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WEEKEND

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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

PNOY-SM Ink "Deed Of Absolute Sale" Over Luneta Hill Realty



BAGUIO CITY – A Deed of Absolute Sale (DAS) dated September 16 has been signed between the national government and SM Investments Corporation over a 31, 688 sq. m. lot where SM-Baguió now stands despite overlapping city and private interests.

The information was conveyed by one SM Mall manager Marc Janssen Pe to City Building and Architecture Office (CBAO) chief Oscar Flores in a letter dated October 15 purportedly for securing a building permit.

It could be remembered the City Council committee on lands in 2008 was tasked to investigate how SM acquired the property despite adverse claims.

The investigation was sparked by privilege speeches of erstwhile councilor Rocky Balisong. The former alderman maintained the cyber building lot (fronting Sunshine Park) is owned by Placido Carantes.

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TRAFFIC-CAUSING "HUKAY" AT MAGSAYSAY - The "hukay" project of good roads at the Magsaysay Avenue is causing super heavy traffic for commuters from La Trinidad to Baguio City, traffic in the area takes an average of 40 minutes to three hours depending on the time of the day prompting concerned citizens to write several complaint letters to editors of local newspapers "attacking" certain local government officials, and posting their disgust over the project and the inconvenience it's causing on numerous facebook pages. Cong. Vergara denies the project is his and said it is by the national government, he said it is libelous for people to say that the project is his doing and that he is receiving kickbacks from it./Grace Bandoy

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40 Cordillera Police Complete Criminal Investigation Course **page 12**

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Cordillera Health Facilities to Get P440m in 2012.....P3

Bakit Mr. President P-NOY, Deed of Sale agad, hindi pa naman natapos and mga pagsusuri na legal!?!?

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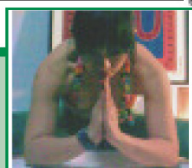
Mayor: Still 'No' to Sale of Pyros in City **page 2**



MOSH PIT

Taumbayan?: (Bungal sa Magsaysay) kay Vergara na naman ba 'to? Grabeng nakaka traffic! Perwisyo sa araw araw ito!

BY: GRACE BANDOY



ADVOCACY MINDANOW

If i were a cabinet member

BY: JESUS DUREZA



DSWD not in Favor of Lowering Age of Criminal Responsibility Among Children

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) rejected proposals to lower the age of criminal responsibility from 15 years old to nine, saying that children in conflict with the law (CICL) are also victims of circumstances.

DSWD Cordillera regional director Leonard Reynoso emphasized that most CICLs are those neglected and lacked parental love and guidance, those who come from impoverished and dysfunctional families whose parents are jobless or separated, whose environment is filled with violence or whose community is tolerant of offending crimes as their normal way of living.

Reynoso explained that the government's primary concern is the best interest of the child; it needs a multi-sector approach from government, non-government groups, and the community to give a better rehabilitative intervention for CICLs.

He said that the so-called "restorative justice" enshrined in the law believes that children have the capacity to embrace reform and change moral values with parental care and guidance from the community.

Children deserve to live the best of their childhood and that juvenile justice does not mean exempting a child from any form of accountability. They are not entirely or absolutely free of accountability but a different justice system is prescribed by law, Reynoso added.

Five years ago, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act (JJWA) of 2006 or Republic Act 9344 was enacted to address the problem on Filipino children languishing in jails and living in inhumane conditions and cruel treatment. Within the framework of restorative justice, RA 9344 provides that children are exempt from criminal responsibility but need to undergo appropriate intervention programs designed in consideration of several factors such as circumstances of the child, needs of the child, influences of the environment, and willingness of the parents to supervise the child.

The DSWD has rehabilitation facilities nationwide that cater to CICLs. In the region, the Regional Rehabilitation Center for the Youth (RRCY) located in Sablan, Benguet currently houses 12 children. The DSWD also works with local government units through local social welfare and development offices for community-based CICLs./JDP/JBZ- PIA CAR

Council Commends Balanag

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan last week has approved the council commendation for Baguio Boy and film director Ferdinand John Longman Balanag, for his works in arts and culture and participation in community work.

In the resolution, it was stated that Balanag won the River Pursuit Award, as Best First

Full Feature Documentary; and River Amulet Award, as Best Director South Asian Filmmaker Category, both in the Silent River Film Festival held in Irvine, California; and the Golden Ace Award, as Best Documentary in the 2010 Las Vegas Film Festival.

"It is appropriate to give recognition to the accomplishments of people who made outstanding

performance in their respective fields bringing honor to the city," members of the council collectively stated.

The city council resolution cited the documentary directed by Balanag, "Walking the Walking Journey," the story of a Tibetan monk who, in year 2000 rescued children from poor living conditions. Cont. on page 10

Mayor: Still 'No' to Sale of Pyros in City

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan this week has reiterated his call for a total ban of pyrotechnic products sale and use in the city.

Domogan believes firecrackers most especially those sold illegally have been major causes of loss of lives and limbs and damage to properties.

'City Ordinance No. 53 which regulates the sale of firecrackers and pyrotechnics in the city needs to be amended', Domogan said citing the lack of provisions in the ordinance which will give power to law enforcers to confiscate this items bought outside the city.

The mayor also expressed hope that a total ban on fireworks and pyrotechnics will be implemented nationwide.

Domogan also dismissed claims that he has approved some sectors request for a conduct of fireworks display in some shopping malls in the city.

'I did not issue any permit to anybody', Domogan said during the Weekly Ugnayan presser.

He further said that it's the city Council's decision if they will allow vendors to sell pyrotechnics or not as per their letter request addressed to the council this week.

'I hope the council will study the ordinance', he added and we will wait for the latest pronouncement of the Department of Health regarding firecrackers, he added./paul rillorta

Honest-to-Goodness Waste Management System Pushed in Barangays

BAGUIO CITY – Barangays should adopt and implement their own comprehensive solid waste management system, Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas and Councilor Peter Fianza urged in a proposed resolution last week.

The aldermen said that "barangays should realize that they can change the system (of being dependent on the waste management policies directed by the city) and for the better."

"With their own management system giving true meaning to reduction at

source and resource recovery, the Barangays will be able to generate income while instilling discipline on the basis of the principle, 'the more you throw, the more you pay,'" they said.

In their proposal, the proponents cited the "pow-

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P1.15B City Budget Proposed for 2012

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan has proposed an executive budget of P1,146,957,000 for 2012.

The proposed budget is higher by five percent or P54,862,000 from last year's financial plan of P1,092,095,000.

The mayor earlier said they opted for a conservative increase in next year's budget in anticipation of Cont. on page 10

City Eyes Privatization of Waste Collection

BAGUIO CITY – The city government will pursue the privatization of waste collection but will not lay off the 98

city employees currently serving in the solid waste division, Mayor Mauricio Domogan announced on Wednesday.

The mayor

said the city realized the advantages of allowing a private company to undertake the collection based on the on-going ex-

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Pigeon Pea Good for Erosion Control

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet)— The International Crops Research Institute for Semi-arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is advocating the planting of pigeon pea or “kardis” in Ilocano or “kadios” in Tagalog to help to prevent soil erosion and to protect and preserve the rapidly deteriorating watersheds in the different parts of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).

According to Dr. Myer Mula, a scientist of ICRISAT, growing “kardis” is a profitable venture for thousands of farmers while helping in the preservation and protection of the environment.

Pigeon pea is a fast growing cash crop with four feet long roots, which based on studies, is ideal for holding loosened soil and subsequently preventing soil erosion which usually occurs in denuded mountains thereby posing a serious threat to life and limbs.

Mula explained that pigeon pea has also been proven to condition the soil already stripped of minerals due to decades of farming which is the major source of livelihood of most people based in various parts of the region.

Benguet State University's food processing center has recently partnered with pigeon pea growers region-wide to develop ways to make use of the seeds as an ingredient in baked food and other products.

Aside from being a mitigating factor for soil erosion and a source of livelihood for farmers, pigeon pea's wood can be harvested as fuel which has a good burning efficiency compared to other firewood./JDP/JBZ PIA CAR

Cordillera Health Facilities to Get P440m in 2012

BAGUIOCITY - Financial risk protection and access to quality in-patient and out-patient health care services for the poor families in the country as well as the attainment of the Philippines' commitment to the Health related Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) are the key focus of the Aquino Health Agenda of 'Kalusugan Pangkalahatan' (KP).

Thus, stressed Department of Health- Cordillera (DOH-CAR) Health Policy Development Program consultant, Dr. Ryan Guinaran, in a kapihan forum at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC) Auditorium, Wednesday.

In line with the access to quality health care services for the poor Filipino families, Guinaran stressed the DOH is now continuously improving and upgrading the health facilities all over the country and if plans pushes through, the Cordillera health facilities will be getting about P440 million fund for infrastructure and equipment

upgrades for 2012.

