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WEEKEND

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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Panagbenga opens with Parade and Dance Showdown



"FESTIVE MOOD" - Elementary School dancers perform to the beat of the drum and Lyre band during the opening of the Panagbenga Flower Festival celebrations at the Baguio Athletic Bowl last February 1./ photo by paul rillorta

BAGUIO CITY – With flowers and waving feathers, bright cloaks and shimmering veils, flags and twirling umbrellas, instruments covered with blooms and dancing musicians; pupils garbed in neon-colored costumes and accessories, from elementary schools kicked off Panagbenga 2012 with a parade from Panagbenga Park up to the Baguio Athletic Bowl, last Wednesday.

A dance showdown followed until the announcement of winners just after noon. Baguio Central Elementary School won with a Hundred and Thirty Thousand (130,000) prize, followed by Don Mariano Marcos Memorial Elementary School with a Hundred and Ten Thousand (P110,000) peso prize; as Special Education Center garnered third place with Ninety Thousand Pesos (P90,000) for their efforts.

All the participating **Cont. on page 9**

Malacanang Issues order to SP for Comment on Bocap Case **page 2**

Mayor Firm City not Dumping at Irisan.....p2

DepEd Enjoins Community in Addressing Education Resource Shortage **page 2**

PDEA-CAR outlines 4-pt. Action Plan in Fight vs Illegal drugs **page 3**

Dads Want Inquiry on Fire Equipment Pricing **page 3**

PRC to put up more Walk-in Testing Centers **page 3**

DPWH Allots P90 Million for Kennon Road Repair **page 12**

DA-CAR gives P6.25M for Food Terminals in Benguet **page 12**

Panagbenga na, sana walang mga kalokohan na korupsiyon na magaganap, katulad ng mga nakaraang Panagbenga!!!

Asin Minihydro Project Bid out **page 2**

M a y o r : Pedestrianization Feasible **page 12**

Mayor Confident Council will ok Panagbenga Budget **page 6**

Mayor Orders Illegal Vending Crackdown..p6



THE PEACE COMBATANT

Why Panagbenga will not benefit Baguio!!!

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Media Gag vs. Prosecutors & Defense

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



Malacanang Issues order to SP for Comment on Bocap Case

The Office of the President thru Undersecretary and Assistant Executive Secretary for legal Affairs Ronaldo A. Geron recently issued an order directing the City Council to submit its comments on a memorandum on appeal filed by former Bakakeng Central Punong Barangay Alicia Pacsi-Dizon, et. al., in connection with the Barangay Administrative Case No. 011-2011 resolved against Punong Barangay Helen Miranda of the same barangay.

It can be recalled that the City Council in September 26, 2011 resolved to preventively suspend for a period of six (6) months Punong Barangay Helen Miranda of Bakakeng Central Barangay for having been found guilty on two (2) counts of administrative offenses namely: continuous possession over a barangay property as her residence and sari-sari store which constituted grave abuse of authority, misconduct in office and dishonesty, and oppression for refusing to issue a clearance from money, property and other accountabilities of former Punong Barangay Alicia P. Dizon. The decision of the City Council on the matter was to be rendered effective immediately upon receipt by the respondent.

However, complainants to the said barangay administrative case, Alicia Pacsi-Dizon et. al., feeling dissatisfied with the decision reached by the City Council filed a memorandum on appeal and elevated the matter to the Office of the President hence the order for the latter to comment on the above case.

The order itself which was received by the office of the Honorable City Vice Mayor Daniel T. Fariñas on January 31, 2012 is expected to be tackled during the next regular session of the City Council having been calendared as item four in the agenda. The order also requires the City Council to point out in its comments (a) insufficiencies or inaccuracies in appellants' (Alicia Pacsi-Dizon, Alredo M. Ruado, et. al.) statement of facts and (b) state the reason why the appeal should be denied or dismissed. The comments of the City Council on the matter have to be submitted within fifteen (15) days upon receipt of the Memorandum of Appeal. On the other hand, the order from Malacanang also requires the appellants within fifteen (15) days from receipt of said order to remit the sum of one thousand and five hundred pesos (P 1,500.00) as appeal fee, submit a clearly legible duplicate original or certified copy of the resolution being appealed and proofs that the appeal was filed on time. The appellants were likewise directed to furnish the appellees (City Council, PB Helen Miranda) with copies of their Memorandum of Appeal with proof of service submitted to the Office of the President.

The order coming from the Office of the President, and cited by Undersecretary Geron, was made pursuant to Administrative Order No. 22 dated 11 October 2011 entitled "Prescribing Rules and Regulations Governing Appeals to the Office of the President of the Philippines" which at times is the culminating process in the exhaustion of administrative remedies as required by law.

DepEd Enjoins Community in Addressing Education Resource Shortage

The Department of Education has set aside a

whole month — February 6 to March 6 — for school officials, teachers, parents and

other community stakeholders to plan ways of addressing education resource

Cont. on page 10

Asin Minihydro Project Bid out

BAGUIO CITY — The city government has finally bid out the operation and rehabilitation of Asin mini-hydro-electric plants in Tuba, Benguet to private investors here, Mayor Mauricio Domogan based on Wednesday.

The mayor said the bidding was undertaken last January 27 and the offers are currently being evaluated by the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) to determine if a bidder qualified for the project based on the terms of reference (TOR) set by the city.

The Asin minihydro rehabilitation and operation is a priority project of the city government and the mayor said the city looks forward to setting the project into motion to finally realize its thrust to maximize the power generating potential of the plants and restore their viability.

The plants' op-

erations have slackened since the city government took over the management in 2006 due to lack of funds and expertise.

The city took time to draft the TOR due to numerous considerations which include the claims and shares of the host communities and the landowners whose properties were affected by the operation of the minihydro facilities.

Based on the TOR, the bid components will be for the rehabilitation and rental under the conditions that the operator shall invest a considerable amount of money for the rehabilitation, upgrading and expansion of the plants to produce 41,406,178 kilowatthours, install independent substation and power line to the national grid.

The terms also provided the schedule of remuneration to the city

government and other concerned parties including the provincial government of Benguet, municipality of Tuba and barangays Tadiangan and Nangalisan where the plants are located and including the surface owners whose properties are affected by the pipelines and plant facilities.

Meanwhile, the mayor said the city is in the process of paying the accumulated claims of the surface owners amounting to close to P2 million.

He said the payment of the claims was scheduled last December but the city accounting office under city accountant Antonio Tabin needed more time to verify and reconcile the list of grantees.

The payment will be based on the compromise agreement forged by the city government and the landowners in 2010 which ended

Cont. on page 8

Mayor Firm City not Dumping at Irisan

BAGUIO CITY — Mayor Mauricio Domogan Wednesday maintained that the city government has stopped using the Irisan facility as dumping ground and as transfer or sorting area for wastes in compliance with the Environmental Protection Order (TEPO) of the Supreme Court (SC).

The mayor dismissed reports of its alleged continued dumping at the site as untrue even as he invited critics to go to the site and "see for themselves."

The mayor said however that the city continues to use the Environmental Recycling System (ERS) machines stationed at the

Irisan grounds to process the biodegradable wastes.

"The TEPO is clear that we have to cease and desist from dumping and using it as temporary holding or staging area for wastes and the use of ERS should not be considered as dumping as the wastes are con-

Cont. on page 10



THE JUNCTION

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(SGD) Odell P. Aquino The Junction-OIC

Opinions expressed by the opinion writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of this paper.

*Our articles and stories (news/features) are ready to go for printing without the involvement of the editor and publisher who happen to be on leave.

PDEA-CAR outlines 4-pt. Action Plan in Fight vs Illegal drugs

BAGUIO CITY- The top official of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency-Cordillera Administrative Region (PDEA-CAR) reported a successful campaign against illegal drugs in the region last year as he bared more intensified drive this year centered on four major action plans.

PDEA-CAR OIC Regional Director Gil Cesario Castro, in an interview reported that in partnership with the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Armed Forces of the Philippines, National Bureau of Investigation, and other peace and order units or public safety groups in the region, more than P388 Million worth of illegal drugs (Dangerous Drugs Board value) were seized in 2011.

According to Castro, majority of the total illegal drug yield in the 154 drug enforcement operations they conducted last year involves 'marijuana' with only about 0.17 percent or P674,220 worth of the illegal drugs yield is

shabu.

He also reported that the 154 operations led to the arrest of 174 persons and the filing of 126 drug cases. Castro also disclosed that 14 of the arrested drug law violators are in the Target List of Drug Personalities, four are in the Watch List and five are members of local drug groups.

For this year, Castro affirmed that PDEA-CAR is intensifying its 'Oplan Amihan' launched late last year which is centered on four major action plans.

"Oplan Amihan' has four main objectives which include: continuous campaign against organized drug group in Cordillera; going after known or wanted drug personalities in Cordillera especially those with warrant of arrests; more intensified and continuing legal offensive against violators of Republic Act 9165 or the Dangerous Drug Act; and the conduct of more train-

ers training for the academe and local government units (LGUs) for more intensified advocacy or public awareness on the ill-effects of illegal drugs in every community in the region", Castro explained.

