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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

PRRD to issue building, tree-cutting moratorium in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY-- President Rodrigo Duterte will soon be issuing an Executive Order (EO) imposing a moratorium on the construction of big commercial buildings and tree-cutting here, Mayor Benjamin Magalong said on Tuesday.

"I spoke to the President two weeks ago and he has already approved the building moratorium and tree cutting," Magalong said.

He also expressed hope that the issuance of the EO will coincide with the approval of the PHP500 million fund component for the implementation of the moratorium.

On the second day in office, Magalong told the media that he has talked to President Duterte about the issuance of an EO for the rehabilitation

of Baguio.

He said for the city to "heal", several infrastructure projects must stop.

Magalong said the building moratorium will initially be for one year and will cover only commercial buildings, excluding residential structures.

Several sectors have sought for the stop in the development of Baguio, which has led to several other problems like garbage, sewerage, traffic and the lack of public services.

The moratorium will also lead to the implementation of the policy in the National Building Code for the provision of parking inside existing buildings, to ease the congestion due to illegal parking.

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UNITED IN PRAYER - Baguio City Benjamin Magalong and his wife Arlene are prayed over by the different religious groups in the city of Baguio during the Ecumenical Prayer Rally for the protection of the Mayor following his testimony in the Senate against 'ninja cops' recycling drugs. (RMCP/PIA-CAR)

Ayna, usto nu ma-implement dayta building ken tree cutting moratorium. Ngem sigurado legal battle dayta ta nagadu ti nalalalaing nga abogado ti Baguio.



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Rich Pinoys have an explaining to do on Chinese influx into RP

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



7 cadets, 5 soldiers face raps over PMA cadet's death

BAGUIO CITY-- The family of fourth class cadet Darwin Dormitorio formally filed criminal cases before the City Prosecutor's Office against seven Philippine Military Academy (PMA) cadets and five soldiers over his death on September 18.

Dexter Dormitorio, Darwin's brother, filed cases for violation of the anti-hazing, anti-torture laws and for murder against cadet 1st class Axl Rey I. Sanopao, cadet 2nd class Christian M. Zacarias, cadets 3rd class Shalimar G. Imperial Junior, Felix M. Lumbag, Julius Carlos Tadena, Rey

David John D. Volante, and John Vincent M. Manalo.

Also charged were Capt. Flor Apply A. Apostol, Maj. Maria Ofelia R. Beloy, Col. Cesar Candelaria, Maj. Rex Bolo and Capt. Jeffrey Batistiana.

"It's now up to the prosecutors, sila ang magde-determine ng probable cause (they will determine the probable cause). We are hoping of course that they will find merit in the cases we filed and they will be filing the cases ultimately," Police Col. Allen Rae Co, Baguio City police director, said.

Co said it will be the

court that will issue a warrant of arrest upon judicial findings of probable cause to issue such warrant.

"[When there is already a warrant of arrest] that's the time na papasok po tayo ulit to take into custody itong mga kadete (we will come in to take custody of the cadets)," he said.

Co said the seven cadets are currently inside the PMA holding center, some are in the stockade and physically isolated from the other cadets.

He, however, said for the whereabouts of the five officers, "we do not

have any idea."

"Yung officers po naman, they will be made to answer yung cases nga po (they will be made to answer the cases) and if prosecutor finds merit and the case will push through, baka magkaroon din po sila ng (there could also be) warrant of arrest and the same thing goes for them," Co said.

On September 18, Darwin was found inside his room at the PMA unconscious by fellow cadets and was brought to the hospital where he was declared dead on arrival. **Liza Agoot and Dionisio Dennis, Jr. (PNA)**



CHARGED. Dexter Dormitorio takes his oath before a Baguio City prosecutor during the formal filing of the case against seven cadets of the Philippine Military Academy and five soldiers formerly assigned at the academy early evening on Tuesday, for the death of fourth class cadet Darwin Dormitorio inside the PMA on September 18. Three cases for violation of the anti-hazing and anti-torture laws and murder were filed against the respondents. (PNA photo by Liza T. Agoot)

Business as usual at city hall amid threats: Magalong

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Benjamin Magalong assured on Tuesday residents here that it is "business as usual" for him at the city hall despite threats on his life.

"My brand of public service will not change and my goal to implement changes in the city will continue and will not be affected by the ongoing development in my life," Magalong said in a phone interview with the Philippine News Agency.

He said when he ran for mayor, he committed to serve Baguio and the threats will not prevent him from doing his duties.

"Whatever is happening right now is my personal concern. I just divulged the truth," said Magalong, noting that "I am securing

myself."

On October 3, city administrator Bonifacio dela Peña ordered security personnel of the city to implement stricter measures at city hall, for the safety of the public.

Of the eight entrances and egress at the city hall building, only three were left open and are being used by the people transacting at the offices inside the establishment.

Everybody who passes on the entrances is required to undergo the bag-check and inspection.

Several policemen belonging to the city mobile force have been deployed at city hall aside from the presence of a K-9 dog.

Magalong said his appearance before a

Senate inquiry while taking his time, does not affect his work as mayor of Baguio.

Magalong, a former head of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, is one of the resource persons in the ongoing legislative investigation on the Good Conduct Time Allowance law.

"I come back home every after hearing and I do my job," he said.

On Monday, the mayor attended the flag-raising ceremony at the city hall grounds before he presided over the executive-legislative meeting held every Monday.

He had also been

Build as many car parks as possible to ease traffic woes – mayor

site of the City Hall Annex at

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Benjamin Magalong said the city needs to build as many parking buildings as possible as one of the solutions to easing the city's worsening traffic problem.

