

# THE JUNCTION WEEKEND



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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

**Pahayagang****palaban!!!**

## Religious Leaders Oppose STL



BAGUIO CITY – Sectors for and against the operation of Small Town Lottery (STL) in the city stormed city hall Wednesday for its first public hearing.

City Council Committee on laws Chairman Richard Carino invited 12 interested proponents of STL including Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office representative for Northern Luzon Ernieli Dancel, Catholic Bishop Carlito Cenzone, Islam Imam Bedejim Abdullah and other interested groups to air their sentiments regarding the numbers game.

Operators clamor small earnings in STL

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**STL PUBLIC HEARING - Bishop Carlito Cenzone stresses a point for opposing the operation of STL (a numbers game similar to jueteng) during a public hearing where "pro and against" represented by religious groups, STL operators applying for a permit in the city, former jueteng collectors and other sectors of the society were invited. Listening intently are City Police Director David Lacdan, PCSO representative Ernieli Dancel and Imam Bedejim Abdullah./ By Bong Cayabyab**

Welcome to Baguio ,  
the Gambling City of  
the North



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BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



DIRETSAHAN

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BY RUDY "BANTAY SIYASAT" GARCIA



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## Mayor To Push For Council Confirmation Of Moa For Waste Technology

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan will push for the confirmation of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the purchase of two Environmental Recycling System (ERS) machines worth P64 million each to process biodegradable wastes by the city council.

In his Ugnayang Panlungsod media briefing last Thursday, the mayor said he will again appeal to the city council to confirm the MOA based on the necessity and urgency of the matter.

In the event that the city council will not confirm the MOA, he said he will have no recourse but to ask the opinion of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on what other processes or steps can be undertaken by the executive department to pursue the technology.

The city council is scheduled to take a shot anew at confirming the MOA in its regular session tomorrow (Monday) after the first discussion the other Monday ended in a stalemate.

The MOA which was signed by Mayor Mauricio Domogan for the city government and Luis Arquiza Lu of Pro Tech Machinery Corporation faced rough sailing before the body as questions were raised on the procedures involved in the procurement process.

Domogan appeared anew before the body and answered the questions on procurement procedures and reiterated his assurance that they will comply with the

procedures under the procurement law or Republic Act No. 9184 to avoid any legal problem.

Despite the mayor's explanations and assurances, the body ended the session without making a decision on the confirmation.

"We all know that the garbage problem is a serious matter and further inaction will result to further adverse consequence that's why this matter really needs collective action from all of us so I hope the city council will reconsider and finally act on this," the mayor said.

The mayor earlier set the target date for the new technology's installation before the year ends to enable the city to stop hauling operations.

He said they did not appropriate any **Cont. on page 10**

## Senate Defense Committee Approves Increase of Combat Duty Pay

Military personnel can now look forward to a better combat pay under a report submitted by the Senate committee on national defense to the upper chamber for approval.

Senator Chiz Escudero, defense

committee chairman, said the committee has recommended a combat duty pay raise for personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) according to the danger they are exposed to.

Senate Committee Report No. 8 increases the combat duty pay of officers and enlisted personnel of the AFP from a minimum of five percent to a maximum of 25 percent of their base pay.

At present, each **Cont. on page 10**

## RDC Secom On IPs Pushes For Nat'l Wealth Tax Bill, Redefinition Of Host Communities

BAGUIO CITY – Indigenous Culture and Knowledge (ICK) is one of the Key Focus Areas (KFA) which the Cordillera Regional Development Council is concentrating in pushing for regional development. They want the Cordillera region to be a national model for IPs' self-determination, self-governance and sustainable development.

This was stressed by RDC Sectoral Committee on Indigenous Peoples' Concerns (CIPC) Chairman and National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) Regional Director Amador Batayan during the Consul-

tation workshop for the drafting of the Cordillera Regional Development Plan (CAR-RDP) for 2010-2016.

To achieve such goal, SeCom legislative agenda proposals include the approval of the joint circular implementing Section 12 of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) and passage of a bill or resolution extending the implementation period beyond 2017.

RDC to undertake appropriate measures for the implementation of section 71 (ancestral domain fund) of IPRA is also being proposed by the Secom. Batayan added that the CIPC supports passage of

a third organic on regional autonomy recognizing the provisions of IPRA.

The RDC-CIPC is also pushing for the passage of a bill which will mandate the direct payment to the Local Government Units of the 40 percent National Wealth Tax and the redefinition of host communities to include upland IP communities who are maintaining the water sources. Congressmen Teddy Baguilat Jr. and Maximo Dalog Sr. of Ifugao and Mountain Province respectively have earlier filed separate bills in Congress to push for IPs rights and development.

Baguilat's bill pushes for payment

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## Senator backs UP law professors facing SC sanctions

Senator Pia S. Cayetano today threw her support solidly behind the 37 professors of the University of the Philippines (UP) College of Law who have

been threatened with sanctions by the Supreme Court (SC) after they called for the resignation of a member of the high court over charges of plagiarism.

"In the seventies and eighties, it

was the voice of activist professors who denounced the excesses of Martial Law that helped keep people's hopes alive for change and reforms, especially among the youth. It

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## JUETENG NOTICE TO OUR DEAR READERS

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THE JUNCTION

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## Dancing 'Cow' And 'Chicken' to Celebrate Bill Clinton's New Vegan Diet

**Minus 11 Kilos, Former U.S. President Decides to Keep Unhealthy Meat and Dairy Products Off His Plate—for Good**

Manila—When former U.S. President Bill Clinton touches down in Manila, he will be in for a special treat: A dancing “cow” and “chicken” will greet him outside the Manila Hotel holding signs reading, “Be Like Bill: Grill Veggies, Not Meat” and “Chicks Love Slim Vegan Bill!” After adopting a heart-friendly vegan diet in order to lose weight in time for the wedding of his daughter, Chelsea (a longtime vegetarian), Clinton shed 11 unwanted kilos and felt so energized **that he decided to make the diet permanent. Having previously undergone**

two operations because of heart disease, Clinton recently told CNN that he’s trying to stay healthy enough to get to know his future grandchildren:

“[P]eople who have tried, essentially, a plant-based diet ... have seen their bodies start to heal themselves; break up the arterial blockage, break up the calcium deposits around the heart,” said Clinton. “Eighty-two percent of people who have done this have had the result, so I want to see if I can be one of them.”

“Bill Clinton is promoting healthy living, and we commend him for leading by example,” says PETA Director Jason Baker. “Going vegetarian is the best thing you can do for your health,

animals, and the Earth.”

Going vegetarian is key in preventing a variety of diseases, including today’s leading killers. Meat consumption has been conclusively linked to heart disease, strokes, diabetes, obesity, and cancer. Dr. William Castelli, the director of the Framingham Heart Study, the longest-running epidemiological study in medical history, reports, “Vegetarians have the best diet. They have the lowest rates of coronary disease of any group in the country. ... [T]hey have a fraction of our heart attack rate, and they have only 40 percent of our cancer rate.”

For more information, please visit [PETAAsiaPacific.com](http://PETAAsiaPacific.com).

## City Scores One Over Vendors on Block 3 Demolition Case

BAGUIOCITY—The Municipal Trial Court (MTC) last week denied issuance of Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) and Writ of Preliminary Prohibitory Injunction (PPI) prayed for by vendors affected by the August 22 clearing operations at Block 3, City Market.

Branch IV MTC Judge Maria Clarita Casuga-Tabin in an order dated October 29 said TRO is already “moot and academic” in the case Ana Maria Carballo, et al. vs. Policarpio Tamayo, et al.

She likewise penned the vendors failed to show “clear and legal right to the grant of [PPI]” and thus, the same must be denied.

It could be recalled the suit filed by

300-affected vendors is for forcible entry and damages with application for injunctive reliefs.

The vendors alleged, the city through force, intimidation, strategy, and stealth implemented the demolition of their stalls, being notified of an impending demolition of their stalls on a Friday when no judicial remedy can be availed of.

Impleaded in the case are market supervisor Tamayo, administrator Carlos Canilao, demolition team head Nazita Banez, one Nuel Saranilla and Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) chief David Laddan.

Tabin on the request for TRO and PPI ruled, “There is no question the parcel of land upon

which [vendors] erected their stalls belongs to the City of Baguio as evidenced by Transfer Certificate of Title (TCT) No. 2208.”

