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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Session Road Cement Tree Removal Probe Urged

POWER TO THE PEOPLE. The Ambuklao Hydroelectric Power Plant now has 35 megawatts of capacity after two years of rehabilitation following a 12-year shut-down. The rehabilitation by SNAP - Benguet is scheduled to be completed in the 3rd quarter of this year, enabling a fully operational Ambuklao plant by the end of the year. / Grace Bandoy



BAGUIO CITY – A probe team was formed here to investigate the alleged arbitrary removal of the cement pine tree at the Session Road rotunda as ordered by the Office of the Ombudsman.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan issued Administrative Order No. 89 constituting an ad hoc committee composed of Dept. of Public Works and Highways City District Engineer Ireneo Gallato as chair and with city engineer Leo Bernardez and city legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes as members to conduct the probe.

The mayor said this is to comply with the directive of the Office of the Ombudsman through acting deputy ombudsman for Luzon Wilbert Candelaria last June 15 for the Office of the City Mayor to spearhead said investigation.

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Dapat lang na makasuhan ang dating Mayor Bautista sa kanyang hindi pagsunod sa tamang proseso ng demolition !!!

Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter S. Cayetano Kontra-SONA speech August 8, 2011 Full Transcript 1st of 5 parts

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New White-Collar Crime: Steal money from the people and then whistle-blow

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



PRANGKAHAN TAYO

X- Mayor Bautista dapat kasuhan ng Ombudsman!!!

Mayor Domogan dapat rin kasuhan ng Ombudsman!!!

BY : ORWEN TRAZO



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Alternative Solutions for Waste Disposal Launched

BAGUIO CITY – the city thru the Environment and Parks management Office (CEPMO) is embarking on a strategy to help clean the city's water ways and tributaries of wastes while providing alternative means of clean energy for households.

The alternative technology introduced is the use of 'Bio-digesters' or a device to collect methane gas from animal manure and other wastes.

A training workshop on building and operating the family sized bio-digester was formally launched last August 10 at the Baguio Sewage Treatment Plant at the North Sanitary Camp this city.

Secretary to the Mayor Raffy Tallocoy in behalf of Mayor Mauricio Domogan welcomed the participants mostly from the city's outskirts who are in the trade of raising pigs and other livestock.

Tallocoy said, 'the project will surely have its long term benefits not only to residents but to the environment

as well'.

'it is high time that we use modern techniques in protecting our water', he said.

Experts believe the use of bio-digesters can reduce or eliminate the flow of raw waste into the city's rivers by households.

It works best when fuelled with pig manure but human waste and other biodegradable materials can also be used in extracting bio-gas at the same time producing high-quality fertilizer as a by-product.

Tallocoy added, 'the city is doing everything it could in order to protect the remaining water ways in the city most especially doing its share in keeping the Balili river clean'.

Bio-digesters can be used by residents who are near rivers and canals so they won't dump their liquid wastes directly into it', he stressed.

In addition to bio-digesters, the Baguio Vermi Growers also introduced 'Vermiculture' to the participants to dispose some of their household bio-degradable wastes.

Vermicomposting or the use of earthworms or African Nightcrawlers is used as a natural way to turn organic waste into a high quality natural fertilizer and soil conditioner.

Meantime, Mayor Mauricio Domogan issued a stern warning to individuals who deliberately throw their wastes into the city's canals and rivers.

Domogan said, 'the city will file appropriate charges against those who are caught dumping their wastes in areas prohibited and would apply existing ordinances to this effect'.

Problems on scattered and unsegregated wastes have been reported by garbage collectors in some parts of the city.

We will soon implement the no pick-up for those who won't segregate, so I urge our constituents to practice waste segregation at source'. He stressed.

The mayor said, the city will soon distribute color-coded garbage bags which will be used to classify wastes, green for biodegradable and blue for recyclables/paul rillorta

Mayor Clarifies Stand on Ancestral Land Claims

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan affirmed anew that the city government respects 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 allegations that the city has waged a blanket tirade against all ancestral land claimants in the city.

Cont. on page 8

City, DENR, DPWH fuse to resist Chuntug lot Private use

BAGUIO CITY – Some things do last beyond one's lifetime.

Yu Hwa Ping, the businessman who never gave up his quest to develop a parcel of lot along Chuntug Street had reason to celebrate early 2010 when the Office of the President (OP) granted his wish to secure title over a controversial property a few months before he passed on.

But the City Government, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-Cordillera, and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH-Cordillera) won't make it easy on his heirs.

In an ad hoc committee meeting August 9, City Government together with DPWH-Cordillera head Engr. Irineo Gallato and a rep from DENR-Cordillera agreed to unite efforts to once and for all stop the "on again, off again" dev tries in the area.

The city officials present in the informal talks include legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes, planning officer Evelyn Cayat, city buildings and architecture chief Oscar Flores, city engineer Leo Bernardez

During the weekly Ugnayan presser hosted by DZEQ 'Radio ng Bayan', mayor Mauricio Domogan revealed, "The [team

members] are coordinating and will do everything to protect government interest over the area."

He added, "The group is currently studying angles on how to assert the area as easement, a road right-of-way (RROW) according to DPWH's earlier assertion."

It could be remembered the City Legal Office (CLO), February 22 last year, filed motion for reconsideration (MR) over the OP's reversal of the DENR findings the Hwa Ping title "was not regularly and validly issued."

The MR, which remains pending in the OP to date, was filed in behalf of Flores and DPWH secretary Hermogenes Ebdane, the appellees.

Apparently, the OP failed to appreciate a DENR report dated May 16, 2008 pointing out the Original Certificate of Title (OCT) No. P-2607 issued to Hwa Ping encroached upon a DPWH-identified road-right-of-way.

They prayed the OP "consider the aforementioned (report) as it would appear [Hwa Ping] was not candid enough to disclose [the] matter to the OP."

"If the document was revealed," they added, "the decision sought to be reconsidered would have been rendered in a different tune."

Earlier, DENR

issued Special Order (SO) No. 14 creating a team to conduct investigation for possible filing of cancellation proceedings over the title issued on a RROW along Chuntug.

Erstwhile DENR-Cordillera regional executive director Samuel Penafiel named Atty. Joseph Humiding (chair), Atty. Cleo Andrada, Engr. Wilbert Mangliwan, Evelyn Wales, Norbert Aquino, and Filipinas Mallare as members of the team.

The DENR team subsequently reported the title issued to Hwa Ping "is not appropriate for disposition under Townsite Sales Application (TSA) [as] it straddles the RROW of Chuntug identified as secondary national road."

On top of that, the appeal tipped the OP: there were nil Presidential Proclamations reclassifying the questioned property measuring 360 sq. m. into an alienable and disposable land.

Cayat meantime revealed, "It was agreed during our ad hoc talks that DPWH will dig deep into their records to substantiate our common claim that the area is meant for RROW."

"Meantime, the legal officers of the departments involved shall be coordinating with each other if only to beef up government's ultimate goal... to have the lot reverted for public purpose."/ISL



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(SGD) Odell P. Aquino The Junction-OIC

551 awarded night market slots

BAGUIO CITY—A total of 551 have been awarded slots in the city's night market project along Harrison Road as of August 9.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan authorized the transfer of the temporary night market from the Athletic Bowl to Harrison Road starting July 25 due to the onset of the rainy season and the lean season for tourist arrival in the city.

Lawyer Dennis Ruiz of the city legal office who heads the screening committee for the vendors said the selection process will continue until they are able to complete the 1,050 slots.