Castro also underscored the importance of the active participation of local communities in the country's fight against illegal drugs. "Every citizen's vigilance is very important in the fight against illegal drugs especially in his community. They should continue to report any suspicious or suspected illegal drug activity in their areas so that that law enforcement agencies such as PDEA will not just rely on informants on combating illegal drugs", he said.

"With the help of the public and the tri-media as well, successful campaign against illegal drugs, drug personalities and organized groups is very feasible", Castro added.

JDP/LD-PIA CAR



APPEASING THE SPIRITS - Members of the Baguio's Finest butcher a black pig during a "Canao" in front of Baguio City Police Office for good luck and harmony last January 27./Bong Cayabyab

PRC to put up more Walk-in Testing Centers

BAGUIO CITY- The Philippine Regulation Commission (PRC), in line with its thrust to strengthen e-services and to bring its services closer to the people, is set to put more walk-in testing centers in various parts of the country and to expand the capacity of their existing walk-in testing centers.

According to PRC Commissioner, Atty. Jennifer Jardin Manalili, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has already approved the expansion of about 200 units for its existing

walk-in testing centers in Manila, Cebu, Ilo-ilo and Davao, as well as for expansion projects in other parts of the country.

"There are now more clients patronizing our walk-in examination which is why we planned to put up more (computer) units in our existing testing centers to have at least 40 units each, and we also plan to put up more walk-in testing centers in other areas", Manalili said.

For the walk-in examination expansion project, Manalili bared that the PRC plans to put one here in Baguio this year

as well as in Cagayan De Oro. The office is also now working out an expansion project in Tacloban City.

Manalili informed that for now, the walk-in examination is for Marine Engineering Courses such as Marine Engineer Officer and Desk Officer, but there are plans to roll it out eventually to other professional licensure exams including nursing, teachers and criminology.

PRC-Baguio Regional Director Teofilo Gaius Sison Jr., meanwhile, disclosed that his of-

Cont. on page 11

BCPO Clarifies Release of info

"Mga ibang Medyas dapat pag-ingatan ang pag-susulat ng mga maseselan report"!-OIC, The Junction Newspaper

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2006-022 otherwise known as the PNP Media Relations Policy dated November 21, 2006 is a policy aimed to establish the specific guidelines on how every member of the Philippine National Police ({PNP}) should deal with members of the media, especially in releasing public information. This policy also aims to re-orient and further motivate every PNP personnel to be cognizant of the importance of a good-working relationship with

the media as a vital component of the organization's over-all Police-Community Relations Program, **but with utmost awareness of the limits of disclosure of information.**

In Part V paragraph G.3 of the said policy, it discusses about information that **may not be released** in connection with an investigation of an event or crime unless authorized by the department chief executive or his designee. One of these is stated in letter g as quoted "Information which, if prematurely released, may interfere with

the investigation or apprehension such as the nature of leads, specifics of an "MO," details of the crime known only to the perpetrator and the police, or information that may cause the suspect to flee or more effectively avoid apprehension;" Also, according to the law, cases involving women and children must be handled cautiously especially in giving out information to the media which may affect the conduct of investigation as well as the welfare of the victim.

In Relation to this, we would like to clarify the issue on the case of a 17 year

Cont. on page 11

Dads Want Inquiry on Fire Equipment Pricing

BAGUIO CITY - The city council sought an "intelligent study" of the pricing for equipment and other requests of the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Safety city office.

The body approved Resolution No. 002 series of 2012 for said purpose after concerns on the alleged overpricing of fire safety gadgets were raised during the budget deliberations.

"During the deliberation on the proposed 2012 Budget of the Bureau of Fire

Prevention and Safety-City Office, Hon. Joel A. Alangab asked for the basis of the proposed reduction of the amount of P5,000,000.00 to P2,695,000.00 under Account Code No. 231 (Capital Outlay)," the resolution reads.

"Hon. Perlita L. Chan-Rondez stated that they conducted an exhaustive questioning pertinent to or zeroing in on the alleged overpricing of the firefighting equipment, and because of the revelation that there are certain suppliers who can actually supply

the trousers, the coats, the helmets and the boots at a considerably lower price, they should not continue with the practice of adhering to the agency estimate for the trousers and coats; and it was stated further that in view of this, there was an earlier manifestation that they look for other suppliers."

The inquiry was broached by Councilor Betty Lourdes and supported by the other councilors.

Earlier, the body approved the

Shattered Halos

"We're all experts at practicing virtue (from) a distance", noted Notre Dame University's Theodore Heshburg. His comment explains why tin halos were shattered even during the early phase of Chief Justice Renato Corona's impeachment trial.

Did Corona and family keep integrity at a distance? Yes, says the loosely-drafted eight charges, now being spelt out, by a sometimes bumbling opposition. Not so, says the defense panel, overseen by grizzled veteran Justice Serafin Cuevas. They've lobbed everything but the kitchen sink to defend Corona. That included a demand that Senator Franklin Drilon inhibit himself from the trial—for bias.

By deft questions, Drilon prodded a reluctant Supreme Court clerk to turn over Corona's Statement of Assets and

Liabilities. It is the prerogative of a challenged judge to inhibit

EDITORIAL

or not.

The surrendered SALNs threw light on data that molded in files Who said: "What has been in the dark, proclaim from the housetops"? Our guess is Drilon will be supported by the ultimate judge here: citizens who follow the trial through media.

The defense strenuously insisted that Bureau of Internal Revenue Kim Henares be strait-jacketed into merely confirming Corona ITRs were authentic. "That can be done by any notary public", fumed Senator-judge Miriam Santiago before her blood pressure bolted to a worrisome 180/90.

Notarization of Corona's ITRs, in some obscure office as demanded by Maid Miriam, would not have brought out the crisp documented answers that Henares provided. They bear on the example set by the chief justice on tax paying. Some points of Henares testimony:

Corona's gross income ranged from of P465,000 in 2006 to P657,000 in 2010, as shown by Alpha List on tax payments by justices. His net worth, declared at P9.5 million in 2006 bolted to P22.9 million in 2010.

Wife Cristina, became a registered tax payer in September 2003. That was for purchase of an P11-million house in La Vista subdivision, Quezon City. What about income as a Camp John Hay officer? "BIR is examining whether she had the capacity to purchase the La Vista property".

Corona's daughter, Carla, declared a "taxable income" of P8,476 in 2009. Carla bought an P18 million property in on October 18, 2010 or 10 months after she filed her ITRs. Sellers? The Chief Justice and wife.

Daughter Charina, had no income tax returns when she bought a McKinley Hills property in Taguig City from Megaworld Corp in October 2008. "Not a single income tax return?" asked the prosecutor. "None sir," Henares replied. The buyer is registered with us as an one time taxpayer."

So, how could Corona buy into Bellagio Condos, etc? Future hearings may show math that prove financial clout. For now, the modern axiom will do: "If you live in a tin house, don't leave can openers lying about."

Another question is being asked this early Will BIR's Kim Henares be to the Corona impeachment what Banker Clarissa Ocampo turned out to be for the Joseph Estrada impeachment in 2001?

A day before judges, in the Estrada impeachment trial, were to go on Christmas break, Rep. Joker Arroyo and prosecutors presented a "surprise witness": the "impeccably groomed... the Equitable-PCI Bank's Clarissa Ocampo.

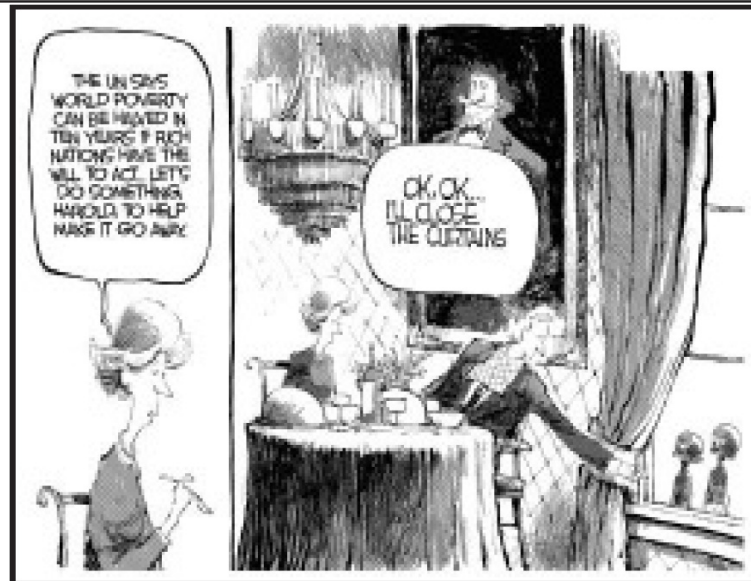
She sat (Erap's) left side, 'about a foot away,' as he signed 'Jose Velarde' on documents for a P500 million investment in the Wellex group, owned by a presidential crony." "He did not sign his real name," Ocampo said. "So, I did not authenticate his signature." She was one of the very few who could link Estrada to the Jose Velarde persona. She was very, very scared".

