

Century Old Mini Hydro Power Plant of the Americans in John Hay to Produce Clean Energy

Lease contract signed
BAGUIO CITY — Pursuant to the government's commitment to continue to provide clean energy from renewable sources while providing revenue for the state, Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) and its subsidiary John Hay Management Corporation (JHMC) has contracted out the rehabilitation, reconstruction and operation of the old hydro power plant inside Camp John Hay.

In a historic event, BCDA and JHMC signed the Lease Contract for the rehabilitation, reconstruction and operation of the Mini Hydro Power Plant (MHPP) located along Kennon Road, with representatives of the Riverflow Ventures and Power Energy Corp., a consortium of Isabela Power Corporation and Vendeka Bilgi Teknolijileri Ticaret Limited Sirketi, created for this purpose.

BCDA President and CEO Atty. Arnel Paciano Cassanova, said that "The BCDA is one of the government owned corporations that advocate and push for renewable sources of power, championing the cause through the help of partner private corporations. We are looking forward to a productive partnership in the John Hay Economic Zone (JHEZ) through the mini hydro power plant project".

JHMC president and CEO Dr. Jamie Eloise M. Agbayani said the agreement will bring in

some P440 million investments on the first year of the pre-development stage of the project.

"The contract will not just provide revenue in terms of lease rentals but revenue from taxes and the after effect of the project which will provide investment and jobs to the local community, Agbayani said

The contract also provides that in case the consortium declares a bankruptcy, subjects itself to insolvency proceedings, rehabilitation which would lead to a delay in the payment of rentals or failure to comply with its obligation, will regard the party to be in default, giving the government the right to recover the property after notice, and vice-versa.

A performance bond of 10 percent of the P440 million will also be paid to the government within seven days from the notice to proceed. This amount can be forfeited if lessee-developer fails to start within the period.

In the event the lessee-developer raises revenue from other activities within the leased premises, an additional lease rental shall also be paid to the government by the lessee-developer power consortium, which is five percent of the gross revenue.

The contract

The contract covers an area of 38 hectares from the 625 hectares of the Camp John Hay Reservation Area (CJHRA), now owned by

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the BCDA as identified under Republic Act 7227, the law that created BCDA, and under the implementation of the JHMC.

The mini hydro was developed and utilized by the US government in the early 1900s. The area, covering parts in Baguio City and parts in Tuba town in Benguet will be used to accommodate the diversion dam or the weir, headrace, penstock, power huse and the tailrace.

For 25 years, the Riverflow Ventures and Power Energy Corp. will develop the area and commercially produce clean-energy while securing the necessary government permits.

The consortium shall "apply for Renewable Energy Service Operating Contract (RESOC) under the Department of Energy (DOE) as well as secure the DOE certificate of recognition."

JHMC on the other hand will be responsible for providing a certification and come up with the documents to be submitted to the DOE.



DUCK and COVER - Members of the Cordillera Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (CRDRMC) in a Semana Santa 2016 preparedness meeting, test their readiness to perform earthquake preparedness response./PIA-CAR

Upon issuance of the RESOC, the JHMC will assign part or all of its rights and obligations under the RESOC.

The contract provides that on the first year following the signing of the contract, the developer will conduct the feasibility studies needed for the pursuance of the project and will only start the development stage

on the second year.

On the fifth year of the mini hydro plant's operation, the government will receive not less than five percent lease rental based on the gross revenue derived from the operation.

Contract period

The lease is good for 25 years, renewable with the mutual consent of both

parties not earlier than three years and not less than one year before its expiration.

However, the contract can be vacated with the government taking over the area in case the lessee-developer fails to make good its obligation, and vice versa, after written notices.

The developer declaring bankruptcy, insolvency, subjects itself to rehabilita-

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Duterte vows to provide leadership to end the country's disorder

"All of these are just platforms. I will tell you now that I can provide leadership."

This was the closing statement of presidential candidate Davao City Mayor Rodrigo "Rody" Duterte during the second Presidential Debates

Cont. on page 6



Comelec eyes start of voting period at 6 am
•page 3

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Painit na nang painit!

Cordillera forests in peril

•page 7

Century Old Mini Hydro Power Plant of the Americans in John Hay to Produce Clean Energy

•page 10

MAGKASANGGA TAYO

>OK lang menosen niyo ang Junction!!!

>Pumupunta ng giyera, walang dalang bala!!!

•page 5 BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



FASTRACK

Obsolete PD 1079, pinagkakakitaan ng mga lokal na peryodiko ng wala sa lugar!!!

•page 5 BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



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BAGUIO LIBERALS HIGHLIGHT NEED FOR CONSULTATIVE GOVERNMENT

BAGUIO CITY –The Local Liberal Party (LP) A-1 Team will kick off its campaign on March 27 with the call for a citizen's summit to thresh out pressing problems besetting Baguio to day.

Incumbent Baguio Rep. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr. will lead his A-1 Team in a mass at the Baguio Cathedral at 8 am after which the entire team and their supporters will parade down Session Road to the Malcolm Square where a proclamation rally will be held and where the team will make the call for the citizen's summit.

According to Rep. Aliping, the A-1 Team will banner a consultative government where every citizen of Baguio will be allowed to air their concerns on the problems which are besetting the city.

"Our major problems today

are on garbage, traffic and the environment," which will be the focus of the citizen's summit," Rep. Aliping said.

"Together with the people of Baguio, we will be able to look for solutions to these problems and challenges," Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. added. Yangot is seeking re-election in the city council.

"We must not forget that in order to solve these problems, there must be a moral revival among our people," Councilor Isabelo Cosalan, who is running for the vice mayoral seat, stressed.

Aside from these problems, the A-1 Team also admitted the need to pursue the moth-

Re-electionist Councilor Joel Alangsab together with council hopefuls Joseph Cabato, Engr. Jun Orca, Rudy Paraan, Atty. Ron Perez, architect Mylen Yaranon, and Art Alad-iw echoed the need to talk with Baguio's neighbors in order for the bulk water project to become a reality.

"It will be like a big brother, small brother relationship which means that Baguio will help the Benguet towns to develop and become prosperous themselves," Yangot added.

"All these challenges cannot be solved by one person, it will take a unified stand among Baguio's leaders to find the solutions which will be for the best of our beloved city. The A-1 Team is the most united team towards a vision of a better Baguio for all," Rep. Aliping stressed./

Carl C. Taawan

Search on for outstanding Baguio citizens

BAGUIO CITY – The search is on for this year's outstanding citizens of Baguio.

The Society of Outstanding Citizens of Baguio (SOCOB) launched the search last March 11 and called on residents to nominate "ordinary people with extraordinary accomplishments."

"We are looking for ordinary people who for their love of Baguio make it better than it is," former councilor Edilberto Tene-

francia said. "We believe that our city will be better if its citizens are better and they will be better if they are encouraged to do better."

One vehicle that provides incentives and encouragement to the people is the annual awards program to recognize citizens with outstanding accomplishments in their fields of endeavor and contributed to the city's development.

SOCOB members said they improved the rules this year to enhance the

selection and judging and to safeguard the integrity of the search.

"We are being challenged to continue to improve the process and we respond to the challenge to once and for all remove the doubts on the way we are conducting the judging," Mayor Mauricio Domogan, SOCOB chair, said.

The mayor said the selection and judging of the winners are done in two stages: first by the nominat-

Cont. on page 6



Vice presidential bet Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano talks with supporters of the Duterte-Cayetano tandem before the second round of the presidential debates in Cebu. The group holds placards that read, "sign the bank waiver now," in support of the tandem's call for their fellow candidates to sign a manifesto waiving their rights to bank secrecy./DC-HQ

CHIZ: COMPEL PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO DISCLOSE BANK DEPOSITS

Public officials must lead the way.

This was the call of Sen. Francis "Chiz" Escudero amid growing pressure to lift the country's stringent bank secrecy law in the wake of the laundering of some \$81-million in stolen funds belonging to the government of Bangladesh.