As per the mayor's Administrative No. 87, the operation of the experimental night market will be subject to the following conditions:

*The night market shall formally start on July 25, 2011 and will be conducted nightly from 9:—p.m. up to midnight except when the use of the area has been approved for other relevant activities that is deemed a priority and will thus suspend night market operations;

*Bonafide residents of baguio and vendors plying their trade along the central business district and displaced vendors in the city market shall be given priority to sell in the area and whose names appear in the list prepared by the Baguio City Market Task Force;

*Submission of application will be done during office hours at the City Treasurer's Office-Market Division with the following requirements: Voter's ID or any proof of residency; certification or proof that applicant is a night market vendor; Community Tax Certificate;

*All applicants shall be screened by a screening committee. Approved applicants shall be issued IDs and a registration fee of P300 shall be paid;

*The authorized products to be sold shall be limited to woven materials, silvercrafts, small handicrafts, communication gadgets, RTWs and wagwag items, artifacts, gift items, indigenous products, dry goods, preserved goods, fruits and vegetables, handy tools, small or light hardware, electrical and electronic items. Finger foods, burgers, hotdogs will be allowed but on limited basis;

*The size of each stall is measured at 1.35mx1m each. The sidewalks and flower boxes shall not be used as vending or storage area;

*A nightly regulatory fee of P50 will be paid on a weekly basis or P350 a week to be paid in advance;

*All vendors must always maintain cleanliness and sanitation and shall not leave the vending area unless all garbage are disposed of and properly packed for pick-up by personnel of CEPMO;

*Any vendor found to have violated said established rules and regulations, conditions of the experimental night market shall be immediately expelled, their IDs confiscated and shall be barred from vending at the night market; and

*The Baguio City Market Task Force shall submit a report to the City Mayor and the City Council on the first month whether or not the night market will be a continuing activity under the circumstance./A Refuerzo



UPGRADED BINGA DAM COMING SOON. *The Binga Power Plant in Benguet is currently being upgraded. The refurbishment which began in 2010 will upgrade the plant from 100 megawatts to 120 megawatts one unit at a time within three to four years to supply more power to recipients in the Luzon Area./ Grace Bandy*

GSIS Expands Partnership with the Land Bank

BAGUIO CITY—The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) is expanding its partnership with the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to give not only its pensioners, but also its 1.4 million members the option to avail of Land Bank's banking services.

In an advisory issued to GSIS Liaison Officers, members who will choose to avail of Land bank's services will be issued a UMID eCard where loan proceeds and other benefits such as cash dividends will be credited.

AGSIS member, who is a holder of Land bank UMID eCard, will be entitled to the following benefits: No maintaining balance required for the member's savings

account; no service fee on withdrawal and balance inquiry from any of Landbank's more than 900 ATMs nationwide and the UMID ecard can be used as a debit card in more than 20,000 accredited merchants nationwide.

In addition, it can also be used as a discount card for selected Pfizer medicines and when enrolling their children or relatives in any STI campus nationwide.

Holder of the Land bank UMID eCard can withdraw from any Expressnet, Bancnet or Megalink ATM network.

Members who wish to transfer their account to Land bank, may register through any of the following means:

By sending his/her name, date of birth, UMID Common Reference Number (CRN) and pre-

ferred Land bank branch to eservices@gsis.gov.ph.

Members can also log in to GSIS eCard online transactions facility at www.gsis.gov.ph using his 11-digit GSIS ID Number. Once logged in, the member has to click on the icon [Choose LBP as your Servicing Bank] and indicate his preferred Land Bank Branch via a drop-down list menu.

Other interested members may visit the nearest GSIS Field Office to signify his intent to transfer his bank account.

Members only have until November 30, 2011 to inform the GSIS of their intent to transfer, after which the GSIS will submit all applications to Land bank for the printing of the Land bank -issued UMID eCard./ JDP/MC-PIA CAR

"No Bigotry Against Muslims in our city while we sit" — Domogan

BAGUIO CITY - "Under our laws, we treat everyone without distinction."

Thus assured mayor Mauricio Domogan during the Ugnayan presser hosted by DZEQ 'Radio ng Bayan', August 10 as the month-long Ramadan celebration reaches halfway point.

Applauding about 10,000-Baguio Muslims' observance of the holy month in arduous fasting, the

mayor guaranteed he will, in his own way, take part in the sect's profound prayers for peace and continued harmonious relationship in the community.

On the same occasion, he guaranteed bigotry will never have a place in the implementation of laws in the city.

Most city-based Muslim practitioners who hail from the South are merchants of various articles ranging

from trinkets, second hand used clothes, jewelries, and electronic devices.

Domogan said, "There are those who complain in the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos-Northern Luzon (NCMF-NL) they are being 'persecuted' because of their religion."

"Some of our Muslim businessmen claim that our local government hands are stopping them from trading along easements

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City Government to Formulate Climate Change Action Plan

BAGUIO CITY - Considering the vulnerability of this mountain resort city to the adverse effects of climate change such as landslides and other hazards, there is an urgent need to formulate a climate change action plan.

In an approved city council resolu-

tion introduced by Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda, the city government and the barangays are asked to formulate and implement a local climate change action plan.

Tabanda said that in the preparation of the annual development plans of the city and of the

barangays, the local climate change action plan be integrated therein and that corresponding funds will be appropriated for its implementation.

This is in support to Republic Act 9729 which mainstreams the Climate Change into govern-

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The Wife's Gripes

Did your wife gripe about bolting food prices? Mine did. "Rice, fish, poultry, you name it. The costs are up," she said. "Can you imagine what that does to the jobless and beggars?"

"No", we admit. Statistics we fiddle with are antiseptic. Asian Development Bank, figures food prices bolted by 10 percent since New Year. In the Asia-Pacific region, higher food prices shackled 19 million to grinding poverty, adds the UN.

The math is right. But it doesn't afford a glimpse into the lethargic despair of the ill-fed. Still, it underscores the urgency of enabling hobbled food granaries, like Mindanao, to boost food production.

Much rides, therefore, on Mindanao peace proposals that government negotiations will unveil for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, mid-August, in Kuala Lumpur. It offers a

EDITORIAL

three-pronged
"creative but
risky strategy"

notes the International Crisis Group.

The three prongs: (a) Concrete reforms in the once warlord-racked Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao; (b) separate discussions with the MILF and MNLF; and (c) the prickly issues of territory and powers of a future Moro "sub-state".

An Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao, still plagued by ghost-voter studded lists and warlord remnants, led the administration to postpone elections. By reforms, President Aquino hopes to disprove autonomy means corruption, poverty, plus private armies. By including Moro National Liberation Front among ARMM appointees, Aquino can show progress on unimplemented 1996 agreement.

There's no guarantee government can clean up the Augean stable that is ARMM in two years. And some stakeholders may refuse to bow out. But Muslim civil society organizations, weary of conflict, may prod MILF and MNLF onto one negotiating track?

Insurgents have indicated interest in running an interim administration until a new, autonomous sub-state is created. Delays could deepen MILF uncertainty about the government's intentions.

"For all the creativity of his peace process advisers, President Aquino appears to be a man of extreme caution. He emerges as one who won't, agree to anything that cannot be implemented," the International Crisis Group notes.

"The emerging strategy appears to be an attempt to ensure that any future agreement on the territory and powers of an expanded autonomous region would be both legitimate and enforceable."

However the peace talks go, the task of building a sustainable future for Mindanao, must press on, former NEDA chair Cielito Habito stresses. But that calls for much more prudent stewardship of its inherent wealth than in the past.

Mindanao's wealth has been exploited, over many decades, by a few — and at great cost to future generations, he wrote in his Inquirer column. The economy derived its past growth "primarily by resource extractive activities".

"The day when you burned a hectare of forest, so as to harvest 600 kilos of rice is over." "Mindanao 2020" is a blueprint for the island region, formulated collectively by Mindanaoans. It plans Mindanao's future around an increasingly fragile environment. This road map contains these key guideposts.

Agriculture and agriculture-based industries will be the most prominent driver of Mindanao's economy into the future. Large plantation agriculture and smallholder farming must develop, tapping non-traditional high value crops. Organic farming and halal food production will expand, given its natural suitability for niche segments.

Forestry industry must draw on well-managed commercial tree farming, since natural growth forests have been almost totally exhausted. Massive reforestation is urgent, in the face of large-scale deforestation.

To avoid further depletion, coastal and marine fisheries must be pursued in more carefully measured steps. Shortages already impact the lives of millions of Mindanaoans.

