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THE JUNCTION Pahayagang Palaban!!!

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BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

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HSO records 9 HIV cases every year

BAGUIO CITY - Marking its 10th annual HIV/AIDS conference dubbed as "Moving Towards CHANGE . . . Towards a CLEAN ENTERTAINMENT V", the city government here together with the Baguio AIDS Watch Council (AWAC), Reproductive Health and Wellness Center (RHWC), Baguio City HIV Surveillance Team and the Baguio Association of

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CHRISTMAS IN BAGUIO. The annual Christmas Tree along Session Road has now come to life!/Photo by Bong Cayabyab

Simple lang ang solusyon sa HIV. Mag-ingat, huwag makikipagtalik sa kung sinu-sino at gumamit ng supot (condom) kung hindi matiis ang kati!!!

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Children spearheads launching of Christmas in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY - the streets of Session Road is once again filled with cheering children garbed in Christmas themed attires in this mountain resort during the opening of the Silahis ng Pasko here.

The annual "Christmas in Baguio activities" kicked-off Tuesday with the children and parents Christmas Mardigras joined by the different districts in the city.

The event launched in 1973 by founder Narciso "Nars" Padilla is now on its 42nd year in giving fun and excitement to kids and adults alike.

It is the first activity of the Christmas in Baguio Program held every December 1 marking the start of the Yuletide Season in the summer capital.

The event also included the awarding of the Children's got Talent in Ethnic Dance topped by District 7, 2nd Place is District 8 and 3rd place is District 1.

In the Hip Hop Dance category, District 5 was declared champion with District 6 in 2nd and District 9 in 3rd place.

In the singing competition, Bea May Sacramento was proclaimed champion while Jaime Jhallel Tayag placed second and Joshua Lumbao placed 3rd.

Meantime, Seth Chadlos Anongos and Shaliyah Louie Daodao were crowned Little Miss Silahis ng Pasko 2015.

Jan Carlisle Dumlao and Erin Nichole Alcaparaz placed 1st place, Cheldie Vallejo and

Maecy Jocylyn Fernando placed 2nd while Ziv Dylan Itliong and Joelyn Alicia Jose placed 3rd.

Prince Mheliton Bombane and Dasha Althea Manipon are in 4th place while Lance Ivoe Taborada and Arianna Eliazza Relosa grabbed the final spot.

The contestants are all from the city's different Day Care Centers.

The event is spearheaded by the City Social Welfare and Development Office headed by Betty Fangasan with Santa Nars Padilla as the programs Executive Chairman.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan also spearheaded the ceremonial 'breaking of the Christmas Pot' which symbolizes the spread of joy and warmth of the yuletide season.

Silahis ng Pasko is coordinated by the National Correspondents Club of Baguio (NCCB) and the City Government of Baguio thru the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO). It is supported by the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), Baguio-Benguet Market Plaza Multi-purpose Cooperative (BAMAPCO), Baguio City National High School (BCNHS), BENECO and John Hay Management Corporation in cooperation with the Cordillera Broadcasters Alliance, PHASES Learning Center, Kafagway Round Up, Sun Star Baguio, Benguet Supermart, U-Need Grocery and the Media./ Paul Rillorta

Christmas in Baguio opens

BAGUIO CITY - The city of Baguio has formally ushered the Yuletide Season. On December 1, more than a thousands of children from various day care centers in the city together with their parents excitedly and with full of energy braved the morning cool mountain weather paraded with their colorful costumes to usher the start of this year's Silahis ng Pasko activities.

The Mardigras is one of the highlights of Silahis ng Pasko, a brainchild of Nars Padilla, a veteran journalist, sportsman and former city tourism officer and city councilor. Silahis ng Pasko was institutionalized in the city to give importance to the children's participation in the Christmas celebration. It is now on its 42nd year.

In the evening, city officials led by Mayor Mauricio Domogan led the lighting of the city's Christmas Tree at the Rotunda at the top of Session Road followed by a fireworks display and the Christmas concerts and choral singing.

The Saint Louis University also staged its much awaited lantern parade participated by thousands of students displaying their colorful and artistic lanterns along Session Road and Harrison Road. This year, they featured the various Philippine festivals alongside their lighted colorful lanterns.

The night was capped

by fireworks display from three sites in the different areas in the city.

Meanwhile, activities lined up for the Christmas in Baguio include Share A Joy Baguio Children's Christmas Fun Alley and Raffle Joys care of the John Hay Management Corporation on December 5; Philippine Military Academy Cadets Day at the Burnham Park which includes a silent drill exhibition and the PMA Band Concert on December 6 and the Christmas Village launching program and concert at 3PM on December 6.

The Quest for the Baguio Lucky Christmas Family 2015 will also be held on December 5 and 6 while the Immaculate Conception Day Festivities - Holy Mass at the Shrine of the Brown Madonna along Km 7, Asin Road, Sitio Pacac, Tadiangan, Tuba, Benguet / 9:00 AM of December 8.

Other activities include the University of the Philippines Pasiklaban, Torch Parade and Oblation Run on December 11 and the 1st Northern Hemisphere Music Concert at the Baguio Convention Center on December 12.

On December 12 also will be the Silahis ng Pasko Special Day for Special People c/o CSWDO & NCCB which includes the Wheelathon (Orthopedically impaired), Walkathon (Visually Impaired Persons) Chess Tournament for the Sightless Special Athletes at the Malcolm Square.

On December 15 will be the traditional Christmas Cantata of the University of Baguio, and the traditional Misa de Gallo from December 16 to 24 at the Baguio Convention Center and the various churches.

The 1st Baguio Triathlon will also be held at on December 19./JDP/RMC with reports from JB Zambrano-PIA CAR

NBI-CAR Bags National Awards

The officers and employees of the National Bureau of Investigation- Cordillera Administration Region (NBI-CAR) got a morale booster after being recognized as the Best Organizational Unit of the Year Regional Operations Service and swopping all the individual awards in the regional office category during the 79th Anniversary celebration of the bureau held on November 13, 2015 at the NBI Head Office in Manila.

Newly appointed Secretary of Justice ALFREDO BENJAMIN S. CAGUIOA presented the plaque of recognition

to the NBI-CAR team headed by Regional Director ROMULO Z. ASIS and Assistant Regional Director PEDRO C. ROQUE JR. The recipients of individual awards are Senior Agent LORENZO C. LABAS, Special Investigator RODERICK JOHN R. PANAY and DR. RONALD R. BANDONILL, who won as Agent of the year, Special Investigator of the year and Best Employee of the year, respectively. The awards are given after a meticulous and thorough evaluation by the NBI Program on Awards and Incentives for Service

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COA questions Duterte's 11,000 contractual workers

MANILA, Philippines - State auditors are questioning Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte's hiring of 11,246 contractual workers in 2014, which cost the city government P708 million.

Doubting the necessity and regularity of 4,754 job orders - all for the city mayor's office - the Commission on Audit (COA) pointed out that Davao's lack of clear policy in hiring people fosters patronage.

"The city has no written policy or manual on the hiring of employees particularly under contract of services and job orders. Identification of persons to be hired for such nature rests directly upon the recommendation of the department heads and other officials of the city," COA noted.

Auditors found that of the 14,499 person on the city government's payroll, only 3,253 hold regular positions. They get their salaries from the city's personal services budget.

The 6,081 contractual employees and 5,165 job orders were paid from the maintenance and other operating expenses budget.

COA was also concerned that there were no documents to prove that the non-regulars were actually rendering work. Those assigned to Barangay Cultural Communities and Affairs Division, the city councilors' offices, and those reporting to barangay chairpersons didn't have daily time records or attendance logs when doing filed work. Their functions and duties were not specified in their contracts.

"These conditions cast doubt that entries in the daily time record of these employees... are manipulated, thus regularity and validity of the related expenditures could not be ascertained," the COA report said.

Auditors also noted that some of the contractual employees had been working in the city government for more than a decade, but had not been offered regular posts.

In response to the COA report, Davao City's Human Resource Management Office said it will formulate a set of guidelines for the hiring of contractual and job order personnel. /Rappler.com



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Christmas in Baguio treats continue this week

BAGUIO CITY – Christmas in Baguio, the city's calendar of yuletide treats continues this week with a merry mix of activities to bring in holiday cheers in the city.

Today, Dec. 6, residents and visitors can take part in the Philippine Military Academy Cadets Day at the Park featuring the cadets' Silent Drill Exhibition at 10 a.m. at the Burnham Park.