The dirty money, which slipped into the Philippines through a commercial bank, is now the subject of a Senate investigation and has prompted the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to call for the lifting of the bank secrecy law to help authorities probe suspicious money transactions.

"We, the people in the government, must show the way. Let's take the first step: waive our rights under the bank secrecy law and let the public scrutinize our bank deposits," said Escudero, an independent candidate for vice president.

"This way, we can convince the public that the government is serious in addressing the money-laundering problem that is undermining the country's banking system," he added.

Escudero has been pushing for the lifting of the bank secrecy law on bank deposits of public officials and employees through Senate Bill No. 16 he filed in 2013

to compel people in government, except those who serve in an honorary capacity, to submit a written permission or waiver in favor of the Office of the Ombudsman to look into all deposits of whatever nature with banks within and outside the country, including investments in government bonds.

He filed a similar bill when he was first elected into the Senate in 2007.

Since 2010, Escudero has been submitting together with his sworn Statement of Assets Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN), a written waiver on secrecy of his bank deposits filed every year with the Ombudsman's office.

Recently, he took a step further by challenging all national and local candidates seeking elective posts to waive this right under Republic Act No. 1405, or the Bank Secrecy Act of 1955, which prohibits disclosure of or inquiry into deposits with any banking institution, as well as provides penalties of imprisonment or fine for offenders.

If candidates commit to this waiver, Escudero said, it will preempt those who will seek to amass illegal fortune at the expense of taxpayers and assure the public that they are not keeping any ill-gotten wealth and won't

enrich themselves once elected into office.

"In that sense, we do not only adhere to the principle of leadership by example, but also remove any doubts the public may have on those working in government," Escudero pointed out.

"Public office is a public trust and government officials and employees are accountable to the public," Escudero said. "To ensure that a civil servant does not use his position to enrich himself, it is necessary that we put in place a mechanism that will enable the government to audit the finances of the civil servant."

Under his proposed measure, the waiver will be submitted 30 days from the date of assumption into office by a government official or employee.

Those who are already working in government, upon the effectivity of the law, will have to submit the waiver not later than 30 days from promulgation of the rules and regulations implementing the law.

Any public official or employee who fails or refuses to submit such waiver will be barred from entering or continuing the functions of his or her office, it said./Office of Senator Chiz Escudero



Linis Gobyerno

ATTENTION: HON. MAURICIO DOMOGAN-MAYOR BAGUIO CITY; HON. MEL SENEN SARMIENTO- DILG SECRETARY; PDG. RICARDO MARQUEZ, CHIEF PNP; P/C. SUPT. ULYSSES ABELLERA, RD PRO-COR!!!



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Ilegal na pasugalan sa Kayang-Hilltop, hanggang ngayon dinedema ni BCPO CD P/Sr. Supt. George Daskeo

Isa talagang palaisipan kung bakit hanggang sa ngayon ay patuloy pa rin ang operasyon nitong isang ilegal na pasugalan sa Barangay Kayang-Hilltop, kung saan mula pa nuong

February 5, 2016, at February 15, 2016 kung pinadalhan natin ng liham with photos and videos patungkol sa nasabing pasugalan. Inilabas din natin ito sa pahayagang ito as a front page headline photo at pati na sa LG Kommentaryo Section, noong February 20.

Kamakailan lang ay dumalo ang ilan sa ating mga miyembro at nasaksikan nilang patuloy pa rin and nasabing ilegal na pasugalan. Makikita ninyo ang liham na may kasamang latest photos at video na ating pinadalang muli kay CD Daskeo, ngunit hanggang ngayon ay DEDMA pa rin.

Sa puntong naniniwala na kami malakas talaga ang kapit ng pasugalan na ito kaya hindi man lang magalaw, ipahuli

or ipa-raid (kahit moro-moro man lang) ni CD Daskeo.

Tulad ng aming unang nasabi, walang nalalaman sa mga ganitong uri ng ilegal na pasugalan si Mayor Domogan, at lalung-lalo nang hindi niya ito papayagan.

Inyong makikita sa kaliwang bahagi ang reduced shot ng Feb. 20, 2016 issue at pati na na rin ang LG Kommentaryo section. Sa kanang bahagi ay ang liham na ating ipinadala kay CD Daskeo dated March 22, 2016.



DASKEO

February 20-26, 2016 P1P \$8.00

THE JUNCTION
Pahayagang Palaisipan!!!

MAURICIO ANGELO FILIPINO!!! BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET LONG LIVE THE FILIPINOS!!!

Grace Poe's son flaunts P-1-M rubber shoes (Limited Edition Nike Mag 10)

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Paintin na nang paintin!

Boxing great Manny Pacquiao refuses to back down on gay slurs

Highest-paid SSS executive: A founding of cronyism and patronage

Motorcycle bike

Front page of The Junction Feb. 20, 2016 issue

February 20-26, 2016 LG KOMENTARYO; ISANG PALAISIPAN

ATTENTION: HON. MAURICIO DOMOGAN-MAYOR BAGUIO CITY; HON. MEL SENEN SARMIENTO- DILG SECRETARY; PDG. RICARDO MARQUEZ, CHIEF PNP; P/C.SUPT. ULYSSES ABELLERA, RD PRO-COR !!!

Ilegal na Pasugalan sa Kayang-Hilltop, Dedma ang PNP!!!

Isa talagang palaisipan kung bakit hanggang sa ngayon ay patuloy pa rin ang operasyon nitong isang ilegal na pasugalan sa Barangay Kayang-Hilltop, kung saan mula pa nuong February 5, 2016, at February 15, 2016 kung pinadalhan natin ng liham with photos and videos patungkol sa nasabing pasugalan. Inilabas din natin ito sa pahayagang ito as a front page headline photo at pati na sa LG Kommentaryo Section, noong February 20.

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Linis Gobyerno, Inc.
(Clean Government/Governance)

March 22, 2016

PIS. SUPT GEORGE DASKEO
OIC-PNP City Director
Baguio City

Subject: Continues gambling at Kayang Hilltop

Dear P/Sr. Supt. Daskeo:

With all due respect, once again we write you regarding the seeming inaction and tolerance by your office on the on-going gambling at Kayang Hilltop which we have brought to your attention in two (2) previous letters to you dated January 24, 2016 and February 15, 2016 (please refer to the attached letters) and publication at the LG Kommentaryo Section at The Junction Newspaper issue of February 20, 2016.

Once again our members have brought to our attention the ongoing gambling at the same location as we have informed you in the past. Please refer to the attached photos and video of ongoing illegal gambling taken on the evening of March 21, 2016.

We hope that your office will take the necessary action on this matter, and should your office take whatever action, we would appreciate your informing us about it.

Sincerely,

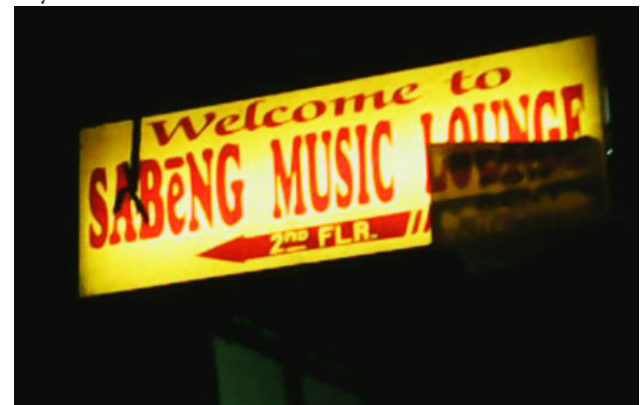
Nestor A. Castro
Director For Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices

Copy furnish: Hon. Mayor Mauricio Domogan

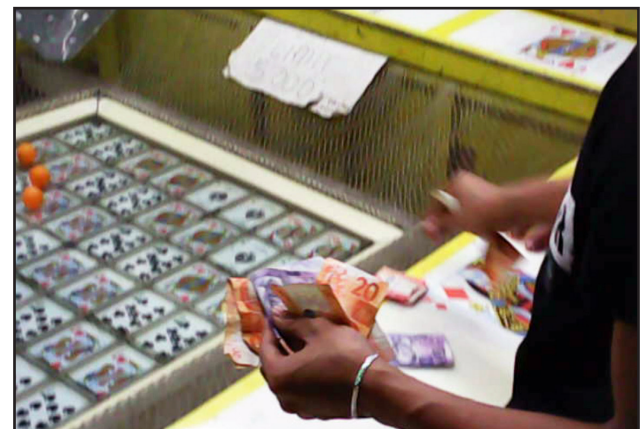
LG letter together with photos & video sent to CD Daskeo on March 22.