Mariculture will figure more prominently in Mindanao's fisheries sector. Parallel efforts to rejuvenate marine resources, through fishing moratoriums, in key fishing grounds will reduce production in the short to medium term.

Mining in Mindanao will stay. "There is no room for extreme positions on this need". A number of large mining projects are just starting. Others are in the pipeline, But "responsible mining" measures must be clamped on, if the indus-

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THE PEACE COMBATANT

New White-Collar Crime: Steal money from the people and then whistle-blow

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



(This is a Re-Print of last issues Column)

There are only 22 white-collar crimes that have been identified by the country that coined the word "white-collar crimes". That country is the leading capital of white collar crimes simply because it is the only country in the world with the biggest number of white collar criminals—the United States. The 22 white collar crimes are tax evasion, securities fraud, money laundering, larceny, investment schemes, insurance fraud, insider trading, health care fraud, forgery, extortion, environmental scheme, embezzlement, currency scheme, credit card fraud, counterfeiting, cellphone fraud, bribery, blackmail, and bank fraud.

One investment fraud that is well-known even in the Philippines is the pyramid or the ponzi scheme. The ponzi scheme originated from the United States. It started with Charles Ponzi of Boston, Massachusetts, who invented the fraud sometime in the early 1900s. Charles Ponzi was able to deprive several thousand people of New England (in the United States) of their hard-earned money. Charles Ponzi simply promised a guaranteed return of 50% to investors on their capital within 90 days. In truth, Charles Ponzi simply financed the dividends of earlier investors through the payments of new investors.

Several years after, Bernard Madoff would copy the modus operandi of Charles Ponzi with more sophisticated innovations. Unlike Charles Ponzi's incredible returns of 50%, Bernard Madoff simply offered small but positive rates on capital. The business looked very credible because there were no extraordinary claims. In fact, Madoff's business existed for several years. However, Bernard Madoff has simply been paying older investors from the investments of newer investors. He was not actually making investments at all. It was only lately or around 2008 when the United States started to prosecute Bernard Madoff and slapped him with a 150--year imprisonment sentence.

America invented the ponzi and the pyramid scheme (the more modern version of the ponzi). We credit America for the ponzi. However, it is now time to credit the Philippines for a new white-collar crime: that of stealing so much money from the people or at least collaborating with the principal thieves in stealing so much money from the people and then turning whistle-blowers later.

One version of this, however, involves agreeing to a plea-bargain in which a general charged for corruption involving several millions if not billions of pesos offered to admit a less serious crime in return for the dropping of charges. Neat. The general is able to steal money and is prosecuted. Nevertheless, he is able to keep much of the money he stole by simply confessing to a less serious crime. Result: millions of profit for the criminal and then the criminal is absolved for the more major crime.

Fast forward. The same pattern is repeated. However, this time, the criminal is only of those involved in the corruption. The criminal is a willing participant to the corruption. He is one of those who earned from the corruption. He got a share from the corruption. He may or may not be one of the

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ADVOCACY MINDANOW

THE RISKS OF THE TOKYO MEETING

BY: JESUS DUREZA



IMPLICATIONS —After that high drama of a secret meeting between President Noyoy and MILF Chair Al Haj Murad and the smoke somehow settles down, we must look closely at its implications. Sure, it was a “coup” of sorts with no less than the President as principal player. Even the usually alert Malacanang press even failed to sniff the air about the trip. Yes, it was fascinating and full of symbolism. It was also a bold move — unprecedented and unconventional. After the meeting, no doubt it was a high media event that woke up everyone to the fact that indeed, government is determined to find a political solution to a long pestering problem.

* * *

RISKS — But that Tokyo parley is equally so full of risks. First of all, getting the President no less to meet the highest official of a rebel group while negotiations are still on going is “not in the books”. Meaning, no negotiator worth his salt will put in jeopardy the high office of the presidency and throw caution to the wind by resorting to that secret caper unless it has some strategic consideration. That is still unknown to the public. We hope this will be publicly disclosed — or known — soon.

* * *

THE PRINCIPAL —In peace negotiations, the President is called the “principal” and he stays above the fray, so to speak, while the peace panel or his peace adviser shields him from the vagaries of a complicated and bruising process. Normally, he publicly comes in only when the issues are settled and as head of state he presides over the ceremonies and formalities of a settlement.

* * *

HANDS ON —But don’t get me wrong there. This is not to say that the President should keep his hands off the process. On the contrary, the president as “principal” personally calls the shots and gives the strategic directions. He must intervene and give the marching orders when the negotiators need a judgment call. Behind the scene, he must track the whole process closely. In fact, even before negotiators leave for some meeting, the “principal” is briefed every step of the way, to the last detail, and options are presented to him. He knows the “minimum and maximum” negotiating parameters. We call this the “mini max” of peace talks.

But this is done internally, away from the public view, behind closed doors. I am witness to this with former Presidents Ramos and Arroyo. I am tempted to disclose some events but I will just leave it at that for the moment.

* * *

LAST CARD? —Just like in other crisis situations, the negotiator allows a “buffer” to give him some leeway and although he may be in close touch with the higher authority who can make decisions on some demands, or perhaps he has already the full authority to make judgment calls himself, he operates as a go-between and maintains a “cushion” of sorts. This is axiomatic in every similar situation: you keep your “big guns” or your aces for last. You play your last card only when there’s no other card to play. Otherwise you are recklessly mishandling your game.

* * *

MALAYSIA —It is important to immediately point out that the one-on-one meeting has a significant implication with Malaysia’s role as facilitator in the talks. We cannot deny the fact that certain sectors in government had previously been publicly expressing “discomfort” over Malaysia’s “capture” of the Philippine peace process. My assessment is that the Tokyo meeting has “short-circuited” the facilitation process and there is more opportunity now for both sides to directly deal with each other and not be constrained by the facilitation protocols in place. I find this a positive development. And I’m sure Malaysia will not mind.

* * *

CRUCIAL STAGE —No doubt, the negotiations with the MILF is now at a crucial stage. Let us not forget that the MILF has already submitted its draft of a final comprehensive agreement. It has practically “laid all its cards on the table”. For example, the MILF made clear that its bangsamoro aspiration can be adequately addressed only if a “state, sub-state” governance set-up is achieved in the bangsamoro homeland. Mark this important note: this can be done only if the Philippine constitution is accordingly amended.

* * *

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

RP elections controlled by “operators”?

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE’S INSPIRATIONS: “...maintain justice in the courts...” (Amos 5:15, the Holy Bible).

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RP ELECTIONS CONTROLLED BY “OPERATORS”?

News reports are quoting Justice Secretary Leila De Lima as saying a lawyer and his son are known “election operators” in the country, a phrase which literally means they can make miracles for candidates during election time—make them win, or lose, obviously if the price is right.

This is a serious accusation to make. For it suggests that officials of the Commission on Elections could be swayed one way or the other by “election operators”, thereby debunking as myth the legal aphorism that electoral contests in this country are decided by the people.

With statements like the one made by De Lima, quoted in the Philippine Star issue of August 11, 2011 in an article saying that the present chief of the Philippine National Police in Metro Manila maybe involved in the 2004 election cheating, it would appear that elections, really, are decided not by the people, but by the Commission and the country’s “election operators”. May God forgive us for our inequities!

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PIMENTEL MUST WORK IN ALL SENATE COMMITTEES:

I suggest that incoming Sen. Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III should not at all be bothered by the apparent lack of any committee in the Senate which he may chair or head. Instead, he should proceed to attend all committee hearings, as far as humanly possible, and make himself shine in every legislative work that will come his way.

On top of this, he should gladly accept the chairmanship of the committee on public information and mass media, and do what all mediamen who became senators and congressmen, including those who are still in Congress now, failed to do to uphold press freedom in the country—to work for the abolition of the libel law.

Libel laws are anathema to the idea of a free press, and are actually being used by the rouges and corrupt in government and in the private sector, to prevent mediamen from exposing their misdeeds before the eyes of the public. Pimentel can build on with what his father, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr., did when he was still senator towards removing libel laws from our statute books.