Later at 2:30 p.m., the cadets will be featured in the PMA Band Concert

at Malcolm Square.

The activities are part of the Silahis ng Pasko sub-calendar sponsored and coordinated by the National Correspondents Club of Baguio under former councilor Narciso Padilla and the city social welfare and development office headed by Betty Fanguasan.

The Quest for the Baguio Lucky Christmas Family started yesterday (Dec. 5) and will run until today (Dec. 6).

On Dec. 8, the Immaculate Conception

Day will be observed with a Holy Mass, 9 a.m. at the Shrine of the Brown Madonna Km 7 Asin Road, Sitio Pacac, Tadiangan, Tuba, Benguet.

On Dec. 10, the Silahis ng Pasko will hold the search for Baguio Lucky Foreign Visitors who will be given a red carpet treatment until Dec. 14.

The UP Baguio will hold the UP Pasiklaban, Torch Parade and Oblation Run On Dec. 11 5:30 p.m. at the campus

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Aliping Plays Host to Lucky Foreign Visitors

BAGUIO CITY – Rep. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr. and Mrs. Lilian Aliping will play host to the Lucky Foreign Visitors 2015 which will be chosen this coming Dec. 10, organizers of the yearly Silahis ng Pasko said.

Rep. Aliping said that this is his family's way of promoting tourism inasmuch as Baguio City is a tourism mecca north of Manila and the gateway to the rest of the Cordillera region.

"I am very happy to be one of the first to welcome our lucky foreign visitors to the cool climate of Baguio," Aliping said.

Four foreigners will be chosen by the National Correspondents Club of Baguio and the City Social Welfare and De-

velopment Office to be given a four-day red carpet treatment including hotel accommodation, free tour of the city and a special send off with gifts and pabaon.

They will be given a tour of the Philippine Military Academy on the morning of December 12 and then a city tour in the afternoon which will take the foreigners to iconic tourist spots of the city like the Baguio Museum, the botanical Garden, the Mansion, Mines View Park, and horseback riding at Wright Park.

On Dec. 13, Sunday, will feature religious activities and will start with a visit to the NCCB Shrine of the Brown Madonna along Asin Road and after a brief visit to

the BenCab Museum and Ifugao Woodcarving Villages.

In the afternoon they will lead a motorcade down Session Road and be treated as special guests of the Baguio City National High School Singing and Dancing Christmas Tree, then a foot tour of the Baguio City Market, Burnham Park.

On Dec. 14, the foreign visitors will be given a special send off to their destination.

Aliping stressed the need for city officials to support and promote searches like this in order to boost the tourism industry of the city noting that tourism is one of the forces which drives the local economy. *Carl C. Taawan*

BCDA Cautions Public Not to Deal With Sobrepeña-Led CJH DEVCO

The state-owned Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) strongly advised the public not to transact any business with the Sobrepeña-led Camp John Hay Development Corporation (CJH DevCo) because the latter's lease contract in the John Hay Special Economic Zone (JH-SEZ) more popularly known as Camp John Hay, has already been rescinded since February, making any transaction forged with CJH DevCo questionable.

The BCDA expressed its concern through a Notice to the Public that read: "It has come to the information of the BCDA that CJH DevCo continues to impose assessments and charges on all activities within Camp John Hay even

after the Final Award rescinding its lease."

It will be recalled that the lease agreement of CJH DevCo had been rescinded by virtue of the Final Award rendered in the arbitration under the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (PDRCI). The Final Award was also confirmed by Branch 6 of the Regional Trial Court of Baguio.

As a result of the rescission of the lease agreement, CJH DevCo has been divested of its authority to manage and administer the John Hay Special Economic Zone.

The Notice to the Public went on to read: "The public is hereby cautioned against signing any contract and/or making any payment to CJH DevCo, its officers or employees for the purpose

of or in connection with the use of Camp John Hay or any of its facilities after the 11 February 2015 rescission of the Camp John Hay Lease such as but not limited to: special assessments, project assessments, common usage services assessments (CUSA), transfer fees, rental fees and the like."

Last June, no less than the Former Special 5th Division of the Court of Appeals, through a resolution, ordered that: "in the interim, CJH Development Corporation shall not enter into any new contracts with 3rd parties and perform any action that would contravene the tenor of the arbitral award."

The Notice also disclosed that "CJH DevCo has admitted as much in its letter dated 10 June 2015 informing its sublessees that it had changed its status to a VAT

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Listahanan conducts validation of household assessment

BAGUIO CITY- - The Listahanan, or the National Household Targeting System for Poverty (NHTS-PR), of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is set to conduct validation on the recently held household assessment.

The initial result of the assessment shows that out of the 229, 581 assessed households in the Cordillera Administrative Region, 65,720 households or 28.6% are poor. The figure is broken down per province as follows: Abra – 13,258; Apayao – 9,229; Benguet – 12,157; Ifugao – 11,066; Kalinga – 12,760, and Mountain Province – 7,250.

"To ensure accuracy and credibility of the data of poor households in the region, we have released the initial result of the assessment which is now subject for validation. We encourage the public to look into the result now posted in their respective baran-

gays, and check the correctness of the data indicating if they are poor or non-poor," DSWD-CAR OIC-Regional Director Janet P. Armas said.

"Also, we enjoin the involvement of the municipal and barangay local government units to ensure that all households will be informed and will participate in this validation," Armas added.

The validation will attend to complaints such as households that should not be included in the list of poor households; households claiming that they should be included in the list of poor households; incorrect data entered in the family assessment form during the assessment; and the initial list of poor households is incomplete and does not represent the actual number of poor households in the community.

"We encourage the public to participate in the validation of the household assessment

since this will result to the database of poor households to be used by government agencies and other stakeholders in identifying potential beneficiaries of social protection programs and services," Armas said.

The public may check the initial list of poor in their barangay halls and other designated posting areas in the barangay. Complaint forms are also available in barangays for any complaint. Deadline of filing complaints per barangay is also posted.

For more questions, send message in format Listahanan <space> name <space> place <space> question/complaint at Listahanan hotline numbers 09189122813, 09152195429, and 09391713403, or send message at the Listahanan Facebook page www.facebook.com/listahanan.official. *Kaye Ann O. Mapalo* - DSWD-CAR



"TO SAVE LIVES" - City Hall employees donate blood during the Blood Letting activities at the city hall as part of the celebration of Government Employees Week. *Photo by Paul Rillorta*

ISIS' rise and terror should tell us to junk and bury BBL now

First of Two Parts

It is quite astonishing. The civilized world has been aghast over the jihadist carnage in Paris since it occurred two weeks ago. In just a few years, what was once merely a rag-tag army called the Islamic State of Syria and Iraq (ISIS) has grown strong to challenge the US and the West, and even Russia, vowing to destroy their cities.

Yet, Senate President Franklin Drilon is apparently unaware of all these developments, and instead of joining the world in condemning the ISIS atrocities, instead, boasts that Congress will pass the Bangsamoro Basic Law, which critics have been warning could eventually lead to an Islamic state in our country.

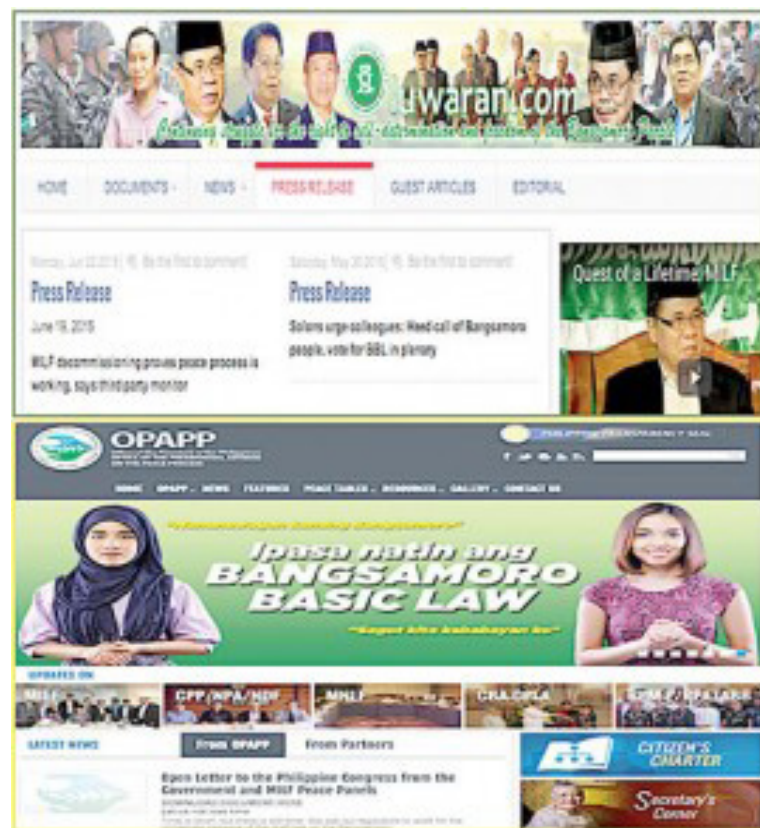
SIS, what ISIS? Websites of the MILF (above) and the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (below), accessed yesterday, show no mention of the ISIS' atrocities in Paris.

