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THE JUNCTION Pahayagang Palaban!!!

MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND PENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Only Duterte, Cayetano attend election forum; Other candidates got scared, a no-show

"Last men standing."

This was how Davao City Mayor Rodrigo "Rody" Duterte and Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano were described by the host of an election forum organized by Rappler held at the De La Salle University's (DLSU) Teresa Yuchengco Auditorium on Wednesday.

It was reported that Duterte and Cayetano were the only candidates who attended the forum. Sources said that after confirming their

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FIRING SQUAD? - City officials headed by Mayor Mauricio line-up to receive a copy of New Testament Bible during the observance of Bible Consciousness Week during City Hall's flag raising ceremony January 18./ Jerry Manaois

Yan ang ka-ipokritohan ng Daang Matuwid. Mismong COA na ang nag-sabi na P100 Billion ang kwestionable! Basahin ang istorya hinggil dito sa Page 3.



ABANGAN!

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Elections 2016 bi-weekly issues soon to come!

Painit na nang painit!

Public urged
to save water

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chaos, restore order and
promote real change

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CPA urges Cordi
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ready for CARAA

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More than P100B in government
transactions questionable – COA

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PRO-COR's aggressive Lambat-Sibat
nabs 21 wanted persons in a week

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BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



SAF 44 dedicates 1st year commemoration to their supporters

Families of the slain SAF 44 most especially the Cordilleran families dedicated the first year commemoration of the Mamasapano incident to the people who supported, condoled and assisted in their needs both financially and morally.

This is the message of the organizers lead by Julie Cayang-o, wife of PO1 Gringo Cayang-o. Although dismayed on what came out in the news where the call for justice overshadowed the real purpose of their event, she wishes to extend the real reason of the commemoration to the people who gave their support.

Dennis Suyayen, a relative of SPO1 Noel Golocan, said Cordillera SAF family members are dismayed that the overall message they want to impart was not the one highlighted in the news.

"We can't disregard our desire for justice for our loved ones but this is not the main reason the families are commemorating," said Suyayen. "We can only wish that they have focused on the speeches of the SAF families during the main program," he said.

"Some of the families expressed their desire for justice but that is not the main objective of the commemoration," he said.

"We therefore wish to once again express our gratitude to the ones who assisted us financially and morally, condoled with us and showed their support for to all of the bereaved families of the brave SAF 44 during our one year of grief," he said.

"We also wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the Cordillera Heritage Foundation, for giving us a space where we can have a central-

ized place to commemorate our loved ones in the City of Baguio," he said. The foundation has dedicated a portion of a place in Badiwan for the Cordilleran SAF heroes where the group planted trees as tribute to their loved ones.

Cayang-o said the tree planting dubbed as tree-bute gave them an avenue to meet with the rest of the Cordilleran families since their husbands were buried in different places. "The tree-bute site gave us opportunity to condole with each other and for this reason our unity was noticed by the other families," she said.

Cayang-o said the other families were intrigued with the unity of the Cordilleran families that started with the tree-bute.

"When we told them the Cordilleran families are planning to do the commemoration together at an earlier date, they wanted to join," she said.

The two-day event was attended by 37 families of the 44 SAF members. A candle lighting ceremony was conducted on Friday, January 15, at the Burnham Lake. On Saturday, they have a prayer walk from Session Road to the Ibaloy Park that was followed by a short program and boodle fight at the Ibaloy.

The final part of the program was a tree planting at the tree-bute site where the families planted a tree for the whole SAF 44. The non-Cordilleran SAF families made a request to be part of the tree-bute site.

Merlyn Gamutan, the widow of PSI Joey Gamutan from Basilan, said they were surprised of the way people treated the Cordilleran family members that they accorded

such heroic tribute to them. "It's only here that we see how people treat the SAF 44 as heroes," she said.

"We hope the administrator of this site will grant us, the rest of the SAF 44, to be part of this tree-bute site that our beloved husbands, fathers, sons will be accorded the same love and respect," she pleaded in tear.

Gamutan expressed that there's a donation they wish to contribute to the foundation so that they can be included in the tree-bute site.

The foundation granted the request of the SAF 44 and the council members are currently making plans to expand the tree-bute site.

The organizers also wish to thank those who sponsored the activities and accommodations of the members: General Getulio Napeñas, Bongbong Marcos, Senator Alan Cayetano, Governor Tingting Cojuanco, Cordillera Heritage Foundation, Inc., and the Onjon ni Ibadoy that provided free use of the Ibaloy Park. Also supported by Criminology students from University of the Cordilleras, University of Baguio and Cordillera Career Development College. Also supported by the PNP Baguio, Pro-COR band and the Hapiyomi Cultural Dance Troupe.

Guests during the event were Bongbong Marcos (represented), Senator Alan Cayetano (represented), SAF Director Moro Lazo (represented), Tingting Cojuanco, General Getulio Napeñas, Congressman Nicasio M. Aliping, Jr. and Judge Del Claraval. Mayor Domogan also dropped by to give inspirational message./Carl C. Taawan



Present during the turn-over of soup bowls were Ms. Karminn Cheryl Yangot, Atty. Mags Cabato, Mrs. Macre Cosalan, Mrs. Carol Allad-iw, Coun. Lilia Yaranon, Ms. Nikki Aliping, Mrs. Lilian Aliping and Mrs. Betty Fangasan. It was witnessed by Cong. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr., Coun. Joel Alangsab and also Mr. Harry Dominguez.

OCSWADO receives 2,500 soup bowls from BCSRF

The Baguio Congressman's Social Responsibility Foundation (BCSRF) spearheaded by Mrs. Lilian Aliping and the spouses of the board of trustees of the foundation turned over 2,500 pcs. of soup bowls to Office of the City Social Welfare and Development Office headed by City Social Welfare Officer Betty Fangasan.

"The soup bowls will be distributed to various Day Care Centers of the City in support of the government's supplementary feeding program (SFP)," said Mrs. Aliping.

Mrs. Aliping has supported

the government's project in several Day Care Centers in need in the City. Several times Mrs. Aliping has convened her high school batch mates, the spouses of the board of trustees of the foundation and conducted their own feeding programs in day care centers with high records of malnourished children.

Present during the turn-over were Mrs. Dina Perez, Mrs. Janette Orca, Mrs. Paraan, Ms. Karminn Cheryl Yangot, Atty. Mags Cabato, Mrs. Macre Cosalan, Mrs. Carol Allad-iw, Coun. Lilia Yaranon, Ms. Nikki Aliping, Mrs. Lilian Aliping and

Mrs. Betty Fangasan. It was witnessed by Cong. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr., Coun. Joel Alangsab and also Mr. Harry Dominguez.

The SFP which started in 2010 is intended to benefit a total of 2.05 million children in 1,361 LGU's that include the children registered both in the LGU-run day care centers and supervise neighborhood play (SNP).

The SFP for this school year was started last July 2, 2015 and will continue until March to keep the children well-nourished for the rest of the school year./Carl C. Taawan

TTMC meeting

BAGUIO CITY – Matters Bas to the city's traffic improvement were tackled during the Traffic and Transportation Management Committee (TTMC) meeting at city hall last Thursday.

Among those discussed are a five-day traffic experiment within the Central Business District, the preparation of Terms of Reference (TOR) within seven days for a master development plan, parking space allocation for public utility vehicles, and a denied request for coding exemption.

According to proponent Engr. Teodorico Tan, TTMC consultant, the traffic experiment entails the closure and consolidation of pedestrian crossings along Session road.

Tan said, this would pave way for "international standards" diagonal pedestrian crossing at Mabini street-Session road intersection.

Traffic lights along the area need to be synchronized, with more signages posted, Tan said.

A part of the experiment would be one-way traffic: from Gen. Luna rd. to Session rd. through Assumption rd.; and from Session rd. to Gen. Luna rd through upper Mabini street. This creates a circumferential road-like traffic flow, Tan said.

There were however reactions over road angles and vehicle maneuvering.

An inventory of roads for a TOR was also presented to the body.

The installation of traffic light signals along Marcos highway with funding was approved by the body. Road markings was also proposed.

A road measurement capacity for Gibraltar barangay, and Cabanatuan franchise is up for endorsement, for commuters' convenience.

There is also a request for the purchase of a tow truck; to be used for junked cars in city roads.

Parking spaces along Lakandula road, for Maria Basa barangay and Samuyao, Itogon public utility vehicles were settled.

The TTMC with Mayor Mauricio Domogan as chairman, denied a request for number coding exemption./Julie G. Fianza



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More than P100B in government transactions questionable – COA

Duterte and Cayetano vow to fight chaos, restore order and promote real change

Only P2.07 billion of the questionable disbursements by national agencies, local governments, and government companies in 2013 has been settled, according to state auditors

MANILA, Philippines – State auditors have found questionable more than P100.83 billion (\$2.26 billion) in disbursements made by various government agencies in 2013.

In a recently released summary of its accomplishments for that year, the Commission on Audit (COA) said it had issued 38,110 notices of disallowance (ND), charge (NC), and suspension (NS) in 2013 to cover these transactions.