Drop ball. Illegal ang sugal na ito.



Eto ang landmark ng pasugalan.



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Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
First Judicial Region
Baguio City
OFFICE OF THE CITY SHERIFF

IN RE: PETITION FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATE LEFT BY THE DECEASED AVELINO O. MANIPON,

ARNOLD O. MANIPON, CRISTINA O. MANIPON-DELA VEGA, NOEL O. MANIPON, LUSVIMINDA O. MANIPON-MARINAS, AVELINO O. MANIPON, JR. AND FELIPINA O. MANIPON-SERRANO, Rep. by herein by their Attorney-in-fact, ARNOLD O. MANIPON,
Petitioners,
-versus-
GEMMA A. RIDAO, Respondent.
x-----x
SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE No. 257
NOTICE OF SALE ON EXECUTION OF REAL PROPERTY
WHEREAS, by virtue of the Writ of Execution dated December 17, 2013, and the Order dated November 25, 2015, both issued in the above-entitled case, directing the Sheriff to proceed with the public auction of the property, upon posting of the required bond which the petitioners posted on February 15, 2016 in the amount of P243,520.00, described as follows:

FOR THE EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF OF THE BAGUIO CITY
(SGD) ROMEO R. FLORENDO Sheriff IV
(SGD) RUBEN L. ATIJERA Sheriff IV

Publication dates: March 19, 26 and April 2, 2016

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT, BRANCH 9 (FAMILY COURT FOR BENGUET PROVINCE)
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
La Trinidad, Benguet

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVOCATION OF THE DECREE OF ADOPTION OF MINOR JANNEL SCHONER,

“A RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOCATED AT ALONG SUBD. RD., CYPRESS PT., VILL. 242M. FR. QUIRINO HI-IRISAN BRGY., QUEZON HILL, BAGUIO CITY. WITH A MARKET VALUE OF P243,520 AND AN ASSESSED VALUE OF P24,352.

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of said Writ of Execution, and in accordance with Rule 39, Series 10 (b) and Section 19, of the Rules of Court, the City Sheriff of Baguio City will, thru the undersigned deputies, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, on April 12, 2016 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the Lobby (fronting the main entrance) of the Justice Hall Bldg., Baguio City, the real property described above, to satisfy the amount of judgement and all lawful expenses of the execution sale. If for any reason/s the auction sale on April 12, 2016 will not push through, then notice is hereby given that the auction sale will proceed on April 21, 2016, also at 10:00 in the morning in the same place as indicated above without need of separate notice.

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE NO. 15-1-0020
FOR: RESCISSION OF ADOPTION

ORDER
x-----x
Petitioner, through counsel, filed this verified Amended Petition for Rescission of Adoption praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, judgment be rendered revoking or rescinding the Decree of Adoption issued in favor of respondent Ann Christy Schonher over Jannel Schonher on 03 May 2011. It is further prayed that the parental authority of the biological parents of the adoptee be restored; that the reciprocal rights and obligations of the adopter and the adoptee to each other shall be declared extinguished; that the successional rights between herein petitioner and her biological parents shall revert to its status prior to adoption; that the adoptee be now allowed to use the name stated in her original Birth Certificate; and that the Civil Registrar where the adoption decree was registered and the office of the National Statistics Office, now Philippine Statistics Authority, be directed to cancel the new Birth Certificate of the adoptee and reinstate her original Certificate of Live Birth.

It appears in the Amended Petition that petitioner Jannel Schonher is appropriately assisted by the DSWD through Ms. Manuela S. Ortiz, Social Welfare Officer II, SWAD Team Leader, Benguet.

WHEREFORE, finding the Amended Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the petitioner is directed to further meet and confer with Ms. Manuela S. Ortiz, the Team Leader of the

Ann Christy Schonher, and the Local Civil Registrar of Baguio City, who are respectfully directed to file a comment to this Amended Petition on or before 23 June 2016, the initial hearing of this case.

The REPORT of Ms. Ortiz of the Benguet SWAD should be submitted to this court at least ten (10) days before the initial hearing of this Petition, which shall be on 23 June 2016 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the Petitioners in The JUNCTION, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than 10 April 2016. All interested persons may come to court and show cause, if any, why this Amended Petition should not be granted.

Furnish copies of this ORDER with copies of the Petition and its annexes, to: the Office of the Solicitor General; the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Local Civil Registrar of Baguio City; the Philippine Statistics Authority; and, the Court Social Worker. Furnish copies of this ORDER to The JUNCTION and the petitioner and counsel.

Benguet SWAD Leader for the conduct of the appropriate Study and/or Child and Home Study in relation to this Amended Petition. The Benguet SWAD Team therefore is directed to conduct an appropriate study and/or Child and Home Study and submit to this court her REPORT, incorporating therein her findings and recommendations, and furnishing copies thereof to the Offices of the Solicitor General; the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Regional Director of the DSWD-CAR, Baguio City, who are respectfully directed to file a comment to this Amended Petition on or before 23 June 2016, the initial hearing of this case.

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the Petitioners in The JUNCTION, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than 10 April 2016. All interested persons may come to court and show cause, if any, why this Amended Petition should not be granted.

Furnish copies of this ORDER with copies of the Petition and its annexes, to: the Office of the Solicitor General; the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Local Civil Registrar of Baguio City; the Philippine Statistics Authority; and, the Court Social Worker. Furnish copies of this ORDER to The JUNCTION and the petitioner and counsel.

SO ORDERED.

Done in chambers, this 16th day of March 2016 at La Trinidad, Benguet.

(SGD) RUFUS G. MALECDAN JR.
Acting Presiding Judge

Publication Dates: March 19, 26 and April 2, 2016

I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.
Timothy Leary

Best performing women groups feted

BAGUIO CITY- Women groups in the city were feted for their active community involvement as they showcased talents and presented recycled fashion masterpieces in a show last Sunday afternoon, March 20, at the SM event center.

Balakbak, Sto. Tomas Women's Organization (WO) is best performing WO, with a cash prize of Fifteen Thousand Pesos (P15,000) and a certificate. The program is done in coordination with the Balikatan sa Kaunlaran (BSK), City Social Welfare and Development Office and other agencies.

Gibraltar Kalipi WO, South Sanitary Camp Kalipi, Upper Rock Quarry, Middle Rock Quarry WOs are second to fifth place; with P12,000; P10,000; P9,000 and P7,000 as cash prizes respectively.

Camp 8, South Drive, Pacdal, Loakan-Liwanag and Middle Quirino Hill Kalipi WOs were 6th to 10th place with Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000) each as consolation prize.

A certificate of participation and a thousand pesos each were given to; Dominican-Mirador United Women's Organization, Palma-Urbano WO, Trancoville, West Quirino Hill, East Quirino Hill, Victoria Village, San Roque Village, Sto. Rosario, Kalipi Happy Homes and Lourdes Subdivision Extension WOs.

The activity, part of the 2016 Kababaihan Festival in celebration of National Women's month was graced by women leaders: Councilors Betty Lourdes Tabanda, Elaine Sembrano, Archt. Gloria Vergara., Philippine Information Agency (PIA) Regional Director Helen Tibaldo, Businesswoman Epifania Daoey, City Social Welfare and Development Officers (CSWDO) head Betty Fangasan and Edith Furigay, and socio-civic leaders Linda Winters and Rebecca Domogan. Marissa Marilla, Theodora Caguicla and Emma de la Cruz were judges for the recycled material fashion contest.