ISIS' big difference from its predecessor, Al-Qaeda ("The Base"), which had really fuzzy ideas about its ultimate goal after it had destroyed the US ("The Great Satan"), is that it vows to establish a global Caliphate,

an Islamic state. This is emphasized in its name, which in Arabic is transliterated as "Dawlat-al Islamiya Iraq Sham," with Dawlat meaning "state." The ISIS' success in taking over major cities in Iraq and Syria has, therefore, fired up militant Muslims worldwide, that at last, they could help in the establishment of a worldwide Caliphate.

And how does "Bangsamoro" translate? It is the Moro Nation-State, with Moro, of course, being the former pejorative name for Muslims in Mindanao, which the

EDITORIAL



Islamic insurgents have in defiance embraced.

The MILF, and sadly even this gullible (or bought?) Administration, has been claiming that what will be established is merely an "autonomous region," which will still be part of the Philippines.

This is all clearly hogwash, which President Aquino and his naïve, yet egoistic negotiators would easily see as such if their minds were not obsessed that they could win the Nobel Peace.

Read the BBL and it says it will establish all the three essential attributes of a nation-state for Muslims in Mindanao: a clearly-defined territory and people, a state which will even be a parliamentary one in violation of the Constitution,

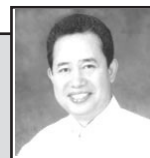
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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

**Invectives - Duterte's
way of voicing out
frustration**

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow..." (Isaiah 1:16-17, the Holy Bible).

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INVECTIVE WAS DUTERTE'S EXPRESSION OF FRUSTRATION: Let me share here today what lawyer Perfecto Yasay, Jr., another national leader from Mindanao and a former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, is saying about the habit of cursing of Davao City Mayor, and now 2016 presidential, Rodrigo Duterte.

Yasay wrote in his Facebook account: "I heard what Rody Duterte said during his proclamation impromptu speech at the Century Plaza Hotel last November 30 and I cringed along with many others when he uttered with acerbic passion his favorite invective that instinctively flows out of his mouth in anger and frustration to drive a point.

"I also wished he had done otherwise and would forthwith stop delivering speeches from his heart. But for those who know him better, especially Mindanawans and Cebuanos, what Rody candidly revealed of himself that day is nothing new..."

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DUTERTE WAS A CORY APPOINTEE IN 1986: Yasay explained: "That is the real unpretentious Rody Duterte that has always been the Rody Duterte that the electorate loves and chose to become Mayor of Davao City for the longest time. "His leadership style, including his personal proclivities (expletives included), is what Davao City, notoriously confused with 'Nicaragdao' - the former hotbed of social unrest and criminality---needed to become one of the most progressive, attractive and welcoming cities of the country today.

"Another important fact that Filipinos should know is that when President Cory assumed power, she promptly appointed the same Rody Duterte to be vice-mayor of Davao City and strongly supported his bid to eventually become mayor.

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DUTERTE OFFERED CABINET POSTS, BUT HE DECLINED: Yasay also disclosed an interesting bit of information about Duterte: "Almost all presidents thereafter had wanted Rody to become a cabinet member charged with the restoration, maintenance and preservation of peace and order - in the campaign against terrorism, criminality and illegal drugs - because of his uncompromising firmness, dedication and astuteness in getting the job done.

"He politely and consistently refused, anticipating that his controversial leadership attributes and personal lifestyle can prevent his confirmation... and cause a big embarrassment to the appointing power. But this is precisely why Rody never wanted to become president and had to equivocate up to the last minute..."

"He finally acceded on one condition that people would accept him for who he is like a naked grain without any chaff and get what they desire of their leader..."

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PLEASE LISTEN: "Ang Tangang Daan" (The Sole Way): a Bible study and prayer session online could now be heard, 24 HOURS a day, in the Philippines and the world at www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan or www.facebook.com/ANDKNK (For ANDKNK, look for "Ang Tangang Daan" broadcasts). Phone: 0922 833 43 96, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

DIMENSIONAL ROAD

**Awareness on
Sustainability and
Development Issues in the
K to 12 Curriculum:**

BY: MARVIN WACNAG LIDAWAN



SECOND PART

"We've arranged a civilization in which most crucial elements profoundly depend on science and technology."-Carl Sagan

C means combo-turbo campaign, which combines skills training with social responsibility, in order to achieve an unprecedented turbo multiplier effect. Santiago cited the "Harvard School of Public Health's Alcohol (SHPHA) prevention Project which closely worked with television network leaders and scriptwriters to incorporate messages in prime-time television programs to warn against drunk driving, and to promote the designation of one driver among a group of friends." According to her, this is one idea that combines skills training with social responsibility to possibly yield the presence of the pillars for sustainability and development.

U means Unique Selling Point (USP). The development of a school's unique selling point. The possibility of pioneering technology-based futuristic education projects uniquely depends on a tech-voc school. If it is a uniquely accomplished project, a USP can be established. The senator cited this possibility "students of automotive technician courses can work on electrical or hybrid cars, while students of construction/building trades can use solar-powered generators to work machinery and assist in building projects for Habitat for Humanity or Gawad Kalinaga. In the Philippines, tech-voc students can partner with science schools on these experiments."

R means research-based risk-taking. This is the opportunity to conduct research-based product or skills innovation contests that encourage creative and sustainable ideas from tech-voc students. A possible requirement of the contest is for tech-voc schools or students to have a partner school, and a community-based NGO partner in the target K to 12 locale.

E means ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) Policy-making and Positive Organizational Development. Policy development is an important component of the development and sustainability of tech-voc schools in the K to 12 environment. But laws need a systematic or step-by-step progress of implementing rules and regulations (IRR).

Santiago ended her speech by expressing a positive organizational development processes to energize tech-voc leaders and students together in creating policies, programs, and practices that support education for sustainable development in the K to 12 environment. To her, "Great possibilities can be realized if your varied gifts are synergized with the intellectual treasures of like-minded tech-voc advocates."

The development and sustainability of TVET in schools within the K to 12 environment should be a priority among leaders of the educational sectors who shall implement appropriately by mandating teachers on their responsibilities on Based-Outcome Education (OBE). Our utmost gratitude for Santiago's presence in the senate as a voice that constantly exemplify and deliver the interests of the educational sectors/marvinwacnaglidawan@gmail.com.

Editorial

...from page 4

and even its own army, disguised as the Bangsamoro Police.

There has been no such "autonomous" Muslim entity anywhere in the world because of one major reason: It is an article of Islamic faith for its faithful to seek to establish an Islamic state. After all, one of the main accomplishments of its founder was to establish the first Islamic state, and Islam had been a martial religion in its growth, expanding ITS caliphates throughout the world.

Theocracy

In contrast, there is no such article of faith for establishing a theocracy among non-Muslim religions and minorities as the mountain tribes in our case, or even the Basques or Catalans in Spain, or the French in Quebec, which makes autonomous regions for them feasible and without risking dismemberment of the nations they are part of.

Except for the Philippines, countries with substantial Muslim populations have, therefore, veered away from establishing "autonomous Muslim regions" as that would only open the way for the eventual secession of such territories. Strongmen like Indonesia's Suharto and Malaysia's Tunku Abdul Rahman fiercely – and with violence – made sure that no Islamic group could advocate an Islamic state in their countries which are predominantly Muslim.