-000-

“INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLDS”: From Colossians 3:18-25 of the Holy Bible come various “Instructions for Christian Households”. Here are these instructions: “Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism...”

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NO SECESSION — Also important to note is that the MILF even gave up its alleged “secession” plans, a “maximum” in the MILF’s “mini max” negotiating card. If you look closely at the MILF draft, there is nothing there anymore about a “self determination” process where the bangsamoro, after several years of transition after a settlement is achieved, will be asked to take a vote as to their final decision. To experts, this is a window or door to secession or independence. This provision, **Cont. on page 7**

PRANGKAHAN TAYO

**X- Mayor Bautista dapat kasuhan ng Ombudsman!!!
Mayor Domogan dapat rin kasuhan ng Ombudsman!!!**

BY : ORWEN TRAZO



Sobra na talaga ang KAKAPAL-KAKAPAL-KAPAL ng mga mukha ng marami sa ating mga government officials. Lantaran ang pangungurakot kaliwat kanan. Mayroon nga jan isang government official akala nya siguro na siya ang may ari ng mga lupain na kanyang ipinagbebenta ngunit yun mga lupang yun ay pagmamay-ari ng gobyerno at hindi kanya o ng kanyang angkan. Balita ko nga na sa Malacanang na raw ang tungkol sa isyu na ito. Problema nga lang is kung kayang ilusot ni Mr. Regional Director ang kanyang pinaggagawa. Ang tanong lang is kung ganoon ka lakas ang mga kapit ni Mr. Regional Director dun sa mga galamay ni Mr. Daang Matuwid, at sino si Mr. Daaang Matuwid, aba walang iba kung hindi an gating machong-machong si Penoy este si P-Noy. Huwag kayong mga alala mga dear readers, malalaman nyo rin kung sino ang aking tinutukoy, sa takdang panahon kapag na sampahan na natin siya ng reklamo saka ko na babangitin ang kanyang pangalan. Isa raw pangalan o apelyedo na malinis na inalagaan ng kanyang angkan at sisirain lang ng mag-asawang UBODANG KOKORAP. **Tama ba Dir. U ___ ???**

####

X- MAYOR BAUTISTA DATAP KASUHAN NG OMBUDSMAN — sa aking pagkakaalam kahit na hindi na opisyal ng gobyerno itong si dating Mayor Bautista ay mayroon pa rin siyang sabit sa kanyang pinaggagawa nuong siya ay isang dating Opisyal ng Gobyerno. Ano ang ibig kong sabihin? Hingil sa headline story ng pahayagang ito [this issue] kung saan ipinaimbistiga ng Ombudsman ang pagdemolish ng **Puno ni Bernie** na siyang pa kana ni Mayor Bautista na idemolish. Mga iba kasing opisyal ng gobyerno, kapag na sa poder na, akala mo na kasi kung umasta talo pa ang HARI-PRESIDENTE-PRIME MINISTER-SENATOR [all rolled into one] etc.... Ano kaya ang proseso [kung mayroon man na ginamit] itong si dating Mayor Bautista sa pag sagawa ng demolition ng **Puno ni Bernie**. Bakit kanyo, ang pondo na iginastos para sa **Puno ni Bernie** ay nagmula sa Public Funds at ang kalsadang pinaglalagyan ay hindi naman pag-mamay-ari ni dating Mayor Bautista [pero ewan ko lang, baka nabili na ni Bautista ang Session Road?]. So ano kaya ang pruwera at ligal na basehan para ipademolish ni dating Mayor Bautista ang nasabing **Puno ni Bernie**. Hindi porket marami sa atin ay hindi natin gusto ang **Puno ni Bernie** ay hindi nag kakahulugan na pwede na natin itong ipademolish ng ganon-ganon na lang. Hindi ba at mayroon tayong sinasabi at dapat na obserbahan na due process of law !!! Basahin ang isang news report [sa baba nin to] na dating inilabas hingil sa isyu na ito nuong Feb 27, 2010, ang tanong ngayon ay magiging parekas kaya at tapat sa batas itong si Mayor Domogs sa pag sasagawa ng imbestigasyon na kanyang isusumite sa Ombudsman este Ombudsman???



1st-APLUMA!

They are at it again

Yes, people of the Philippines they are at it again. Soon our lawmakers will be dancing and singing again to the tune of "cha-cha" (Charter Change).

According to Speaker Feliciano Belmonte, the House and Senate leaderships have agreed to "push for Charter Change by way of legislation and to focus on economic provisions such as allowing foreigners to bring in capital and own land and corporations like Filipinos. They can own 100 percent, including public utilities and media entities the Speaker says.

"Scary" you might say but yes, there really is, a tangible reason to have fear for the unknown especially for local giant print and TV networks who may soon be locking horns with BBC, CNN, FOX in local shores if and when the economic cha-cha would push through.

To be more specific the six economic revisions entails the following:

- The lifting of the 60-40 equity rule and allowing foreigners to own 100 percent of public utilities in the telecommunications, power and other sectors
- Allowing foreigners to own 100 percent of residential houses and land
- Allowing foreigners 100 % ownership of commercial and industrial lands
- Opening up the practice of professions such as doctors, engineers, architects, lawyers, and others under the "reciprocity rule"
- Opening up foreign investments to media entities
- Opening up foreign investments to educational institutions

So there you go.

But anyway, there is nothing to fret about yet at the moment from among our professional Kababayans because it still is a long haul.

And while it may have a good side to it, this will surely encounter rough sailing.

Malacanang for one distanced itself from the proposed cha-cha with Deputy Presidential Spokesperson Abigail Valte telling the media that it (cha-cha) is not President Aquino's priority even as she stressed that the Chief Executive's stand on the issue is very clear.

P-Noy is not accordingly sold to the idea of changing any provision of the 1987 Constitution which was approved during her mother's term.

####

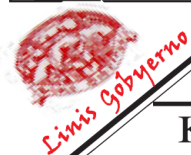
MAYOR DOMOGAN DATAP RIN KASUHAN NG OMBUDSMAN

tinatawagan ko ang mga tanga este taga Baguio na ipakita ang inyong suporta sa kasalukuyan reklamo na isinampa ng Linis Gobyerno against The Good, The Best, The Indispensable, The One and Onli-Mayor Mauricio Domogan hingil sa kanyang pagpasok sa isang kontrata with a private company [SITEL] para gamitin ang ating mga Jueteng este waiting sheds. Inyong mababasa ang mga detalye nito sa Facebook account ng isa nating LG Anti Graft Researcher na si Madam Maraming Gracia este Mary Grace Bando.

12 THE STAR NEWS

General Pine Tree Turn Down To Give Way To Something "Significant"

MANILA — The city government of Manila has turned down a proposal to demolish the General Pine Tree, a landmark of the city, to make way for a new development. The city government said the tree is a significant part of the city's heritage and should be preserved. The proposal was made by a private developer who wanted to build a new office building on the site of the tree. The city government said it would consider the proposal if it could be done without harming the tree. The tree is a large, old pine tree that has been in the city for many years. It is a popular spot for people to sit and relax. The city government said it would consider the proposal if it could be done without harming the tree. The tree is a large, old pine tree that has been in the city for many years. It is a popular spot for people to sit and relax. The city government said it would consider the proposal if it could be done without harming the tree.



LG Komentaryo Update hingil sa mga Public Waiting Sheds na ipinagamit ni Mayor Domogan sa SITEL !!!



Kamakailan lang nitong August 11, 2011 ay sinampahan na ng reklamo ng Linis Gobyerno itong si Mayor Mauricio Domogan sa tangapan ng Ombudsman hingil sa ating pinaniniwalaan na ilegal at maanomalyang kontrata na kanyang ipinasok para ipagamit ang ilan mga Public Waiting Sheds sa isang pribadong kompanya [SITEL]. Kung nais ninyo maka tulong at magbigay suporta hingil sa isyu na ito maaari kayong mag log-in sa Face Book account ni Grace Bandoy, LG Anti Graft Researcher.



Filipino Users Favor Home Access Over Internet Cafés - Survey

MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA -Preferred points of access for Internet users in the Philippines has been steadily shifting from Internet cafes to home-based access, according to a survey.