Only P2.07 billion of the questionable disbursements has been settled, the state auditors said.

COA, however, didn't specify which national government agencies, local government units, government-owned or controlled corporations, state universities and colleges, and water districts were given these notices.

According to the COA report, the disallowed disbursements and expenditure amounted to P26.12 billion. Only P96 million of the amount have been settled.

Notices of disallowance are issued on expenditures that are considered "illegal, irregular, unnecessary, excessive, extravagant or unconscionable."

The notices of charge covered P53.38 billion, with almost all the disbursements – P53.17 billion – made by national government agencies. Only P4 million of

the amount has been settled, COA said.

A notice of charge is issued when government assets that are disposed of have been under-appraised or under-assessed, or when revenue and regulatory agencies under-collect.

Notices of suspension covered P21.33 billion, only P1.97 billion of which has been settled.

A notice of suspension is issued when transactions are of "doubtful legality, validity or propriety."

Under COA rules, government officials and employees who are subjects of notices of disallowance and notices of charge are liable to return the amount involved. These notices become final if no appeal is filed against them within 6 months from the date of receipt. */Rappler.com*

STP pre-feasibility study report up

BAGUIO CITY – The final results of the pre-feasibility study undertaken by the Cities Development Initiative Asia (CDIA) on the sewer treatment plant (STP) at South Sanitary Camp are up by February, city environment and parks management officer Cordelia Lacsamana revealed last week.

Lacsamana said that along with the results, they expect the project proponents to also deliver the master plans for urban drainage and for sewerage and septage.

The said plans which were based on the study and the inputs of the city government would serve as the localized version of the National Sewerage and Septage Management Program.

The study was conducted to determine ways to rehabilitate and expand the STP which was built in 1986 and has been operating beyond its

rated capacity of 8,600 cubic meters since 2011.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said the results will aid the city in applying for funding assistance from local and foreign sources for the expansion of the facility as a priority infrastructure project of the city.

Initial report from the CDIA pointed to the need to prioritize the construction of a waste water treatment facility especially for the city-managed abattoir and wet market.

It also recommended expansion to accommodate the informal settlement communities who have expressed willingness to pay for the service and households not currently served by the STP due to hilly terrain challenges.

The consultants also presented the city's vulnerabilities in terms of rain-in-

duced landslides which can have potential impacts on existing sewerage and drainage systems including sewage contaminated floodwaters during heavy rains and extreme flooding.

They however showed potential resilience strategies such as improved storm-water management, upgrading of old sewer lines and drainage system, construction of new Sanitary Treatment Plants and conversion of communal systems particularly those in flood-prone areas.

The study showed the city is facing several challenges such as development pattern contributes to congestion and limits expansion options, development has occurred outside the planning system and rain-induced landslides. */A Refuerzo and P Rillorta*

City pursues tree management program

BAGUIO CITY – The city government through the city environment and parks management office (CEPMO) will pursue its tree management and improvement program that would replace and rehabilitate trees felled and damaged by recent typhoons and manage those infected by pests.

CEPMO head Cordelia Lacsamana said this is part

of the city's efforts to protect the trees and to maintain the city's green environs.

Lacsamana said they are currently studying what appropriate tree species will be planted in the various parks to replace those that were destroyed by typhoons. She said they will plant the seedlings during the planting season in June.

Those damaged by pests

will undergo tree surgery while those severely damaged or with center rot will have to undergo sanitation cutting to avoid infecting other trees or posing danger to lives and properties.

CEPMO forester Amor Bacullo reported a total of 122 fallen trees within the road right-of-ways, parks and

Cont. on page 6

At the first presidential forum leading to the 2016 election, presidential aspirant Davao City Mayor Rodrigo "Rody" Duterte and his running mate Senate Majority leader Alan Peter Cayetano stressed that only by being firm and strong in fixing the country's broken system can peace and stability be realized. The tandem also said that cracking down on crime and corruption will lead to more investments and jobs and bring the country real change and progress that is needed now.

Duterte explained that the platform is a comprehensive and bold response to the lack of peace and order in the country.

"There is so much disorder. People don't have security. Sobra na ang gulo at pahirap na dinadanas ng tao. Sino ba naman ang hindi mapapamura kung pag-gising mo pa lamang sa umaga hanggang sa pagtulog mo sa gabi, walang tigil ang pahirap at gulo sa ating bayan," Duterte said.

Duterte pointed to the chaos in the country - worsening traffic problem, rising crime and illegal drug trafficking, lack of job opportunities and social injustice. They said the only way to fix the system is to remove chaos swiftly and decisively.

"This is the reason why I am angry. This is the reason behind my constant cursing. Behind my curses is the tragedy and suffering of the Filipino people," Duterte said.

For his part, Cayetano asserted that it is the tandem's duty to fight for those who

cannot stand up on their own and are struggling everyday. He said he and Duterte have the experience and principles necessary to fight injustices committed by those benefiting from the country's chaotic system.

The senator highlighted the need to end corruption in the country's police force through harsh penalties for the corrupt and increasing salaries for police officers, removing excuses for corruption and helping to attract the best and brightest to the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Cayetano also underscored the need for the country to transition to federalism to democratically decentralize governance and resources. He specifically mentioned the need to spread development to the regions by providing P 1 billion to every region for the next ten years to fund micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

In addition, the vice presidential aspirant also said that he and Duterte will phase out contractualization and exempt workers with salaries P 20,000 and below from paying personal income taxes.

"Kaya nandito kami ngayon ni Mayor Duterte. Kailangang kailangan nang baguhin ang sistema. Ang kailangan natin ay lideratong may tapang at malasakit para tapusin ang hirap at gulo," Cayetano said.

Duterte, however, said that they do not offer themselves as the saviors of the

Filipino people. He said they will need the help and support of ordinary people to realize radical change.

"Marami tayong kalaban. Maraming ayaw ayusin ang gulo dahil maraming nakikinabang dito. Pero sa tulong ninyong lahat, kakayanin natin ito," Duterte said.

For his part, Cayetano said what is needed is an overhaul of the chaotic system.

"Hindi na pwede ang pwede na. Hindi na pwede ang konting pagbabago. At lalong hindi na pwede na magpatuloy ang ligaya ng mag nang-aabuso. Ang kailangan ay matapang na solusyon at mabilis na aksyon para tapusin ang gulo. This is what Mayor Duterte and I will bring," Cayetano ended.

"Last men standing."

This was how Maria Ressa of Rappler described Duterte and Cayetano, which is the only tandem who showed up at the forum hosted by the media outfit held at the De La Salle University's (DLSU) Teresa Yuchengco Auditorium on Wednesday.

Ressa reported that after confirming their attendance to the forum, all of the tandems vying for the May presidential polls backed out of the forum.

"Maraming nadismaya at hindi dumalo ang iba pang tambalan sa forum na ito. Their absence to this first presidential and vice presidential forum is quite bothering," Cayetano said.

At the event, Duterte and Cayetano responded to questions on a wide range of problems, from traffic to national security to internet speed. */Office of Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano*



FOR MARKET GOERS' CONVENIENCE - Baguio City Market Authority chairman and Mayor Mauricio Domogan and committee on market chair Councilor Elaine Sembrano scan the documents for the construction of a covered walkway at the city market for the protection and convenience of market goers from scorching sun and rain. */By Bong Cayabyab*

Mamasapano: Aquino and Roxas' political grave, and Llamanzares' too

THE massacre of 44 elite police troops in Mamasapano, Maguindanao on January 25 last year is President Aquino and his presidential candidate Manuel Roxas II's political graveyard.

Aquino, in his hubris that he could catch international terrorists, and then in his paralysis when the operation turned awry dug the grave, enough to fit Roxas since he stood idly by while his police commandos—whom he officially had command over—were massacred by Muslim insurgents.

Presidential candidate Grace Poe Llamanzares exploited the fiasco by projecting herself, as chairman of the committee investigating the massacre, as a competent, fearless senator out to uncover the truth. Yet very cleverly, she left room for Aquino to wiggle out of the quagmire, and didn't submit her committee report to the Senate, so it was just left in her office and forgotten.

EDITORIAL

I suspect that at that time she was hoping that by helping Aquino, he would anoint her as his successor rather than Roxas.

Or did Aquino himself, as I was told, tell Llamanzares at that time (February 2015) to help him survive the hearings, and quid pro quo, he'll anoint her as his candidate towards the end of the year. That would explain why a Balikbayan, who can't even boast what her highest working position in the US was, suddenly became so confident she could win the presidency of the Republic.

But Aquino obviously double-crossed her and instead offered her the vice-presidency. After that she's been barraged by disqualification cases, which likely would strike her out of the contest. The new investigation into the Mamasapano massacre called by senator Juan Ponce Enrile will undoubtedly show Aquino and Roxas as at best standing idly by while the Special Action Forces were being massacred.



At worse, as Enrile has hinted, the hearing would establish without doubt that Aquino called reinforcing troops to stand down, in effect leaving the SAF to the Moro insurgent wolves.