“First on the list for the infrastructure and equipment upgrading will be the DOH retained hospitals, then the provincial hospitals and the Rural Health Units (RHUs), in line with the government's goal of providing access, safe and quality in-patient and out-patient health care services, especially, to the poor families here in the region”, Guinaran said.

For financial risk protection, Guinaran also stressed that the government, through the DOH will be enrolling to Philhealth all the 79,816 poor families in Cordillera, as identified by the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR).

To help ensure that access of quality health care for the poor families in the region, Guinaran also affirmed that there is now an inter-agency convergence effort between the DOH along with its

attached agencies, DSWD, the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), for the organization and mobilization of community health teams in every part of the region especially to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) areas.

“The community health teams will help strengthen our ‘Kalusugan Pangkalahatan’ programs, as they will help in informing our poor families about the government's health care programs and to guide them in accessing such health care programs”, she said.

Guinaran also affirmed that the DOH, in partnership with local chief executives, hired 887 nurses, under the RN-HEALS (Registered Nurse for Health Enhancement and Local Service) to provide assistance on government hospitals and RHUs in Cordillera, as well as to assist the community health teams, in ensuring the access of quality health care to the poor families in the region.

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Dental and Medical mission at Barangay Bakakeng Central held on the last week of October spearheaded by PB Helen Miranda wherein hundreds of Barangay residents attended the affair. Sponsors were the Red Cross, Baguio Health Department and Baguio Dental Association./Photo by Bombito Aquino

Health Personnel Train on Handling Emergencies

BAGUIOCITY — The Philippines is among the top five countries in terms of the number of natural disasters and the province of Benguet is a natural hazard area due to its terrain and climate that many lives had been lost due to calamities.

This prompted the Disaster Management Team of Benguet General Hospital (BeGH) and the Provincial Health Office (PHO), in coordination with Department of Health (DOH) Cordillera, to train their personnel on victim management to prepare them for surge of patients at the hospital during emergencies and disasters.

According to DOH Director Myrna Cabotaje, the objective of the event is to train the hospital personnel on Basic Life Support (BLS) with bandaging, splinting, patient transport and patient packaging to properly manage victims in times of emergencies and disasters.

In addition Cabotaje said, hospital workers should be equipped with the needed knowledge in responding to mass casualties during disasters, especially identifying designated tasks of the different hospital personnel to establish post conferences after events.

Paeng Valencia of 911 On Call, who assisted the training, said there are about 37 health workers who joined the training and were given a scenario of a vehicular accident as their workshop.

Interested groups, individuals, local government units and especially the barangay should training on how to attend properly the victims or casualties in time of disaster, calamities and accidents because they are the first to arrive in the site of accident, Valencia added. /JDP/JBZ- PIA CAR

DFA, POEA Clarify Deployment Ban Issue

BAGUIOCITY - As the region expects the influx of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) to go home for vacation this Yuletide Season, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) and the Department Foreign Affairs (DFA) regional offices assure the delivery of quality service to migrant workers.

On the concerns of kin or relatives of

OFWs on the recently released POEA list of 41 other countries that said to have deployment ban, POEA and DFA also both affirmed that such deployment ban was already deferred by the government.

These assurances were made by POEA Regional Director Delfina Camarillo and DFA Regional Director Edgar Canta, during the PIA Hour radio program over radio station DZWT,

Thursday.

According to Camarillo, at present only the countries of Libya, Syria and Afghanistan have existing deployment ban for OFWs.

Camarillo also explained that the said POEA October 28 released deployment ban list, is pursuant to Republic Act (RA) 10022 of 2009, which amends RA 8042 - otherwise known as Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of

No Perfect World

"What kind of an animal is an ATS?" snapped journalist Jerry Tundag. Many came to know about "areas of temporary stay" only after the 18 October firefight in Basilan.

Moro Islamic Liberation Front troops, from nearby Al-Barkha "gunned down 19 soldiers seeking to serve warrants on Dan Laksaw Asnawi and companions. Six soldiers were captured, and executed. Their bodies were mutilated.

Asnawi led a 2007 clash where 10 Marines were later found beheaded. Killers using cellphones of the dead Marines taunted their families. Asnawi escaped from a Basilan jail in 2009. MILF has dragged it's feet, so far, in having warrants served on Asnawi and group.

The Koran forbids desecration of the dead. Even if it didn't, both the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

EDITORIAL

and Crimes
Against
International

Humanitarian Law. (RA 9851) prohibit wanton killing of detainees, Inquirer's Raul C Pangalangan points out.

MILF spokesmen ducked the mutilation issue by blaming "miscommunication". "By taking part in a cover up, it invites application of the principle of command responsibility," Pangalangan cautioned. Even if actual killers are not identified, commanding officers can be punished.

The Philippines ratified the ICC two months ago. So, bring MILF before the ICC. UP professor Harry Roque earlier suggested. It still "leaves the Philippine government enough wiggle room to talk peace without forsaking justice."

By happenstance, the Al-Barkah massacre occurred before the Philippines and 13 Asian countries meet in Kyoto, to buttress existing mechanisms "to protect victims of armed conflicts... and promote strict observance of international humanitarian law."

The roundtable will consider the Additional Protocols I and II to the Geneva Convention, explained the convenors, namely: the International Committee of the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There are 171 States that are party to API and 166 to API II, Ambassador Hideaki Ueda explained.

At Kuala Lumpur informal talks Thursday, both government and MILF agreed that: Investigations of the Al-Barkha incident, through cease-fire mechanisms, shall continue." RP negotiator Marivic Leonen said MILF reaffirmed pledges to "interdict kidnap-for-ransom groups, criminal syndicates and lost commands..."

Nakilala sa gawa ang totooanang dakila, the old Pilipino proverb says. "Deeds show what a man is." The Al-Barkha massacre meanwhile stokes fury — and probing questions.

Government "flirts with the status of a 'failed state', if MILF abuses "ATS", Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago warned. Sen. Panfilo Lacson pins ATS to an agreement, signed in Indonesia, between government and MILF under Fidel Ramos' watch. Sen. Francis Escudero frets ATS could trigger a fiasco like the 2008 Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) in 2008.

Do ATS whittle down the nation's sovereignty? Let's get the facts right first. Judge Soliman M. Santos, Jr. suggests in a new paper: "Of ATS And Other Spaces".

UP Press published Santos' "Constitutional Rethinking for the Mindanao Peace Process in 2002. He authored (2011) "In Defense of and Thinking Beyond the GRP-MILF's memorandum on ancestral domiain. He co-authored "Primed and Purposeful" a study of armed groups and human security efforts in the Philippines.

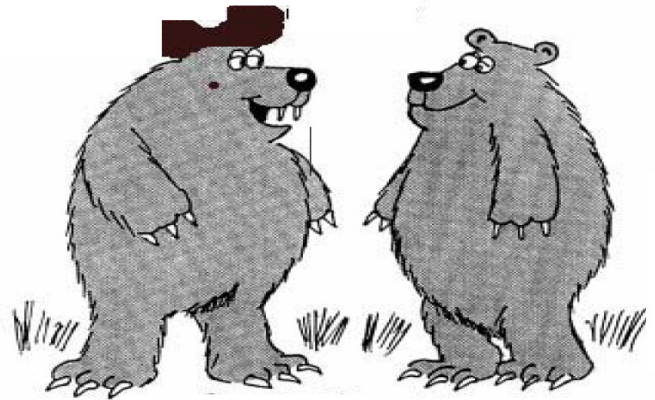
Peace talks started in early 1997. The agreement in Indonesia during the Ramos administration (1992-98 dealt with the Moro National Liberation Front.)

The 6 May 2002 Joint Communique, issued in Malaysia, saw GRP and MILF agree "on coordinated and joint isolation and interdiction" of criminals. This included so-called "lost commands" operating in Mindanao, as may be found in "MILF areas/communities." Implementing guidelines were issued December.

There is no definition of ATS in any peace document. Santos notes. It developed as an ad hoc arrangement on the ground. MILF forces and families backed away where AFP cracked down" on criminals. "You will never get that kind of cooperation from the New People's Army [NPA] with its guerrilla fronts."

Both arrangement and operation are time-bound They were to be coordinated by the Committees

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"TIM - WE'VE GOT TO GET TOGETHER
SOMETIME I KNOW THIS GREAT LITTLE
IRISAN GARBAGE DUMP

THE PEACE COMBATANT

*Agenda: Opening of classes
and Christmas*

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



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

November signifies several important tasks for our local officials.

One important significance of November is that schools, particularly universities, open during the month. Large mass of students will be trooping to the Baguio City for enrollment, looking for a place to stay for the semester, and settling in one of the dormitories or boarding houses of the city. Perhaps, the first order of business this November is to remind the drivers of mini and large buses to check their buses for road-worthiness. Buses may be a responsibility of the Department of Transportation but the responsibility of our local officials should focus on the safety of the students as well.

