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THE JUNCTION WEEKEND

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

CJHDevCo Ordered to Vacate Camp John Hay

BAGUIO CITY — The Camp John Hay Development Corporation (CJHDevCo) was ordered to vacate the Camp John Hay premises by a local court in Baguio City earlier this month.

At 4:00PM on April 20, the Office of the Ex-Officio Sheriff of the First Judicial Region, Branch 6 of the Regional Trial Court in Baguio City, served the notice against CJHDevCo to vacate the former American base.

"You are hereby notified to voluntary/peacefully vacate the premises subject matter of the above entitled case and surrender/turn over the possession thereof to the respondent BCDA within 30 days from receipt of this notice," the notice signed by Linda Montes-Loloy, Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Sheriff, and Sheriff Bobby Galano, read.

It further stated that failure of CJHDevCo to voluntarily vacate Camp John Hay premises within the given period mandates the city sheriff to implement the court order.

The notice follows the RTC order for CJHDevCo to vacate Camp John Hay in Baguio City and return the property to the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA).

In a ruling last March 27, the court's presiding judge, Cecilia Corazon Dulay Archog, confirmed the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center(PDRCI).ruling returning possession of John Hay to the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA).

The BCDA is also ordered to pay back P1.42 billion (32.1 million) in rentals to CJHDevCo as confirmed by Judge Archog.

BCDA claims that CJHDevCo's arrears have ballooned to P3.024 billion over the past 16 years but the latest RTC decision stated that

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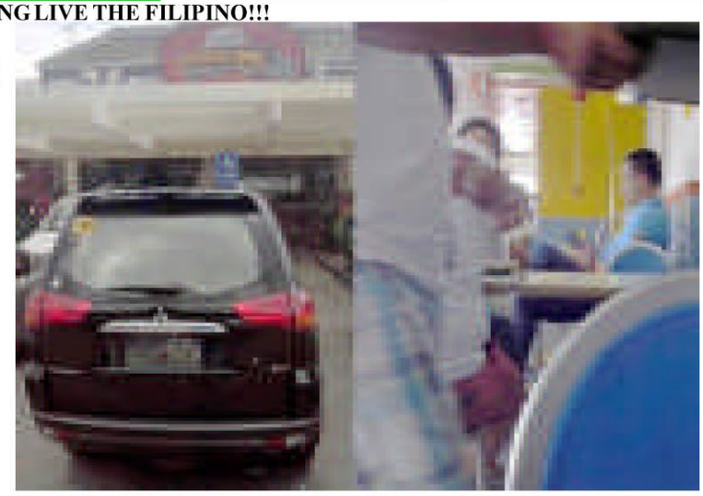
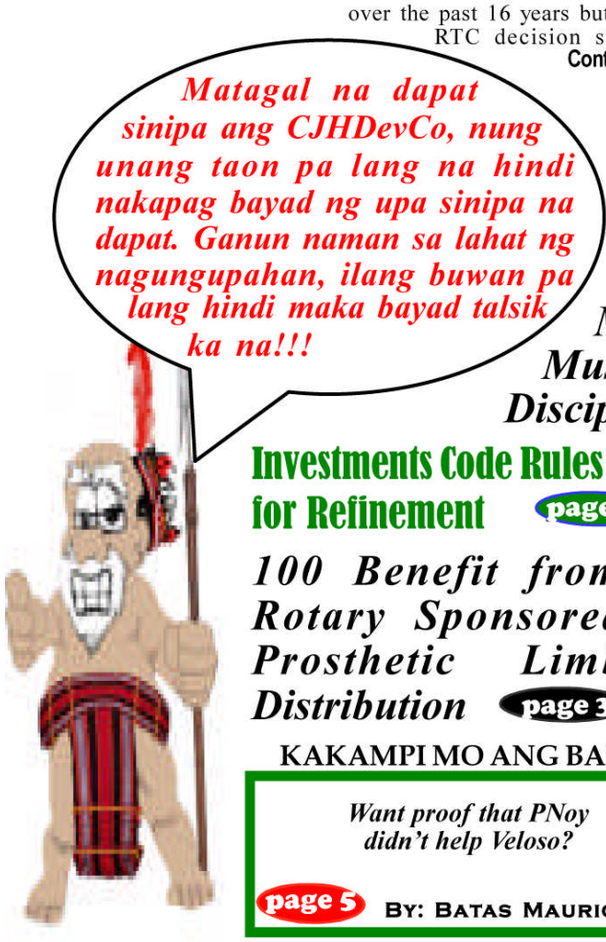


PAANO BA NAGING PULIS MGA GANITO - From Marco Rafael Briones Galang: "Naka-Montero Sport na pulis, nag-park sa disabled parking habang nag-aantay kami ng parking slot. Nung nakapasok na kami sa Jollibee, nandun sya. Di ko napigilan at sinabi ko sa kanya: 'Boss, wag ka magagalit ha, pero gusto ko lang sabihin na pang-disabled yung pinarkingan mo'. Sumagot siya: 'Aahhh...okay'. Umupo na ko habang siya nakatulala nang mga 5 minutes. Tapos lumapit sa kin at nagtanong: 'Bakit, meron ba kayong kasamang disabled?' Sabi ko wala naman at ini-inform ko lang sya. Sabi nya: 'Wala naman pala e'. Sabay balik sa upuan niya. Hindi ko nilalahat ang mga pulis, pero isa ito sa mga walang kwenta. Salamat sa public service, boss!" Marahil ay PWD itong pulis na ito oh yun sinasabing Pulis with Dissability, may disability ang kanyang Utak. /Source- Top Gear Philippines



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TWG to Prepare the Terms of Reference for the Operation of Ganza Parking Area

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio Domogan recently issued Administrative Order No. 039, series of 2015 forming a Technical Working Group (TWG) to prepare the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the operation of the Ganza parking area as a pay parking facility operated by the city government here through the private-public partnership (PPP).

To address the lack of parking spaces within the Central Business District (CBD) especially during summer season where tourists are expected to visit the summer capital of the Philippines, the City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) re-opened the pay parking facility last April 2 through a memorandum issued by the mayor.

It is recalled that said facility was formerly operated by the Jadewell Parking Systems Corporation as pay parking space 12 years

However, in 2006, the contract between the city government and the Jadewell Parking Systems Corporation was rescinded because of opposition of the public regarding the parking scheme that reached the Supreme Court to resolve the issue.

The Supreme Court already rules in favour of the city government in relation to the cases that were filed but it failed to spell out whether or not Jadewell parking Systems corporation, the former operator of the city's off-street and on-street pay parking, will be given reasonable period to recover its losses.

Since parking is a continuing urgent need in the city and since there is no terms of reference as basis of the operator in paying the city government, Domogan formed the TWG to immediately craft the required TOR in order to bit out the operation of the area for parking purposes.

City engineer Leo Bernardez, Jr. will chair the said TWG with members councilor Elmer Datuin, Sangguniang Panlungsod Committee on tourism and special events, councilor Joel Alangsab, SP Committee on public utilities, city budger officer Leticia Clemente, city treasurer Alicia Onoza, city accountant Antonio Tabin, city planning and development officer Evelyn Cayat, city adminstrator Carlos Canilao, city assessor Nilda Navarro, city general services officer Romeo Concio and city environment and parks management officer Cordelia Lacsamana.

The TWG is mandated to submit to the mayor the proposed TOR within 30 days upon receipt of the order.

At present, the parking facility is being manned by the CEPMO personnel in coordination with the treasury

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Investments Code Rules up for Refinement

BAGUIO CITY – The city council on Monday sought the refinement of the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the Baguio City Investments and Incentives Code before these can be approved and implemented.

The body returned the proposed IRR to its committee on market under Councilor Elaine Sembrano to work with the technical working group in incorporating the amendments suggested by the aldermen during the deliberations.

Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda noted the need to specify the extent of the power of the incentives board so it will not conflict with or bypass the authority of the city government. She said the delineation of the authority must be clear.

The body also suggested the inclusion of the provision that the preferred investments areas identified will be submitted to the city council for approval along with the investments priority plan.

A review of the membership of the incentives board was also recommended to possibly include the heads of the council committees on tourism and livelihood and other concerned offices.

City budget officer, member of the TWG that drafted the IRR said the IRR was based on inputs from the stakeholders and are within the scope of the investments code or Ordinance No. 71 series of 2012.

First approved in 2008 and later refined in 2012, the ordinance aims to boost the city's program to attract investors and to provide incentives to industries contributing to the city's economic development through the implementation of an investment priorities plan where the city will employ a registration system to ensure that the business would be "economically, technically and financially viable."