The latest Yahoo!-Nielsen survey also highlights growth of home-based Internet subscription in the Philippines. The Yahoo-Nielsen Net Index Digital Philippines 2011 surveyed 1,500 respondents from 22 metro cities across the Philippines.

It reported that access from Internet cafes steadily declined from 71% in 2009, to 69% in 2010, to 66% in 2011. Meanwhile, home Internet access has increased in the same period from 27% in 2009, to 31% in 2010, to 35% in 2011.

The weekly average time spent for home Internet access also increased from just 4.8 hours per week in 2009 to 10.4 hours per week in 2011.

Length of access across other locations also increased. For instance, Internet cafe average access length is 5.5 hours per week in 2011, school access average time increased to 5.2 hours, while at work people accessed the Internet an average of 11.5 hours.

The survey does not highlight the number of broadband Internet users in the Philippines though the latest reports of two of the major telecommunications service providers, Globe Telecom and the Philippine Long Distance and Telephone Company (PLDT), have reported increases in broadband Internet subscriptions in their latest reports.

Specifically, PLDT reported 1.5 million broadband subscribers for its first half of 2011 while Globe also reported 1.3 million broadband subscribers for the same period.

There is no specific number of Internet cafes in the Philippines primarily though the biggest chain, Netopia, has at least 140 branches. Its owner, IPVG, owns several other café chains and puts its total branches at 200.

Apart from the gradual shift of preferences from Internet café to home, the Yahoo!-Nielsen report also indicated that mobile Internet access on mobile phones has grown from almost zero since the first survey in 2009 to five percent in 2010.

All of the mobile telecommunications providers had numerous mobile Internet offerings for postpaid and prepaid subscribers to drive up the usage of its mobile data services. Most of the offerings were primarily used by subscribers to gain access to their social networks.

Incidentally, the 2011 Yahoo!-Nielsen study also revealed that social networking remains the top online activity among Filipinos. From just 51% in 2009 and 53% in 2010, the number of those surveyed accessing primarily social networks has risen to 82% in 2011. This is closely followed by topic search, which increased to

Advocacy mindanow

.... from page 5

I have to stress again, is no longer in the MILF draft. Please note also that the Philippine government has NOT submitted yet its own draft up to now. My guess is that the Tokyo meeting must have something to do with the delay in the government's submission. I can understand why!

AMENDMENT —Let me state categorically: there is no other way but a constitutional route to adequately address the bottom line MILF position of a "state substate" setup. It is best that this is made clear at the outset. We must amend the Philippine constitution, if we grant this. But then, the Aquino administration has also repeatedly said publicly that it is not in favor of amending the constitution, that it is not a priority. On the other hand, I also know that the ARMM set-up, even though how "improved or enhanced" is not acceptable to the MILF. These two positions are irreconcilable.

If the President's trip to Tokyo resolves, or at the very least for the moment softens this impasse, then it is worth the perceived risks.

But if for one reason or another this will not be so, then that Tokyo secret meeting was a blunder and a "reckless adventurism" that unduly put on the spot the Presidency of the Republic. It may even hasten an early return to the war front. God forbid!/
dureza.jess@gmail.com

Air Gun Ownership in Itogon Regulated Soon

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet -

Officials of Itogon town crafted a measure that regulates the use of air gun in public places, national parks or forest reserves detrimental to the preservation of birds and animals including wildlife in the municipality.

Found to be indiscriminately used in the area for hunting and killing of birds and animals with rare species, Itogon officials believe that the indiscriminate use of air guns if not addressed would undermine the town's promotion of its tourism industry alongside the conservation and protection of its wildlife resources.

Ordinance No. 20 series 2011 Cont. on page 11
80% in 2011, up from 76% in 2010.

Instant messaging remains stable in third place of Internet activities from 68 percent in 2010 to 69 percent in 2011./ By Alexander Villafania/loQal.ph is a website owned and operated by Filquest Media Concepts, Inc. It works under the principle of giving voice to the voiceless, empowering Filipinos and uplifting the image of the Philippines by highlighting its unique culture. To do this, the loQal.ph team produces stories, video, photos and other multimedia content types to inspire and celebrate Filipino achievements, ideas, products and places.

Mayor

.... from page 2

The mayor said the city is only after bogus land claims that seek to undermine protected areas like the Forbes Park, Wright Park and others to the detriment of the city and residents.

"We have nothing against ancestral land claims as long as these are legitimate. Of course, we are opposed to false claims as these put the city and the residents' interest in peril," the mayor reiterated.

The mayor said 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 townsites 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 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.

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 within these circumstances are recognized by the city.

He said however that the city will continue to work to reclaim Forbes Park, Wright Park and other protected areas which were never reclassified as alienable as ancestral claims but were issued Certificates of Ancestral Land Titles (CALTs) by the National Commission on Indigenous

Peoples (NCIP).

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

He clarified that a provision included in the proposed amendment of the Baguio City Charter which seeks to treat legitimate ancestral lands as inalienable or with the same status as private lots was not intended to impair legitimate ancestral land claims.

The mayor clarified that on the contrary, the said provision was included to protect these legitimate claims against other land applications by preventing the processing of any applications over lands covered by ancestral land claims until the ancestral land applications have been denied with finality.

The mayor said that to end the confusion that even led to accusations of the mayor being anti-ancestral land claimants, he will just recommend to the Senate committee on local government which is studying the proposed charter amendment to just remove the said provision./A Refuerzo

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

Notice is hereby given that the Amended Articles of Incorporation of **A&J e-EDU English Academy Inc.** shortening the existence and hereby dissolving the corporation as of **June 30, 2011** has been approved by the said corporation in a meeting held on **July 15, 2011**.

All persons having claim against said corporation are requested to present the same at the principal office of the corporation at **GF West Burnham Place Condominium #16 Kisad Rd., Baguio City** for immediate settlement.

This will serve as a notice to all parties of the legal dissolution of the said corporation.

LINDA VIZCARA
Corporate President

Publication Dates: July 30, August 6,
and August 13, 2011

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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
BRANCH 59
Baguio City
[ADDITIONAL
FAMILY COURT OF
BAGUIO]

IN THE MATTER OF
THE PETITION FOR
ADOPTION OF
MINOR
PETER DARREN
ANCHETA MATEL

SPOUSES PETER
PAUL A. MATEL
AND MARIA
ELENAA. MATEL,
Petitioner,

SPL PROC CASE
NO. 381-A
FOR : ADOPTION

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF
S A B L A N ,
BENGUET,

Respondent,

X——X

ORDER

The petitioner-spouses filed this verified petition praying of this Honorable Court that after due notice, publication and hearing, judgment be rendered.

1. That minor Peter Darren Ancheta Matel be declared for all legal intents and purposes as the legitimate child of herein Petitioners;

2. That the details pertaining to the fact of his birth as indicated in his certificate of live birth be ratified;

3. That the annotation of the certificate of live birth stating that the fact of birth of Darren was registered in accordance with Republic Act 9255 be deleted;

Finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the same be heard before the Regional Trial Court, Branch 59, Baguio City on October 13, 2011 at 10:30 o'clock in the morning at which place, date and time, the petitioners shall

prove their case if any there be, why the petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order be published at the expense of the petitioners in The Junction Newspaper, a newspaper of general circulation in the City Of Baguio and in Benguet Province once a week for three [3] consecutive weeks.

The petitioners are directed to make an appointment with the Court Social Worker for the purpose of conducting the required case study on the minor Peter Darren Ancheta Matel. The court social worker is required to submit to the court the case study not later than October 10, 2011.

SO ORDERED.

DONE IN CHAMBERS, this 27th day of July, 2011, at Baguio City, Philippines.