Marcos was arm-twisted with the threat of an oil embargo in 1976 by the Libyan strongman Gaddafi to agree to an autonomous region for Southern Philippines as a means to end the MNLF insurgency. Since the insurgents also fought Marcos, Corazon Aquino thought to reward them by prodding the Constitutional Commission to require the establishment of an Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

The framers of the 1987 Constitution, however, were clever enough not to give room to Muslim insurgents to control the autonomous region and develop it to acquire the resources to demand secession. But thanks to Filipino corruption – whatever their religion – the ARMM has never developed the unity and strength to become a prototype for an Islamic state.

That Islamic ideal had been bludgeoned to near extinction after the fall of the last Islamic empire of the Ottomans and the colonization by Western powers of most Muslim-dominated countries and areas.

That ideal was revived, though, with the help of Muslim Middle Eastern countries' newfound wealth when they wrested control of their oil from the West. That was given expression by what is called Wahhabism, after an 18th-century preacher and scholar, Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab, who propagated teachings that are now labeled as jihadist thinking. Ironically, it's the rich Arab nations, especially Saudi Arabia, which have been funding Wahhabist religious missions all over the world, which explains why such teachings have spread so fast in just two decades.

The founder of the MILF, Hashim Salamat, fell under the spell of Wahhabist thinking when he studied to be a Muslim cleric at the Al-Azhhar University in Cairo. In an interview, he said he drew inspiration from Syed Qutb – a famous teacher of Wahhabism that was al-Qaeda's spiritual teacher.

Same worldview as ISIS

That the MILF still shares the same worldview as the ISIS is the reason why it can't condemn that barbaric organization even after the Paris massacres.

Yes, there have been some news reports headlined, "MILF condemns Paris attacks." But the actual MILF statement of just four paragraphs has no ref-

erence at all to the ISIS. IT even reminds readers that such atrocities have been undertaken against Muslims in "in Palestine, in Myanmar, and elsewhere in the world."

"We are deeply saddened by today's tragic events in Paris, France. These blind, indiscriminate acts of violence deserve nothing but condemnation.

This is unacceptable. The MILF rejects such acts of terror against humanity and all peace-loving peoples.

Our thoughts are with the victims and their families. May we all find our way through these troubled times and emerge with a stronger resolve to pursue peace for all peoples in all parts of the world.

We take this opportunity also to condemn in same strong terms the violence against civilians in Palestine, in Myanmar, and elsewhere in the world."

I couldn't even find that statement in MILF's official webpage luwaran.com, as if it was sent only to media to be forgotten and not to be included in its archives.

What I found equally shocking is that Presidential Peace Adviser Teresita Deles-Quintos and her factotum with the MILF, Miriam Coronel – who routinely issues press releases almost every day, and who has been telling us day in and day out not to be worried about Islamic jihadism – didn't even bother to issue a statement on what is, next to the Twin Towers 9/11 carnage, the most horrible act of Muslim holy war in this century.

Even more astonishing is that the President himself seems to be afraid of mentioning the word "ISIS." Was he told by the MILF not to?

Here is Aquino's statement on the Paris attack, nearly as short as the MILF's:

Terror and brutality have plunged the City of Light, Paris, into the darkness of horror and grief. The Philippines and its people stand in solidarity with the people of Paris and all of France, in this time of deepest sorrow and the gravest outrage against the perpetrators of these crimes.

The deaths of over a hundred in the attack on the Bataclan Concert Hall, the vicinity of the Stade de France, and on restaurants in the city center, were atrocities that demand a united voice from the world in condemnation and grief. In our time of need, France and her people stood shoulder to shoulder with the Philippines in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan. We stand with France now, in the firm belief that the light must never dim in Paris.

For our part, we reassure our fellow citizens that we are taking all necessary precautions. The PNP is on alert and our security forces are assessing the situation, including the continuing evaluation of our security procedures. There is no credible threat registered at this time but let us all be cooperative and vigilant. The Department of Foreign Affairs will be issuing updates on the situation in Paris and has been directed to render all necessary assistance to our countrymen in France.

We're still lucky. If not for the Mamasapano massacre, in which 44 of our elite policemen were massacred by Muslim insurgents, including MILF guerillas, and if not for Senator Ferdinand Marcos, Jr., who put in his best effort to prevent Aquino from ramming the BBL down the throats of legislators in Congress, a plot to establish an Islamic State in Mindanao and Sulu had been stopped dead in its tracks.

Aquino said that P70 billion would be raised to fund the Bangsamoro nation-state when the BBL is approved. Why not devote that much money, instead, to the existing ARMM, through better infrastructure, public utilities, and education, without having to give insurgents the political power they could later use to establish an Islamic state?

Next issue: Does the MILF have links with ISIS? tiglaomanilatimes@gmail.com

HSO Records...**from page 1**

Bars and Entertainment Society (BABES) commemorated the Baguio World AIDS Day celebration last Dec. 3 at the Baguio Convention Center.

City Health Officer Dr. Rowena Galpo disclosed that starting 2011 to 2015, an average of nine (9) Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) cases every year have been served at the Health Services Office.

Based on the records of the HSO, most of the new HIV cases are MSM (men having sex with men).

"With this year's theme 'Getting to Zero . . . Zero New HIV Infection . . . Zero Discrimination and Zero AIDS Related Deaths,' ang kampanya laban sa AIDS ay katungkulan ng lahat - bata, matanda, gobyerno, pribadong sector, religious at tradisyonal institusyon," said Galpo.

According to the World Health Organization and DOH Epidemiology Bureau, Philippines is one of the nine countries with alarming increase of HIV. Of the 651 cases, 60 had developed into full-blown AIDS and there were also 50 related deaths in October. A clear 21% leap over the same period last year.

In the recent report of the DOH, there is an alarming rising number of HIV cases in the country for the period January to October. A total of 6,552 individuals were diagnosed with HIV.

"To prevent HIV infections, we continue to advocate for the ABC prevention of HIV - abstinence for our young people, be faithful to your partners, and practice careful and responsible sex," said Dr. Galpo.

The HSO is carrying out free testing and detection for HIV patients./Jho Arranz

Escudero reiterates...**from page 10**

dero the national government has always short changed the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) in the allocation of the country's meagre resources, especially in terms of infrastructure and agriculture development and Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) that impeded the supposed robust growth and development of the region.

"Sa kasalukuyan, ang budget po na natatanggap ng Cordillera Administrative Region, kabilang na ang lahat ng probinsya at siyudad diyan kabilang ang Baguio City ay isa't kalahating sentimo lamang sa kada piso na ginagastos ng gobyerno - 1.5 centavos for every peso that government is spending. Kung titignan po natin labing-walong rehiyon po ang Pilipinas, dapat 5.5% at least kung pantay nating tatratuhin ang bawat rehiyon ang budget at pondong napupunta dapat sa Cordillera. Kung titignan natin ang kabuuang IRA na pinaghahati-hatian. Nire-review na po ngayon ng sharing ng IRA. Humigit kumulang tatlong prosyento lamang po ng kabuuang IRA sa iba't ibang lokal na pamahalaan sa Cordillera," he added.

The former chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance pointed out the country's 18 regions should get an equitable share of 5.5% of the budget in order to guarantee optimum development in the countryside which should be the focus of government.

Escudero challenged the next administration to prioritize the renewed pursuit for Cordillera autonomy as one of their priority legislations in order to give justice to the clamor of those who risked their lives in fighting for the inclusion of the constitutional provision for the establishment of an autonomous region in the Cordillera and give the opportune chance for the region to develop as one of the most developed regions in the country.

For his part, Abra Gov. Eustaquio Bersamin, chairman of the RDC - Cordillera, said it is high time for the government to correct the injustices that it has been committing to the Cordillera by supporting the clamor for the renewed pursuit of re-

Christmas in Baguio...**from page 3**

and main thoroughfares.

On Dec. 12, the 1st Northern Hemisphere Music Festival will be held at the Baguio Convention Center

Over at the Rose Garden, the city government will launch the Christmas Village and stage a concert at the Rose Garden, Burnham Park on Dec. 13.

On Dec. 14, the Silahis ng Pasko activities featured are the Kafagway Sportsfest, 8 a.m. and the Baguio City National High School dancing and singing Christmas Tree 2 p.m., Malcolm Square.

Councilor Elmer Datuin, action officer of the Christmas in Baguio executive committee, reiterated Mayor Mauricio Domogan's invitation for both the residents and tourists to enjoy the treats spread out during the month.

