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THE JUNCTION

WEEKEND

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Pahayagang Palaban!!!

MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Vendors Move to Parks to Escape Clearing OPS

BAGUIO CITY ambulant vendors displaced by the clearing operations being undertaken by the Public Order and Safety Division (POSD) of the City Mayor's Office on all sidewalks have gone to the parks.

City Mayor Mauricio Domogan has ordered the Baguio City Market Authority (BCMA) to ascertain reports that displaced vendors are now using some of the city's parks to ply their trade.

"We will be implementing continuous clearing operations on all sidewalks including our parks of ambulant vendors," Domogan said.

Recently, the mayor ordered the immediate removal of vendors who have been occupying portions of the city's sidewalks supposedly intended for public use.

Domogan stressed, "the city government is strengthening the clearing operations to remove human and structural obstructions along sidewalks and streets to improve traffic flow."

"I hope our vendors would apply for vacant slots in the public market so they can ply their trade without fear of arrests or confiscation," he said.

The mayor have tasked the BCMA to identify portions of the Public Market Blocks 3 and 4 for the relocation.

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"ANIDO" - Igorot miners who are responsible for de-clogging City Camp Lagoon to avoid flooding build a makeshift fireplace to warm themselves during the height of Monsoon Rains "Habagat"/By Bong Cayabyab

Dapat ay matutunan ng mga vendors ang disiplina at paggalang sa batas. Tingnan nga natin kung kakayanin ni Mayor at kung hanggang saan siya gagalangin. Style Rodrigo Duterte of Davao ang gawin niyo, Mayor!!!



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ADVOCACY MINDANOW

ON MISUARI'S "BANGSAMORO REPUBLIK"

page 4

BY: JESUS DUREZA



CJHDevCo Loses Insurance Cover on Injunction Against BCDA

The bonding company where the Sobrepeña-led Camp John Hay Development Corporation (CHDevCo) tapped its bond to make effective a writ of preliminary injunction, has filed a motion to withdraw their insurance.

In a Motion for Cancellation of Injunction Bond filed by Liberty Insurance Corporation on July 03, 2013 before Branch 6 of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) of Baguio City said it is no longer in a position to renew the injunction bond due to underwriting restriction and constraints.

The withdrawal of the bonding company lies contrary to the statement issued by CJHDevCo lawyer and spokesperson Manuel Ubarra, Jr. that the injunction guaranteed by Liberty Insurance Corporation remains in effect. A criminal case for perjury was recently filed by the Department of Justice (DOJ) against Ubarra before the Municipal Trial Court of Quezon City for knowingly making false statements under oath in a complaint that he filed before the Office of the Ombudsman against the Board of Directors of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA).

The P736 million bond that the CJHDevCo posted was a prerequisite to make effective the injunction that prevents a government takeover of their leased properties in John Hay. CJHDevCo has not yet offered to replace the bond.

BCDA President and CEO Arnel Paciano D. Casanova said if Liberty Insurance Corporation withdraws, there is no bond to speak of which makes the writ of preliminary injunction void. "Without the bond, no injunctive relief can be extended to CJHDevCo," he said.

Casanova added that CJHDevCo had no basis for securing the injunction against a takeover of CJHDevCo's leased properties in Camp John Hay because there was no attempt to take over the leased properties.

"There was no basis for the writ of preliminary injunction. No takeover has taken place, and no attempt has been made, hence the court order came as a surprise and mystery," Casanova said.

The BCDA, the government body that owns Camp John Hay, pointed out that the termination of lease agreement that it served to CJHDevCo on May 16, 2012 still stands. BCDA earlier terminated the lease agreement with CJHDevCo due to material and incurable breaches, foremost of which is the lessee's continued refusal to pay its lease to the Philippine government, which has already ballooned to P3 billion..CHDEVCO-PR

RPOC Tackles Implementation of Peace and Development Projects in CAR

BAGUIO CITY - The Cordillera Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) held a special meeting last August 20 to check and monitor the implementation of the different peace and development projects under the 2011 Government and Cordillera Bodong Administration - Cordillera People's Liberation Army (GPH-CBA-

CPLA) Memorandum of Agreement.

In the meeting presided by Police Chief Superintendent Benjamin Magalona, Cordillera police regional director and RPOC acting chair, front-line agency project implementers

DOH Brings Adolescent Vaccination Program to Public HS Students in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Health (DOH), in its effort to eliminate the emergence of vaccine-preventable diseases, is now pushing for a school-based adolescent vaccination program for public high school students in selected cities and provinces nationwide.

To launch the program in Baguio City, DOH Center for Health and Development - Cordillera (DOH-CHD-CAR) officials headed by Dr. Virginia Narciso, along with city officials headed by Mayor Mauricio Domogan and City Health officer Dr. Florence Reyes, led a simple program and ceremonial vaccination at the Baguio City National High School (BCNHS), Tuesday.

Several health teams proceeds to the classrooms to conduct MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) and Td (Tetanus Diphtheria) vaccination to grade 7 (first year) up to fourth year high School students of BCNHS who have letter of consent from their parents to avail of such free vaccination.

Narciso, who heads the Family Health Cluster of CHD-CAR, said the school-based adolescent immunization is a nationwide program of the DOH that adopts the theme, "Malusog na Kabataan, Kabalik at Pag-asa para sa Kaunlaran: Magpapakabakuna".

This is in line with the country's 2007 commitment to eliminate vaccine preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella and diphtheria, which the DOH's National Epidemiology Center identified as also common to adolescents nowadays.

Under the program, Narciso said they hope to provide booster dose of MMR and Td to around 19,600 high school students in 22 public high schools in Baguio City to boost their immunity against the vaccine-related illnesses.

Narciso also disclosed that the province of Abra and Apayao are the other beneficiaries of the said school-based adolescent immunization program in the Cordillera Region.

Domogan and BCNHS Principal Dr. Elma Donaal warmly welcomed the program and expressed their gratitude to the DOH for bringing the free immunization program to Baguio starting with the largest public high school in the city. They encouraged all the students to avail of the program 'so that all together we can bring in and promote a healthy environment for the city and the people of Baguio./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

briefed the body of the status of the PAMANA or Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (peaceful and resilient communities) projects in the region as well social reintegration of CPLA members.

The PAMANA

program covers the community development and economic reintegration of CPA-CPLA members components of the MOA which is aimed to fully transform the group, now known as the Cordillera Forum on Peace and Development, into a socio-economic organization.

Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Director Marilyn Sta. Catalina reported that under their agreement with the Office of Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), P32 million

worth of farm to market road (FMRs) projects are set for implementation this year.

Some of the projects are set for funding release, while others are pending as the involved local government units (LGUs) are still settling with the Commission on Audit (COA) their previous unliquidated accounts or projects, she said. Sta. Catalina also reported that another P30M is set for tram lines projects and eight areas in Tinglayan, Kalinga were already identified

City Tackles Busol Lot Problem

BAGUIO CITY - City legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes last week advised city assessor Nilda Navarro not to issue tax declarations over the 22 subdivided lots covered by a 211 title and located within the Busol watershed.

