayer session online, could now be heard 24/7 (24 hours a day), in the Philippines and the world at www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan. Phone: 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com.#

Domogan underscored More funds...

from page 5^{the importance of maxi-mizing the available space} within the Baguio Athletic Bowl to accommodate more sports facilities for the benefit of athletes and sports enthusiasts.

Among the indoor games that can be housed in the city's multipurpose building include boxing, table tennis, combative sports, badminton, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics aside from facilities for athlete's quarters and shower rooms.

He claimed the completion of the multipurpose building will definitely add to the capacity of the Athletic Bowl to host major sports events by both the government and the private sector./By Dexter A. See#

implementation of several asphalt overlay projects by the DPWH-BCDEO.

The original clearance from the ground up to the structure was 4.27 meters but because of the implementation of asphalt overlay projects by the DPWH-BCDEO, the clearance was effectively reduced until such time that trucks bumped the structure until it posed a serious threat to the safety of pedestrians and motorists and thus condemnable.

On the other hand, the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) was required to submit its investigation report on the incidents that transpired whereby trucks had bumped the structure to ascertain whether the trucks were overloaded at the time of the incident or the clearance of the overpass and the ground was effectively reduced by the

Melchor Carlos Rabanes said his office was never furnished by the concerned offices of the local government their study and evaluation for the possible filing of the appropriate charges against the owners of the trucks that bumped the structure and rendered it condemnable, the primordial cuplprit behind the destruction of the overpass, based on the information from former City Engineer Leo C. Bernardez.

City Legal Officer

Rabanes asserted there is a need to seriously consider the factors behind the damage inflicted to the city's overpass that eventually resulted in its demolition before considering the filing of the proper charges against the drivers and owners of the trucks that bumped the structure./By Dexter A. See#

17-NC-0394 х-----х

NEWS

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Mayor saddened over suspension anti-drug of campaign

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan was deeply saddened after President Rodrigo R. Duterte and Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Director-General Ronald dela Rosa temporarily suspended the government's anti-drug campaign saying that what should have been done was to cleanse the police of corrupt and inept policemen who already have derogatory records.

The local chief executive said the government's anti-drug campaign was on its right track except for the recent issues that cropped up that cast doubts on the integrity and credibility of the police in handling drug cases.

"The PNP should not totally put a stop to its anti-drug campaign because this sends a worng message to those who have not yet given up illegal trade and this could result in the re-establishment of illegal drug trade in our city," Domogan stressed.

surrenderers with 406 pushers and 1,988 users from July 1, 2016, up to the date when the government's anti-drug campaign was suspended. Further, there are

already 208 individuals who had been arrested in legitimate police operations composed of 184 pushers and 24 users during the said period.

According to him, the government's anti-drug campaign contributed to the significant reduction in the volume and type of crimes committed in the different parts of the city because of the arrests made against the individuals involved in the illegal drug trade.

Domogan warned individuals who continue to engage in the illegal drug trade as their source of livelihood to immediately refrain from doing so because it is possibile their lives will be exposed to extreme danger, especially when they try to fight back with the authorities apprehending them.

He explained those In the city alone, there involved in the use and are already 2,394 drug peddling of illegal drugs A. See#

could also be the ones committing petty crimes around the city because of their need for money to sustain their vice, thus, the significant reduction of the drug supply in the market contributed in their abandonment of the life-threatening vice.

Domogan remains optimistic that the personnel of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) can sustain the aggressiveness of the police in the anti-drug campaign so that those who already abandoned their involvement to the illegal drug trade will not be enticed back to their old ways.