Under the measure, incentives will also be provided to new businesses, expansion and diversification projects for investments proposed in the following enterprises: employ-

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2015 SumVac in Baguio Activities

BAGUIO CITY – Scheduled activities for Summer Vacation (SumVac) in Baguio 2015 is on the last four weeks with fiestas and spiritual renewals, sports activities and conventions.

AZCKO, Balsigan, Cabinet Hill-Teachers Camp, Camdas, Camp Allen, Country Club Village, Dontogan, DPS compound, East Modernsite, Engineers hill, Fairview, Gabriela Silang, GEFA-Lower QM, Gibraltar, Kayang Hilltop, Kias, Lower Dagsian, Lower General Luna, Marcoville, Mines View Park, MRR-Queen of Peace, New Lucban, North Sanitary Camp, Outlook Drive, Pacdal, Fil-Am, Saint Joseph Village, Upper QM and Upper Quezon Hill celebrate their barangay fiestas during various dates in May.

Last Friday, May 1, the Public Employment Services Office conducted a job fair at the Baguio Convention Center where local and foreign employers hired qualified jobseekers.

On May 6 and 7, Baguio hosts the Philippine Councilors League Luzon congress at the Baguio Convention Center with the theme, "Tourism and Sustainability: Best Practices and Impacts on Cultural Identity and the Environment." Tours of Baguio and Benguet are planned for the delegates, with technical sessions on Cordillera Festivals, Parks and Biodiversity, ASEAN integration, Synchronized Planning and Budgeting Process by various speakers.

Congressmen Ronald Cosalan of Benguet and Nicasio Aliping, Jr., of Baguio, and Mayor Mauricio Domogan welcome the delegates, with Department of Interior and Local Government Manuel Roxas II as keynote speaker for the opening program.

Benguet Governor Nestor Fongwan is guest of honor for the closing ceremonies with MMDA Chairman Francis Tolentino as keynote speaker.

The Mariapolis Ecumenical Summer Camp: Living the Gospel goes on at Teachers Camp on May 8-10; and the Youth Summer Camp: True Love Waits at Pias, Baguio City on May 11-13.

The Sabsabong ti Mayo (Festival of Flowers) shall be on May 11 to 17 at the Baguio Convention Center.

The convention center is also the venue for the Martial Arts Festival on May 23-24; Pastors' Kids Care on May 26; Mixed Martial Arts Full Con on May 29 and the Light of the World on May 31.

The city celebrates Flag day on May 28, where Baguioites are encouraged to display flags in their homes. /*Julie G. Fianza*

Air Quality in the City

BAGUIO CITY- Despite several public objections to the Roadside Inspection Testing and Monitoring Team (RITMT) doing random checks on smoke-belching vehicles, the procedure goes on, Mayor Mauricio Domogan said during last week's Ugnayan at city hall.

For accessibility and convenience of vehicle owners, an impounding and testing center within the central business district instead of South Sanitary Camp is being planned, he revealed.

The mayor also noted that after smoke-belching ordinance was passed and implemented, improvement in passing rates were recorded. Vehicles tested for smoke-belching in 2010, then rates 32 to 33% passing, while as to 2014 records in the City Environment Parks Management Office (CEPMO), an average of 67% of diesel and gasoline-fed vehicles passed the smoke-belching test. More vehicle owners are also opting to have their cars voluntarily tested.

Higher passing rate in smoke-belching tests mean cleaner air, and definitely is a welcome development to those with respiratory ailments, Domogan said.

Mobile testing machines are used in roadsides, along Magsaysay avenue, UP drive, Bokawkan road, Session road, Harrison road, Marcos Highway, Bonifacio road and other venues.

The mayor mentioned that in a recent trip to Taiwan, he, with mayors from Katmandu and Vietnam, well-appreciated the clean air environment. Even with public and private transportation, the quality of air is definitely better, which could be a source of envy, the mayor said. The clean air in that country is credited to high quality fuel, he added.

The quality of fuel used in our country, definitely low, could be better but would be with corresponding rise in prices, the mayor further said. Poorly-maintained second hand motor vehicles add to our smoke-belching woes, Domogan also said.

Actions done could be for the house of representatives to pass laws to ban the "dumping" of second hand vehicles in the country and to phrase out "running coffins" from our streets, the mayor further said. Vehicles that could not pass the smoke-belching tests should be out from the roads, Domogan ended./ *Julie G. Fianza*

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Aquino 'broke protocol' to Save Mary Jane Veloso

The Philippine government narrates last-minute, behind-the-scenes moves to save 30-year-old Mary Jane Veloso from Indonesia's death row

MANILA, Philippines – "Cab Sec, we did it."

The mild-mannered Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario sent this one-sentence message to "Cab Sec" – Cabinet Secretary Jose Rene Almendras – at 2:20 am on Wednesday, April 29.

Through this text message, Del Rosario broke the news: Indonesia decided to delay the execution of Mary Jane Veloso, a Filipina set to be killed by firing squad at 1 am Wednesday.

Del Rosario's spokesman, Charles Jose, then held a minute-long media briefing around 2:20 am. He told journalists on a stakeout at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pasay City, "The Lord has answered our prayers."

Almendras recounted this series of events – including President Benigno Aquino III's fruitful breach in diplomatic protocol – that led to a reprieve for Veloso.

Almendras said a turning point was Aquino's conversation with Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi on Tuesday, April 28.

In a last-minute phone call to Marsudi, Aquino requested Indonesia to turn Veloso into a state witness. Aquino said this will help Indonesia pin down a drug trafficking syndicate, which allegedly includes Veloso's recruiters.

Del Rosario said Indonesia granted Veloso a reprieve "to allow Mary Jane to give testimony in connection with the complaint filed against her recruiters."

Almendras said: "The President sort of broke protocol. He talked directly to the foreign affairs minister of Indonesia, which is not, in a way, supposed to be. He's only supposed to be talking to his counterpart there, but that shows you how determined the President was to move that message as fast as possible."

Almendras said Aquino spoke with Marsudi while in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in Langkawi, Malaysia.

The normal protocol, he said, is for the foreign ministers of two countries to arrange a conversation between their respective presidents.

"When that was being done – Secretary Albert was ready to call the minister of foreign affairs of Indonesia – the President said, 'I want to talk to her,'" Almendras said.

Philippine officials, at that time, didn't know if Widodo was on a plane back to Indonesia.

Almendras said: "It was the President himself who talked to the Indonesian foreign minister. The Indonesian foreign minister was quite surprised, because normally that's not done. But when the President did that, she promised, 'Mr President, I will immediately relay your message to both the President and to whoever else needs to know in Jakarta.'"

Aquino "was adamant" in telling his officials, too, that the Philippines should transmit its request to Indonesia "as fast as we can."

Widodo: 'Justice' for Veloso

"Believe me, every single telephone number that we could call yesterday, we tried. Even the operator of the government office answered at 5 o' clock, 'No one is here because it's 5 o' clock,'" Almendras recalled.

He added that "as late as 11 o' clock" on Tuesday, Del Rosario and Justice Secretary Leila de Lima "were still trying to push for that conversation" with Indonesian Attorney General H. M. Prasetyo.

Earlier on Tuesday night, Prasetyo said Widodo ordered his office to proceed with the execution of

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Mother Lily Named as 12TH Memeber of City Council

BAGUIO CITY – Lilia Yaranon has been named by Malacanang as the 12th member of the city council after a year of wait since the untimely death of Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas.

Baguio Rep. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr. immediately congratulated Yaranon after receiving word that his party-mate in the Libiral Party was chosen by President Benigno Aquino III to replace Edison Bilog.

Bilog took over the function of the vice mayor for being the number 1 elected councilor during the 2010 local elections. His promotion created a vacuum in the city council which was contested by Farinas' widow, Lilia Farinas, and Yaranon.

"Pursuant to the provisions of existing laws, you are hereby appointed member, Sangguniang Panlungsod of Baguio City, vice Edison Bilog," the order stated.

Aliping, the Baguio City chairman, said "We are thankful to the President for filling the vacancy at the city council. Now the legislative body of the city of Baguio can function fully and the residents of Baguio are fully represented."

Yaranon lost in the 2010 elections placing 14th for the 12-man council. However the rules of succession in the council specifies that the members of the party of the member which caused the vacancy will take over the vacancy upon the appointment of the President.

Bilog belongs to the Liberal Party, the same with Yaranon.

Last year, two LP members were nominated to replace Bilog: Marquez Go, who ran for the lone congressional seat of the city, and Yaranon.

With the appointment of Yaranon to the city council there are now five Libiral Party members in the legislative body. They are Bilog, Isabelo Cosalan, Leandro Yangot, Faustino Olowan and Yaranon./*Carl C. Taawan*

SC Nullifies COMELEC-Smartmatic Deal

BAGUIO CITY(PIA) — The Commission on Elections(Comelec) is now looking into other possible options to avoid a "no-election scenario" in 2016 after the Supreme Court nullified the contract between the Comelec and Smartmatic-Total Information Management (TIM) last week.