In the meeting of the mayor-led City Development Council attended by the punong barangays and civil society groups in the city, the mayor said the city is looking into at

attending public functions outside city hall like meetings with the group of market vendors in relation to the proposed development at the city market. **Liza Agoot (PNA)**

least ten sites on which to build car parks.

"We need to build enough (of these parking facilities) to accommodate if possible all the 64,000 vehicles plying the city's roads daily based on the 2018 survey and that does not include the 2019 vehicles vis-a-vis the city's total road capacity of only 15,000 vehicles," the mayor said.

The areas eyed for car parks are the Jadewell site at the back of the Ganza Restaurant to accommodate 550 cars, the private lot along Abanao St., the owner of which already agreed to construct a modular parking structure, the

the Baguio Fire Station where the city plans to put up an eight-story building with parking facility with 450-500 slots;

The old library site which upon development will devote two basement car parks; the Athletic Bowl where a modular parking facility will also be built; the BIBAK lot along Harrison Road; the Wright Park (modular); at the back of the Baguio Convention Center where a multi-level parking building will rise with 800 slots; the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) property near Victory Liner; and at the Bayan Park at Bayan Park Village.

The mayor said he will continue to negotiate with concerned groups and individuals as well as lobby for funding for the parking plans to materialize. **Aileen P. Refuerzo**

the environment and for the love of Baguio," he said.

Interested individuals may contact the City Mayor's Office at 442-8920 or the City Environment and Parks Management Office at 443-3511 or 300-6535.

The mayor earlier **Cont. on page 3**

Tree-farming instead of tree-planting encouraged

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Benjamin Magalong is encouraging groups to undertake tree-farming or the planting and rearing of tree seeds on vacant private and public lots in lieu of conducting tree-planting in forest reservations to ensure high survival rate of the seedlings planted.

"I am now discouraging the planting of

tree seedlings in watersheds and protected areas because of the low survival rate of the seedlings and instead let us build tree farms in vacant lots where we can nurture seedlings for two to three years before replanting them into our forest reservations," the mayor announced Oct. 7.

"This way, the seedlings will have higher survival

capacity and therefore would make our reforestation program more effective," he added.

He called on private individuals who have idle lots that they do not plan to use for the next two to three years to volunteer their properties to the city government for conversion into tree farms and nurseries.

"This is for the love of

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Proposed waste to energy plant to produce 3MW of renewable energy

BAGUIO CITY – City Administrator Bonifacio dela Pena disclosed that the proposed waste to energy plant that will be established in the city will be capable of producing at least 3.4 megawatts of renewable energy from the prevailing volume of biodegradable waste generated by the households in the city daily.

The city administrator, together with other technical personnel of the local government and some local legislators, recently visited Japan to personally observe the operating waste to energy plant that is being proposed to be established in the city to help address the local government's prevailing garbage disposal woes.

He admitted that when he and the members of the team brought with them at least 100 questions that will be asked from the operator of the waste to energy plant using biodegradable waste and that when they came back, almost all the questions had been answered, thus, they were convinced that the bio-mass waste to energy plant will be feasible in the city.

The city administrator informed the members of the City Advisory Council during their first meeting with Mayor Benjamin B.

Magalong last Thursday afternoon that the waste to energy plant is environmental-friendly because its emission is not hazardous contrary to the perception of environmentalists on the operation of such plant.

According to him, what they saw in Japan is a smaller version of the proposed waste to energy plant that will be established in the city because it was converting some 70 tons of biodegradable waste to around 1.4 megawatts of power.

The city department head asserted that what the local government is waiting the results of the ongoing Waste Analysis and Characterization Study (WACS) to update the data of a similar study in 215 so that it will be ascertained on what will be the volume of biodegradable waste that needs to be processed by the plant considering that what will be put up in the city will tailor-fit the volume of biodegradable waste produced by the households and commercial establishments.

He explained that the put up of the waste to energy plant will be on a government to government transaction with the State-owned Philippine National Oil company (PNOC) serving as the local government's

conduit for the realization of the noble project which had been started way back during the previous administration.

Dela Pena said that the power that will be generated by the eventual operation of the waste to energy plant that will be established in the city will be sold to the Benguet electric Cooperative (BENECO) which will in turn be blended with its existing power supply being purchased from competent power generators for the benefit of maximizing the use of the city's biodegradable waste for productive purposes.

The city's WACS is expected to be completed supposedly by April next year but local officials persisted in pressuring the company that was commissioned to do the study to make the same available by the end of November so that the local government could start working on the pertinent details of the technical description of the waste to energy plant that is being proposed to be established in the city that will convert the generated biodegradable waste to quality renewable energy where the city could also earn a decent income. */Dexter A. See*

Tree-farming instead...

from page 2

directed the CEPMO under Officer-in-Charge Engr. Moises Lozano and Asst. Department Head Rhenan Diwas to develop available lots into farms to tend tree seedlings of different endemic species.

Two lots are now being planned for development into botanical rearing facilities located at the Tiptop Ambuclao Road and another at Irisan barangay.

The city's two tree nurseries located at Busol watershed and the Botanical Garden are also programmed for upgrading into modern propagation facilities soon.

The mayor said plans are also afoot to saturate appropriate areas like Quezon Hill with bamboo nurseries. "Bamboos have been found to have carbon dioxide sequestration capacity three times higher than any adult tree so we should also delve on bamboo propagation," the mayor said. */Aileen P. Refuerzo*



BARANGAY SEAL OF GOOD GOVERNANCE - The Municipality of La Trinidad recently awarded (with plaques and cash incentives) several barangays for seal of good local governance as follows: Alapang, Balili, Lubas, Bahong, Alno. These barangays received plaques and cash incentives.

'Unmet needs' still hound Cordillera mothers

Baguio City – Referred to as 'unmet needs,' women or couples who want to limit or space their children but are not using any modern method of contraception remain a social, health, and development challenge in the Cordillera region according to the head of the Commission on Population and Development (PopCom) – Cordillera on Friday.