By: (SDG)
ILUMINADAP
CABATO
Judge

Publication dates:
Aug 13, 20 and 27,
2011

REPUBLIC OF
THE
PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION

Office of the Ex –
Officio Sheriff of
Benguet

Bulwagan ng
Katarungan,
Justice Hill, La
Trinidad, Benguet

BANCO NAKUN
INC. [A Rural Bank]
herein represented
by its Manager,
MARY ANN N.
NADUNOP,

*Petitioner-
Mortgagee,*

-versus-

ALICE H.
LUMIWAN
*Respondent-
Mortgagor,*

FILE NO. 11-Exf-
1513

FOR : EXTRA-
JUDICIAL

FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE
MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT NO.
3135 AS
AMENDED BY
ACT
NO. 4118

X——X

SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale of Real Estate Mortgage under Act. No. 3135, as amended, filed by the petitioner-mortgagee, BANCO BAKUN, INC. [A Rural Bank], a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Philippines with its business address at Antamok Tram, Ucab, Itogon Benguet and herein represented by its Manager MARY ANN N. NADUNOP, likewise of legal age, married, Filipino and with residence and postal address at No. 459 Ucab, Itogon, Benguet, hereinafter referred to as the mortgage, for the satisfaction of respondent-mortgagor, ALICE H. LUMIWAN, of legal age, married, Filipino and resident of JB 068, Pico La Trinidad, Benguet hereinafter referred to as the mortgagor, in order to satisfy her obligation to the mortgage in the amount of ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED NINETY SIX THOUSAND THIRTY NINE PESOS AND SIXTY EIGHT CENTAVOS [P 1,296,039.68], Philippine Currency, as of August 9, 2011 which has been due and which amount stated excludes publication costs, sheriff's commission and other necessary fees and incidental expenses to be incurred in the foreclosure proceedings estimated to be more or less P 50,000.00. The undersigned sheriff announces that he

will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION on September 9, 2011 at 11:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in front of the Bulwagan ng Katarungan, Justice Hill, La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, one [1] parcel of registered land, more particularly described as follows, to wit:

TRANSFER
CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE NO. T-
32860 with Tax
Declaration No.
99-012-02182

"A parcel of land [Lot 3-B-3-A, Psd-1-02716, being a portion of Lot 3-B-3, Psd-1-01894, LRC Rec. No. _____], situated at Barrio of Pico, Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet, Island of Luzon, Bounded on the NW., along line 1-2 by Lot 3-B-3-B Psd-1-02716; on the NE., along line 2-3 by property of Takio; on the E., along line 3-4 by Lot 4 [LRC] Psd-175173; on the SE, along line 4-5 by Lot 3-B-1 and along lines 5-6-7 by Lot 3-B-2, both Psd-1-01894; and on the S., along lines 7-8-1 by Lot 3-B-3-B Psd-1-02716, Beginning at a point marked x x x to point beginning. Containing an area of SIX HUNDRED THIRTEEN [613] SQUARE METERS. x x x

Prospective bidders/buyers may investigate the above described real property regarding the encumbrances thereof, if any. In case of failure in the auction sale as scheduled, the same is hereby re-scheduled on 10 October 2011 at the same time and place without need of re-publication.

Let the foregoing be published at THE JUNCTION NEWSPAPER, a newspaper of general circulation on August 13, 20 and 27, 2011.

La Trinidad,
Benguet, Philip-

ines, this 11th day
of August, 2011.

BY: (SDG) HENRY
B. LONGAY, JR.
Sheriff IV

FOR THE PRO-
VINCIAL EX-
OFFICIO SHERIFF
OF BENGUET

Publication Dates
August 13, 20 and
27, 2011

Session Road Cement Tree Removal Probe Urged.....from page 1

"This office is left with no choice but to comply with such directive of the Office of the Ombudsman," the mayor noted in the order.

The Ombudsman's directive stemmed from the letter-complaint of retired district engineer Arcadio Regacho filed on Sept. 3, 2010 calling for "appropriate investigation leading to the removal of the symbolic pine tree "which may indicate culpable violation of existing laws and regulations specifically but not limited to the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act."

The symbolic tree, according to Regacho was funded and built from the national government funds in 1996 during his time as district engineer using the public works allocations initiated by Rep. Bernardo Vergara.

"During the period February 22 to February 26, 2010, government personnel from the City Government of Baguio, acting on instruction of City Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. tore down and demolished a symbolic pine tree made of concrete and prefabricated materials, which has been serving as a landmark installation at the rotunda circle of Session Road since 1996," Regacho related to the Ombudsman.

"After demolishing/destroying the said government-installed structure, the same city government personnel put in several stone structures in the area, ostensibly as a replacement of the pine tree cement structure that the powers-that-be at City Hall found not suitable to their liking," he added.

Former mayor Bautista said the cement pine tree, which became the subject of public ridicule, was torn down in deference to the revived calls and appeals for the tree's removal.

Regacho said he learned that the actions that led to the demolition were not covered by any permit or clearance by the DPWH which has the jurisdiction over the structure.

"In my opinion, what happened was a clear case of Destruction of Government Property punishable under the Revised Penal Code, for which the offending parties led by City Mayor (Bautista) may be properly charged and prosecuted," Regacho said.

Regacho said the structure cost P500,000 which was part of the P1.2 million fund for the beautification of Session Road at that time.

In his order, Domogan gave the ad hoc committee 90 days to submit their findings and recommendations. /A Refuerzo

Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter S. Cayetano Kontra-SONA speech

August 8, 2011 Full Transcript 1st of 5 parts

Sa bayan ni Juan, may mag-amang magsasaka. Isang araw galing sila sa pag-aararo. Naglalakad sila pauwi ng sinabi ng ama "Anak, sumakay ka muna sa kalabaw dahil pangod ka na."

Ngunit pagdating nila sa pangatlong bayan bago sa kanilang tinitirhan, ang sabi ng mga nakatira doon, "Ano ba namang bata yan? May edad na yung ama siya pa ang nakasakay." Kaya ang sabi ng anak, "'Tay ikaw nalang ang sumakay, hihilahin ko nalang ang kalabaw."

Pag dating nila sa pangalawang bayan bago sa kanilang tinitirhan sabi ng mga tao, "Ano ba naman klaseng tatay yan? What kind of father is he? While he rides the carabao yung bata naman ang naglalakad."

Kaya pagdating nila sa huling bayan bago sa kanilang tinitirang bayan, ang sabi ng ama, "Anak, tayong dalawa nalang ang sumakay sa kalabaw." Pagdating sa bayan na 'yon ang sabi ng mga tao sa bayan na 'yon "Ano ba naman 'yang mag-amang yan? Buong araw ang kalabaw nag-aararo, yun na nga ang bumubuhay sa kanila aabusuhin pa nila na pareho silang nakasakay."

Kaya bago dumating sa kanilang bayan, ang ginawa ng dalawa, pinasan nila ang kalabaw. Sabi po tuloy nung mga kapitbahay nila "Eh tatanga-tanga pala itong mag-amang ito. Isipin mo mayroon silang kalabaw, hindi nila sakyan. Pinasan pa nila at sa kanila nakasakay."

We understand the feelings of the President when he asked us not to be so negative, when he asked both his critics and the people to think positive and to not always criticize.

Mr. President, that story is what the minority's traditional Kontra-SONA is all about this year.

Ours is not the task to be critical of the administration just for the sake of criticizing. Ours is the task to point out where the administration is missing out on the journey along the matuwid na daan.

We realize the President has spelled out his vision in some national concerns, he has accomplished much, and we are here to push where the vision is either absent or lacking, to push for a better roadmap or blueprint and point out possible steps along the way. Where there is none, we are here to recommend what we believe would be better for the country.

Mr. President, criticisms are aplenty but at the end of the day it's the studied response that matters.

Mr. Senate President, esteemed colleagues, mga mahal kong mga kababayan, our guests, ladies and gentlemen, magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat.

With your permission Mr. President, I will proceed to do the task of the minority group which is to present the other side of the coin. *Hindi mabubuo ang diskusyon o debate kung isang side lang ang magbibigay ng State of the Nation.* We need two sides of the debate to be able to have a comprehensive understanding of the 'true state of the nation' so that we can work together for the betterment of our country.

Jeremiah 29:11 tells us "For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future."