"She came forward in December after Senate prosecutors alleged that a mansion bought for one of Estrada's mistresses had been paid for with a \$2.8 million check signed by Velarde. Philippine law requires officials declare their assets. But Estrada admitted to only \$700,000, recalled Bloomberg Businessweek.

Ocampo's revelations helped spark Esda II that forced Estrada to quit. Ocampo flew to the U.S. after she testified. She joined ABS-CBN this year as it's chief financial officer.

Henares seems to come from the same mould of Filipina professionals with grit: Justice Cecilia Munoz Palma, PCGG's Haydee Horac, Commission on Audit's Heidi Mendoza and Clarissa, among others. Tiene cojones is the irrelevant accolade paid to them by some. "They have

Cont. on page 11



THE PEACE COMBATANT

Why Panagbenga will not benefit Baguio!!!

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



February will mark the opening of PANAGBENGA! Tourists, especially domestic tourists, will be flooding our streets. Expectedly the mass of people will be too many such that nobody will be able to move freely in our streets. Baguio City will be like Quiapo on the Feast of the Nazarene! But this is exactly my point why I believe that Baguio will lose in the tourism market share.

Take Quiapo of Metro Manila. The businesses supported by the ambience of the municipality are pirated DVDs, prostitution, fishball stalls, kikiang stalls, bar-b-q ambulant vendors, odok, adidas, betamax, peanut selling, segunda manos, balut, penoy, and all those street food. Yet, annually, Quiapo has its procession of the Holy Nazarene where perhaps close to a million people participate. Just like Baguio, annually there are close encounters of sweating bodies in our sidewalks and overpasses. The crowd is so tight that hardly anyone would notice if someone would pinch another's ass so hard or so lustfully.

Did the mass of people annually running to the streets of Quiapo made Quiapo more prosperous than the other municipalities of Manila or Quezon City? No. Similarly, this is the case for Baguio City because our own development priorities converted what was once a beautiful city into the dirty-kitchen of Northern Philippines. People flock to the city for only a short while and those that are most attracted are not the people with the highest level of incomes. There is quantity or a large mass of people but the purchasing power of the many are not high enough to boost the economy of Quiapo. Further, people massing to Quiapo are not those who intend to stay long and spend much in Quiapo.

What is true for Quiapo is also true for Baguio City's PANAGBENGA. PANAGBENGA attracts some tourists with good money to spend but the larger bulk that would be coming are those with less money, the curious types focused on the parade and not really on what Baguio City can comprehensively offer to tourists. Quantity but lacking quality.

Of course, nothing in this discussion should be taken to mean that I would like Baguio City to be a city of the rich or that only the rich have the right to visit the city. However, PANAGBENGA is never part of the indigenous traditions of Baguio City. PANAGBENGA is essentially for attracting tourists. It is one of Baguio City's business. However, while we will attract some tourists in PANAGBENGA, the qualities of the tourists that we will be attracting are not those types who would stay in the city for several days or weeks. We are merely attracting a mass and not those who would be spending much in the city.

It is the opinion of the PEACE COMBATANT that the correct route for reestablishing the city as a premier tourist destination is to strengthen the city's ambience or image as a large nature city of the north with a unique ecology of cold weather, pine trees, lots of trees, and lots of cool nature. Fun city? No. Maybe, a nature city of the north. Maybe a fun city for close encounters with nature. Why would tourists spend more money going to another city where there are the same traffic jams, malls, Cont. on page 7

ADVOCACY MINDANOW

*Mount Diwata Revisited
Rags To Riches?*

BY: JESUS DUREZA



UNTOLD STORIES — It's not all that glittery as gold. The "rags to riches" stories of some small scale miners that are usually told and re-told are fascinating tales for the grapevine. But they are so true only for so few. Unknown to many, there are a thousand-fold more untold stories about hardships and travails; failures and tragedies.

The term "small scale mining" originally refers to the crude, but to some, the simplest and quickest way of extracting gold from the ground. It is also the most dangerous in environmental terms because of the unregulated use of a dangerous substance called mercury.

DEADLY—Mercury is a poisonous and highly toxic metallic substance that does not change nor evaporate nor can it be destroyed. By its quality, it stays forever. That's the silvery liquid metal we see in thermometers or barometers. Given its nature, if released, it stays permanently in the environment, absorbed by plants like rice and edibles and unto living organisms like fishes or animals. Tragically, it eventually ends up with you and me. The small scale miners handling them are the first "slow victims". Remember that shocking story of the "Minamata Experience" in Japan? It is an example of how children or offsprings of one generation exposed to mercury were born like freaks and abnormals. That's how long lasting and deadly it is! Too bad but good to know.

GOLD RUSH — Speculators, like bees, rush to areas where stories of gold discoveries abound. Diggers or miners are called "abanteros" because they move forward ("abante" in the local dialect) as the digging of tunnels progresses. They dig and dig, deep into the mountainside using bare hands with crude implements extracting soil and rock called "ore" where gold is supposed to be imbedded. The "tunnel" is often times just big enough for miners to crawl into but when they hit an area where there appears to be precious ore, the hole widens and becomes bigger due to extraction. Extracted soil and rock are put inside jute sacks and physically hauled over their backs and brought outside the tunnel portal. Samples of these ores are tested for their "assay" or their gold content in grams per volume of ore. For example, an assay of "5" is usual and nothing to be excited about. Tunnel owners say an "8" assay will be viable to sustain a modest small mining operations. A higher assay is commercially good. "High grade" can convert the luckier few from rags to riches.

CRUDE —Iron bars, shovels and spades with bare hands are the usual implements. Hand operated power drills by better-financed tunnel operators are upgrades. Then of course, some air ventilation system, however crude and inadequate, by pumping air into the deep tunnels are for the survival of "abanteros." Tunnel lights and submersible pumps when the digging hits underground water are necessities. They are powered by portable generator sets which by the way cannot be made to operate inside tunnels due to their toxic exhausts, hence the long electric wires going in. When the "abanteros" reach a portion that is solid rock, they blast their way using dynamites. To prop up the overhead area to prevent it from caving in (called "bar-downs"), they use timbers or slabs of wood indiscriminately taken from what remains of the forest nearby. They call this "timbering". Some tunnel owners do cheap, rickety timbering methods thus causing occasional cave-ins or "bar-downs" that endanger the "abanteros" below.

GOLD VEIN —Digging for ore springs hope eternal. Finding a gold vein (or "bina" in the dialect) is the ultimate goal. It is a strand of ore that contains a high concentration of gold that undulates up and down as one of the earth's layers underground. Its thickness varies. When one "bina" is found, the "abanteros" will never let go of it obviously and the digging is a wild chase following the lode. That's a "hit" and miners don't usually announce it to the world lest they are in serious danger. But word do get around somehow. Just observing the activities at the tunnel portal will give one a clue of whether there's a "hit" or not.

Tunnels go to which ever direction underground targetting where the "bina" probably is found. Not uncommon are several tunnels racing towards one target lode. Hence one tunnel from an elevated portion can hit another tunnel coming from below or from another side of the hillside. There is no "traffic officer" to do this.

If by chance another group of miners in another tunnel nearby also keeps chasing and working on a lode that is connected to what the other group is also working on, that's **Cont. on page 10**

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Media Gag vs. Prosecutors
& Defense*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength..." (Deuteronomy 6:4-5, the Holy Bible).

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ANOTHER PASSING FANCY OR WHAT? Is romance really brewing between President Aquino and GMA 7 broadcaster Grace Lee? Or this is merely just another "passing fancy" on the part of the President, and Grace Lee's "five minutes of fame" as the current focus of interest of the country's most eligible bachelor?

Better yet, will Grace be able to hold the interest of the President for a much longer time compared to the time that he spent with the other women he dated in the past? On the other hand, will Grace continue to be interested in dating the President?

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MEDIA GAG VS. PROSECUTORS AND DEFENSE: I am proposing that no one, whether from the prosecution or from the defense in the impeachment trial of Chief Justice Renato Corona, should be allowed to talk to the media or air opinions in public intending to interpret or explain what the testimonies of witnesses and documentary exhibits submitted to the Senate would mean.

This is not only an insult to the Senator-judges, who are otherwise deprived of their right to make their own judgment after the parties shall have completed their respective evidence. It is also setting up the Filipino nation to reject what the Senate will ultimately issue as its decision in the case.

As it is, the people are now forming their own opinions about the culpability or innocence of Corona on the basis of what the prosecution and the defense are publicly saying, depending on which side the people are sympathetic with. If the Senate decision will not be in accordance with the people's appreciation of how the trial was conducted, it could spark violent protests from both sides of the political spectrum, and this could plunge the country into a bloody civil war.