She cited the vendors failed to present evidence showing awards or contracts of lease to show they were allowed by government to occupy their respective spaces to dispute a certification issued by treasurer Thelma Manois stating they are not registered stall-holders thereat.

She added, “It is in the city government’s exercise of police power that the [vendors] were made to vacate the stalls as the same were constructed with highly combustible materials and are in dilapidated state...”

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## Agencies, NGOs Renew Ties With Baguio's Anti-Child Abuse Network.

BAGUIOCITY—Government agencies and private organizations renew their ties in the fight against child abuse with the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the City Hall’s Multi-Purpose Hall, Monday.

Spearheaded by the Baguio City Anti Child Abuse Network (ACAN) chaired by City Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda, signatories include Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan; City Social Welfare and Development Officer Betty

Fangasan; City Health Service Office Florence Reyes; Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center Director Manuel Factoria; Commission on Human Rights (CHR-CAR) Atty. Harold Kubaron; PNP Criminal and Investigation Detection Group Regional Head Moises Guevarra; Department of Education—Baguio Division Supervisor Ellen Donato; Department of Interior and Local Government City Director Evelyn Trinidad; City prosecutor Alfredo Centeno; Department

of Social Welfare and Development Regional Director Porfiria Bernardez; National Bureau of Investigation Regional Director Manuel George Jularbal; PNP City Director Sr. Supt. David Laddan; PNP Crime Lab Regional Head Supt. Dalmacio Magantino; City Association of Barangay Council Head Joel Alangab; Philippine Mental Health Association—Baguio Chapter head Irene Tuwao; Daniel Urquico, President of the Child and Family Services Philippines; Kimberly Piet of the

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## Physical Integration Remains A Major Challenge For Cordillera's Development

BAGUIOCITY—Physical integration remains to be one of the major challenges or Key Focus Area in pushing for Cordillera’s regional development.

This was stressed by the Regional Development Council (RDC-CAR) Sectoral Committee on Infrastructure during the Regional Consultation Workshop for the drafting of the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) and CAR Regional Development Plan (CAR-RDP) 2010-2016 held last week.

According to the Infra Secom report presented by Department of Tourism (DOT-CAR) Regional Director Pura Molintas, there are significant increases in the percentage of paved national roads in CAR for the past several years - from 35.7 percent in 2007 to 41.14 percent in 2009. This is however, below the national average of paved national roads which stands at 75.15 percent and the lowest compared to the other regions in the country.

Aside from the

fact that merely 12 percent of CAR’s provincial roads are in good condition, two municipal towns or poblaciones and 204 barangays are yet to be connected with the region’s road system. Furthermore, CAR roads are vulnerable to closures due to occurrence of landslides during heavy rains, the report showed.

Molintas also stressed that Cordillera has the least among regions nationwide in terms of available land transport facilities with a motor vehicle density

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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**

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## Dazzling "Skill"--- Or Rot?

"All of us are experts at practicing virtue from a distance," Notre Dame university president Theodore Hesburg wryly noted. At Lower House hearings on the 2011 budget, Rep. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo gave us a dazzling example of this "skill"—or rot.

The Pampanga congresswoman assailed a P12 billion lump-sum she stumbled across in the Education Department's budget. "There seem to be lump sums tucked in all over the place," the ex-president fumed.

Lump-sum funds are dubbed "one liners." They set aside sums without detailed programs. Release is subject to presidential discretion and often without audit.

If anybody is qualified to skewer "one liners" it is Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. As President, she squirreled P224 billion worth of "one liners" into the last budget, notes Philippine Human

**EDITORIAL** Development Report 2009. "That was 16 percent of the proposed P1.41 trillion budget."

Amnesia stoked the former President's fury over DepEd's P12 billion "one liner". Did the lady forget that she stitched a P23.6 billion "one-liner" into the same Education Department last time around?

That's is double what she now stews over. But "many of us believe wrongs are right -if done by nice people like ourselves."

Then- President Arroyo stitched scores of "one-liners" into her budgets, specially the last one. But now, she forgets. How convenient.

For verification, check "top clusters of lump sum/large ticket numbers". Here they are, as documented by PHDR 2009:

Defense Department – P45.3 billion (Remember the Euro generals?); Agriculture Department – P29.1 billion (Joc-Joc Bolante's P728 million fertilizer scam was just a pittance.)

The Public Works and Highways Department, like the Bureau of Customs, top the list of graft ridden agencies. The World Bank blacklisted three Filipino companies, for rigged road construction projects. Mrs Arroyo stashed P15 billion into a DPHW "one liner".

There's more. In the Health Department, Arroyo stashed a lump sum of P12.8 billion. A one-liner of P11.5 billion was hidden in Transport and Communications and yet another –P11.1 billion in Local Governments department.

"In the spirit of transparency, it is crucial to find out which of these 'one-liners' are actually backed up by plans and programs," Philippine Human Development Report adds. Taxpayers have a right to know which are simply discretionary funds – disbursed by the whim of the President without audit.

Arroyo can not recall today. This is "the proper memory for a politician – one that knows what to remember and what to forget."

Funds for "national security" is shielded from public audit. That is understandable. But secrecy can also cover a lot of theft. These unscrutinized funds, in Arroyo's last budget, came up to P1.12 billion.

Here is how those taxpayer pesos were ladled out by the lady from Pampanga. President Estrada, set up Presidential Anti Organized Crime Commission thru Executive Order 295, PAOCC gained notoriety by involvement in Dacer-Corbato murder. It's performance is patchy. Arroyo handed it a cool half a billion pesos in a one liner last year.

Even do-nothing Vice-President Noli de Castro got a "one-liner" of –P6.0 million. "Intelligence services" for DILG secretary R. Puno amounted to a quarter of a billion –bigger than P151 million one liner for seven Armed Forces commands.....

Secrecy is essential in how these funds are used. "But it is possible to create appropriate oversight mechanisms," PHDR argues. "A bipartisan Legislative Select Committee could supervise such resources discreetly.

"There is no accountability in soft money. None." And that suited Mrs Arroyo and her cronies just fine.

Fuzzy responsibility multiplies temptations to dip into the cookie jar. Savings went for perks.

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## DIRETSAHAN

*Jueteng –MORO ! MORO !*

BY RUDY "BANTAY SIYASAT" GARCIA



Hindi na sana ako magsusulat ng isyu tungkol sa huweteng dahil sa pag-aakala ko na wala na ang iligal na larong ito, kaso maganda ang kuwento na ibinulong sa akin ng aking bubuwit na bumisita sa may Binalonan, Pangasinan, kama-kaylan lamang.

Sa kanyang kuwento, andun daw sya sa nasabing lugar ng mag-raid umano ang NBI-TAYUG SA ISANG BOLAHAN NG HUWETENG NA GINANAP SA ISANG MALAWAK NA BUKIRAN. Nakuryos, nag- tanong tanong ngayon itong si bubuwit sa mga residente ng nasabing lugar at kanyang napag alaman na matagal na palang laganap at bulgaran ang huweteng doon.

Minsan daw sa isang buwan ay may raid daw sa mga huweteng doon pero alam ng mga tao na ito ay moro-moro lamang para mapagtakpan umano ng local na otoridad ang katotohanan. Pagkatapos ng bulabugan ay magpapahinga lamang ng isang buwan ang huweteng doon at pagkatapos ay tuloy na naman.

Ang isa pang kuwento umano na dapat ay malaman ng mga kinuukulan ay ang pambugbog diumano sa isang reporter na kumukuha ng litrato sa nagaganap na huweteng. Nang magreklamo daw itong reporter at ang kanyang abogado sa mga otoridad eh tinawanan daw lamang sila ng meyor doon na napag alamang pinsan umano ni dating pangulong GMA.