The womens' groups were involved with livelihood concerns; food-based small scale business, beauty and health care, mini-market, micro-lending, and home-based weaving which enhanced camaraderie between and among themselves. Participation and involvement of the members are needed in the advocacy, Winters said. Some of the groups however are more highly motivated, she added.

The competing women groups were chosen as to accomplishments and involvement in community and national activities, and membership. Well-prepared reports, action photos and documented activities are needed for the screening process and submitted during the time frame allowed, civic leader Winters said. A well-rounded approach to women empowerment in the grassroots should be evident as with efforts against violence against health, education, livelihood, environmental protection, and now, climate change.

Activities are focused on the theme, “Kapakanan ni Juana, Isama sa Agenda.”

For the fashion show of recycled materials, top prize went to the Dizon-Manzanillo subdivision model who wore a fitted sack gown sprinkled with sawdust and wood shavings. Second prize is Camp 8 with a sack gown decorated with flower-formed plastic wrappers and colored bottle caps while Palma-Urbano

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March 26-29, 2016

City, Botanical vendors ink agreement

BAGUIO CITY - About 19 vendors within the Botanical Garden, formerly known as the Imelda Park recently signed their respective Lease of Contracts with the city government here at the City Mayor's Office, City Hall.

Said vendors agreed to pay the required rentals on the land where they are operating their business after the Commission on Audit (COA) discovered that they had been using the area for their livelihood for the past several years already.

Accordingly, COA ruled that the vendors who are occupying government properties must also pay the necessary lease rentals for the land that they occupy for their business aside from paying the mandatory business permit fees to the city government.

Thus, the city government has to abide by the recommendations of the COA in the utilization of government properties.

In the contract, the Botanical Garden vendors will pay P5,000 plus P150 per square meter per month for the first month and P150 per square meter per month for the succeeding months for the use of the area in advance within the first five days of the month.

The vendors are obliged to keep their stalls clean, orderly and neat as well as to comply with all sanitary and park ordinances, rules and regulations.

Also, cooking and washing of laundry are not allowed. Assigning or transferring of leasehold privilege is prohibited, however, the vendor may transfer his/her privilege to his/her immediate member of the family, willing and able to continue the business , subject to the recommendation of the City Environment and Parks Management Office to the Baguio city Market Authority/Baguio Parks Management Committee and/or the city mayor, due to reasons like death, SSS retirement, migration, illnesses and other incapacibilities.

Mortgaging the stall or entering into partnership with any other person or entity as well as expansion of the allocated area is not allowed.

Violation of the terms and conditions will automatically terminate the contract.

On the other hand, in case the city will embark a comprehensive development of the leased area, the vendors must voluntarily vacate the premises within 15 days from receipt of notice./Jho Arranz

City supports

International Forest Day

BAGUIO CITY - As part of the International Forest Day celebration, the city government here officially launched the Tree Nurturing Program of the city last March 21 during the flag raising ceremony at the City hall grounds.

A symbolic Tree of Resilience that will hold and carry the city officialdom and employees' personal commitment to contribute to global environmental protection and sustainability was demonstrated last Monday.

As concerned officials and employees in the protection and conservation of trees and forest, it was their commitment to conserve and use the water properly, to visit and take care of their respective trees, to plant more and to be a partner and a model for green advocacy.

Domogan, together with city officials and department heads headed in the signing and hanging of commitment at the Tree of Resilience twigs or branches.

Beatriz Gajete of the City Environment and Parks Management Office stressed that based on research, a tree in a year inhales 26 lbs. of carbon, one tree is equated to ten air conditioners, one full grown tree sends off oxygen enough

Cont. on page 6

Gov't, residents agree to protect Buyog

BAGUIO CITY – Government entities and occupants of the built-up portions of the Buyog watershed have agreed to protect and preserve what remains of the forest reservation as a requisite to the planned disposition for housing purposes of the occupied areas.

Some 745 occupants of the United Pinget Homeowners Association will sign a memorandum of agreement with the city government under Mayor Mauricio Domogan and city council committee on lands chair Leandro Yangot Jr., the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources Cordillera (DENR-CAR) under regional executive director Ralph Pablo and Baguio Water District under general manager Salvador Royeca.

The MOA stipulates that the DENR-CAR will conduct a survey of the actual occupied areas of the watershed and that upon identification of the inhabited portion the occupants will not expand into the unoccupied areas and will undertake measures to help protect the watershed from intrusion by squatters.

The agreement also mandates that the occupants will maintain their structures for residential purposes and in coordination with the city government and the DENR-CAR will undertake an annual tree-planting program to reforest what remains of the watershed.

The city through the city buildings and architecture office will design a water-tight waste water disposal system which shall be adopted by each residence to protect the watershed from contamination.

The city government, DENR-CAR and the BWD posed no objection to the segregation of the occupied areas from the coverage of Proclamation No. 93 declaring Buyog as a forest reservation but stressed that the protection of the remaining unoccupied portion is paramount.

Pablo endorsed the segregation while Royeca also signified approval subject to four conditions: that no further intrusion of buildings should be allowed; that the existing breaches of openings in the existing fence should be closed to prevent entry of unauthorized persons; that residents should be required to install sealed septic tanks; and that the residents should be informed that they have a personal stake in preservation the watershed as it is their primary water source.

“These conditions are sought to be imposed as our inspection has revealed that without these conditions being put in place, we will risk the irreversible contamination of the water sources,” Royeca noted.

He suggested that a MOA “be executed to serve as the basis for our issuance of the requested endorsement.”

A large portion of the 20-hectare Buyog is inhabited by residents from Pinget, Quirino Hill and other barangays straddled by the forest reserve.

Pinget barangay officials sought the segregation of 113,193 square meter area occupied by residents for housing as early as 2009. The residents claimed they have occupied the area since the late 70s or long before the issuance of Proclamation No. 93 issued in 1992.

In 2014, Lower Quirino Hill residents sought the intercession of Yangot also for the exclusion of the inhabited portion from the reservation.

Efforts to abate squatting at the reservation peaked in the 1990s when illegal structures were demolished by authorities but the intruders kept on returning prompting the Baguio Regreening Movement under former Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia and the Baguio-Ben-

Comelec eyes start of voting period at 6 am



NEW LEADERS. A voter fills up an election ballot at an elementary school classroom used as a voting station in Manila, Philippines, on May 13, 2013. File photo by Rolex dela Peña/EPA

MANILA, Philippines – The Commission on Elections (Comelec) on Wednesday, March 23, said it is considering to move the start of the voting period at 6 am after the Supreme Court (SC) ordered the poll body to print voting receipts.

The proposal is for the voting period to run from 6 am to 5 pm, Comelec Commissioner Christian Lim said during a joint congressional hearing on Wednesday.

“We are doing this in order to take advantage of daylight,” Comelec Chairman Andres Bautista added.

“As much as possible, we would like to start and finish while there is still daylight,” Bautista said.

This comes as a recent SC order, which directed the Comelec to issue voting receipts, requires a longer voting period.

‘Most transparent elections’ promised

The Comelec earlier warned that the May 9 elections could spill over the wee hours of the next day, May 10, if the poll body issues voting receipts.

During the hearing on the automated elections, Lim said the new voting hours is in the Comelec’s proposed general instructions for the elections.

Bautista explained that the SC ruling on voting receipts “dealt a curve ball” to the poll body.

Still, Bautista said, the Comelec vows to make the May 9 polls “the most transparent elections in Philippine history.”

The Comelec earlier set the voting period from 7 am to 5 pm on May 9.

In previous elections, the voting period was from 7 am to 7 pm.