This is not a one-way arrangement. Baguio City also benefits if parents come to have faith in concern of our local officials for their sons and daughters. The place of Baguio City as an educational center is assured. This can also translate as a public image that can be built on Baguio City. This can mean more money for the City and her citizens. However, before the money, our city officials must initiate ways through which the bus companies are checked for the roadworthiness of the buses. Drivers must be checked for discipline, credentials, and the like. Surely, unnecessary deaths can be prevented through preventive measures. Although I am not claiming to have really looked at the data and applied my statistics, perhaps at least five or ten people are usually reported to die every year from road mishaps in Marcos Highway, Naguillian Road, and Kennon Road.

Of course, we should check on the usual. Pickpockets usually go with the crowd. By more than 100%, pickpockets will at the bus stations, market, Session Road, perhaps even in SM, and in all places of the city. We must be alert for this especially because the students will be carrying with them their tuition money and perhaps their one or two months' allowance when they come up.

Next, we go to the dormitories and boarding houses. Perhaps we should check again the boarding houses and dormitories for possible risks to our students. One possible risk, of course, and as usual, is fire. Thus, we must check on the dormitories and boarding houses for possible failure to adhere to our city's safety standards (hopefully or probably there are). Related to the preceding, perhaps we should also check on the places of leisure where students converge for possible risk to safety. For example, perhaps it was in the Ozone disco in Manila, were the largest number of students died because of a fire. Perhaps, we should check against this possibility in Baguio City.

Of course, November is also the month wherein we plan for Christmas. Will we be having another fake snow this season just like the last one? Government programs and projects are opportunities for graft. Perhaps, it is now the turn of the city's citizens to check on their public officials. Will our city officials propose a very big budget for a Christmas program? The largest the expenditure, the larger the cut. Earlier studies of anti-cor-

Cont. on page 7

ADVOCACY MINDANOW

If i were a cabinet member

BY: JESUS DUREZA



Since I started a series of "IF I WERE..." for several weeks now in my weekly column, I'll continue the sequel. This time, it will be: if I were a Cabinet member now.

AWKWARD? — May I make though a cautionary note at the very outset. I was a bit comfortable in my two previous pieces "If I Were the President" and "If I Were MILF" simply because I was not and could never be one of either. But now that I am writing about being a Cabinet member, I really have this awkward feeling considering that I was once in the president's cabinet before and my "IF I WERE..." this time may be misconstrued as if I am showing off that I know better and that I did not have my own shortcomings then. Let me just say that I have culled these thoughts by reminding myself of a few specific challenges and what I did — rightly or wrongly — while serving the nation in the Cabinet of former President Arroyo. I recall that I acted then on the basis of my own personal sense of propriety — or impropriety — as the case may be. It must be said that these judgment calls were mine alone based on factors and situations then obtaining. They may not be the same today.

Nevertheless, let me share my thoughts.

AS CHIEF NEGOTIATOR — That feeling of discomfort aside, allow me first to relate my own experience. In 2001 and upon her assumption, I was appointed by PGMA as Chairman of the Government Panel Negotiating with the MILF with a concurrent position of Chairman of what was before the Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCO) now, Mindanao Development Authority (MINDA). The reason for my wearing two hats then was because PGMA knew that doing both peace and development simultaneously and in the same track at the same time, and personally handled by a Mindanaoan, was the most logical and workable way forward in Mindanao due to its unique situation. I cannot forget her always emphasizing: "Jess, don't forget this: peace and development must come hand in hand, not one after the other." To PGMA's credit, she had a clear and focused (laser-like, she would usually say) vision for Mindanao.

UNFORTUNATE DISAGREEMENT — As Chairman for the GRP panel, together with my team, and the President giving strategic directions, I helped negotiate and craft the milestone agreements of the Agreement for Peace in Tripoli, Libya in 2001, the Agreements on Development, Ceasefire and other protocols in Malaysia that became the cornerstones of the still on-going peace engagement with the MILF.

Things progressed, although slowly but surely. About two years into my work, in 2003, there was an unfortunate disagreement caused by my refusal to sign one document after a peace meeting in Kuala Lumpur. This was during the aftermath of the AFP attack on MILF Chairman Hashim Salamat's enclave in Buliok, Pikit. I will not disclose for the moment the specifics of that incident, except to say that due to my firm position in refusing to sign the document (which I instead annotated with corrections that I thought were vital and necessary and which the MILF strongly protested) I realized that by doing so, I squandered some amount of personal goodwill needed to be an effective chief negotiator vis-a-vis the MILF and the Malaysian facilitator. They were expectedly unhappy — if not angry — at the firm position I took. I felt then that my continued stay as Panel Chair became untenable.

So, after much thought, I quietly tendered my resignation to PGMA as Panel Chair and went back home to Davao to continue my development work at MEDCO then. I found the right "excuse" when the MILF attacked Sioco town of Zamboanga del Norte during its fiesta celebration that year of 2003.

AS PEACE ADVISER — I returned to direct peace process work again 3 years after that resignation, in 2006 when I was appointed to fill the vacancy left with the resignation of Secretary Ging Deles with the so-called Hyatt 10 group. Instead of doing direct negotiations, I served as Cabinet Oversight Official to the peace talks with the MILF, CPP/NPA/NDF and other groups and took care of other peace process tasks. Mark this please: peace talks is only one path to peace. There are a total of 6 paths to peace, negotiations being only — altho important — one of them.

I clearly recall that due to that "bad experience" with the MILF and the Malaysians that triggered my resignation 3 years earlier, I kept a respectable distance from the Panel work. I was even "nicely" informed that the Malaysians **Cont. on page 9**

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

SBMA failures; GMA doctors' fees; global warming

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... 'Come now, let us settle the matter,' says the LORD. 'Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool'..." (Isaiah 1:18, the Holy Bible).

-ooo-

SBMA OFFICIALS SHOULD RESIGN OVER INVESTMENT DROP: Here is one bad news from the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA): foreign direct investments (FDIs) in that freeport for the first nine months of 2011 dropped a whopping 99.21 percent. From US\$1.12 billion for the same period in 2010, only US\$8.8 million came in as FDIs from January to September 2011.

Regardless of what happened here, this should compel whoever is leading SBMA to resign immediately, and allow other more competent people to steer the agency towards its vital role as a business center that could generate revenues for the government and steady income for Filipinos.

To me, the almost 100 percent drop in foreign direct investments in SBMA could only mean lackadaisical performance from SBMA officers, something that should not be allowed to go on. Otherwise, there maybe a need to close SBMA altogether, as it has clearly lost its reason for being.

-ooo-

WHY SHOULD THE GOV'T SPEND FOR GMA'S DOCTORS? If the Aquino government will shoulder the expenses for bringing in foreign doctors who will treat Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, where will it get the money for this enterprise? I am sure the government will be able to find the money to pay for the doctors and to bring them to the Philippines, but then, why should government money be used for a purely private undertaking?

There are other Filipinos out there who are having health and other problems of their own, equally debilitating as Gloria's health problems, and yet, the government is not doing anything for them similar to what it plans to do for the former president. I say, if foreign medical experts are to be flown in to treat Gloria, let her spend for it.

-ooo-

GLOBAL WARMING AND ITS SPIRITUAL SOLUTIONS: Now, we have an official confirmation that efforts of rich and powerful countries at fighting global warming and climate change yielded nothing at all: Pierre Calame, the director of the French humanitarian group Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation, said so, in a press briefing in Manila.

Calame said: "The first decennium of the 21st century has witnessed repeated failures (in the fight against global warming and climate change)." So he is urging the Philippines to lead Asia and the rest of the developing world in pushing for meaningful changes in the approach to global warming during the Earth Summit in Brazil in 2012.

This is a wonderful honor, but how should the Philippines do it? Evidently, all the plans and programs of the rich and the mighty of the world failed, so the Philippines cannot just repeat those plans and programs all over again. It should come up with something else — perhaps, finding a solution from the spiritual and Biblical perspectives?

-ooo-

BIBLICAL CHARACTERS, III: After God, and after Adam and Eve, the next important Biblical character, introduced under Chapter 3 of Genesis, is the "serpent", described as "more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made" and which was responsible for making Adam and Eve commit the first-ever sin of disobeying God. Can anyone tell me why was it necessary for God to create the "serpent"? Email me at batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

Notice To The Public

Want to know more about the cult —Jehovah's Witness

visit the website <http://carm.org/jehovahs-witnesses>

This advertisement is paid for by Pastor Jules Samaniego of the Good Samaritan Everlasting Christian Ministry

Email : gsecministry@yahoo.com

1st-APLUMA!