-ooo-

FIERY ONLINE EXCHANGES ON IMPEACHMENT TRIAL: Let me cite here a sample of the fiery exchanges on the issue of impeachment, as appearing in the online Internet version of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. A reader who identifies himself as "oracle 888" posted: "With the way Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano, Senator Loren Legarda and Senator Joker Arroyo questioning against the evidences presented by the House prosecution team, I really wonder why did CJ Corona need to hire Atty. Serafin Cuevas?"

Reader "digihaus" retorted: "Kawawa naman ang mga yellow, palibhasa ay butata pa rin hanggang ngayon kaya linalayo ng linalayo na lang ang usapan para malihis na sa sentro. Ang Art. 2 ay non-filing at non-disclosure of SALN. Matagal ng napatunayan ng ebidensya na year after year ay nagpa-file ng SALN si Corona. Matagal ng napatunayan ng ebidensya na na-disclose na din ito sa clerk of court..."

(Translation: the "yellow" group is pitiable. The truth is that they continue to be rebuffed, and that is why they are now trying to muddle the issues. What Art. 2 covers is non-filing and non-disclosure of SALN. There is already evidence that Corona had been filing, year after year, his SALN and that he had been disclosing this to the Clerk of Court).

Reader "patawad" chimed in: "You are correct. And what is delaying the proceedings is the apparent lack of concentration of the prosecutors, not knowing what their questions will be to their witnesses. Then, their many "uuhhhmmmm, abhhhhhhh and dahhhhhhhh", like what Umali did, is contributing to the delays..."

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1st-APLUMA!

Unlucky Aquino Admin "Mascot"

BY: ISMAEL AMIGO SR



Ronald McDonald, the mascot of McDonald's is living up to expectations as the fastfood chain's lucky charm per literal meaning of the word "mascot."

Unluckily, however, our friend in presidential adviser Ronald Llamas, is proving otherwise for the palace.

Now he again had to publicly utter the not-so-lucky line "I'm sorry..." as what happened to then PGMA in relation to Sec. Llamas' alleged pirated DVD buying boo-boo.

His AK-47 episode is well, still very much fresh in the minds of the public, or to P-Noy Admin watchers.

We are, of course, praying Sec. Ronald do not suffer the same fate that befell PGMA on her "Hello Garci..." episode that well ended up to her nasty hospital arrest that followed after serving nine (9) straight years as President of the land.

Well, a lot of sectors are actually asking for Sec. Ronald's resignation saying he has become a harbinger of bad luck or embarrassment to President Noy's administration especially at time when they are at it, in the thick of things waging a nasty legal and legislative war with Chief Justice Renato Corona otherwise known as impeachment.

Actually, at first we felt this was a diversionary tactic but on second thought, we dropped it as there was nothing critical yet to divert the attention of the masses.

And, you may say, it also came at a time when P-Noy's admin is waging a no-nonsense drive versus intellectual property pirates, those DVDs included per se in his "Daang Matuwid" political program.

No please, Sec. Ronald, at this point in time, can't afford a third "unlucky" episode of such petty "crimes."

That would be costly. Otherwise, we could be singing Bob Dylan's "Bye, bye, American pie" early on.

But seriously, had the good secretary returned my SMS, I may give him an unsolicited advice of going against apologizing publicly on what the media has painted on his name courtesy of that Dona Policar shoot-of-a-lifetime that allegedly caught the Secretary buying DVDs on a mall in Congressional Ave. in QC.

Spin is the name of the game. Apology is good if we have to follow the lines of "The truth will set you free" but it too, has its own negative connotations or implications or price to pay.

Saying so, automatically means someone has indeed committed, caught red handed or caught flatly dipping his hands on a cookie jar so to speak.

So with it, the cat is out now that the good secretary has indeed bought stacks of pirated DVDs and if pursued to the letter this may translate as an outright infringement of Anti-Fencing Law.

Aside from that, it will go down in history the good secretary patronizes on a commercial item that was supposedly "unpatronizable" an item especially for a public official of high stature rampant as they may be throughout the land.

And rampant, could have been the key word of an offensive spin.

The good secretary could have spoken as if he were only "checking" personally whether his government is indeed blazing the trail pursuing pirates of DVDs as well as computer installers that are similarly being sold vis-à-vis CDs, DVDs of all shapes and sizes.

The good Secretary could have dismissed the same Dona Policar stolen shot as nothing but a candid lucky shoot while he was officially buying copies so as to have a deeper grip on his personal probe on rampant selling of fake copies of those.

The good Secretary could have issued a press statement the following day the lucky shots came out on paper saying "Yes, I believe, we have to step up some more on our drive against piracy" and that "we will be discussing this with Optical Media Board chair Ronnie Ricketts soon how this will be done because I have with me strong evidence, yes I bought them with my own money, as they seem to be playing only with our own efforts to stamp them out."

That way, OMB chair's efforts to eradicate media piracy would indirectly be commended instead or supplanted not bamboozled.

Bottomline: applause. Wow, the Secretary is working hard people would say. Case closed.

Mayor Orders Illegal Vending Crackdown

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan this week warned illegal street vendors selling their wares on congested streets and pedestrian pathways to cooperate and stop illegal vending activities.

The Anti-Peddling Task Force has launched a saturation drive to rid the city from illegal vendors targeting areas with high concentration of illegal vending such as lakandula area.

Domogan said he has made instructions to the police to conduct a dialogue with peddlers to educate them about city rules on vending while warning unlicensed sellers that their goods will be confiscated once they sell in areas prohibited.

"I have instructed the police and our task force to hold a community meeting with concerned vendors so we could also hear their side and we can also tell them other alternatives they can avail of so they can do their business legally", he said.

Dozens of vendors often clog sidewalks, alleyways and even overpasses selling everything from fruits and vegetables to second hand clothes.

"It is not our intent to go out and arrest them but we want to make sure that vendors understand our city ordinances", Domogan said.

The problem on illegal street vending is currently being addressed where the city government designated Harrison Road as a 'night market vending area' where vendors can sell their wares from 9 in the evening to 4 in the morning.

"We have to clear our sidewalks in order for it to be used as a passage of people and not as vending areas", Domogan stressed.

The number of street vendors have risen dramatically over the past years and continue to increase most especially during special celebrations in the city like the Panagbenga and summer breaks.

"We have no choice but to implement our ordinances against peddling, don't blame us if we confiscate your goods", he said.

Domogan however said his office has been and will continue be working to find a solution that can meet everyone's needs, from vendors, to pedestrians, to store owners. /paul rillorta

Mayor Confident Council will ok Panagbenga Budget

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan is positive that the city council will eventually approve the proposed P4 million subsidy of the city government for the Baguio Flower Festival.

"I hope the city council will approve the budget for the Panagbenga in its next session as this will be spent mostly on prizes in the various contests under the festival. In the opening program last Feb. 1, we saw how our children sacrifice to improve their performances in the streetdance contest elementary level and it is but proper that their efforts will be recognized," the mayor said on Wednesday.

Some councilors last Monday expressed reservations on the proposed subsidy fearing that the allocation resulted to the reduction of the budgets of key divisions under the city administrator's office particularly the City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (CDRRMC) and the city sports division.

The mayor said the proposed P4 million subsidy could not have caused the cuts in the proposed budgets of the said divisions as P2 million of the amount came from the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) of Rep. Bernardo Vergara while the remaining P2 million has been a regular allocation

in the department's financial plan.

City administrator Carlos Canilao also assured that the fund source for the P4 million subsidy was not culled from the budgets intended for the divisions and therefore will not affect the department's operations.

He affirmed that the city's counterpart funds will be used mostly for the prizes in the various contests and will be subject to audit.

The mayor said the city's counterpart fund subsidizes prizes for the streetdance, drum and lyre and float competitions along with the cleanest barangay competition, the Pony Boys' Day, among other activities of the Panagbenga./A Refuerzo

Coalition Drums-up Public Support for Balili River Rehab

LA TRINIDAD Benguet - The Balili River System Revitalization Coalition (BRSRC) awarded last week the winners of the various contests initiated to drum-up public support for the rehabilitation of the Balili River.

La Trinidad, Benguet Mayor Gregorio Abalos and Raffy Tallocoy representing Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan, led the awarding of cash prizes and certificate of recognition during a special kapihan forum at the Benguet State University.

Ornaldo Abenoja of Magsaysay National High School bagged first place in the high school category of the 'Save the Balili River, Count Me In!' Poster and Slogan Making contest, while Nicolas Carbonell of the University of Cordilleras and Resty Lopez of Tamawan Village topped the college and adult categories, respectively.

Other awardees on the other 'Save the Balili River, Count Me In!' contests were Jarson Onio for the Mascot Design Contest, Aeronne Paul Coronel of Benguet State University for the Logo Design contest and Jonathan Barcelo of Saint Louis University for the Jingle/songwriting contest.