Regional Director Magdalena Abellera said monitoring revealed that there are 1,798 identified unmet needs from the 12,288 women of reproductive age (WRA) profiled from January

until September this year, quoting PopCom's online data.

Of the number, 251 women have accepted modern family planning methods while the rest were already linked to health service providers, Abellera said.

"We will continue to follow them up until we zero the number of unmet met needs because even one life is significant," she added.

To facilitate this goal, Popcom – CAR deployed 24 field coordinators across the region last September under the Intensified National Program on Population

and Family Planning (NPPFP) to lead in the profiling of WRA, facilitate referral for family planning service, and disseminate the Responsible Parenthood and Family Planning (RPPFP) program.

The coordinators will work closely with barangay population volunteers in partnering with families, couples, and individuals towards better access to effective family planning information and services.

According to Abellera, the RPPFP program deals with issues related to sexual and reproductive health, including fertility and family planning concerns.

It is also a development strategy to achieve demographic dividend, she added.

Abellera said it aims to help couples realize their desired timing, spacing, and number of children in accordance with their socioeconomic, emotional, psychological capacity, and religious beliefs.

Related to this, Abellera said among the key activities this last quarter is the conduct of Family Planning Caravans in all

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City no longer entertaining proposals on Asin hydro plants

BAGUIO CITY – The City Council approved a resolution expressing the strong support of the city government's officialdom to the stand of Mayor Benjamin B. Magalong for the city to no longer entertain any proposals from Goldlink Global Energy Corp. in so far as it affects the operation of the city-owned Asin hydroelectric plants in Tuba, Benguet to fasttrack the resolution of the case filed by the city before the energy department.

Resolution No. 337, series of 2019, states that seeing that the city

operation of its Asin hydro facility may experience further delay with Goldlink endeavoring to look after its own interest at the expense of the city government, the Mayor, in a motion to resolve the aforesaid case, decided not to entertain anymore proposals from Goldlink.

Earlier, the city government filed on June 18, 2015, a complaint for revocation, cancellation of renewable energy contracts issued to Goldlink Global Energy Corp. by the energy department that pertain to the proposed hydroelectric power facilities in Tuba

town that allegedly overlap with the city-owned Asin hydroelectric plants.

In an order dated March 27, 2018, the energy department, through a committee created under Special Order No. 2016-06-0029, declared the case submitted for resolution, without prejudice to the parties submission of a compromise agreement

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PRRD to issue building...

from page 1

mayor said the building moratorium will ease additional use of the sewerage and use of water while the tree-cutting moratorium will also help in the inventory of the actual number of trees in the city. */Liza Agoot (PNA)*

Carlos, the Prompter

By: Jeffrey P. Yap (www.rappler.com)

The exact date was August 13, 2005, a Saturday, and it was the first time I met Carlos Celdran. I wanted to walk the streets of downtown Manila at the time, and a friend who knew Carlos said I could sign up for his tour of Escolta. Tours devoted to this specific district of the capital's core were rare, as other guides wouldn't brave its inner streets. It piqued my interest that someone was actually conducting a thorough tour of the area.

On the day of the meetup, I was the only one who showed up. Carlos was expecting a dozen participants who backed out at the last minute. "What the heck," he said. "On with the tour."

We started with Calvo Building, a late 1930s structure that witnessed Escolta's golden days when it was dubbed the "Queen of All Manila Streets" until its decline in the 1990s. Carlos brought with him a portable speaker and played "Moonlight Serenade." He said that he wasn't merely banking on nostalgia, that playing the song would help me imagine the heydays of Manila.

We entered the building's community museum. Surrounded by news clippings, old soda bottles, and photos of prewar structures in the area, I suddenly felt a strong connection to the street. It was as if I had lived or worked there. It felt uncanny to be drawn into this particular place, yet I also felt grounded and secure as I stood there.

I was too embarrassed to tell Carlos what happened while he was busy tinkering with his speaker. He went on and told me how Escolta transformed

from a sleepy Spanish street to a bustling district of Manila during the American Period. It was obvious that he knew the place well. Carlos recounted how Escolta

had all the firsts – the first elevator, the first ice cream parlor, the first cinema in the country, among others. His knowledge of Manila was second nature, and he said that one needn't be an old-timer to love the city; all it takes is commitment to know more about it, how it came to be, to understand its present and even its future.

With only the two of us in the tour, it occurred to me that he seemed to have veered away from the script. But I don't think he ever had a script to start with. He was no-holds-barred about the current state of Manila. He lamented that it was going to the dogs, because of the city government's lack of care and conscious effort to actually do something about Manila's remaining heritage. The tour became a discussion on how building owners could actually benefit from tax breaks and the need for support from the community to promote cleanliness, peace, and order. I told him that we needed to talk to the right people, and proposed a reinvention of the street.

We walked further towards Plaza Sta Cruz. He said we just had to enter the Monte de Piedad, the old building that stood at the end of Escolta. When he described it as formidable, I asked what made it so. "The guards already know I bring in people who have no business to be there." It had been converted to a grocery store at the time, and so I thought that maybe we could buy something. We entered the building and went straight to the beverage section. Inside, Carlos talked about Arsenio Lacson, whose statue stood across the street in the middle of the plaza named after him. The guards looked at us with suspicion so we paid for our drinks and left.

His tour cost around P150 for students then. I felt compelled to make up for the students who didn't show up so I handed him a 500. He wouldn't accept it and he gave me my change. We went our ways at the foot of Quiapo Bridge. It would be 10 years before I meet him again, right across the river, in Intramuros.