Solomonic

Our headline is an adjective with which the dictionary defines as (1) a word of or pertaining to King Solomon and (2) wise or reasonable in character: e.g., a Solomonic decision.

And that seems to be what President Noy seemingly opted in coming up with the decision on CGMA's plea to seek medical treatment abroad.

Well, the Department of Justice under Sec. Leila de Lima simply turned it down on reasons of "national interest" while President Noy offered to bring in doctors from abroad if that's what CGMA wishes to have foreign medical experts to look after her ailment.

That's safe a decision to have while solomonic in character and could somewhat save President Noy face and polish off public sentiment.

A little toast to his advisers.

Indeed, there is a touch of humanitarianism in there but the truth is President Noy simply shot down the camp of CGMA's plea for her to seek treatment abroad for all intents and purposes of keeping her in the country to face the perceived legal questions she may have both real and imagined.

One of these was raised/pled by Sen. Koko Pimentel purportedly on large scale graft and corruption.

And that, in any court, would be a case filed under CGMA vs The People of the Philippines.

But whatever effort President Noy has at glossing over public sentiment of keeping CGMA in, the Catholic Church has shown more heart than him by coming up with the statement it favors more to heed the request of CGMA.

And of course, former first gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo slammed President Aquino for turning down the travel request of former President on reasons of "national interest."

FG said that this "unmasks the present government for what it really is: a bunch of schoolyard bullies who have no platform of government aside from exacting street vengeance for perceived wrongs while running roughshod over legal processes designed to prevent governmental excesses."

But with the number of Catholic bishops, even as some of whom are Arroyo's fiercest critics before, warned the Aquino administration's disapproval of her petition to seek medical treatment abroad could "boomerang" on them.

Archbishop Emeritus Oscar Cruz said he believed that the government should allow Arroyo to travel abroad to prevent chaos should something "really bad" happen to her.

When wise men say something, we should lend an ear.

Let's wait and see. 1st-APLUMA (1st-Alliance of Provincial Newspaper Publishers)

TESDA offers 1050 Scholarship slots for Baguio-Benguet

BAGUIO CITY — Mayor Mauricio Domogan announced that the scholarship slots committed by Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Director General Joel Villanueva are now available.

Domogan said that TESDA Provincial Director Angela Gabriel informed his office that TESDA is now ready to accept interested applicants who are willing to undergo the Training for Work Scholarship program (TWSP).

There are 29

slots available for the 2D Animation3 and 51 slots for animation NC2. The training will be conducted at the Cordillera School of Digital arts located at Room B-212 Lopez Bldg., Session Road, Baguio City.

He added that there are 397 slots for call center agents and 175 slots for housekeeping NC2 to be conducted at the Global Technical Institute Philippines, Inc. located at Magsaysay Ave.

Domogan likewise stated that there are also 100 slots for slaughtering opera-

tions NC2 which will be conducted at the MMS Development Training Center located at the Porta Vaga mall.

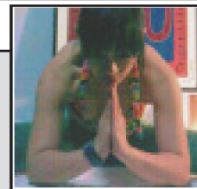
300 slots are also needed for finishing course for Medical Transcription to be held at the Center for Technical Excellence Integrated School located at Kisad Road, Baguio City, he added.

To qualify for the TWSP, applicants must be high school graduate, at least 18 years old, and must come from the family qualified under the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program.

MOSH PIT

Taumbayan?: (Bungkal sa Magsaysay) kay Vergara na naman ba 'to?
Grabeng nakaka traffic! Perwisyo sa araw araw ito!

BY: GRACE BANDOY



Taumbayan: Matinong sementadong kalsada sa Magsaysay,

Binungkal bungkal at walang sawang hinuhukay,

Sinirang makapal na sementadong daan –

Saan kaya itatapon at ilalaan?

Sayang naman ang inayos dati,

Yun pala eh sisirain din mamaya konti,

Wala na ba ibang paglaanan ang milyong milyong pera ng bayan?

Sa ayos – sira project lang ang kanilang nalalaman?

Traffic na dulot nito sa taumbayan sobrang nakakaperwisyo,

Sino na naman kaya mga salarin sa gagong project na 'to?

DPWH and Vergara na naman kaya ang behind sa project na animo loko?

Taumbayan nagtatanong lang po....

Vergara: "...to lambast one's integrity and reputation is indeed uncalled for, reckless, and at its best, libelous.."

Kanyang mabuting pangalan dinudungisan daw ni taumbayan?!

Reklamo ni taumbayan ay pawang walang katotohanan?!

"..the project along Magsaysay Avenue as you mentioned, isn't part of the undersigned's

Priority Development Project but part and parcel of the national government's lump-sum

grant to the city.."

Hindi po sa kanya ang project sa Magsaysay

Kaya reklamo ng taumbayan sa kanya'y tila walang saysay?

"...to besmirch and malign someone's reputation by way of stating "kickbacks" on

these projects that aren't even mine to begin with, are indeed serious, irresponsible,

and ridiculous statements and an outright defamation to the undersigned.."

Wala daw po siyang kickback sa project na 'yan pagkat sa national nga?

Wala daw po siyang kita coz ang project nga ay hindi kanya?

Kaya taumbayan walang karapatan magsalita...?

Wag magsalita ng mga mapanira!?

Against kay Congressman coz siya nga ay inosente pala....

"..I urge you therefore to present all your indictments to the proper courts or authorities and not hide under comfort of anonymity. Otherwise, I should take remedial measures to counter such slanderous pronouncements to clear my name..."

Magpakilala daw dapat ang mga nagrereklamo,

At sa harap niya ang mga sabihi'y isiwalat niyo,

At kung hindi eh gagawa siya ng paraan para mahanap kayo?!

Upang kanyang pangalan malinis sa publiko?

At patunayang wala siyang kinita sa project na nasambit niyo?

Coz ang project daw po ay sa national na gobyerno,

Kaya taumbayan dapat ay tumahimik na lang po?

Walang aangal at nagrereklamo,

Or kung gusto niyo sa dpwh at malacanang ang puntahan niyo..

Coz tila dito sa Baguio.....

Ang gawin ito ay bawal po?

Or else sa kulungan ang bagsak niyo ?

Facebook Comment: "The congressman is non-sport politician. Not to further defame himself, he must find ways to comfort his frustrated constituents."

Educational attainment shall be based on industry requirement, and have not previously availed of the TESDA Training

for Work Scholarship from 2006 – 2010.

Interested applicants are advised to

go to the Mayor's office, application will be on a first come, first served basis, Domogan added./ JDP/MC-PIA CAR

Hundreds Flock to Jobs Fair In Benguet

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet — Hundreds of jobseekers flocked at the provincial capitol auditorium to try their luck of finding a job in a jobs fair sponsored by the provincial government.

Provincial Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Acting Head, Gina Yog-a said the job applicants come from the various towns of the province.

Already on its fourth year of implementation, the Jobs Fair from November 10-11, is in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) in line with the celebration of the province's founding anniversary thru Adivay.

Of the 42 invited local and overseas recruitment agencies, 32 joined the jobs fair, according to Yag-o. These recruitment agencies passed DOLE and POEA's approval in determining their good track record, she added.

For overseas work, top job opportunities are for skilled workers mostly for the Middle East and domestic helpers for Hong Kong, Singapore, Middle East and Taiwan.

Local jobs available, on the other hand, are skilled workers such as laborers, construction workers, call center agents, said Yag-o

As in the past jobs fairs, most of the applicants are fresh graduates who hunt for employment opportunities.

Last year, around 1,300 individuals applied and about 20 were hired on the spot. They could not determine the percentage of those who were hired afterwards but quipped at least this has been an opportunity to attempt to be employed./JDP/SCA- PIA CAR, Benguet

OWWA Conducts Self-Enhancement, Character Building Seminar for Scholars

BAGUIO CITY, Nov. 11 (PIA) - - In addition to the financial support, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) scholarship programs also incorporates various social, cognitive and values formation activities and programs, to ensure that their scholars are well-equipped to face any challenges in life and to become responsible and productive youths.

Last November 6 and 7, OWWA-Cordillera conducted a two-day seminar which focused on self-enhancement and character building among the young participants at the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) at the Benguet State University (BSU).

A total of 26 new scholars from the different parts of the region, some accompanied by parents and guardians participated in the said activity.

According to OWWA-CAR Regional Director Manuela Peña, the activity was conceived in recognition of the need to provide their scholars with venues for self-development and to establish a support group for them.

"We need to let these young people reflect on the difference of being merely schooled and truly educated - OWWA encourages these young people to get high grades in order to maintain their scholarship but their goals should be holistic and developmental," Peña said.

Peña also stressed that their new scholars will now also be added as new members of their Society of OWWA Scholars (SOS), an OWWA initiated organization which was established to serve as the social and learning support for all of the members, as well as to empower these young people towards community involvement.