Abalos expressed confidence that through the coalition composed of stakeholders from various sectors in Baguio and La Trinidad, they can revive Balili into the clean river that it used to be, the Balili River of their youth.

"With this activity today bringing attention to our cause, we are confident that the time frame that we have - three years, in reviving the Balili is achievable and of course, all these things will not happen without the coalition members and everybody being a part of this endeavor, after all it is not for us. For you, the future generations, whether if you are from Baguio or La Trinidad, we will try to save as many rivers as we can", Abalos stressed.

In the same forum, BRSRC private sector member Edna Tabanda also stressed the important role that civil society could play in the coalition's effort to rehabilitate Balili River, particularly in doing cleaning work in their respective area or part of the river.

"Our work here is to generate awareness among the different sector or group of society, both in Baguio and here in La Trinidad, even if there is the help of the government, the academe with their researches and all the other coalition members, if the stakeholders or the community themselves will not participate, our endeavor would be at a loss," Tabanda emphasized.

BSU College of Forestry Dean Dante Chichioco, who heads the coalition's Key Result Area on Infrastructure, also outlined the importance of the communities' or the barangays' help in re-greening the riverbanks of the Balili River.

According to Chichioco, they are now preparing seedlings for the next tree planting season - which is by the end of June, and that they have already recommended to the Benguet Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) the inclusion of the Balili Riverbanks into the National Greening Program target areas. Equally important is the community's participation in such endeavor, especially on the tree-planting or re-greening part.

Chichioco also called on the barangay to also start establishing their own (tree seedling) nursery. "We are now in the process of engaging the communities to do advocacy works, by doing on-site training/seminars for them so that they could be able to produce the planting materials themselves. So I am calling all the barangay's who want to have their own nursery to communicate with our group", Chichioco said./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

The Peace Combatantfrom page 4

and the like their own cities? Other cities can make a better offer on these. In contrast, who else but Baguio City can potentially offer a cool or very cool nature city? The comparative or competitive advantage of Baguio lies in the city's potential to bring a different type of both natural and demographic ecologies to the world (this also means the Cordillera demographic landscape).

Unfortunately, our city's current image is that it is a garbage city because we are still unable to provide a sustainable solution to our garbage. We are chopping down trees: in effect, we are chopping down the very things that give our city a competitive edge in the tourism market (in addition to the trees' intrinsic value for carbon sequestration and climate change moderation). Voila! All these do not make our city uniquely different from the other cities. All these do not make our city more competitive than the other cities as a tourist destination. We fail therefore to attract that part of the market segment that can potentially provide more prosperity for our city.

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

MGB-CAR Warns Abrenios of the Dangers of Unabated Small-Scale Mining

BANGUED, Abra - An official of the Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Cordillera Administrative Region (DENR-CAR) warned anew of the dangers of unabated illegal mining activities to the environment and to the people.

Director Orlando Pineda aired the warning when he saw the deteriorating condition of the Mt. Capcapo in the town of Licuan-Baay in Abra where small-scale mining activities are indiscriminately undertaken by the locals as well as other miners from other provinces.

At the rate the mining site is deteriorating, Pineda said it is not far that accidents like what happened in Mt. Diwalwal in Compostela Valley could happen here, too.

Pineda, in his assessment of the present condition of Mt. Capcapo, said there is an urgent need to look into the damage that illegal mining activities could have caused to the environment for the security of the place including those who live downstream.

He also pointed out that the pocket miners do not have the appropriate technology; some are still using mercury which can endanger their lives, the people around them and the environment.

There were previous efforts to abate illegal mining in Mt. Capcapo; there was an order by Governor Eustaquio P. Bersamin to stop the illegal mining activity but due to poverty, it persisted.

Pineda thus batted for these small scale miners to have their own processing plant for their ores as well as a place to contain their tailings to protect marine life in the rivers and farmlands surrounding the area and the people. He further emphasized the need for the small scale miners to be more environmentally responsible and help rehabilitate the environment for the security of the next generation. As he said, it is their responsibility because after all, they are the ones who benefited from the environment.

Meanwhile, Pineda called on the local officials for a closer coordination among the local government units (LGUs) especially those situated along the Abra River especially in times of emergencies. He said those upland municipalities should inform the LGUs downstream when there is rain upstream to give the municipalities downstream an opportunity to prepare and if necessary to conduct pre-emptive evacuation to save lives and properties. (JDP/MTBB-PIA CAR, Abra)

Indigenous Peoples Rights Assured in 4Ps

BAGUIO CITY - The Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program also known as Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) ensures that the rights and welfare of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) are protected and upheld in its implementation particularly among cultural communities such as the Cordillera region.

The National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) recently joined the orientation and planning workshop on the Indigenous People's Agenda under the DSWD-led Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program.

DSWD Cordillera regional director Leonardo Reynoso described the partnership as a milestone in making poverty reduction a personal concern among IP beneficiaries.

NCIP officials are expected to become members of the Regional and Provincial Advisory Committees composed of line agencies and local chief executives that oversee the implementation of the program in various levels to ensure that IP concerns are also addressed, Reynoso said.

He said that as an agency committed to serve the IP community, the NCIP will be of big help in providing technical assistance and strategy not only for the 4Ps but also for other poverty reduction programs such as the Kalahi-CIDSS and the Sustainable Livelihood.

The NCIP Cordillera regional director Sancho Buquing has expressed support to the 4Ps particularly in monitoring the program, validation and verification of program documents, addressing grievances and joining community assemblies.

Data shows that some 20,458 of the 25,065 beneficiary households are members of IP groups. There are 14 major ethno-linguistic groups in the Cordillera Administrative Region making it a cultural haven./JDP/JBZ PIA

REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT, BRANCH
9
(FAMILY COURT
FOR BENGUET)
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
La Trinidad,
Benguet

IN RE: ADOPTION
OF MINOR AN-
GELA SHINE
ONDE
WITH PRAYER
FOR CHANGE OF
NAME FROM AN-
GELA
SHINE ONDE TO
I M M A I A H
JAZMIN IBAT
WAYA,

Spouses JOHN C.
WAYA and MINDA
IBAT WAYA,

Petitioners,

SPECIAL PRO-
CEEDINGS CASE
NO. 12-A-0986

X——X

ORDER

Petitioner
Spouses John C.
Waya and Minda Ibat
Waya, through coun-
sel, filed this veri-
fied petition for Adop-
tion praying that af-
ter due notice, pub-
lication and hearing
, the subject of adop-
tion ANGELA SHINE
ONDE be declared

free from all obliga-
tions with respect to
her parents and vice
versa, be declared for
all legal intents and
purposes as the
adopted child of pe-
titioners and for
them to acquire the
reciprocal rights and
obligations arising
from parents-child
relationship, includ-
ing the right of said
child to use the sur-
name of petitioners
and change of name,
henceforth, she will
be known as
IMMAIAH JAZMIN
IBAT WAYA and di-
rect the City Civil
Registrar of Quezon
City to effect said
adoption in her Cer-
tificate of Live Birth

Considering
that a Child and Home
Study Report of the
Social Worker is an
essential requisite
in adoption cases and
considering that said
child and home study
were already con-
ducted by the Re-
gional Office of the
Department of Social
Welfare and Develop-
ment -CAR when the
minor child was de-
clared an abandoned
child, said report
should be submitted
by DSWD-CAR to the
court before the ini-
tial hearing on April
11, 2012 at 9:00
o'clock in the morn-
ing.

WHEREFORE,
petitioners are di-
rected to met with
the Social Worker
who conducted the

Child and Home
Study Report for
purposes of this
adoption case, and is
hereby directed to
submit said report,
incorporating
therein his/hr rec-
ommendations and
submit the same to
the court, furnishing
a copy thereof to the
trial prosecutor
deputized to repre-
sent the State.

Let this Order
be published at the
expense of the peti-
tioners in The Junc-
tion Newspaper, a
newspaper of gen-
eral circulation in
Baguio City and
Benguet Province, nc
a week for three (3)
consecutive weeks,
the first publication
to be made not later
than February 5,
2012. All persons in-
terested may come
to Court and show

cause, if any, why the
petition should not be
granted.

Furnish copies
hereof together with
a copy of the petition
and its annexes to the
Office of the Solicitor
General; the Pro-
vincial Prosecutor of
Benguet; the City
Civil Registrar of
Quezon City; the So-
cial Worker of
DSWD-CAR; the
Junction Newspaper;
the petitioners and
counsel.

SO ORDERED.

This 1st day of
February 2012 at La
Trinidad, Benguet.

By: (SGD) FRANCIS
A. BULIYAT Sr.
Presiding Judge

Publication Dates:
February 4, 11 & 18,
2012

Asin Minihydro

from page 2

the conflict between the two parties over
reparation issues that in the past resulted
to disruption of the plants' operations
and even led to a court case between the
parties.