In a letter to Navarro, Rabanes said issuing tax declarations over the lots covered by Original Certificate of Title No. 018-0-162 "would be reckless, anomalous and irregular and would certainly cause grave and irreparable damage and injury to the government and to the public" as said title was not revaluated despite being a 211 title under Land Registration Case No. 1 Record No. 211.

"Without any validation, (Presidential Decree) 1271 declares the title null and void and without force and effect (and in this case) we do not see any validation of the said original and derivative titles," Rabanes said.

Rabanes also said that based on the findings by the city assessor the lots fall within the Busol Watershed Reservation and thus are not valid considering that the Busol watershed was established as a forest reservation by Proclamation No. 15 on April 27, 1922 which "antedated OCT 018-0-162 which purports to have been issued only on March 26, 1965."

Rabanes also asked Navarro to coordinate with the Register of Deeds of Baguio "for the annotation on the purported derivative titles your findings that said lots fall within the Busol Forest Reservation" and at the same time inform the Dept of Environment and Natural Resources and the city council for a "joint verification and investigation of this serious concern."

OCT 018-0-162 covers an area of 77,849 square meters and was subdivided into 22 lots with duly issued Transfer Certificates of Title (TCTs).

Navarro discovered the spurious titles upon review of applications for tax declaration covering the subdivided lots and noticed the lack of revaluation of the Original Certificate of Title No. 018-0-162 before its subdivision.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan tasked Navarro to coordinate with the legal office to undertake necessary actions to nullify said titles./A Refuerzo

for such projects. She also sought n RPOC's assistance in identifying other possible tram line areas as around P11M of the fund remains.

Engr. Rene Valera of the Department of Interior and Local Government also briefed the council members of the status of projects under the agency's supervision. He disclosed that there are around P212M worth of PAMANA projects currently being

implemented in various GPH-CBA-CPLA PAMANA areas in the region. These projects, mostly priority infrastructure development projects identified by the involved communities themselves, are being implemented in partnership with the LGUs. Department of Environment and Natural Resources Regional Director

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PNP-Cordillera Holds Consultation on Draft IRR of Comprehensive Gun and Ammo Law

BAGUIO CITY, - The Police Regional Office (PRO-Cordillera) headed by Regional Director PCSupt. Benjamin Magalong conducted on Thursday a stakeholders' hearing and consultation of the draft Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR) of Republic Act 10591 at the Crown Legacy Hotel here.

RA 10591, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act, which was signed into law by President Benigno Aquino III last May 29, puts in place stricter measures for gun registration and licensing that generally aims to promote responsible gun ownership and reduce gun-related crime and violence in the country.

With the law already in place, the task of drafting its IRR was mandated by the president to the chief of the Philippine National Police.

During the consultation, PSSupt. Oliver Enmodias of PRO-Cor presented the draft IRR.

Participants that included officials and representatives from other regional law enforcement offices, line agencies, security services, gun stores or suppliers and other stakeholders shared in their views, suggestions and ideas, which were collated as the region's input for the final IRR consultation at the national level.

Magalong, in closing the regional consultation meeting, outlined the importance of the participation of various stakeholders in ensuring the effective implementation of RA 10591, which would help in reducing gun-related crimes and violence especially those involving loose firearms.

He cited that 78 percent of recorded homicide cases and 86 percent of murder cases in the country are gun related. Of these crimes, around 90 to 93 percent involves loose firearms.

He stressed that with RA 10591, the country will adopt a more efficient system in gun ownership, licensing and registration, as well as a general amnesty that responsible gun owners should take advantage of to register their firearms.

Joining Magalong in the main panel were PRO-Cor Deputy Regional Director for Operations PSSupt. Ulysses Abellera, Benguet Provincial Prosecutor William Bacoling and Baguio City prosecutors Elmer Sagsago and Ramsey Sudaupan/JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Sobrepeña's Co-Accused Arraigned for Malversation

Three officials of the Sobrepeña-led Camp John Hay Development Corporation (CJHDevCo) were arraigned on Thursday for malversation before the Baguio City Regional Trial Court Branch 6. The executives, Ferdinand Santos (president), Alfredo Yniguez III (chief operating officer) and Emily Roces-Falco (chief finance officer) pleaded not guilty before Judge Cecilia Corazon Dulay-Archog to two counts of malversation of public funds or properties.

CJHDevCo Chairman Robert John Sobrepeña was arraigned last June 27, 2013 on the same malversation charge.

Sobrepeña and his colleagues were charged by the Department of Justice (DOJ) with malversation on April 1, 2013, following a complaint filed by the BCDA against the Board of Directors and officials of CJHDevCo and its subsidiary, Camp John Hay Hotel Corporation (CJH Hotels).

BCDA president and CEO Arnel Paciano D. Casanova hailed

the speedy progression of the case, saying that "we look forward to the commencement of the trial of Sobrepeña and his cohorts, and we are highly confident that they will be convicted of their crimes."

"The culture of impunity that the accused have long espoused in their operations and dealings is now over. The law has finally caught up with them, but we will remain vigilant until they pay their full debts to the government," Casanova added.

The BCDA's Cont. on page 7

VP Binay Pushes for a Caring Country

LUNA, Apayao, - Vice President Jejomar Binay is pushing for a country that cares for the welfare of poor families and the elderly.

At the provincial Capitol at Luna on August 17, the VP met with Governor Elias Bulut Jr. and the mayors where he called on political leaders and government agencies to put the welfare of the poor and elderly Filipinos in their heart while performing public duties.

The VP was in Apayao to inaugurate three Office of Senior Citizens Affairs buildings in Luna and Flora and turned over wheelchairs for the senior citizens.

In his message during the program at the Luna gymnasium, he told senior citizens that the present generation is indebted to them for the progress they are enjoying today. "In truth, one of the priorities of government is providing assistance to LGUs for the construction of their respective senior citizens' center".

"Giving support equipments to the elderly are ways of repaying them for the great works they did for us today," Binay said adding "that is why you are always near my heart because we owe you the wisdom of the ages."

He bared that when he started as mayor of Makati, the local government unit provided senior citizens free entertainment in movies and birthday cakes, and P1,000.00 cash gift every June and December.

"Today, Makati is giving P100,000.00 to those reaching the age of 100 years old, and securing them yellow card for free medical check-up at the Ospital ng Makati," he said.

The Vice President also met with 20 college scholars from Apayao his office is supporting. He also awarded P500,000.00 financial assistance each for the Far North General Hospital and Training Center in Luna and to the Conner District Hospital.

Binay also invited the people of Apayao to avail of medical assistance under his office in partnership with the Makati Medical Center, Philippine General Hospital, and Kidney, Lung and Heart Centers. "Five of your provincemates availed already of this program," he said.

On education, VP Binay said his office is assisting college students under his scholarship program. "This program is open to all students enrolled in state colleges and universities nationwide," he said.