In the said seminar, the Baguio Center for Young Adults (BCYA) headed by its Executive Director Marlene de Castro, spearheaded the conduct and facilitation of a three-module seminar workshop which includes Self-Awareness, Enhancing Relationships, and OWWA Scholar Community Leadership.

To culminate the activity, the participants were enjoined in a declaration of commitment to bring their dreams into fruition. Peña also graced the event and gave an inspirational message for their scholars.

At present, OWWA-CAR has 41 scholars in its OFW Dependents Scholarship Program (ODSP), 20 scholars under its Education for Development Scholarship Program (EDSP) and 27 scholars under its Education and Livelihood Assistance Program (ELAP)/JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Cordilleran Working Abroad Increasing, Gov't Advises Would be Ofws to Secure Legal Documents

BAGUIO CITY - The number of Filipino looking for gainful employment abroad continues to grow and the recent global recession does not even make a dent on the overseas migration of Filipino workers.

Thus stated Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA-CAR) Regional Director Delfina Camarillo, in an interview over PIA Hour radio program at DZWT, Thursday.

According to Camarillo, for their office alone, they have recorded an increase in processed applications from 12,965 applicants in 2009 to 14,855 in 2010. For the first three quarters of this year (January to September), Camarillo also reported that they have already processed 13,801 applications.

Camarillo also affirmed the increasing demand for Filipino workers abroad. "Filipino workers, because of their great skills and working attitude are the first to be hired and the last to be fired", she said.

Department of Foreign Affairs-Baguio Regional Director Edgar Canta also supported Camarillo's statement. Canta affirmed that about 75 percent of the 500 to 600 daily clients are applying for employment abroad.

Canta also advised all those who plans to work abroad that for their own safety, they should assure that all of their documents, both their work and travel related documents, are all legal.

According to Canta, in his experience both from his postings abroad and in the Assistance to National (ATNs) that he handled at the DFA, most of the cases are on OFWs with illegal documents.

He stressed the importance of knowing the right information being given on the Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar being conducted by the POEA and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration as well as to report immediately to the nearest embassy or labor office, for registration when they arrive at their jobsite.

Camarillo seconded that by knowing the right information, an OFW can be protected. "It is not a policy of the government to send Filipinos to work abroad but it cannot also prevent anyone to do so, which is why the protection of their welfare and security is among the topmost priority of the government along with its concerned agencies", she explained.

Camarillo also stressed that not all success can be found overseas which is why the government is also focusing on strengthening local employment and entrepreneurship for the Filipino people. /JDP/LD-PIA CAR

The Peace Combatant

.....from page 4

ruption institutions estimated that about twenty percent of public money goes to corruption (other institutions posted larger estimates). What will it be this time? A fake mountain or glacier perhaps? My unsolicited suggestion for our City officials if they do not want to accused of graft is to plan with our citizens and nongovernment groups. We have several sectors here that we can assist to make our celebration of the Christmas season more meaningful. We have the people in prison, the street children, the children in some private orphanages, and perhaps even the victims of the mini-tragedies of our city. The City can work with artists perhaps and, boy, I am very sure this will go a long way in building PR among them. I just hope that our celebration of our Christmas season will not be too expensive. Our celebration of Christmas can be like any other celebration in the country but what is more important is that our City officials plan one with the people, plan one with our nongovernment groups. Participatory planning will make our activities more meaningful and it will reduce the possibility or image of the existence of graft and corruption.

By the way, as we go through the end of the year, let us not forget that we the New Year's Eve, there would be risks of fire from the firecrackers. Hopefully, we also anticipate them and do the preventive action NOW.

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

Cordillera on Track

.....from page 6

standby and ready for distribution.

She also stressed that the DOH also focuses on monitoring the nearby regions to prevent the importation of malaria cases in Cordillera. "People who are working or moving in and out of Malaria endemic areas in the nearby regions are also susceptible to get afflicted and import it back to the already Malaria-free areas here in the region", Segundo stressed.

Meantime, Segundo also announced that they will be launching the regional Malaria Awareness Month program in Kalinga on November 24 with activities such as discussions on how to maintain the low status of malaria in Cordillera and on how to eventually totally eliminate it./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

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

ROGER N. GALAP
Applicants

Case No: 99-01-2268

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on December 7, 2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 9th day of November 2011.

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

Eco-Tourism Gaining Headway in Itogon

ITOGON, Benguet —Efforts to promote eco-tourism in this quiet mining town is gaining headway with tourist arrival this year almost doubled the figure recorded last year.

Mayor Oscar Camatiles said as of October, the town has already recorded 64,177 as compared to the 41,014 in the whole of 2010.

The town is slowly making its niche as an eco tourist destination foremost with its Mount Ugo Summer Climb which has been recognized both in the local and national levels. For two consecutive years, it bagged the Best Tourism Event in the Philippines under the Sports, Adventure and Wellness category in the National Convention of the Association of Tourism Officers of the Philippines (ATOP). The town is working hard to get the Hall of Fame next year.

This annual invitational and promotional summer mountaineering activity is unique as it has historical and cultural features traversing a Spanish trail connecting Nueva Vizcaya and Pangasinan while native houses of the Iwak tribes are found also along the way. It also includes community immersion which is a venue in learning the culture of the people through cultural presentations, sharing of stories and their way of life.

Other areas frequented by visitors are the mushrooming resorts and the Itogon hot springs which are very accessible.

There is also the Balatoc Mine tours which offers an opportunity for visitors to see and learn about the mines and the process of gold mining.

"Under our tourism development program, we realized that when this program is duly and strongly supported it would be a multi-million earning industry".

"It is indeed a financially-promising industry because in the average tourist receipt for the first and second quarters of this year alone, it was projected that a whopping amount of P 96, 538,500 had been spent by 420 foreign tourists and 63,757 local domestic visitors", Camantiles said.

The municipal government got inspired by the potential of our local tourism industry and they boldly ventured on to re-package our comprehensive tourism development plan to include among others strategic approaches to enhance its scenic spots and strengthen promotional and marketing strategies, he added.

Lined up tourism projects with funding are the enhancement of the 13 level resorts and the restoration of the Ave Maria historical site, he said.

Cont. on page 11

Pinoy, kaya natin to! Yes, the Filipino can!

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OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF COURT
& EX-OFFICIO
SHERIFF
Baguio City

PHILIPPINE SAV-
INGS BANK,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

SPS. JOSEPH
B E L T R A N
QUERIMIT
and FRANCES A.
QUERIMIT,
Mortgagors,

x——x

FORECLOSURE
CASE No. 11-305-S

EXTRA-JUDICIAL
FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE
MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135,
AS AMENDED

SHERIFF'S NOTICE
OF AUCTION
SALE

Upon petition for
sale under Act
3135, as amended,
filed by PHILIPPINE
SAVINGS BANK,
hereinafter referred
to as the MORT-
GAGEE, for the sat-
isfaction of the mort-
gage indebtedness of

SPS. JOSEPH
B E L T R A N
QUERIMIT AND
FRANCES A.
QUERIMIT, herein-
after referred to as
the MORTGAG-
ORS, which as of
October 4, 2011, now
amounts to THREE
MILLION EIGHT
HUNDRED THIRTY
EIGHT THOU-
SAND NINE HUN-
DRED SEVENTY
THREE and 47/100
(3,838,773.47),
Philippine Cur-
rency, exclusive of
the interest accru-
ing after this
date, penalties,
attorney's fees, le-
gal expenses and
other charges inci-
dental to the fore-
closure sale, this
Ex-Officio Sheriff
or her under-
signed Deputy
Sheriff, will sell
at public auction,
on November 22,
2011, at 10 o' clock
in the morning or
soon thereafter, at
the lobby
(fronting the main
entrance) of the
Hall of Justice
Building, Baguio
City, the follow-
ing described
mortgage property
and all its im-
provements exist-
ing thereon, to
wit;

TRANSFER
CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE No. T-97740
REGISTRY OF
DEEDS, BAGUIO
CITY

"A parcel of
land (Lot 1-B-8-P-
10-A-3-A-2-A, Psd-
131102-006984,
being a portion of
Lot 1-B-8-P-10-A-
3-2-A, Psd-131102-
05756) situated at
Res. Sec. "L", City
of Baguio, Island
of Luzon.

Bounded on the
SW., and NW.,
along lines 1-2-3
by Existing Road
(6.00 m. wide), on
the SW., along
line 3-4 by Lot 1-
B-8-P-10-A-2, Psd-
131102-002936; on
the NE., along line
4-5 by lot 1-B-8-P-
10-A-3-A-1, Psd-
131102-005756; on
the NE., along
lines 5-6 by Lot 1-
B-8-P-10-A-3-
B, Psd-131102-
005253; on the
SE., along line 6-7-
1 by Lot 1-B-8-P-
10-A-2-B of the
subdivision plan
(Existing Road
6.00 m. wide) Be-
ginning at a point
marked "1" x x x to
point of begin-
ning; containing
an area of ONE
HUNDRED EIGHTY
THREE (183)
SQUARE METERS,
more or less."