The Supreme Court, during its summer session in Baguio City, granted the consolidated petitions filed by the Automated Elections System and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines against the Comelec-Smartmatic deal for the P300-million diagnostics and repair of the 80,000 Precinct Count Optical Scan (PCOS) for the 2016 polls.

Supreme Court Spokesperson Theodore Te said during a press briefing on Tuesday, the en banc ruled that the Comelec failed to justify the extended contract without public bidding. He said the SC decision was "immediately executory."

"The petitions are granted. Comelec Resolution 9922 and the Extended Warranty Contract Program 1 are declared null and void," said Te.

The SC said the Comelec "failed to justify its resort to direct contracting."

The deal, inked last January 30, 2015 through direct contracting or single source procurement, is for the repair, refurbishment and maintenance of 82,000 Precinct Count Optical Count (PCOS) machines to be used in the 2016 national and local elections.

COMELEC spokesman James Jimenez said that at least two options is now being looked into for the 2016 elections.

"Right now, the task that really lies before the Comelec is to single out the one best option that would meet the needs of our electorate," Jimenez said.

He said the poll body is studying the possibility of bidding out the contract for the refurbishment of the 81,000 PCOS machines.

A bidding process normally takes a period of

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE FAMILIES OF FALLEN CORDILLERA SAF MEMBERS - Mayor Mauricio Domogan and members of the city council hand over financial assistance worth P20 thousand cash each to the family of the 14 members of the " Fallen SAF 44 in Masasapano Incident" from the Cordilera region during the observance of the Liberation of Baguio City during World War II./Bong Cayabyab

100 Benefit from Rotary Sponsored Prosthetic Limb Distribution

BAGUIO CITY – Close to 100 residents of Baguio and Benguet were the proud recipients of artificial limbs courtesy of the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Midtown District 3201 Monday morning.

In coordination with the local Rotary Club of Beguio and Benguet, and the Office of Congressman Nicasio M. Aliping Jr, the distribution of the artificial limbs was made possible through Rotarian past president Baboo Kannan who is the District Chair of the Artificial Limbs Committee of the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Midtown. Coimbatore is a city in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

According to Rep. Aliping, the Indian Rotary Club has been distributing prosthetic limbs to poor beneficiaries is a yearly project which has benefited hundreds throughout Asia. This year, the program has reached the Philippines with Baguio and La Trinidad, Benguet being included.

Aliping is thankful for that the international project was able to include the city of Baguio which has a number of indigent disabled resident who have been asking for such artificial limbs for many years now. The Congressional Office of Rep. Aliping in Baguio's City Hall was asked to refer indigent and disabled residents who are in need of these prosthetic limbs.

"I am just very happy to have helped give new life to our constituents who are in need of artificial limbs," Rep. Aliping said.

The Rotary Club of Coimbatore Midtown, together with other Rotary Clubs in India, have been sponsoring this undertaking with the help of Rotary clubs in the target country of state. Artificial limbs are not only given to the beneficiaries, exact measurements must be taken and each individual prosthesis must be tailor-made for the patient.

"The beneficiaries will not be charged for any of the services and implants. A person of any age who has lost a limb, or limbs, or part of it (especially the leg) due to any reason can enroll," a primer on the project stated./*Carl C. Taawan*

Many People Now Get their News from their Mobile Phone or their Facebook Feeds

In the landscape of online media consumption, mobile is king, and Facebook stories or 140 character Twitter blasts seem to be eclipsing more traditional forms of publishing.

The Pew Research Center released these and other findings in its 2015 State of the News Media report on Wednesday, a document which cobbles together disparate data in order to sketch a larger picture of how the landscape of media has been changing over the last year.

One of the most significant findings is the increasing popularity of mobile devices, especially as a means to access the news sources that were formerly read on a desktop screen, or even further back, a physical broadsheet. Thirty-

EDITORIAL

nine out of 50 surveyed news sites reported that they now get more traffic from mobile devices than they do from desktop computers.

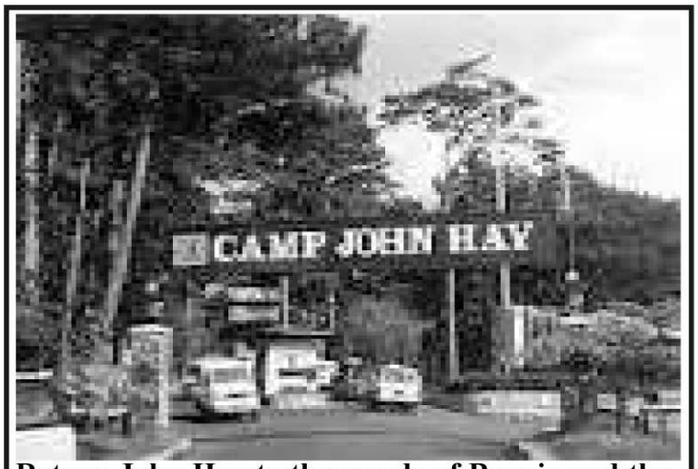
However, the increasing popularity of news-on-the-go does not mean that the mobile news reader is more well informed than a traditional computer screen reader — in fact, the opposite may be true. Pew found that while the majority of news sites reported an increase in traffic from mobile devices, only 10 out of the 50 reported that mobile visitors spent more time per visit on their sites than desktop visitors. Mobile news reading might be more popular, but it seems to also be more shallow.

Social media also continues to be a key driver of modern news access. Along with the increasingly mobile news audience, almost half of Internet-using adults report finding out news about politics or the government over the last week on Facebook alone.

And while many of the old-guard traditional news outlets are dying, that does not mean that they are entirely dead yet — many television outlets report a slight increase in viewership from last year. Network news channels reported a 5 percent evening audience growth compared to 2014, and local news reported a 3 percent increase. However, cable news and print newspapers are not faring as well — down 8 percent and 3 percent in consumption respectively.

A relatively newer news platform, podcasting, has seen a meteoric rise over the last couple of years. NPR reported a 41 percent increase in total podcast downloads over the last year. However, this could largely be due to the popularity of podcast "Serial," a WBEZ spinoff of This American Life about the 1999 murder of high school student Hae Min Lee, which became a national hit and the fastest downloaded podcast of all time. The percentage of Americans who have listened to a podcast within the last month has doubled since 2008, to 17 percent by January of 2015.

Some of the most talked-about journalistic ventures of the last couple of years had a hard time in 2014. The tech journalism outlet Gigaom, which was funded with over $20 million in venture capital, $8 million of which came through in 2014, shut down in March with no warning Cont. on page 7



Return John Hay to the people of Baguio and the Philippines!!!

ADVOCACY MINDANOW

Peace "Piece by Piece'?

By: Jesus Dureza

AMEND ARMM LAW — I read similar positions of two (2) eminent persons who are proposing that in lieu of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), the more expedient way forward, while the BBL is getting stuck in both Houses of Congress is to return back to the law of the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (R.A. 9054) which they argued has no constitutional infirmities but enhancing it with applicable provisions of the BBL. This was proposed by former MNLF rebel fighter-commander JERRY SALAPUDDIN who returned to the folds of the law during martial law days and eventually became Congressman of Basilan province. Former Executive Secretary EDUARDO ERMITA, by the way, told me once how he went to the "war zone" while he was AFP army general to fetch JERRY from his Basilan hideout. I remember JERRY became Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives at one time.

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JUSTICE'S VIEW — The other similar view came from former Associate Justice of the Court of Appeals MARIO GUARINA III who wrote a paper about this saying that he studied and compared the ARMM law and the proposed BBL and concluded that amending the ARMM law is more conducive to national unity and can achieve equally meaningful changes in Muslim autonomy.

I have in my files both well-written views if anyone of you is interested. I can send it via jessdureza@gmail.com.

******

"PIECE BY PIECE"— Another practical view being proposed is not to dream of a united Bangsamoro, taking into account the realities that there are tribal, ethnic, historical, geographic factors at play. Thus we face disparate groups like our proverbial alphabet soup: MNLF, MILF, BIFF, ASG, etc. Maybe, we can look for other alternatives. Some proponents are asking: Why not pursue peace "piece by piece"? Remember, we gave it our best shot with the MNLF, well and good. But there are still unresolved implementation issues up to now. However, most of the MNLF elements have already significantly transitioned to peaceful lives. Why should we not give another shot with the MILF which has shown over the years its determination and willingness to find some peaceful settlement?