It will also expose why Llamanzares stopped short in exposing Aquino's criminal negligence and in asking for his impeachment.

If Aquino and Roxas have any decency left, they would resign their posts when the hearings indubitably prove this.

I don't know how any decent, intellectually honest Filipino would agree to suffer even for just a few more months a lying President with blood on his hands.

I don't know how any decent, intellectually honest Filipino would vote for Aquino's clone with the same blood on his hands.

Just the photos alone of Aquino and Roxas gallivanting in Zamboanga City while the SAF troops were embattled and massacred are proof enough of their criminal negligence.

Ironically these photos were by the Malacanang Photo Bureau; since Aquino's trip to Zamboanga that day was unscheduled, the main broadsheets were unable to send their own photographers there.

Note the shadows the sun cast in the photos, which show that Aquino and Roxas were going around Zamboanga from noon to late afternoon, when the SAF troopers were being killed.

By Aquino's and Roxas' own statements they were aware that "Oplan Exodus"—with international terrorists Zulkifli Abdir (a.k.a. Marwan) and Abdul Basit Usman as its targets—was well underway in the wee hours of the morning, and that shortly after daybreak the SAF troops had been pinned down in the corn fields with little cover.

They did nothing
Yet what did Aquino and Roxas do?

After a closed-door meeting with Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin and other generals after they arrived at 10 AM at Edwin Andrews Air Base, they went to Guiwan village to see where the car bomb exploded just a few days earlier. Then they went to the Zamboanga

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BIG NO TO CORRUPT JUDGES!!!

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*So what if politics
behind Mamasapano
re-opening?*

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "...Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things..." (Philippians 4:6, the Holy Bible).

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SO WHAT IF POLITICS BEHIND MAMASAPANO NEW PROBE? If President Aquino is saying that it is politics that is propelling Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile in seeking a Senate re-investigation of the 2015 Mamasapano massacre, what shall we say then of Aquino's having jailed Enrile on charges of P10 billion plunder over his alleged diversion of his pork barrel funds when Aquino's allies, who appear to have committed the same crime, remain scot-free and are untouched up to this time?

If the re-investigation will enable us to see the truth about claims that Aquino not only did nothing while 44 elite officers of the Special Action Force were being murdered one by one by rebels in Mindanao but that he even ordered a "stand down" of other police and military forces to prevent them from helping their colleagues in their hour of need, would it matter if politics was behind the Enrile move?

Are the President and his spin doctors saying that, no one, including Enrile, has any right anymore to contest the version of Malacanang about the Mamasapano killings and that what each and every Filipino should do is simply to believe hook, line, and sinker, what the President had been saying about the incident even if there are many loopholes in his version? Oh come on...

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SAME SEX MARRIAGES ABROAD NOT VALID IN RP: Leila S., a lesbian who is having an affair with Lina B., another woman, is asking if she and Lina B., who are both Filipino citizens, can marry abroad and then return to the Philippines as a married couple. The answer is yes, they can marry abroad in countries where same-sex marriage is already allowed, but, no, they cannot be recognized as a married couple in our country.

The reason is that, under Art. 2 (1) of the Family Code of the Philippines, it is required that, for a marriage to be legally valid in our country, the contracting parties, or the parties seeking to be married to one another, are male and female. Art. 2 (1) is worded in a mandatory language, which means that it is a requirement that must be met.

This part of the Family Code, which pertains to family rights and duties, or to the status, condition and legal capacity of persons are binding upon citizens of the Philippines even though they are living abroad. This means to say that Filipino citizens are to comply with the Family Code anywhere they may find themselves to be.

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WHAT IS POSITIVE THINKING, REALLY? Many people often claim that positive thinking brings positive and great things to anyone who practices it. But, come to think of it, what, really, is positive thinking? When is thinking or thought considered to be positive and when is thinking negative? Is it simply thinking about wonderful and good things and wishing them to happen? I believe the answer here is no, positive thinking is much more than that.

First, there is a rule which says that the only way we can indeed get all the things we need is by seeking God's kingdom first, and living according to His righteousness. Success and prosperity, we are told, comes by reading the Bible everyday, studying its verses day and night, and obeying everything written in that book.

Then, it is written that we must remember God all the time---meaning obeying Him every second of our lives---because it is He who gives the ability to acquire wealth. This, in truth and in fact, is the positive way of thinking, not simply wishing the good to come to us. Think God, know and obey His commands---this makes everything positive and beautiful.

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PLEASE WATCH OR LISTEN: "Tambalang Batas at Somintac", a news-commentary radio program, aired at DZEC 1062 kHz and other Radyo Agila provincial stations, at <http://www.eaglebroadcasting.net/radyoagila> and at www.youtube.com (type DZEC Radyo Agila Tambalang Batas at Somintac 1062 Live), 6 to 7 in the morning, Philippine time. Phone: 0922 833 43 96, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

FASTRACK

>Business Permit One Stop Shop Doing Great

>Lt. Col. Marcelino bust, another fallacy???

BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



Business Permit One Stop Shop Doing Great- I had the fortunate experience of having to renew and secure a couple of business permits at the Baguio City Hall and I must say that I was impressed. I was expecting the usual, bunch of papers and accompanying exercise that goes with having to go from one office to another securing the approval/clearance of that particular office, all told working on a business permit could take a couple of days to a week, it turns out, that was then. I was pleasantly surprised when after I secured a barangay clearance, the only other document I was going to show to the other offices (several at that) was a piece of 2 inches X 4 inches piece of paper, just that. I had to ask the guy at the one stop shop a couple of times if this is all I needed to bring, and yes indeed that's it as their trying their best go paperless. From the health dept stop, to the Cepmo stop, to the treasury and up to the Fire station everything was a breeze, no hassle. Just fall in line and that's it, it was an amazing experience. I asked around who was responsible for this and I learned that it was the now acting city treasurer Mr. Alex Cabarrubias (am not sure if I spelled his name right), therefore, what I did was to drop by again at his office to confirm that it was indeed his brainchild to go paperless, great work Sir Alex. The public needs less hassle, and the with so much available technology, government should make things easier for the transacting public. In fact, more transactions should be done on line. If I may also suggest, why not make securing your community tax certificate (cedula) also online at least for those who are renewing. After all, the basic information of the person is already in your data base, and this suggestion also goes for the annual realty tax payments which I believe can also be done online. I hope Sir Alex you can look into this couple of suggestions from this humble columnist. Oh, and at the Fire Station headed by Sir Bangyod, Sir if I may also suggest, why not have your guys, those literally writing the basic information do it instead in front of a computer, para hindi na magsuslat and perhaps you can also integrate it with the system of the city so that once again mapabilis ang proseso? Although, if I may say the process of securing the fire clearance was already fairly fast enough given the volume of clients. To this two (2) gentlemen, Sir Alex Cabarrubias, Acting City Treasurer and Fire Chief Joe Fernandez Bangyod, Saludo Ako sa inyo. MABUHAY PO KAYO !!!

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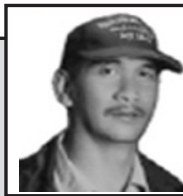
Lt. Col. Marcelino bust, another fallacy - What a waste, Ltunay na nakapanghihinayang as most of us will say. Those in the position of Lt. Col Marcelino or those in a similar position given the extremely huge temptation to a do A BAD-BAD deal and go to bed with the enemy and become one with them is as some would say nakapanghihinayang at bumigay sa matinding tukso. No need for me to discuss the cons of drug dealing, no if's and but's for drug dealers more so for producers, the death penalty as what they do in China and elsewhere is justified as far as I am concerned. It is such an absurd cop-out for anyone to imagine and/or even consider the idea that Marcelino was doing intelligence work (front line ground intel work at that), no way. Even bagitos and those with basic intel training will know that commonsense alone will tell you that Marcelino is and can no longer be that type of intel operative. He is fairly known, in other words, lalakad pa lang siya, sunog na sya. Therefore, WTF, was he doing entering the factory with their own key with the company of an alleged informant, it is simply incredible for anyone to believe that he was there doing undercover/covert intel work, no way Jose!!! Question now is, paano palulusutin si Marcelino aside from the possible technical legal maneuvers that some extremely corrupt Judge will cherish, or are once again going to witness one insulting but highly ridiculous moro-moro scenario? I hope that for the numerous victims of drug use/abuse etc..., the wheels of justice will take it's turn accordingly so that this will be one glaring example for those that are in power and have the position to not go to bed with the enemy they have sworn to go against.

MAGKASANGGA TAYO

>Mga Korap na Judge dapat ma bulgar!!!

>Binay- Chiz ang pag-asa ng PINAS!!!

BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



Mga Korap na Judge dapat mabulgar- Sabi nga nila, you can run but you cannot hide, sabi rin nila **IGNORANCE OF THE LAW DOES NOT EXCUSE ANYONE**, more so if Judges ARE INVOLVED and they want to make it appear that they are ignorant of the law but in fact are actually **simply-greedy corrupt judges**.