Bautista explained that “as much as possible, we would like to encourage our voters to vote early.”/Paterno Esmaguel II /Rappler.com

guet Medical Societywith the DENR-CAR and BWD to spearhead the fencing of the unoccupied portion to ward off further intrusion and prevent expansion of the shanties.

According to the BRM, of the 20-hectare reservation area, only about 10 hectares remained unoccupied.

Buyog is one of the four major sources of water in the city aside from Sto. Tomas, Busol and Camp 8. It supplies water to the Buyog area including Camdas, Dizon, Pinget and Quirino Hill barangays./Aileen P. Refuerzo

Roxas’ ruthless lie at the debate



Roxas at the debate, right after Duterte called him a fraud.

It might seem to be of minor matter in the bigger scheme of things now. But one of the biggest and most ruthless lies peddled by presidential candidate Manuel Roxas 2nd at the debate on Sunday was his claim that the mess at the MRT-3 that has caused the service to now teeter toward collapse was caused by its former general manager Al Vitangcol’s corruption.

In a swift reply—an indication that it was a prepared line of defense—to candidate Rodrigo Duterte’s claim that President Aquino’s presidential candidate was not as clean as he pretended to be, as evidenced by the MRT-3 mess, Roxas said: “It’s Al Vitangcol who’s to blame there. Obviously, he had an interest in the firm, as his uncle was an incorporator at PH Trams.”

EDITORIAL

That’s really a big lie. It shows how Roxas can be so ruthless as to trample on even his former subordinate in his ambition to become President of this country.

To cover up their tracks, Roxas and his fellow Liberal Party stalwart and DOTC secretary, Joseph Abaya, are blaming the corruption and the mess at the MRT-3 that has made commuting a hell for millions of people in Metro Manila, on what they themselves know is an innocent man: Vitangcol.

What kind of a moral compass does Roxas have if he accuses a minor official, a former subordinate who doesn’t have vast resources as he has, on national television, and on such an important event as the presidential candidate, of corruption, when the special anti-graft court still hasn’t even acted on the Ombudsman’s filing of charges against him and others?

PH Trams, in a joint venture with CB&T, was the firm to which the DOTC awarded the P500-million MRT-3 maintenance contract on Oct. 19, 2012, taking over from Sumitomo Corp. which had maintained it since it was commissioned.

What had immediately raised eyebrows right after the project’s award to PH Trams-CBT Joint Venture, was that PH Trams had been set up only two months before, and was not an engineering firm. It was obviously the broker, or lobbyist for the contract. Its chairman, said to be behind the recent maintenance contracts, and PH Trams’ biggest stockholder, is one Marlo de la Cruz.

Who is Marlo de la Cruz? He is known to be a Liberal Party stalwart from Pangasinan, who very actively provided financial support and campaigned for Roxas in his bid for the vice presidency in 2010. Roxas has admitted knowing him but has claimed — fantastically — that he hadn’t seen him since then.

Uncle-in-law

And who is Vitangcol’s uncle, an incorporator of PH Trams who, according to Roxas, proves Vitangcol’s guilt? The name reported in the papers was Arturo Soriano, who is not even Vitangcol’s uncle, but his wife’s. More importantly, Soriano lives and works in Pangasinan, is the province’s accountant, and has been known to be close to de la Cruz,

Cont. on page 6



Eh bakit ka tumatakbo para Presidente, dapat mag artista ka Mrs. Llamanzares!!!

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS



LIFE’S INSPIRATIONS: “... For God so loved the world He Himself came down from heaven in human likeness and form, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but will have eternal life...” (John 3:16, The Only Way Translation, the Holy Bible).

EXCLUDING GOD FROM THE HOLY WEEK, THE FILIPINO WAY: As Philippine Christians prepare to commemorate Holy Week 2016, I hope they would focus more on the Word of God, the Bible, rather than on vacations, traditions, and useless religious ceremonies, in keeping with the plan of God to save sinners from the eternal penalty of sinfulness through His coming to earth in human form and enduring physical mutilation and death on the cross.

Even now, many of those who profess to believe in God are leaving out God in their preparations for the Holy Week, choosing instead to plan for bunny egg hunts, beaches, food trips, high tech entertainment, movies, and a host of other activities which have nothing to do with Jesus as God and Savior, or at least remembering His great love that took away from those who believe in Him the penalty of being burned and then eaten by worms forever.

And then, even those who consider immersing themselves in annual religious activities that aim to commemorate the passion and death of Jesus on the cross are plunging into those activities purely out of traditions and practices that are in fact abominable and greatly detestable to God, and not out of understanding of what God really aimed for or intended to do.

WHY IS THERE A “HOLY WEEK”? So, why is there a “Holy Week”? It is to remind everyone that God so loved the world that He Himself came down from heaven in human likeness and form, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but will have eternal life. Believers have to be reminded that because of their sinfulness, inborn and acquired, there is no way for them to escape the penalty of eternal hell of fire and worms.

As the Word of God is saying, everyone has sinned and has fallen short of the glory of God. And because everyone has sinned, we are doomed to die the death of a sinner---which is the death in hell, where sinners would be burned with unquenchable fire and eaten by millions of worms, for eternity, with no more salvation.

Yet, in His great love for all creation, God devised a way to rescue us from our sins. He Himself accepted the penalty for our sins. He did this by coming to earth, in human form, enduring both physical and verbal assaults, and dying on the cross as well. He had to do this, because there is no man who could save himself or his fellow men, on account of man’s being mired in sin.

HERE IS A WAY TO COMMEMORATE THE HOLY WEEK: One would think that sinners would be eternally grateful to God for His great sacrifice in saving them, and that sinners would henceforth try to change themselves for the better, by knowing what God’s commands are, and then sincerely obeying them. But man, as God rued in the Bible, is naturally imperfect and sinful, and incapable of stopping his mischief.

It is for this reason that man must be constantly reminded of what God did for them. Indeed, it is for this reason that Christians must commemorate Holy Week, or the week in which Jesus, our God and Savior, saved mankind from death in eternal fire and worms. At the very least, what every sinner---or what every man---should strive to do during Holy Week is to be acquainted with God by furiously reading His Bible.

Can man be fully acquainted with God and His great love for all of us by splurging on the beach, going on fancy vacations, indulging on physical entertainment, or even by religious practices? We all know the answer to this. Nevertheless, for those who have been touched by the Spirit, the way to commemorate Holy Week is by staying in our homes, studying the Bible, and praying to God!

PLEASE LISTEN: “Ang Tanging Daan” (The Sole Way): a Bible study and prayer session online could now be heard, 24 HOURS a day, in the Philippines and the world at www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan or www.facebook.com/ANDKNK (and look for “Ang Tanging Daan” broadcasts).

March 26-29, 2016

Cordillera forests in peril

CPA urges voters to make env’t a criteria in support-
ing candidates in May 2016

“Gapu iti makunkuna a panagdur-as, mapukpukaw ti danum, kaykayiw ken mulmula iti aglawlaw mi. Kasta met, saan kami a makaturog iti usto gapu iti mabalin nga epekto ti panagpatadda iti kaykayiw ken bantay tapno maaramid ti mayasa a housing project kas uma iti erosion ken slides. (Because of so-called development, we are losing water, trees and other plants in our surrounding. Likewise, we cannot also sleep well because of the possible effects of flattening the mountains such as erosion and slides due to a housing project.)” – Statement ni Manang Flor from Kesbeng, La Trinidad, Benguet

Today, March 21, 2016, we celebrate International Day of Forests and Trees but with the backdrop of seriously alarming state of forests in the Cordillera region. In 2015, government data reveals that the forest cover of the region is 47% and it decreasing by at least 300-500 hectares every year. As a watershed cradle in Northern Luzon, the remaining forest must be protected and sustainable measures must be put in place to increase forest cover in the region.