He called on barangay officials in the city's 128 barangays to continue to be vigilant for a possible resurgence of peddlers of illegal drugs as this might result in the withdrawal of the certification that their barangays are already drug-cleared, citing that some 109 barangays are already considered drugcleared while 19 other barangays remain to be drug-affected./By Dexter



BAGUIO'S BEST OF THE BEST - Members of the Chinese Lunar New executive committee headed by chairman Peter Ng, city officials headed by Mayor Mauricio Domogan and Congressman Marquez Go and Guest of Honor, Consul Wang Jiangun, Head of Post of Chinese Consulate Office in Laoag City join the awardees during the Dinner Awards Night in celebration of the Chinese Lunar New Year to welcome the Year of the Rooster held at Supreme Hotel last January 27. The awardees for exemplary service to the community are (from left to right, front row) Councilor Peter Fianza (Government Service), Dr.Julie Cabato (Environment and Community Service), retired Bishop Carlito Cenzon (Spiritual) and former Mayor Francisco Paraan (Posthumous /Public Service) represented by his son Rudy Paraan./ By Bong Cayabyab

Anti-graffiti vandalism training, on-going

from seven barangays here have undergone trainings conducted by the Anti-Graffiti Task Force (AGTF) in January to enable them to assist in the city's on-going campaign against graffiti vandalism.

Task force operations head Ross Goze said the number brings to 75 representatives from 38 barangays that have undergone the training-seminars since these started in June of last year. He is urging the city's other 90 barangays to send their representatives for training. The AGTF is co-chaired by Mayor Mauricio Domogan and CI Neiderstadt.

Lectures and trainings

the country's hosting of the 50th ASEAN Summit which is an added opportunity for greater international exposure of the major products and even the key tourism destinations in the global village.

She also emphasized allowing children to actively participate in cultural activities like the Panagbenga will help in educating them about through the years amidst Dexter A. See#

2008, or the Anti-Graffiti Code of the City of Baguio, are being held at the task force office at Baguio Convention Center. Volunteers can visit or call the office at 442-4114 for scheduling purposes.

Goze said trainees are given the general overview of the code; the process of gathering inventory of illegal graffiti in their respective areas; the actual information campaign; the proper way of removing illegal graffiti, and more.

The code defines graffiti or graffiti vandalism as "any unauthorized inscription, word, figure, painting or defacement that is written, marked,

the rich culture and traditions of Cordillerans that had been successfully passed down to the present generation, thus, today's youth must are also obliged to pass these on to future generations.

Banaag asserted the importance of learning and being proud of one's culture and traditions that their forebears practiced

BAGUIO CITY – on the implementation of etched, scratched, Thirteen volunteers ordinance no. 41, series of sprayed, drawn, painted or engraved on or otherwise affixed, to the extent that the graffiti was not authorized in advance by the owner or occupant of the property, or despite advance authorization, is otherwise deemed a public nuisance. It shall include all types of unauthorized markings amounting to vandalism and public nuisance

A property owner is not absolutely prohibited from authorizing graffiti-type artwork for decorative purposes.

The code also mentions other prohibited acts. penalties to be imposed for violations and

other pertinent details for its proper implementation./Gaby Keith#

the cultural diversity in the ASEAN region.

Banaag was impressed at the way children performed the various tribal dances in the region, saying that they can master the steps of the dances and the way to wear their respective attires which is a giant step in further propagating the rich Cordillera culture./By

Panagbenga must be brought to ASEAN community

scored it is high time for the Panagbenga or the Baguio flower festival to be brought to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) community to strengthen the advocacy on enhanced cultural diversity and tourism in the region.

Presidential Communication Office (PCO) Assistant Secretary Ana Marie Banaag said the city's major crowd drawing event significantly improved over the past 22 years and that its gains both in the national and international scenes only proves that it is worthy for it to be exposed in the ASEAN community right in time for the country's

BAGUIO CITY – A preparations as the host of will definitely boost the Palace official under- the 50th ASEAN Summit promotion of the flower to be held later this year.

We are proud that the flower festival continues to be one of the well-attended festivals in the country to date. The Panagbenga is the only festival in the country that is included in the list of major festivities under the International Festivals and Events which speaks well of the caliber of organizers in staging of the monthlong festival being both by the government and the private sector that is worthy of emulation in other crowd-drawing events in the different parts of the country.