Ang tanong ngayon ay paano mabubulgar ang isang huwes na binansagan ni Erap na mga "hoodlums in robes?" Simple lang mga dear readers. Una sa lahat ay alamin natin ang kanilang SALN at ito ay ating ikukompara sa mga info na ipinadadala sa atin ng marami sa ating mga impormante and sources sa Linis Gobyerno. Sa pamamagitan ng research ay ating malalaman at matutumbok ang ill-gotten wealth ng mga nagmamalini sa Judges na yan.

Bilang Director for Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices ng Linis Gobyerno, sa totoo lang ay hindi tayo nagkukulang sa mga info na ipinararating sa atin. Kadalasan ay ang proseso ng pag beripika or yung sinasabing verification process on the information we receive ang kelangan bigyan ng mas matinding oras at panahon ng ating mga researchers ng sa ganoon ay maganda-ganda ang ating maging expose kung saan gagamitin na rin natin para ebidensiya sa reklamo na ating isasampa sa Supreme Court (SC).

Natutuwa ako na wala akong kakilalang corrupt na Judge sa Baguio at Benguet, Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! (O REALLY???)

Kayo po ba mga dear readers, may kilala po ba kayo na mga korap na Judge sa Baguio at Benguet??? Kung mayroon kayong mga info, aba eh, huwag na kayong mag-atubili and send to me the info and leads at atin itong ibeverify at garantisadong i-eexpose natin ang **MGA HOODLUMS IN ROBES** na nagmamalini. Kaya naman nakahayag sa isyu na ito sa pahina 7 ang sinasabing New Code Of Judicial Conduct para sa kaalaman ng ating mambabasa sapagkat alam naman na ito ng ating mga Judges na ang marami sa kanila ay hindi nila ito pinapansin.

PWEEEE... SA MGA KORAP AT GAHAMAN NA MGA HUWES!!!

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Binay- Chiz ang Pag-asa ng PINAS- pasensya na Poe mga supporters ni DU30 at All4GP, sapagkat ang inyong lingkod ay isang dakilang supporter ni Vice-President and soon President Jejomar Binay at Keso (Chiz) Escudero.

Ano ba talaga mapapala natin kay DU30 kung hindi mga salvage dito at salvage duon, patayan dito at patayan duon, takutan dito at takutan duon, ngunit paano na ang ating ekonomiya???. Eh kay Grace Poe, paiikutin lang siya ng mga nakapaligid sa kanya. Nakikita naman natin ang nangyayari kay Presidente Abnoy, na isa ng dati ng pol-politiko, naging one-term congressman at one-term senatong ay ganuon-ganun na lang kung paikutin siya ng kanyang mga JOWA . Hi! Hi! Hi! Eh di lalo na ang isang Grace Poe na isang walang-walang karanasan at kaalaman sa Governance and Philippine Politics. Samantalang si Binay ay subok na sa paghahatid ng serbisyo publiko lalung-lalo na sa mga dukha, sa mga masa etc, at si Senatong Escudero na future VP ay matinik sa mga polisiya maging sa local, and international policies.

KAYA MGA DEAR READERS, BINAY-CHIZ NA sa darating na halalan.

BWD assures enough water supply in the city

BAGUIO CITY - The Baguio Water District(BWD) assures enough water supply in the city with the expected influx of visitors with the various upcoming events and the effects of El Niño.

BWD General Manager Salvador Royeca said his office has been preparing for the El Niño phenomenon with the adaptation measures to reduce its impact.

"The Baguio Water District constructed a lot of canals or ditches for our watersheds to capture the run of water especially with the less rainfall being experience here in the Cordillera and with the announcement that we are going to have an El Nino," Royeca said during the Kapihan sa Baguio forum on Thursday.

He also bared that they have preserved the water collected at the Mount Santo Tomas catch basin which will be utilized until the Panagbenga and even up to March.

Royeca explained that the city has varying water demands especially with the expected thousands of tourists during the Panagbenga festivities, the Philippine Military Academy Foundation Day and Graduation Rites and the observance of Holy Week. The average demand is around 50,000 to 55,000 cubic meters per day but it may increase to 100,000 cubic meters per day depending on number of people in the city.

The BWD at present has 65 pumping stations, 57 deep wells and five spring sources where it gets the supply of water rationed to residential homes, business establishments and government facilities.

Even with the assurance of enough water supplies in the city, Royeca encouraged the public to practice water conservation. He also called on the public to help in the preservation of the watersheds and other water sources which are slowly diminishing./JDP/ RMC & Lalaine Galagala- PIA UC Intern

Editorial...

from page 4

Peninsula Medical Center to visit a wounded policeman, and to the Western Mindanao Medical Center on Santa Cruz Street where two blast patients were confined. After a long lunch probably with the local delicacy curacha served, they visited another blast victim at the Ciudad Medical Center and 10 other victims at the Zamboanga City Medical Center in Santa Catalina village. Of course, in all these affairs, Aquino and Roxas went with the hand-shaking, back-patting routine.

All these activities when the SAF troops' bloody fate was being sealed as the hours passed by without any reinforcement nor artillery fire to scare off the Moro insurgents.

Visiting the bombing victims was actually scheduled merely as a cover story for Aquino and his several Cabinet members for them to be there, so they could proceed swiftly to Cotabato City to congratulate the SAF troopers after they had taken down the international terrorists.

Any other president, any commanding officer would have dropped everything in the face of a crisis that could mean the death of his men, so he could monitor closely the events as they unfolded, so he could issue orders to save the troops.

Even US President Obama with his closest security advisers had set up a war room to monitor the American commandos in their operation to terminate Osama bin Laden.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was given special facilities to similarly do so in the operation that hunted down and killed Abu Sayyaf leader Abu Sabaya in 2002.

In Aquino and Roxas' case, they pretended nothing was happening during those frenetic hours from mid-morning to late afternoon, when the SAF troops were pinned down and were picked off one by one by long-range MILF Barrett sniper rifles. Without help coming for the SAF, the insurgents simply waited for their ammo to run out, and then rushed them to shoot those still alive point blank one by one.

By the police commanders' account these were the hours when they were frantically begging the Army to send reinforcements and to fire non-deadly artillery fire to scare off the Moro insurgents.

It was a criminal failure of leadership. Was Aquino so shocked and then paralyzed that his fantasy as a commander of commandos who killed two international terrorists turned into a bloody nightmare?

It is a very expensive lesson for us a nation, but one we should never forget: Never again elect a president, especially a spoiled scion of hacenderos, who hasn't been tested in the crucible of experience and leadership./tiglaio.manilatimes@gmail.com

Coalition to push for community involvement in protecting Balili River

BAGUIO CITY - The Balili River System Revitalization Coalition (BRSRC) will go beyond cleaning up activities and will push for community involvement in the protection of the Balili River.

This was agreed upon during the BRSRC Action Planning Workshop held at the University of the Philippines- Baguio on January 21.

Dean Aurea Sandoval of Benguet State University pointed out that the clean-up activities they have spearheaded in the past have not much of an impact in the revitalization of the Balili River.

University of the Cordilleras Director for Research and Development Center, Engr. Nathaniel Lubrica seconded that fully revitalizing Balili River will not be successful with just clean-up drive; it needs community involvement.

Proposed activities to encourage community involvement include "Adopt a Community" project wherein different institutions will adopt barangays within the stretch of the river and educate the residents about protecting this important river system.

Aside from pushing for behavioral change, the education campaign will also give focus on the improvement of the governance of barangay officials with regards to the environment.

The BRSRC formed in 2011 includes the Environmental Management Board - Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the academe and local government units of Baguio City and La Trinidad, government offices, private/industry partners and civil society group./JDP/CCD/Via Perez - PIA UC Intern

Only Duterte, Cayetano...

from page 1

attendance to the forum, all of the tandems vying for the May presidential polls backed out of the event.

"Maraming nadismaya at hindi dumalo ang iba pang tambalan sa forum na ito. Their absence to this first presidential and vice presidential forum is quite bothering," Cayetano said.

Nonetheless, the duo presented their platform, which they said is a comprehensive and bold response to the chaos in the country. They pointed to the worsening traffic problem, rising crime and illegal drug trafficking, lack of job opportunities and social injustice that need to be addressed. Duterte and Cayetano said the only way to effect real change is to end the country's chaos swiftly and decisively.

"There is so much disorder. People don't have security. Sobra na ang gulo at pahirap na dinadanas ng tao. Sino ba naman ang hindi mapapamura kung pag-gising mo pa lamang sa umaga hanggang sa pagtulog mo sa gabi, walang tigil ang pahirap at gulo sa ating bayan," Duterte said.

"This is the reason why I am angry. This is the reason behind my constant cursing. Behind my curses is the tragedy and suffering of the Filipino people," Duterte said.

Cayetano said he and Duterte have the experience and principles necessary to fight injustices committed by those benefiting from the country's chaotic state of affairs.

The senator highlighted the need to fight crime and corruption in the police force through harsh penalties for the corrupt and increasing salaries for honest police officers, removing excuses for corruption and helping to attract the best and brightest to the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Cayetano also underscored the need for the country to transition to federalism to democratically decentralize governance and resources, and attain lasting peace. He specifically mentioned the need to spread development by infusing the regions with the necessary funds for development.