Kung totoo ang mga ikinuwentong ito sa aking bubuwit, aba kailangang malaman ito ng malakanyang, dahil kung sinsero sila sa pagbuwag ng huweteng, dapat nilang imbestigahan ang umano'y nagaganap na lantarang huweteng doon at isama na rin ang mga nangangamo'y datung na opisyal doon na imbes sila ang bumuwag ay sila pa ang nagsisilbing protector. Ang tanong, alam ba ito ni dating arch bishop OSCAR CRUZ na isang prime whistle blower sa huweteng? Kung alam bakit hindi niya isinama ang pangalan nitong top official na halatang protector sa illegal na sugal sa kanilang lugar? Kung hindi naman ito alam ni apo OSCAR CRUZ, eh bakit samantalang mag kapit

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## THE PEACE COMBATANT

*Doing business 2010:  
Philippines ranked 144 out of  
183 countries*

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



Allow me for the meantime to describe the Philippines with regard to how the World Bank has ranked the country in 2009 (published in early or mid-2010) with regard to her ability to attract business. For starters, be it known that the Philippines has an overall rank of 114 out of a total of 183 countries ranked by the World Bank. This means that the Philippines is close to the bottom rank of the 183 countries that were ranked for the ease with which business can be done in the country. It may surprise us to know that Mongolia, Samoa, Kazakhstan, Rwanda, El Salvador, Pakistan, Serbia, Vietnam (rank 91), Kenya, Ethiopia, Kosovo, Swaziland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Nigeria, Mozambique, and Iran far outranked us in terms of the ease with which businesses can be started in their countries.

According to the World Bank, the number of procedures that have to be accomplished by businesses to start a business in the Philippines is 15. Worldwide, the average procedure required that businesses must do is 8. Investors will need around 52 days for the 15 procedures to be accomplished in order to start a business in the Philippines. Worldwide, the average number of days that businesses needed to get started is 36 days. Further, the global average number of procedures that investors need to do to put up a business is only 36 days.

With regard to construction permits, the Philippines ranked 111. This means that the country is also closer to the bottom in terms of speed of getting construction permits for investors. The number of procedures required to get a construction permit in the Philippines is 24 that can be accomplished in around 203 days.

In contrast, Denmark has only 6 procedures for a construction permit to be processed while the country that has the most number of procedures for a construction permit to be processed require 54 procedures. The latter is the country called the "Russian Federation" which used to be a part of the old Union of Soviet Social Republics.

Worldwide, the lowest number of days required to get a construction permit is 25 and this is in Singapore. Zimbabwe has the highest number of days required to get a construction permit at 1,426.

In terms of employing workers, the Philippines has a ranked of 115. Again, this means that we are also closer to the bottom in term of our ability to make available to investors the work force that he or she requires. In terms of the difficulty of hiring index, we got a score of 56. It is easier to employ workers in the top 10 countries with the highest scores: Australia, the United States, Brunei, Marshall Islands, Hong Kong, Uganda, Palau, Denmark, and Georgia. Surprisingly, countries which we may think to be lagging, are actually ahead of us. In term of the rigidity of working hours index, the Philippines got a score of 0 out of the maximum score of 100. The global average is 25. This means that Philippine working hours is highly inflexible or rigid as 100 indicates high flexibility.

The Philippines rank 127 out of 183 countries of the world in terms of ease with which credit can be obtained. In contrast, countries in which credit is easiest to obtain are Malaysia, South Africa, United Kingdom, Australia, Bulgaria, Hong Kong, Israel, New Zealand, Singapore, and the United States. The data indicate that ease of credit can be obtained is not a function of GNP per capita.

It takes around 16 days and 8 documents for an investor in the Philippines to export. In contrast, France requires only 2 documents and the fastest in terms of number days to export are Singapore, Estonia, Denmark, and Hong Kong.

If anything, data suggest that it is not impossible for our country to be business friendly as being business-friendly is not totally a function of development. Of course, the data also suggest that we are lagging far behind other countries.

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

## KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Prayers for Iraqi Christians;  
Ampatuan mistrial looms?*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



**PRAYERS FOR SAFETY OF IRAQI CHRISTIANS URGED:** All who consider themselves Christian anywhere in the world must, at the very least, pray now for the safety and well-being of Iraqi Christians who are being targeted for violent death and liquidation by Sunni militants in Baghdad and other Iraqi cities, for no reason at all other than their being believers in Christ.

The Yahoo!News dispatch Thursday, November 11, 2010, said the Sunnis are bent on continuing with efforts to exterminate all Christians in Iraq, even if they already killed 68 Christians attending a Sunday mass, with the latest attacks coming in the form of dozens of roadside bombings and explosions near Christian houses.

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**IRAQI CHRISTIANS MUST HOLD ON WITH THEIR FAITH:** We must also pray for strength and fortitude for Iraqi Christians, for them to remain steadfast in their Christian faith and not give it up in exchange for any other belief that espouses killings and carnage of others as that is a belief that is not of God.

To the Iraqi Christians, be glad that you are being persecuted because of your faith, for your reward in heaven, if you hold on to the end, will be great. Jesus Himself predicted this persecution will happen to His followers, in Matthew 24:9 of the Bible.

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**AMNESTY PROCLAMATION FOR TRILLANES INVALID:** Batangas Rep. Hermilando Mandanas echoed what we have been saying here all along on the amnesty proclamation signed by President Aquino for Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV and other rebel military personnel—the proclamation violates the 1987 Constitution, because it says it is effective upon Aquino's signing it.

The amnesty proclamation will never be effective, even if Aquino already signed it, because the Constitution requires prior concurrence of the legislature before its effectivity. The President must therefore ask his lawyers to amend the document and make it more conforming to the Charter, and for them to be more careful next time.

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**AMPATUAN MISTRIAL LOOMS?** I think that at the rate things are going on at the trial of the Maguindanao massacre case, those accused of murdering 57 or so people, led by former Datu Unsay Mayor Andal Ampatuan Jr., could claim a mistrial of sorts when a guilty verdict is finally handed down against them.

Why am I saying this? Well, one only needs to read the papers everyday and listen to, and watch, radio and TV newscasts to see that only the stories condemning the accused are getting printed and aired.

If newsmen and the authorities don't watch out, these unfavorable media stories could be used by the accused to claim they have been prejudiced by the adverse publicity so that a new trial should be given them.

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**LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS:** "He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments'..." (Matthew 22:37-40, the Holy Bible).

## 1st-APLUMA!

*Shooting victim seeks long-delayed justice*

### JUSTICE delayed is justice denied.

This is the situation of Joselito Rodriguez of Tarlac City, who, more than two years ago almost lost his life in a shooting incident but until now he's still seeking justice for what happened to him.

Rodriguez and his friend Jhon Eric Gregorio suffered gunshot wounds in different parts of their bodies after Fabian Seguiria, a professor at Tarlac State University, peppered them with bullets from his .45 caliber pistol due to an argument.

Seguiria was charged with two counts of frustrated murder but was freed after posting bail amounting to P16,000.

But the case dragged on until the victims agreed to settle with the suspect, wherein Seguiria will shoulder 50 percent of unpaid hospital bills and 50 percent reimbursement of actual medical expenses, aside from P10,000 as indemnity.

But until now, Rodriguez and his friend haven't touched a single centavo of that amount because the suspect has yet to fulfill his end of the agreement.

Also, the suspect is bragging that the case gathered dust because of his strong influence with a Regional Trial Court judge whom Rodriguez's father Lito refused to identify.

"Hindi na pera ang isyu dito kundi ang hustisya sa nangyari sa amin at dapat siyang magbayad," Rodriguez said when he sought help from 1st-APLUMA or the Unang Alyansang Pag-asa ng Lahi't Uring Mamamahayag-Manggagawa.

"Isa pa, hindi maganda na ipinagyayabang pa niya sa aming lugar na malakas siya sa korte kaya inamag ang kaso," added Rodriguez.

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Some of our broadcaster friends have already lent their helping hand by airing the problem of Rodriguez and his friend through their radio programs.

This way, we can apply some pressure so that the suspect will fulfill his obligations to his victims, who luckily survived the carnage.

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Just like Rodriguez, 1st-APLUMA can assist those who are in need as we can act as bridge to people who have problems with government and private offices to help them in any way we can.

With the help of our friends from media and some government agencies, we can help seek help for those who are in need of medical and other kind of assistance.

Those who have problems, medical or otherwise, can log-on to 1st-APLUMA's website (<http://1st-apluma.yolasite.com>) and give all the details through its Public Serbilis section.

## YMCA GYM Hostel Inaugurated,

The Young Men Christian Association (YMCA) in Baguio City inaugurated its newly built standard gymnasium and hostel here last week.

YMCA National President and Baguio boy Judge Edilberto Claraval and YMCA Baguio President Felix Eliral Refuerzo led guests from the YMCA of Misamis Oriental and other officers of Baguio YMCA in cutting the ribbon and officially inaugurating the new structures.