But what seriously alarms the Cordillera Peoples Alliance (CPA) is apparently the lack of urgency and programs from local government units and national government agencies especially the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to protect and increase our forest covers. The case of Mt. Data is an example. In May 2012, Commissioner Heherson T. Alvarez of the Climate Change Commission stated that at least 71% of Mount Data National Park had been converted to agricultural, residential and commercial use.

Commissioner Alvarez further stated that more than half of the forests in the provinces of Apayao, Kalinga and Mountain Province had been logged over. His statement was further validated by Antonio Manila, technical director for forestry of the DENR-National Capital Region stated that the deforestation rate in Cordillera region had risen to alarming levels resulting in massive erosion and groundwater depletion. Manila further attributed that the disappearing forest cover largely due to conversion to commercial vegetable and other farms, timber poaching, and fires from slash-and-burn farming.

In June 2012, former DENR-CAR’s regional executive director Clarence Baguilat likewise admitted that the Cordillera’s watersheds were in a critical state, severely threatening the region’s food and energy self-sufficiency. He shared that recent studies showed that only 37% of the total land area (or 673,323 hectares) of the region remains forested. As a result, all the major rivers in this ecosystem – the Agno, Chico, Abra, and Magat Rivers – are observed to be drying up. In June 2015, DENR-CAR’s regional technical director for forest management services Augusto Lagon admitted that the threats to the region’s watersheds and forests remain and will continue to be real.

The vanishing forest cover in the Cordillera should also be seen historically. This did not happen overnight. In Benguet alone, corporate mining has denuded forests in Itogon; Baguio, Tuba and Tublay. When they ran out of timber, the mining companies expanded their logging to Bobok in Bokod. In Abra, the Cellophil Resources Company, then owned by Marcos crony Herminio Disini, was granted a Timber and Pulpwood License Agreement, covering 99,565 hectares of pine forests in Abra and Kalinga-Apayao in 1973.

These experiences added with the above mentioned statements are serious and without political will and

FEATURE

Plunder, graft raps...

...from page 7

tion which leads to the suspension of payment of rentals under the contract are considered default in obligation which can make the non defaulting party either rescind or claim damages.

Job opening

The contract also specifically mentioned locals as preference in hiring employees as well as giving preference to competitive local contractors when there is a need to obtain their services.

Environmental protection

Also included in the contract is for the consortium to assure the greenness of the environment and protection of nature. It will be part of the responsibility of the lessee-developer to plant pine trees or other species applicable in the area.

Agbayani reiterated that “This project is in consonance with JHMC’s stewardship of the CJHR which comprises 53 percent of the forest cover in the entire City of Baguio. Renewable energy, sustainable forest and environment management are projects that JHMC can be truly proud of as it contributes to mitigating the effects of climate change in our country.”

Present during the signing were BCDA President Casanova, BCDA Chairman Ma. Aurora G. Garcia, JHMC President and CEO Agbayani, JHMC Chairman Silvestre C. Afable, Vendeka Bilgi Teknolojileri Ticaret Limited President Bilali Nadir Uzum, Isabela Power Corporation Executive Vice President Carlo Ma. L. Fernandez who also seats as the president of the Riverflow Ventures and Power Energy Corp., the consortium that will rehabilitate and operate the John Hay mini hydro power plant./Melody Brawner/BCDA

intervention, the result will be catastrophic. The 12 major and principal Cordillera river systems total drainage area is 5.5 million hectares and groundwater storage of about 150 million cubic meters for irrigation and hydroelectric energy of Northern Luzon while household sector consumes an annual average consumption of 24.77 million cubic meters.

The CPA as a champion for the environment joins the walk for our forests and trees. Since its establishment, CPA continue to join and spearhead campaigns against illegal logging, open-pit mining operations and other destructive projects to the environment. In the grass-roots, the CPA in partnership with its local chapters and development institutions in conducting capacity building activities to strengthen and develop sustainable agriculture and environmental practices among our communities.

The protection of our Cordillera forests is all our concern. But the biggest share of obligation lies with local government units and DENR to protect the remaining Cordillera forests. The issue of vegetable farmers expanding gardens into the last remaining forested areas should be seen as a matter of survival. But more than this is the lack of land to till and the drive of liberalized agriculture and commercial temperate vegetables in the country. The government should come up with comprehensive plan and program on sustainable agriculture and to cater to the needs of our farmers.

It is also high time to make the issue of environment as a major criteria in choosing and supporting candidates in this coming election. Let us support candidates with clear environmental programs. On the other hand, we should reject candidates who are pro-mining, illegal logging, and other destructive projects.

Let us walk the talk./Abigail Anongos, Secretary General, CPA

Duterte more popular than media dare admit?

A HUGE throng of Cebuanos were animated as the convoy of Secretary Mar Roxas drove by on the way to the presidential debate at the University of the Philippines-Cebu campus. The still pictures could be a dream for Roxas’ drum-beaters who could use them to disprove claims that he’s unexciting. This dream could turn into a nightmare, however, if audio is used to accompany the stills. The crowd was shouting “Duterte, Duterte, Duterte” as Roxas’ convoy passed by.

I saw a video of this incident at the FaceBook posted by Tamaraw Riders (Even Demata?) but not on television. I may not have read a lot of papers but I failed to read any mention of this vociferous Cebuano pro-Duterte crowd in the broadsheets.

There’s validity in the numerous complaints of Duterte supporters on why Manila papers failed to show the big crowd attending his rallies. Their complaints are usually accompanied by photos of the banner crowd in attendance. Are the papers and even TV trying to create a bandwagon for a presidential candidate who’s not Duterte? Are they conditioning the mind of the voters that Duterte has a lot of catching up to do?

This reminds me of a tongue-in-cheek comment by Duterte when told that he was lagging behind in poll surveys: “Talo na tayo!”

The fact is, if we consider the militancy of Duterte supporters, his rivals wouldn’t be taking him lightly. He’s decidedly popular among Bisayans, the overseas Filipino workers and those who don’t want a clone of President BS Aquino The Last to sit next in Malacañang.

A dearest friend, former Chairman Tong Payumo of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority wrote last Sunday of his meeting with an OFW at the Qatar Airways Business Class Lounge. The OFW, Rey Loar of Leyte, said that OFWs in Qatar are overwhelmingly for Duterte.

“How about your family back home?” Tong asked.

“Of course, they’ll have to vote for Duterte or else I’ll stop sending money to them!” Loar replied, according to Tong, who concluded that this meant every OFW vote would be multiplied by at least three.

Loar said that OFWs are very angry at the “laglag-bala” MO and the opening of balikbayan boxes. Duterte alone gives them hope for a change in the country, according to Loar.

I still have some misgivings about Duterte although he has lately tried to tone down his fascist tendencies. His outbursts on heading a bloody administration still send shivers to my spine. Then of course, there’s his unrepentant “joke” of cursing the Holy Father Pope Francis because of the traffic his visit has caused. He also has to urge his followers to cool down and stop threatening those who don’t believe in him.

This said, I still consider a Duterte administration much better than an unalloyed continuation of the “daang matuwid” that’s nothing but a hypocritical catch-phrase. Among the presidential candidates, only Duterte, Vice President Jejomar Binay and Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago don’t have any Aquino baggage to weigh them down.

Sen. Grace Poe is believed to be the “Plan B” of the administration as shown by the support given her by the Solicitor-General in the disqualification case against her before the Supreme Court. Why the SolGen supported her instead of the Commission on Elections that had disqualified her gave the game away. But Poe isn’t only beholden to Aquino. She’s also a public defender of industrialist Danding Cojuangco’s handling of the coco levy. No wonder, she’s now called Poejuangco.

Oh yes, she tried to tone down these criticisms against her by claiming that she didn’t sign the Senate report on the disposition of the coco levy. Well, try again. A netizen proved she was lying by showing a copy of the Senate report with her signature in it.

I remember her adoptive mother Susan Rocas once said: “Ang sinungaling ay kapatid ng magnanakaw.”/Efren L. Danao/19espiloy47@gmail.com

Editorial...

from page 4

his point-man in dealing with the provincial government.