"Hindi na pwede ang pwede na. Hindi na pwede ang konting pagbabago. At lalong hindi na pwede na magpatuloy ang ligaya ng mga nang-aabuso. Ang kailangan ay matapang na solusyon at mabilis na aksyon para tapusin ang gulo. This is what Mayor Duterte and I will bring," Cayetano stressed./Office of Senator Alan Peter Cayetano

PRO-COR's aggressive Lambat-Sibat nabs 21 wanted persons in a week

LA TRINIDAD - - The intensified advocacy of the Police Regional Office Cordillera's against all forms of criminal acts under the Philippine National Police's Oplan Lambat-Sibat campaign led to the arrest of 21 wanted persons last week.

Among the arrested were five listed in the Top Most Wanted Persons (TMWP) for the first quarter of 2016.

The Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) operatives were able to arrest the No. 10 TMWP identified as Bong Estacio Mejia, 56, for the crime of Other Form of Deceits,

and three listed as No. 4 TMWP namely Roman Gabriel Ticuan Pitlan, 18, for the crime of Robbery with Violence; Angeline Maliones y Abalos a.k.a. Angie Maliones, 45 for Estafa thru Falsification of Public Document, and Rose Espiritu y Arizo @Rosie Espiritu, 56, for the crime of Other Form of Deceits.

Jaime Puyao Sr., the No. 1 Lambat Sibat target of Mountain Province for the first quarter of this year was also arrested in his residence in Bunot Paracelis. Mt. Province.

Sixteen other wanted persons for cases of murder, acts of lasciviousness and estafa were separately arrested.

The arrest of these wanted individuals is a result of the unified cooperation and relentless efforts of all PRO-COR personnel in all its undertakings in line with the directives of the Chief, PNP particularly in strengthening the LAM-BAT-SIBAT.

PRO-COR leadership appeals to the public for any information that will lead to the immediate arrest of more wanted persons through social media (Twitter-@PNPCordillera or Facebook Page- Pio Procor, or through the following numbers: Complaint Referral -09998851849/ 09174297628; Regional Tactical Operation Center (074) 422-5515; 09175302679/ 09285591669./pia/PRO-COR RPIO

City pursues tree...

from page 3

other government lots last year.

As to the number of sick trees, he said they are still conducting the inventory and tagging but they have listed 24 for tree surgery only within City Hall compound and Burnham Park. He said these trees measuring 20-40 cm in diameter can still be saved while the old sick ones with severe center rot will be cut and replaced.

Lacsamana said they are also pursuing programs to build the capability of CEPMO's forestry personnel on the proper procedure for sanitation cutting, tree surgery and tree disease management.

She said they included representatives from the barangays and other sectors in the trainings to equip them with proper knowledge on the proper diagnosis and care for trees and to apply these in their own areas of jurisdiction.

The trainings are being conducted by experts from the Benguet State University (BSU) and the Environment Research Development Bureau of the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Lacsamana said the city will forge an agreement with BSU for the city to avail of continued assistance from the university particularly assistance on forestry concerns.

She said the for the past five years, the city has been conducting tree surgeries to save trees afflicted with diseases but can still be salvaged and among those saved were the paper trees at Burnham Park.

The city conducted its first seminar on tree disease management last December 15-16 following findings on the increased 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 BSU and ERDB.

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 was participated in by CEPMO personnel and representatives from the barangays, schools, stakeholders and the media./A. Refuerzo

Baguio City to be evaluated and validated anew for child-friendly city

BAGUIO CITY - The city government here is set to be evaluated and validated by the National Award Committee (NAC) of the Presidential Award for child-Friendly Municipalities and Cities first week of February.

According to the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), the city government of Baguio is qualified and included in the shortlist for the Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipalities and Cities considering the city, being a conferee with the Seal of Child-Friendly Local Governance (SCFLG) and for being the Regional Awardee for the SCFLG.

The NAC will conduct field visitation to the city's model barangay as well as other barangays that will be randomly selected by the NAC. Subsequently, the result of the validation will be submitted to the Council Board for confirmation as National Awardee for 2015 Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipalities and Cities.

Table validation of documents as well as focus group discussions with key city officials will be conducted on the said dates.

The team will screen the availability of Local Development Plan and Local Investment Plan for Children; availability of updated data on children, situational analysis on children and local code for children/ordinances of resolutions for children passed and implemented for the last three years.

The city will be assessed based on the city's health, education and social protection services for the children. Also, the presence and existence of institution building as well as the children and community participation in the city's programs and services for the children will have a big effect in the evaluation.

This year, Baguio City is competing with Bacolod, Mandaluyong and Davao cities.

In 2013 and 2014, Davao City was named Most Child-Friendly City in the Philippines under the highly urbanized city category.

In preparation of the upcoming validation, mayor Mauricio Domogan directed the concerned departments to make available all documents needed by the NAC./Jho Arranz

City working out on concerns of homeowners within PNR property

BAGUIO CITY - In his weekly forum last Wednesday, Mayor Mauricio Domogan disclosed that the Philippine National Railway (PNR) is set to dispose properties in the city of pines.

The PNR will sell homelots to legitimate beneficiaries. Also, the inventory of PNR properties includes areas for disposition to the present occupants in San Luis, San Roque and the PNR Marcoville area.

It is recalled that former president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo approved the disposal of PNR properties to the actual occupants through Executive Order No. 48 issued in October 2001: "Declaring non-core properties if the PNR as socialized housing sites and providing for the disposition of the same bonafide occupants."

This will help informal settlers within the PNR properties the chance to own the land.

Domogan said, "a consultation was conducted to the affected barangays and different concerns and issues were raised with regards issuance of individual titles."

Accordingly, a significant number of beneficiaries in San Luis have fully paid the agreed amount in exchange of the land. However, they cannot get their respective individual titles for the reason that the PNR has not complied with the requisites needed for the issuance of individual titles.

On the other hand, San Roque beneficiaries' concern is the non-processing of the approved subdivision plan of San Roque because of one lot in question.

In the case of Marcoville, the selling price of the land must be laid down together with the terms and conditions for the beneficiaries to comply.

As a result of the different consultation, the city will write the PNR to convene with the board set on Jan. 27 to settle and straighten out the issues and concerns of both the PNR and the beneficiaries./Jho Arranz

NEW CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

"...a judge's official conduct and his behavior in the performance of judicial duties should be free from the appearance of impropriety and must be beyond reproach. One who occupies an exalted position in the administration of justice must pay a high price for the honor bestowed upon him, for his private as well as his official conduct must at all times be free from the appearance of impropriety. Because appearance is as important as reality in the performance of judicial functions, like Caesar's wife, a judge must not only be pure but also beyond suspicion.xxx"

-Joaquin vs. Javellana [A.M. No. RTJ-00-1601. November 13, 2001]

Background: The New Code of Judicial Conduct for the Philippine Judiciary consists of it consists of six canons to wit: Independence, integrity, impartiality, propriety, equality, and competence and diligence.

This is based on the 2002 Bangalore Draft, as amended, which was intended to be the Universal Declaration of Judicial Standards applicable in all judiciaries.

This New Code of Judicial conduct supersedes the Canons of Judicial Ethics and the Code of Judicial Conduct, but the latter may still apply in a suppletory character in case of deficiency or absence of provisions in the New Code.

A.M. No. 03-05-01-SC

ADOPTING THE NEW CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT FOR THE PHILIPPINE JUDICIARY

WHEREAS, at the Round Table Meeting of Chief Justices held at the Peace Palace, The Hague, on 25-26 November 2002, at which the Philippine Supreme Court was represented by the Chief Justice and Associate Justice Reynato S. Puno, the Bangalore Draft of the Code of Judicial Conduct adopted by the Judicial Group on Strengthening Judicial integrity was deliberated upon and approved after incorporating therein several amendments;

WHEREAS, the Bangalore Draft, as amended, is intended to be the Universal Declaration of Judicial Standards applicable in all judiciaries;

WHEREAS, the Bangalore Draft is founded upon a universal recognition that a competent, independent and impartial judiciary is essential if the courts are to fulfill their role in upholding constitutionalism and the rule of law; that public confidence in the judicial system and in the moral authority and integrity of the judiciary is of utmost importance in a modern democratic society; and that it is essential that judges, individually and collectively, respect and honor judicial office as a public trust and strive to enhance and maintain confidence in the judicial system;

WHEREAS, the adoption of the universal declaration of standards for ethical conduct of judges embodied in the Bangalore Draft as revised at the Round Table Conference of Chief Justices at The Hague is imperative not only to update and correlate the Code of Judicial Conduct and the Canons of Judicial Ethics adopted for the Philippines, but also to stress the Philippines' solidarity with the universal clamor for a universal code of judicial ethics.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Court hereby adopts this New Code of Judicial Conduct for the Philippine Judiciary:

CANON 1 INDEPENDENCE

Judicial independence is a pre-requisite to the rule of law and a fundamental guarantee of a fair trial. A judge shall therefore uphold and exemplify judicial independence in both its individual and institutional aspects.