Prospective
bidders may inves-
tigate the title,
rights and im-
provements of the
property with re-
gards to encum-
brances, if any
there be.

Baguio City,
Philippines, this
24th day of Octo-
ber, 2011.

By: (SGD)
REMEDIOS
BALDERAS-REYES
Clerk of Court VI
& Ex-Officio
Sheriff

By: (SGD) ROMEO
R. FLORENDO
Sheriff-in-Charge

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Newspaper
Publication Dates:
October 29,
November 5 and 12,
2011

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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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PNoy-SM Ink "Deed Of Absolute Sale" Over Luneta Hill Realty.....from page 1

On the other hand, the city through Resolution 265-2009 pleaded to then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for the issuance of a proclamation designating lots X-1 and Y-2 for purposes of establishing a "Technology Information Center" under the auspices of the City Government.

SM acquired the properties all located in Residential Section "A" following an auction sale, April 22, 1992, for a bid price of P69,999,995.52 in six separate amortizations ending in 1997.

The DAS provided, "As a result of the survey conducted October 2003 [and] after due consideration of [easements and servitudes in Commonwealth Act 141, area available] for conveyance under this instrument is 31,688 sq. m."

Said area were more particularly described as Lot Nos. 3-B, 114-A, 128, 115-B, 125-A, 126-B-2, 126-A, X-1 and Y-2.

The DAS was signed between SM attorney-in-fact Carlo Olampay and Aquino as represented by executive secretary Paquito Ochoa, Jr. for the Republic of the Philippines.

Balising earlier contended the property could have been sold higher than its appraised value.

The property's market value was P1,500.00 per sq. m. SM bought the lot at P2,027.34 per sq. m.

In November 2005, Samuel Peñañiel, then regional executive director of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Cordillera was ordered by the central office to issue a DAS to SM.

A draft was prepared by DENR-Cordillera but lawyer Erwin Tiamson pointed out the DAS must be in accord to the provisions of Sec. 57 of the 1987 Administrative Code: "Conveyances amounting to at least P50 million shall be executed by the President."

In 2010, heirs of Carantes entered a fenced portion of the property where SM-Baguio now stands and demanded SM management to vacate the premises.

Advocacy Mindanow.....

.....from page 5

did not want me to be physically around during meetings in Malaysia. I kept my peace. But I recall that I had openly complained to the President that the MILF Panel was "autonomous". But I did not seriously pursue it as it would appear as a "turfig" issue that I also had distaste for. This happened especially during the time of former Chair Silvestre "Yong" Afable, the brains behind the Ancestral Domain concepts of the failed Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD). He resigned in frustration over the Cabinet Security Cluster's refusal to approve his peace concepts. The fallout, as we all know took place during the Chairmanship of retired General Rodolfo "Rudy" Garcia, who, by the way unfairly absorbed most of the shock together with the PAPP at that time, retired General Hermogenes "Jun" Esperon. But that's another lengthy matter to discuss here. Maybe at another time.

I served in that capacity until 2008 when PGMA asked me to replace former Press Secretary "Toting" Bunye who moved to the monetary board of the Central Bank.

AS PRESS SECRETARY —While

working as Press Secretary in 2008 I had several challenges. Handling media of course was exciting but equally exhausting and quite demanding. Then add to this is the unique work ethic and the hectic public life of a workaholic President (not to mention her volatile temper) that I had to deal with. I made personal adjustments and at the same time tried to keep my sanity and my personal style intact. And there were a few gaffes along the way. One of them of course was my irreverent, but light-hearted and now-famous Cabinet prayer that put PGMA in trouble. Then there was this unintended "ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR CONCON" statement I made that put again the President on the spot. There were more of this but not too significant to mention. In several instances, I took a pro-active stance in dealing with issues, even becoming provocative at times. This, I realized later did not conform to the traditional role of the press secretary as just an "explainer" or a "source of information" or a "mouth-piece", defensive or bland or to some extent, even a spin-master. In brief, instead of being the President's firewall, on several occasions I pushed her to the fire.

FAILED MOA-AD — *When the Supreme Court nullified the MOA-AD with the MILF sometime in October 2008 when I was no longer Peace Adviser but already Press Secretary, I volunteered to absorb some of the heat of that ruling by quietly offering to the President to resign. Although the final version of the failed agreement was firmed up while I was no longer at OPAPP, I found it fit to take part of the responsibility. And take the blame, if we must. Obviously, the President just ignored my offer. I was badly needed at that time to explain to the public the government side since I had direct insights on the issues and I had the perfect platform to do it as Press Secretary.*

I RESIGNED —In February 2009, after about 7 months of an exciting job as press secretary, I told the President while we were alone in a holding room at the Cotabato airport: "Ma'am please allow me to resign". She readily agreed. My giving up the palace post also coincided with my personal desire to spend more time then with my ailing wife Beth. (Thank God, she's okay now, by the way). The President understood my predicament.

I still have so many recollections to tell on that short but eventful 7-month stint as Press Secretary that I will save for another time.

AS PRESIDENTIAL LAWYER —Another case in point. After resigning as Press Secretary, PGMA unexpectedly asked me if I was willing to take on the position as Chief Presidential Legal Counsel (CPLC) which was vacant then. I accepted the President's offer but I really secretly wished to return to MEDCo in Davao City. This is not to say that I did not relish the perks and the distinct honor—and the perception of power—while in Malacanang.

One late evening, after a few months as the President's resident lawyer in the palace, Executive Secretary Ed Ermita called me about the plan to replace former Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez at DOJ but they were at a quandary on how to give him a "soft landing" so to speak. Secretary Ed during my conversation on the phone did not specify what he wanted but merely said: "That's the problem Jess. Just think about it" and hung up the phone. I sensed that he was hinting that the palace wanted

my CPLC post for Secretary Raul but probably he did not have the heart to tell me straight. Immediately, I called back Secretary Ed and said: "If that's a problem, please tell the President that I want to be part of the solution" and I offered to voluntarily turn over the CPLC post so Secretary Raul can have a "soft landing" instead of a "hard fall" from the palace. That done, I promptly packed my bags and headed for home. I continued serving still in the Cabinet as Presidential Adviser for Mindanao. The rest is history.

THANK YOU, MA'AM —One final note on this: Up to now, I still wonder. I think I'm one of the lucky few in this country who had the rare privilege of holding various cabinet positions in a single presidency. My last count was five Cabinet positions! I have even started to wonder whether I was really that good to deserve those positions—or I was not good enough to stay in a single post. (Hahaha!) Whatever it is, I owe that singular privilege and honor to President Arroyo. Thank you, "Ma'am".

CUT IT CLEAN —But what's my point in recalling all these? Simply this: when a Cabinet member who is supposed to be the alter ego of the President becomes a burden or a liability, real or perceived, that official need not wait for others to ask him/her to resign. He must resign irrevocably, cut it clean and spare the presidency of that burden. When a Cabinet member gets the signal that he becomes a source of discomfort for his "boss", he must go without delay. And move on somewhere else if still needed.

Apropos to that, I always squirm whenever I hear some presidential appointees fending off calls for their resignation in the height of public criticisms by saying: "I serve at the pleasure of the President" or "I will resign if the President says so" or similar words to that effect. By clinging to their posts and by indirectly saying "go ask the President", they unduly transfer the onus or the weight of the problem on the shoulders of the President instead of assisting him lighten his load. Alas, I have seen how some beleaguered officials wait with bated breath hoping the president comes out saying: "She/he still enjoys my confidence" etc., as if that presidential word of confidence suddenly erased and atoned for all those public sins.

Cabinet members must act as lightning rods for the President, willing to absorb shocks and even, at times, take the fall to protect and shield the presidency.

CABINET REVAMP —There is now talk about a Cabinet revamp. It's a good time for all Cabinet members and other officials to give this a serious thought. Believe me, there is life after a cabinet post. It's liberation of sorts. Take it from me.

My unsolicited advice: If you feel you have to go, please don't continue to inflict yourselves on the Presidency and the whole nation. Please do not think that you are indispensable and God's gift to the nation. Please don't delude yourself believing that you are the only one who can do it. If you really want to help the President and the country, there are countless other ways to do it. Believe me; in doing this, you are doing a favour not only to the President, to the nation, but to your good selves as well.

The bottom line is: it's your own judgment call. Not others to make. I already did mine—rightly or wrongly—during my time./ADVO-CACY MINDANOW FOUNDATION, INC./info@advocacymindanow.org/www.advocacymindanow.org

Aditorial.....