According to her, bringing Panagbenga to the ASEAN community

festival in the international scene and advance the city's tourism industry, a major economic driver not only for Baguio City but also the whole Cordillera region.

Through the festivals being showcased by the different members of the ASEAN, Banaag revealed the stability of peace and order, the promotion of cultural diversity and tourism and the realization of robust economic growth will be achieved that will make the ASEAN a force to reckon with in trade and commerce in the world.

Banaag said the national government is currently preparing for



formed of Comprehensive rehab **PSUDs**

8 JU NILLON

tion of crime and drugs in the city of Baguio, mayor Mauricio Domogan formally signed Administrative Order No. 013; creating a Special Committee to administer the Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Persons with substance Use Disorder (PSUD) in Baguio.

Said committee will be chaired by the city mayor himself with ABC president and councilor Michael Lawana as the co-chairman.

The members includes City Social Welfare and Development officer Betty Fangasan, Department of Interior and Local Government Baguio Field office director Evelyn Trinidad, City Health officer Dr. Rowena Galpo or representative, Department of Social Welfare and Development -CAR regional director Janet Armas or representative, Department of Health-CAR regional director Dr. Lakshmi Legaspi or representative, Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center chief Dr. Emmanuel Acluba or representative and Ram Sharma of Baguio General Hospital Advisory Board, Baguio City Police Office city director PSSupt. Ramil Saculles or representative, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency regional director Juvenal Azurin or representative, City Legal officer Atty. Melchor functions necessary and Carlos Rabanes or rep-

BAGUIO CITY - Con- resentative, Department itation of PSUDs as well trolling the prolifera- of Education (division as their reintegration in of Education (division office) officer-in-charge Atty. Augustin Laban III or representative, Department of Labor and **Employment-CAR OIC** regional director Exequiel Ronie Guzman or representative, Department of Trade and Industry Baguio-Benguet provincial director Freda Gawisan or representative, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority Baguio-Benguet provincial director Angela Gabriel or representative, and Philippine Information Agency head Helen Tibaldo or repre-

> sentative. Mayor ordered the committee to undertake collaborative efforts towards institutionalizing a participatory live-in and live-out Drug Rehabilitation program to ensure the inclusive process of enlisting civil society's participation especially on the local level, to build and strengthen capacities of said participatory programs and processes so as to address community concerns and improve the government performance in its campaign in drug rehabilitation and drug prevention programs implementation, to provide a regular mechanism for an engaging civil society and local government interaction enabling a sustained and dynamic partnership, and to perform other incidental in the rehabil

the community.

Moreover, with the commitment to assist the government in the rehabilitation of PSUDs, mayor directed other civil organizations to sustain collaborative efforts and partnership with the government.

Among the civil organization includes Serenity in the Steps headed by Clemente Abella Jr. and Sergi Musni, Project Alcohol Drug Abuse Ministries (ADAM) headed by dir. Lemton Agricola, People's Alliance Reaching Transforming Nations Extending Righteousness and Salvation (PARTNERS) Network headed by Rev. Dr. Dandelo Azarcon, Bless our Cops and Soldiers Movement headed by Octavio Muncada, and International Movement and Partnerships for Change and Transformation (IMPACT) headed by Ricardo Bagalawis Jr,

The BCPO reported that there are already 2,390 surrenderees in Baguio, 406 of which are drug pushers and 1,984 are drug users.

Also, the BCPO has conducted 204 buy bust operations apprehending 180 pushers and 24 users.

The CSWDO together with the different partner agencies is continuously providing services to the PSUDs as well as their families for them to fully change and have a better future ahead./Jho Arranz#

Retired city government information officer Ramon Dacawi talks about the financial burden of being a dialysis patient to rally support from the public to participate in the signature campaign launched for free dialysis. Also in photo are Dr. Lamsis and Ms Margie Dela Cruz of Philhealth, Dr. Shelly Allan of DOH-CAR, Dr. Viriginia Mangati of BGHMC, councilors Edgar Avila and Peter Fianza, Mr. Rafael Tallocoy and mam Imelda of the congressman's office (partly hidden). For online signature please log on to www.change.org and search for free dialysis./Photo by Rosa Moresto

up sign-up nooks in their offices to boost the drive.