He also defended the newly lighted Christmas tree at the top of Session Road amid criticisms that it failed to measure up to public expectations despite the big budget allotted for its construction.

Datuin said the project met the required standards set in the bidding procedure which included the cost and the specifications of the design which he said was a collaboration between the city government and the United Architects of the Philippines Cordillera chapter (UAP-CAR).

He said the design is in line with the city government's concept which is geared toward eco-friendly vertical gardening.

He said the outcome was reflective of the concept because 60 percent of the structure utilized natural plants and only 40 percent used synthetic materials.

He also clarified that the P2.5 million fund allotted for Christmas decorations did not go solely to the tree which amounted to P1.1 million. The rest of the amount was distributed for the decoration of the roads and other government projects.

The rest of the activities in Christmas in Baguio calendar are:

Dec. 15-16 - Christmas Cantata, 6p.m. University of Baguio;

Dec. 16-24 - Misa De Gallo, 5 a.m. Baguio Convention Center and various churches;

Dec. 19 - 1st Triathlon from Baguio City to Mt. Cabuyao, Sto. Tomas, 4 a.m.-11a.m.;

Dec. 25 - Quest for Baguio Lucky Christmas Baby and Santa Claus on the Road;

Dec. 27 - Baguio Lucky Balikbayan and CAR Sportsmen Day (Baguio Pinikpikan Festival); motorcade, presentation of Baguio Lucky Balikbayan tokens and Pinikpikan feast;

Jan. 1 - Quest for Lucky New Year Baby 2016;

Jan. 24 - 29th Annual Kafagway Sports Award Program, 9 a.m. Malcolm Square./A Refuerzo

gional autonomy which has been pinpointed as the ultimate solution in addressing the problems of the people in the countryside.

"We just have to sustain our unrelenting and uncompromising efforts towards enhancing the knowledge of our people in the grassroots level on the renewed quest for self-governance in order to significantly increase our awareness level on the issue for them to understand the true essence of autonomy," Bersamin stressed.

Meanwhile, Cordillera lawmakers namely Baguio City Cong. Nicasio Aliping, Ifugao Cong. Teddy Baguilat and Mountain Province Cong. Maximo Dalog as well as Abra Gov. Bersamin and Ifugao Gov. Denis Habawel expressed optimism as they declared to continue to pursue the regional autonomy in the next congress and after the local and national elections during the one-day national conference./JDP/RMC-PIA CAR

BCDA cautions public...**from page 3**

Registered Enterprise because the 'rescission of the lease contract between BCDA and CJH DevCo as ordered in the Final Award.'

With the rescission of the lease agreement, CJH DevCo can no longer avail of the tax incentives offered by the John Hay Special Economic Zone. This has led CJH DevCo to change its status to a VAT Registered Enterprise.

At present CJH DevCo has no authority to operate in the JHSEZ because there is no longer an existing contract between BCDA and CJH DevCo and that CJH DevCo has not been issued a permit by the John Hay Management Corporation (JHMC).

It will be recalled that last February, the Arbitral Tribunal of the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. came out with its Final Award that ordered CJH DevCo to vacate Camp John Hay and promptly deliver the leased property, inclusive of all new constructions and permanent improvements to the BCDA. The Final Award also ordered the BCDA to return to CJH DevCo the amount of P1.42B which the CJH DevCo paid to the BCDA as lease payments.

Last April, the Baguio Regional Trial Court issued a Court Order confirming the Final Award without any conditions. The confirmation of the Final Award by the Court made it unconditional, executory and non-appealable.

The BCDA has put the P1.42B in escrow as agreed with CJH DevCo during the February 2015 hearing. The CJH DevCo, pursuant to the ruling of the Former Special 5th Division of the Court of Appeals, has filed a petition with the Commission on Audit (COA) for the release of the P1.4B.

For further inquiries, the public is advised to get in touch with the following help desks:

John Hay Management Corporation One-Stop Action Center (OSAC)
John Hay Special Economic Zone, Baguio City
(074) 423-5403, (074) 422-1963, Mobile No.: 0928-501-8717

BCDA Help Desk
BCDA Corporate Office, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, Metro Manila
Mobile No.: 0977-348-3025
email at johnhay@bcdagov.ph

NBI-CAR bags...**from page 2**

Excellence.

Among the significant accomplishments of the NBI-CAR are the seizure of 139.15 kilos of marijuana products in a checkpoint at Kennon Road in January of this year (2015); apprehension of personalities engaged in the proliferation of spurious land titles; and filing of Syndicated Estafa and violation of Securities Regulation Code charges before the Prosecutor's Office of Baguio City and Benguet against individuals involved in investment scams that resulted in the defraudation of 672 complainants in the amount of more than Php271,000,000.00. It is also the first NBI office in the country to adopt innovative measures for the convenience of clearance applicants such as free WiFi access and free online clearance application on site.

Proposed resolutions commending the NBI-CAR and the individual awardees are now pending at the City Council of Baguio City.

The NBI-CAR is the "back to back" awardee (Best Regional Office) for 2014 and 2015 and the "Grand Slam" winner for 2015./PIA-CAR

FEATURE

'Poe could be jailed'



GRACE UNDER PRESSURE Sen. Grace Poe says she's ready for long fight ahead as her supporters hold a rally at the Comelec office in Intramuros, Manila. PHOTOS BY RENE H. DILAN

Tatad's lawyer: Misrepresenting COC is an election offense with penalties

SEN. Grace Poe could be jailed for committing a misrepresentation in her certificate of candidacy (COC), the lawyer for one of the petitioners who wanted her disqualified from joining next year's elections said on Wednesday.

According to Manuel Luna, the counsel of former senator and The Manila Times columnist Francisco Tatad, the Comelec Second Division's recent decision to disqualify Poe was based on an election offense that carries a penalty of "one to six years of imprisonment, disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right of suffrage."

"The President cannot even pardon [Poe] if found guilty without the concurrence of the Comelec," Luna told reporters in a media forum in San Juan City (Metro Manila).

Tatad is one of the five petitioners who questioned Poe's COC for President before the Comelec. All assailed Poe's claim that she has satisfied the constitutional requirements on citizenship and residency.

The Second Division on Tuesday handed down its ruling on the petition of lawyer Estrella Elamparo who said all existing legal records negate Poe's claim that she is a natural-born Filipino and that she has complied with the minimum 10-year residency requirement for one to be able to run for President.

Aside from Tatad and Elamparo, separate petitions were filed against the 47-year-old senator by radio commentator Rizalito David, former law dean Amado Valdez and political science professor Antonio Contreras.

David had also petitioned the Senate Electoral Tribunal to nullify Poe's proclamation as among the winners in the 2013 senatorial elections on the same grounds. An appeal to reverse the tribunal's 5-4 ruling dismissing the petition is pending.

Luna said he is confident that the poll body will rule in favor of the other petitions, given the dissenting opinion of the three Supreme Court (SC) associate justices in the Senate Electoral Tribunal.

Poe to remain in ballot

Regardless of a favorable or an unfavorable decision from the Comelec en banc, Poe's name will remain on the official list of candidates and in the ballots unless a final disqualification verdict is handed down by the SC prior to the printing of ballots.

The Comelec spokesman, Director James Jimenez, also on Wednesday said it would be prudent and practical on the side of the poll body to include the senator's name rather than exclude it, considering that the case will definitely reach the High Court, and nobody knows what the SC's final verdict will be.

Elamparo also on Wednesday filed an "urgent petition to exclude" Poe from the official list of candi-

dates and from the ballots.

Her petition to cancel the senator's COC for President was granted by the Comelec Second Division in a resolution handed out on Tuesday.

Jimenez pointed out that the non-inclusion of Poe's name in the ballot based on the Comelec en banc's unfavorable decision would complicate things later if the SC would rule the other way around.

"It's easier to ignore the votes cast for that person than to take [him] out of the ballot then later on find out that [he] should have been in the ballot in the first place. So it's practical to include [Poe's] name," he said.

But Luna disagreed, saying it would be a violation of the Omnibus Election Code and the Rules of Court.

He explained that Poe's name should be excluded from the ballot once the commission en banc ruled against her, "unless she is able to secure a temporary restraining order from the Supreme Court."

"The en banc should not be preempted. [Comelec] Chairman [Andres] Bautista can better shed light on that... Until they issue a resolution to that effect, we cannot say that she will be included or excluded. That is why I'm reserving my opinion because I'm respecting the action of the en banc at a proper time," Luna said.