Located at the back of YMCA Building at Session Road rotunda, the P20 million building houses a brand new gymnasium built from Philippine Standards, a seven room first class hostel and two separate dormitories for men and women that could accommodate 50-80 persons.

The YMCA is known all over the world because of the athletic facilities especially the basketball courts and the

very affordable hostel that they offer specially to the youths. "In any part of the world, people know YMCA as a place where they can avail of relatively cheap lodging and where they can exercise and play ball games" said Claraval.

"The building complements the school of sports, noble quarters that lead to higher education and discipline, and broader ethnicity in consonance with YMCA goals and objectives," Refuerzo said.

The inauguration of the building is a milestone in the colorful history of the YMCA of the city of Baguio, Claraval said. This is dedicated to the Christian youth in memory of the Baguio YMCA Builders and to all members who adhere to the Christian tenets and the movement's mission and vision, Refuerzo added.

Refuerzo said the structure was reconstructed after

53 years and following a grueling debate and series of deliberate argumentation and the much expected fine tuning during the past and current administration.

"This is also a product of our series of long range planning workshops, a concrete testimony of solidarity between the legislative and executive branches of this noble local association, Refuerzo explained.

Refuerzo said there are still several developments being done in the project like amenities of the hostel, a receiving area and display area. The construction of ramps for the disabled persons is also on going.

Based on finance forecast, the return of investment could be achieved within ten years or before that period depending on the market efficiency or the management of these YMCA commercial areas./Redjie Cawis PIA

### Diretsahan

.... from page 4

bahay lamang ang kanyang lalawigan dito sa tinutumbok nating lalawigan sa Pangasinan? O baka naman may halo o kulay pulitika itong issue ngayon ng huweteng? NAGTATANONG LAMANG PO!

ooOoo

CITY HALL NG BAGUIO, NILOOBAN ULI? BAKIT? Nakakatawa ang nangyaring insidente na nilooban uli ang mga ibang opisina na nasa isa ikalawang palapag ng BAGUIO CITY HALL. Base sa impo na ibinigay ng aking bubuwit, dumaan ang mga nanloob sa kisame ng comfort room sa ikalawang palapag malapit sa opisina ng local na DILG. Di pa klaro sa amin kung ano at magkano ang nakuha sa mga niloobang opisina, pero ang tanong, paano nakapasok ang mga "kawatan" samantalang may mga guwardya naman na dapat bantayan ang mga naturang gusali? Kung ang city hall na katapat mismo ng opisina at hedkwarters ng pulisya ay nalolooban. Paano na kaya iyung mga ordinaryong gusali lamang? Hesus maryosep, sa palagay ko ay katakot takot na paliwanagan na naman ito sa ating mga otoridad. At ano rin kaya ang say ng INTERLINK SECURITY AGENCY na siyang humahawak sa mga guwardiyang nagbabantay doon? Baka naman kasi ang kinuha at inilagay nilang mga "sekyu" doon ay mga guwardiya na taga SOD "sleeping on duty" HEHEHE.



## Court process to take full course over Asin Pool issue

BAGUIO CITY – “Roger Sinot is ‘appealing to negotiate’ with us regarding his continued operation of the Asin Hot Springs Resort (AHR).”

Thus said mayor Mauricio Domogan during the Ugnayan presser hosted by DZRH ‘Radio ng Bayan’ last week.

He revealed Sinot, beleaguered operator of the city-owned AHR in Nagalisan, Tuba, Benguet sent word apparently attempting to squeeze himself out of an ejectment suit that could mean goodbye to his bread and butter.

In a November 8 letter to the mayor, Sinot alleged perfection of a contract between him and erstwhile mayor Bernardo Vergara placing rentals over the property at P3,000 per month with back rentals pegged at P2,500 per month.

He however admitted that while he “signified and in fact tendered payment of the rentals,” the same was refused on the ground that the contract was never confirmed by the council.

With this, he sought “renegotiation” with the Domogan Administration “to embody such terms and conditions which are beneficial to all concerned.”

But Domogan said, “We are deferring to the [City Finance] Committee (CFC) recommendation to allow the court to decide on the merits of our ejectment case against Sinot.”

He added, “The issue regarding the AHR has been dragging on for too long now causing the city to lose income it could have earned had the facility been bidden-out and operated on terms more beneficial to the city.”

The alleged letter comes in the heels of a scheduled hearing on the ‘motion for execution’, November 12, filed by the City Government to effect the order of the 5<sup>th</sup> Municipal Circuit Trial Court (MCTC), of Tuba, Sablan for Sinot to vacate the facility.

It likewise succeeds an appeal filed by Sinot before the Regional Trial Court.

MTC Judge Marietta Brawner-Cualing who penned the decision dated October 4 in ejectment case filed by the city docketed civil case No. 293 likewise ordered Sinot to pay “reasonable rent of P5-thousand” starting December 1996 up to the present.

It could be remembered, the City Legal Office cocked legal guns against Sinot, March 30, 2009 at the behest of council members seeking bid out AHR operations.

Apparently, a number of bidders were lining up, expressing interest in running the facility, which apparently, can be more beneficial to the city government.

Sinot in his pleadings averred absence of legal bases for the city to claim the AHR. He claimed, it is titled in the name of one Lucio Ramirez; and that half the subject property being claimed is his own.

But the City, represented by Attorney IV Dennis Ernesto Ruiz argued Baguio bought the AHR from one Lucio Ramirez sometime in 1935 with a proviso that the same be maintained as a “public bath house and swimming pool.”

He argued in 1967, adverse claimant Bernardo Catbagan, Jr. filed a case of recovery of property against Baguio over the said lot. The case dragged on until the City was eventually ruled as the property’s rightful owner.

In 1976 however, Catbagan secured a 20-year lease contract with the city to operate the AHR. The lease expired 1996.

Before termination however, Sinot assumed operations of the AHR in 1994 without authority from the city government.

Thus, the MCTC decided, “[O]wnership over the property had already been ruled upon, [Sinot] can no longer refute [the same].”

“Further, the claim of [Sinot] that only half the resort complex is within the [city’s] property... has no leg to stand on because said portion constitutes an easement of the Asin River.”

It likewise ruled Sinot as “apparent sub-lessee” of the facility adding his occupation of the AHR was merely “tolerated.”

“[Thus, Sinot] is necessarily bound by an implied promise that he will vacate the same upon demand,” the court added. */isl*

## Peace And Order Council Revival Muled To Boost Crime Prevention

BAGUIO CITY

– Mayor Mauricio Domogan mulls the revival of the City Peace and Order Council to boost crime prevention measures in the city.

During last Monday’s department heads’ meeting, the mayor said the city through the CPOC could harness community participation in the campaign against law-

lessness.

said the involvement of the community is vital in crime prevention at all times.

The mayor earlier ordered the city police office under acting police director David Lacdan to step up anti-crime measures following a spate of robbery incidents boldly perpetrated by unscrupulous persons over the past days.

Domogan

said there is a need for a more aggressive approach to curb the robbery and hold-up cases in the city.

He said he will also meet with the commanders of the various police stations to secure their commitment to step up security measures like regular patrolling in their areas of responsibility.

He will also ask the barangays to

Cont. on page 11



**THE LIONS - Congresswoman Lani Mercado Revilla of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Cavite was the Guest of Honor and Speaker during the induction of Officers of Lions District 301-C Northern Philippine headed by District Governor Dr. Ralph A. Asuncion held at the Ariana Hotel, Bauang, La Union. Photo from L-R. Christian Jesusa Marie Acoba (standing), Avelina Jackie Acoba-Ver – Lions Secretary of the Baguio City Host Lions Club, Congresswoman Lani Mercado Revilla- Guest Speaker and Lion- Joy Rosario of Pangasinan Coast Lons Club ( wife of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Governor Dr. Westly Rosario**

## OWWA Offers Financial Assistance to Typhoon- Affected Member Dependents

BAGUIO CITY

– The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) is offering financial assistance to the dependents of their active members in the Cordillera, Regions 1 and 2 who were adversely affected by Typhoon Juan last month.

According to

OWWA-CAR OIC Regional Director Evelyn Laranang, a financial grant in the amount of P5,000 shall be extended as cash assistance to serve as an emergency relief to active OFWs and their family members devastated by typhoon Juan.