I was already working for the Intramuros Administration when I met him again. I was new at IA, and we were preparing activities commemorating the Battle of Manila. I had just left a job in corporate Makati for a government job in old Manila. After years of volunteering in the heritage conservation scene, I was finally working full-time in promoting Manila's history and conserving its built heritage. The meeting with Carlos proved to be the beginning of regular collaboration with him and other artists and advocates.

In the decade that transpired, Escolta had once again come alive. It had become a thriving community of artists and merchants, and his tours played no small part

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KAKAMPIMO ANG BATAS

Rich Pinoys have an explaining to do on Chinese influx into RP

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... The Lord will bring a nation against you from far away, from the ends of the earth, like an eagle swooping down, a nation whose language you will not understand, a fierce-looking nation without respect for the old or pity for the young. They will devour the young of your livestock and the crops of your land until you are destroyed. They will leave you no grain, new wine or olive oil, nor any calves of your herds or lambs of your flocks until you are ruined..." (Deuteronomy 28:49-51, the Holy Bible).

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CHINA'S INVASION OF RP HAS BEGUN IN ILOCOS NRTE?

Here's a question posted on Twitter.com on October 11, 2019 by one Engr. Ferris Tangco III: has the China invasion of the Philippines begun, as shown by a compound in Ilocos Norte which is alleged to be filled with warehouse materials belonging to, and which contains flags of, the People's Republic of China (PROC)?

Or, as one other question from Engr. Tangco intoned, was the compound merely given to China by the Marcoses, who have been in undisputed power in Ilocos Norte for several decades now? Tangco's Twitter post featured four photographs depicting two satellite discs, and flags of the PROC inside that Ilocos Norte compound.

Let's hope the Marcoses can explain this, as Engr. Tangco's Twitter post directly mentioned them. Or, perhaps, the provincial government of Ilocos Norte, and even the Ilocos Norte Philippine National Police, can help clarify the matter. Are we permitting the flags of other countries, especially the flags of China, to publicly fly, in the full view of all the public, in our provinces, cities, and municipalities?

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RICH FILIPINOS HAVE AN EXPLAINING TO DO ON THE CHINESE INFLUX INTO RP:

If we think about this seriously enough, we can indeed say that China's invasion and occupation of the Philippines are already happening and taking place, unimpeded. One proof of this are the thousands and thousands of Chinese men and women who are now literally spread out in Metro Manila's commercial centers (particularly along Macapagal Avenue in Pasay City and Paranaque City, and even in nearby suburbs), residing at high rise condominium units in the metropolis and the provinces in its peripheries.

This is also shown by the presence of a military station belonging to China at the open seas located west of the Philippines, whose name among many Filipinos early on was South China Sea, but which came to be called later

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Editorial

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in making that possible. Carlos' tours weren't just tours; they were also an awareness campaign that reintroduced Manila to throngs of tourists and to a new generation of movers and advocates. During one of our conversations, I kidded him for not remembering me. "Of course, I do," he said. "You paid for my Coke and you saved me from the guards!"

The tours, too, had grown bigger, grander, and ever popular. Many days I would hear Carlos herding his curious flock across Fort Santiago. There's no mistaking when he was there. Carlos at the head of the line, decked from head to foot in colonial-inspired clothing and finery, his voice booming and animated by the rise and fall of his narratives; dozens of tourists behind him, attention captured by this man giving them a tour and a lesson and a performance.

What I never told him, and I regret not telling him, though, was on that day in 2005, as we walked the streets of Manila, his tour helped me discover what I wanted to do. He was the push that I needed to begin my own advocacy in protecting the built heritage of Manila. I could tell him this now – perhaps the message would make its way to him somehow, but I could also almost hear him say: "Enough of this drama, my dear. Just get on with it." – Rappler.com

Jeffrey P. Yap is currently the senior tourism operations officer of the Intramuros Administration and is part of a team that supported and coordinated the events and activities of Carlos Celdran in the Walled City.

Kakampi mo ang batas

from page 4

as the West Philippine Sea by the government of then President Noynoy Aquino soon after it filed a case against China before the international arbitral tribunal.

No one can deny any longer the truth: there is a rampaging flood of Chinese entrants into the different cities and municipalities in the Philippines, who have come not merely as tourists but as residents and workers out to earn a living here. In all these, I am convinced that rich Filipino businessmen must be made to explain why they seem to have anticipated, and even prepared to profit from, the influx of these Chinese immigrants.

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CONDO UNITS IN RP WERE MEANT FOR FOREIGNERS ALONE? For quite some time now, I have been repeatedly asking here in this column (Kakampi Mo Ang Batas) one nagging question: why have the rich Filipino-Chinese in our midst been trying to outdo one another in putting up expensive and expansive condominium projects in many places (in Metro Manila and even in far-flung cities of the country) when it cannot be denied, then as now, that majority of our countrymen could ill-afford to buy whatever were built by them?

I have been harping on the fact that, even then, it was already very clear that those →

What if we called it birth control instead?



BY: ANA P. SANTOS (WWW.RAPPLER.COM)

Jeremy, a 16-year-old from Malabon, sat quietly on the clinic bed beside the baby she had just given birth to. I asked her if she was considering family planning to give her space till her next pregnancy. She gave me a blank look. "Family planning? Hindi ba pang-mag-asawa lang 'yun?"

That was back in 2008.

A few weeks ago, in Cavite, I met 20-year-old Marilyn Masinog, who is pregnant for the 4th time. She first got pregnant at 13 and became a mother at 14. Her friends, Jay-Ann and Jessa May, are all teen mothers. Jessa May, 22, has two children. They had heard about "family planning" – condoms, pills and other birth control methods – but thought that as single young women who had not yet gotten pregnant, they could not avail themselves of those options.