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ONE 'ENEMY' LESS — Let me stress this again: except for Mamasapano, the peace protocols with the MILF worked. I saw this myself during my watch while negotiating with them early on. Although there are indeed no perfect peace agreements, the deal with the MILF will mean winning another ally on the ground to our side. In fact, even if there will be more breakaway groups that will fall by the wayside as mainstream MILF partners with government, it will result obviously to lesser "enemies" to deal with. Then government can move on and deal with those who still want to continue fighting government. Government, although admittedly bungling at times, is allowing all this from a high moral ground and from a position of strength. Of course, we have to learn lessons from Mamasapano no doubt.

And yes, all this for the good not only of the Bangsamoro but of the greater majority of Filipinos. And lest we forget, we Cont. on page 9

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Want proof that PNoy didn't help Veloso?

BY: BATAS MAURICIO

LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "…*When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers…" (Proverbs 21:15, the Holy Bible0.*

-ooo-

WANT PROOF THAT PNOY DIDN'T HELP VELOSO? READ ON: Assistant Foreign Affairs Secretary Charles Jose may not have been aware of it, but in an early morning interview with a broadcaster on Tuesday, 28 April 2015, he unwittingly provided one solid proof that the Aquino government and its leaders didn't do anything substantial to help Mary Jane Veloso while she was being tried on drug charges in Indonesia.

Jose told the broadcaster, in a voice loud and clear for everyone in the whole world to hear, that no private lawyer was provided to Veloso by the government of President Aquino at any time during her trial, which prompted the Indonesian court trying her case to appoint a government lawyer to handle her defense.

-ooo-

FREE LEGAL AID LAWYER HANDLED VELOSO'S DEFENSE: Now, don't get me wrong. I have nothing against any government lawyer. As exemplified by our very own government lawyers from the Public Attorneys' Office, government lawyers in Indonesia are similarly diligent, intelligent, and zealous, in discharging their work as free legal aid counsel.

I know, because by the grace of God, I happened to have met some of them, in the course of my work as a private counsel, and when I was a part of the public relations team from Rotary International Philippines.

But, like any other government lawyers in the world, those in Indonesia, I am sure, are similarly burdened with big number of cases which make their work extremely difficult to discharge. I am also sure that the many limitations of being a public defender also placed serious challenges in defending clients, whether they be fellow Indonesians or, as in the case of Veloso, of foreign descent.

-ooo-

WAS P100 M OFW LEGAL FUND USED TO HELP VELOSO? That notwithstanding, the bigger issue in the disclosures made by Jose is this: it is undeniable that the Philippines has a P100 million budget a year for the legal defense of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) facing court cases starting 2015, and P30 million a year before that. Was this P100 million fund ever used for Veloso?

The answer would seem to be no, if I am to believe Sen. Nancy Binay who disclosed that President Aquino actually made it greatly difficult for even a centavo of that P100 million legal defense fund to be disbursed for OFWs facing criminal charges overseas, by directing that the fund be placed under the control of the Department of Budget and Management, instead of under the control of the Department of Foreign Affairs, as it was in the past.

It would seem now, from hindsight, that, if only Aquino did not transfer the control of the P100 million legal defense fund from the DFA to the DBM, and if only he did not impose more stringent requirements for the funds' release, Veloso could have been given private lawyers who could have devoted more attention to her case. Who knows, she may still be a free woman today! **Cont. on page 9**

DIMENSIONAL ROAD

Bolstering and Distinguishing Young Filipino Writers in Combatting Educational Crisis

BY : MARVIN WACNAG LIDAWAN

"The limits of my language means the limits of my world." ¯- Ludwig Wittgenstein

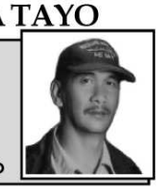
The abiding advocacy and constant utilization of the English language as a medium of learning instructions in almost all disciplines in the Philippine educational institutions' curricula have manifested highrate of literacy among its populace not to mention the significant role of our native language. As a favorable result, majority can read and write in both our native language and in English as our second language. Philippine schools, colleges and universities were able to produce fine speakers of the English languageas well as writers. With this constant pedagogical immersions to English as a second language, many Filipino learners are linguistically incline which maneuvers the emergence of their English literary skills. The country has produced Filipino writers like Francisco Arcellana, F. Sionil José ,Virginia R. Moreno ,Michelle Cruz Skinner ,Ingrid Chua-Go, Gilda Cordero-Fernando ,LualhatiBautista,Carlos Bulosan, ZoiloGalang,N. V. M. Gonzalez, Edilberto K. Tiempo,KerimaPolotanTuvera,Nick Joaquin,Alejandro R. Roces,Bienvenido Santos among other early and contemporary writers.

Theonset of Philippine Literary writers in English in the early 20th century tells that literary geniuses thrive amongFilipinos. However, the proliferation of early literary writers today is incomparable in the past which is an alarming issue to be addressed by scholars inthe field of language,mass communication andliterature. There is a decline of interests, contents and depth among Filipino writers under varied genres such as poetry, short story essay, novel and other works in the print media that requires the mastery of both languages. What hampers the development of the written literary inclinations among Filipinos today? Perhaps,it is due to constant changes in our educational systems associated with a changing innovatively –inspired environment yielding changing curriculum and evolving technology which confuses individual learners.

Curriculum of learning are altered due to innovative ideas that displace old learning contents. Philippine basic curriculum currently focuses more onEnglish grammar than literature courses attributed by the fact that College basic education has been trimmed down into few subjects, not to mention that Filipinosubjects incollege that can enhance literarywriting were also reduced. This is a result of fast turn- overs of responsibilities among government officials in the central offices that form our educational system wherein policy makers have different views with regards to the youth's educational development. Government authoritative views on policies are beingformulated changing the former educational system. With the newly- formulated policies framed for implementation, the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission of Higher Education (CHED) automatically conform with the mandates despite majority's contrary views over executive approval.

Secondly,beyond the control of school administrations; changing technology isone resilient factor. The non-stop growth of gadgets that give way to social media and through the cyberspace are the main focus of learners.Their interests are divertedinto thetime-wasting and superficial content of the internet rather than finding time toread and write for the purpose of increasing creativity.

MAGKASANGGA TAYO



JOK JOK MUNA . ANG PIKON TALO!!!

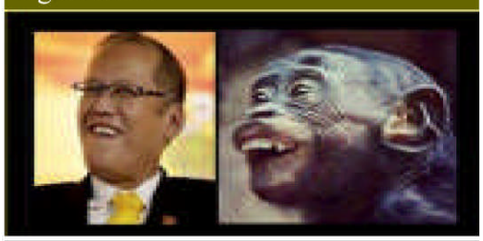
BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

ISRAELI DOCTOR: "In Israel, medicine is so advanced, we cut-off a man's testicles, put them on another man and in 6 weeks…He is looking for job".

GERMAN DOCTOR: "In Germany, we take part of a brain from one man, placed it on another man and in 4 weeks he was looking for work".

FILIPINO DOCTOR: "You guys are always behind us. In 2010 we took a man with no brains and no balls and made him President. Now, the whole nation is looking for work.



But despite these factors that hamper students' literary involvement in using Filipino and English language as channels for the proliferation of creative writing dispositions, two possible solutions can materialize. These are reinforcement and recognitionof their communication and literature-oriented interests and works.

Reinforcement is a processof conditioning and immersing to communication and literary motivatedstudents through a curriculum that caters to their responsiveness. It is proposed that the early stage of their college education should have a curriculum that contains language, media and literature subjects offered as one general course with specific subjects such as : Filipino as a native language, English as a second language - withmore grammar subjects including but not limited to the four macro skills in the language supported by other additional subjects like expository writing, public speaking, oral interpretation, editing and writing, news and feature writing, news and information gathering, column writing, editorial cartooning, theater arts, investigative reporting, development communication, weather forecasting and other related forms of correspondence education, Mass Communication research and media Technology. For literary studies, the need for introduction to literature, literary criticisms,Philippine literature, American literature, British literature, Asian literature, Survey of world literature that comprises early and contemporary literatures on studies of non-fiction and fiction, varied genre of literature like: the short story, novels, poetry, drama and mythology.

Additionally, another type of an effectivereinforcementis the recognition of their earlyliterary works byaward giving- bodies. It is a selfless responsibility of every educator in this field to motivate young **Cont. on page 7**

PCL Luzon Congress Comes to Baguio

The City of Baguio has once again found itself thrust intothe limelight after the Philippine Councilors League (PCL) of Luzon came up with the decision to hold their 2015 Island Congress here in the City beginning May 6 up to 8 at the Baguio Convention Center.

The PCL of Luzon boasts of around 7,000 members comprising city and municipal councilors from Region I (Ilocos region), Region II (Cagayan Valley), Region III (Central Luzon), Region IV-A (CALABARZON), Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Region V (Bicol region), Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), and the National Capital Region (NCR).