.....from page 4

on Cessation of Hostilities and Ad Hoc Joint Action Group ATS would be "dis-solved" after AFP operations. MILF forces and families could then return.

That last ATS was for for Barangay Guinanta after the 2007 beheadings of Marines, Santos says. Barka, is several kilometers away. (Further inland is Barangay Cambug where the massacre happened)

"None has since been established or is existing... It is misleading to characterize ATS as "safe haven" for the MILF as if to make it perpetually immune from attack by the AFP.

"In a perfect world, why should AFP soldiers be constrained from entering MILF areas? Fact is AFP and the MILF are technically still in a state of war, albeit with a general ceasefire. A peace process is ongoing (precisely to resolve the war in a non-military way).

"The crucial need is for a ceasefire agreement pending a real and lasting peace. The peace process on the Moro front, with both the MNLF and MILF, has at least had the benefit of a general ceasefire that held for the most part.

In contrast, that has been absent between AFP and NPA in the peace process on the Communist front. MILF forces and families are real people. Government considers them part of the Filipino people. Are people not more important than the abstract concept of diminution of national sovereignty?/Juan L. Mercado

Council

.....from page 2

ing conditions in Upper Dolpo, Nepal. The story gives "hopes and dreams of children and about a man's vision ushering them forward into a more certain future."

Balanag is also a part of the official selection of participants in the Kansas International Film Festival in Manhattan, New York this month.

The films produced by Balanag tackles "ways to end poverty, encourage peace, educate on environmental issues," which brings into light the need for sustainable development, the council resolution needs.

Balanag has also produced several television programs, among them; The Best of Baguio and the Lifestyle of the North, which features travel, events, people, places, food and general points of interest in Baguio.

He also directed, acted on, or wrote the script for some plays and musicals; "Kundiman sa Dekada 80," "Saling Pusa," "Tibok," "Ad Infinitum," "Ang Paglilitis ni Mang Serapio," among others.

He however was not limited to the arts, as he was also involved in community groups such as the Cordillera Green Network, Cordillera Global Network, Alay Sa Kalinisan and the Children's Education

Development Society (Derhadun, India).

Balanag's brainchild: the Ipitik, a wine-making and wine-tasting event and celebration of Cordilleran Art and Culture for the The commendation thus stated that Balanag "brought honor to Baguio City for being successful in the field of creative directing; recognized videographer, editor/cinematographer, co-writer, co-producer and researcher; and recipient of the River Pursuit, River Amulet and Golden Ace Awards."/juliegianza

Honest to Goodness

.....from page 2

ers" that barangays have under Republic Act 9003, otherwise known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 to establish their own waste management systems.

These are the authority to collect solid waste management fees in amounts sufficient to pay the costs of preparing adopting and implementing its solid waste plan or system; to establish materials recovery facility in every barangay or cluster of barangays; collect non-recyclable materials and special wastes; and to legislate appropriate ordinances to aid in the implementation of the act.

"By asserting and exercising their powers, the Barangays can easily fix and establish the system of waste reuse, recycling and recovery with adaptable sorting, storage and segregation techniques within the Barangay that shall then confine city concerns on waste management only to collection and disposal," the proponents noted.

They said the city government should "assist and encourage the Barangays to adopt and implement a comprehensive solid waste management system...that shall be implemented in accordance with an ordinance enacted for the purpose."

A pro forma ordinance was also included in the proposed measure. The proposal will be discussed by the city council soon. - A Refuerzo

P1.15B City Budget

.....from page 2

reduction in the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) share of the city which he said is bound to affect the programming of funds for the city's development projects.

In his budget message addressed to the city council dated October 19, the mayor said the financial plan addresses the thrusts set for 2012 by the city government as aligned with the programs of the national government.

The said thrusts were spelled out by Domogan during his State of the City Address (SOCA) and enunciated in the Budget Call to wit: maintenance of integrity of the environment; sustained economic growth; poverty reduction and empowerment of the poor and the vulnerable; accountable and participatory governance; and safe and resilient city.

"As always, this Administration is for unity and harmony. This budget is our collective response to address the ever growing needs of the City and our community," he said.

As proposed, the estimated income will come from the beginning balance of P150,000,000; local taxes amounting to P302,650,000; permits and licenses - P14,830,000; service income - P41,160,000; business income - P73,900,000; other income of P122,890,000 and Internal Revenue Allotment - P441,527,000.

The city council is expected to deliberate on the budget along with the Annual Investment Plan (AIP) which contains the list of projects to be funded under the 20 percent development fund when the body meets on Monday after a two-week lull. - A Refuerzo

City Eyes

.....from page 2

periment that allowed Pro Tech Machinery Corporation (Pro Tech) to undertake the direct collection of wastes from the barangays.

The experiment which ran for one month last October was extended by the mayor until January 15 after helping improve the waste collection efficiency.

The mayor said the city is inclined to adopt the arrangement on a permanent basis leading to the privatization of the waste collection operations.

He however assured that the 98 employees serving as garbage collectors and drivers who will be affected by the privatization will not be displaced but will be retained by the city environment and parks management office or absorbed by other departments.

The mayor said Pro Tech also assured to hire waste pickers and sorters who were displaced by the direct collection scheme.

The mayor said the city will continue to improve its waste management program and will pursue the closure and rehabilitation of the Irisan controlled dump facility.

He said the proposed deal for the direct purchase of six new dump trucks from Korea is now with the city council for deliberation.

He said they are also continuing the search for a new location to serve as waste sorting and transfer site even as negotiations are also underway with other local governments for the use of their landfill facilities to dispose the city's wastes.

He said the Environmental Recycling System (ERS) machines remain in good condition even as adjustments were made to control the moisture content of the by-product compost.

Domogan said the city has been granted a one-year provisional permit to sell fertilizers so it can start selling the ERS fertilizer that the city has accumulated since the machines began operating.

He said product samples from the output of the adjusted machines have been sent to a laboratory for testing.

Earlier tests of the initial outputs showed that the ERS products are of high grade quality but adjustments were needed to control the moisture content./ A Refuerzo

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

ROGER N. GALAP
Applicants

Case No: 2001-01-1368

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on December 7, 2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 9th day of November 2011.

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

Cordillera

.....from page 3

In line with KP, Philhealth, has also already intensified its health care program to provide more benefits for the poor families and among this programs are the 'No Balance Billing' policy for their NHTS-PR and sponsored program members, as well as the provision of new case rates to 23 common medical and surgical cases.

"In this second half of 2011, the Kalusugan Pangkalahatan is only in its launch phase and we have to expect more intensified delivery of quality health care programs for next year", Guinanan stressed./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

DFA, POEA

.....from page 3

1995, that mandates the deployment of OFWs should only be made to countries wherein the Philippines has bilateral agreement with particularly on the protection of migrant workers.

For the DFA's part, Cantá in reiterating the statement of Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert Del Rosario, said that the list does not seek to pass any value judgment on any country as it only serves as a crucial benchmark for all government agencies concerned to work for the betterment of the safety, welfare and working conditions of our nationals who are working or planning to work abroad.

"The Philippine government gives the highest importance to the safety and welfare of OFWs and to continue to reinforce our partnership with Congress and other stakeholders on the crucial issue," Cantá quoted Del Rosario's statement.

Cantá also stressed that the government also acknowledged the need for the DFA to have ample opportunity to dialogue with these countries for the benefits of the Filipino workers already there and those planning to seek gainful employment in those countries./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Panagbenga 2012.....

.....from page 12

As in the past years, Panagbenga 2012 shall open with a parade on the first day of February, a month-long Market Encounter, and Session Road in Bloom during the last week after a weekend of streetdancing and float parades.

Other activities; the fluvial float parade at Burnham Lake, Chinese Spring Festival and pony boys' day are also included in the Panagbenga Calendar.

Conceptualized in 1995, the crowd-drawer flower festival has grown through the years with the Cordillera motif in all the activities, in the costume, streetdancing, float and even in its hymn. Innovative activities emerged, some worked well with the flower concept while others did not; while still others were revitalized year to year.

The Baguio Flower Festival Foundation, Inc. (BFFI) takes over the helm for next year's celebration, with support from the local government, the academe and other private entities.

Meanwhile, as Baguio City launches BFF 2012, the Province of Benguet celebrates its 111th Foundation Anniversary with Adivay; with medical-dental outreaches and health fair, sports, environmental, musical and cultural, economic programs and fora in various venues; and a street dancing parade, and drum and lyre competition on Nov. 19.