He added that the status quo remains simply because the decision of the Second Division is not yet final and executory while the First Division is yet to make a decision.

"We are pretty confident that the First Division will also side with us not because the Second Division has already ruled against her but because of the superiority of the arguments that we have presented," Luna said.

In her urgent petition to exclude Poe, Elamparo pointed out that based on the timeline of the Comelec, it has to come up with the official list of presidential candidates on Dec. 20, 2015, and printing of ballots will start by early January next year.

"While respondent may still opt to file a motion for reconsideration within five (5) days from receipt of the aforesaid resolution, petitioner respectfully submits that unless the 01 December resolution is reversed or restrained through a temporary restraining order issued by the Supreme Court, the same should be respected and implemented by excluding respondent from the list of official candidates for the presidency and from the ballots," she said.

According to her, the Comelec would be contradicting itself if after canceling respondent's COC, it would still include Poe's name in the official list of candidates and in the ballots, "as if it is anticipating its decision to be reversed."

"More important, the exclusion of respondent from the official list of candidates and from the ballots would better serve the interest of justice," she said.

Naturalized not natural-born

Luna said foundlings are considered as naturalized citizens and not natural-born ones and therefore could not be elected as President.

Poe, who was found abandoned in a church in Iloilo, has no known biological parents.

"Foundlings cannot in any way be a President or



senator, unless you amend the Constitution. That's the only way you can change the situation, that you need to amend it.

The Constitution enunciated *jus sanguinis* or law of the blood. You cannot create a natural-born citizen [in *jus sanguinis*] by creating legal fiction or by mere presumption," Luna said.

Tatad's petition questioned Poe's claim that she's a natural-born citizen.

"[Poe] cannot... [imply] or presume [that she is a] natural-born [citizen]. It should be established as a fact, by blood relationships [because of the *jus sanguinis* principle,]" he added.

In his petition, Tatad said "Poe is practically stateless, and that foundlings have no parentage," because "the 1935 Constitution states that she is not a Filipino because of the *jus sanguinis* principle."

"[Poe's] arguments, which are based on the presumption that she is a natural-born citizen based [in turn] on international statutes for foundlings will not be applicable here in the Philippines," Luna said.

"The Philippines is not a signatory to any international statute on foundlings, and our country doesn't follow the *jus soli* [law of the land] principle — if she keeps on insisting that, it will contradict our 1935 and 1987 Constitutions emphasizing *jus sanguinis*. It should be established as a fact, by blood relationships," he added.

Tatad was among the personalities who strongly dismissed Poe's claim that she is a natural-born Filipino, which is requisite for those seeking public office.

"Grace Poe's only mistake is that she wants us to believe that she's a natural-born Filipino when, in fact, she's not. Poe is only a naturalized Filipino citizen—she's already stateless at birth," he said.

Poe had submitted herself to DNA testing in early October, hoping that it would help boost her argument that she is a natural-born citizen before the Senate Electoral Tribunal, which all turned out negative.

"There should be a physical blood relation, maybe that's the reason why Senator Poe insisted that she will undergo a DNA test because she knows that the physical evidence of a natural-born citizenship is by a natural-blood relationship," Luna said.

He added that Poe was not registered as a foundling in the separate old civil registry for foundlings—for her to be given an "accommodated type" of naturalization giving her a legal presumption that she is a naturalized citizen.

"Poe must have registered in the separate registry [for foundlings], it would be easy for her to acquire citizenship but still, as a naturalized citizen, not a natural-born [one]," Luna said.

Fight far from over

Poe also on Wednesday said she is not expecting a favorable decision from the other divisions of the Comelec handling her other disqualification cases but noted that her fight is far from over.

She likened her legal fight to a boxing match wherein she won round one when the tribunal dismissed the disqualification case against her, and lost round two after the Second Division ruled in favor of the petition seeking to cancel her COC for President.

Poe said she expects the other divisions of the poll body to have similar decisions, but said she is not bothered because she can still bring the case to the High Court if she fails to get a favorable decision from the Comelec en banc.

"It is possible that we could lose our case in the Comelec but there is still the Supreme Court. What is important is I'm doing this because I don't want anyone to be left behind," she told a news forum.

Poe said she also expects to get a favorable decision from the High Court similar to the ruling it made on a disqualification case filed against her father, the late Fernando Poe Jr., when he ran for Pres-

Cont. on page 9

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
First Judicial
Region
OFFICE OF
THE CLERK OF
COURT & EX-OFF-
FICIO SHERIFF
Baguio City

HOME DEVELOP-
MENT MUTUAL
FUND (Pag-IBIG
Fund),

Mortgagee,

-versus-

SPOUSES DENNIS
E. DIMAGUILA
and PAMELA Z.
DIMAGUILA,

Mortgagor.

x-----x

FORECLOSURE
CASE No. 15-616-S

EXTRA-JUDICIAL
FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ES-
TATE MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135,
AS AMENDED

SHERIFF'S NO-
TICE OF AUC-
TION SALE

Upon petition for
sale under Act 3135,
as amended, filed by
the HOME DEVELOP-
MENT MUTUAL
FUND (Pag-IBIG
Fund), herein after

referred to as the
MORTGAGEE, for
the satisfaction of the
mortgage indebted-
ness of SPS. DENIS
E. DIMAGUILA and
PAMELA Z. DIMA-
GUILA, hereinafter
referred to as the
MORTGAGORS, which as of October
9, 2015, now amounts to
P2,373,002.54, Philippine Currency,
inclusive of interest
and penalty, but ex-
cluding attorney's
fees, other charges
and expenses of fore-
closure, the Ex-Offi-
cio Sheriff or through
the undersigned
Deputy Sheriff, will
sell at public auction
on DECEMBER 15,
2015, at 10:00 o'clock
in the morning or
soon thereafter, at the
lobby (fronting the
main entrance) of the
Hall of Justice Building,
Baguio City, the
following described
mortgage property
together with the
buildings and all its
improvements exist-
ing thereon, to wit:

**TRANSFER
CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE
NO. T-96544, CITY
OF BAGUIO**

"A parcel of
land Lot 4, Pcs-
CAR-000891, being a
portion of Lot 2-B-5
& 2-B-6 (LRC) Psd-
170701; Lots 2-B-3-B
& 2-B-4-B, Psd-CAR-
010779-D, situated at

urban code 131102,
Res. Sec. "D", City of
Baguio, Island of Lu-
zon. Bounded on the
NE., along lines 1-2-3
by Public Land; on
the SE., along line 3-4
by Lot 2-B-7 (LRC)
Psd-170701; on the
SW., along line 4-5 by
Lot 9 (Alley 3.00m.
wide) on the NW.,
along line 5-1 by Lot
3 all of the subd. Plan.
Beginning at a point
marked "1" x x x to
point of beginning,
containing an area of
ONE HUNDRED
TWENTY (120)
square meters, more
or less."

Prospective bid-
ders may investigate
the title, rights and
improvements of the
property with regards
to encumbrances, if
any there be.

Baguio City, Phil-
ippines, this 17th day
of November, 2015.

(SGD) LINDA MON-
TES-LOLOY
Clerk of Court VI &
Ex-Officio Sheriff

(SGD) ROMEO R.
FLORENDO
Sheriff-in-Charge
*Publication Dates:
November 21, 28 and
Dec. 5, 2015*

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
Branch 4

FAMILY COURT
OF BAGUIO CITY

IN RE: PETITION
FOR ADOPTION
OF MINOR CHILD
REGINA LHIAN
MARIE C. AGUI-
LAR,

SPS. CESAR AND
EULALIA GRACE
VILLANUEVA,

Petitioners,

-versus-

LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF
BAGUIO,

Respondent.

x-----x

SP. PROC. CASE
NO. 485-A
FOR: ADOPTION

ORDER

The petitioners,
Sps. Cesar and Eula-
lia Grace Villanue-
va, filed this verified
amended petition
praying for the Hon-
orable Court to de-
clare minor REGINA
LHIAN MARIE C.
AGUILAR to be the
legitimate child of

Spouses Cesar and
Eulalia Grace Villan-
ueva and for all to
acquire the reciprocal
rights and obligations
arising from the re-
lationship of parents
and child, including
the rights of the mi-
nor child to use the
surname of petitioner
and be made known
henceforth as "REGI-
NA LHIAN MARIE C.
VILLANUEVA" and
to direct the Local
Civil Registrar to ef-
fect the same adoption
and on the Certificate
of Live Birth of said
minor child.