For the Cordillera OWWA has allotted a P5 Million fund for such

purpose, Laranang said.

“We are now accepting applications on a first come first serve basis. All applications will be processed here in our regional office in Baguio City. Those in the provinces can sent to us their application for processing,

Cont. on page 11

Republic of the  
Philippines  
REGIONAL TRIAL  
COURT  
FIRST JUDICIAL  
REGION  
OFFICE OF THE  
PROVINCIAL  
SHERIFF  
La Trinidad.  
Benguet

H O M E  
DEVELOPMENT  
MUTUAL FUND  
(HDMF),

*Mortgagee,*

-versus-

RAMON E.  
BELTRAN,  
*Mortgagor,*

FORECLOSURE  
CASE NO. 10-ExF-  
1448  
FOR

EXTRA-JUDICIAL  
FORECLOSURE OF  
REAL ESTATE  
MORTGAGE  
UNDER  
ACT NO. 3135, AS  
AMENDED

SHERIFF'S  
NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale Under Act 3135, as amended filed by Home Development Mutual Fund, represented by its Department Manager III, Jerome P. Avila, hereinafter referred to as the Mortgagee, for the satisfaction of the obligation of Mortgagor Ramon E. Beltran of legal age, married, Filipino, with residence and postal address at Blk. 13 Lot 18 Marville Homes Subd. Tadiangan, Tuba Benguet, hereinafter referred to as the Mortgagor, in order to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness to the mortgagee which as of September 21, 2010 amounts to ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND SIXTY THREE PESOS AND 01/100 (Php.

1,354,063.01) Philippine Currency including interest and penalty charges and attorney's fees equivalent to TEN (10%) percent of the total indebtedness plus expenses of foreclosure.

That the undersigned sheriff announces that he will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION on November 24, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in front of the Bulwagan ng Katarungan, Justice Hall, La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the hereunder described real property, together with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

**TRANSFER  
CERTIFICATE OF  
TITLE NO. T-67043  
(Register of Deeds-  
Province of  
Benguet)**

A parcel of land (lot 18, blk. 13, Psd-131113-006700) being a portion of Lot 1-A, Psu-1-001213), situated at Barangay Irisan, Municipality of Tuba, Province of Benguet, Island of Luzon, Bounded on the NE, along line 1-2 by lot 20, Block 13 of the subd., plan on the SE., along line 2-3 by Road 13 (4.50 m. wide); on the SW along line 3-4 by Lot 16; on the NW., along line 4-1 by Lot 17, both block 13 of the subd. plan. Beginning at a point mark "1" on plan being S. 86 deg. 24' W., 2402.47 m. from Triangulation Sta. LIMESTONE, Baguio Townsite to corner 1, thence; s. 43 deg., 16'E., 11.50 m. to point 2;

S. 46 deg., 44'W., 3.48 m. to point 3;  
N. 43 deg., 16'W., 11.50 m., to point 4;

N. 46 deg., 44'E., 3.48 m. to point of beginning;

Containing an area of FORTY (40) SQUARE METERS, more or less. All points referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on

the ground as follows; all points by PS cyl. Conc. Mons. 15x40 cms., Bearing true; Date of original survey on May 15-16, 1922. Date of subdivision survey on May 18-24, 1998, executed by Engr. Ferdinand D. Mateo under the supervision of Engr. Antonio V. Abyado and was approved on 11 Dec. 1998.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above time and date.

Prospective bidders/buyers may investigate the above described property regarding the encumbrances thereof, if any.

In case of failure in the auction sale as scheduled, the same is hereby re-scheduled on December 15, 2010 at the same time and place without need of republication.

La Trinidad,  
Benguet, this 28<sup>th</sup>  
day of October,  
2010.

**FOR THE PROVIN-  
CIAL SHERIFF  
EX-OFFICIO OF  
BENGUET  
BY:**

**By: (SDG)  
Gregorio G. Tadeo  
Sheriff IV**

**October 30, 2010  
and November 6,  
13, 2010**

Republic of the  
Philippines  
REGIONAL TRIAL  
COURT  
First Judicial Region  
BRANCH VIII  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Justice  
Hall, Justice Hill  
La Trinidad,  
Benguet

**IN THE MATTER:  
CORRECTION  
OF ENTRIES IN THE  
CERTIFICATE  
OF LIVE BIRTH OF  
GRETH S. PION**

**GRETH S. PION,  
*Petitioner,***

-versus-

**THE LOCAL CIVIL  
REGISTRAR OF  
ITOOGON AND THE  
NATIONAL  
STATISTICS OFFICE  
(NSO),**

*Respondents.*

**SP. PROC. CASE  
NO. 10-C-1648**

X——X

## ORDER

**P**etitioner through counsel, filed this Amended Petition praying that after due notice, and hearing, this court issues an order directing the Local Civil Registrar of Itogon, Benguet and the National statistics Office to cause the correction of the entry in his Certificate of Live Birth, particularly his

gender from "female" to "male".

**WHEREFORE,** finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the court sets for hearing on January 17, 2011 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning in the courtroom of this court, Rm 202, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Justice Hill, La Trinidad Benguet.

All persons interested may appear and show cause, if any, why this petition should not be granted.

Let this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner in the Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province, once a week for (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than November 21,

2010.

Furnish copies hereof together with a copy of the petition and its annexes to the Office of the Solicitor General, Makati City; National Statistics Office, Quezon City, the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet Province; the Local Civil Registrar of Itogon, Benguet; the Junction; the petitioner and her counsel.

**SO ORDERED.**

La Trinidad.  
Benguet, this 10<sup>th</sup>  
day of November  
2010.

**By (SDG) MARYBELLE  
L. DEMOT  
MARINAS  
Presiding Judge**

**Publication Dates:  
November 13, 20  
and 27**

## PNP Hotline numbers in service 24/7

Police operations are reinforced in channeling community based and neighborhood support to help in anti-crime programs. Police personnel are religiously conducting foot and mobile patrol, checkpoints, police visibility and extra duties to ensure a peaceful and safe community. Crime can be suppressed and prevented if the community and police work hand in hand in crime busting.

Police stations and other units are on a 24-hour monitoring of peace and order situation in their respective areas of responsibility. Police response is important in crime prevention so the following hotline numbers can be contacted in case of emergency or crime situations that need immediate police assistance.

| Tactical operations center |                     | landline nos. | 442-1211/442-7944 |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|
|                            |                     | Hotline no.   | 116               |
|                            |                     | Text message  | 0920-422-2881     |
|                            |                     | Loop no.      | 0917-575-9993     |
| Tel No.                    |                     | CP No.        |                   |
| Station 1                  | 443-9111 / 300-9111 | 09175812011   |                   |
| Station 2                  | 443-9112 / 300-9112 | 09175812012   |                   |
| Station 3                  | 300-9113            | 09175812013   |                   |
| Station 4                  | 305-8114            | 09175812014   |                   |
| Station 4 (COMPAC)         | 446-8402            | -             |                   |
| Station 5                  | 443-9115 / 300-9115 | 09175812015   |                   |
| Station 6                  | 443-9116 / 300-9116 | 09175812016   |                   |
| Station 7                  | 300-8117            | 09175812017   |                   |
| Station 7 (COMPAC 1)       | 442-8834 / 300-6570 | -             |                   |
| Station 7 (COMPAC 2)       | 424-4163            | -             |                   |
| Station 7 (COMPAC 3)       | 442-4237            | -             |                   |
| Station 7 (COMPAC 4)       | 442-4311            | -             |                   |
| Station 8                  | 305-8118            | 09175812018   |                   |
| Station 9                  | 446-4847 / 305-5329 | 09175812019   |                   |
| Station 10                 | 442-4047            | 09175812020   |                   |



REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES  
REGIONAL TRIAL  
COURT  
FIRST JUDICIAL  
REGION  
BRANCH 4  
BAGUIO CITY  
FAMILY COURT OF  
BAGUIO CITY

IN THE MATTER OF  
PETITION  
F O R  
LEGITIMATION  
AND  
CORRECTION OF  
ENTRIES  
IN THE RECORD OF  
BIRTH OF MINOR  
CHILD VINCENT  
REUBEN STA. ANA  
GUERRERO