Grace, Nikka, Jaycel, Clarisse, Roselyn, and Daisy live in Tondo, Manila. They all first became pregnant as teenagers. Some of them have more than one child. I met them in September when they came in for an interview for our Teen Mom Scholarship Program. All 6 of the young women talked about sex and avoiding pregnancy with their friends, but they heard about pills, implants, and IUDs from their mothers and titas. Those methods, they said, were family planning and were for the women who were married (also meaning living with their partner) and already had children.

This illustrates the paradox of the Philippines' sex problem: we have sex, but we don't talk enough about how to prevent unplanned pregnancies. To be more specific, our current framing of birth control as "family planning and responsible parenthood" creates a psychological barrier that keeps out young people who are sexually active but do not yet want to become parents.

Skyrocketing teen pregnancy

The Philippines has one of the highest teen pregnancy rates in the southeast Asian region. Every day, an estimated 500 teenage girls become

who were pushing all they've got to put up condominium projects had Filipinos in mind as the buyers of their product, but foreigners who have the capacity to buy with their wallets or bank accounts filled with dollars. I have been asking for an explanation on this construction boom repeatedly, but no one was listening (or wanted to listen), no one wanted to act, one way or the other.

At this point, we should now come up with the truth: there is a need for an inspection and investigation of all condominium projects in the country by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, Bureau of Immigration, Philippine National Police, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, to find out who have purchased units from them or who have been occupying those units since then. I am willing to bet that this investigation would yield a treasure trove →

mothers. A growing number have more than one child before the age of 20. Teen pregnancy – a life event that is 100% avoidable – has been declared a national public health emergency.

On the one hand, there is no scarcity of sex.

There's internet porn. Green jokes and sexually-loaded innuendo are casually tossed into casual conversations. Sex is paraded around on noontime TV by scantily-clothed women shimmying to the latest pop song.

We giggle and cover our mouths with our hands even as we demurely refer to a penis as a bird and a vagina as a flower. The more daring will outdo each other with vulgar sex jokes – the more scandalous, the better.

On the other hand, when it comes down to discussing the risks associated with having unprotected sex, we clamp down. Just say no to sex. Close your legs. Pray the temptation away. Even as the science tells us that condoms, pills, and implants are all more effective than the most ardent and sincere of prayers.

We're giving out mixed and muddled messages.

This matters a great deal when you're 17, the age when, research tells us, about 23% of Filipino youth first start to have sex.

As teens, they want or are considering having sex but don't want to be parents yet. All the messaging around them tells them that sex is hot, it feels good, it's pleasurable – but stops there. Avoiding unplanned pregnancy, sexually-transmitted infections, and even the emotional pitfalls of having sex are restricted topics, meant only for married people – the people who are seen as "allowed" to have sex.

The sex that young people know is cloaked in myths and misconceptions and none of the science of protection and prevention. About 78% of first sexual encounters among young people are unprotected. According to a recent report, about 30 to 50 pregnancies per year are among 10-year-olds. In an interview at a maternity teen clinic, the doctor said that most of their cases that involve a child as young as 10 are cases of incest or rape.

The power of words

Referring to birth control as "family planning methods" carries all the connotations of how couples can plan how many children they want and can afford.

Words have the power to frame concepts. Words tell us what things are for, who they are for, and who they are not for. And the term "family planning" sends the signal that these methods are only for people who are presumably married and

Cont. on page 7

of foreign sounding names, especially Chinese names, as the buyers and the occupants of the posh residential units.

-000-

REACTIONS? Call 0977 805 9058, 0918 574 0193, 0933 8251308, or my Messenger account in Facebook, Melanio Lazo Mauricio Jr. Or you could email me at batasmauricio@yahoo.com, mmauriciojr111@gmail.com, or send your comments or queries at www.facebook.com/attybatas.

600 runners to join The North Face 100 marathon

BAGUIO CITY – Some six hundred local and foreign runners are expected to join this year's edition of The North Face 100 trail running event which will be held in Baguio City passing through the trails of Itogon and Tuba towns.

The annual trail running event has been divided into 4 categories, the 100-kilometer trail run, the 50-kilometer run, the 22-kilometer race and the 11-kilometer race.

This year's trail running event is the 6th that will be conducted in Baguio City and its neighboring towns of Benguet after having been absent in the city over the past 2 years considering that organizers opted to hold the same in other trail running areas like Camarines Sur in 2017 and Laguna in 2018.

Organizers were convinced to go back to Baguio City for this year's edition of the event because running enthusiasts have been clamouring for new and more challenging routes that will also allow them to be able to view untapped and unexplored tourist destinations within the routes of the different categories.

Cut of time for runners who will be joining the 100-kilometer trail run will be 30 hours while runners joining the 50-kilometer run will be given a maximum of 18 hours to complete the said category or else they will be declared as unable to finish the races.

Runners, especially those joining the two categories of the trail run, are required to bring with them their utensils and personal items that they will use to recharge in the different aid stations for them to be able to continue their journey to the finish line.

Part of the commitment of the organizers to the host local governments include the planting of tree seedlings by the runners who will be joining the 100-kilometer trail run apart from the donation of some 50 percent of the seedlings that were planted to the concerned government agencies and local governments for their environmental preservation and protection campaign.

Registration fee for the 100-kilometer run was pegged at P9,000, 50-kilometer run – P7,000, 22-kilometer race – P4,000 and 11-kilometer run – P3,000 that will include a complete race kit for the runners.

Appropriate directional signs that are environmentally-friendly will be installed by the organizers along the route of the races so that runners will be guided accordingly when traversing the established routes aside from the presence of aid stations that will be equip with food and water for the hydration of the participating runners.