Finding the peti-
tion to be sufficient in
form and substance,
let the same be heard
before the Regional
Trial Court, Branch 4,
Baguio City on March
9, 2016 at 8:30 o'clock
in the morning, at
which place, date and
time, the petitioner
shall prove this case.
Any person interested
may appear and show
cause, 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, a newspaper
of general circulation
in Baguio City once
a week for three (3)
consecutive weeks no
later than December
28, 2015.

The petitioner are
directed to make an
appointment with the
assigned Court Social

Worker for the con-
duct of the required
case studies on the
child Regina Lhian
Marie C. Aguilar and
the petitioners. The
Court Social Worker
is required to submit
to the court the case
study reports not later
than February 5, 2016.

The Judicial Affida-
vits of the Petitioner
and her witnesses to-
gether with their ex-
hibits are due for sub-
mission not later than
February 12, 2016.

Furnish copies
hereof, together with
copies of the Petition
and its annexes, to the
Office of the Solicitor

General, the Office of
the City Prosecutor
of Baguio, the Court
Social Worker of the
Regional Trial Court
in Baguio City, Lo-
cal Civil Registrar
of Baguio City, the
petitioners through
counsel and the re-
spondents.

SO ORDERED.

DONE IN CHAM-
BERS, this 26th day
of November, 2015, at
Baguio City, Philip-
pines.

(SGD) MIA JOY C.
OALLARES-CAWED
Presiding Judge
*Publication Dates:
December 5, 12, and
19, 2015*

City to hold seminar..

from page 9

nar aims to provide information and knowl-
edge on the city's continuing effort to protect
the trees particularly the Benguet pine.

This is in the light of findings on the in-
creased morbidity of pine trees in the city
which reportedly was caused by tree pests
like ips and dendroctonus as identified
during the forum conducted by experts
from the Benguet State University and En-
vironment Research Development Bureau.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan approved the
project proposal for the training in the hope
of arresting the pests and saving the trees.

CEPMO forestry division head Beatriz
Gajete said the seminar will be participated
in by CEPMO personnel and representatives
from the barangays, schools, stakeholders
and the media.

Experts from various concerned agencies
will facilitate the lectures on the following
topics: "Identification of Bark Beetles Asso-
ciated with Pine Trees and Bark Beetle Bi-
ology Suggested Management," "Proper Care
and Maintenance of Pine Trees," "Factors
Contributing to Pine Tree Infestation" and

Associated Fungi
Symptoms; Nema-
todes and Suggested
Management."

At the end of the
seminar, the partic-
ipants are expected
to have increased
knowledge on the
prevailing situation
and apply them
to reduce or sub-
due morbidity and
mortality of trees
through applica-
tion of techniques
and updates includ-
ing employment of
methods and tech-
nology learned and
disseminate the
same information to
other stakeholders
and encourage local
action./A Refuerzo

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH SIMULTANEOUS DEED OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that the es-
tate of the late John C. Doriano, who
died on October 21, 2015 involving
a motor vehicle with Plate No. AYR
308 has been extrajudicially settled
by his heirs through an Extrajudicial
Settlement of Estate with Simultane-
ous Deed of Sale, acknowledged on
November 26, 2015 before Notary
Public for Baguio City, Atty. Robles
G. Calabias and entered into his no-
tarial register as per Doc. No. 403,
Page No. 81, Book No. CXXXVII;
Series of 2015.

*Publication Dates: December 5, 12,
and 19, 2015*

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

**WASHINGTON PARAN-Vendor
MARIBEL P. BENTAY-Vendee
Petitioners**

**Case No: 93-CAR-178/2015-CAR-694
NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of
Public Convenience to operate PUJ Service for the transportation
of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA -
BALENBEN (IRISAN) and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.
Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board
on December 16, 2015 at 2:00 P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal,
Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally
submit his/her/their evidences.

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

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file
their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on
or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the
applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.
This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis
of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the
parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional
documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable Atty. Jose Eduardo L. Natividad,
Regional Director this 25th day of November 2015.

(SGD) Atty. ROBERTO B. BASCO
Hearing Officer

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

**JESSIE R. FORTES-Vendor
LEONARD G. COL-LONG-Vendee
Petitioners**

**Case No. 98-BC-1359/2015-CAR-695
NOTICE OF HEARING**

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board
on December 16, 2015 at 2:00 P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal,
Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally
submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable Atty. Jose Eduardo L. Natividad,
Regional Director this 25th day of November 2015.

(SGD) Atty. ROBERTO B. BASCO
Hearing Officer

City to hold seminar on tree disease management

BAGUIO CITY – Acting to combat the increasing incidence of tree deterioration and death in the city, the city environment and parks management office (CEPMO) sought venues for information dissemination and knowledge-sharing from experts.

An initial activity will be a tree disease management seminar on Dec. 15-16 at the Dominican Heritage Area.

CEPMO head Cordelia Lacsamana said the semi-

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Poe could be...

from page 7

ident in 2004.

She added that part of the court ruling on the disqualification case stated that the decision on who will be the next President of the country should be left to the sovereign Filipino people, not to unelected members of the court.

Poe said she is convinced that there is an "obvious and conscious" effort to remove her from the 2016 presidential race.

She added that the legal challenges she is facing stem mainly from the desire of some people to take her out of the presidential race because she poses a threat to their own dreams to be the nation's leader.

"I just feel that's somebody is behind it. Now, am I being harassed? I'm just doing what I need to do. To be able to go through the process, to be able to overcome these hurdles," Poe said.

She, however, refused to name those whom she suspects to be behind the disqualification cases but she noted that two of her rivals would definitely stand to benefit if ever she gets disqualified.

"Pero sabi nga nila masyadong liberal ang decision ng Comelec kaya nga para daw i-mar yung elections ng 2016 [Some are saying the Comelec decision is too liberal and could be part of the attempt to mar the 2016 elections]," Poe said with a pun referring to the Liberal Party and its standard-bearer, Manuel "Mar" Roxas 2nd.

Poe's running mate Sen. Francis Escudero, in a statement, said the resolution of the Comelec Second Division is just a temporary setback as he sees Poe getting relief either from the Comelec en banc or the Supreme Court.

"We still have faith in our justice system. We believe that in the end, Senator Grace will be allowed to run not only based on international and domestic laws, but also based on the factual situation of the case," Escudero added.

He expressed optimism that Poe will be able to attain a favorable decision either from the Comelec en banc or the Supreme Court.

"At the end of the day, laws are invented and created to achieve justice. I am of the firm belief that in the end, justice will still prevail," Escudero said.

Poe's lawyers also remain optimistic that the Comelec en banc will overturn the resolution of its Second Division.

George Garcia, in a statement, noted that the division completely ignored previous rulings of the Supreme Court that are applicable to Poe's case and which should have been the bases in ruling that she fulfilled the 10-year residency requirement for presidential candidates.

"We will convince the Comelec en banc that the Second Division erred in its resolution," Garcia said, adding that they have until December 7 to appeal the Second Division ruling with the en banc.

Respect the law

Malacanang also on Wednesday appealed for "sobriety and respect for law" among all concerned parties in Poe's disqualification cases.

Duterte's anger and...

from page 10

marks against the Pope.

"Mayor Duterte's environment and experience brought him up speaking tough, rough and uncensored. The Mayor came from a time and place of great conflict and suffering. While the Mayor's words and statements were stronger than what is deemed socially accepted by some, and may rub some in the wrong way, the most important thing is, he is authentic and his heart is in the right place. He is who he is. He will always fight for the people and never allow them to suffer," Cayetano said.

Cayetano reminded the public that the national debate should focus on how to change the country for the better. "We are here to change the country, not to change him."

In an interview, Duterte said he was merely expressing the people's outrage. He said it was never his intention to hurt sensibilities or disrespect the Holy Father. He said his anger is directed at the government and the 18 years of systemic neglect that has resulted in the suffering of the people.

Cayetano also questioned the sincerity of Press Secretary Edwin Lacierda in defending the Pope. The senator said Lacierda himself justified the white-washing of the hiding of the poor during the Pope's visit in the country. He also said the government's lack of action in defending the public from problems like the *tanim-bala* scam and the pilferage or taxing on balikbayan boxes are a disservice to Pope Francis' faithful following.