VINCENT REUBEN  
STA. ANA  
GUERRERO  
HEREIN ASSISTED  
BY HIS PARENTS  
SPS. ROBERT LEON  
G. GUERRERO AND  
MORENA STA. ANA  
GUERRERO,

*Petitioners,*

-versus-

THE CIVIL  
REGISTRAR OF  
BAGUIO CITY  
AND THE  
N A T I O N A L  
STATISTICS OFFICE  
*Respondents.*

SP. PROC. CASE NO  
2061-R

x-----x

ORDER

The above-en-  
titled verified  
Amended Petition was  
filed by the Petitioner,  
through counsel and  
unto this Honorable  
Court, which states  
that:

1. Petitioner  
VINCENT REUBEN  
STA. ANAGUERRERO  
IS A MINOR BEING  
SIXTEEN YEARS OF  
AGE UPON THE FIL-  
ING OF THIS PETI-  
TION, Filipino citizen,  
while co-petitioner  
parents the SPS.  
ROBERT LEON G.  
GUERRERO AND  
MORENA STA. ANA  
GUERRERO are of legal  
age, Filipino citizen  
and all of them  
residents of #A-97

LTHCI Poblacion, La  
Trinidad, Benguet,  
Philippines where they  
may be served with  
summons, notices and  
other processes of the  
Honorable Court;

2. Respondent  
Civil Registry of  
Baguio City is a gov-  
ernment agency in  
charge with the regis-  
tration of births, etc.,  
and can be served with  
summons at the  
Baguio Health Center,  
Baguio City while re-  
spondent National  
Statistics Office is  
also a government  
agency and it is being  
impleaded a nominal  
party being the reposi-  
tory of records of birth  
and it can be served  
with summons at its  
office address in  
Baguio City.

3. Co-peti-  
tioner spouses are the  
biological parents of  
VINCENT REUBEN  
STA. ANAGUERRERO  
wherein the latter was  
born on April 29, 1994  
at the Baguio Medical  
Center, Inc., Baguio  
City;

4. That the  
facts of birth of said  
minor child was duly  
registered in the office  
of the Civil Registry of  
Baguio City as evi-  
denced by hereto at-  
tached CERTIFICATE  
OF LIVE BIRTH  
marked as ANNEX  
"A" and made part  
hereof;

5. At the time  
of the birth of minor  
child, herein peti-  
tioner, MORENA C.  
STA. ANAGUERRERO  
and her child's father,  
ROBERT LEON G.  
GUERRERO were not  
married but an infor-  
mation was given by  
the former that they  
were married on July  
31, 1991, in Makati,  
Metro Manila but in  
truth and in fact, no  
such marriage took  
place;

6. Petitioner  
MORENA STA. ANA  
GUERRERO was the  
informant during the  
preparation of the birth  
certificate of  
VINCENT REUBEN  
immediately after she  
gave birth for which

reason which she  
might misunderstood  
some of the questions  
being asked of her par-  
ticularly the date of  
marriage given by the  
effect of drugs admin-  
istered to her during  
her childbirth;

7. The honest  
mistake done by the  
petitioner when he  
supplied the date of  
marriage tends to show  
that VINCENT  
REUBEN was LEGITI-  
MATE child when in  
truth and in fact he was  
born outside wedlock  
hence, supposed to be  
illegitimate but none-  
theless ROBERT  
LEON and MORENA  
subsequently got mar-  
ried on January 28,  
1997 at Our Lady Of  
Lourdes Church  
Baguio City as evi-  
denced by their  
CERTIFICATE OF  
MARRIAGE hereto at-  
tached as ANNEX "B"  
and made part hereof;

8. Hence, the  
petitioners desire that  
the affected entry in  
the Certificate of Live  
Birth of Vincent Reuben  
be changed to reflect  
his true and correct  
status from legitimate  
to legitimated, to re-  
flect the true and cor-  
rect date and place of  
marriage of petitioner  
spouses which is Janu-  
ary 28, 1997 in Baguio  
City and not July  
31, 1991 in Makati,  
Metro Manila;

9. This petition  
is not sought to con-  
ceal, mislead and mis-  
represent the  
petitioner's nor escape  
any obligation of what-  
ever nature and kind.  
On the contrary, this  
petition is sought to  
reflect the true and  
correct status of the  
minor child and to ap-  
prise the public of the  
true, correct and law-  
ful date and place of  
marriage of petitioner  
spouses.

WHEREFORE,  
premises considered, it  
is most respectfully  
prayed that after due  
notice, publication and  
hearing, the Honora-  
ble Court grants the  
petition by issuing an  
ORDER as follows:

1. Declaring  
the minor child,  
VINCENT REUBEN  
STA. ANAGUERRERO  
as LEGITIMATED.

2. To expunge  
from his record of birth  
the date and place of  
the marriage of his  
parents which is July  
31, 1991 in Makati,  
Metro Manila and in-  
stead the Date and  
Place of marriage of his  
parents which was sol-  
emnized on January  
28, 1997 in Baguio  
City be indicated.

Finding the  
Amended Petition to  
be sufficient in form  
and substance, let the  
same be heard before  
the Regional Trial  
Court, Branch 4,  
Baguio City, on De-  
cember 15, 2010, at 8:30  
o'clock in the morning,  
at which place date and  
time, the Petitioners  
shall prove her case.  
Any person interested  
may appear and show  
cause, if any there be,  
why said Petition  
should not be granted.

Let a copy of this  
Order be published at  
the expense of the Pe-  
titioner in The Junc-  
tion newspaper, a local  
newspaper of gen-  
eral circulation in  
Baguio City and  
Northern Luzon, once  
a week for three (3)  
consecutive weeks be-  
fore a foresaid hearing.

Furnish copies  
hereof together with a  
copy of the Petition and  
its annexes, to the Of-  
fice of the solicitor  
General, Makati city,  
the Local Civil Regis-  
trar of Baguio City, the  
Office of the City Pros-  
ecutor of Baguio, and  
the Petitioner and  
Counsel.

SO ORDERED.

GIVEN this 8<sup>th</sup> day of  
October, 2010, at  
Baguio City, Philip-  
pines.

By: (SDG) MIA JOY  
C. OALLARES-  
CAWED  
Presiding Judge

October 30, 2010 and  
November 6, 13,  
2010

## Religious Leaders Oppose STL.....from page 1

operations, but one operator admit-  
ted they are interested in the mar-  
ket of bettors in the city for its po-  
tential of earning millions in daily  
sales.

A jueteng cabo also said bet col-  
lectors and cabos during the opera-  
tion of jueteng are assured of jobs  
if STL is permitted to run in the city.

He exclaimed since its operation  
stopped, a lot of them are jobless.

PCSO representative Dancel  
said there is a big difference be-  
tween STL and jueteng but some  
sectors believe STL and jueteng is  
the same.

Bishop Cenzone however said we  
have created a monster in our midst,  
our own brothers and sisters are in-  
competent to earn a living because  
we have allowed that disease to  
spread.

Cenzone was referring to gam-  
bling as a "social disease" which is  
now deeply rooted.

If jueteng was not able to get le-  
galization, then there must be ques-  
tions, what are the reasons why  
jueteng is illegal up to now, we have  
to attack the root causes, he added.

He further stated, if we legalize  
that without covering the reasons  
that makes jueteng illegal then we  
are doing a cover up.

He stressed, we are riding on the  
STL which is legal to hide something  
that is stinking, so it's a moral prob-  
lem.

Imam Bedejim on the other hand  
stated the Islamic position on the  
matter quoting "intoxicants and gam-  
bling are the footsteps of the devil".

Malinaw po sa Islam na pinag-  
babawal ang pagsusugal, wether it  
is money or wealth, the point is its  
taking advantage of the hopelessness  
of people, taking advantage of oth-  
ers, he said.

He further quoted "not to legal-  
ize something which is illegal" even  
saying gambling according to Islam  
is a sign of desperation".

The committee on Laws will sub-  
mit its report for action by the city  
council soon.

Bottom line . . . the people will  
decide./paul rillorta

## Editorial

### ....from page 4

Analysis of past budgets show constant sources of savings were the Fisheries Modernization Program, as well as DepEd and Agriculture. Guess who were consistent recipients of savings?

The Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Fund. That's who. Savings were siphoned for "Christmas bonuses" and for perks by various government owned and controlled corporations."