The theme adopted for this year's Luzon Island Congress is "TOURISM AND SUSTAINABILITY: *Best Practices and Impacts on Cultural Identity and the Environment*."

Baguio City Councilor Elmer O. Datuin who is the PCL Chairman for Luzon and the 2015 Congress Director explained that the Luzon Congress this year will highlight the best practices in the tourism industry,as implemented in the various cities and municipalities, and how this can be adopted and replicated by other concerned stakeholders. "Not only that but this Congress will also afford members of the PCL in Luzon not only the opportunity to strengthen and renew organizational bonds, but as well, share new ideas and innovations in the area of legislative work in relation to good governance", he said.

As part of the schedule of activities lined up for the congress selected City Government officials in Baguio have been invited to share their knowledge and expertise relative to tourism promotion in the City as well as in the CAR, and its effect on the environment.

During the first day of the Congress, Baguio City Congressman Nicasio M. Aliping Jr.,and Benguet Congressman Ronald Cosalan will lead the City in welcoming the PCL Luzon delegates, while in the afternoon of the same day technical sessions will be conducted with Ms. CordeliaLacsamana of the City Environment and Parks Management Officer of the City sharing the information about the parks and biodiversity in the City of Baguio. The next speaker will be Mr. Benedicto Alhambra, the City Tourism Supervising Officer who will be sharing information about the Cordillera festivals and the current City tourism promotions, and finally the Regional Director of the NEDA-CAR, Ms. Milagros Rimando will talk about ASEAN Integration from a regional tourism perspective. In the evening of the first day the PCL Luzon delegates will be treated to a welcome dinner with guest of honors the Honorable City Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan and keynote speaker Honorable Manuel "Mar" A. Roxas II, DILG Secretary.

On the second day of the Congress,the delegates will have the opportunity to visit the various tourism sites in the City of Baguio as well as in the BLIST area, and in the evening of the same day, during their closing program, their guest of honor will be the Honorable Governor Nestor Fongwan of the Province of Benguet and keynote speakers Honorable Francis N. Tolentino, chairman of the MMDA and Honorable Sherwin Gatchalian, Congressman of Valenzuela City./ ***SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD City Hall, Baguio City, PR-*** *BRICCIO DOMONDON JR., LLSO III SP*

La Trinidad Celebrates 70th Liberation Day on May 4

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet — The municipality of La Trinidad is set to celebrate its 70th Liberation Day on Monday, May 4.

The celebration will kick off with a wreath laying ceremony by town officials headed by Mayor Edna Tabanda together with the war veterans and their families or the Sons and Daughters Association Inc. at the Veterans Memorial Park. It will be followed by the 21 gun salute by the La Trinidad Municipal Police Office and the Police Regional Office Cordillera.

A program proper will follow at the Municipal Park with the welcome remarks by Charles Canuto, president of the Sons and Daughters Association Inc., and the overview of the Liberation of La Trinidad by Major Joel Dacquigan.

Office of the Presidential Adviser on Legislative Matters and a member of the SDAI and the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, Atty. Eduardo Pilapil, and VFP Vice President Gen. William Esplana will be the guest of honor during the celebration.

Tabanda will also deliver her message followed by the testimony of a veteran's grandson, Dr. Ryan Guinaran, a Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines awardee.

The celebration will be highlighted by the awarding of the posthumous award to the gallant members of the PNP Special Action Force from the Cordillera or the 'SAF 14' by Mayor Tabanda and members of the Sangguniang Bayan.

La Trinidad gained liberation from Japanese occupation on May 4, 1945 when the joint forces of the Americans and the 66th Infantry, USAFFE entered the valley./*JDP/RMC- PIA CAR*

DSWD Leads CCT Pay-out and Convergence Caravan in Benguet Towns

BOKOD, Benguet - The Department of Social Welfare and Development Cordillera Regional Office led a simultaneous pay-out activity and convergence caravan in this town and in Kabayan on April 27.

This is in line with its goal to bring in government service directly to Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps beneficiaries' as well as to give them venue to share their stories on how the program affected their life.

For this town, the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) health and educational assistance of P 600 for the month of January and February, this year, was directly delivered to the 600 4Ps household beneficiaries.

DSWD 4Ps coordinator for Bokod Orlyn Hangdaan gave updates about the program while a an info desk (booth) was also set-up program beneficiaries to update the education status of their children beneficiaries, such as if they already graduated, elevated from elementary to high school or will have a change schools, as well as to air their other concerns about the program.or the Pantawid Pamilya,

Partner regional line agencies such as the Commission on Population, Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire, Commission on Election and the department of Labor and Employment, as well as Bokod municipal health Office, also set-up program and service desk for the beneficiaries.

Civil society organization partner for Bokod, Metropolitan Bible Baptist Church Preacher Daniel Delfin, also gave an inspirational/spiritual message.

The program beneficiaries also shared their stories and experiences as 4Ps beneficiaries and on how the program has affected their lives for the better.

DSWD personnel headed by Regional Information Officer Nerizza Faye Villanueva documented all the proceedings for success stories to be shared to others and for aired concerns to be looked into for continuing improvement and better implementation of the program.

In partnership with Philippine Information Agency, two teams of media practitioners were included in the caravan so that program updates and stories of beneficiaries can also be shared to the public.

Meanwhile, Villanueva shared that in 2014, DSWD distributed a total of P714,105,900 health and educational assistance for 4Ps beneficiaries in the region. For 2015, around P1.349M was allocated to cover the health and educational assistance of the 62,431 household beneficiaries in Cordillera./*JDP/CCD and Jean Paulyn Samillano – PIA/ UB Intern*

NCIP Official Says K-12 is Important to Indigenous Culture Preservation

BAGUIO CITY - If the indigenous culture is to be passed on to future generations, implementing the K to 12 system of education is a way of doing just that.

This is according to Commissioner Zenaida Hamada-Pawid of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, who spoke on "Benguet/Ibaloy History: Up Front and Personal" during the first Ibaloy Studies Conference held last April 24 and 25 at the University of the Philippines-Baguio.

"The K to 12 program—despite those who don't want to change—is the perfect vehicle for people who have any blood of ethnicity in themselves to start defining and redefining who they are and making sure that in the future they do not disappear under the 'etcetera' or 'others' column," Pawid said.

From Kindergarten to Grade 3 is "where the best of the best and the brightest of the brightest teachers should be". These are the levels where subjects are taught in the native language and where local learning materials should be used, she added.

"The outcome of the K to 12 . . . is to instill in the Filipino child—whoever he is—the values and the character of the ethnic group where he or she belongs," the commissioner said.

"Who are willing to teach in the native language? Who are you who will give the teachers—burdened as they are—the teaching and learning materials to be able to do it? Where are you? Who can do this? You are in the academe."

Pawid went on to challenge the conference's participants—most of whom are from the academe, local government units in Benguet and elsewhere, and scholars—to pass down indigenous knowledge.

The first Ibaloy Studies Conference, as part of UP Baguio's continuing exploration of ethnicity issues in the Philippines and around the world, sought to address the need for a better appreciation of Ibaloy history and cultural heritage, in the city of Baguio and other spaces occupied by the Ibaloys.

The Conference featured presentations by respected scholars and personalities who have done researches or published works on the Ibaloys./*JDP/Pryce E. Quintos – PIA CAR*

DIMENSIONAL ROAD

...from page 5

promising writers by encouraging them to submit their varied category - written works in recognition to their writing prowess of which few are mentioned herein. The Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature (CPMAL) which was established in the early 1950's caters to four major divisions of literary works: English language division, Filipino language division, youth division and regional language divisions. These divisions cater to varied genres of literature that includes: short story, short story for children,essay, Adult poetry, and poetry for children,one-act play, full-lengthplay, and a Filipino language screenplay. This literary award – giving group is the most theprestigious-award giving -organization in the country and it welcomes submissions for the competition inthe early quarter of the year annually. Another award -giving organization for Filipinos is the Global Filipino Literary Awards (GFLA) for literature that recognizes the published works of Filipinos around the world for developing contemporary Filipino literature. Furthermore, the National Book Award is governed by National Book Development Board (NBDB) and the Manila Critics Circle (MCC) in acknowledgement to the published books of any Filipino writer in English or in Filipino languages.The award categories are: cartoons, Children's literature, comic book,cultural criticism, documentation, Drama, dictionary, cookbook, editing, education, environment.

To add, Free Press Literary Awards (FPLA) awards are presentedby the Free Press Magazine (FPM) to credit the standard literary works. Most of its literary discoveries arebeing used by Philippines universities and Colleges as springboards for grammar,reading or in literary studies.