"Sec. Lacierda obviously wanted to anger the people by using Pope Francis to score propaganda points. Pero ang tanong ko, tingin ba ni Sec. Lacierda ay sang-ayon si Pope Francis noong tinago nila ang mga pulubi at mga palaboy noong siya ay bumisita? Tingin ba niya na pabor ang Pope na bumiyaha at maipit ng 5 oras sa traffic ang mga tao kung pwede naman pala pag handaan para maiwasan ito?" Cayetano asked.

"Before Sec. Lacierda points an accusing finger at Mayor Duterte maybe he should look at his own backyard and see how the government's flawed policies and inaction have greatly disadvantaged Pope Francis' flock here in our country," Cayetano concluded. */Office of Senator Alan Peter Cayetano*

In a text message, Palace spokesman Edwin Lacierda noted that the decision was arrived at "in the course of the constitutionally-mandated functions of the Comelec."

"We understand that Senator Poe's legal counsel will pursue and exhaust all remedies available to them, as is their right in this process," Lacierda told reporters.

"We believe that sobriety and respect for the law and its processes are the best way forward for all parties concerned," he said.

'Brotherly' advice

Vice Presidential candidate Sen. Ferdinand Marcos also on Wednesday told Poe to just keep going.

"Keep going...keep going. Huwag kang panghihi-naan ng loob and just [keep in mind] that when you are doing the right thing, you will in the end succeed," Marcos also told reporters Tuesday night.

He said he was not surprised at all by the verdict and expressed belief that it is still a long way to go before the issue would be finally settled as Poe's camp has announced that it would appeal the decision before the Comelec en banc.

"[W]e leave it to the best of our legal minds to decide exactly what to do," Marcos added.

When asked if the Comelec decision should alarm the opposition, he said it is expected and it is part of the black propaganda normally being employed by different groups. */ by N. Alcober, W. Depasupil, J. Antiporda, C. Valente*

Chiz confident Poe...

from page 10

(COC) she filed when she ran for senator in 2013 that she has been a resident of the country only since November 2006.

This falls short of six months of the required May 2006 commencement of residence in the country in order for her to qualify as a candidate for president in the May 2016 polls, the Second Division claimed.

"I am amazed with the resolution. The Comelec Second Division has no basis in saying that the 2013 COC was correct and the 2016 COC was not correct. Up to now, I have been reading the Comelec resolution many times over and I failed to see any justification for that kind of conclusion," Escudero pointed out.

Escudero said the Second Division has deliberately disregarded the doctrine of *animus revertendi* or having the "intention to return" which was cited by the SC in allowing former First Lady Imelda Marcos to run as representative of Leyte in Congress in 1995.

Despite her long absence in the province, Mrs. Marcos was allowed by the high court to seek election in Leyte as it ruled that she remained domiciled in the province due to her previous manifestations of her intention to return.

Domicile is defined as the "permanent home, the place to which, whenever absent for business or pleasure, one intends to return, and depends on the facts and circumstances, in the sense that they disclose intent."

In that 1995 ruling, the SC stated that an individual does not lose his or her domicile even if he or she has lived and maintained several residences in different places.

The high tribunal also held that Mrs. Marcos made an honest mistake in writing "seven months residence" in her COC for a congressional seat, a period less than the constitutional requirement of "not less than one year" for that position.

Escudero said just like that of Mrs. Marcos, Poe's honest mistake in indicating her residence in her COC for the Senate to be only "six years and six months" is not binding proof of the length of her domicile in the Philippines.

He said the SC was also clear in saying that statements made in the COC should not be taken against a candidate.

"I am wondering why the Comelec Second Division completely ignored the SC decision on the matter," Escudero said.

"In the case of Mrs. Marcos, the SC said that it is not the material statement she wrote in her COC that will bind if you can prove your actual residence with intent to return and actual physical presence in the country or district where you are running for," he explained.

Escudero recalled that Poe returned to the country after the death in 2004 of her father, movie actor Fernando Poe Jr.

He insisted that several acts showed Poe intended to return and remain in the Philippines for good.

These include her return to the country in May 2005, enrolling her children in local schools in June 2005, purchasing a property in late 2005, construction of her family home in Quezon City in early 2006, and the sale of their Virginia home in 2006.

"Both her intent to return and actual physical residence was evidenced by the fact that she sold her house in the United States, she resigned from her work, she bought a house here, and she enrolled her kids—one in elementary, one in high school and one in college," Escudero said. */chizescudero.com; FB: senchizescudero; Twitter: @saychiz @chiznewsalert*

Escudero reiterates autonomy need- ed for development of Cordillera

QUEZON CITY - Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero believes that autonomy in the Cordillera should be passed since self-governance could significantly contribute in spurring the economic growth in the remote villages that would uplift the living condition of the people.

Escudero was the guest of honor and speaker during the first national conference on the establishment of an autonomous region in the Cordillera which was organized by the Regional Development Council - Cordillera Administrative Region (RDC-CAR) held in No-

votel in Quezon City on November 25.

Escudero asserted autonomy would be one of the major vehicles of the region to be able to clamor for greater control of the region's resources in order for concerned local governments to be able to chart its overall socio-economic development.

"Importante at mahal-aga, bigyan ng pansin sa pamamagitan ng tamang alokasyon ng budget ang Cordillera. At ang pag bibigay ng awtonomiya ay isang hakbang tungo sa direksyon iyan," said Escudero.

According to Escu-

Cont. on page 6

Chiz Confident Poe Will Be Allowed to Run for President

Independent vice-presidential candidate Sen. Francis "Chiz" Escudero remains confident that his running mate Sen. Grace Poe will be allowed to run for president, having met all the constitutional requirements to seek the highest post in the land.

Escudero said the resolution of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) Second Division is just a temporary setback as he expects Poe to get relief either from the Comelec en banc or the Supreme Court.

"We still have faith in our justice system. We believe that in the end, Senator Grace will be allowed to run not only based on international

and domestic laws, but also based on the factual situation of the case," Escudero said.

He added: "If we're not able to achieve or attain justice in the Comelec Second Division, we are still hopeful that we will be able to attain it either in the Comelec en banc or in the Supreme Court. "At the end of the day, laws are invented and created to achieve justice. I am of the firm belief that in the end justice will still prevail."

Poe, the frontrunner in various presidential preference surveys, is also facing three other petitions for her disqualification from the presidential race due to citizenship and residency issues. The cases have

been consolidated and are pending before the Comelec First Division.

Escudero said the Senate Electoral Tribunal (SET) has already ruled that Poe is a natural-born Filipino citizen as defined in the 1987 Constitution, and therefore she is qualified to run and be elected as senator and even president.

"Senator Grace is a citizen of the Philippines from birth, without having to perform any act to acquire or perfect her Philippine citizenship," he said.

Escudero, meanwhile, could not hide his disappointment after the Comelec Second Division completely ignored a long-standing decision of the Supreme Court that is applicable to Poe's case when it said she made a material misrepresentation in her residency status.

The poll body's Second Division claimed that Poe's period of residence in the Philippines up to the day before May 9, 2016 would not be at least 10 years, citing her declaration in the certificate of candidacy

Cont. on page 9

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"**BREAKING THE POT**" - Mayor Mauricio Domogan aims to break the ceremonial pot to spread the joy and warmth of the Yuletide Season during the opening of Silahis ng Pasko, December 1./Photo by Paul Rillorta

Duterte's anger and frustration directed at government failures not at Pope Francis - Cayetano

"Pope Francis is a man of God. He is loved and respected by millions of people, from different religious affiliations worldwide, Mayor Duterte included. But even Pope Francis would never allow people to suffer at his expense."

This is what Senator Alan Peter Cayetano said in response to attacks against Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte over his statements at the PDP-Laban proclamation yesterday.

"Traffic ang minura

ni Mayor Duterte hindi si Pope Francis. He was not directing his anger and frustration at the Pope, he was expressing the people's frustration over the government's incompetence in handling the metro's worsening traffic situation and the daily suffering and inconvenience it causes," Cayetano said.

"It is unfortunate that the Mayor's statements were grossly taken out of context. Mayor Duterte deeply respects religious beliefs and the Filipino's

spirituality. Those who know him can attest to this. He himself has a deep relationship with God. He doesn't talk about it publicly but I know this personally having discovered this through my constant engagement with him," Cayetano added.

Cayetano said he understands Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) President Archbishop Soc Villegas' statement on Duterte's alleged re-

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