An agro-industrial and trade fair shall be done at the Benguet Sports Center, Wangan on Nov. 16-26, while an Agri-Eco-Tourism Summit is scheduled on Nov 17-18 at the Techno-Demo Center within the same venue./juliegfianza

40 Cordillera Police

.....from page 12

He also emphasized the importance of forensic evidence and for the investigators not to rely too much on testimonial evidence because the same maybe recanted or denied by the proponent. He added that the first responders must conduct the crime scene investigation and not dependent on the service of the Scene of the Crime Operatives(SOCO). He said that material evidence that maybe recovered from the crime scene is still the best evidence.

Magalong pointed out that good investigation is manifested by the high crime solution efficiency and at the same time through the speedy resolution of cases. He told them to know their job and do it well.

'Let us exhibit what our community deserves; a professional and highly credible PNP,' he concluded.

Meanwhile, the Benguet Provincial Police Office under the leadership of PSSupt Benjamin Lusad opened yesterday its 3rd Quarterly Inter-Unit Shot fest at the PRO-COR Firing Range, Camp Bado Dangwa, here.

This is a continuing marksmanship skills enhancement program of the Benguet PPO. It is an offshoot of the successful staging of the first and second Benguet PPO shootfests held last April and August 2011, respectively.

This also aims to further improve and develop the individual firearms proficiency skills of every PNP officer and also to foster camaraderie and fellowship between and among the Police Commissioned Officers (PCO) and Non Police Commissioned Officers (PNCO).

There were 22 PCOs and 83 PNCOs with a total of 105 participants from the Benguet PPO, different municipal police stations and PPSC who participated in the said activity.

During the opening program, Magalong stated that in every competition, winning is subordinated by the love of the game itself but he encouraged the participants nonetheless to strive to win the competition./PIA CAR/ES-PROCOR

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

ALICIA RONA B. PACNECO
Applicants
Case No: 2005-BENG-CAR-152
NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on on December 7, 2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB 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 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 9th day of November 2011. (SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

PNP Regional

.....from page 12

lem of killings in the province had not been solved despite efforts from the PNP to prescribe solutions such as the replacement and reshuffling of their personnel, Magalong threw back the challenge to the participants as he said, "you own the issues, and therefore, the solutions should be yours, too."

The meeting with the business sector showed fear among the people as they hardly spoke and opened up had Magalong not urged them enough. The participants said they fear for their lives because of their past experiences of being harassed as their houses and their business establishments had been strafed and they did not get satisfactory police action.

Because of this, Magalong gave the participants his own contact number including that of the contact numbers of PSSupt. Amando S. Lagiwid, the Abra Police Provincial Director, and that of PSSupt. Robert Soriano, commander of the Abra Task Force for them to have direct communications with these three top brass in the police force for immediate action.

Magalong earlier met with his officers and men in the province emphasizing to them the importance of community relations because no matter how much effort they put into intelligence and operations, if the community people do not have the trust and confidence in the police as well as their support, policing will never work. His belief in this concept of police work is likened to a new cellphone unit, that no matter how beautiful the unit is, if the user does not know how to use it, then it is useless.

"Think community, think people", he urged./JDP/MTBB-PIA CAR, Abra

Eco - Tourism

.....from page 8

The other barangays will be enhancing their eco-tourism potentials and we will develop and promote for national and international tourism-markets, Camantiles added.

The mayor also expressed appreciation to the barangay government and leadership of Tinongdan, which hosts the Mt. Ugo Summer climb, for their exemplary mark insofar as eco-tourism is concerned.

/JDP/ JBZ- PIA CAR

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

CLIFFORD C. MACKELLAY
Applicants
Case No: 2005-BENG-CAR-1153
NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on on November 23, 2011 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTFRB 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 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 2nd day of November 2011. (SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR
Attorney IV

City Celebrates Drug Prevention Month, Calls for Support

BAGUIO CITY – the City Anti-Drug Abuse Council (CADAC) leads the drug abuse prevention and control month celebrations citywide which was launched Wednesday (Nov. 9) at the Sangunian Panglungsod Session Hall.

Celebrated every November, this year's theme "Global Action for Healthy Communities without Drugs" gathered CADAC members namely the Baguio City Police office (BCPO), Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Education (DEP-ED), Department of Justice (DOJ), Non-Government Organizations and members of the media for a short briefing on its plans and programs to address the drug menace in the city.

Cadac Action Officer Vice-Mayor Daniel Farinas has announced the calendar of events for the Drug prevention Month starts with an orientation and workshop for the Barkadahan Kontra Droga Movement (BKDM) members and Life Skills Training slated November 11 to 13 under the DEP-ED.

Farinas also said, '20 barangays, 20 schools, 2 NGO's and 4 individuals will be chosen for this year's Search for the Outstanding Barangays, Schools, NGO's and Individuals in the fight against drugs which will be conducted on November 14'.

The Anti-Illegal Drugs-Special Operations Task Group of the BCPO will also conduct Anti-Drug Seminar for barangay officials on November 15 to 18 as part of the month long celebrations.

Awarding and recognition for the Outstanding Barangays, Schools, NGO's and Individuals in the fight against drugs will be on November 25.

Special awards and recognitions will also be given to agencies who have been actively supporting the advocacy of the CADAC in its drive against illegal drugs.

Meantime, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) reported an improvement in the eradication of illegal drugs in the city with the arrest and detention of drug personalities operating in the city and the Cordilleras.

PDEA Dir. Gil Castro said their office has implemented 'Operation Amihan' aimed in addressing the drug menace in the cordilleras.

At least 36 drug personalities have been put behind bars in continued operations by law enforcement agencies in the region.

Castro warned, 'Baguio is not a safe haven for drug lords' and have vowed to go after them.

There is a notable decrease of barangays in the city affected by the illegal drug menace with only 15 barangays remaining as hot spots.

CADAC is now implementing intensive information campaign most especially in schools and barangays to educate people on the ill-effects of drugs and is urging constituents to report suspected drug personalities in their areas./paul rillorta

Panagbenga 2012 Launching on Monday

BAGUIO CITY –Again, the rhythmic Panagbenga hymn composed by Dean Macario Fronda of SLU shall be heard as Baguio Flower Festival (BFF) 2012 is launched during the city hall flag-raising ceremonies this Monday, Nov. 14.

Expected to be simple yet colorful, the launching cer-

emonies for the 17th staging of the Panagbenga festival shall have the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) band render the Pambansang Awit. This will be done after the parade of colors; the Philippine flag, the Baguio banner, and the sunflower-laden Panagbenga flag.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan shall declare the festival open, as Hotel and

Restaurant Association of Baguio (HRAB) officer and Baguio Country Club General Manager Anthony de Leon and Freddie Alquiros unveils the flower festival logo and theme.

The Saint Louis University dance troupe shall present a Panagbenga-inspired dance number. The mayor shall give the inspirational message, with the Baguio Hymn to close the ceremonies.

Cont. on page 11

SHOOT ME - Tabora Barangay Chairman Alexander Yan gets a free shot of Tetanus and Hepa B vaccines from the Department of Health and the Fil-Cantonese group in the city. The next set of free vaccines to be given out by the groups will be on November 19, 2011 at the Baptist Church in Tabora Barangay, Trancoville./Grace Bandoy



40 Cordillera Police Complete Criminal Investigation Course

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet 40 personnel from the provincial and city police offices in the region completed yesterday Criminal Investigation Course (CIC) while 45 others are set to undergo same training in line with efforts to beef-up its investigative capability.

This is also in consonance with the Chief PNP's Ten Point Agenda one of which is the enhancement of individual skills, competencies and specialization with premium on investigation.

The closing of the Class 115-2011 had newly assumed Cordillera Regional Director, PCSupt

Benjamin Magalong as the guest speaker.

The batch is the fourth since PROCOR opened the training in February 2011 with a total of 211 police personnel from the different units completing said course.

PSSupt Joseph Adnol, Chief, RIDMD/ Course Director presented the members of the Criminal Investigation Course class followed by the presentation of certificates and awards to the graduates by Magalong assisted by the command group.

Magalong encouraged the police to uplift PNP's image and credibility by

doing their job proficiently and that it is never too late to continue learning and improving everyone's skills.

The Regional Director also reiterated the 10 administrative and operational priorities of the Chief PNP especially the enhancement and specialization of skills that the PNP personnel should develop with the required training on investigation to enhance their competency and to have better investigative skills in consonance with the Police Operational Procedures (POP).

Cont. on page 11

PNP Regional Director engages Abrenians for peace

BANGUED, Abra - With the unceasing killings in the province and continuing silence of the people due to fear, new Regional Director of the Police Regional Office - Cordillera (PRO-COR) P/CSupt. Benjamin Magalong engaged the commu-

nity people in Abra in his first official visit to the province last November 9.

The first sector Magalong engaged in were those in the academe, as he believes this is a neutral group where he would be able to draw more objective information about

what is really happening in the province and in Bangued, in particular.

While Magalong was very apologetic of the shortcomings of the police in the past and maybe even at present that's why the prob-

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