The most notorious example set is the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) Trustees invented bonuses for themselves: mid-year, productivity, anniversary year end, meeting attendance, car loans. Other corporations followed suit.

"To have any meaningful impact, the Commission on Audit must forge stronger links with other agencies. COA must rely on the Ombudsman for investigation and prosecution. "But it is an institution that has a poor record in disposition of cases and convictions."

There will be popular support for budget. But for Arroyo to posture as leader only rubs salt in wounds left by theft. "They are not all saints who sprinkle holy water."/J.L.Mercado

## Mayor to push

### ....from page 2

amount for hauling the proposed budget for 2011 hoping that the new technology will be operational before the year ends.

He said that if the city fails to act on the new waste technology, then the proposed budget will have to be revised to include another budget for hauling.

What is worse, according to the mayor, the city will remain tied up with hauling service that has been depleting the city's resources.

The mayor has been pushing for the ERS technology which was selected by the City Solid Waste Management Board as the best and workable scheme offered to the city./A Refuerzo

## RDC Secom IPs

### ....from page 2

or share of IPs in the Cordillera from the National Wealth Tax, for the conservation of the watersheds in the region where the water powering hydro electric plants or dams are coming from.

Dalog's bill, on the other hand, bats for an amendment of Section 66 of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA), for the redefinition of 'host communities' to include those from the source of water of the hydro power plants.

The Cordillera Congressmen are also in one in pushing for a review of the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) processes as contained in the IPRA and for the harmonization of functions of all government agencies such as the NCIP, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) with regards to the region's IP sector./Lito Dar/PIA

## Senate Defense

### ....from page 2

soldier assigned to combat zones receives a measly sum of P240 per month.

In the proposed measure, soldiers assigned to tactical brigades and its combat compliments will receive an increase based on the category of danger they are in. Those assigned to the most hazardous areas shall receive 25 percent of a private's base pay, 15 percent for the more hazardous areas and 15 percent for the hazardous areas.

The current private base pay is P12,150.

"It has been 22 years since the AFP increased its combat pay for our soldiers. This is most timely given the increasingly hazardous duties our soldiers are facing in the service of our country coupled with inflation rates and higher cost of commodities and services. This will surely augment the salaries of those in the field whose one foot is already in the grave," Escudero explained.

At present, there are 88,075 soldiers receiving combat duty pay. The AFP currently allocates a total of P253 million for the combat duty of its eligible soldiers.

Once the measure is approved, the AFP needs a total of P2.5 billion to fund the proposed increase.

The defense committee is joined by the finance committee in pushing for the approval of the measure in the Senate./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

## Senator backs UP Law

### ....from page 2

saddens me to see how academic dissent is being suppressed now, at a time when our rights and freedoms have supposedly been restored," said Cayetano, a lawyer and alumna of the UP College of Law.

"As the last bastion of justice, the SC is expected to set the highest standards of integrity, credibility and professionalism. Unfortunately, the high court failed in this respect when it allowed a clear case of plagiarism within its ranks to go unpunished," she stressed.

Cayetano is referring to the SC's controversial decision in Vinuya vs. Executive Secretary, where several passages from eminent international legal scholars were lifted without proper attribution and used inappropriately in junking the petition of a group of war-time comfort women for the Philippine government to compel Japan to make a public apology and provide compensation.

"Plagiarism is a form of dishonesty that is taboo and frowned upon in any self-respecting institution. All our teachers, from grade school to college, have instilled in us the value that lifting works from others without properly acknowledging their source is improper, unethical, and merits grave punishment. Our teachers taught us to be honest, original and creative in our work. But I wonder what values will our young students learn from the questionable actions of the Supreme Court?" she concluded./Office Of Senator Pia Cayetano

## City Score One Over Vendor

### ....from page 3

[becoming] fire hazard."

"This situation is further confirmed by the Fire Safety Inspection Report by the Office of the City Fire Marshal."

She hammered the final nail citing Supreme Court Circular No. 68-94 which provides no court, "[S]hall have jurisdiction to issue any restraining order.... In any case, dispute or controversy involving an infrastructure project [of government]...."

Meanwhile, mediation before the Philippine Mediation Center (PMC) and Judicial Dispute Resolution (JDR) as to other aspects of the forcible entry and damages case scheduled November 3 and December 8, respectively, still stands./isl

## Agencies , NGOs Renew

### ....from page 3

Safe Harbor International Philippines Foundation, Inc.; and Bernard Balatian, president of Save our School Children Foundation and Philippine Information Agency Director Helen R. Tibaldo.

ACAN started as a network whose advocacy is to fight child abuse, 18 years ago with only 10 member agencies and through the years the network has been continuously expanding.

ACAN's vision is to have a community where every child is a happy child, protected and nurtured in an environment that is free from abuse, neglect and exploitation and provided with the opportunity to fully develop the child's potential towards becoming a productive member of the society.

It is the networks objective to provide timely, effective and efficient services that are responsive to needs of the needs of victims of abuse, manage cases with the least training and to stop abuse by promoting community awareness and advocacy programs against child abuse.

According to ACAN Chairperson Tabanda, a lot has been done to address the problem of child abuse and exploitation but much is still needed to be done which is why the network decided to call on its member agencies to renew their commitment and to invite other new agencies which would strengthen the efforts on ensuring the rights of the children against abused are protected.

"We, in the city council, have been trying to put sufficient legislation to protect our children from abuse though the strict implementation of such laws remains to be a challenge", Tabanda said.

"Hopefully with this renewal of commitment, maging active uli ang ating mga partner agencies and private organizations, not only with dealing with the victims of child abuse but also on the more important concern of preventing such case or incident to happen," Tabanda added.

Based on the data provided by ACAN, child abuse cases recorded in the city since 2002 is about 200 to 300 a year, with the lowest at 177 cases in 2004 and as high as 340 cases in 2008. These include sexually and physically abused children./Lito Dar/PIA



## Physical Integration Remains

....from page 3

of 47 per 1,000 population, a figure way below the national average of 70. It was also noted that 75 percent of the motor vehicles in the region are registered in the Baguio-Benguet areas leaving the remaining 25 percent of the fleet servicing the other five provinces of Cordillera.

Physical integration aims to enhance inter and intra regional access and linkage through a reliable and efficient transportation network and communications system to enhance the delivery of basic goods and services in the countryside while boosting regional trade and commerce, industry and tourism, Molintas pointed out.

In the same workshop, Benguet Governor Nestor Fongwan proposed to the RDC to focus on tourism in pushing for the development of the region and to encourage all local government units (LGUs) to also invest in tourism to trigger the economy and livelihood for the people even in the countryside.

In boosting the region's tourism sector, Fongwan also pushed for more pavement and road improvement projects for the region which should also include the upgrading of secondary roads to primary national roads and the improvement of alternate roads along Halsema Highway. /Lito Dar/PIA

## PRO-COR Report Decrease

....from page 12

October 25 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections compared to the May 10 national and local elections.

In the report, 62 persons including two government officials from Abra were arrested in the different provinces of the region for the violation of the COMELEC gun ban.

Baguio City topped the list with 26 persons followed by Abra with 22 while a suspect is still at large in Ifugao. Three cases were recorded in Apayao while Benguet and Kalinga have four cases each.

There were 32 firearms confiscated of which 19 are high powered firearms. There were also dynamites and blasting caps that were recovered by the REMAC operatives. No gun replicas, air gun or airsoft gun was confiscated, Mencio said.

The police force also confiscated 21 bladed weapons and mostly from Baguio City during the implementation of the gun ban.

In Resolution No. 9028, the COMELEC en banc reiterated the need to strictly enforce Sections 32 and 33 of Republic Act No. 7166, that states: "During the election period, no person shall bear, carry or transport firearms or other deadly weapons in public places, including any building, street, park, private vehicle or public conveyance, even if licensed to possess or carry the same, unless authorized in writing by the Commission. The issuance of firearms shall be suspended during the election period."

According to Mencio, shooting incidence were reported in Abra and Apayao resulting to the wounding of three individuals but the shooting to death of a candidate in

Abra was the only reported as an election related incident.

The ballot snatching and burning in barangay Baay, Pinukpuk, Kalinga was also the only election related violence that occurred during the election day on October 25./Redjie Cawis/PIA

## Senator Seeks

....from page 12

ledges in houses of ill fame; ruffians or pimps and those who habitually associate with prostitutes."