Being the presidential adviser on Overseas Filipino Workers, he said his office is serving the welfare of OFWs. He said help was extended in bringing home the body of Billy Pag-ang from Pudtol who died in Hongkong, and to the family of Erwin Cagitan, who is in Saudi Arabia, for his repatriation.

He also rallied on all Filipinos to help each other during times of calamities. "Let's help each other to reduce the risk of disaster and mitigate its effects," he said./JDP/PAB-PIA CAR, Kalinga



"INNOCENT'S " SMILE AND HUMOR - Children affected by typhoon "Labuyo" and Habagat play around with their "innocent smiles" despite hardships inside the evacuation center here./By Bong Cayabyab

Benguet, former CPLA ink MOA for Livelihood Reintegration Projects

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - Three areas of Benguet are set to benefit from the livelihood project as part of the closure agreement between the government of the Philippines and the former Cordillera Peoples Liberation Army (CPLA) under the economic reintegration component towards its transformation into a socio-economic entity.

The P2.7 million livelihood funds under of the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Peace Process (OPAPP) will be coursed through the provincial government which is designated as the fund manager.

The provincial government represented by Governor Nestor Fongwan and members of the former CPLA group now tagged as Cordillera Forum for Peace and Development (CFPD)- Peoples Organization, through the Benguet Saguday Livelihood Association, Inc. (BSLAI) represented by its president Carlito Payangdo, inked a memorandum of agreement on said livelihood project in a simple rite at the Provincial Capitol last August 13.

Also present during the activity was OPAPP Program Management Office Chief Dir. Alexander Umpar.

Fongwan told recipients from Cabiten in Mankayan, Camp 3 in Tuba and Palina in Kibungan to work out registration requirements from concerned agencies and the other requirements prior to the release of initial funds to the association.

Funds will be released in tranches. The first tranche worth P270,000.00 will be used to purchase construction materials. The next tranche amounting to P1.89 million will be released upon compliance with the process and project requirements, upon approval of project proposal and after disbursement report shall have been verified. The last tranche amounting to P540,000.00 will finally be released upon submission of certificate of project completion, terminal report, sustainability plan among others.

According to OPAPP Technical Staff Jenny Mordeno, identified projects under the program are raising of organic free-range chicken side by side with organic feeds processing and a rolling store where organic inputs will be traded.

Parties to the MOA as agreed will adopt the Community-Driven Enterprise Development concept of the Department of Social Welfare and Development which focuses on capability building and business values formation that inculcates participation and empowerment.

Mordeno said series of trainings among the recipients were held earlier to prepare them for the entrepreneurial projects.

The livelihood project is an offshoot of the signing of a joint declaration of commitment in 2011 between the Government of the Philippines and the Cordillera Bodong Administration-Cordillera Peoples Liberation Army (CBA-CPLA) towards a closure agreement that will finally transform the group into a legitimate socio-economic entity to fast track peace and development in the Cordillera Region./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

Rare Window

Will the pork barrel scam spiral into a march by the millions next week? The theft shoved to the back burners other equally critical issues from "nutritional black holes" to loss of keystone species.

"He who plants trees benefits another generation." After 12 years of below-radar-screen efforts, research has paid off. Another rare tree in Cebu has won international recognition. But *Cynometra cebuensis* is critically endangered.

Journal *Blumea* declared the tree as "scientifically described" on Nov. 24 last year. The decision appeared on the Net this month.

"This brings island-endemic tree species to three," notes botanist Franz Seidenschwarz who tracked *Cynometra* from seed to fruit-bearing. All three cluster within the Tabunan forest slivers. "Germany has zero endemic tree species."

Cynometra Cebu bears no local name, unlike the other two. Discovered in 1922, *Arthrophyllum cenabrei* is named Bingliu—the area where it sprouted. *Cinnamomum cebuense* Kostermans, recognized in 1986, is called Kalingag in Visayan.

EDITORIAL

Degraded habitats and limited numbers will insert *Cynometra* Cebu into "Critically Endangered"

tables of the 2001 "Red List" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

A University of Munich graduate, Seidenschwarz led the University of San Carlos (USC) Botany Research Group. Fluent in Cebuano, he authored various studies, including "Plant World of the Philippines—An Illustrated Dictionary of Visayan Plants."

He married Cebuana Elizabeth Cinco who teaches German in a language school she established. Their eldest son is a New York hospital internist. Franz Jr. is a resident physician at Perpetual Succor Hospital in Cebu.

Today, Seidenschwarz juggles the duties of Germany's consul in Cebu with research in a private Maria Luisa Park tree farm. "It is my garden and a secret area where I plant the critically endangered species of Cebu." That fills a gap in research material.

USC researchers, in November 1998, discovered a new damselfly. Scientifically described by Dr. Matti Hämäläinen, it is now known as *Risicnemis seidenschwarzi*. But in July 2000, the damselfly population dwindled. It was last seen in March of 2001. New populations were spotted in Badian, then Tabunan. The Zoological Society of London included this damselfly on a list of "100 most endangered species of the planet."

Starting in 1999, Seidenschwarz tracked 17 *Cynometra* Cebu trees whose seeds came from one mother tree. The species thrives in dry forests on limestone at altitudes of 400-600 meters. Flowering occurs at the onset of the dry season. But they last only for a few days.

The tassels of young trees are bright pink; in older trees, they are creamy greenish yellow. They attract butterflies, dragonflies and other insects. The woody fruit pods fall in July.

The new species differs from the *Cynometra* in Sibuyan Island. Its leaves are much larger. Its habitat is different. Sibuyan trees sprout on moist fertile wooded flats along rivers. All Indo-Pacific species of *Cynometra* grow under ever-wet climatic conditions. In contrast, Cebu is seared by a dry season from the middle of March to early June.

"It took me over a decade to prove that it is a new species," Seidenschwarz recalls now. "I waited for the flowers. But the blooming was very irregular."

Today's trees bear the imprint of history. Cebu is one of the country's two most deforested provinces. Indiscriminate logging interlocked with unrelenting kaingin or clearing of trees by fire. This pillage led the Spanish colonial government, in 1870, to shred all special licenses to cut trees on Cebu. The Spanish governor-general, in 1873, appointed 12 officials to prevent countrywide deforestation. They were tasked to hold on to depleted forest stands.

They failed. So did the US colonial administrators and Filipino officials who took over after the grant of independence in 1946. Less than a quarter of Philippine rainforests are left.

Deforestation threatens also the birds. The Cebu Flowerpecker or *Dicaeum quadricolor*, for example, is extinct, despite the crossed fingers of conservationists.

In 1917, President Sergio Osmeña opened Cebu's Camp 7 reforestation project. It still exists in a province where the key project of his grandson, former Rep. Tomas Osmeña, is a treeless, 296-hectare reclaimed South Road Properties.

In Central and Southern Cebu, tree-covered tracts remain only in higher and less accessible mountains. Paradoxically, this remaining 0.2 percent fragment of natural forests is unusually rich in endemic plant and animal species. Many of them are rare and endangered.