Moreover, the Filipino Reader's Choice Awards (FRCA) is another entity that honors most widely-read books published in the country by Filipinos. It mainly aims to enhance the knowledge and to appreciate theinclinations ofwriters for the development of thecountry's bookindustry. This body recognizes published books in varied categories which are fiction in English and in Filipino , Fiction in the combination of English and Filipino, romance in English and Filipino, romance combining both languages, fiction anthology, young adult fiction, children's picture book,comics and graphic novels, and collections of poetry. Finally, the Nick Joaquin Literary Awards (NJLA) through the Philippine Graphic Magazine awards poetry and fictionworks published in a set period of time in particular months specified by its editorial board.

Writers aren't born, they are made. This is supported by the idea that education has much rudiments to offer every learner before he effectively applies. The ultimate way to support their craft is to build a conducive environment for appropriate instructions governed by a curriculum duly mandated by the state that captivatingly interplays with their interests. It is a great credence that when we recognize others' skills,we are at the same time reinforcing their abilities through the rewards that they deserve. Many among our Filipino students, who embrace the power of printed words to educate, could be promising writers for national and global endeavors.

marvinwacnagkdawan@gmail.com

CJHDevCo...

from page 1

CJHDevCo "is hereby declared as not liable for any unpaid back rent".

Meanwhile, the city government of Baguio is still looking on how not to loss the development funds owed to the city on the case between the BCDA and the CJHDevCo.

Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan said the city government will have nothing to collect from its rightful share of rentals in the former US recreational facility with the PDRCI ruling.

The city government is entitled to a 25% share from the lease-rentals of CJHDevCo which, Domogan said, is needed to fund local projects that cannot be accommodated in its P412 million-Internal Revenue Allotment./*RMC- PIA CAR*

Mar Roxas: 'I was Betrayed by President Aquino'

MANILA, Philippines (The Adobo Chronicles) – Initially one of the leading contenders in the 2010 Philippine presidential elections, now Secretary of Interior and Local Governments Mar Roxas slid down to become a vice-presidential candidate in order to make way for then Senator NoyNoy Aquino. Roxas was was defeated by Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay by the narrowest margin in the history of the Fifth Republic.

In the last 5 years, Roxas has been one of Aquino's staunchest supporters and apologists, often sacrificing his own reputation and integrity just to make Aquino look good in the eyes of the Filipino people.

Now, Aquino is reportedly mulling on courting Senators Grace Poe and Francis Escudero to run as a tandem under the Liberal Party in the 2016 presidential elections, as the ratings of presumptive standard bearer Roxas fail to improve.

Binay is the opposition party's standard bearer.

Upon hearing of Aquino's plan for the party, Roxas screamed an expletive, the same one that he was heard saying at a campaign rally in 2010. (The Adobo Chronicles is a family-oriented news site, so we can't print the expletive.)

"I have been betrayed," Roxas said. "After all that I've done for Aquino, this is what I get," he added. A very religious man, Roxas likened himself to Jesus being betrayed by Judas.

In his frustration, Roxas told reporters that if he is not annointed as the party's standard bearer, he will immediately resign as Local Governments secretary and work for Binay's political campaign. "Let's see who will have the last laugh," Roxas said.

EDITORIAL

...from page 4

to staff. The New Republic, which was bought by Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes in 2012, faced mass resignations from newsroom employees due to the new direction planned for the magazine. BuzzFeed, still a leader in clickbait content, expanded its foreign and investigative teams over the last year, but also faced ethical inquiries into their removal of articles which were objected to by key advertisers.

However, some outlets, such as Vice News, Vox.com, Politico, and Quartz, achieved major strides over the last year, with Vox landing at the 35 spot on the list of 50 top news sites, and Vice News, ranked at number 31, reported 1.1 million subscribers and 175 million video views.

The report concluded that the changing landscape of journalism shows no sign of slowing down in the near future, and that with the shifting nature of social media, gaining a financial foothold in the large and varied market might become more and more difficult in the years to come.

The State of the News 2015 is an annual report by the Pew Research Center's Journalism Project, and consists of aggregated fact sheets secured from third party researchers and organizations, and then combed and combined by the project./ Eden Shulman @EdenShulman/http://www.betaboston.com/news/2015/04/29/many-people-now-get-their-news-from-their-mobile-phone-or-their-facebook-feeds/

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

DIMAS S. BULAY - Vendor
ELSA N. VALENCIANO- Vendee
Applicant(s)
Case No: 99-01-293/ 2015-CAR-231

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for the Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: Baguio Plaza - Beckel and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 13, 2015 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB 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 CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 28th day of April, 2015.

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

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

JEPHUNEH CABLOG
Applicant(s)
Case No: 2004-BAG-CAR-1362

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an Application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation of passengers and freight on the Line: Baguio City to any point in CAR and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on May 13, 2015 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB 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 CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 17th day of April, 2015.

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

Inventory of Businesses in the City Pushed

BAGUIO CITY - Because of the lapse of renewal and application period of business permits in the city as prescribed under the existing laws, rules and regulations, mayor Mauricio Domogan issued memorandum no. 102-2015; directing all punong barangays to conduct inventory of businesses in their respective areas whether or not they were issued necessary business permits.

Domogan stressed and reminded the punong barangays to do the inventory within 20 days upon receipt of the order since their barangay will also benefit from the renewal of permits and application of new business permits.

"The results of the detailed report will be used by the city to map out plans on how to compel businesses to secure the appropriate permits from the city government.

Based on the records of the Permits and Licensing Division of the Mayor's Office, the total number on new permits processed for the first quarter of this is year is 645 compared to 4,445 of last's year same period.

While the total number of permits renewed is 11,372 for the first quarter of this year compared to 12,713 renewed permits last year's first quarter./*Jho Arranz*

City Adopts Stringent Measures for Government Vehicle Use

BAGUIO CITY – the city government here will be implementing stricter rules on the use of government vehicles to ensure that assets are used appropriately and avoid wasteful spending of government funds.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan this week issued Administrative Order No. 35 series of 2015 which authorizes the City General Services Office (GSO) to establish measures in managing not only the use of government vehicles but fuel supply as well.

Being the custodian and administrator of city government properties, the mayor said the GSO is mandated to prescribe internal measures to safeguard and control the use of City government vehicles and gasoline expenses.

This time, all city government vehicles will have to pass thru the GSO for their approval before any gasoline or diesel is drawn.

The GSO will be issuing to the different offices Driver's Trip Ticket (DTT) with serial numbers approved by the City General Services Officer or his duly authorized representative to control its issuance.

The approval of the DTT shall be 'by authority of the Chief Executive."

All city government vehicles will also be marked 'For Official Use Only" including the name of the agency or office as required.

The GSO will also require offices to have the Odometer of their vehicles undergo repair, calibration or replacement to insure that it will have an accurate record of the distance that the respective vehicle travelled as indicated in the DTT.

Drawing of gasoline and diesel for government vehicles will strictly be from 8 am to 12 noon during regular holidays and 8am to 10 am during holidays, Saturdays and Sundays except for garbage trucks, city issued police patrol cars and motorcycle vehicles including city government ambulances and fire trucks during emergency cases only.

Vehicles for long distance trip covered by Travel Authority may be allowed to withdraw prior to departure from station.

The said administrative order seeks to address Audit Observation Memorandum (AOM) 2015-11 issued by the Commission on Audit (COA) on the absence of a monthly report of official travels and monthly report of gasoline consumption to support the utilization of gasoline and the proper accomplishment of the Driver's Trip Ticket (DTT).

The COA report stated, the non-enforcement of proper controls over the use of government vehicles may result in wasteful spending of government funds and the lapses in the preparation of the DTT's may result in the misuse of government vehicles and the utilization of gasoline may not be adequately controlled.

COA Circular No. 1977-61 prescribes the filling-up of a serially numbered DTT before any trip is undertaken approved by the head of agency.

The DTT should also include the name of the driver and its authorized passengers who will also sign the same before the trip is made.

For the Calendar year 2014, the City government has disbursed P25,169,962.15 for payment of gasoline used for 215 government motor vehicles assigned to the different offices./*Paul Rillorta*

SEC Warns Public on Popular Investment Traps

BAGUIO CITY - The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in the region warns the public to be wary of popular investment scams.

Atty. Lovely Calumnag of the SEC Cordillera during the 1st Regional Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee (RLECC) meeting for 2015 presented that the most popular investment traps are the Ponzi and Pyramiding schemes.

According to Calumnag, Ponzi scheme is an investment fraud where the operator promises high financial returns or dividends ranging from 6%-29% per month. The schemer acts as a hub for the victims interacting with all of them directly

On the other hand, a pyramid scheme is an investment fraud which rewards participants for inducing other people to join the program and is focused primarily on the exchange of money for recruitment. Those who recruit additional participants benefit directly, and failure to recruit means no investment return.