As per the agreement, the city will
compensate the landowners by way of
rentals amounting to three percent of the
net surplus from the operation of the mini-
hydro plants subject to conditions that
the rentals will be retroactive to year 2007
when the city assumed management of
the plant; and that the rentals will be sub-
ject to increase after three years.

The mayor said that the succeeding
payments will be drawn from whoever will
win the management contract based on
the TOR./A Refuerzo

A large firm is currently
seeking for full time/part
time/work from home Ac-
count Managers,
Bookkeeper, clerk, Sales
Representatives and vari-
ous open positions are
needed to work at their own
flexible schedule time, Job
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://
www.nationalpressclub.org.ph

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tion from our local and/or US based affiliate MT/LT companies
- Be an MT/LT with any of the local Medical/Legal Transcription companies



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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

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
BRANCH 62
La Trinidad,
Benguet

NICOLE KRISTINE
DACLILI
Represented by
SPOUSES ANTONIO D. MARRERO
And JOSEPHINE B. MARRERO,

Petitioner,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR
OF TUBLAY,
BENGUET,

Respondent,

SPECIAL PRO-
CEEDINGS CASE
NO. 12-C-1722
FOR:

CANCELLATION
OF THE CERTIFI-
CATE OF LIVE
BIRTH OF NICOLE
KRISTINE DACLILI
WITH THE LOCAL
CIVIL
REGISTRY OF
TUBLAY, BENGUET

X——X

ORDER

Petitioners,
Spouses Antonio D. Marrero and Josephine B. Marrero, through counsel, filed a verified petition averring that:

1. Petitioners are of legal age, Filipinos, married to each other until now and residents of 368 Pias, Camp 7, Baguio City. They may be served with pleadings and court processes through x x x counsel x x x ;

2. Respondent Local Civil Registrar of Tublay, Benguet is the custodian of the records being sought to be cancelled with office address at the Local Civil Registry Office, Acop, Tublay, Benguet and within the jurisdiction of the Honorable Court, where he may be served with summons and court processes;

3. Nicole Kristine Daclili

(Nicole for Brevity), was born on July 16, 1999 at Dapong, Gumatdang, Itogon, Benguet. Her biological parents are herein petitioner Antonio D. Marrero and Cristina B. Daclili who happens to be the niece of Josephine B. Marrero also herein petitioner. Presently, Nicole, still a minor, is now living under the care, support and custody of herein petitioners x x x ;

4. The fact of her birth was registered late on April 14, 2000 with the Local Civil Registry of Itogon, Benguet under Registry No. B0000164 x x x ;

5. Unknown to petitioners, the birth of Nicole was also registered on September 23, 1999 with the Local Civil Registry of Tublay, Benguet under Registry No. 9900232 x x x ;

6. Both records of birth agree only with respect to the first name of Nicole, her gender, the name and circumstances of the mother, but they differ in all other entries;

7. The record of birth with the Local Civil Registry Office of Tublay, Benguet, although registered earlier, is a simulated document and it contains entries with no factual basis to wit:

7.1 It appears that Nicole's last name is Marrero, but the father and herein petitioner Antonio D. Marrero has not authorized the use of his surname by Nicole;

7.2 Nicole was born on July 16, 1999 and not August 28, 1999;

7.3 Her place of birth is Dapong, Gumatdang, Itogon, Benguet, and not Nalseb, Ambassador, Tublay, Benguet;

7.4 The residence of the mother is Dapong, Gumatdang, Itogon, Benguet, and not Nalseb, Ambassador, Tublay, Benguet;

7.5 The name of the father is not Antonio P. Marrero but Antonio D. Marrero ;

7.6 June 24 1997 and Metro Ma-

nila appear as the date and place of marriage of parents, but the truth is that the parents of Nicole are not married to each other;

7.7 It also appears that the informant is Cristina D. Marrero but no person known to exist under this name;

8. The record of Nicole with the Local Civil Registry Office of Itogon, Benguet, while registered at a later date, contains all the correct information regarding the birth of Nicole;

9. Until now, it remains a mystery to petitioners as to how the birth of Nicole, who was born in Dapong, Gumatdang, Itogon, Benguet found itself in the records of the Local Civil Registry of Tublay, Benguet;

10. In support of her scholastic records, Nicole had been using her record of birth with

the Local Civil Registry Office of Itogon, Benguet, thus her school records bear the name of Nicole Kristine B. Daclili, x x x ;

11. There is a need to cancel the simulated record of birth of Nicole with Local Civil Registry Office Of Tublay, Benguet, because said document cannot be relied upon as a public document and it will only create confusion as to the identity of Nicole and the circumstances regarding her birth and status;

12. In view of all the above, petitioners humbly pray that the Certificate of Live Birth of Nicole Kristine Daclili with the Local Civil Registry Office of Itogon, Benguet .

x x x "
Petitioners pray that after due notice, publication and hearing, this court

will issue an order directing the Local Civil Registrar of Tublay Benguet, to cancel the certificate of live birth of Nicole Kristine Daclili.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the same is hereby given due course .

This case is set for hearing on 8 March 2012 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning at the Bulwagan ng Katarungan (Justice Hall), Justice Hill, La Trinidad, Benguet, at which time, date and place, the petitioners shall present evidence in support of their petition. Any person interested in the matter may appear and show cause why the Petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner for at least once a week for three (3) consecutive

weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Benguet. The last publication shall not be later than 3 March 2012.

Likewise, let a copy of this Order and of the Petition and its annexes be furnished the following: the Office of the Solicitor General, Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet, the Office of the Civil Registrar of the Municipality of Tublay, Benguet and the National Statistics Office .

SO ORDERED.

DONE IN CHAMBERS 26th day of January 2012 at La Trinidad, Benguet.

By: (SGD)DANILO
B. CAMACHO
Judge

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2012

Panagbenga opens with Parade and Dance Showdown.....from page 1

elementary schools; Mabini, Dona Aurora, Lucban, San Vicente, Pacday Quinio, Aguinaldo, Dona Nicasia Puyat, John Hay, Josefa Carino, and Benguet Schools; Camp 3 of Tuba and La Trinidad Central School, went home with Thirty Thousand Pesos (P30,000) each.

In his message, the mayor commended the children, their parents and all those who worked hard for the opening parade. He also paid tribute to supporters and sponsors of the event.

As the theme of the 17th staging of Panagbenga is "Community Convergence for a Sustainable Tourism Growth," the mayor gave emphasis on the interplay of economic progress and tourism, with effects on the academic growth of the city.

Congressman Bernardo Vergara joined the parade and complimented the barangay officials and the supporters who braved the heat of the sun for the occasion. He asked for continuing support for all Panagbenga activities.

The crowd thus watched the fourteen school-participants parade and sashay along with their own drum and lyre group. The participants have brought with them floriferous arches, colorful strips, giant fans, angel wings, reversible and fold-up materials for their dance number

The computer game character, "Angry Birds" was part of a delegation's décor, as with confetti during and after a performance and a

short dragon doing a final run in front of the musicians.

Anthuriums on anahaw leaves, and not sunflowers were used as one school's decoration.

Lively dancing tunes were also played by the drum and lyre participants, as the La Trinidad Central School's Benguet Tayao was highlighted at the last part of the competition.

Barangay participants also donned all-black attires, sailor-collar shirts, and uniform colored shirts, for the parade along the main thoroughfares up to Burnham Park.

Started seventeen (17) years ago, Panagbenga continues to draw in local and foreign tourists for the streetdancing and float parades featuring flowers and Cordillera culture.

Classes in the college level has been suspended on Feb. 25, Saturday, for the streetdancing parade, while the traffic number coding scheme has also been suspended from Feb. 13 to March 2.

The Market Encounter has commenced and in place at Burnham Park for flower-themed products, until the closing on March 4. The flower float parade shall be on Feb. 26; while Session Road in Bloom shall be from Feb. 27 to Mar. 4.

Pony Boys' Day which features races and games on horseback shall be on March 2; while the closing ceremonies shall be on March 4. Other activities are expected at various venues.

Inquiries as to activities may be done at tel no. (074) 442-43-15, or at the Panagbenga office, near the City Library, Burnham Park./juliegfianza

Advocacy Mindanow.....**.....from page 5**

a sure fuse that can explode. When the two groups meet somewhere underground digging into each other's tunnels, trouble or violence is inevitable. It's survival of the fittest. However, there are ways and instances when some *modus vivende* is found.

With the number of tunnels in the same hillside over these years, I can only imagine the hollow maze underneath. That whole hollow hillside may just cave in when we wake up one sunny day!

Tunnel owners close or abandon or cede to someone else the tunnel when the project does not show any positive signs after considerable expense. Many tales of woe of going "pordoy" (or bankrupt) abound. Many literally lose their pants (and briefs) for failed mining ventures. But they prefer not to talk about this. Only the tales of the "high graders" gain currency.