SEC. 1. Judges shall exercise the judicial function independently on the basis of their assessment of the facts and in accordance with a conscientious understanding of the law, free of any extraneous influence, inducement, pressure, threat or interference, direct or indirect, from any quarter or for any reason.

SEC. 2. In performing judicial duties, judges shall be independent from judicial colleagues in respect of decisions which the judge is obliged to make independently.

SEC. 3. Judges shall refrain from influencing in any manner the outcome of litigation or dispute pending before another court or administrative agency.

SEC. 4. Judges shall not allow family, social, or other relationships to influence judicial conduct or judgment. The prestige of judicial office shall not be used or lent to advance

the private interests of others, nor convey or permit others to convey the impression that they are in a special position to influence the judge.

SEC. 5. Judges shall not only be free from inappropriate connections with, and influence by, the executive and legislative branches of government, but must also appear to be free therefrom to a reasonable observer.

SEC. 6. Judges shall be independent in relation to society in general and in relation to the particular parties to a dispute which he or she has to adjudicate.

SEC. 7. Judges shall encourage and uphold safeguards for the discharge of judicial duties in order to maintain and enhance the institutional and operational independence of the judiciary.

SEC. 8. Judges shall exhibit and promote high standards of judicial conduct in order to reinforce public confidence in the judiciary, which is fundamental to the maintenance of judicial independence.

CANON 2 INTEGRITY

Integrity is essential not only to the proper discharge of the judicial office but also to the personal demeanor of judges.

SEC. 1. Judges shall ensure that not only is their conduct above reproach, but that it is perceived to be so in the view of a reasonable observer.

SEC. 2. The behavior and conduct of judges must reaffirm the people's faith in the integrity of the judiciary. Justice must not merely be done but must also be seen to be done.

SEC. 3. Judges should take or initiate appropriate disciplinary measures against lawyers or court personnel for unprofessional conduct of which the judge may have become aware.

CANON 3 IMPARTIALITY

Impartiality is essential to the proper discharge of the judicial office. It applies not only to the decision itself but also to the process by which the decision is made.

SEC. 1. Judges shall perform their judicial duties without favor, bias or prejudice.

SEC. 2. Judges shall ensure that his or her conduct, both in and out of court, maintains and enhances the confidence of the public, the legal profession and litigants in the impartiality of the judge and of the judiciary.

SEC. 3. Judges shall, so far as is reasonable, so conduct themselves as to minimize the occasions on which it will be necessary for them to be disqualified from hearing or deciding cases.

SEC. 4. Judges shall not knowingly, while a proceeding is before or could come before them, make any comment that might reasonably be expected to affect the outcome of such proceeding or impair the manifest fairness of the process. Nor shall judges make any comment in public or otherwise that might affect the fair trial of any person or issue.

SEC. 5. Judges shall disqualify themselves from participating in any proceedings in which they are unable to decide the matter impartially or in which it may appear to a reasonable observer that they are unable to decide the matter impartially. Such proceedings include, but are not limited to, instances where

(a) The judge has actual bias or prejudice concerning a party or personal knowledge of disputed evidentiary facts concerning the proceedings;

(b) The judge previously served as a lawyer or was a material witness in the matter in controversy;

(c) The judge, or a member of his or her family, has an economic interest in the outcome of the matter in controversy;

(d) The judge served as executor, administrator, guardian, trustee or lawyer in the case or matter in controversy, or a former associate of the judge served as counsel during their association, or the judge or lawyer was a material witness therein;

(e) The judge's ruling in a lower court is the subject of review;

(f) The judge is related by consanguinity or affinity to a party litigant within the sixth civil degree or to counsel within the fourth civil degree; or

(g) The judge knows that his or her spouse or child has a financial interest, as heir, legatee, creditor, fiduciary, or

otherwise, in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding, or any other interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceedings;

SEC. 6. A judge disqualified as stated above may, instead of withdrawing from the proceeding, disclose on the records the basis of disqualification. If, based on such disclosure, the parties and lawyers, independently of the judge's participation, all agree in writing that the reason for the inhibition is immaterial or unsubstantial, the judge may then participate in the proceeding. The agreement, signed by all parties and lawyers, shall be incorporated in the record of the proceedings.

CANON 4 PROPRIETY

Propriety and the appearance of propriety are essential to the performance of all the activities of a judge.

SEC. 1. Judges shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all of their activities.

SEC. 2. As a subject of constant public scrutiny, judges must accept personal restrictions that might be viewed as burdensome by the ordinary citizen and should do so freely and willingly. In particular, judges shall conduct themselves in a way that is consistent with the dignity of the judicial office.

SEC. 3. Judges shall, in their personal relations with individual members of the legal profession who practice regularly in their court, avoid situations which might reasonably give rise to the suspicion or appearance of favoritism or partiality.

SEC. 4. Judges shall not participate in the determination of a case in which any member of their family represents a litigant or is associated in any manner with the case.

SEC. 5. Judges shall not allow the use of their residence by a member of the legal profession to receive clients of the latter or of other members of the legal profession.

SEC. 6. Judges, like any other citizen, are entitled to freedom of expression, belief, association and assembly, but in exercising such rights, they shall always conduct themselves in such a manner as to preserve the dignity of the judicial office and the impartiality and independence of the judiciary.

SEC. 7. Judges shall inform themselves about their personal fiduciary and financial interests and shall make reasonable efforts to be informed about the financial interests of members of their family.

SEC. 8. Judges shall not use or lend the prestige of the judicial office to advance their private interests, or those of a member of their family or of anyone else, nor shall they convey or permit others to convey the impression that anyone is in a special position improperly to influence them in the performance of judicial duties.

SEC. 9. Confidential information acquired by judges in their judicial capacity shall not be used or disclosed for any other purpose related to their judicial duties.

SEC. 10. Subject to the proper performance of judicial duties, judges may

(a) Write, lecture, teach and participate in activities concerning the law, the legal system, the administration of justice or related matters;

(b) Appear at a public hearing before an official body concerned with matters relating to the law, the legal system, the administration of justice or related matters;

(c) Engage in other activities if such activities do not detract from the dignity of the judicial office or otherwise interfere with the performance of judicial duties.

SEC. 11. Judges shall not practice law whilst the holder of judicial office.

SEC. 12. Judges may form or join associations of judges or participate in other organizations representing the interests of judges.

SEC. 13. Judges and members of their families shall neither ask for, nor accept, any gift, bequest, loan or favor in relation to anything done or to be done or omitted to be done by him or her in connection with the performance of judicial duties.

SEC. 14. Judges shall not knowingly permit court staff or others subject to their influence, direction or authority, to ask for, or accept, any gift, bequest, loan or favor in relation to anything done or to be done or omitted to be done in connection with their duties or functions.

SEC. 15. Subject to law and to any legal requirements of public disclosure, judges may receive a token gift, award

Cont. on page 8

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
Branch 59

ADDITIONAL
FAMILY COURT OF
BAGUIO CITY

IN THE MATTER
OF THE ADOPTION
OF ZACHERY JUR-
VEY TAGUDAR
VILLANUEVA,
AND CHANGE OF
HIS NAME IN HIS
CERTIFICATE OF
LIVE BIRTH FROM
ZACHERY JURVEY
TAGUDAR VILLAN-
UEVA TO ZACHERY
JURVEY VILLAN-
UEVA DREU,

SPS FRANCISCO
D. DREU JR. AND
MICIELLO GRACE
V. DREU,

Petitioners,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF BA-
GUIO CITY Herein
represented by SYL-
VIA R. LAUDENCIA
and JOSEPH SOLIVA
BUMACAS,

Respondents.

X-----X

**SPEC PRO No. 482A
FOR: ADOPTION**

ORDER

The petitioner-spouses
Francisco D. Dreu Jr. and
Miciello Grace V. Dreu
filed this verified petition
praying that after notice,
publication and hearing,
the Court shall issue a
Decree of Adoption:

a. Declaring Zachery
Jurvey Villanueva, for
all legal intents and
purposes, as the child
of petitioners, who shall
be thereafter known as
Zachery Jurvey Villan-

ueva Dreu; and
b. Ordering the
Local Civil Registrar of
Baguio City to issue an
amended birth certifi-
cate of Zachery Jurvey
Villanueva as the child of
the petitioners pursuant
to R.A. 8552.

Finding the petition to
be sufficient in form and
substance, let the same be
heard before the Regional
Trial Court, Branch 59,
Baguio City on June 13,
2016 at 10:15 o'clock in
the morning, at which
place, date and time, the
petitioners shall prove
their 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 peti-
tioners in The Junction,
a newspaper of general
circulation in the City
of Baguio and Benguet
province once a week
for three (3) consecutive
weeks.

The petitioner-spous-
es are directed to make
an appointment with
the Court Social Worker
for the purpose of con-
duction the required
case study on the minor
ZACHERY JURVEY VIL-
LANUEVA. The Court
Social Worker is required
to submit to the Court the
case study not later than
June 13, 2016.