The largest remnant is the 145-hectare spread within the Tabunan forest. It is hemmed in by farms. And pressure on the land and trees ratchet up from population growth, inflow of migrants and poverty.

Habitat deterioration is caused by timber harvesting, specially by fires during the dry season, says Seidenschwarz who has monitored Tabunan since 1994. That threat is compounded by encroachments.

The nearby Cantipla forest was once "a habitat of the new species," Seidenschwarz notes. On paper, the area is well protected. The reality on the ground is different. The forest area should be delineated soonest, so protection measures can follow.

That gut issue lands on newly elected Cebu Gov. Hilario Davide III's lap. It provides him with a rare window of opportunity for lifetime achievement. Few dare to tally the price tag for failure./Juan L. Mercado/E-mail: juan_mercado77@yahoo.com



ADVOCACY MINDANOW

ON MISUARI'S "BANGSAMORO REPUBLIK"

BY: JESUS DUREZA



I was not surprised when I heard **MNLF CHAIRMAN NUR MISUARI** a few days ago declaring independence for a "**Bangsamoro Republik**". I recall writing an article in this corner many months ago entitled ;"**DO NOT DISPARAGE MISUARI**". He assembled his thousands of followers in a show of force then in a horse race track in **Davao City** to make known his opposition to the **MILF** peace agreement. I had a suspicion at that time that this declaration would take place if his moves would not attract attention and corresponding response from the government. Nur's consistent and strong statements opposing the framework agreement with the MILF were ominous. He wanted that the whole Philippine government peace process, including the MILF negotiations, factor in or take into account the existing **MNLF peace agreement**. It seemed he felt he was ignored. He feared that his nurtured 1996 Peace Agreement would be abrogated and set aside with the onset of the final peace agreement with the MILF.

RESTIVE —I am not sure now how things and events will spin out from here on. So far, statements coming from some MNLF leaders are moderate, if not conciliatory. An associate of MISUARI told me his movements were restricted. He was last reported to be still in **Sulu**. Worrisome however is the restiveness noted in some MNLF communities. Remember that there are still strong misgivings on the implementation of MNLF peace agreement. In fact, a Tripartite review started during my watch at **OPAPP** to look into these misgivings. Remember that the Final Peace Agreement with them in 1996 did not contain any provision on "**disarmament**" so their fighters, although transitioning to peaceful lives, kept their firearms somewhere. I know of some MNLF groups which buried their greased weaponry in plastic bag underground. I will not be surprised if some are starting to dig them up just in case.

VOLATILE — However, I note positive signs. **Ustadz Habier MALIK**, whose enclave in **Sulu** I personally visited sometime ago, was quoted as saying that "**Maas**" (referring to NUR, literally meaning "respected one") will take a **PEACEFUL** route in pursuing the declaration of independence. I do hope so. **BUT WE CAN NEVER TELL HOW VOLATILE EVENTS SUCH AS THESE COULD SPIN INTO.**

MALIK, a religious leader who maintains an armed force in the fastnesses of **Sulu**, is one of the loyalists who "**hostaged**" **Marine General BEN DOLORFINO** and **Gen. RAMON SANTOS**, my **OPAPP undersecretary** when they entered his camp to deliver some "**goodies**" and in a goodwill mission. They were prevented from leaving the camp for several days for one reason or another. I had to fly to **Jolo** and personally negotiate with **Malik** to set them free.

STILL AN ICON —NUR is still an "**icon**" to some Muslims. Although his capability to lead his people to wage war against the Philippine govern-

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

20% plus of 'pork' goes to lawmakers"

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... The greedy bring ruin to their households, but the one who hates bribes will live..." (Proverbs 15:27, the Holy Bible).

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"20% PLUS OF 'PORK' GOES TO LAWMAKERS POCKETS": Here is the second portion of the privilege speech delivered at the Senate on March 11, 2003 by former Sen. Panfilo M. Lacson, assailing the pork barrel as an instrument of corruption: "We can pretend all day not to know. But the Filipino people have never been stupid not to see through such pretense. Let me give the breakdown. It is nasty.

"• 2% goes to the Commission on Audit as S.O.P. (or "standard operating procedure", which means "bribe" to auditors); • 10% is given to the district engineer and other officials of the Department of Public Works and Highways; • 2% is passed on to the Barangay Chairman; • 14% goes to the contractor - 10% in profit and 4% as value-added tax, thank God! • 5-10%, if the Mayor or Governor so demands.

"• And - hold your breath - 20% of project cost is earmarked for the legislator who identifies the project. Shares sometimes vary depending on greed. Even the billboards that advertise the proponents of infrastructure projects are overpriced.

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GRAFT EVEN IN MEDICINE AND PHARMA PRODUCTS: "Legislators who allocate funds for the purchase of medicines and other pharmaceutical products, as well as school supplies get bigger takes. By how much, Mr. President? Some suppliers say, it is, 'from here to eternity.'

"In a book published in 1998 by the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, entitled, 'Pork and Other Perks,' the author wrote about vivid accounts of actual pay-offs involving legislators. Thus, a pay-off usually takes place inside the office of legislators. The more sophisticated ones prefer hotel rooms and restaurants. Sulo Hotel in Quezon City is said to be a favorite.

"'Pork barrel' every year runs to billions of pesos. I hate to say it. The people hate to hear it. But they lose billions of pesos anyway. They lose these billions to the many deep pockets of corruption. Mr. President, my esteemed colleagues, there is no saying here that every senator or congressman is corrupt.

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P200 M PORK FOR SEN. ARROYO: WHERE DID IT GO? "It is only to say that we have all become suspect. The public has every basis and right to suspect. And we seem not to mind anymore. Mr. President, those with clear conscience among us do not need to rage. They only need to help those without it. In this regard, may I take this opportunity to thank the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and some of our colleagues who have expressed support to this advocacy.

"One colleague, Senator Joke Arroyo has done something truly admirable: he had not allocated a single centavo from his 'pork barrel' allocation for the past year. However, I cannot help but wonder how his PhP200M pork was realigned since it was part and parcel of the 2002 GAA.

"That is the reason why I want my allocation this year deducted from the proposed 2003 GAA. I have an unsolicited advice to the distinguished gentleman from Makati and the Bicol region - why not slash the 2003 national budget by PhP211M more?"

-000-

REACTIONS? Please call me at 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0922 833 43 96. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com, mmauriciojr111@gmail.com.

FASTRACK

Pork Barrel Scam makes PH the laughing stock of the world!!!

BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



This is a Re-Print of last week's Column

Unbelievable and Incredible! Is there any other word to describe the Billion Pesos Pork barrel scam? What else is not yet being revealed to the public? Whose other Honorable PDAFs have gone the same route as the Napoles billion-peso deals? It's funny, but how come we are all focusing on Napoles? Why give her too much credit for this? She may have been the mastermind, still she could not have pulled this off without the willing accomplices. So now the hugas-kamay scenario of the willing accomplice-Honorables will be that Napoles falsified all their signatures! Mamati ka! What about the Commission on Audit (COA)? They are supposed to audit the usage of the funds, where were they? What about the Department of Budget of Management (DBM)? How come they approved the release of the funds without the required due diligence to make sure of the purpose of funding? What about the alleged local-level officials who claimed that their signatures were faked like the Mayor's etc? Do you believe the crap that all their signatures were faked? And the most hilarious and ridiculous piece of crap said so far by some lawmakers is that they have no way of monitoring and/or making sure of the implementation of their PDAF! My GOD, up to when will the Filipinos be subjected to such insulting statements, or better yet up to when will the Filipinos accept such insulting statements?

Accordingly, the scam goes this way - between 50%- 70% of the amount earmarked to the dummy NGO of Napoles goes to the lawmaker. All it takes is the signature of the lawmaker and no sweat, 50%- 70% is advanced by Napoles to Mr. Lawmaker and the remaining 30% is chopped up by Napoles between the DBM, COA, Local Official (if necessary), Executive Official, herself, and others.

I truly pity the millions of self-respecting OFWs and Migrant Filipinos who now can no longer keep their heads up high because of this mother of all scams, the worst of the worst not because of its enormity but simply because the players involved are the Honorable Lawmakers, the Senatongs, the Tongressmen, the officers of the Executive, the very people who are sworn to uphold the Philippine Constitution and love this country, and not bastardize it. I pity myself because I cannot defend this particular scam to my foreign contacts and simply relegate this to one of those isolated scams. This whole scam is a perfect example of a **Major Failure** of the system. This Napoles et. al. scam makes our former Congressman Vergara look like a saint! I can only wish that we do not give all the credit to Napoles but also give the credit to the lawmakers (lawbreakers) involved for they equally are, or are more deserving of credit, as Napoles could not have pulled this off without their willing participation.

Who says we are not the most corrupt country in Asia and among the top 10 most corrupt

PALSIT

AGMULA TAYO TI ADU A NATENG ITI ARUBAYAN

BY: LEONARDO ROSQUETA AGUNOY



DAYTOY kinagaget nga agmula kadagiti nateng iti arubayan ti maysa a pamuspusan (way) tapno mapalaganan ti bolsa iti bin-ig nga igagatang idia tiendaan kadagiti tagilako a nateng. Ta nangina latta met ti nateng. Adu pay lako kadagiti malls. Sus, kasla bayad ti campana a kunada kadagiti agkurkurbetbet a bunga/bagas ti nateng. Naimas ti bayadna nupay kuribetbet!

Sariling sikap ti awagna no adda ti mulam iti bukodmo nga arubayan. Malaksid a bukodmo a mula (libre), namnamaem pay a sadiwa (fresh) ken saan a napakaptan ti makasabidong a chemical. Ti ngamin chemical ti mangdadael ti salun-at ti tao ngem mangpalangto iti kita dagiti tagilako a nateng.

Ditoy Kailokuan, nangruna kadagiti naselsel a lugar (village), adu latta ti mabalin a pagmulaan ti nateng. Uray kadagiti bangkag, asideg dagiti kawayan, mabalin a pagmulaan ti paria nga agkalatkat. Kasta pay ti patani, kabatiti, okra kdpay. Naimas dagitoy a sida ken makapasalun-at iti bagi.

Marunggay iti arubayan, mabalin. Naimas ken nasustansia ti bulong ti marunggay a sidaen. No adunto ti bungana, sumangkaimas pay. Adu payen ti agatang iti bunga ti marunggay. Adu ngamin ti pakaaramidanna a kas taraon ken food suppliment. Isu a nagsayaaten no adu ti mula ken nagagettayo nga agmula ta di pay isu a pakaparikutan no kasta a kabassit ti kuarta a salsalikekpekan, di ngamin?

Marka ni pada nga Ilokano iti kinagagetna nga agrabaho. Daytoy ti maysa a makaigapu no apay a nawaras ni Ilokano iti aminen a sulit ti lubong. Ni Ilokano, maibilang sa payen nga international a tao ditoy lubong. Karaman ti pagsasaona a nariinganna ditoy Kailokuan, imbalonna iti sabali a lugar ken pagilian a nagdappatanna a kas iti Hawaii, Italy, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Australia. Kadagiti local newspaper dagiti Filipino iti nadumaduma a pagilian, adda ti Iloko sectionda. Dagita met ti pagsursuran dagiti pada nga Ilokano a mannurat idia.

Masanguanan ti lean season a masasao. Adu ti rumbeng a pagsalimetmetan (magtipid tayo) nangruna iti kuarta. Narigat ti agsapul iti napintas a panggedan, nangruna dagiti pada a nababa ti adalna ken awan ti napigsa a kapetna iti pagserrekan a trabaho. Isu a no awan pay ti nasayaat a trabaho, paganusan ti agmula kadagiti nateng. Ti balangee (kangkong) ken kamotig (sweet potato), nalaka a patanoren. Tumantanor pay laeng, mabalinen a sidaen ti rangaw dagitoy. Libre daytan a taraon. Nasustansia pay.

Wen, agmulatayo kadagiti nateng. Sariling sikap dayta. Di nasayaat nga aramid ti sariling sikwat, di ngamin? No matiliwanka, mamultaka, maibabainka. Idinto a nagagetka nga agmula, maidaydayawka. No adu ti mulam, makaiparanudka iti kaarubam, makapataudka pay iti adu a gagayem a mangsalaknib ken mangisakit kenka iti biang ti peggad (risk) ken rigat, di ngamin?

PAGPAMPANUNOTAN: There is nothing better than the encouragement of a friend. - KATHERINE BUTLER HATHWAY.#

countries in the world? Daang Matuwid, as I have always been saying is one fancy worthless hypocritical slogan, no more no less!!!

In the meantime, with the recent unfolding of events wherein Napoles can no longer be located, I am willing to bet my One Peso. Napoles will no longer be found and all the blame will simply fall on her lap. Kasalanan niya lahat, siya ang may gawa ng lahat, kawawang mga Senatong at Tongresman sila ay mga naloko at nagamit lang at ang dapat na sisihin at ibitay ay si Napoles. Case closed, end of scenario, next scenario pls!!!

Mining Company Conducts Disaster Drill for Itogon School

ITOGON, Benguet, — The Saint Louis High School-Balatoc in barangay Virac here is expected to be more prepared for emergencies following a disaster drill and lecture conducted in said school recently.

The Benguet Corporation in cooperation with the Itogon municipal police and fire stations, and the barangay officials of Virac and other responders recently conducted disaster preparedness lectures, demonstration and drills among the students, teachers and staff of SLU High School-Balatoc.

Lecture-demonstrations on emergency rescue operations, fire safety and medical response were given by the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Philippine Red Cross (PRC)-Benguet Chapter.

During the drill which was participated by the more than 500 faculty and students of SLHS-Balatoc, personnel from the Office of Civil Defense-Cordillera together BFP and PRC served as evaluators for the entire proceedings, from the evacuation phase up to the time the mock victims were transported to the health facility.

Their assessment including observed lapses, limitations and recommendations on how the response can be further improved were presented and discussed.

The activity was conceptualized after SLHS-Balatoc Principal Jony Salda requested the Virac LGU for the conduct of a disaster preparedness seminar in the school. Punong Barangay Noel Bilibli coursed the letter request to the mining company which was approved by Benguet Corp General Manager Valeriano Bongalos.

Coordination efforts by the company's Community Relations personnel, Eva Fe Pe and Virgilio Nabus, have turned it into an inter-agency exercise.

The mining company conducted the same disaster preparedness and first aid training programs to the same school in the past, and to other schools and host barangays in Itogon.

Earlier this year, first aid seminar was conducted and kits were provided to the health care providers of Barangay Virac. It also equipped the Barangay Disaster Brigades of Virac and Poblacion with personal protective equipment and basic disaster response tools./JDP/RMC and UB interns-PIA-CAR

CAR Joins NSO's 73rd Anniversary Celebration

BAGUIO CITY, -- The National Statistics Office (NSO) marked its 73rd foundation anniversary on August 19 with the theme, "Handog ng NSO: 73 Taong Taos - Pusong Serbisyo sa Mundo".

For the NSO-Cordillera regional office, it opened at the Ating Tahanan (Girl Scout of the Philippines) National Training Center here a three-day general assembly which main focus was the assessment of the 2012 Census on Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF).

The general assembly program included audio-visual presentations of NSO accomplishments from January to July of this year,

learning sessions on **P I L I P I N A S** Go4Health, laws on senior citizens and persons with disabilities and Civil Registration laws/principles and services.

"Aside from work, the three-day anniversary activities also included an afternoon of sports and fun activities", Regional Director Olivia Gulla said.

In line with the anniversary celebration, Gulla also disclosed that last August 2, a clean-up day for NSO field offices was held. Simultaneous lectures on 5S and Productivity were also conducted in the regional office and in provincial offices of Ifugao, Benguet and Abra with officials

from the Regional Tripartite Wage and Productivity Board and the Department of Labor and Employment as resource persons.

Other activities that NSO-CAR had undertaken were: Civil Registration Quiz in Mountain Province, tree planting in Benguet and Abra, an anniversary opening program in Benguet last August 1, anniversary mass in Abra, a visits of religious sites in Baguio City, and a computer training in Ifugao.

The NSO, which is the primary statistical agency of the government, produces and provides quality statistical and

Abolish Pork, Lawmaker Asks Senate

Senator Chiz Escudero has formally asked

the senate to abolish the priority development assistance fund (PDAF) by filing Senate Resolution No. 193 (PSR No.193) today.

Escudero, chairman of the senate committee on finance is coming in from the heels of his resolution, PSR No. 41 asking the senate to probe the pork barrel scam when it first hit the public through a series of investigative reports on a major broadsheet. He was the first in the senate to make such call.

The senator's PSR 193 calls the Upper Chamber to "express its sense to abolish the PDAF and its allied congressional initiative allocation collectively known as "pork barrel".

"The people have spoken and it is necessary to draw the line further between public accountability and patronage politics by being truthful to the constitutional allocation of powers and prerogatives" Escudero said in the resolution.

The PDAF, whose pre-cursor is the Countrywide Development Fund (CDF) established in 1990, is supposed to fund the needs of every Filipino on a priority basis as identified by the national government.

"Now, it has already mutated into a multi-billion racket allegedly perpetrated by syndicates in both the public and private sectors. Despite proper use and disbursement by well-meaning public officials and despite its statutory laudable purpose, the misconception that the pork barrel has become a form of "horse trading" and a major source of corruption in the government is apparently starting to become real in the eyes of the Filipino people".

Escudero said with the Commission on Audit (COA) confirming the gravity and extent of the pork barrel abuse and the strong calls of the people to scrap the source of the public outrage, it is now time to totally scrap the pork barrel.

"The PDAF should now be abolished in general". He says Congress should limit itself to the enactment of the national budget and the Executive to its implementation.

As this developed, Escudero throws his support to the anti-pork barrel protest on August 26, saying everyone is equally responsible to guard the public coffers. But while he supports the move, he will stay away from the event so as not to politicize it. "That is the people's event; it's their voices that must be heard. I will always carry their voice to the Senate. I am hoping that no one will take advantage of it and paint it with their political color because frankly, I don't think the people will allow it"./-

OFFICIAL WEBSITE: <http://www.chizescudero.com/website/OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE:https://www.facebook.com/senchizescudero/>
OFFICIAL TWITTER ACCOUNT: @saychiz

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

RODOLFO MENDOZA
Applicants

Case No:98-BC-1442
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application of Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - AURORA HILL and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on September 4, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her 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 by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 6th day of August 2013.

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

Benguet Prov'l Board to Enact Ordinance Creating Drrm Office

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet, Aug. 19 (PIA) - - The Benguet provincial board is expected to enact an ordinance for the creation of a Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (DRRMO) in the province.

The provincial board members saw it fit that instead of just a resolution, an ordinance is more apt for the creation of a DRRMO with necessary funding under the Office of the Provincial Governor.

Especially during disaster operations, the creation of DRRMO is necessary as it upholds and promotes the strong commitment of the province in the formulation of policies and plans and the implementation of actions and measures pertaining to disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery, the committee on finance and appropriations chaired by Board Member Concepcion Balao which was tasked to review the resolution, recommended.

Governor Nestor Fongwan had earlier requested the board to consider the creation of a DRRMO as provided for under the Philippine DRRM Act of 2010. Said law provides that the "state is mandated to institutionalize the policies, structures, coordination mechanisms and programs with continuing budget appropriations on disaster risk reduction from national down to local levels towards building a disaster resilient nation and communities."/JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

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

MARIO D. BILLAO
Applicants
Case No:2004-BAG-CAR-0061
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application of Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO CITY - ACOP (TUBLAY) and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on September 4, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her 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 by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER - Regional Director this 14th day of August 2013.

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

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
La Trinidad,
Benguet

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE
JUDGE

IN RE: PETITION
FOR RE-
COMMISSION AS
NOTARY PUBLIC
ATTY. GREGORIOT.
ABALOS, JR.,

Petitioner,

NOTARY PUBLIC
PROCEEDINGS
CASE NO. 13-NC-
0288

X—X

NOTICE OF
HEARING

Notice is hereby
given that a summary
hearing on the peti-
tion for renewal of
commission as Notary
Public for and in the
Province named peti-
tioner shall be held
on August 29, 2013 at

10:00 o'clock in the
morning before of
the Regional Trial
Court, La Trinidad,
Benguet.

Any person who
has any cause or rea-
son to object to the
grant of the petition
may file a verified
written opposition
thereto on or before
the date of summary
hearing.

Let this Notice of
Hearing be published
once (1) a week for
two (2) consecutive
weeks in *The Week-
end Junction News-
paper*, a newspaper of
general circulation
in Baguio City and
Benguet Province,
the first publication
to be made not later
than August 18, 2013.

SO ORDERED.

La Trinidad,
Benguet, Philip-
pines, this 8th day
of August, 2013.

By: (SGD) DANILO
P. CAMACHO
Executive Judge.

Publication dates:
August 17 and 24,
2013

**Sobrepena's Co - Accused ...
from page 5**

22-page complaint to the DOJ stated that the CJHDevCo directors and officers, even after the lawful demand of the BCDA, refused to return the public properties to the government. These properties are 16 units of the CJH Manor Hotel and 10 units of the CJH Suites Hotel which have a total value of P121 Million. The hotel units were payments in kind or *dacion en pago* made to BCDA in 2008, as partial settlement of CJHDevCo's unpaid rental obligations.

CJHDevCo's debt to the government has already ballooned to more than P3 billion.

The BCDA's complaint further stated that CJHDevCo continues to earn from these units but refused to provide the liquidation of public funds—revenues that it earned from the use and lease of the 26 units which should go to the public coffers.

The DOJ approved the filing of two counts of malversation of funds, stating that "In the instant case, respondents' delayed remittance of the rental income of BCDA despite repeated demands did not extinguish their criminal liability for malversation of public funds. Again, it should be noted that the respondents did not provide any sufficient explanation for the said remittance. Thus, they are presumed to have malversed the rents due to BCDA for the period mentioned above under leaseback agreement."

CJHDevCo is facing more legal trouble aside from the malversation case, as CJHDevCo's lawyer and spokesperson, Atty. Manuel Ubarra Jr., was recently charged by the DOJ with perjury before the Municipal Trial Court of Quezon City for knowingly making false accusations against

the Directors of the BCDA before the Office of the Ombudsman.

Aside from the malversation and perjury charges, the BCDA had also previously charged CJHDevCo with estafa for the "double sale" of a property in Camp John Hay, and with professional squatting for the building of illegal structures within Camp John Hay/BCDA-PR

**Baguio Day...
from page 8**

citizens of Baguio for 2013.

Different institutions: the Philippine Military Academy, Maryknoll choir, Saint Louis University, City Hall Choir, Apaches, Baguio Metamorphosis dance groups; shall render the Pambansang Awit, Baguio Hymn, Builders of Baguio Song, and intermission numbers for the program.

A parade along the major thoroughfare up to the Melvin Jones grandstand follows with participants from the academe, barangays, different line agencies, bands, Miss Baguio contestants, socio-civic groups, city officials, and a tableau focused on the transition of the city through the years.

In the evening of Sept. 1, there shall be a unity ball at the Baguio Convention Center, with a dance exhibition for attendees.

A grand fireworks display shall go on at 7PM, at SM City Baguio and Melvin Jones grandstand.

The Miss Baguio pre-pageant shall be done simultaneously at the Crown Legacy Hotel, and coronation night on Sept. 7 at the convention center.

Jobseekers will welcome the conduct of the Public Employment Services Office jobs fair on Sept. 4 at the Baguio Convention Center.

Other activities shall be posted soon, including final dates and venues for a funrun, bodybuilding competition, grandparents got talent portion, wedding and events fair in the north, darts tournament. Culinary expertise shall also be showcased by the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Baguio (HRAB), in different venues.

The HRAB shall also showcase their talents at the Atrium, SM city on Sept. 1, 1 PM.

The Baguio day theme for this year is "Steadfast Service To The City."/juliegfianza

**RPOC Tackles...
from page 2**

Clarence Baguilat also reported that there are around 300 former CPLA members who are hired as "Bantay Gubat" (forest guards). They are set to finish their training this month before their actual work deployment.

On social reintegration, a representative from the Armed Forces of the Philippines said the re-integration into the APF of several former CPLAs is on-going. Around 90 of them have already finished their training while around 168 more are also set to undergo training.

For those who are not covered by

the AFP and DENR social reintegration programs, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, also assured that livelihood assistance under its Community Driven Enterprise Development program is already on process. Some will also benefit from DSWD's Cash for Work Program wherein each beneficiaries will work for 11 days in community development projects with honorarium of P210 per day.

Some PAMANA projects in the region last year have been completed and are now benefitting the people in the covered areas./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Vendors...

from page 1

tion of displaced vendors.

Domogan said, "vendors who are willing will be given schedules to sell in Block 4."

"The first group will sell in the morning and the second group will sell in the afternoon, then vice versa," he said.

The scheme will give the vendors equal chances to sell their wares.

Domogan said, "the new scheme being planned will promote the general welfare, dignity and safety of ambulant vendors and their customers and will greatly improve the physical aesthetic of the public market and the city as a whole."

The mayor appealed to vendors to grab the opportunity to apply with the BCMA so appropriate areas can be identified and assessed as humane vending location for them.

Domogan however said, "uncooperative vendors will be apprehended and their wares confiscated."

The mayor said the city must be vigilant in order that the program will be sustained./paul rillorta

Advocacy Mindanow...

from page 4

ment is doubted by some quarters, he is still revered by those who believe in him. Even the Islamic world still held him in high esteem. This was evident when I attended several conferences of the **Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC)** in the **Middle East** where I saw for myself how he was received as if he was Head of State. Up to today, and as far as I know, he is still considered the representative of the country's **Bangsamoro** by OIC leaders.

SABAH — This Bangsamoro Republik announcement can mean going to an instrumentality or agency of the United Nations seeking recognition of the "republik". And my hope is that

Misuari's new mission for independence will remain within the realm of a non-violent, peaceful pursuit.

For sure, SABAH will be part of this Bangsamoro "republik". The Sabah claim of the Sultanate of Sulu is also MNLF's own aspiration. In fact, I got confidential information that those so-called Sultanate Army fighters who penetrated Sabah were actually MNLF forces from Sulu, wearing newly sewn Sultanate army uniforms.

Moreover, the angst of Nur against the Malaysians got worse when he was arrested in 2001 after a failed MNLF attack of Jolo. I recall that after escaping from Sulu, he landed in his usual Malaysian hideaway thinking and confident, albeit erroneously, that he was still enjoying sanctuary status. The Malaysians promptly intercepted him as soon as he landed and took him into custody. He was dumped in a detainee's cell and cut off from the rest of the world for sometime. I was secretly dispatched to **Malaysia** (on board a C-130 plane in the middle of the night) to fetch Nur and fly him back to a waiting, specially refurbished prison facility in **Santa Rosa, Laguna**. He spent almost the whole 5 hours of flying time from **Kuala Lumpur** to **Manila** relating to me how he was badly treated by the Malaysians. (And to think that many thought he was luxuriously billeted in some plush hotel or villa.) I was sure he did not expect such treatment from them who were his patrons and supporters during his rebellion days against Philippine authorities. Malaysia, in fact, was the arms supply depot and staging point of MNLF rebels at the height of the rebellion. **NUR FAILED TO NOTICE**, or perhaps ignored, **THE PARADIGM SHIFT** in the international scene.

NOT A SPENT FORCE— I have not personally talked to him for sometime now so I cannot as yet divine what's in his mind. But I am certain that how NUR will be handled from hereon will be crucial.

As things stand, we cannot afford to have another potentially explosive front to deal with while we are tackling the end game of the MILF peace agreement. Not to mention the upswing of terrorists' incidents here and there.

But let me repeat: Do not discount nor ignore Misuari. Do not treat him as a spent force. Do not disparage him as one whose time has passed. Otherwise, we may all be in for a big, big surprise./Follow us at Twitter: **AMFI Mindanow/Email us: info@advocacymindanow.org/ Visit us: www.advocacymindanow.org**

Baguio Day Activities Out

BAGUIO CITY – It will be a more-than-a-month celebration for Baguio's 104th charter day celebration, with a myriad of activities extending up to October.

The activities started off last Aug. 17 with a business club's extravaganza at Crown legacy Hotel. On Sept. 19, Monday, the launching program was done after the regular flag ceremony. A press conference followed at the city hall multi-purpose hall.

Last Wednesday, Aug. 21, the 23 Miss Baguio candidates were formally presented at Fortune Seafood restaurant where they gamely

answered questions from members of the Baguio media.

Saturday, Aug. 24 up to Sept. 1, a Baguio Day photo contest and exhibit goes on at the lower basement of SM Baguio.

This coming Monday, Aug. 26, the PFVR gym shall play host to the Martial Arts Festival.

On Aug. 30 to Sept. 1, arnis enthusiasts shall see action at the Kampeon ng Lahing Pinoy at the University of the Cordilleras gym.

On Aug. 31, Saturday, the Baguio Country Club fairways shall be the site of the golf tournament, while at the Baguio Convention Center, a Health fair and

Medical mission goes on.

At 2 PM of Aug. 31, a talent show entitled "Galing mo Baguio, Ipakita Mo," goes on at the Atrium – SM, while a Baguio day darts tournament for several categories go on at the Gold Mine, Kisad road, from Aug. 31 to Sept. 1.

On Sept. 1, the Baguio Day program shall be celebrated at the Baguio Convention Center with Honorable Marvic Mario Leonen as guest of honor and speaker. Mayor Mauricio Domogan and Congressman Nicasio Aliping, Jr. shares their messages.

With the program shall be the awarding of the selected outstanding

Cont. on page 7

Charter Day Job Fair on September 4

BAGUIO CITY – As part of this year's celebration of the Baguio City 104th Charter Day Anniversary, the city government of Baguio spearheaded by the Public Employment and Services Office (PESO) in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) will conduct a Charter Day Job Fair which be held at the Baguio Convention Center on September 4, Wednesday.

This is a one-day affair featuring local and overseas vacancies.

Job vacancies range from those requiring minimum qualifications such as domestic helpers, construction and factory workers for overseas countries, etc., and vacancies for skilled professionals, such as high-speed sewers, nurses, electricians/electronics and communications engineering graduates, caregivers among others.

During the said job fair, other services will also be undertaken which includes free international calls for Overseas Filipino Worker friends, relatives and interested job seekers, free haircut, free massage therapy services, one-stop shop offering the services of the National Statistics Office, Bureau of Internal Revenue, National Bureau of Investigation, Pag-IBIG, Philhealth, Social Security Services and others.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan encouraged jobseekers and unemployed citizens to take this opportunity to look for jobs that would best suit whatever skills or educational attainment they have.

"Jobseekers must come prepared with several copies of their resume and other necessary photocopied credentials and must come properly attired in anticipation of an interview, since some companies will immediately administer exams and interview those who pass these exams right after the scores are tabulated", said the mayor.

Domogan advised the applicants not to submit original records to the Recruitment Officers, other than the application letter./Jho Arranz

It is the responsibility of the committee to prepare a comprehensive livelihood and promotions development plan for the city government; to coordinate all livelihood development and promotions activities of concerned agencies, de-

partments, barangays and the private sector in order to enhance the socio-economic status of the populace, and; to establish linkages with national government agencies, financial institutions among others in order to access funding support for the various

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PNPA Accepting Applications for Nov. 10 Admission Test

BAGUIO CITY – The Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) is accepting applications for the PNPA Cadet Admission Test (PNPACAT) on Nov. 10, 2013 at its 25 testing centers nationwide.

Young men and women who would like to pursue a career in public safety service may avail of the four-year full scholarship cadetship program being offered by the PNPA.

Applicants must be natural-born Filipino citizens; 18 years old and not more than 22 years on the date of appointment; single with no parental and financial obligation; high school graduate upon application; at least 5 feet 4 inches height for males and 5 feet 2 inches for females; with weight corresponding to the applicant's height, gender and age and not exceed or be lower than 11 pounds or five kilograms of the standard weight; physically and mentally fit for cadetship training and must pass the minimum required physical fitness exercises; with good moral character; no pending complaint and/or case before any tribunal; not a formal cadet of the PNPA or other similar institutions; not have been dismissed from any private employment or government position for cause; and must pass the PNPACAT, medical, neuro-psychiatric and agility test and interview.

High school valedictorians and salutatorians and college cum laude, magna cum laude and summa cum laude are exempt from taking the PNPACT.

Application forms can be downloaded at www.pnpa.edu.ph. Duly accomplished application forms together with a self-stamped window envelope may be submitted to the Office of the Registrar or mail to: The Director, (Attention: Registrar), Philippine National Police Academy, Camp General Mariano N. Castaneda, Silang, Cavite 4129.

Deadline for submission will be on Sept. 28, 2013./ A Refuerzo

livelihood development and promotions activities of duly registered associations, cooperatives among others in the different barangays in the city.

With the said order, it

is hoped that the quality of life in the city of Baguio would advance leading to the economic progress of this mountain resort.. Jho Arranz

Baguio City Livelihood Development & Promotions Committee Created

BAGUIO CITY – With the current economic situation of the country today, it is the advocacy of the city government of Baguio to improve the quality of life of the citizenry. The Local Government Code particularly Section 16 states that "local government units shall ensure and support, among other things . . . enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among their residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants."

Pursuant to the city's Resolution No. 215, series of 2013, there is a need to augment and update existing economic policies, programs and projects to increase the economic productivity of low-income households in the city of Baguio as a vehicle to socio-economic empowerment and improvement of quality of life.

Hence, Mayor Mauricio Domogan created the Baguio City Livelihood Development and Promotions Committee (BCLDPC) through Administrative Order 110.

The BCLDPC is composed of the city mayor as the chairman, the Social Welfare and Development Officer and the chairman of the Committee of Employment, Livelihood and Cooperative as action officers, with the City Planning and Development Officer, City Budget Officer, City Accountant, ABC President, SKF President and Public Employment Services Officer Manager as the members.

With the program shall be the awarding of the selected outstanding

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"BEAUTIES" – Miss Baguio hopefuls join in the feeding program for the children of Upper Rock Quarry Barangay sponsored by Baguio's Sister City of Vallejo, California official Dinah Villanueva last August 18. With them are Mayor Mauricio Domogan's Executive Assistant Ryan Dale Mangusan and Barangay Captain Luis Badecao, Jr./photo by



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