BALL MILLS — The process after bringing out the ore outside the tunnel portal is also simple. The ore is pulverized or ground into small particles or dust. The grinding machine is called a "ball mill" which is actually a locally-assembled rotating drum with iron crusher thongs powered by electricity or by a generator. When the ore is broken into smaller particles or dust, water is introduced to wash away the mud and the soil and the grime while the precious gold is captured with the use of mercury. (Some "big players" however have shifted the processing to more sophisticated cyanide plants mostly built elsewhere where ores are trucked from mine sites.)

The slush or mud or grime (mine wastes called the "tailings") which can contain residues of poisonous mercury, just flow out to the ground, then unto the waterways below. It ends up in the river and gets absorbed in some plants or trees downstream, or goes to the sea and gets into marine life and fishes. Whether this indestructible and killer substance ends up in someone's body system eventually is a dreadful thought that many of us refuse to ponder on.

"ABANTEROS" — The "abanteros" are grouped into a team of from 8 to 15 persons fielded in a tunnel owned or maintained by a financier or owner. They are not normally paid with fixed wages but get an agreed share of the ores taken out. They are provided items like rice and food items for their daily grind, just enough to keep body and soul together. If their tunnel owner is generous, they can make some advances ("bale") for cigarettes and some subsistence amount to send to their waiting families back home, to be deducted later on from their share. In many tunnels, drinking of hard liquor is not allowed for obvious reasons but of course, a few secret quaffs from a hidden "Tanduay rum" bottle are expected especially in dealing with chilly nights high up in the mountains. The "abanteros" get a share in certain percentages of the ores taken out of the tunnel. Obviously, ores that do not have value yield nothing and in many cases, the "abanteros" after considerable hard labor eventually quit, go back home or transfer to other tunnels for better luck next time around. Many who left their homes in the lowland just refuse to go back home with empty pockets — unable to live up to the high expectations when they left home, dreaming of a good life upon their return. Many end up

staying indefinitely up in the mountains, still hoping and waiting that by some streak of luck, those dreams will still come true.

GOLD — So where do they bring the gold? Traders who buy gold operate right there in the area. Others have buying stations in the urban areas in the lowlands. During the early days, the hoodlums and robbers made easy money by just robbing those who would physically carry gold. They were also into "mining" by merely pointing their guns and saying "That's mine". A few shifted to using helicopters but again, the ferry service by air stopped because helicopters were easy to notice and sitting ducks when on the ground. The Bangko Sentral was supposed to be the only official buyer but of course stories never die about deliveries to Hongkong and other foreign destinations.

ELUSIVE DREAM? — During my visit a few days ago in Diwalwal, I saw several persons just loitering idly by the small stores and shacks with tentative curiosity at our passing motorcade maneuvering the narrow and difficult roads that served also as canals during the rain. They appeared to me as if they still continued to dream. My mind then wandered to those thousands still there underground in the tunnels at that precise moment, still slaving themselves as they, too, continued to chase for that elusive dream.

(Next: rationalizing the industry)

Mayor Firm**from page 2**

verted into fertilizer and therefore are not dumped in the area," the mayor stressed.

He said the National Solid Waste Management Council and the Environmental Management Bureau of the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) have inspected the dumpsite and will issue a report on their findings.

"But on our part, we know our responsibility to comply with the TEPO and we have done it and will continue to do so as it is consistent with the city's aim to clear and later rehabilitate the dumpsite," he said.

The SC in a resolution issued January 17 on the petition filed by Benguet Rep. Ronald Cosalan and other Benguet and Aringay, La Union residents, issued a Writ of Kalikasan and a TEPO against city officials led by Domogan and concerned city government offices on the use of Irian dumpsite.

The city adopted new strategies to avoid disruption in waste collection particularly the use of existing materials recovery facilities in the various barangays to serve as sorting areas and pick-up points where recyclables will be sold and where residuals can be picked up by the Pro Tech Machineries.

The mayor also counted on the residents' cooperation by complying with the segregation policy.

City environment and parks management officer-in-charge Cordelia Lacsamana said they do not foresee any problem in the collection schedule as of now as the MRFs in the barangays have now been serving as transfer stations for the wastes collected and Pro Tech continues to haul out the residual wastes.

Meanwhile, Mayor Domogan stood by the beleaguered Lacsamana and CEPMO solid waste division chief Ruben

Cervantes saying he has no plans of replacing them and remains confident over their capability to undertake the tasks assigned to them.

The two officials were the subject of a petition lodged by several Irian residents calling for their removal from their posts due to alleged ineptitude.

"I don't think they are incapable. I can't say that I'm totally satisfied with their work but I know that they are trying their best and are working as hard as any of us here on the garbage problem. If things don't work out as we expect them to, it is not totally their fault," the mayor said.

He expressed hope that the petition would not dishearten the CEPMO officials but instead should serve as a challenge to them to "prove themselves" to the public./ A Refuerzo

DepEd**from page 2**

gaps and implementing different intervention programs to ensure that all children are in school by the opening of classes in June.

Education Secretary Armin A. Luistro FSC said all its efforts should redound to more children attending school and completing basic education. "With the leadership of the school heads, our target is to come up with concrete guidelines to ensure that all early enrollees in January 2012 will report to school in June," added Luistro.

The Department of Education has declared January 28, 2012 as the day for expanded early registration in all public elementary and secondary schools for School Year 2012-2013.

This year, DepEd has expanded the target of early registration to include out-of-school children and youth and learners with disability. Last year, the early registration covered only kindergarten which jumpstarted the K to 12 basic education reform program as well as Grade 1 pupils and First Year high school students.

"The information that can be generated from the early registration will be an important input in the planning that we will be conducting immediately after so that we can address potential resource needs in time for the opening of classes in June," Luistro pointed out.

The multi-stakeholder planning will cover schools plans to address additional classrooms, teachers, textbooks and seats. The school heads will also take up thoroughly the differentiated program interventions that are appropriate for kindergarten, Grades 1 to 6, as well as first to fourth year high school students.

Intervention programs will also be mapped out for out-of-school children and youth to enable them to complete schooling. The differentiated program interventions may include alternative delivery modes, alternative learning systems and non-conventional teaching strategies.

Part of the planning is for schools superintendents to identify available resources such as excess teachers, volunteer teachers, textbooks, supplementary learning materials, seats as well as available Special Education Fund.

Moreover, the superintendents are also tasked to initiate consultative dialogues with the LGUs and other stakeholders to discuss possible support that may be provided to priority schools.

BCPO.....

.....from page 3

old girl who was allegedly abducted, raped and robbed last Monday which was published at Sunstar Baguio on February 1, 2012 with a follow up report published on February 3, 2012 both written by Ma. Elena Catajan. The Baguio City Police Office did not refuse in giving information pertaining to the case, we are only adhering to our policy that prohibits the releasing of premature information that may greatly affect the investigation of the case.

We would like to make it clear that I and the City Director, PSSUPT DAVID LACDAN did not give any conflicting statements. Basing on the report of the said news paper, the City Director said that we are still awaiting the statement of the child and the case still has to be verified by asking the victim to give an official statement while I allegedly stated in a text message that the police have not contacted the victim as well as her family making it difficult for authorities to piece together the real happenings of the case. As far as I am concerned, my text message was sent to the said reporter on February 1, 2012, at the time that indeed, the Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC) had a difficulty in contacting the victim so that she may give her official statement. It is a fact that at the time our City Director gave his statement, the WCPC still is exerting all the best effort to contact and invite the victim again to come to their office to give her official sworn statement to stipulate the facts of the case. Therefore, my statement and our City Director's did not conflict each other, yet, it complement each other.

It is our mandate to protect the dignity and the welfare of the victims and at the same time provide the public with factual and reliable information which at times causes us to hold initial information from the media until the actual, verified and factual information becomes available. We are responsible enough not to rely only on police blotters but more on progress and final investigation reports especially to sensitive cases such as rape. Let us all be reminded that Blotter or Spot Reports contains only initial information of the case, which means that information contained therein may possibly be not true, inaccurate or incomplete and still has yet to be verified through a more in depth investigation. This is the reason why we have to temporarily hold the release of information pertaining to the rape case. We would not want to give the facts stated in the police blotter and then correct ourselves from the erroneous facts given out once the real facts or story is revealed thru the final investigation report. Like what we said, we want the public to know the truth.

So therefore, in reference to the Special Investigation report released on February 3, 2012 by the Women and Children protection Division headed by PSI DIVINA MENCIO, we would like to correct some facts stipulated in the news article published by Sun Star Baguio.

The incident did not transpire last Monday, January 30, 2012 but instead, the victim confessed that the incident happened on January 28, 2012 at about 7:00am wherein she was allegedly fetched at a Super mart at Abanao st. The victim however, is unsure of the place she was brought to. Also, one of the teachers from a School in Baguio where the victim is studying, stated

that the victim attended her class on January 30, 2012 from 7:30 am to 12nn. On the other hand, the alleged stolen cell phone of the victim was found left in a taxi and was turned over to a teacher of the same school.