Furnish a copy of this
Order to the last known
address of Joseph Soliva
Bumacas at number 73
Palma Steet, Baguio City.
SO ORDERED.

D O N E I N
CHAMBERS, this 5th of
January 2016 at Baguio
City Philippines.

(SGD) IVAN KIM B.
MORALES
Judge

Publication Dates:
January 9, 16 and 23,
2016

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the
intestate estate of GALO R. REYES
who died in Baguio City on October
31, 2014 was extrajudicially settled
by the heirs on November 30, 2015 as
evidenced by Doc. No.04; Page No.
02; Book No. IV; Series of 2015 of the
Notary Public Romeo D. Lopez.

Publication Dates: January 23, 30, and
February 6 2016

New code of Judicial... from page 7

or benefit as appropriate to the occasion
on which it is made, provided that such
gift, award or benefit might not reasonably
be perceived as intended to influence the
judge in the performance of judicial duties
or otherwise give rise to an appearance of
partiality.

CANON 5 EQUALITY

Ensuring equality of treatment to all before
the courts is essential to the due performance
of the judicial office.

SEC. 1. Judges shall be aware of, and
understand, diversity in society and dif-
ferences arising from various sources,
including but not limited to race, color, sex,
religion, national origin, caste, disability, age,
marital status, sexual orientation, social and
economic status and other like causes.

SEC. 2. Judges shall not, in the perfor-
mance of judicial duties, by words or conduct,
manifest bias or prejudice towards any person
or group on irrelevant grounds.

SEC. 3. Judges shall carry out judicial
duties with appropriate consideration for
all persons, such as the parties, witnesses,
lawyers, court staff and judicial colleagues,
without differentiation on any irrelevant
ground, immaterial to the proper perfor-
mance of such duties.

SEC. 4. Judges shall not knowingly permit
court staff or others subject to his or her
influence, direction or control to differenti-
ate between persons concerned, in a matter
before the judge, on any irrelevant ground.

SEC. 5. Judges shall require lawyers in
proceedings before the court to refrain from
manifesting, by words or conduct, bias or
prejudice based on irrelevant grounds, except
such as are legally relevant to an issue in pro-
ceedings and may be the subject of legitimate
advocacy.

CANON 6 COMPETENCE AND DILIGENCE

Competence and diligence are prerequi-
sites to the due performance of judicial office.

SEC. 1. The judicial duties of a judge take
precedence over all other activities.

SEC. 2. Judges shall devote their pro-
fessional activity to judicial duties, which
include not only the performance of judicial
functions and responsibilities in court and
the making of decisions, but also other tasks
relevant to the judicial office or the court's
operations.

SEC. 3. Judges shall take reasonable steps
to maintain and enhance their knowledge,

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

RONNIE A. PABUNAN
Petitioners
Case No: 91-CAR-743

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the EXTENSION OF VALIDITY of a
Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ service for the
transportation of passengers and freight on the liner BAGUIO PLAZA
- PHILEX MINES and vice versa with the use of the one (1) unit.
Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on
February 2, 2016 at 10:00 A.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 Regional Director CELINA B. CLAVER
This 9th day of December 2015.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL MARZAN NULLAR
Attorney IV

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

PAUL LOMAS-E-Vendor
REYNANTE V. GARCIA-Vendee
Petitioners
Case No. 2005-BENG-CAR-57/2015-CAR-718

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is application for the approval of SALE AND TRANSFER
of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI for the
transportation of freight and passengers on the line: BAGUIO CITY
TO ANY POINT IN CAR AND VV with the use of ONE (1) unit.
Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on
February 2, 2016 at 9:30am. 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 9th DAY OF DECEMBER 2015, Baguio City.

(SGD) Atty. ROBERTO B. BASCO
ARD for Admin/Hearing Officer

Public urged to save water

BAGUIO CITY- With the El Niño phe-
nomenon affecting the country, Mayor
Mauricio G. Domogan urged everyone to
conserve water and use it responsibly.

Everybody has the responsibility to save
water especially that the city is hosting
big events like the Cordillera Administra-
tive Region Athletic Association (CARAA),
the month-long Baguio Flower Festival in
February, Philippine Military Academy grad-
uation and the observance of Holy Week in
March which bring thousands of foreign and
local tourists, Domogan said.

According to Engr. Salvador Royeca,
general manager of the Baguio Water District,
more than 43,000 cubic meters of water is
being produced daily from three main water
sources- the Mount Santo Tomas catch basin,
four spring sources and 57 deepwells.

Domogan encouraged the public to
practice water conservation measures by
avoiding excessive use of water.

The following are some water conservation
tips the community should practice.

Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Turn
the faucet off firmly to prevent leakage.

As much as possible, use a basin (palangga-
na) to save water. Take a shorter shower or
use water dipper (tabo) and pail (timba)
instead of the shower when taking a bath.

Wash all your clothes at once. Don't allow
the water in your washbasin (batya) to
overflow; Reuse water from your laundry to
flush your toilet, clean your car, or water your
garden plants.

Do not use running water for rinsing or
washing.

Instead of a water hose, use only a pail
and a towel in washing your car; Water your
plants only before sunrise or after sunset to
prevent water loss due to vaporization;

Collect rainwater with pails and basins, and
store it for future use like watering the plants,
and cleaning the house./JDP/JBZ- PIA CAR

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT /PARTITION OF THE ESTATE OF PURIFICACION A. SORIANO

That an Extrajudicial Settle-
ment /Partition of the Estate of
the late Purificacion A. Soriano
who died intestate on April 21,
2015 at Baguio City was extraju-
dicially settled and partitioned by
her heirs on November 15, 2015
before Notary Public Louella Xy-
lee T. Apilado and entered in to
her notarial registry as doc. 389,
page 79, book 5, series of 2015.

Publication Dates: January 16, 23,
and 30, 2016

WANTED REPORTER/RESEARCHER

The Junction Newspaper is in need of two (2) Researchers/Reporters. Male/Female/LGBT preferably single, with a lot of common sense. Willing to work long and odd hours, not afraid to write and expose the facts regardless of who is/are involved. Must have news writing experience. Knowledge and background in sales and marketing is an advantage. Competitive salary and allowance awaits the successful applicant. Open to undergraduates.

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Male/Female/LGBT, owns a motorcycle or can drive a motorcycle, diligent and smart. Competitive salary and allowance awaits the successful applicant. Open to high school graduates.

Please email your resume to thejunctionnews@yahoo.com

CHIZ: Tap P1-B...

from page 10

The UNISDR launched the "Making Cities Resilient" campaign in May 2010 aims to promote "sustainable urban development by promoting resilience activities and increasing local level understanding of disaster risk."

"The objectives of the 'Making Cities Resilient' campaign are threefold, and can be achieved through building long-lasting partnerships to: invest wisely, by identifying budget allocations within local government funding plans to invest in disaster risk reduction activities; and build more safely, by including disaster risk reduction in participatory urban development planning processes and protect critical infrastructure," UNISDR said on its website.

Cities and local governments can sign up by either becoming a champion, a role model, or a participating city or local government which are expected to "contribute know-how, resources and provide overall support to the campaign within their reach and capacity."

Escudero said the national government could utilize the P1-billion special fund which was established by virtue of Republic Act 10124 to improve the resilience of LGUs to natural hazards through their participation in the "Making Cities Resilient" campaign.

He said the high number of fatalities during the onslaught of typhoon "Nona" and tropical depression "Onyok" in December despite early preparations of LGUs only underscores the need for more proactive efforts in terms of disaster preparedness.

The 2016 National Expenditure Program (NEP) provides that the P1 billion allocated as PSF "may likewise be used to cover any deficiency in the implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Program, and Yolanda Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program, subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines.

The PSF may finance local adaptation initiatives such as water resources and land management; risk insurance for farmers, agricultural workers and other stakeholders; infrastructure development and protection of natural ecosystems; monitoring of vector-borne diseases triggered by climate change; forecasting and early warning systems; contingency planning for droughts and floods; establishing and strengthening information networks to support adaptation initiatives; and other community support programs by organizations accredited by the Climate Change Commission.

Escudero said government efforts to improve the resilience of communities to natural hazards would not be possible without enabling LGUs to effectively prepare and respond to disasters.

The LGUs, he said, need assistance from the national government on climate change adaptation measures as shown by a 2014 study made by the Commission on Audit (COA) on Disaster Management Practices in the Philippines.

The said study found an "imbalance between budget level and risk exposure of LGUs on climate change."

"There is a significant

SAF 44 granted...

from page 10

Cordilleran families are planning to do the commemoration together at an earlier date, they wanted to join," she said.

The two-day commemoration activity was attended by 37 families of the original 44. The activity started with a candle lighting activity on Friday and prayer walk from Session Road to Ibaloy park on Saturday, followed by a short program and boodle fight at the Park. It was concluded with a tree planting at Badiwan.

Merlyn Gamutan, the widow of PSI Joey Gamutan from Basilan, said they were surprised of the way people treated the Cordilleran family members that they accorded such heroic tribute to them. "It's only here that we see how people treat the SAF 44 as heroes," she said.