Calumnag said that the easiest way to identify pyramid scheme is the lack of legitimate product or service involved.

Ponzi and pyramid schemes she said have found their way on the internet making it hard for the scammers to be prosecuted since there is no contact with the clients and the transactions are cross-border.

Meanwhile, acting on said report, the RLECC members formed a task force to check on the operation of around 21 companies believed to be involved in investment scams operating in the region.

Task force members include the Philippine National Police, National Bureau of Investigation, Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, Department of Trade and Industry, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Securities and Exchange Commission, Dept. of the Interior and Local Government, Bureau of Immigration, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the National Investigation Coordinating Authority. /*JDP/ MAWC – PIA CAR*

DOH Reminds Public on Food Safety

BAGUIO CITY - With the soaring temperature this summer, the Department of Health reminds the public of food safety.

DOH Cordillera Assistant Regional Director Dr. Amelita Pangilinan, in a Kapihan media forum, explained that with to the constantly increasing temperature bacteria multiply rapidly and spreads faster on food and drinks causing them to spoil easily.

Consumption of bacteria-laced food and drink can cause food poisoning with diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, abdominal pain and fever as symptoms, she said.

Pangilinan advises the public especially those going on outing, orr long trip to ensure food safety in preparing their "baon".

Among her food safety tips include: food should be eaten immediately or at a short time as possible after preparation as refrigerating food or leftovers and reheating it is not guaranteed; wash hands properly before and after preparing food; avoid drinking water directly from faucets and water pumps or "poso" or unsure source of the water, and peel and wash vegetables before eating or adding to any dish.

Sick people should refrain from preparing food to avoid contamination, she added.

DOH – CAR Infectious Disease Cluster Head Dr. Alexei Marrero, in the same forum, also reminds the public that in preparing food, separate raw meat from the cooked to avoid contamination. Asmuch as possible, avoid eating raw meat or the usual "kinilaw".

Marrero also advises people to buy their meat products from their trusted vendors or dealers to ensure meat safety.

The doctors reiterate their advice to people to have fun and enjoy but at the same time ensure a safe and healthy summer vacation./*JDP/CCD/ Engelbert Nievera - PIA UB intern*

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Sabut-Sabut Lang!
Branded o hindi, lahat made in China, BAKIT.....
magtitiis sa high Price branded merong low Price RUSI naman.
Trade-in accepted
RUSI BAGUIO-BENGUET
Km. 3, La Trinidad, Benguet
CP Nos: 0998-9731349
RUSI TUBA, BENGUET
Brgy. Cadmangan, Tuba, Benguet
CP No.: 0999-885-0843
RUSI BUGUIAS, BENGUET
Brgy. Abatan, Buguias, Benguet
CP No.: 0947-996-1609

70th Baguio... from page 10

Jose of the Department of History, University of the Philippines gave a condensed review of events leading to, during and after the war, with personal accounts and memoirs from veterans and war evacuees. Jose as a boy was fascinated with armaments, which became a passion towards a career. He is an expert in military and diplomatic history after researches and personal interviews in local, Asian and international settings.

In his message, Mayor Domogan expressed gratitude to the gallant veterans who in the war that started and ended in Baguio, "willingly sacrificed" precious lives on the "altar of freedom," through the face of tanks, guns and bombs. "As recipients of the gift of liberation, it is our responsibility to preserve the blessings of freedom. We should constantly realize, victory is the child of struggle," the mayor noted.

We, who now reap the fruits of freedom should keep in mind those who planted the fruit-bearing tree, the mayor emphasized.

Mayor Domogan however said our battle nowadays are focused on the personal, such as vices; and on the social side such as poverty, crime, traffic, garbage and too much politics.

The council-approved financial help for the Cordilleran SAF family was also given those present.

Veterans Atty. Enrique Sobrepena and Gabriel Igme shared memoirs of the war as intermission numbers were given by the Baguio City Police Office and Baguio City National High School Special Performing Arts.

The theme for this year's celebration is, "Walk Baguio for Liberators."

In the afternoon, guest speaker and historian Jose conducted a lecture entitled "Reexamining World War II in the Philippines" with a forum at the Camp John Hay Club house./*Julie G. Fianza*

Rotarians Name... from page 10

Recognition and Cash Incentives handed over by Mayor Mauricio Domogan and Gerona Tarlac Municipal Mayor Dennis Norman Go assisted by Club President Feliza Ronquillo and Club Secretary Lyman Salvador.

The ten outstanding barangay captains were selected and evaluated by a Committee chaired by Director Amado Mayo who presented the significant accomplishments of the ten outstanding awardees.

Director Gaspar Altuna also presented the two hall of fame awardees.

The criteria used in the selection of the outstanding punong barangays included focus on tourism, peace and other, anti-squatting, anti-drug abuse campaign, human rights promotion, health and sanitation, effectiveness of the barangay justice system, budgeting and the preparation of annual reports.

The awarding ceremony was held at the Margarita Hall, Hotel Supreme with the awarding on its 22nd year.

Domogan who addressed the 128 barangays said, "it is but fitting to recognize excellence and to honor the service, passion and hardwork of the barangay leaders being the backbone, lifeblood and pillars in building the city."

"This prestigious award is a concrete testament of your willingness to sacrifice, your ability to govern and your high level of commitment to bring out the best of your constituents," he said.

"But do not be complacent and sit on your laurels, instead be re-invigorated and re-energized to face the challenges that a barangay captain has to face and confront," Domogan stressed.

The mayor also challenged the barangay leaders who were not chosen to continue bringing public service to the people and do better the next time.

Domogan said,"my belief in you is unwavering, I know you have what it takes to someday be deserving of the award and recognition."

"Apply the 7 P's, Purpose, Plan, Perform, Passion, Play as a team, Pass it on and Pray," he ended. /*Paul Rillorta with reports from Bong Cayabyab*

Aquino 'broke protocol'... from page 3

Veloso, along with 8 others, "according to the rules."

Echoing Widodo's hardline stance on the "supremacy of law," Prasetyo said Tuesday evening: "Don't force us to cancel or postpone the executions. If we do, we will be perceived as weak."

He changed his tune as dawn drew near.

In the early hours of Wednesday, Prasetyo confirmed that Veloso's execution was delayed "because there was a last-minute plea from the Philippine president."

"There was someone who surrendered today. She claimed she was the one who recruited Mary Jane," the Indonesian attorney general said.

He referred to Tuesday's surrender of Veloso's alleged illegal recruiter, Maria Kristina Sergio. While maintaining her innocence, Sergio faces charges of illegal recruitment, estafa, and human trafficking before the Philippines' justice department.

Widodo said on Wednesday: "The decision to delay the execution was taken by the President after receiving reports about an ongoing legal process in the Philippines. Because the legal process is still ongoing in the Philippines, we must ensure Mary Jane Veloso deserves justice."/*Rappler.com/ Paterno Esmaquel II*

Investments... from page 2

ment generating; manufacturing using indigenous materials; electronic; tourism-oriented; pioneering; service-oriented; water and power resource development; telecommunication development; agribusiness; educational; low-cost mass housing development; information technology; business outsourcing; energy generating and waste management; marketing advertising and public relations; and enterprises to be established in identified growth centers.

To implement the regulatory provisions of the code, the city will set up its own Baguio City Investment and Incentive Board.

The IRR for the code were formulated by the TWG and adopted through the city mayor's administrative order issued last year. The IRR were later submitted to the city council for approval./*A Refuerzo*

SC Nullifies... from page 3

50 days up to two months. But given the time needed for the preparations, Jimenez said the commission may have sufficient reason to go into a truncated form of bidding.

Jimenez said the Comelec is also looking at adopting the Central Count Optical Scan system. This means that the 23,000 optical mark reader units will be placed in one central area where the ballots will then be read./*RMC & Sheena Rosario-PIA CAR/ UC Intern*

TWG to Prepare... from page 2

office for the collection of parking fees pursuant to existing rules and regulations.

Said facility is collecting P35.00 for the first two hours of parking and P10.00 for every succeeding hour. The collected parking fees will be deposited to the trust fund of the city to be used in the operation and maintenance of Burnham Park./*Jho Arranz*

ADVOCACY... ...from page 4

have signed a deal with the MNLF. Let's continue to nurture it. And not pretend as if there was no 1996 Final Peace Agreement that government also entered into almost 20 years ago.

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"ISIS, THE STATE OF TERROR" —— That's the title of a newly published book that I started reading a few days ago co-authored by JESSICA STERN and J.M. BERGER both leading American terrorism experts. A good friend, PAUL DOMINGUEZ just bought it from a bookstore while in Japan and before he left for an extended US trip, he said I'd rather read it first.

The close to 400-page book evidently draws from intelligence sources, researches with ears close to the ground tracing the "genesis, evolution and implications of today's most barbaric jihadist army, Islamic state". It also presents ways on how the world can deal and fight it.