Based on the victim's statement, she recounted that prior to the incident, she and the suspect have been friends for two weeks. She stated that the suspect texted her and asked if they can be friends which she declined but the suspect persisted in texting her until the suspect saw her in front of a super mart at Abanao st. on January 28, 2012 and asked her to come because he will give her something. The victim further claimed that the suspect pointed a gun to her and forced her to go with him and the next events she confessed were the same with the blotter report. On the other hand, it is untrue that the "alleged abductors" put her inside a jeepney and left. According to the victim, after the alleged abuse, she was asked of her address but instead she answered that she be dropped in a Gas Station at La Trinidad which the suspect did so.

However, the victim confessed that she doesn't know the name of the suspect and that she is not sure if the suspect is a taxi driver or not. This corrects the misconception that the suspect is a taxi driver and this disproves the allegation that an FX taxi is on the loose abducting and raping young girls. This is only an isolated incident.

Furthermore, the victim and her relatives requested that the case be dropped and closed.

In view of the matter discussed, we would like to appeal to our media friends to please respect the discretion of the authorities in holding or not releasing **for the meantime** sensitive information relating to confidential and delicate cases especially if women and children are involved. While we acknowledge the urgency of the deadline for news reports as well as the right of the public to be informed, we cannot put the victim and the progress of the case itself at stake. We assure however, that once the information pertaining to these cases has been verified, investigated and proven truthful, we will enthusiastically provide you with the facts. Thank you very much./ **PINSP KARISSMA GACUSAN STA JUANA**

PRC

.....from page 3

office made an earlier agreement with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) for the putting up such testing center at the DOLE Regional Office.

Manalili also mentioned that the PRC is now working for the decentralization of its operations such as the printing of PRC ID or Professional license ID which will hopefully be launched this year in selected areas in the country including Baguio City.

She also affirmed that PRC will continue with its Mobile Outreach Program in line with the thrust to make PRC's presence felt especially in remote parts of the country.

"We will continue with our mobile outreach program to forge a better partnership between the commission and the Local Government Units, as well as the community. We want to engaged all stakeholders," Manalili stressed.

The Commissioner was in the city last Monday for the pilot testing of the PRC on line application system here./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Dads

.....from page 3

budget allocation for the fire department albeit reduced by P600,000 from the original proposal of P33,769,000.00

The alleged overpricing of fire safety gadgets was raised by Councilor Peter Fianza during the budget deliberations of the City Council.

Fianza said the proposed costs for the purchase of several firefighting equipment and accessories as contained in the proposed budget of the BFPS-CO appeared to be overestimated.

He specified the proposed purchase by the said office of 58 Fire Coats with Trousers amounting to P 2,900,000; fire boots costing He said that based on his own research of the costs, "it would appear that the BFPS-CO ostensibly chose those with the highest or costliest price."

City Fire Marshall Richard Villanueva justified their selection of higher priced suits and equipment saying these were preferred because of their proven quality and durability over their cheaper counterparts which in the long run will prove to be impractical finds./A Refuerzo

Editorial

..... from page 4

b a l l s . "

Born to a Chinese-Filipino family, Henares graduated from De La Salle University and became a certified public accountant in 1981. After getting an Ateneo law degree and passing the bar, she got a Masters of Law degree from Georgetown University in Washington, D C

She worked as a tax lawyer at SGV & Co, then as Senior Private Sector Development Specialist for the World Bank Group. From August 2003 to November 2005. Henares served in the BIR as Deputy Commissioner of the Special Concerns Group and officer-in-charge of the Large Taxpayers Service.

President Aquino asked her join his team. Henares admits she hasn't gotten used to having Presidential Security Group members tail her even when shopping for groceries.

That's the least of the defense panels concerns now. They fret more whether prosecution will connect the dots that Henares spelt out with cool professional profession. One thing is sure: Filipinos now are doing that./Juan L. Mercado

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

VENANCIO G. HAMBON - Vendor
EULOGIO M. BUSTAMANTE - Vendee
Applicants

Case No:2007-CAR-0147/2012-CAR-76

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a TAXI Service for the transportation and passengers and freight 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 22, 2012 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRRB 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 25th day of January 2012.

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

DPWH Allots P90 Million for Kennon Road Repair

BAGUIO CITY - The scenic Kennon Road, also known as "Zig-zag Road", will be rehabilitated with a funding of P90 million from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

According to DPWH Cordillera Regional Director Edilberto Carabban, the historic Kennon Road, the shortest route to and from Baguio, will be upgraded from asphalt to concrete while the various bridges along it will be repaired.

Most of the bridges are already weak and worn out which pose danger to motorists, Carabban said.

Tourists, businessmen and motorists frequently use Kennon road, and with the strong typhoons that visited the city in the past which caused damages to the road, there is a necessity to have it repaired to a state of road-worthiness, Carabban explained.

History shows that Kennon Road was ordered built by American governor general William Cameron Forbes in 1901. Although originally called Benguet Road, it was named after U.S. Army Colonel Lyman N. Kennon who was its final builder. With the labor of Igorots and some foreign workers, the road was completed in 1903 and has since become a major route to Baguio City./JDP/JPBZ PIA CAR.

DA-CAR gives P6.25M for Food Terminals in Benguet

L A TRINIDAD, Benguet - The additional funding for food terminals in the province is expected to boost food distribution and enhance marketing linkage in the communities served.

The Department of Agriculture - CAR handed over P6.250 million cash to enhance existing food terminals and establish additional ones in the province.

To date, there are 35 barangay food terminals (BFTs), two municipal food terminals (MFTs) and one provincial food terminal (PFT) that will be enhanced.

In addition, another four BFTs and six MFTs will be established this year.

The food terminals serve as food depot and distribution outlets in the community offering affordable, safe and quality food

products like meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, fruits and basic commodities.

In the awarding of the earmarked funds held last week at the Ben Palispis Hall, Gov. Nestor Fongwan urged the beneficiaries to maximize the utilization of the food terminals and not just allow the facility to become "white elephants."

Fongwan encouraged the beneficiaries to come up with a unified and centralized marketing scheme which is the very essence of marketing per se as competition is tight. If unified, they could demand and dictate prices and could generate more income, he added.

The facility could also be a venue to market temperate vegetables and link with the trading posts in the town or they could link directly with Manila or other bigger mar-

kets elsewhere, Fongwan added.

But he cautioned them to sustain the demand of the wholesale markets and must conform with their requirements in terms of quality and quantity.

DA-CAR Officer-in-Charge Regional Executive Director Marilyn Santa Ana, on the other hand, stressed the need for the beneficiaries to cooperate in sustaining the facilities.

She pointed out that transparency and accountability of the projects rests on the beneficiaries adding that implementation is being monitored by the agri-business and marketing division of the department.

Santa Ana further said their support is much needed as it would make a difference in advancing the goal of the project as she encouraged them not to lose opportunity as there might be no second chance./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR,Benguet

The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!



WITH MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT TO SERVE - The New set of officers of the Young Men's Christian Association of the City of Baguio, Inc. headed by president Felix Eliral "Pedped" Refuezo are sworn in before Chief Inducting officers led by Dr. Ben Ladilad, president of Benguet State University, BIR regional director Eduardo Bajador, Commercial Bank manager YMCA of Pangasinan, Inc. president Edilberto Abalos and 4th Inducting Officer, YMCA of the Philippines, Inc. NGS Pablito Tabucol during the induction and installation of the 2012 YMCA Board of Directors last February 1./Bong Cayabyab

Mayor: Pedestrianization Feasible

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio Domogan wants to weight things first before the concept of pedestrianizing Session Road can be done but added it is feasible.

Domogan was reacting to queries from the Local media Wednesday during the weekly Ugnayan presser on the possibility of continuing with the concept of pedestrianization as what transpired during the January 27 temporary closure of a portion of Session Road to pave the way for the conduct of the project 'Recreating People Friendly Session Road' spearheaded by a Multi-sectoral group of Architect Joseph Alabanza, Dir. Purificacion Molintas, Fr. Lorenzo Abela, Jr. and other stakeholders.

A resolution to this effect was filed by Councilor Nicasio Palaganas requesting for the partial pedestrianization of Session Road citing the campaign being waged by the group of concerned city residents to pedestrianize the whole stretch of the city's premiere road.

Domogan said before the concept can be permanently set and considered, important matters should first be addressed.

"We should identify other alternate routes which can be used for vehicular traffic once the idea is implemented", he stressed.

Domogan also stressed the need to insure that businessmen, people working and the public won't be affected once the concept of a car-free Session Road is realized.

"It would be good if it will be pedestrianized but we need to address the issues first", he said.

The mayor said Session Road can be freed of cars once in a while so residents and visitors can also enjoy promenading around, not to mention improving the air quality in the area.

This concept is being implemented during the 'Session Road in Bloom' where Session Road is entirely closed to vehicular traffic to give citizens the chance to freely walk and enjoy the different activities lined-up for the event while giving businessmen the chance to promote their goods./paul rillorta

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