Republic of the Philippines
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
Justice Hill, Justice Hall
La Trinidad, Benguet

FOR: Extra-judicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage Under Act 3135 Amended

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (otherwise known as Pag-ibig Fund)

-Mortgagee,

-versus-

BLIST-GECHA, INC. (awardee Matias B. Sagorsor)

Further, communities in the areas that will be traversed by the runners were also tapped by the organizers to help in providing the adequate supply of native delicacies and potable water for the runners apart from ensuring the safety and security of the runners who will be coming from the different parts of the world.

The North Face 100 marathon is one of the most awaited trail running events that will be conducted in the city considering the offering of new and challenging routes every time that

the event will be conducted and that the new offering for this year will be the Mount Ugo in nearby Itogon town which has been the site of numerous trail running events over the past several years that enticed numerous domestic and foreign runners to join such activities./
Dexter A. See

-Mortgagors.

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. 19-EJF-2151

X-----X

SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

Upon extra-petition for extra-judicial foreclosure of mortgage under Act No. 3135, as amended, filed by Home Development Mutual Fund, for the satisfaction of the loan obligation of BLIST-GECHA, INC. (awardee Matias B. Sagorsor), that as per demand letters, the mortgagor is indebted to the mortgagee amounting to SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTEEN PESOS AND TWENTY THREE CENTAVOS (Php783,618.73) Philippine Currency, as of August 15, 2019. The undersigned will sell at public auction on October 22, 2019 at 10:30 o'clock in the morning at the main entrance of Bulwagan ng Katarungan building, Justice Hill, La Trinidad, Benguet to the highest bidder, the parcel of land together with the improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-65921

"A parcel of land (Lot 47, Block 4, of the consolidated subdivision plan, Pcs-CAR-001180, containing an area of 101 square meters, located at Barangay Tadiangan, Municipality of Tuba, Province of Benguet."

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

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on or before the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on November 12, 2019 same time, without further notice and publication.

La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, this 19th day of September 2019.

FOR THE PROVINCIAL SHERIFF EX-OFFICIO OF

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT, BRANCH 9 (FAMILY COURT FOR BENGUET PROVINCE)
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
La Trinidad, Benguet

IN THE MATTER OF CORRECTION OF ENTRY IN THE CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH OF MINOR LEE KUAN BAOIDANG MENCION AS TO HIS MIDDLE NAME FROM "SUBADAY TO BAOIDANG" AND HIS SURNAME FROM "BAOIDANG TO MENCION".

JULIET S. BAOIDANG-MENCION,

-Petitioner,

-VERSUS-

THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRY OF THE

'Unmet needs'...

from page 3

provinces where individuals and couples can be provided with counseling and family planning services.

"We can cut down unmet needs as they emerge by empowering our communities with proper information and linking them to services," Abellera stated.

The regional director likewise enjoined barangay officials to comply with Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Memorandum Circular 2019-100, issued last July, which mandates the appointment or designation of Local Population Officers.

The memorandum also mandates the mobilization of barangay and community officials and volunteers to support the said

City no longer...

from page 3

prior to promulgation of the decision or resolution in the aforesaid case.

The resolution noted that over a year after the issuance of the said order, however, the

BENGUET

BY: (SGD) DANIEL D. CELINO
SHERIFF IV

Sept. 28, Oct. 5 & 12, 2019

MUNICIPALITY OF LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET, AND THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE,

-Respondents.

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE NO. 19-SP-1995

X-----X

ORDER

Petitioner, through counsel, filed this verified Petition praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, decision be rendered directing the Local Civil Registrar of La Trinidad, Benguet and the Philippines Statistics Authority to correct the name of LEE KUAN SUBADAY BAOIDANG to "LEE KUAN BAOIDANG MENCION" in his Certificate of Live Birth.

WHEREFORE, finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, this Court set it for initial hearing on November 27, 2019 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning before the session hall of this Court, Justice Hall,

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

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the petitioners in THE JUNCTION, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, once a week, for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than October 13, 2019.

Furnish copies of this ORDER, together with copies of the Petition and its annexes, to the Office of the Solicitor General; the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Local Civil Registrar of La Trinidad, Benguet; and the Philippine Statistics Authority, Quezon City. Likewise, furnish copies of this ORDER to The Junction and the petitioner and counsel.

SO ORDERED.

This 27th day of September 2019 at La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines.

(SGD) MARIETTA S. BRAUNER-CUALING
Presiding Judge

October 5, 12 & 19, 2019

national program.

The memorandum emphasizes the critical role of local government units in ensuring the delivery of the full range of family planning information and services especially among the marginalized and underserved population.

The memo circular is in compliance to EO 12-s2017 which mandates the DOH, PopCom, DILG, and other agencies, including LGUs, to attain and sustain zero unmet need for Family Planning./
POPCOM Cordillera

num when the same could have already contributed precious renewable energy to the grid.

In 2006, the city government took over the operation of the Asin minihydro power plants from the Aboitiz-owned Hydroelectric Development Corporation (HEDCOR) after the expiration of the 25-year lease agreement when it operated the same until October 2012.

Ironically, the Energy

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

ELCANOR MANG-USAN

Applicant

CASE No. 2015-CAR-316

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on October 1, 2019 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO CITY - DENGSI and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on October 30, 2019 at 9:00 AM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time 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) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and 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 Engr. LALAIN E. SOBREMONTA, OIC-Regional Director, this 2nd day of October 2019, Baguio City.

ATTY. LAIRD DIONEL N. URBANOZO
Hearing Officer

Mayor's search for truth gets support

BAGUIO CITY – The City Council passed a resolution expressing the city's officialdom and citizens' strong support to Mayor Benjamin B. Magalong in his quest for truth and standing on what is right and good, especially during the ongoing inquiry on the 'Agaw Bato' issue.