The good Lord has a plan for us, we have a plan for ourselves, the President has a plan for the nation. In fact, the framers of our Constitution tried to articulate not only a plan – but it tried to articulate the vision of the kind of society, the kind of Philippines we should have as seen in the preamble of our Constitution, which states:

"We, the sovereign Filipino people imploring the aid of Almighty God, in order to build a just and humane society and establish a Government that shall embody our ideals and aspirations, promote the common good, conserve and develop our patrimony, and secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of independence and democracy under the rule of law and a regime of truth, justice, freedom, love, equality and peace, do ordain and promulgate this Constitution."

It has been a year since our president, His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino III, first faced the joint session of the Congress of the Philippines to outline his vision for our country.

A year ago, many of us were at a loss as to what precisely that vision was. *Nung unang SONA, maraming nagtatanong "Ano ba talaga ang vision ng Pangulo?"*

I am happy to note that the number of those who feel that way, one year later, has considerably dwindled. *Marami ang nalinawan sa vision ng Pangulo pagkatapos ang kanyang pangalawang SONA.*

By harping on the imagery of the 'wang-wang' which has now

gone silent, the president has pictured for us a Philippines that is slowly but surely inching its way up and out of the doldrums, of a people that are beginning to believe in their country – or, at the very least, in themselves yet again.

It is important that as the elected officials of the land, we help create for the public, our 'bosses', the environment where they can believe again – believe both in themselves and in their country. I posit that for them to achieve the latter they have to achieve the former first. But to help the Filipino believe in himself requires from all of us, his chosen representatives, a new energy and a new determination to be his servant.

Mr. President, part of our role as the elected representatives of the people, is to paint for them an image of a future they can adapt to and adopt as their own. *Trabaho po natin na bigyan ang ating mga kababayan ng isang vision* – to paint the vision of what we want the Philippines to be in 2013, 2016, 2020. The year 2020 is symbolic because it represents a perfect vision.

A picture of the future is important, if we are to effectively and efficiently harness whatever meager resources we have in efforts that bring us closer to that chosen future. As a country and as a people, we do not have the luxury of time, nor do we have the luxury of resources, in shaping up for the reality of life in the 21st century – a reality which pits country against country, region against region, even island province against island province in an ever-tightening race for attention, resources and investments.

History in fact is unkind to us – for many times we have been seen as a people who have squandered every opportunity that we have been given to either stay ahead or jump ahead of the pack.

Now is our time Mr. President. Your election has brought hope. You can unite the nation and lead the country to an unprecedented level of progress and development.

But for now Mr. President, allow me to do my job as a member of the opposition and the Senate minority. Allow me to ask some hard questions. *Pero para matandaan niyo po ang tanong na ito Mr. President at para palagi natin itong itanong sa ating mga sarili*, allow me to ask for a more friendly or better voice to ask the questions:

Do you know where you're going to?

Do you like the things that life is showing you?

Where are you going to?

Do you know?

We know that his vision is about the transformation of our society. He pictured to us a bus *na minamaneho ng former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Isang bus kung saan ang nakasakay ay kilala sa anomalyang ZTE, Fertilizer Scam, Hello Garci at sinisimbulo ng abuso at sinisimbulo ng wang wang.* They denied us a wonderful life due to this wang wang.

So a President pictured his government to us as a bus that was repaired, painted yellow, *pinababa ang mga maanomalya at pinasakay ang mga desente sa gobyerno, pinasa ang GOCC bill for example ni Sen. Drilon sa Senado para ipakita na mayroong pagbabago.*

Sinabi na itong bus na ito ay kailangang may matuwid na daan. We told the people we will tread the right path and it will be the straight path. *Ang problema nagtatanong ang mga mamamayan, "Do you know where we're going to?"*

I know the President has a vision. Part of his vision is shared in the SONA. In private meetings he shared with us what he wants to do. But when we say "Mr. President do you know where you're going to?", you cannot simply answer us "I'll do it my way."

People have to understand what your vision is, what the blueprint is, what the plans are, where the roadmap is leading to. *Hindi pwedeng suportahan ang vision kung di mo alam. Kung pupunta ka sa isang plastic surgeon at sabihing "gusto kong maging gwapo or gusto kong maging maganda, you have to give the doctor an idea of what you want to look like so that ito 'yong kokopyahin ng cosmetic surgery professionals. Hindi pwedeng dadating ka lang doon at sasabihing magandang Pilipinas."*

I do believe he has a vision and many plans but again, is it being communicated? Is it being articulated? That's why from a yellow bus *sa tuwid na daan*, we'd like to see a bus that is united. A bus where we have one people, one vision. *A bus na malinaw sa lahat kung saan tayo patutungo.* So notice a background of a utopian society where you have everything you're looking for.

Mr. President, I think there are 7 questions to ask ourselves.

First, do we know where we are? We need to have a perfect vision of what we want the country to be and where we want to go.

Second, we need to have a clear set of plans, blue prints or roadmap of how we intend to achieve our vision.

To be continued

Editorial

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try is to have a future.” Direct export of raw mineral ores can be minimized by establishment of processing industries within the country.

Waterways for Mindanao’s large hydroelectric dams and power plants are severely silted. Loss of surface water is taking a toll. To offset looming power shortages and stiff energy bills, Mindanao must move towards small hydroelectric plants. Solar, wind, biomass energy, along with work and restoration of watersheds, deserve more than today’s token attention.

Tourism development, particularly ecotourism, can be a “win-win. Preparatory work has been done under a tourism cluster approach. A Mindanao-wide consensus is still to be forged.

Even without Abu Sayyaf and other insurgents, peace and security are likely to be compromised anew within the next 20 years—if today’s mismanagement of various natural resources persist.

Tightening water supplies; competing claims over land to depleting fisheries may spark new conflicts. It is imperative that such tensions be contained now, lest they escalate into violent conflict in the future.

“Indeed, the very future of Mindanao rests on the future of its environment”, and not merely in the killing fields of Pitakul, Sulu or negotiating tables in Kuala Lumpur./ JUAN L. MERCADO

City Government

....from page 3

ment policy formulation and establishes the framework strategy and programs in climate change and the creation of Climate Change Commission, Tabanda said.

She explained that the law mandates all local government units (LGUs) to formulate, plan and implement their respective climate change action plans thereby prioritizing climate change issues and implementing mitigation and adaptation as one of their regular functions.

It likewise directs LGUs to mobilize and allocate necessary personnel, resources and logistics to effectively implement their respective action plans, Tabanda added.

The approved resolution is co-sponsored by Councilors Richard A. Carido, Fred L. Bagbagen, Nicasio S. Palaganas and Joel A. Alangsab./JDP/JBZ-PIA CAR

No Bigotry

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because they are Muslims.”

But Domogan clarified, “We make no distinctions whether you are Muslims or Igorots... you are equally responsible under our laws wherever you may come from.”

Calling for a “change in mentality” he added, “In fact, we are trying to aid all our vendors without distinction, devising ways on how we can allow them to sell their trades by easing up on them.”

Just recently, the city allowed holding of a night market along Harrison Road from 9:00pm to 4:00am of the day following just to show it “cares for its own regardless of religious or tribal affiliation.”

More, Domogan revealed the city is currently in talks with adjoining local governments, aiding local Muslims in finding a “final resting place” for their departed./isl

Youth Program

....from page 12

from older legislators.

The regional consultation Midyear Development Goals was spearheaded by the National Youth Commission (NYC) as headed by Georgina Nava of the North Luzon office, and coordinated with the different line agencies, local government officials around the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). The forum was focused on addressing identified issues and concerns, and to gather information on youth programs and initiatives, in preparation for the Philippine Youth Development Plan (PYDP) 2011-2016.

During the one-day consultation it was learned that key issues affecting the youth generally stems from economy; that limits the attainment of higher education and proper employment. There are also obstacles the youth face due to teen pregnancy and drug dependence.

As to a nationwide random survey conducted by the NYC, the Philippine youth in general are concerned and committed to providing for the family, having a decent home, and sending younger siblings to school. This would entail considering working overseas for higher pay, and migration which admittedly, is good for the economy but unhealthy for the family.