Soriano is an incorporator of PH Trams because he is an associate of Liberal Party Pangasinan stalwart de la Cruz, not because he is Vitangcol's uncle-in-law. "Roxas knows this, and had met Soriano in his many sorties in Pangasinan in 2010," an official in that province's government disclosed.

"I wasn't even close to Soriano, as we moved in different circles and worked even in different places, me, here in Metro Manila and he, in Pangasinan," Vitangcol said in an interview a month ago.

In my interview with Vitangcol, he struck me as an upright, unassuming lawyer who wanted to contribute to the nation in some way. Unfortunately, he is one of the hundreds of upper-middle class professionals fooled by this Yellow Culi's pretension of undertaking a crusade to reform the country.

Roxas without doubt oversaw the awarding of the maintenance contract to PH Trams and its partner. He delayed the process for replacing Sumitomo group for two years, and during all time it was Vitangcol who was writing him for the need to start the bidding process. "There wasn't even a reply at all to my memos," Vitangcol said.

Roxas' inaction could be explained only if he had been deliberately delaying it, since he knew – having been in government for many years – that the department could dispense with a real bidding, and negotiate with its preferred contractor on grounds that there was an emergency. Such an "emergency" did occur after the DOTC informed Sumitomo on Oct. 2 that its maintenance contract, which was being renewed every six months since 2010, wouldn't be renewed. But this was two weeks before the existing contract was ending. Since MRT-3 couldn't be operated without the maintenance operator, DOTC declared it was an emergency and, therefore, had to dispense with the time-consuming bidding process, and instead, negotiate with a contractor.

Robredo killed
Whatever scheme Roxas was working on was interrupted when DILG Secretary Jesse Robredo was killed in an airplane crash on Aug. 18, 2012. Roxas had coveted the DILG position since its supervision over local governments and the police would give him an edge in the presidential elections for 2016.

Aquino announced on Aug. 31 that Roxas would be DILG secretary. Roxas accelerated the process for getting a new contractor to replace Sumitomo. He left the DOTC to become DILG secretary on Oct. 19, the day the department signed the contract with PH Trams, owned by the Liberal Party stalwart de la Cruz.

His successor Joseph Abaya obviously didn't have anything to do with it, although as a loyal Liberal Party man, he signed the contract just the same — a clever move by Roxas, obviously – and, therefore, had responsibility for its legality.

Who was in charge of the negotiations with, and eventual awarding of the contract to PH Trams? The two people close to Roxas, whom he brought with him to the DOTC: Undersecretaries Jose Perpetuo M. Lotilla, who chaired the Bids and Awards Committee, and Rene Limcaoco, Roxas' right-hand man in the department. MRT-3 General Manager Vitangcol wasn't even an assistant secretary. Roxas, as soon as he assumed the DOTC post, issued a memorandum that any contract worth more than P10 million had to be approved by him.

What kind of a person would try to ruin somebody's life, to accuse him of a crime for which he could be imprisoned, when he knew that man was innocent, and that he himself with his close operatives planned and executed the crime?

What kind of a depraved person would convict Vitangcol on national TV on grounds that since his "uncle" was a PH Trams incorporator, then he must be "obviously" guilty of

Duterte vows to...

from page 1

organized by the Commission on Elections (Comelec), held at the University of the Philippines Cebu on March 20.

"In 3-6 months, you will feel the positive effects of my campaign against corruption, criminality and drugs. We have to protect the children, we have to end drugs, and drugs must be suppressed," the tough-talking mayor added.

Duterte's running mate, Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano, for his part, stressed that of all the presidential candidates, it was only Duterte who showed political will and strength of character to end the cycle of corruption in government.

"Of all the candidates in the second presidential debate, only Mayor Duterte has the moral ascendancy to speak about corruption. VP Binay is obviously corrupt, Secretary Mar Roxas is representing a government marred by corruption, and Senator Grace Poe has yet to prove her independence from shady political figures perceived to hold suasion over her," said Cayetano.

During the first half of the debate, Duterte reiterated the challenge he issued with Cayetano to their fellow candidates to waive their bank secrecy rights and bare their bank accounts.

Duterte also urged Vice President Jejomar Binay to produce a copy of his waiver, which the Vice President failed to present.

"I would like to be very frank with the Vice President. Sir, marami kayong kaso (ng korapsyon) sa COA. Ang tanong ko, if you can produce (a bank secrecy waiver)... pirmahan natin 'yan. At kung may kasong mapatunayan laban sa atin, we should withdraw from the presidential derby," Duterte asserted./DC-HQ

City Supports...

from page 3

for four persons and it transpires ten liters of water.

Also, 1.6 billion people globally depend on forests for their livelihood and daily sustenance needs.

Showing environment care, the city government here headed by mayor Mauricio Domogan recently signed the Memorandum of Agreement relative the water harvesting facility at the Le Monet, Camp John Hay, and the Earth Hour activity held last Saturday at the City hall grounds.

A clean-up drive was also conducted by the City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) in coordination with the different barangays last week in line with the continuing "Salaknib Ti Waig" program of the city.

Accordingly, the International Day of Forests was established on the 21st day of March, by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on November 28, 2012. Thus, various events celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests, and trees outside forests, for the benefit of present and future generations./Jho Arranz

graft, even if the accuser knew that the 'uncle' was with the company because he was an associate of a Liberal Party fund-raiser who owned the company?

And here is another lie made up during the debate – the claim that under the Daang Matuwid government, the corrupt are prosecuted, regardless of their party affiliation.

Last December, the Ombudsman filed corruption charges involving what it called the "anomalous" DOTC maintenance contract for MRT-3 with PH Trams. Five incorporators of PH Trams were charged.

The only DOTC official charged was Vitangcol. Not included was Roxas' man — Undersecretary Lotilla, who chaired the Bids and Awards Committee, which awarded and signed the contract with Vitangcol, and Liberal Party President Secretary Abaya, who approved it and also signed the deal.

And Roxas still has the gall to run for President?/tiglaol.manilatimes@gmail.com

Search on for...

from page 2

ing and screening committee which gathers all the nominations and conducts the first round of assessment of the nominees and second by the board of judges which reviews, conducts interviews and finally selects the outstanding citizens based on the criteria.

The mayor said each member of the board of judges independently rates the nominees and all the ratings will be collated by the chairman to compute the average score. The average point must reach the rating earlier set by the committee for the nominee to make it to the selection.

The SOCOB will accept nominations until June 17. Forms are available at the city mayor's office at City Hall and at the Philippine Information Agency Cordillera at Lualhati barangay or can be accessed online at www.mysocob.gov.ph;

Nominees should be Baguio-born or Baguio-based and have resided in the city for at least ten years.


Nominees should be more than 35 years old and must be known for his integrity and unquestionable good moral character and should demonstrate involvement and achievement in the sector in which he or she is being nominated for.

They should have leadership quality for a meaningful change in the city and must have equally performed important and worthy roles in both private and public sectors.

They must have the determination and persistence to assert the common good for their constituents and must have a worthy sectoral contribution and participation in socio-economic, socio-cultural and educational undertakings.

Nominees should also demonstrate outstanding involvement and achievement in the accomplishment of the vision, mission and goals towards the development of the city as a whole./Aileen P. Refuerzo

I DONT CARE
ALL ABOUT YOUR BLACK PROPAGANDA....



DUTERTE
PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT

ALL I KNOW IS ABOUT MY PRESIDENT AND THAT IS
RODRIGO DUTERTE 2016 SOLID!..

NOTHING WILL CHANGE MY VOTE!

This ad is placed and paid for by Dante Jimenez,
Unit 601 Pacific Corporate Center, West Avenue, QC

March 26-29, 2016

MAGKASANGGA TAYO

>OK lang menosen niyo ang Junction!!!

>Pumupunta ng giyera, walang dalang bala!!!

BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



Nakakatawa talaga at nakalulungkot ang iba sa ating mga lokal na kandidatong tumatakbo na para bagang sila ay mga masokista. Meron diyan nagko-komento na hindi kailangan mag pa ads sa pahayagang ito sapagkat kakaunti lang naman daw ang nagbabasa nito. Ang mga iba naman ang katwiran ay wala raw silang budget o pondo para sa ads. Ang mga iba naman ay as a group (grupo) daw sila nagpapa-ads, at kung anu-ano pang iba't-ibang mga palusutan blues.

Gusto kong talakayin ng punto por punto ang ilan sa mga komentong pinarating sa akin ng aking mga kasamahan sa pahayagang ito.

Una sa lahat, ang pahayagang ito, tuwing election bi-weekly issues, for the past 5 elections ay ipinamumudmod ng libre sa mga pila ng jeepney atbp, para masiguro natin na makakarating sa mga tanga este taga Baguio ang mga issues na dapat nilang malaman, lalong lalo na ang sinasabing mga bagay-bagay na masasabing gusto nilang manatili as skeletons hidden in their closets.

Pangalawa, ang printing natin ay hindi bumababa sa 10,000 copies or kung minsan depende sa mga sponsors ay pwede pa umakyat hanggang 15,000 copies or more per issue at 2 times a week. Kaya sa palagay ninyo, kayong mga BOBONG MGA KANDIDATO ANG MAG ISIP??? Halimbawa ay sa pag a-advertise ninyo sa amin ay nadagdagan kayo ng kahit na 5% or 10% lamang (500 – 1000 votes) dala ng ating mga write-ups or ads ninyo sa ating pahayagan, hindi ba at tulong din yan para sa inyong pagka-panalo? Kaya patuloy ninyong menosin ang pahayagang ito sapagkat, ang prinsipyo ninyo in politics is division and not addition. Hi! Hi! Hi!

Pangatlo, kung isa kang kandidato at tatakbo ka na wala kang pondo ay wala kang pinagka-iba sa isang sundalong pupunta sa giyera ng walang dalang baril o kulang ng bala. Isipin mo naman Mr. or Ms. Candidate, mayroon kang tatlong taon para sa iyong preparasyon, at kung hindi mo nakayanan, eh kung kapos ka pa rin ng pondo mas mabuting, huwag ka ng tumakbo ng hindi ka mag-mukhang pulubing nag pupumilit na pumasok sa isang 5 Star Hotel o isang trying hard. Alam naman natin na ang pag-takbo para sa isang politikal na posisyon ay nangangailangan ng pondo, maging sa Estados Unidos (USA) ay kailangan ng mga campaign donors kaya atras agad ang mga kandidato kung wala na silang mga campaign donors. EH, MGA IBA SA INYO ANG TATAPANG NG APOG AT NAG PUPUMILIT TUMAKBO KAHIT NA WALANG PONDO. Bakit, kayo ay nangang-arap na ma-gagantso ninyo ang mga botante ng wala man lang kayong sapat na gagastusin para mahahalal kayo??? Bakit kaparehas ba ninyo ang kalibre ni Money este Manny Pacquiao??? AGA AMO TAYON!!!

Kaya ang payo ko sa inyo, habang maaga pa lamang at nang tuluyan na kayong hindi mag-mukha na dakilang masokista ay, umatras na kayo sa laban at i-paubaya na lang ninyo ang pangangampanya sa mga kandidatong SERYOSO na may sapat na resources o bala, ng hindi kayo maging katawa-tawa at maging Mister o Miss Dakilang Palusutan Blues!

COMMENTARIES

FASTRACK

Obsolete PD 1079, pinagkakakitaan ng mga lokal na peryodiko ng wala sa lugar!!!

Reprint from lastweek

BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



The following is a letter sent by this columnist on July 17, 2014 to the Hon. Henedina R. Abad, Congresswoman, Lone District of Batanes. A reply from her office was received on September 1, 2014. The letter was sent to her and not to any other representative of Congress, thinking that she does not have to contend with any local media in her turf.

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July 16, 2014

HON. HENEDINA R. ABAD
Congresswoman, Lone District of Batanes
Room N-307, House of Representatives, QC

Through: Mr. Walter M. Estamo
Chief of Staff

Subject: Request that your office file a new law or amend PD 1079

Dear Hon. Abad:

With all due respect, the undersigned would like to bring to your attention what I believe is no longer a relevant and outmoded law.

When PD 1079 was enacted on January 28, 1977 I am certain that the intent and purpose of the law was indeed relevant and essential; however, due to technological advancements in internet and even digital technology, exposure through local newspaper (most local newspapers at that except for a few) has now become a minor means for information dissemination purposes.

Given the not so ideal current economic conditions of Juan dela Cruz, the PD 1079 appears to be discriminatory and goes against a free and open competitive market that causes unnecessary financial burden and/or costs on litigants. At present, local newspapers maintain judicial publication rates that could range at a low of P 160.00/per column inch (standard Benguet rate) and P 180.00/per column inch (standard Baguio rate) to a high of several hundreds per column centimeter. Some of these rates are even ridiculously higher than nationally circulated tabloids or broadsheets.

In fact, take for example in Baguio City, to date there are around fifteen (15) local newspapers and the number is increasing. For such a small city like Baguio, I can only surmise that the Baguio Residents are such voracious newspaper readers and/or the Baguio newspaper publishing market must be that big, or could it be that some of these local newspapers are up and around brought about by the evident revenue from judicial publications? After all there are no regulations on the number of copies to be printed per issue and likewise no auditing requirements on the number of copies a newspaper is publishing .

It is a fact, a court litigant already has to contend with filing and legal fees; however, pauper litigants and

similar not so financially well off litigants are allowed by the courts a reduction or no filing fees; likewise litigants who cannot afford the services of a private lawyer (although there are countless choices for legal services) have the option to avail of the services of the PAO lawyers, whereas, should there be judicial publication requirements, the litigant has no choice but to contend with the usually pre-set and agreed publication rates among local publishers which is raffled off to the newspaper publications, and the litigant cannot choose his/her choice of publication.

In view of this, even without the benefit of a thorough study and assessment of the whole Philippine situation on the irrelevance and the discriminatory value of the PD 1079, I am sure that if your office conducts the exhaustive research, your Honorable Office will realize the need to either amend and/or totally scrap the outmoded, and irrelevant PD 1079. I am sure that should your Honorable Office need endorsements of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) and the Supreme Court (SC), these institutions would certainly be amenable to a change for the better system, a system or a law not as burdensome for Juan dela Cruz as what PD 1079 is all about.

In view of this, I humbly propose the following general suggestions:

1.Perhaps, the new law can consider and make use of Internet and/or Social Media which certainly is a lot cheaper and with a farther and wider information dissemination base, and costs if any to the litigants would be nil!

2.Perhaps the current website of the supreme court etc..., could simply be expanded and a portal for this purpose per judicial region could be added?

3.Should the continued use of print newspapers be used, free and competitive market forces should come into play so as to allow the litigant the option to seek or choose for the lowest available publication.

4.Should the continued use of print newspapers be used, minimum number of copies in tuned with the times should be set and an independent and reliable auditing mechanism should be in place to ascertain the true number of copies printed.

Herewith attached are photocopies of the following:

1.PD 1079
2.Supreme Court Circular A.M. No. 01-1-07-SC dated October 16, 2001
3. Various publication rates/quotations (national-local papers) as of year 2012
4.Article/Column of Rafael Alunan at the Business World, July 15, 2014

Finally, your Honorable Congresswoman is thinking that of all persons to make this suggestion, why a newspaper publisher at that; and should a new law come into being whatever obvious revenue is being derived may be gone? In all honesty, I have been living with this irrelevant law that I have, on countless occasions, seen the unnecessary financial hassle and burden caused by PD 1079 to Juan dela Cruz.

Respectfully yours,

Freddie J. Farres
De Facto Publisher

CC: Office of the Chief Justice, Supreme Court (SC)
Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP)