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WEEKEND

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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

BCDA Dismisses CJHDevco's Arbitration Bid a 'Desperate act'

IN TIME TO BLOOM
- A Burnham Park gardener plants a flowering plant expected to bloom in time for the influx of tourists for the Panagbenga festivities./
By Bong Cayabyab



The Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) yesterday dismissed as a desperate act Camp John Hay Development Corporation's (CJHDevco) filing of an arbitration case for P14.4 billion in damages arising from its failed lease contract.

"So, all of a sudden it is BCDA that will now have to pay when as late as July 1, 2008 CJHDevco recognized its obligations which have now reached P3.024 billion," BCDA chair Felicito Payumo said.

Payumo said he has been treating the row with CJHDevco, which developed prior to his watch, with fairness and objectivity. He stressed that the rescission of the 2008 Restructured Memorandum of Agreement (RMOA) was "provocative and complicated matters."

"There are no questions about the amount of the arrears. The fact that CJHDevco signed a Restructured Memorandum of Agreement on July 1, 2008 was an acknowledgment of its obligations."

Payumo also clarified that the ruling of the
Cont. on page 9

Mayor approves temporary vending site for block 4 vendors **page 2**

Mayor to call for Dialogue on SM Issue **page 2**

Councilor seeks Partial Pedestrianization of Session Road **page 2**

CLUP in Loakan....p2

Yan ang CJHDevCo. Puros ang titinik, may utang na P3B, hanging ngayon ay kanila pa rin ang John Hay at mukhang magkakabaligtaran pa!!!

New NSO online Query System to Open in Local Civil Registry Offices **page 3**

Solon Assures Congress' Support for Road Networks in North Phl **page 3**

E-Blotter launched at Cordillera Police Office **page 12**

Young Learners to Spend Shorter Hours in School **page 3**

DOH Advocates Healthy Lifestyle for Cancer Prevention **page 3**

Baguio Botanical Garden Undergoes Improvement **page 12**

Benguet Plans to Establish Composting Facility Along Halsema Highway **page 12**



ADVOCACY MINDANOW

Critical Period For Peace Talks

BY: JESUS DUREZA



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

SC, greatest casualty in SAL-N row

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



Mayor to call for Dialogue on SM Issue

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan Wednesday bared plans to broker a dialogue on the SM Baguio tree-cutting issue which continued to heat up amid snowballing opposition that started in a popular social networking site and which spread on the streets with a mass rally staged by environmental groups last Friday.

In his Ugnayang Panlungsod press briefing, the mayor said the city will schedule a public consultation to give opportunity to both sides to come face-to-face to air their sentiments and clarify issues on SM's expansion project that will entail the clearing of trees at its newly acquired property adjacent to the mall's present site in Luneta Hill.

"Hopefully during the hearing, SM will listen to the sentiments of those opposing the project and the opposition will likewise take into consideration SM's viewpoint," the mayor said.

He said Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) representatives will also be invited to also explain its issuance of the permit "to cut, ball or prune" a total of 182 trees within the planned expansion site of the mall.

The mayor clarified that it was the DENR that issued the said permit along with the Environmental Clearance Certification (ECC) for the expansion project.

"When the matter came to our office, the plans have been made complete with the DENR permit and the ECC," the mayor said.

He said the lot was sold to SM by the national government as approved by no less than President Benigno S. Aquino III and therefore is now a private property of the retail giant.

"We cannot just stop the plan of SM because under our laws, they have their rights as private owner of that property and moreover, they were able to secure the necessary permits from the proper agency," the mayor said.

Described by SM management as "green development," the project will involve the construction of another seven-story building with a new parking facility, roof garden and rainwater collection system.

In a press statement, SM clarified that they not cut any tree in the area and instead will undertake "balling out" of some trees to be replanted within the SM property under the supervision of tree balling experts to ensure survival of the trees.

"In addition, rather than merely complying with the stipulation that we plant 20 nsaplings for every tree balled out, we decided to go beyond this requirement, and have increased this to 50 saplings for every tree we will transfer," SM said.

Oppositionists to the project led by Cordillera Ecological Center director Dr. Michael Bengwayan who drummed up support to an on-line petition against the issue denounced SM's plan as anti-environment and anti-people.

They questioned the reliability of the earth-balling technique which they said does not guarantee the survivability of the trees.

Even Domogan expressed doubt on the balling out scheme citing the city's past experience in Camp John Hay where balled trees registered a low survival rate.

Protesters Friday showed force drawing in massive participation during the rally dubbed "Occupy SM Baguio" to dramatize their objection to the plan.

The on-line petition started in Facebook was said to have gone viral and has gathered more than 4,000 signatures as of press time. /A Refuerzo

Councilor seeks Partial Pedestrianization of Session Road

In what may be the genesis for plans to eventually pedestrianize the entire length of Session Road, Honorable City

Councilor Nicasio M. Palaganas filed last Monday a proposed resolution requesting the partial pedestrianization of the premiere street of the City, on January 27, 2012 between 10:00 am to 3:00 pm,

in line with the planning workshop for recreating a people-friendly Session Road.

In coming up with the proposed resolution, Councilor Palaganas cited the campaign being waged by a group of concerned Baguio City residents called Citizens for the Creation of a People-

Friendly Session Road, which includes Architect Joseph Alabanza, PIA Director Helen Tibaldo, DOT-CAR Director Purificacion Molintas, and Reverend Fr. Lorenzo Abela of the Baguio Cathedral, among others, desiring to pedestrianize the whole length of Session Road.

Cont. on page 10

CLUP in Loakan

BAGUIO CITY – The first-in-a-series City Land Use Plan (CLUP) consultation was done with city officials, Barangay officials, Indigenous Peoples of Baguio, representatives from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), City Planning and Development Coordinator OIC Engr. Evelyn Cayat, and concerned individuals, last week at Acapulco, Lucnab through the office of Councilor Isabelo Cosalan, Jr.

Councilor

Cosalan, Jr., chair of the Council Committee on Urban Planning, Lands and Housing was joined by Barangay Affairs chair Councilor Joel Alangab, lawyer Manuel Cuilan and Ibaloi leader Basilio Binay-an who expounded on matters at hand.

The group was informed of the CLUP salient points: a long term plan on preserving the city's pristine beauty, culture and historic heritage, in harmony with the environment, and in

consonance with laws as fashioned by the city's lawmakers. The city as a tourism spot and gateway to the Cordilleras, education center of the north, medical haven even to peoples of Region 1 should be maintained, or even enhanced, it was learned.

This would prove to be a difficult job, Councilor Cosalan, Jr. said, and asked for the indigenous group's contributions to the CLUP. Revisions shall be done to the plan, if needed, he

Cont. on page 9

Mayor approves temporary vending site for block 4 vendors

BAGUIO CITY – due to selfless cooperation showed by Block 4 vendors to voluntarily demolish and vacate their stalls last year, Mayor Mauricio Domogan approved their request for a temporary vending site to continue their business within the city market.

Domogan signed Baguio City Market Task Force resolution 04-2011 designating the perimeter area of block 4 as a temporary vending site for displaced block 4 occupants.

Prior to its approval, Domogan ordered the Baguio Market Task Force

to inspect and assign a relocation site for vendors affected by the block 4 rehabilitation.

At least 87 vendors can be accommodated in the perimeter of block 4 as per reports by the Task Force which recommended the area suitable as a relocation site.

Vendors who

Cont. on page 10



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(SGD) Odell P. Aquino The Junction-OIC

Young Learners to Spend Shorter Hours in School

BAGUIO CITY — To make education “less stressful” and “more enjoyable” for young learners, the Department of Education (DepEd) announced that incoming Grade 1 pupils for the school year 2012 to 2013 will be spending shorter hours in school — from six hours to only four hours.

The new class schedule was based on the implementation of the new curriculum for Grade 1 pupils as part of the launch of DepEd's Enhanced K- to-12 basic education program this coming school year.

DepEd Cordillera regional director Teresita Velasco said that the new curriculum will only require pupils to go to school for half a day. At present, pupils in public schools that practice double shifts spend six hours in school.

Velasco explained that cutting school hours for Grade 1 pupils will make schooling more enjoyable. “It is important that our youthful learners develop that natural love for learning and not feel that it is something imposed on them,” she said.

She added that apart from shorter school hours, the new curriculum to be implemented ensures easily understood lessons using the language spoken at home.

In a press statement, Education Secretary Armin Luistro said that the new curriculum is centered more on the pupils rather than on the traditional way of teaching which is focused on the teacher, making it a real learning experience for the pupils, meaning, it will be less on memorization, but more encouraging of critical thinking.

Luistro added that the new K- to-12 curriculum will also implement the Mother Tongue-Based Multi-Lingual Education (MTB-MLE) in studying lessons from Kindergarten up to Grade 3.

Under the K-to-12 program of DepEd, the public school system will have kindergarten which started in school year 2011 — six years in elementary, four years in junior high school, and two more years for senior high school, where students will have more time to sharpen their employable skills./JDP/JBZ/PIACAR

**EMULATE
“LOLA
PESA:
Residents
should follow
the example
of Lola Pesa
who at 90
years old,
makes it a
habit to
regularly
clean the s
pathway and
drainage ca
nal in her
barangay at
Pinsao Pilot
Project./By
B o n g
Cayabyab.**



New NSO online Query System to Open in Local Civil Registry Offices

BAGUIO CITY - After a four-month long pilot testing, the National Statistics Office's (NSO) OnDDot Query Service (ODDQS) will now be shared to the different Local Civil Registry Offices (LCROs) nationwide.

The ODDQS is a web or internet based service system which provides the latest status of transactions paid at any Census Serbilis Outlet and forwarded to the Civil Registration Department of NSO in Quezon City.

Such service facility applies to all documents that are endorsed bearing the effects of court decrees, legal instruments, supplemental reports and/or other laws that affect the status of any individual.

Thus the system includes legitimation, acknowledgement, adoption, annulment, nullity of marriage, clerical error, change of first name and other legal instruments/court decrees affecting an individual's civil status.

NSO Regional Director Olivia Gulla, in an interview stressed that the ODDQS, which will be implemented here in Cordillera starting February 1, will allow all civil registrars or LCROs to directly inquire or access the status of client's request in their respective areas.

“This new system or service is also a remedial measure to declog any NSO outlet or service area of the increasing number of clients and will also partly solve the human resource constraints that is currently besetting our regional office”, Gulla stressed.

“With ODDQS, local civil registrars shall have the option to directly submit their requests to the Office of the Civil Registrar General at the NSO Quezon City Office or through the NSO Provincial Office in their areas for endorsement of such request for priority loading”, Gulla added.

According to Gulla, to access the ODDQS, each LCRO is required to register online for better monitoring and usage as-

DOH Advocates Healthy Lifestyle for Cancer Prevention

BAGUIO CITY (BGHMC), in a kapihan forum — In line with the country's observance of National Cancer Awareness Week from January 18 to 22, the Department of Health (DOH-CAR) reiterated to the public its healthy lifestyle campaign as an effective preventive measure against cancer.

DOH-CAR consultant Dr. Jennifer Balatian, an oncologist of Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center

and health experts, we still promote healthy lifestyle for cancer prevention”, Balatian said.

According to Balatian, cancer remains among the top causes of mortality and morbidity in the country. At the BGHMC, it ranks 10th among the medical cases received and 7th among the leading cause of death.

Dr. Jasmin Igama, also an oncologist of BGHMC, shared that of the

Solon Assures Congress' Support for Road Networks in North Phi

BAGUIO CITY - ‘Rest assured that we, your representatives in Congress, are doing our best to complete the road networks in North Philippines especially here in Cordillera.’

Thus assured Mountain Province Congressman Maximo Dalog Sr., chairman of Congress' Special Committee North Luzon Growth Quadrangle (NLGQA), during the recent Regional Tourism Congress spearheaded by the Department of Tourism.

According to Dalog, it is the mission of the government that by 2013, all primary roads here in Cordillera shall have been paved and that by 2016 all secondary roads shall have been paved.

Dalog said that North Luzon lawmakers or the so called ‘Solid North’ in Congress are all united in pushing for the devel-

opment of Northern Philippines. He explained that North Quad has jurisdiction on matters, policies and programs concerning the development of municipalities, cities, provinces and other local communities in the North Luzon area, as well as other actions to promote growth and expand avenues of economic cooperation.

“One matter that Northquad has been taking up relates to the infrastructure support program of the government particularly to support the development of the area, including the tourism sector”, Dalog stressed.

He reported that one infra project they are currently monitoring is the TPLEX or the Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union expressway, which will connect the North Luzon Expressways

from Tarlac City up Rosario, La Union right in the mouth of Kennon road under phase 1. The project's phase II will extend the expressway farther north up to Bacnotan, La Union.

The project if completed will boost tourism promotion in the north Luzon area.

Some of the Northquad completed projects reported by Dalog is the cementing of road from Tagudin, Ilocos Sur to Cervantes and the Baguio – Ambuklao – Aritao road.

For on-going project, Dalog reported the concreting of roads from the boundary of Mountain Province with that of Ilocos Sur up to Bontoc, Mountain Province which they hope to be finished this 2012, and the other route that would connect

Cont. on page 10

Ramrod Warrior

Can a ramrod-straight Ombudsman make a difference? Look into the unresolved 17-year-old murder of Navy Ensign Philip Pestaño. Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Thursday filed murder charges against 10 Navy officers, Inquirer reported. Six are still in active service.

She sacked Captain Ricardo Ordoñez, then skipper of "RPS Bacolod", Comdr. Reynaldo Lopez, Lts Commanders Luidegar Casis and Joselito Colico. Extradition will be spought for Ruben Roque, now in the U.S. Petty Officer Carlito Amoroso was "dishonorably discharged."

Two previous Ombudsmen stonewalled probes into the death of this Philippine Military Academy 1993 graduate. The 24-year Pestano served as "RPS Bacolod" cargomaster.

The ship lifted anchor At 7:18 morning of Sept. 27, 1995, at

EDITORIAL

Sangley, for the 45-minute trip to Manila. It meandered, however, in an "unusual dogleg route" and docked two hours later. Pestaño was dead by then. Sans investigation, the Navy ruled within 24 hours: "Suicide" Naval intelligence commander. Tirso Danga insisted on the suicide claim, before Senate Committees on Human Rights and National Defense hearings May 5 to Sept. 3, 1997.

"Murder" concluded the committees, led by the late Senator (later Supreme Court chief justice) Marcelo Fernan. Pestano was bludgeoned, shot and his body rigged to appear he took his life, Senate Report No 800 asserts. Pestano refused to load 14,000 board feet of illegal logs, weapons, and shabu. He got phone threats. "Kawawa ang bayan," Pestaño told anxious parents Felipe and Evelyn who pleaded he resign, recalls Fr. James Reuter SJ.

The "suicide note" handwriting was different from Pestaño's, the Ombudsman found. Reports on bullet trajectories differ. There was no tattooing or burn marks "It is far-fetched for a person, who commits suicide, to shoot himself in the head at a distance". Morales scoffed at testimony that Pestaño borrowed a gun to kill himself. Pestaño had his own pistol. "It was irrational...for him to die by his own hands by borrowing a gun."

Officers' reaction to finding Pestaño dead was "unnatural", the Ombudsman notes. Skipper Ordoñez focused on docking the ship. Colico who found the body, did not check on breathing and pulse or immediately report. Casis didn't stop Colico from wiping the gun. "Tampering with evidence", Senator, now Manila Mayor, Alfredo Lim erupted. They gave NBI and police gave different times when the body was found or who were present.

These "run counter to the grain of human experience", the Ombudsman charged. There was conspiracy to kill Pestaño and fabricate evidence to make it appear as a suicide."Identify the persons who participated in the deliberate attempt to make it appear that Pestaño killed himself," Fernan asked then Ombudsman Aniano Desierto in January 1998. Archive the Pestano case as evidence is patchy, Desierto directed the Military Ombudsman.

He spurned protests and offer of evidence by seven of Pestaño's classmates. Desierto's record as Ombudsman was so tainted the late senator Lorenzo Tañada refused to address him directly.

Pestaño's parents gave up on knocking at Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez's door. "She didn't agree to see us." 71-year Felipe Pestano said. Gutierrez pooh-poohed Senate Report No.800. But that was precisely the document the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva found credible.

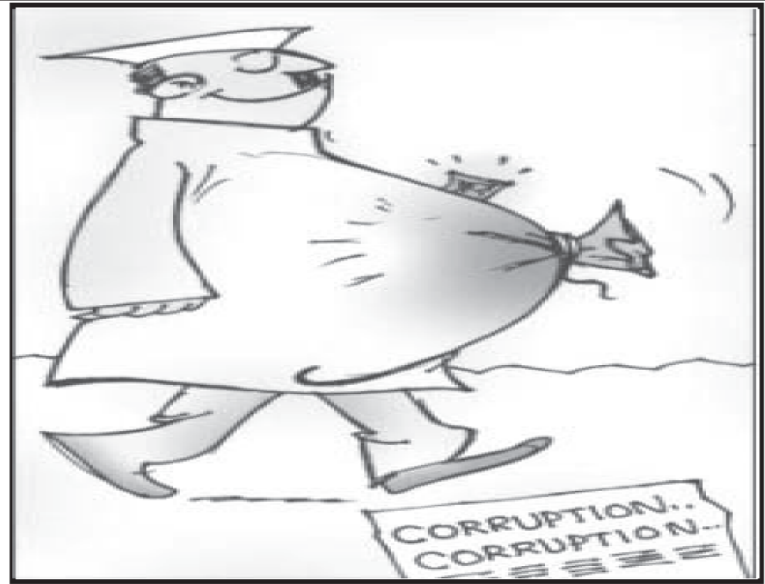
"Close to 15 years elapsed since death of the victim, the [parents] are still ignorant of the circumstances surrounding their son's death, and [Philippine] authorities have yet to initiate an independent investigation. The Ombudsman deemed it necessary to conduct further proceedings in (August 2007)

"Since that date, no suspect was prosecuted, or tried, let alone convicted....The [Philippines is in] breach of its obligation...to properly investigate the death of [Philip], prosecute perpetrators, and ensure redress...."

"Well, Gutierrez finally acted on the Pestaño plea," University of the Philippines Raul Pangalanan noted in his Inquirer column. "She dismissed it. To add sting to the injury, she served her dismissal order on Pestaño's parents the day after they signed the impeachment complaint against her."

Within four months of Pestaño's death, three of his Navy comrades "all died or disappeared in mys-

Cont. on page 9



THE PEACE COMBATANT

Require Transparency & Consultations In Road Repairs & Infra

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



We all want good roads, overpasses, bridges, streets, and a city. Nobody wants potholes, road cuts, and a street that can accommodate only the healthy to the exclusion of the elderly and disabled. We want our roads and streets to be useable not only by who have two hands and feet but also by those who may lack one foot or one hand if not lacking all two hands and feet.

Just as important, we want our roads, streets, bridges, and overpasses to be constructed or repaired without anything being wasted to corruption. We also want them to be constructed or repaired in a manner that they would cause the least disturbance to motorists, public utility vehicle drivers, commuters, and the public.

Unfortunately, roads and other city infrastructure (example: the Abanao overpass near Empire Theater) are being constructed without the benefit of consultation and transparency. The ongoing construction of the Abanao overpass, for example, is worth millions of pesos and, yet, does not appear to merit the expenditure of taxpayers' money given what appears to be its inferior design.

The Marcos Highway is being repaired at maximum disturbance to the public, causing severe traffic jams and probably resulting to lower incomes for jeepney and taxi drivers plying the road. Many roads in the city are being too frequently repaired causing one to wonder whether they have been purposely built to be inferior not only for the unscrupulous to earn corruption money from the construction but also corruption money for the repairs that will be required for an inferior road or infrastructure.

One wonders if good roads are being repaired not really because the roads needed the repair. Citizens are not assured whether the repairs are taking place just so there will be more opportunities for the unscrupulous to earn corruption money from the road repairs.

In the era of the internet and websites, there must be full disclosure of the budget for roads, bridges, overpasses, and the like. How many steel bars were used? How many kilos of steel? What quality? What are the costs? How much volume of concrete? How much cement was used? How many hours of labor? How much went to hauling? Who are the contractors? What company? Company address? Surely, information on these should be easy to put on websites. Surely, details on the infrastructure can be available easily. Information on these would allow transparency and would reduce the temptation to pad the number of cement used, the hours of labor utilized, the kilos of steel employed. These can also encourage the formation of citizens' audit in the near future.

Most important, public consultations must be held with regard to design. Can the designs withstand the wear and tear of normal road use? How come are the roads being repaired too quickly? Were the designs inferior in the first place? Further, can our road be senior-citizen and disabled-person friendly? Can our senior citizens and disabled persons climb

Cont. on page 10

ADVOCACY MINDANOW

Critical Period For Peace Talks

BY: JESUS DUREZA



PEACE TALKS UPDATE — I read the joint statement issued by the GPH and MILF panels after last week's latest round of talks in Malaysia. As expected, it was positive and in general terms with motherhood statements. The media release however by GPH panel chair, Atty Marvic Leonen lamenting the "slow pace" of the talks revealed the behind-the-scene actual situation. My take so far is that the MILF wants an early resolution of the political aspect of the negotiations (sub state proposal) while the GPH is not about ready to deal with this. Knowing the MILF way of carrying the talks, they will courteously engage the GPH on other "collateral issues" but will wait and hang things until the political aspect is resolved. If both sides intend to have a peace agreement "by March this year", as they ambitiously predict, then they have to deal with the difficult issue first. All the rest will just follow as a matter of course. No doubt, the February and March negotiations period will be critical. There are indications that Chair Leonen may throw in the towel soon if he realizes that this is "mission impossible" for him. Then for MILF chief Kagi Murad, he may have to start worrying how to keep intact his constituency, which had been patiently keeping faith in the process and whose expectations were heightened, if there is no early settlement. It has now become a "make or break" situation for both sides. In the sidelines, Nur Misuari's MNLF keeps saying that what is needed is not another new peace agreement with the MILF but an enhancement of the 1996 peace agreement. And he is backed by the Organization of Islamic Conference which by the way, keeps on trying to unify the bangsamoro with the amity arrangements between the MILF and the MNLF. Several visits to MILF's Darapanan camp had taken place for this purpose. However, the Malaysians, who are brokering the GPH-MILF talks are wary of giving Misuari a dominant bangsamoro role owing to Misuari's constant "Sabah claim" refrain. As an added sidelight, renegade Umbra Kato is confirmed by my sources as alive saying that it was the MILF that "killed" him in the media. Interesting but critical time, indeed!

@@@

SECURITY FOR MEDIA — After I wrote last week about arming our media men who needed protection, I got several reactions not only agreeing but asking when the gun handling and proficiency training be done! I think it should not only be about guns but how journalists can prepare themselves and deal with threats or actual dangers, even discussing individual cases if some specific threats will be raised and providing actual contingencies. Meaning providing so - called "lifelines" or security cover whenever appropriate even on an individual basis. We will try to organize some security experts and get security officials to give inputs and craft with the media men contingency plans. We will let everyone know when we are ready to go.

@@@

POWER PROBLEM NOW! — I received from Blogger Hio Tiao "Bong" LIM some info about the recent power situation in Mindanao as officially released by the National Grid Corp. (NGCP). Mindanao is now starting to have SHORTAGE of power! That's why some areas without having back - up generation will start having brownouts. This is still minimal shortage at this time though. But as projected, this will worsen in the coming years unless more generating capacities are added to what we presently have in the island region. Lucky Davao city! The Davao Light standby generators are ready for action in case of a shortfall. Lucky Davao City! The city council boldly approved recently the proposed coal-fired power plant which will again insulate, on the long term, Davao City when the real crunch comes in a year or two. To illustrate: last week, Mindanao was supposed to ideally have an average power reserve of 100 megawatts. But as it happened, we did not have that projected reserve at all. Worse, we had a deficiency or shortage of from 40 MW to 60 MW at any day. Compare this with Luzon which had, in the same period, an actual reserve of 1000 MW and Visayas with 300 MW. Those who are opposing new power coal plants may find themselves more helpful if they focus their advocacies to securing mitigating measures instead of totally opposing. Yes indeed, they are entitled to oppose if they so decide. But again, we are not living in a dream world. We have realities to face. And

PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

Ang Korona Ni Pinoy- Part 3 Jonh Hay Ni Sobrepena Sobrang Siniswirti!!!

BY: ODELL P. AQUINO



(This is a Re-Print of last issues Column)

Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! Iririescind daw ng Camp John Hay Development Corp (CJHDevCo) ipapawalang bisa na nila ang kanilang kontrata sa pag lease ng Camp John Hay . Ayon sa balita ito ay isang stratehiya para ma iwasan (ma-delay) ang pagbayad sa kanilang upa na umabot na sa tatlong bilyon piso (Php 3B) sa kasalukuyan . Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! . Ang gagaling talaga ng mga dating opisyaes ng BCDA, mga dating opisyaes ng City Government ng Baguio etc... , na pinayagan nila ang katakot takot na restructuring of payment ng CJHDevCo hangang sa umabot sa ganito kalaking halaga. Kung gawin kaya ni Juan Dela Cruz ang ganitong hindi pagbayad ng upa ng ilan taon sa kanyang land lord ano sa palagay ninyo ang gagawin kay Juan Dela Cruz? Una sa lahat ay hindi magagawa ni Juan Dela Cruz ang hindi magbayad ng mahabang taon sapagkat sisipain siya ng kanyang land lord maliban sa demandang aabutin ni Juan Dela Cruz. Hi Hi Hi , ang gobyerno nasional at lokal ay tunay na sobrang makatao sa mga kapakanan ng CJHDevCo. Kung sabagay kawawa naman talaga ang mga Sobrepena et .al...., Hi! Hi! Hi!, MR. PNOY , dito masusubukan ang inyong **daang matuwid** kung ano ang inyong gagawin? Ito bang ka-awaawang CJHDevCo ay papayagan ninyong manalili sa John hay at patuloy na mangangobra ng mga upa sa mga locators etc... , at mag-dedevelop ng John Hay kahit na ganoon na kalaki ang utang nila sa taong bayan? Business as usual ba para sa CJHDevCo Mr. PNOY??? O gagawin ninyo ang tama ayon na daang matuwid? Abangan natin ang mga susunod na kabanata !!! At ito naman ingay (pakunwari) ng kasalukuyan bagong liderato ng BCDA, ano ba ito mga Bossing OPLAN PAKILALA ?! Hay! Yay ! Yay! ang susuwirti nga naman ng mga ilan nilalang na sila lang ang anak ng Diyos!!! Talagang its more FUN in the Philippines, sabi ng Department of Tourism. Hi ! Hi ! Hi !

####

Impeachment trial na ni Korona para matanggal ang Korona Ni PNoy. Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! . Tutuk na sa ating telebisyon at abangan ang mga latest news breaking drama este sarsuela . Bakit, mayroon pa ba sa inyo ang naniniwala na ang magaganap na impeachment trial ay magiging isang tunay na impeachment trial kung saan ang narapat na tamang proseso ay siyang masusunod ng sag anong ay lumabas ang katotohanan? Pakingan at panuorin na lang ninyo ang impeachment trial for entertainment purposes sake, pasok sa isang tenga at labas din sa isa, at least true to life drama at hindi isang teleserya lamang na mayroon director at script writer. Sa impeachment trial ng Korona ni PNoy , isa ang script writer (na sa Malacanang) at ang mga senador ay ang mga Director. Kitang kita naman sa pagsampa pa lamang ng reklamo sa Senado ay shinortcut na ng lower house, eh ano pa ba ang ating ma aasahan sa darating na trial , kung sa umpisa pa lamang ay hindi na nila inobserbahan ang due process at kanila ng shinortcut ! Kaya ako , handang handang makipag pustahan (P 500 ko laban sa inyong P 250) , sure ball na ma-iimpeach itong si CJ Corona at tunay ng matatanggal ang Korona ni PNoy!!! Hi ! Hi ! Hi !

one of them is: a looming power crisis ahead unless we get all our acts together.

@@@

OPEN PIT MINING BAN STOPPED — Two weeks ago, TVI Resource Development (Phil.) , a mining company in Zamboanga peninsula won its preliminary injunction petition in a Dipolog court and effectively stopped the implementation of an open pit mining ban imposed by the provincial government of Zamboanga del Norte. The main case will still be litigated but the Judge found preliminary basis on TVIRD's claim that the local Ordinance has apparently some constitutional infirmity. The court also ruled that the open pit mining ban Ordinance will bring irreparable damage not only to the company but to the host areas and the Subanon lumads and the communities that have been benefitting from its operations. (Todate, close to 50,000 residents signed petitions opposing the ban Ordinance. Host Siocon and other neighboring towns are up in arms against the ban.) The provincial government also failed to preliminarily convince the Court that TVIRD's mining operations are harmful to the environment. In fact the company showed proof that it even helped clean up the poisonous and dangerous wastes brought about by the small scale miners in the Siocon highlands.

@@@

Cont. on page 9

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*SC, greatest casualty in
SAL-N row*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves..." (Romans 13:1-2, the Holy Bible).

-000-

SC, GREATEST CASUALTY IN SAL-N ROW: The greatest casualty in the tug-of-war over the statement of assets, liability and net worth (SALN) of Chief Justice Renato Corona during the third day of the impeachment trial against him at the Senate last Wednesday, January 18, 2012, is the Supreme Court itself.

In full view of the Filipino nation, senators who wanted the SALN of Corona delivered at all cost to the impeachment court demeaned, derided and totally marginalized the Supreme Court, as if they were demeaning, deriding and totally marginalizing a very low trial court. That third day of the impeachment trial will go down in history as the day our lawmakers, who swore to uphold the integrity of a co-equal branch, treated that co-equal branch like trash or rubbish.

What do I mean by this? Well, in cajoling the clerk of the tribunal, Atty. Enriqueta Esguerra Vidal, to turn over the SALN which she brought with her to the Senate without authorization from the Court, senators took turns in telling her, "do not be afraid of the Supreme Court", "you need not follow its memorandum circular prohibiting the release of SALN without its authorization", or other words to that effect.

Now, after that very public display of defiance, disrespect and disobedience of the highest court of the land by our senators, will there be anyone left who will still follow the Supreme Court? If no one will follow the Supreme Court anymore, will peace and order still reign in this country? Indeed, that Wednesday hearing will have far-reaching complications for all of us, for it has nurtured the seed of disobeying the highest court of the land.

-000-

SC CAN CORRECT ABUSES OF THE IMPEACHMENT COURT: Is the Supreme Court really without power to intervene in the on-going impeachment trial of Corona, as Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile and other senator-judges are openly insisting, on the theory that the Constitution vests in the Senate the exclusive right to try an impeachment case?

The answer is no, for the truth is that the very Constitution which Enrile and the other senators are invoking to prevent the Supreme Court from mixing it up, as it were, with the Senate over the impeachment trial is clearly saying that the tribunal has the power to review and correct what the Senate as an impeachment court is doing.

This power of the Supreme Court is found under Section 1, Art. VIII of that Constitution, enacted and ratified under the first President Aquino in 1987. This section says: "Section 1. The judicial power shall be vested in one Supreme Court and in such lower courts as may be established by law..."

"... Judicial power includes the duty of the courts of justice to settle actual controversies involving rights which are legally demandable and enforceable, and to determine whether or not there has been a grave abuse of discretion amounting to lack or excess of jurisdiction on the part of any branch or instrumentality of the Government."

The present Ombudsman, Conchita Carpio Morales, when she was still a Supreme Court justice, explained the foregoing provision this way in a case involving impeachment: "... the power of judicial review... granted to the Philippine Supreme Court and lower courts, as expressly provided for in the Constitution is not just a power but also a duty, and it was given an expanded definition to include the power to correct any grave abuse of discretion on the part of any government branch or instrumentality."

1st-APLUMA!

President Noy Is Not To Blame

BY: ISMAEL AMIGO SR



At the start yesterday of Chief Justice Renato Corona's impeachment trial, the pros and cons equally surmised, the blatant and subtle political manoeuvrings of pro-Corona and that of anti-Corona groups also had their field day and of course, the media frenzy.

One thing this corner strongly believes, President Noy is not solely to blame on CJ Corona's fate.

What we wish to imply is the old dictum that it takes two to tango.

Yes of course, President Noy happened to be the President of land and "that's the reason Presidents are paid for" to quote a line from Reader's Digest "All in a day's work of an edition of yesteryears."

Even when presidents are doing their darnedest good, people still see some lining not of silver but of dark underpinnings.

And it's no different now especially that CJ Corona is on the hot seat per se.

If we are to weight things of what they are, we may say that CJ Corona may have also - whether intentionally or not - paved the way to where he is now.

And the good thing, if ever there is we the hoipoloi or madlang pipol can dig, out of the impeachment proceedings, is the fact that the Aquino Administration did away with the myth that appointed officials to high places are that "untouchable."

He is not the first who happened to swallow the bitter pill initiated by Malacanang against those who are perceived to have shattered public trust and tarnished with graft and corruption.

Former Ombudswoman Merceditas Gutierrez was supposedly the first one but she called it quits before her own impeachment trial got off the ground.

Good for her she spared her family from getting drag into the no-holds barred, nasty impeachment trial.

But Corona is somewhat different.

He's taking his own time waging his own war although the facts are blatantly strong.

He may be innocent of all accusations thrown at him but impeachment process as it is do not know the rule of truth and Erap had his own lesson even though he was able to assemble to best legal eagles in the land.

It's called public perception.

If CJ Corona is innocent as what he is saying, he may be right but that I would say, he should wait until history is in his side or favour.

Not now. And it could only be bloodier as the impeachment process drags on.

Corona considers himself privileged with the impeachment trial for it will give him the opportunity to prove to the Filipino people that he is not a "bad guy" as others portray him to be.

But take a second look, with 188 votes, the House of Representatives impeached Corona as the SC's 23rd Chief Justice anchored on three grounds - betrayal of public trust, graft and corruption, and culpable violation of the Constitution.

Now the ball is at the hands of the Senate and methinks it won't be any different.

It's our wild guess.

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Classes Suspended on Feb. 1

BAGUIO CITY — the scent of flowers fill the air as the 17th edition of the Baguio Flower Festival starts in this mountain resort.

This week, Mayor Mauricio Domogan has ordered the suspension of classes for Elementary and Secondary Levels both

for public and private schools come February 1 (Wednesday).

Domogan said, 'suspending classes in both Elementary and High School levels will give them the opportunity to participate in the grand opening parade of the Panagbenga'

which falls on a Wednesday.

'The grand opening parade is now converted into an open competition among participating elementary and secondary schools in the city, He said.

"This will

Cont. on page 10

Provincial Blood Council targets Grassroot Bloodletting

TABUK CITY,

Kalinga — Villages are now targets of blood-letting activities through community blood Olympics to be organized by the Provincial Blood Council (PBC).

Norma Bunaton of the Center for Health Development (CHD) said PBC will conduct community blood Olympics in far villages owing to the strong spirit of volunteerism among the natives in the grassroot level.

She said the Olympics will take two to five consecutive days of blood-letting activity within the same municipality. "The minimum number of donors must be 100 per day," Bunaton said.

However, the sponsor may increase the number of donors, she added.

Bunaton said during scheduled blood-letting activities, the sponsoring community will do the pre-screening of potential donors.

"All volunteers have to register, undergo interview, blood typing, Phlebotomy, post donation and cold chain transport," she said.

Blood donations will be screened at the Cagayan Valley Medical Center and deposited at the Kalinga Provincial Hospital (KPH) blood bank.

"PBC agreed that the KPH blood bank must maintain blood units of all types 24/7", according to Bunaton.

Only local chief executives, municipal health officers, or municipal coordinators are authorized to withdraw blood units. Blood utilization will apply the procurement method and the loan scheme where recipients withdraw and deposit later, Bunaton informed./JDP/PAB-PIA CAR, Kalinga

DA Inaugurates Flat Bed Dryer in Ifugao

LAMUT, Ifugao — The Department of Agriculture (DA) inaugurated recently a flat bed dryer that will benefit farmers in Barangay Lawig here.

Avelino Lunag, the Assistant Provincial Agriculturist said that the recipients of the project called "Maligaya Flat Bed Dryer," are the farmers here who are members of the Gungluti Mannalon association.

The Agriculture department believes that this facility which was completed last December 2011 with a total cost of P600,000, will reduce losses and quality deterioration resulting from high moisture content of freshly harvested grain. "The situation becomes more difficult during rainy season when sun drying cannot be relied upon, thus the use of said facility is an option," Lunag said.

The flat bed dryer is of very simple design and operational features. Grains are loaded and laid out on a performed screen flooring and dried by forcing hot air from the plenum below the grain bed. An axial fan powered by a diesel engine provides the drying air. The rice hull fed furnace provides the heat for drying. Grains are loaded and unloaded from the drying bin manually.

The dryer is found to have lower drying cost compared to existing mechanical dryers which is mainly due to the use of rice hull as fuel low labor requirement and low repair/maintenance cost./JDP/VDB-PIA CAR, Ifugao

Short term Employment Beneficial

PASIL, Kalinga — The provision of the Emergency Employment Program (EEP) in Pasil did not only help the families cope with the effects of the typhoon but also provided them a chance to earn extra income.

Pasil Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Manager Venancio Magangat said most of the beneficiaries of the EEP here are dependent on their small farm for a living that some could only produce just enough for their daily sustenance, thus, the occurrence of calamities like typhoons does nothing but worsen their situation.

Magangat related that some of the hired laborers on a daily basis could not earn the EEP daily rate of P229.45 being given by the government, and their short-term employment in effect was an opportunity to earn additional income for their families.

Aside from providing employment, the EEP, he said, has also facilitated the immediate clearing and opening of roads in the area which is usually left impassable due to landslides and debris such as fallen trees and fallen boulders.

Most of the time clearing of the roads is done voluntarily by motorists and commuters, he said.

Out of the 185 hired laborers in the province, 30 came from Pasil who worked on the clearing and cleaning of two road sections.

A flagship program of the Aquino government, the EEP is aimed at providing temporary employment to the typhoon stricken areas helping families as they strive to regain their livelihood destroyed by the calamities.

DOLE Provincial Chief Dr. Avelina Manganip said Kalinga was one of the provinces in the region identified to benefit from the program after being hit by Typhoon Pedring and Quiel which had affected the livelihood of many families in the area.

The laborers in the province she said were hired in partnership with the municipal government to do clearing and cleaning of public structures, farm-to-market roads and waterways identified by the local government units. At least 15 laborer she said were hired for each project.

Manganip said wages of the laborers were given in cash instead of checks so that they can use it immediately. Each laborer was able to bring home P3,441.75 for 15-days work. JDP/GGD-PIA CAR, Kalinga

Public Schools Urged to Implement Computer Class Program

TABUK CITY, Kalinga — In line with the Department of Education Internet Connectivity Program (DICP), school administrators and teachers in the province are asked to properly implement their computer class program as part of the curriculum.

Kalinga Schools Division Supervisor

Marylinda Santos said that to realize the project's objective, there is a need for all teachers to be computer literate to ensure that their students could cope with the advancing methods in the learning process. Teachers, old or new, who are in the frontline of the educational development must be receptive in learn-

ing even how to use the computer, she said.

Santos said computer class teachers have already undergone training but their acquired knowledge would not be improved if they do not apply it in their classes, and will become useless if not shared to their pupils and students

Schools in the province, she said, are coping up with the digital trend considering that most public secondary schools are now equipped with enough computer units for at least one class.

Several elementary schools were also provided with computer units, with central schools

required to have one laboratory class for their special science classes. Just recently, selected secondary and central schools were also provided LCD inter-active digital wide screen displays for their computer classes to facilitate the learning process.

With this development it is expected, she said, that every pupil and student has undergone hands on learning in the use of computer.

Some schools in Kalinga especially those outside Tabuk City she said are still faced with many challenges regarding the adoption of the program considering that only the capital town of Tabuk and some parts of Pinukpuk

Cont. on page 11

REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
BRANCH 6,
BAGUIO CITY

OFFICE OF THE
EX-OFFICIO
SHERIFF

TACIA DESSAIX,
Plaintiff,

-versus-

S H I R L E Y
ELADJOE and
EDWIN ELADJOE,
Defendants,

CIVIL CASE NO.
7175-R

For: Collection of
Sum of Money and
Damages

X—X

**NOTICE OF SALE
ON EXECUTION
OF REAL PROP-
ERTY**

WHEREAS, by
virtue of the Writ of
Execution issued by
Atty. Mylene May G.
Adube-Cabuag,
Clerk of Court V, Re-
gional Trial Court
Branch 6, Baguio
City on December
12, 2011 in the above
entitled case,
wherein TACIA
DESSAIX, herein re-

ferred to as plain-
tiff, and EDWIN
ELADJOE herein
referred to as the
defendant, cause to
be made the amount
P 1,100,000.00 with
legal interest at the
rate of twelve per-
cent (12%) per an-
num from the date
of extra judicial de-
mand, i.e., February
2, 2010 until the
date when this De-
cision becomes final
and executory and
thereafter, the total
amount of the obli-
gation, inclusive of
the legal interest
shall be subject to
another twelve per-
cent (12 %) interest
until fully paid.
Further, defendants
jointly and severally
are ordered to pay
plaintiff P 30,000.00
as attorney's fees
and expenses of liti-
gation and the costs
of suit and the law-
ful fees for service
of this execution.

WHEREAS, on
December 23, 2011,
thru the Register of
Deeds of Baguio
City levy was made
upon all rights,
title, claim partici-
pation and interest
the defendant
Edwin Eladjoe have
or might have over
the property, the
property together
with all the im-
provements exist-
ing thereon which
is more particu-
larly described as
follows:

TRANSFER
CERTIFICATE OF

TITLE NO. T- 92107
“ A parcel of
land (lot 1, Pcs-CAR
-00123 being a por-
tion of Lot 1-B, Psd-
1-013726 and Lot 1-
C, Psd-1-013726,
Decree No. 59376,
LRC Rec . No.
12056), situated at
Residential Section
“H”, City Of
Baguio, Island of
Luzon, Bounded on
the SW., along line
1-2 by Lot 2 (LRC)
Psd- 63753; on the
NW., along line 2-3
by Lot 1-A, Psd-1-
013726; on the NE.,
along line 3-4 by ex-
isting road; on the
SE., along line 4-1
by Lot 2 Pcs-CAR-
000123, Beginning
at a point marked
“1” on plan being
N . 65 deg. 09 E.,
1030.39 m. from tri-
angulation Station “
SKYLINE” , Baguio
City, thence x x x
containing an area
of THREE HUN-
DRED NINETY ONE
(391) SQUARE
METERS, more or
less.”

Now, therefore,
by virtue of sad
Writ of Execution
and in accordance
with Sec 18, Rule 39
of the Rules Of
Civil Procedures,
the Clerk of Court
VI and Ex-Officio
Sheriff of the Re-
gional Trial Court,
Baguio Cityor thru
her deputies hereby
gives notice to the
parties concerned
and to the public in
general that on
February 15, 2012 at

10:00 o'clock in the
morning or soon
thereafter in front
of the Lobby of the
Hall of Justice,
Baguio City, will
sell at Public Auc-
tion to the highest
bidder, for CASH,
all rights, interest
and participation of
defendant Edwin
Eladjoe, in the
above-described
property together
with all its improve-
ments existing
thereon in order to
satisfy the amount
of judgment debt
contained in the
Writ of Execution
plus lawful fees and
expenses of Execu-
tion and Sale.

Interested par-
ties are hereby en-
joined to investi-
gate for themselves
the title of the said
real property de-
scribed above and
encumbrances
thereon, if any
there be.

Baguio City,
this 10th day of
January 2012.

ATTY. REMEDIOS
BALDERAS-REYES
Clerk of Court VI
& Ex-Officio
Sheriff
Regional Trial
Court, Baguio
City

By: (SGD) BOBBY
D. GALANO
Sheriff IV

Publication Dates at
The Junction
Newspaper- January
14, 21 and 28, 2012

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comes with allowances and
other benefits. Please con-
tact us for more details if
you are interested and need
more information kindly
email the HR Manager via
:phprecruiters@yahoo.com

Walter William's Journalist's Creed

This creed was written by Walter Williams (1864-1935),
the man who founded the world's first school of journal-
ism at the University of Missouri and perhaps contributed
more toward the promotion of professional journalism than
any other person of his time.

I believe in the profession of Journalism.

I believe that the public journal is a public trust; that all
connected with it are, to the full measure of responsibility,
trustees for the public; that acceptance of lesser service
than the public service is a betrayal of this trust.

I believe that clear thinking, clear statement, accuracy and
fairness are fundamental to good journalism.

I believe that a journalist should write only what he holds
in his heart to be true. I believe that suppression of the
news, for any consideration other than the welfare of soci-
ety, is indefensible.

I believe that no one should write as a journalist what he
would not say as a gentleman; that bribery by one's own
pocket book is as much to be avoided as bribery by the
pocketbook of another; that individual responsibility may
not be escaped by pleading another's instructions or
another's dividends.

I believe that advertising, news and editorial columns
should alike serve the best interests of readers; that a single
standard of helpful truth and cleanness should prevail for
all; that supreme test of good journalism is the measure of
its public service.

I believe that the journalism which succeeds the best-and
best deserves success-fears God and honors man; is stoutly
independent; unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of
power; constructive, tolerant but never careless, self-con-
trolled, patient, always respectful of its readers but always
unafraid, is quickly indignant at injustice; is unswayed
by the appeal of the privilege or the clamor of the mob;
seeks to give every man a chance, and as far as law, an
honest wage and recognition of human brotherhood can
make it so, an equal chance; is profoundly patriotic while
sincerely promoting international good will and cement-
ing world-comradeship, is a journalism of humanity, of
and for today's world. /http://
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We believe that the Golden Rule applies to animals, too. We don't accept the prevailing notion that "people come first" or that "people are more important than animals." Animals feel pain and suffer just as we do, and it is almost always humans making animals suffer and not the other way around. Yet in spite of how cruelly people behave towards animals – not to mention human cruelty to other humans- we are supposed to believe that humans are superior to other animals. If people want to fancy themselves as being of greater moral worth than the other creatures on this earth, we should begin behaving better than they do, and not worse. Let's start treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves.

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno www.linisgobyerno.org

BCDA Dismisses CJHDevco's Arbitration Bid a 'Desperate act'from page 1

Supreme Court revoking the tax privileges in the John Hay Special Economic Zone (JHSEZ) in 2003 is already a non-issue as it has already been rectified when Congress restored the tax incentives to the locators of JHSEZ in 2007.

"That was the reason why a deferment of payments had been granted and three restructurings had been done," he said.

He also shrugged off as "old issue" the One Stop Action Center (OSAC) row which the CJHDevco has been trying to resurrect as an excuse to evade payments.

"To put matters in perspective, the OSAC has been operational. Otherwise, it would not have been able to issue 22 building permits in 2009, 28 in 2010, and eight in the first quarter of 2011. A total of 60 locators have been granted permits to operate," Payumo said.

With respect to the applications for permit to operate that are still pending, including the CJH Suites occupancy, the John Hay Management Corp. (JHMC) clarified that CJHDevco still has some violations of the Building and Fire Code. JHMC is BCDA's management arm in the JHSEZ.

Because the JHMC has no authority to issue tree-cutting and tree-balling permits which the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) does not delegate, JHMC has actually arranged for a DENR representative to regularly visit and hold office at the OSAC for purposes of permit issuances.

"At any given time, there will always be a number of applications pending," Payumo said, "but does that mean the OSAC is not operating? And is that a valid reason for CJHDevco to withhold payment of its arrears totaling P3.024 billion?"

"Clearly, the OSAC case is also a non-issue," Payumo said.

Then again, the CJHDevco contradicted itself by saying it has set up an escrow account in lieu of direct remittances of its lease obligations, the BCDA added.

"Such account does not exist," BCDA Vice President for Business Development and Operations Dean Santiago said.

He explained that it cannot be called an escrow account because the money allegedly deposited is unilaterally determined by CJHDevco, and only CJHDevco can withdraw from it.

Meanwhile, the BCDA vowed to explore all options available to protect the government's interest in the Camp John Hay dispute and collect from the lessee CJHDevco all overdue accounts, even as it meets head on the legal moves being taken by the private developer.

Citing the Sobrepena Group's history of failed big-ticket projects including the College Assurance Plan, Santiago said "it came as no surprise that CJHDevco, after defaulting on its lease payments for more than ten years, would unilaterally rescind the Camp John Hay project."/ Public Affairs Department, BCDA Corporate Center

Advocacy Mindanow

.....from page 5

WHAT NOW SMI & SOUTHCOT? — For sure, the Dipolog court ruling must catch the attention of Sagittarius Mining, Inc and the provincial government of South Cotabato where an earlier and similar open pit mining ban was approved. SMI, by the way, has not gone to court to question it because its commercial stream will still start in 2016 or about 4 years from now. And it is relying on the possibility that the provincial board of South Cotabato will consider a review of the Ordinance. Perhaps now, the SOUTHCOT SP can take a cue from that Dipolog ruling and start working for a win-win solution. In the meantime, the almost \$6 billion dollar investment for what is reputedly one of the biggest mineral reserves in Asia is teetering on some uncertain future. Worse, a few days ago, the DENR denied SMI's request for the issuance of an environmental compliance certificate (ECC) principally because the provincial ordinance banning open put mining is still subsisting and not amended. It will be a sad day for Mindanao if that huge investment, again the biggest direct foreign investment in the Philippine horizon today, will be lost and will go somewhere else. And alas for the local communities, beneficiaries and stakeholders who will just continue to wallow in poverty just salivating at the untapped wealth right under their noses and lose the opportunity of a lifetime.

@@@@

SEEING IS BELIEVING — By the way, someone asked me why TVIRD is getting massive support from the Zamboanga stakeholders and communities (except the provincial government, of course) while SMI in South Cotabato is still agonizing with some hostile opposition from the ground. My answer is simple. In TVI the communities and the host lumads saw the operations for themselves (TVI is entering its 7th year of operations) and verified its actual effect on the environment and moreover experienced and received the benefits of the mining operation, (like host 4th class Siocon becoming 1st class municipality). In the case of SMI the stakeholders are still abstractly viewing the promised benefits, mitigation measures and other supposed windfall that has not yet fully come their way. Hence, they become easy target for the doomsayers who picture mining as an ugly monster out to devour the environment and the future of the people.

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ANTI - MINING — Not to be outdone, anti-mining groups are also girding for more upscaled campaigns. There is a forum at the Ateneo de Davao on January 26 spearheaded by new Ateneo University President, Fr Joel Tabora who interestingly, immediately after his assumption unfurled a huge ANTI-MINING streamer at the university facade fronting the main street and glaring at plush Marco Polo Hotel across. Just out of curiosity, I asked some Ateneans why they were against mining. I got a curt reply that they had no hand in the putting up of that streamer. And it did not speak for all of them. Interesting!

Editorial

..... from page 4

terious circumstances," the UN committee found. Among the desaparecidos is Zosimo Villanueva of Tawi-Tawi naval station. He tipped Pestano on the hot logs and shabu. "Lost at sea while on a mission," the UN said: "Foul play is suspected."

Ship radio operator Fidel Tagaytay was ordered to report to Navy Headquarters, says Leonila his wife. He, too, disappeared. There's been "no action/investigation by the Navy," UN snapped.

Ensign Alvin Farone contacted Marissa, Pestano's sister, saying he wanted "to tell what really happened to Phillip". He died meanwhile. "They were faceless, powerless enlisted men," Viewpoint noted (PDI/13 Sept 2010) "They were like trees, felled in the forest. No one sees. No one knows. No one cares. Perhaps impeachment (of Gutierrez) may spark a glimmer of hope. Perhaps." Gutierrez bailed out by resigning. Perhaps, trial will finally bring justice - and answers to hanging questions.

Cmdr Ordenez didn't disclose Petty Officer Amoroso was on the ship when Pestano died. "Danga's trusted aide Amoroso was fired" Viewpoint (PDI/31 January 2009) pointed out. "He never answered what he was doing aboard RPA Bacolod on the day Pestano was killed. Was Danga there too? If so, what for? And how did he leave the ship?"/Juan L. Mercado

CLUP in Loakan

..... from page 2

also said as to public clamor. He assured the group that the CLUP is included in the city's Annual Investment Plan (AIP) and the Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP). Once revisions or amendments would be incorporated, the CLUP shall be presented to the council for approval. Public consultations, such as this, the councilor said, would be done.

There would also be a need to harmonize the laws, as to the needs and priorities of the indigenous peoples, it was discussed.

Indigenous peoples' needs should be looked into; water, housing, education, and other social needs, in consonance with the land use plan, and all the natural resources within, the councilor said.

OIC Planning Officer Engr. Evelyn Cayat thus explained the city's zones: commercial and industrial, residential and restricted zone. Commercial would include those in the Central Business District, while some industrial zones would be found in the outskirts of the city. Restricted zones would include that of the proposed Environmental Sanitary Landfill at Sto. Tomas. Other restricted zones are hazard-prone zones: sinking eroding and slippage-prone areas.

The road network, circulation within and access to the city were also included in the CLUP, which was explained, as coordinated with the Baguio-La Trinidad-Itogon-Sablan-Tuba-Tublay (BLISTT) project.

The CLUP, a product of an earlier visioning done barangay-based, charted the future, Engr. Cayat revealed. It was analyzed and validated by sectors called for the purpose, she added.

Councilor Cosalan, Jr. Atty. Manuel Cuilan answered queries from the attendees, as with NCIP representative Atty. Badecao.

He further assured the public that more consultations shall be done for other concerns./juliegfianza

Councilor**.....from page 2**

Councilor Palaganas further explained in his proposed legislative measure that the concerned group has organized a planning workshop on the abovementioned date and is expected to be attended by representatives from all sectors of the Baguio Society, in the hope of carrying out the major objective of pedestrianization of Session Road with the least or zero hassle to those affected, if the plan is indeed found to be feasible.

The move by Councilor Palaganas to temporarily pedestrianize a certain portion of Session Road is intended to ascertain whether in fact it is actually feasible and practical to pedestrianize the main thoroughfare of the City as will be experienced by the members of the said cause oriented group who will walk en masse on a vehicle free portion of Session in going to their workshop venue at the University of the Cordilleras (UC).

Reiterating the need for judicious spending, Councilor Fianza during the budget deliberations of the City Council noted that there may have been an overestimation of the proposed costs for the purchase of several firefighting equipment and accessories as contained in the proposed budget of the BFPS-CO. The alderman in particular cited the proposed purchase by the said office of fifty eight (58) Fire Coats with Trousers in the amount of Two Million Nine Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 2,900,000.00), fifty seven (57) Fire boots in the amount of Five Hundred Seventy Thousand Pesos (P 570,000.00), Fifty Seven Fire Helmets in the amount of One Million One Hundred Forty Thousand Pesos (P 1,140,000.00), ten (10) Leather gloves in the amount of Forty Thousand Pesos (P 40,000.00), and four (4) Spine boards in the amount of Eighty Thousand Pesos (P 80,000.00).

He revealed further that through his own research on the costs of the abovementioned firefighting equipment and accessories it would appear that the BFPS-CO ostensibly chose those with the highest or costliest price.

A quick browse thru the internet (e.g. Sulit.com) reveals that the price of a complete firefighting suit hovers between P 26,000.00 to P 35,000.00 while the proposed cost as recommended by the BFPS-CO amounts to P 50,000.00 per suit. The internet advertised price of fire fighter boots cost about P 3,000.00 to P 5,000.00 while the BFPS-CO proposes to purchase boots costing P 10,000.00 and spine boards which cost between P 6,000.00 to P 15,000.00 in the internet are proposed by the BFPS-CO to be purchased at the cost of P 20,000.00 each.

Not only that, Fianza also made the observation that the proposed purchase of two (2) units of half body mannequin (used for Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation [CPR] exercises) for this year was in the proposed amount of One Hundred Forty Thousand Pesos (P 140,000.00) or Seventy Thousand Pesos (P 70,000.00) per unit, while a price quotation given by a local supplier to the City last year came up to about P 30,000.00 only per unit.

The proposed budget of the BFPS-CO for CY 2012 is in the amount of Thirty Three Million Seven Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Pesos (P 33,769,000.00), as reflected and contained in the proposed executive budget CY 2012 submitted by Honorable

City Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan to the City Council for latter's consideration.

In coming to the defense of the proposed budget of the BFPS-CO Honorable City Councilor Edison Bilog suggested to the council that the concerned personalities be invited to explain and defend their proposed budgets in order to obtain satisfactory explanations from them. It can be recalled that the proposed budget of the BFPS-CO was reported out by Honorable Ex-Oficio City Councilor Joel A. Alangsab who was assigned the task of conducting budget hearings on the proposed budget of the BFPS-CO.

Finally, Councilor Fianza stated that there are other items in the proposed budget of the BFPS-CO, apart from those he mentioned during last Monday's regular council session, which seems to have been overestimated as to cost and thus reiterated his position that the said proposed budget be reduced by 2 million pesos to reflect the reasonable costs of the items intended to be purchased.

The suggestion made by Councilor Fianza might be taken up again during the next budget deliberation of the council when the proposed budget of the BFPS-CO will be discussed further.

Solon Assures Congress**.....from page 3**

Mountain Province to Cervantes, Ilocos Sur by 2013.

Dalog called on all the tourism congress participants to support the government in such endeavor. "Let us continue to support one another and help each other make Cordillera the number one tourist destination in this part of the country," Dalog said./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

DOH**.....from page 3**

cancer cases they have handled, only one one-third of the caes are hereditary while two-thirds are lifestyle-related. Thus, she is pushing for a more intensified advocacy campaign against cancer through healthy lifestyle.

The Healthy Lifestyle advocacy campaign of the DOH includes seven healthy practices which are: no smoking; do not drink alcohol; no to illegal drugs; keep low salt, low fat diet; prevention of hypertension; do physical exercise or activity; and manage stress.

According to Igama, though there is better public awareness now, there is a need to do more for the prevention and early detection as many of the cancer cases they are receiving are already in stage three and four. She is also urging for stricter implementation of laws particularly those those involving anti-smoking as she affirmed that lung cancer still remains as the top kind of cancer in the country.

Based on DOH data, lung cancer is followed by breast, colon, rectal and liver cancer.

Igama expressed concern that lung cancer may soon overtake breast cancer as the top cancer among women since smoking is becoming more prevalent among female including young girls.

With most of cancer cases related to tobacco smoking, Igama reiterated the importance for the public to join the advocacy especially for parents to be role models in their own homes./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Mayor**.....from page 2**

are included in the 2006 and 2011 block 4 surveys will be assigned vending spaces except for occupants who used their stalls as bodegas and eateries prior to demolition./paul rillorta

The Peace Combatant**from page 4**

the overpass stairs? Should we put up a spot for senior citizens and the disabled to cross our streets? Or should society ignore them and force them to climb the overpasses? Should our society confine the elderly and the disabled to their homes?

The take of the Peace Combatant (and probably the Junction) on these concerns is for a mechanism to be put up that would institutionalize public consultations on road designs and plans. In fact, the consultations should also include public consultations on road repairs. For instance, the jeepney and taxi drivers associations as well as barangay officials should be consulted on these. There must be a best way of conducting the repairs and the consultation can address the question. The consultations can also be occasions for the public officials and the government agency responsible for the road repairs and construction to defend their budget. The availability of information in the website can serve to discourage corruption as transparency of information is promoted.

(The author can be contacted through artboquiren2040@yahoo.com, 0927-536-8431, and Facebook)

Classes Suspended**.....from page 7**

jumpstart the bigger and better activities lined up for the month-long event", Domogan added.

The Panagbenga Flower Festival will be held from February 1 to march 4 with the theme 'Community Convergence for a Sustainable Tourism Growth'.

Numerous traditional and community-led government supported activities will be featured during the event to boost the city's robust tourism industry.

Classes for College level will also be suspended on February 25 (Saturday) for the Grand street Dancing Parade. **paul rillorta

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

MANOLO V. MAMARIL - Vendor

JOHN K. LOMSIT -Vendee

Applicants

Case No: 2007-CAR- 0170/2012-CAR-47

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on on Febeury 22, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, 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 17th day of January 2011.

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

Benguet Firms

.....from page 12

tion, mobilization and dispatching of resources needed for an effective, timely and orderly response.

The Provincial Operation Center follows the PDRRMC organizational structure and Incident Command System (ICS), a systematic tool used for the command, control and coordination of emergency response.

The Provincial OpCen is the central command and control facility responsible for carrying out the principles of emergency preparedness and emergency management, or disaster management functions at a strategic level in any emergency situation, and ensuring the continuity of operation of a company, political subdivision or other organization.

It performs functions such as information collection, analysis and dissemination, coordination with lower Disaster Risk Reduction Management Councils (DRRMCs), local and outside responders, communication, resource management, responders capability and resources, ensure availability and accessibility of evacuation centers, monitor observance of ICS in every operation, post operation conference, provision of pantry and rest facilities, and trauma and stress debriefing of responders, family of victims/survivors and communities.

There are levels of activation which are followed in the OpCen. Localized landslide, flooding or vehicular accidents may require only a minimal activation, while an impending typhoon landfall requires full activation.

Apart from typhoon disturbances, the OpCen covers all types of disasters such as fire incident, drowning, bird flu, bombing among others.

The PLDRM Officer who heads the Provincial OpCen advises and recommends to the Provincial Governor, who chairs the PDRRMC, the partial or full activation of the Provincial OpCen.

Jessie Erico of the provincial government, on the other hand, presented the communication system and protocol among PDRRMC members for pre-event, during declaration of disaster and post event./JDP/SCA- PIA CAR, Benguet

Baguio Botanical

.....from page 12

mini-zoo. Proposed entrance for the said mini-zoo will be along South Drive," he said.

Meanwhile, Alhambra disclosed that this April, the Baguio Botanical Garden will be a part of the venues for the scheduled University Theater Performance of the Art, a project of the national government through the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), in partnership with the International Performance Theater Association.

"It will be a big (tourism) event for the city as about 1,000 performers are invited to join, and this number still has a tendency to increase once the promotion of the said event commences," Alhambra said.

As for other tourism update, Alhambra also affirmed that they are now working for the promotion and marketing of Panagbenga 2012 (Baguio Flower Festival) which is set to be open on February 1.

According to Alhambra, infrastructures that will support the safety and security of visitors will be ready by then. In addition, Alhambra also reported that they are now also doing monitoring of the city's accommodation services and other amenities to ensure the comfort and convenience of visitors coming up for the Panagbenga./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

4pscover all Town

.....from page 12

cies and non-government organizations that will help in the program implementation, he said.

Partner agencies from the Department of Health(DOH), Local Government Units (LGU) and Department of Education (DepEd) are currently attending training on the family development sessions for the Pantawid Pamilya parent beneficiaries, Reynoso said.

"This is a milestone in the poverty alleviation efforts of the government. Through partnership with the different line agencies, NGOs, CSOs and other sectors of the society, it is never impossible to succeed in helping our poor families", Reynoso added

The 4Ps is one of the country's banner programs implemented to help achieve five of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set by the international community to halve the poorest population around the world by 2015./JDP/IBZ- PIA CAR

E - Blotter

.....from page 12

nality strategy.

The main goal of the project is to have a daily update on what is really happening on the ground, particularly in every police station which is vital in mapping out strategies for quick response and crime prevention, he explained.

Among the high lights of the launching was the turn-over of e-Blotter hardware by Vergara to PROCOR Regional Director, PCSupt Benjamin Magalong. The e- Blotter hardware from Vergara are for the six Police Provincial Offices of PROCOR, City Police Head Quarters, Women and Children Protection Center and 10 Stations of Baguio City Police Office(BCPO).

In his speech, Vergara assured PROCOR of his support in all the projects that PROCOR would venture in to.

Prior to this launching, 80 officers representing the six 6 PPOs and CPO underwent a three-day seminar workshop on e-Blotter. DIDM-ITMS Mobile Team gave hands on training to the participants on how to use the system.

Last January 14, Magalong turned-over to BCPO City Director, PSSupt David Lacdan 12 e-Blotter hardware sets to operationalize e-Blotter system in the Baguio City./PRO-COR

Public School

.....from page 7

have stable energy source and internet connection. Several municipalities rely on other current sources such as generators that are usually operational on scheduled time, thus, schools are required to have their own generators to ensure that their computer classes are functional.

She said another concern raised is the limited or no school budget for the computer classes. Thus, the computers are not being utilized, leaving the knowledge of teachers and students based on theories without the actual hands-on learning approach.

But these setbacks should not stop schools with the help of the teachers, parents and their local government units in providing the best education for the children especially that the DICP management is school-based, Santos pointed out.

In an interview, Maria Lourdes Antonio, Computer Department head of the Tabuk National High School (TNHS) main said that 50 percent of their teaching personnel are already using the internet connectivity technology (ICT) in their classes. Every department she said has its own programmed ICT training. The school is endeavoring to provide all its 2,008 students a hands-on learning experience. TNHS has two computer laboratories, one for the science class and the other for the regular classes, she added.

The DICP had become part of the public education system since its launching in 2009 through DepEd Order No. 50. The project was piloted in the capital region and eventually adopted in the different provinces. (JDP/GGD- PIA-CAR, Kalinga)

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

ELSA M. DALIGUEZ
Applicants

Case No: 99-01-396

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on February 15, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, 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 17th day of January 2012.

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

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

JOSELITO LLANETA
Applicants

Case No: 2004-BAG-CAR-1320

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on February 22, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, 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 17th day of January 2012.

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

Benguet Plans to Establish Composting Facility Along Halsema Highway

L A TRINIDAD, Benguet - The province plans to establish a composting facility along the Halsema Highway to manage the perennial problem on vegetable trimmings and wastes, which are eyesores along the historic road.

According to Governor Nestor

Fongwan, the composting plant costs more than P2 million to be shared by the province and the Department of Agriculture.

Fongwan said the aerated window type of compost facility having a capacity of 30 tons could transform organic wastes in 30 days.

The compost could be used by farmers as soil conditioner such that it

will improve soil nutrition and structure and helps in the growth of plants.

Fongwan said the facility is also intended to capture and contain the wastes and trimmings from the La Trinidad Trading Post which compounds to several tons per day./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR,Benguet

Benguet Firms up Command System, Protocol for Provincial Opcen

L A TRINIDAD, Benguet - The province is firming up the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Emergency Operation Center (Opcen) as guide for an effective, timely and orderly response in times of disaster including the establishment of a standard communication system and pro-

tol.

The SOP for the Opcen or Provincial Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PLDRMO) and the standard communication system and protocol, which are both outputs from the series of trainings, were presented during an emergency meeting of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Manage-

ment Council (PDRMCM) including representatives of the World Food Programme (WFP) for comments and other inputs.

Provincial Capitol Rescue Team Leader Jerome Layugan presented the SOP which describes the functions of the Opcen and the procedures required to activate the center, provide coordina-

Cont. on page 11

Baguio Botanical Garden Undergoes Improvement

BAGUIO CITY - The City Government of Baguio will be pouring in about P10 million to fund development projects inside the Baguio Botanical Garden., one of the tourist attractions in the city.

City Tourism Officer Benny Alhambra, in an interview, disclosed that construction is now on-going for an amphitheater, a 'dap-ayan' area and for the upgrade of

the entrance of the Botanical Garden. He said the amphitheater and dap-ayan will be the performance area inside the park, where they also plan to showcase the different cultures not only here in the city but for the rest of Cordillera as well.

Alhambra bared that the Botanical Garden has been declared as Baguio's Centennial Park during the city's 100 years founding anniversary last September

1, 2009, and in line with this, they will also be putting an informational and educational project inside the park which will provide tourists a walk through of the history of Baguio.

Another upcoming development project for the Botanical Garden that Alhambra reported is the revival of the mini-zoo inside the park. "A mini-zoo in the past was another attraction inside the park and there is already a proposal submitted to us by an expert for sustaining and managing the

Cont. on page 11

The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!



"FINEST POINT" - Baguio's Police Officers lay out their plans and actions to upgrade their services to protect lives and properties during an open discussion with Mayor Mauricio . Domogan promised to support their programs ithrough financial assistance for needed equmtments.— By Bong Cayabyab

4pscovers all Towns, Cities in Cordillera

BAGUIO CITY - All the 75 municipalities and two cities in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) will be covered by the government's biggest poverty reduction project Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino program(4Ps) or the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) this year.

According to DSWD-CAR regional director Leonardo C. Reynoso, Secretary Corazon Juliano-Soliman has approved the region's request for the inclusion of the remaining 12 municipalities that have not been covered by the program.

As a result, an additional 30,330 poor households will be covered by the CCT in the Cordillera this year bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 58,653, Reynoso bared.

The Pantawid Pamilya, which gives cash grants to poor households with compliance to health, education and nutrition conditions, has been implemented for almost four years now.

As a jumpstart to cover more poor households in the region, the Regional Project Management Office (RPMO) has been conducting orientation to local government units, local chief executives, and program partners from line agen-

Cont. on page 11

E-Blotter launched at Cordillera Police Office

L A TRINIDAD, Benguet-The Police

Regional Office-Cordillera(PROCOR) launched last January 13, 2012 the e-Blotter, a break through in crime investigation and detective management.

The e-Blotter is designed as a stand-alone system which will be installed in all police stations as a means of reporting and monitoring of all crime incidents that transpired within an area as well as the results and records

of investigations conducted by the police stations.

The launching was graced by PCSupt Ricardo Marquez, Executive Officer of the Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management (DIDM), Camp Crame, Quezon City and Baguio Congressman Bernardo Vergara.

Marquez, in his speech said that the DIDM with the Information Technology Management Service (PNP-ITMS) developed a more efficient electronic blotter system for recording crime inci-

dents across the country with the National Capital Region as the pilot study.

The e-BLOTTER does not only facilitate crime documentation and modernize data storage but also presents quick, fast and reliable transmission of crime information from police stations to the PNP Headquarters at Camp Crame, Quezon City. It is an effective management tool for decision makers and security strategies to have an easy and intelligent way of mapping out peace and order and anti-crime-

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