Resolution no. 336, series of 2019, states the officialdom of the city and its citizens wholeheartedly support the City Mayor in his quest for truth and standing on what is right and good, especially in the ongoing Senate inquiry

on the 'Agaw Bato' issue and other related issues that have cropped up as a result of the investigation.

The resolution stipulates the constituents of Baguio have explicitly conveyed their support through social media and by staging a prayer rally for the safety and security of the city mayor.

Earlier, the mayor appeared at the hearing called by the Senate blue-ribbon and justice committees on the illegal drug situation in the country, among other related issues.

During the conduct of the Senate inquiry,

numerous Philippine National Police (PNP) officers were implicated or mentioned on the alleged corrupt practices of alleged "Agaw Bato," perpetrated by the so-called ninja cops.

Despite the alleged death threats he reportedly received after his revelation in the Senate, Mayor Magalong insisted that testifying before the Senate was worth it, that it is a fight between good and evil and of what is right and good.

The resolution was approved by the members of the city legislative body in a quick session that was called for the said purpose prior to the session by the designated Senior Citizens Officials for A Day (SCOFAD), an institutionalized event of the local government every first week of October.

Last Sunday, different religious groups in the city converged at the Peoples Park for a prayer rally for the safety and security of the mayor in his quest for the truth in his revelations in the series of Senate inquiries on the alleged involvement of ranking PNP officers in the corrupt activities that tend to derail the government's aggressive anti-illegal

drug campaign.

Right after his assumption in office on July 1, 2016, President Rodrigo Duterte launched an aggressive anti-illegal drug campaign that resulted to the surrender of hundreds of thousands of individuals involved in the drug trade and the untimely demise of those drug suspects who opted to fight it out with author-

ities for them to be able to pursue the distribution of the various illegal drugs in the different parts of the country.

Amidst the campaign against illegal drugs in the country, the fact remains that illegal drugs continue to be traded and distributed because of the alleged protection provided to the drug suspects by suspected corrupt public

officials and those in the law enforcement agencies.

The justice department is now investigating the involvement of ranking PNP officials in the various corrupt activities that were exposed thus the drug problem continues to be one of the major problems of the country./
Dexter A. See

Magsaysay building...

from page 8

mayor gives in to their request, the vendors shall sign an undertaking that if they will take full responsibility of any untoward incident that may happen within the building.

Even the Upper Magsaysay Barangay Hall located within the structure will be affected. Punong Barangay Precilla Dacanay said if the demolition pushes through, they will transfer to the BCMA office at the market.

The notice to vacate will lapse on October 13, 2019. The city government is set to demolish the building and the open space will be temporarily utilized as parking area. Under the annual budget of the city government for this year that was prepared during the previous administration, some P20 million was earmarked to renovate the already dilapidated structure.

Dela Peña said no one is being singled out in the issuance of demolition orders since the city government is inspecting all structures in the city to correct hazardous buildings putting emphasis on safety. /**Jessa Mardy Samidan**

What if we called it...

from page 5

want to start a family or already have one.

The country is scrambling to address our runaway teen pregnancy rates. In our desperation, we pitch baseless solutions, like having separate classrooms for boys and girls.

But what if we expanded the current conversation to be more inclusive and attuned to the needs of our young people who are sexually active but want to avoid unplanned pregnancies?

They have the same right to this information as married or older couples do, and yet we keep this from them. Ironically enough, birth control information is made available once you are pregnant and already have a child. For many teenage girls, this is an intervention that is too little, too late.

Let's try to reimagine having a different pregnancy prevention conversation – one that considers what our young people want and what they need, according to them, not according to what we adults might think is right for them.

What if we called it for what it is? Birth control. An option to plan and control when you get pregnant and how often. An option that is viable for anyone who is sexually active.

Would it empower our young people to think about birth control as an option of a responsible individual?

Teen pregnancy is a complex problem that will need layered solutions. One obvious barrier is the clause in the current Reproductive Health Law that restricts minors from availing themselves of birth control at public health clinics without parental consent. Comprehensive sex education that covers everything from abstinence to IUDs and vasectomy, knowledge about having healthy romantic relationships, access to contraception methods, as well as the guidance of parents or trusted adults are also interventions that must be included.

It will be a long and continuous dialogue, but what if we started by having honest and open conversations about pregnancy prevention, one that is more inclusive than "family planning"? What if we started calling it birth control instead? – Rappler.com

Magsaysay building...

from page 8

tion orders resulted to the removal of ten shanties and partial demolition of five two-to-three story buildings.

Ten were voluntarily torn down by the owners; seven were put on hold after their owners presented new documents while two three-story buildings were left untouched after the CEO ran out of funds.

The mayor and City Administrator Bonifacio

Dela Peña instructed concerned department heads to work out the funding requirement to ensure continuous and speedy operations.

Imson said that upon completion of the first batch, they will move on to the next 67 structures lined up for demolition.

A total of 267 structures were identified to have encroached into RROWS along the highway.

Similar operations will

be undertaken along other national highways like Naguilian Road, Kennon Road and Loakan Road.

The mayor said separate funds for the widening of these roads are being worked out for implementation next year.

The operations were in compliance with the DILG Memorandum Circular 121-2019 issued in line with the President's order for the clearing of roads nationwide issued on July 29, 2019./**Aileen P. Refuerzo**

dum of agreement for the said endeavour.

Because of the failure of Kaltimex to execute the contract with the city, the city government decided to file a judicial restitution of the contract that will free the city from its obligations stipulated in the previous agreement but Kaltimex, under a new management, proposed for the amicable settlement of the dispute.