"We hope the administrator of this site will grant us, the rest of the SAF 44, to be part of this tree-bute site that our beloved husbands, fathers, sons will be accorded the same love and respect," she pleaded in tear.

Gamutan expressed that there's a donation they wish to contribute to the foundation so that they can be included in the tree-bute site.

The foundation granted

imbalance between the risk exposure of poor, vulnerable LGUs and their available resources to prevent and cope with the impact of disasters. LGUs with higher vulnerability to disasters are also those which belong to the low-income class," COA said.

"While the law encourages LGUs to invest on disaster

the request of the SAF 44 and the council members are currently making plans to expand the tree-bute site.

The tree-bute is a project of the foundation where individuals can plant and dedicate a tree for their loved ones as a living commemoration. It is a way to give meaning to the place and the trees that will be planted and to ensure for the survival of the trees that will make the barren place team with vegetation. By dedicating the trees to their dead loved ones, the organizers hope that the relatives who planted the trees will take care of them with love and care as they have taken care of their dearly departed.

The Cordilleran SAF families were the first to be given the opportunity to plant trees. Ghemar Pawid, one of the foundation's councils said "by dedicating the planted trees to the SAF heroes, they will be the guardians of the place and trees that will be planted in the site."

The tree-bute site is located in Badiwan, Tuba, Benguet, which is part of a theme park being developed by the foundation. The site will be known as Badiwan Hobbitat, after the shire in Lord of the Rings inhabited by the Hobbits./
Carl C. Taawan

risk management, the current system, however, [makes] LGUs poorer and island provinces for example at a disadvantage, as they have lower revenues and thus, less available resources for their calamity fund," the independent constitutional body noted./
Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

Override PNoy's veto, CPA urges Cordi Congressmen on HB 5842

Kas maysa nga agbaybayad iti kontribusyon iti SSS ken kasidegen nga agbalin a pensioner, nainkalintegan laeng a pirmaan ni Presidente Aquino ti linteg tapno maingato iti P2, 000 ti binulan a gatad a maaw-awat. Bassit laeng daytoy a gatad ngem dakkel ti maitulong na kadagiti pensioners karkaro kadagiti senior citizens. (As an SSS individual paying member and at the same time an incoming pensioner, it is but justified that President Aquino should the bill to increase the monthly pension by P2, 000. This is small amount but it is a big help to pensioners especially for the senior citizens.) – Joan Ngayaan, SSS individual paying member

The Cordillera Peoples Alliance (CPA) supports the call for Congress to override BS Aquino's veto on HB 5842 which provides for a P2, 000-hike in the monthly pension for Social Security System (SSS) pensioners. BS Aquino's veto is again a clear manifestation of his anti-poor policy and reflects the poor state of social security. This calls for strong condemnation not only from SSS members but also from the general public.

But what makes it more infuriating is on how BS Aquino and top rank officials of the SSS defend the veto. While they try to fool the people on their lame explanations, these SSS officials are actually pocketing millions of pesos from the contributions of members. If SSS will go bankrupt as the officials fear, it is not because of the P2, 000-increase for pensioners but with their outrageous salaries, benefits and the low efficiency of the SSS to collect contributions from employers.

Social security such as pensions is a State obligation. Assuming that SSS cannot shoulder the P2, 000-pension hike, the government should include social pensions on the national budget and not again as an additional add-on burden for the members. If the government can give dole out support like Conditional Cash Transfer which is actually a loan from the Asian Development Bank, it should be able to remedy the needs of SSS pensioners.

BS Aquino and the top rank SSS officials should know that most of the pensioners are in their senior years and an amount of P2, 000 is a big help to buy their medicines and other basic needs. Only a heartless and no-conscience president can do this. When Aquino immediately approved to increase the salaries of president, vice president and the legislators by P200, 000; P150, 000; P100, 000; did he not think the national coffers might go bankrupt?

CPA believes that it is but proper for the government to recognize the needs of pensioners. After all, these pensioners worked hard and patiently paid their contributions to prepare for their retirement.

Lastly, CPA calls on SSS members and advocates to sign petitions, conduct lobby work in congress, join and organized protest actions to expose anomalies at the SSS and put pressure on congress to override Aquino's veto. We urge our Cordillera Congressmen to support our SSS pensioners and join the current move in congress to override BS Aquino's veto on HB 5842. /Abigail Anongos, Secretary General, Public Information Commission/Cordillera Peoples Alliance, 55 Ferguson Road, Baguio City 2600 Philippines, +63 74 422 9754

SAF 44 granted Tree-bute site in Benguet

Special Action Force (SAF) Splanted a tree in Tuba, Benguet to commemorate their loved ones during the 1st year anniversary of the bravery of the 44 SAF victims in Mamasapano.

The activity dubbed as tree-bute is part of their Two-day commemoration program they held in Baguio City on January 15 and 16 attended by families of the SAF 44.

The tree-bute site in Badiwan was originally allotted to the 14 Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) families of the SAF by Cordillera Heritage Foun-

dation, Inc. formerly Smile Movement, Inc.

The CAR SAF families started the tree-bute on March 15, 2015 after the Mamasapano incident. The activity was shared on social media, which inspired the other families to join them in their planned commemoration activity in Baguio.

Lead organizer Julie Cayang-o said the other families were intrigued with the unity of the Cordilleran families that started with the tree-bute.

"When we told them the

Cont. on page 9

Baguio Athletic Bowl ready for CARAA

BAGUIO CITY -- The Department of Public Works and Highways and the city officials assured that the Baguio Athletic Bowl will be ready for the Cordillera Administrative Region Athletic Association (CARAA) meet which will be hosted by the city this February.

"We are on track," said Engr. Alexander Castaneda of the DPWH Baguio City District Engineering Office assuring that the on-going placement of rubberized track at the athletic oval is on schedule and would be finished and be ready for the CARAA meet opening on February 6.

Castaneda said Spurway Enterprises which is tasked to place the rubberized track at the Baguio Athletic Oval started work last January 6, and expected to be done by end of the month.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said the project contractor Romeo Aquino of the R.U. Aquino Devel-

opment and Construction Corporation in a coordination meeting for the CARAA meet assured that the oval would be ready for the regional event.

According to Castaneda, the renovation of the Baguio Athletic Bowl is in consonance with the international standards of an ideal athletic oval. He said that prior to the construction of the oval; they sought help from the Philippine Sports Commission on the necessary measurements and facilities of international standards.

The DPWH has been closely working with the PSC and PSC reps have been conducting regular supervision and inspection of the on-going projects including placement of the different sports facilities and even the grass at the oval.

The three-phase project has a total budgetary allocation of P115 million.

The first phase involves the modernization of the main bleachers at the east

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end of the compound. The second phase is for the extension of the main bleachers as well as the concreting of the oval track. The third covers the installation of the rubberized track.

The third phase was delayed for almost a month because of the unexpected rains in November.

During recent site inspection and walk through of Cong. Nicasio Aliping Jr. and the project contractor, Aliping hailed the progress and development of the athletic oval compared to its state a year ago.

"This is a project long in the waiting because the Athletic Bowl complex has not received any kind of development work for the last 30 years," Aliping said.

"With the rubberized track, and lawn field together with the already existing Olympic size swimming pool, the city is now ready to host national events like the Palaro Games," the lawmaker added.

Aliping said that he is working for the allocation of another P50 million to fully complete the Athletic Bowl complex. The next phase

would involve the construction of a modern west end bleacher stands and lighting of the oval track./JDP/ RMC-PIA CAR



HEALTH IS WEALTH - Joel Junsay of the City Health Office stresses the need to observe good eating habit and fitness during the medical and optical mission spearheaded by the Baguio City Health Office headed by Dr. Rowena Galpo at Pinsao District Health Center catering to the residents of Pinsao Pilot Project, Pinsao Proper, Quirino Hill. Middle Quirino Hill, East Quirino Hill, Lower Quirino Hill, Dizon, Guisad and Pinget barangays./ By Bong Cayabyab

CHIZ: TAP P1-B PEOPLE'S SURVIVAL FUND TO HELP LGUs IN DISASTER DRIVE

Sen. Francis "Chiz" Escudero urged the national government to utilize the P1 billion People's Survival Fund (PSF) to enable local government units (LGUs) participate in the United Nations (UN) drive for disaster-resilient communities.

Escudero, chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources made the call after the UN Office for Disaster

Risk Reduction (UNISDR) revealed that only 170 out of over 1,700 cities, towns and provinces in the country have signed up for the global campaign, which aims to raise the profile of resilience and disaster risk reduction among local governments and urban communities worldwide.

For a country that endures an average of 20 typhoons every year, the Philippines, he said, stands to benefit

from the campaign and come up with "better and more effective strategies on disaster preparedness."

"The national government should take advantage of the UN drive to prepare LGUs to become disaster-resilient since they stand at the forefront of reducing risks and managing disasters," said Escudero, the frontrunner in the vice-presidential race.

Cont. on page 9

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