In removing the vagrant provision, Escudero said prostitution, however, shall continue to be punishable.

"Homeless people who are usually labeled as vagrants are more often than not victims of poverty and the lack of opportunities for employment. Thus decent standards of living and quality of life is inaccessible to them. This is what the law fails to see," Escudero explained.

The senator said vagrancy causes little or no damage to society.

"It is a minor infraction that is not motivated by malice but by some psychological disorders. It should therefore be addressed with treatment, rather than with punishment," he said.

The bill, Escudero said, provides equal protection to women, children and men as authorities cannot anymore recklessly and conveniently use vagrancy in arbitrary arrests.

"The current vagrancy act usually round up people who cannot really stand up for themselves. Decriminalization of vagrancy will give a more humane countenance on our justice system. The bill prioritizes the rehabilitation of the offender and acknowledges the value of every human life," Escudero said.

Escudero added that once passed into law, SBN 2367 will also decongest the load of the justice system, allowing our law enforcement people to pay more attention to graver offenses and improve the administration of justice in our land./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

## Peace and Order

....from page 7

do their share by strengthening the barangay tanod system to conduct night patrols within their communities.

Police chief Lacdan assured that they are looking into the city's crime problem and are refining their strategies to contain the situation.

He said the city police department has adopted a two-shift schedule of operation that requires policemen to work 12 hours each day.

He said this aims to maximize the policemen's working hours to make up of the shortage of personnel.

Lacdan said the present police protection ratio in the city is one cop to every 700 persons and this was based yet on the city's registered population excluding the transient inhabitants that double if not triple the city's

population during peak tourist season.

He said they received assurance that the city's request for additional personnel might be granted before December.

Police Station 7 Commander Larry Buansi reminded the public to also do their share by properly securing their own houses and valuables to keep thieves at bay.

Buansi's station is currently investigating the robbery incident that transpired at the City Hall last Wednesday where three offices were ransacked by still unidentified robbers.

The suspects reportedly used the same entry point and same modus operandi employed in a similar robbery case about the same time last year.

The city is still smarting from a series of robbery cases for the past days, two which occurred in churches.

The mayor and the city police acknowledged that the criminals have gotten bolder in committing these crimes thereby necessitating more aggressive counter measures and vigilance from both the lawmen and citizens alike./A Refuerzo

## OWWA Offers Financial

....from page 7

which they can get or access to the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Provincial Offices, or the OWWA registered OFW Family Circle in their areas or at the Migrant Desks, designated by their corresponding local government units, Laranang added.

For documentary requirements, applicants should present a certification from authorized official of their local government unit (either from the Office of the Mayor or Barangay Captain or from the Social Welfare and Development Office in their area) that their OFW family is severely or adversely affected by the typhoon Juan.

Applicants must also produce a copy of the OFW's Proof of OWWA Membership and a proof of relationship if the applicant is a dependent of an OFW member.

Meanwhile, Laranang announced that slots for their OFW Dependent Scholarship Program (ODSP) are still open for application. The ODSP is an expansion program of the baccalaureate scholarship program to qualified dependents of active OWWA member OFWs, who belong to the low income level or those who receive a monthly salary of not more than (US) \$400.

To qualify, an applicant must be a child of married or single parent OFW or a brother/sister of single or childless OFW, not more than 21 years of age and a high school graduate or even if already enrolled in college. OFW must be active OWWA member who receives a monthly salary of not more than US \$400.

Qualified beneficiaries will be entitled to educational financial assistance of P20,000 a year, Laranang said.

CAR is given 80 slots for this program. So far, there are still 20 slots in Mountain Province, 10 in Ifugao, nine in Apayao, eight in Kalinga, eight in Abra and three in Baguio-Benguet area—that are still open or not have yet been filled up, Laranang said./Lito Dar/PIA

## BFF 2011 launching on Nov. 15, advance schedule released

BAGUIO CITY – The 16<sup>th</sup> version of the Baguio Flower Festival shall be launched on Monday, November 15 after the flag-raising ceremony at the city hall grounds as activities for February 2011 was released by the Panagbenga Secretariat last week.

The public is invited to join the preliminary activities, as announced by Mayor Mauricio Domogan during an earlier regular media forum.

For the launching ceremonies, Baguio Metamorphosis, the graceful dance group with colorful butterfly-like costumes which made it to the top five of Pilipinas Got Talent contest, shall perform.

Congressman Bernardo Vergara shall give his message as Mayor Mauricio Domogan declares the opening of Panagbenga 2011.

The logo and theme for next year's celebration shall also be unveiled by Baguio Country Club General Manager Anthony de Leon and Frederico Alquiros.

Winners of the Flower Run done earlier during the day shall be awarded, followed by an intermission by the University of the Cordilleras dance troupe.

As sponsor for

the Flag-raising ceremonies, Baguio City Police Office personnel shall lead in the singing of the Baguio Hymn and March, while the Philippine Military Academy Cadets and Band shall execute the entry of colors and Pambansang Awit.

A press conference follows at the Multi-Purpose Hall.

In the evening, Manila Pop and Baguio Metamorphosis shall be featured in a concert at SM City Events Center. Fireworks shall end the day.

Panagbenga activities are slated this coming February with a colorful grand opening parade followed immediately by the Market Encounter on Feb. 1 to March 6 where plants and flowers are the main products, the Let A Thousand Flowers Bloom painting event shall be on Feb. 12, the Pre-Valentine Event and Fluvial Float Parade on Feb. 13, the multi-sectoral Grand Street Parade on Feb. 26 and Float parade on Feb. 27.

Session Road in Bloom with flower-themed products shall be featured on Feb. 28 to Mar 6 along the city's main thoroughfare. Cowboys from Mines View, Pacdal, Country

Club and those from La Trinidad shall join the festivities on March 2 for Pony Boys' Day.

March 3 to 5 is reserved for the Central North Luzon Tourism Fair, where exhibitor-participants from Regions 1, 2, 3 and Cordillera region converge at the Baguio Country Club to showcase their products. Less than a hundred booths are expected for the event.

The grand losing ceremonies on March 6 shall feature awards for winning floral-themed activities, participating floats, displays, gardens, landscapes, and institutions. A fireworks display, Flowers in the Sky, shall close the event in the evening.

Since the Chinese New Year and PMA Alumni Homecoming are often observed in the month of February, said events are included in the Baguio Flower Festival activities. Other novel activities are expected to be slated with traditional ones.

Interested individuals or groups may contact the Panagbenga Secretariat Office Baguio Convention and Visitors Bureau (BCVB) at Abad Santos Drive, Burnham Park, Baguio City, Telefax (+6374) 442-4315, or their internet site: [panagbengasoc@bcbv.com](mailto:panagbengasoc@bcbv.com) / [juliegfianza](mailto:juliegfianza)

## PRO-COR Reports Decrease In Comelec Gun Ban Violations

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - The Police Regional Office Cordillera reported decrease in the cases of violation of Commission on Elections Resolution

9028 or the Gun ban that ended last Wednesday, November 10.

Regional Election Monitoring Action Center Head,

PSupt. John Paul Mencio, noted that there has been a significant decrease of cases of gun ban and other election related incidents in the Cordillera region for the

**Cont. on page 11**



**CITY HALL RANSACKED!!!** - For the nth time, the offices of Steno and Clerical Division and the offices of Councilor Elmer Datuin, Ysabel de Vera and and Nicasio Palaganas located at the West Wing of City Hall building was robbed carting away two computer monitors, a digital camera and undetermined amount of cash inspite of posted security guards and installation of monitoring cameras and movement sensors to secure the area. Photo shows Scene of the Crime Operatives (SOCO) and Police investigators conduct an investigation/By Bong Cayabyab

## Senator Seeks To Decriminalize Vagrancy

As the holiday season ushers and homeless people start flooding the metropolis, Senator Chiz Escudero wants vagrancy totally removed from society in Senate Bill No. 2367 he filed to decriminalize it.

Escudero, chairman of the Senate committee on justice and human rights, said the proposed bill now defines vagrants as circumscribed under Article 202 of the Revised Penal Code.

Under the law, vagrants are defined as "any person found loitering in public or semi-public buildings or places or trampling

or wandering about the country or the streets without visible means of support; any idle or dissolute person who

**Cont. on page 11**

### RESEARCH & STATISTICS

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