NEWS

For his part, Rep. Marquez Go said he has begun coordinating with the agencies directly involved in the grant of dialysis assistance on how they can pool their resources and come up with a unified program.

He said he is also consulting with the Senate on the possibility of tying up the present clamor with a related senate bill earlier filed by Senator Sonny Angara known as the dialysis center act.

Government officials in the provincial, city, municipal and barangay levels in the region and in other parts of the country are encouraged to follow Baguio and La Trinidad town's lead by approving resolutions requesting the Office of the President, the Senate and House of Representatives, the Department of Health, Philhealth and other national government agencies to come up with a unified Free Dialysis Health Program for the whole country.

They may base their measures on the BCBC resolution that can be downloaded from the petition posted at the said website (www.change.org and search for free dialysis

following link: www. change.org/p/urge-president-rodrigo-roa-duterte-make-dialysis-treatment-free-for-all-filipinos where people can also register their support.

The Baguio Correspondents and Broadcasters Club Inc. (BCBC) and the Philippine Information Agency Cordillera (PIA-CAR) requested groups and individuals willing to mount their own campaign can download copies of the petition via the same website and link.

'We also call on Cordilleran expatriates to help spread the word and gather signatures using the same downloadable copies of the petition," BCBC president Ramon Dacawi said.

The online petition at www.change.org has turned in 651 supporters from all over the country and the world thus far.

The sardonic remark of Renate Doth of Germany was right on the mark of the crux of the petition: "Medical care is not a privilege of the rich."

Lorraine Laosinguan of Surigao said, "I am signing this because i don't want the future generation (of hemodialysis patients) to die without Refuerzo#

petition; or through the having a chance to fight for their lives just because they cannot afford it."

"Most patients are more worried on their financial problem than their own health or life," Krisna Hana Belloza of Baguio quipped.

The accounts of those caught in the ordeal were most heart-rending.

"May anak po ako na 13 years old nagdidialysis tatlong beses sa isang linggo. Halos doon lang po napupunta ang sahod ko. Apat taon na ako hindi nauwi dahil kung ako ay uuwi wala syang pang dialysis," lamented Richard Beldua, an Overseas Filipino Worker in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Maria Filipinas Millare said, "I am also a kidney dialysis patient and I fully agree with the dilemma cited in the petition. Each one of us is desperately in search of remedies to alleviate our sufferings, physically and financial-

Sign-up sites are at the city public information office at the Baguio City Hall, PIA-CAR in front of the Mansion, Luisa's Café along Session Road and the Baguio General Hospital dialysis section and Bookends along Calderon St./Aileen P.

Free dialysis supporters now 10,000

BAGUIO CITY – The the country hit the 10,000 mark over the week and to the petition to make dialysis a free treatment in

1/2 page:

1/4 page:

1/8 page:

1 col. cm.

further as the campaign finds Ad Rates JUNCTION momen 1 page : P19,000.00 Paper/Page Size: 10" x 13" 9,500.00 tum in (25 cm x 33 cm) 4,750.00 1 column length: 29.75 cm @ 7 columns per page for other 2,375.00 provinces 85.00 judicial ads col. cm. 85.00 Judicial ads ove rates are for black and white. For colored Ads, add 30%. Generous rate discounts available depending on volume the in region.

The second state of the second state of the second state of the second state of the second state concern for the increas-

mark over the week and is expected to increase

Out of

ing number of kidney disease patients, more people are volunteering to do the legwork to pass on copies of the petition to their own friends and co-residents and gather more signatures.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Vice Mayor Edison Bilog and all the city councilors who earlier approved a resolution of support to the campaign agreed to set