On the other hand, Goldlink secured the consent of the indigenous peoples of Tuba for the put up of separate power plants along the same river system that will have an impact on the city-owned power plants./**Dexter A. See**

City no longer...

from page 6

Regulatory Commission (ERC) issued a cease and desist order to the city government to stop the operation of the city-owned Asin minihydro power plants because of its inability to secure a certi-

ficate of compliance from the regulatory agency pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act (RA) 9136 or the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA).

The city government eventually awarded the maintenance and operation of the city-owned Asin hydro power plants to Kaltimex Energy Philippines which was the declared lone complying and responsive bidder, but it took the City Council more than a year to confirm the memoran-

Firm offers tech to turn...

from page 8

non-biodegradable waste is being transferred daily to a sanitary landfill in Capas, Tarlac by a private hauler commissioned by the city government.

Buyucan also suggests that the proponent look into the waste analysis and characterization study (WACS) of the city to ensure return of investment both for the company and the city.

Buyucan said the Envirotech proposal can be incorporated in the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) program but said this should be set-up outside the city.

Meanwhile, Patricio Evangelista who served as Senior Citizen Officer for a Day (SCOFAD) Mayor suggests that the city officials visit the existing projects of Envirotech in Las Piñas City and Candelaria, Zambales to see the environment of the plant before approving the proposal./
Jessa Mardy Samidan

Magsaysay Building vendors ask more time amid notice to vacate

Eighteen vendors occupying the Magsaysay Building at the Baguio Public Market are asking the city government to hold in abeyance the implementation of the Notice to Vacate issued earlier due to the building's dangerous and hazardous status.

In a dialogue with City Administrator Bonifacio Dela Peña on Thursday, 10 October 2019, the vendors plead for them to continue operating their businesses while the city is yet to finalize its plan for the redevelopment of the market.

The Magsaysay building in the market is one of the oldest structures owned by the city government thereat and has deteri-

orated over the years. Pursuant to Section 214 of Presidential Decree (PD) No. 1096, or the National Building Code, the City Buildings and Architecture Office (CBAO) issued a Notice to Vacate to the vendors and recommended demolition of the structure.

At the same time, the Bureau of Fire Protection in Baguio declared the building is fire hazard repeatedly due to damaged electrical wirings.

However, the vendors claim that they have not received a copy of the CBAO and BFP reports. Per records of the Baguio City Market Authority, there are 50 lessees occupying the building aside from the 38 watch

repair stalls outside the structure.

Dela Peña said there is no relocation site for the vendors but the city government has to enforce the eviction and demolition for safety reasons.

"My suggestion is for the vendors to continue their business until December only as humanitarian consideration. But the vendors are asking if they could stay until the city has finalized its market redevelopment plan," Dela Peña said.

While not giving a guarantee, the city administrator said he will bring the request of the vendors to the mayor.

He made a verbal agreement with the vendors that should the

Mayor issues fresh road clearing order as campaign continues

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Benjamin Magalong warned anew business owners and residents here to refrain from using and obstructing roads near their properties to avoid the penalty of continuously ignoring the national and local government orders on road clearing operations.

In the Management Committee meeting Oct. 8, the mayor said the city can also be nasty in implementing the law just to show headstrong businessmen and residents especially along the central business district that it is bent on imposing the law.

He ordered concerned agencies to confiscate all materials and goods owned by businessmen and residents that will be found stored along road right-of-ways.

"Seize every item you will see and we will crush them. Even if the owners are my friends, I will do it just to send a strong message that we mean business," the mayor directed City Engineer Edgar Victorio Olpindo.

Olpindo reported that 25 percent of the city's roads had been cleared of encroachments as of Oct. 8.

He said the city has a total of 306 national,

city and barangays roads and 118 had been cleared in cooperation with the barangay officials and residents.

Of the total, 138 roads were found to have encroachments and 118 had been cleared while the rest had none though are still being validated.

All the roads will also be subjected to continuous monitoring to ensure that they will remain obstruction-free.

The demolition of illegal structures along the road right-of-ways of Marcos Highway also resumed last Friday to continue the dismantling of the five two-story buildings

partially torn down in the last operations last Sept. 25.

Asst. City Engr. Constanicio Imson Jr. reported that the two operations undertaken last Sept. 19 and Sept. 25 on 34 structures that were issued demoli-

Cont. on page 7



FREE LECHON 2.0 | Eat Pinoy Pork Lechon Tasting was held today, 5 October 2019 at the Baguio City Public Market. This program was spearheaded by the Baguio City Market Authority and Baguio City Meat Vendors Association with the theme: "Protect the Philippine Hog Industry, Let's fight against African Swine Flu (ASF)" /@pio-baguio

Firm offers tech to turn plastic waste into chairs, desks

BAGUIO CITY - A Davao-based company is offering its services to the city government to lessen the volume of plastic wastes being hauled out to a sanitary landfill outside Baguio.

During the executive and legislative meeting of the city officials on Monday, 7 October 2019, Envirotech Waste Recycling firm was introduced by its representative Janet Martin.

Envirotech collects plastic waste and converts these into school chairs and desks. Martin said

no trace of mercury, Martin said. She added that Envirotech can buy back the end product if requested.

Five different machines will compose a set of the technology with the capacity to process 60 to 90 tons of plastic waste in a month. Martin said the technology can process around two tons of plastic in a day.

To set-up the machines, a land area of at least 2,000 square meters is needed and will be ready in three months including the training of city personnel to handle the operation and

management. Martin said the technology costs Php12 million and can be acquired by the city through direct purchase or in a Private-Public-Partnership (PPP) scheme.

General Services Officer Eugene Buyucan said a feasibility study is needed to ensure viability of the proposed venture considering that the city is now enforcing a plastic ban among shopping centers.

"We have 180 tons of residual waste on a daily basis but only 30 percent or less of this is plastic," Buyucan explained. This amount of

Cont. on page 7

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