The needs of out-of-school youth (OSY), in-school youth, and those with special needs were considered in the survey. Respondents numbering to 5,893 were questioned regardless of sex, age, religious affiliation or whether they were urban or rural dwellers, with formal schooling or none at all.

Other matters affecting health, environment and social issues were also included in the workshop sessions./juliegfianza

Imam says Allah

....from page 12

for peace agreement to prosper, he stressed.

Filipinos are peace-loving people although we have many differences but we have common ground where we meet and Allah will be lead us to a lasting peace, Abdullah said.

A historic meeting was held in a Tokyo, Japan recently between President Benigno Aquino III and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) chair Al-Haj Murad Ibrahim which indicates the current administration’s sincerity and commitment to achieve a negotiated political settlement with the Moro group.

Joining President Aquino were Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Teresita Quintos-Deles, Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin, National Security Adviser Cesar Garcia, Budget and Management Secretary Florencio Abad, Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, Presidential Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda, and Chief Negotiator Atty. Marvic Leonen.

Murad, on the other hand, was accompanied by some members of the Central Committee, the MILF’s negotiating panel and base commanders.

Both parties agreed to fast track negotiations and implement agreements before the end of President Aquino’s term in 2016. The next round of peace talks between the government and the MILF is scheduled on August 22-24 in Malaysia./JDP/JBZ-PIA CAR

The Peace Combatant

.... from page 4

principal but he did benefit a lot from the corruption. However, he turns State witness and points his accusing fingers on the former First Gentleman.

Of course, if the accusation is true, the former First Gentlemen is the greater culprit. However, the way things are turning out: the whistle blower get a hero’s treatment. He is the star witness! The star witness is high profile business with high-end businesses in the country. He is not treated as a criminal. He is not even treated as one of the accused despite an admission of guilt in participating in a serious crime akin to plundering a nation. He remains respected and goes around respected by society because he is a whistle-blower to a crime in which he was a main participant.

Thus, we are creating a precedent that was nowhere done in any part of the world. We are inventing a new white-collar crime. Charles Ponzi invented a crime and his name became attached to the crime ever since. The question: what name shall we call this new crime or modus operandi? Clue: the name of the new crime should somehow be related with air transport.

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

Air Gun

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known as “An Ordinance Regulating the Registration and Use of Air Gun in the municipality of Itogon,” was enacted to adhere to the policy of the town to conserve and protect its wildlife resources for sustainability.

The measure is also supportive to national policies such as Republic Act 9147 which provides guidelines for the conservation and protection of wildlife resources including threatened and exotic species and their habitats and Presidential Decree No. 1866 that addresses upsurge of crime affecting public order and safety due to the proliferation of illegally possessed and manufactured firearms, ammunitions and explosives.

Provisions of the measure include the control, enforcement, and handling directly and supervision of the registration and use of air gun in the town.

If finally acted upon at the Provincial board, the use of air gun will only be allowed for sports and security purposes.

Minors are not allowed to possess air guns. Neither dealers are allowed to sell or dispose to minors. Ownership of air guns will only be limited to three units.

Registration of air gun will be under the office of the Mayor with P200 registration fee per unit renewable every year. A registration sticker as control measure will also be attached to the unit.

The ordinance also includes penalty provisions for violations and confiscation from the owner any air gun that exceeds the maximum limit of number of ownership./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

Lab for the Rapid Appraisal of Pesticide Residue soon to be Established in Benguet

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - With food safety and product integrity becoming a public concern, the establishment of a laboratory for the rapid appraisal in determining the pesticide residue in vegetables and fruits will soon be in place in the province.

According to Provincial Agriculturist Lolita Bentes, the Department of Agriculture is set to download the funds to the province. The rapid bioassay laboratory pegged at P1.3 million is under the DA High Value Crops Development Program.

The laboratory, which will analyze the level of pesticide content of vegetables and fruits if within the tolerable limit or not, will be positioned at the

Benguet Cold Chain facility in Wangal, this town.

Governor Nestor Fongwan has earlier proposed for the funding of the laboratory when DA Secretary Prospero Alcala came to the province during the launching activities of the Agri-Pinoy Trading Post at the Benguet State University lot along the Swamp Area in this capital town.

Bentes bared that the of rapid bioassay laboratory is also a guidepost for farmers on customer awareness and satisfaction of the product being marketed and purchased.

Such endeavor is also towards the inculcation of Good Agricultural Practices for food safety and customer protection being en-

couraged by the government, added Bentes.

Bentes said the Rapid Bioassay for Pesticide Residues (RBPR) was developed in Taiwan.

In a concept paper of a training announcement for a workshop conducted last month in Taiwan, it was pointed out that the process is found to be successful and adopted as a supplement to sophisticated chemical analysis for routine residue-test by more than 200 stations scattered in the Taiwan among farmer organizations, food supply systems and major supermarket chains.

The province is also conceptualizing a soil mobile clinic to go around and hold on-site product analysis./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

Youth Program Advocates Meet

BAGUIOCITY—Line agency, local government and youth representatives from around the Cordillera region met last Wednesday at the Multi-purpose Hall, Baguio City Hall to present situationers and proposals for implementation as to a Philippine Youth five-year Development Plan.

Later, representatives from all sectors declared their commitment to youth programs as personnel and officials of the National Youth Commission (NYC) affirmed said advocacies.

Included in the commitment are programs to address problems on educational attainment

through scholarships from different sources through government agencies, namely Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Department of Education. Increase of National Achievement test results of school children was ambition.

Technical education scholarships could be sourced out from the Technical Education and Skills Development Agency (TESDA) with the local government units, it was learned.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development Office (DSWD) also committed youth centers and facilities so as to

help reduce juvenile delinquency. Other agencies vowed to look at child rights, information and educational campaign against child abuse and women groups.

The needs of Foreign Workers' families, migrant families' values and skills, as with entrepreneurship, services and financial plans for small scale businesses were also looked into.

Rebel group recruitment was also tackled, specially in remote areas of the Cordilleras.

Sangguniang Kabataan Federation issues were also scrutinized, specially the use of their funds. The low participation, indifference to SK activities was also pored over. Guidance for youth policy making bodies was sought

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The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!



BEATING THE DEADLINE - Department of Public Works and Highways-Baguio District Office laborers work rain or shine to install electrical wirings while the original lamp posts are being restored and rehabilitated for Burnham Park's eco-friendly lighting system.— By Bong Cayabyab

Posting of Materials in Trees May soon be Prohibited in Benguet

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - Posting, fastening or bolting of any sort of material on trees may soon be prohibited following the filing of a measure in the provincial board.

Authored by Board member Benjamin Saguid, the proposed ordinance which will be called, "Tree Protection and Preservation Ordinance" was passed on second reading in a session held recently.

The proposed ordinance prohibits the fastening, bolting, wrapping around any metal galvanized iron tie, and barb wires or any sign or struc-

ture of any kind to any part of a tree in all places, both public and private.

Any material of any kind such as advertisements, information campaigns, election paraphernalia, placards, billboards, cable television wires, and the like are not allowed to be installed in trees.

As stated in the measure, enforcement and implementation of forestry laws and other laws on the protection of its environment is already a devolved function and it is a mandate of the provincial government pursuant to the Local Government Code and implemented through the Environ-

ment and Natural Resources Office.

Protection of trees along the thoroughfares is imperative in response to wholesome and responsive environmental rehabilitation program and campaign in sustaining and preserving the forests which protects human interests. This is also in line with Presidential Decree 705 or the Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines, the measure states.

Administrative and penalty provisions for violators are also incorporated in the measure./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

Imam says Allah Needed as Third Party in the Peace Negotiation

BAGUIO CITY - A third party is needed to guide the peace negotiation between the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

According to Bedijim Abdullah, an Imam (preacher) of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), the presence of Allah (God) as a third party in the discussion should be accepted by both parties in order to

have a fruitful turn-out.

Invoking the aid of the divine providence through which Allah governs all things and that the agreeing parties should acknowledge this

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