At the outset, the authors immediately point out that ISIS has expertly used social media in promoting itself; hence beheadings, executions and massacres are vividly shown in cyberspace for all to see on real time. So don't get shocked every time you see a film clip of a barbaric murder preceded by a "parade" of sorts, with some theatrics to boot. All these are intentional. And tragically, the more gory and barbaric the portrayals are, the more ISIS is able to attract volunteers to help "fight a cause" as shown by new recruits coming from all over the globe.

I will write more about this when I'm done reading./ADVOCACY MINDANoW FOUNDATION, INC. (AMFI)/Follow us at Twitter: AMFI_Mindanow/ Email us: info@advocacymindanow.org/ Visit us: www.advocacymindanow.org

Mayor... from page 10

progress.

"We thank Allah for the blessings and graces he has showered upon us, what you have learned in this institution should be propagated for good of the community," he said.

Aliping also congratulated the proud parents of the graduates and thanked them for their continuous guidance they have committed to their children.

"This institution is a welcome development not only for the city but for the whole Muslim community in the country which only shows that we remain as the Educational Center of the North, ' he said./ *Paul Rillorta*

KAKAMPI MO... ...from page 5

-ooo-

MAY GOD HAVE MERCY ON US: But, that is how the cookie crumbles, unfortunately. I couldn't help thinking that somehow, somewhere, Veloso may have been used to show to all Filipinos how simple policy changes, made by officials whose hearts beat for interests other than the welfare of their constituents, can spell life or death for the poor, the hapless, and the uninfluential. May God have mercy on us all!

-ooo-

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REMAINING FEW WAR HEROES - The remaining few of the World War II hero veterans give a salute to their fallen comrades during the observance of the Liberation of Baguio City held at the Veterans Park April 27 with the theme "Baguio Walk for Liberators"/Bong Cayabyab

Mayor Lauds Pimentel Bill for LGUs' Higher Share from National Wealth Tax

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Wednesday lauded Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III's bill increasing local government units' share from the national wealth tax.

Pimentel's Senate Bill 2045 seeks to amend Section 284 of Republic Act 7160 "by expanding the tax base from where the sharing is made between the national and local governments and by giving LGUs a bigger share or slice of the expanded tax base."

Known as the "Bigger Pie, Bigger Slice" bill, Pimentel said the measure seeks to change the limited internal revenue allocations (IRAs) of LGUs into "expanded and bigger shares" from national taxes. It would give LGUs a larger share of 50 percent from the current 40 percent of the total tax collections.

It is said to translate to a huge increase in shares "that would nearly double the funds automatically appropriated and released annually to LGUs."

The mayor said the bill shares the same intention as his previous proposal during his term as congressman where he proposed the amendment of the local government code so that the LGU's shares from the national wealth tax will be directly remitted to them instead of the national government.

He said the present setup of the shares having to pass through the national government is not effective as most LGUs do not receive their shares like Benguet province which has been deprived of its shares from the operations of mining companies for many years.

His proposed bill was passed by the House of Representatives but was not acted upon in the Senate.

The mayor said an amendment was done in the PEZA law which enabled LGUs to collect directly their share from the operations of the economic zone locators but this does not cover national wealth taxes.

"I am happy that Senator Pimentel did not only adopt our old proposal, he also improved it by pushing for the 50-50 sharing (formula)," the mayor said./*A Refuerzo*

70th Baguio Liberation Day at the Park

BAGUIO CITY – World War II veterans reminisced the events of war, as the Special

Action Force (SAF) "Braves" of the Cordilleras were honored during the 70th Liberation of Baguio program, last Monday morning at the Veterans' Park, Harrison road.

A handful of veterans, members of the Sons and Daughters Association, families

of the Cordillera braves, city officials, national line and local government agency employees were present as the American and Philippine flags were raised with their respective national anthems, assisted by the Philippine Military Academy Band.

Wreaths were laid at the memorial by Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Councilors Betty Lourdes Tabanda, Elaine Sembrano, Fred Bagbagen, Peter Fianza, Leandro Yangot, and the Guest Speaker from the University of the Philippines, Historian Ricardo Jose and representatives from the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), United States Armed Forces in the Philippines-Northern Luzon (USAFIP-NL), and veterans of foreign wars.

Drum rolls, volleys of fire and Taps were sounded off by the PMA group.

Guest speaker Dr. Ricardo Cont. on page 9

Rotarians Name Ten Outstanding Village Chiefs

BAGUIO CITY – ten barangay leaders in this mountain resort were honored Tuesday (April 28) as this year's 'Outstanding Punong Barangays' while two others were elevated to the Hall of Fame here.

Chosen by the Rotary International-Rotary Club of Metro Baguio District 3790 are Punong Barangay's Justina Andaya of Fairview and Sotero Dulaycan of Pinsao-Pilot Project to join the roster of the Hall of Fame Awardees.

The top ten Oustanding Barangay Captains are PB Luis Badecao of Upper Rock Quarry, PB Ferdinand Bucad of Hillside, PB Van Oliver Dicang of Lower Quirino Hill, PB Ignacio Gallente of Middle Quirino Hill, PB Miguel Kiswa of Santo Tomas Proper, PB Raymund Laxamana of Pinsao Proper, PB Roberto Medina of Pacdal, PB Wilbert Ponce of Andres Bonifacio, PB Timothy Pudlao, Jr. of Kias and PB Catherine Quinones of MRR-Queen of Peace.

They were given Plaques of Cont. on page 9

The JUNCTION
Pahayagang Palaban!!!

Mayor Encourages Muslim Graduates to be Disciples of Peace

BAGUIO CITY – more of less 40 students belonging to the city's minority Muslim community were honoured in this mountain resort during their graduation rites.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said, "what they have attained should be a stepping stone to attain a higher education and become the disciples of peace."

Domogan speaking before the graduates said, "this is the time for the graduates to realize the fruits of their hardships and the difficulties they have undergone during the period."

"It is but fitting that you develop these skills and talent that Allah has given you, for you to propel yourself and climb the ladder of success and progress in life," he said.

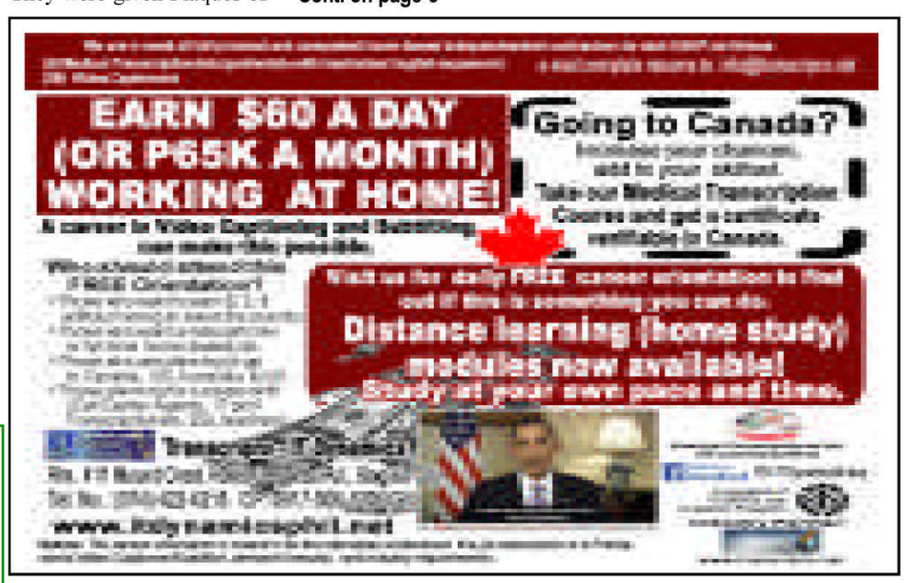
The class was spearheaded by its Valedictorian Johary Jamal, a young Muslim who is a staunch believer of both fate and God who rallied his classmates to continue persevering to attain a higher level of education.

They composed the 2015 graduates of Almaarif Educational Center (AEC), the only Muslim school in Baguio City catering to Muslim students from all over the country.

The School is presently under the care of its President and School Director Shaikh Mohammad Camil Abdullah.

The event was graced by Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Congressman Nicasio Aliping, Jr., Tawi-Tawi Congresswoman Ruby Sahali, Saudi Embassy Religion Attache Shaikh/Turky Bin Abdulrahman Assaig, Atty. Yasser Guro of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos-Northern Luzon, AEC Legal Counsel Cherry Dane Farinas-Agustin, Punong Barangay Leia Farinas and members of the Muslim community.

Congressman Aliping for his part also imparted that education is the best gift one can have and how it is the key to Cont. on page 9



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