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WEEKEND

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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

CJHDevCo on a losing streak—BCDA

State agency confident of win, CJHDevCo execs' conviction

Amid its long-standing legal battle with Camp John Hay Development Corporation (CJHDevCO), the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) expressed confidence that it will emerge the victor, with the state agency citing CJHDevCo's string of criminal indictments and dismissed cases relating to its P3 billion debt to the government.

Speaking at a recent media forum, BCDA president and CEO Arnel Paciano D. Casanova said that "the wheels of justice are turning, and it is only a matter of time before CJHDevCo chairman Robert John Sobrepeña and his cohorts are convicted of their crimes. We eagerly await their trial and conviction."

Malversation, perjury trials await CJHDevCo execs

Sobrepeña, along with Alfredo R. Yniguez III and two others, has been charged with malversation by the Department of Justice for refusing to return 26 BCDA-owned hotel units located in Camp John Hay Manor and Camp John Hay Suites, Baguio City while continuing to earn from these units. Sobrepeña pleaded not guilty.

Cont. on page 6

Mayor, panindigan ninyo at pang matagalan na sana ang inyong mga panukala na beyond the commerce of man ang mga bangketa at pasilyo. Sana ay huwag ningas cogon!!!



COMPLIMENTARY COPY



BEYOND THE COMMERCE OF MAN - Mayor Mauricio Domogan stands firm with his decision to ban ambulant vendors using roadsides and sidewalks during a meeting with vendors in the presence of SP Committee on Market chair Elaine Sembrano./By Bong Cayabyab

JHMC Intensifies Protection of John Hay Forest to Mitigate Effects of Climate Change **page 2**

Benguet Town Chief Execs Commit to Sustain Communal Forests, Water Systems...p2

Lawmaker Presses Rewards, Protection Policy for Whistleblowers **page 2**

Brother Seeks Donors for Ailing Sibling **page 8**

23 Vying for "Miss Baguio" Title **page 8**

Samaritans Trying to Cope with Endless Number of People in Need **page 2**

Another Lot Problem Crops up at Busol Watershed **page 3**

Mayor's Marching Order to POSD: Keep Vendors Away **page 3**

More Improvements seen for Old City Structures **page 3**

FASTRACK

Pork Barrel Scam makes PH the laughing stock of the world!!!

page 5

BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



MAGKASANGGATAYO

Kasakiman Kaakibat ng Ka-Demonyohan!!!

page 5

BY: NESTOR CASTRO



JHMC Intensifies Protection of John Hay Forest to Mitigate Effects of Climate Change

The John Hay Management Corporation (JHMC), the management arm of the state-owned Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) in the John Hay Special Economic Zone (JHSEZ) and John Hay Reservation Area (JHRA) announced that it is strengthening its forest management program to mitigate the effects of climate change.

JHMC President and CEO Jamie Eloise M. Agbayani said the global phenomenon of climate change is real and the effects are catastrophic if not checked. "Baguio is not immune to the ill effects of climate change which include drought, flooding, water-borne and drought-borne diseases, landslides, forest fires, pest infestation, and ultimately the irreparable destruction of the biodiversity of an area," she said.

She said protecting and preserving the forest in the JHSEZ and the JHRA play a key role in sustaining the balance of the various species both flora and fauna or the bio-diversity in the area. The John Hay forest covers 30 percent of the entire forest land of Baguio.

Agbayani said JHMC has taken additional measures to maintain John Hay's forest density, clean air and water resources for the benefit of the people of Baguio.

According to Agbayani, the JHMC personnel and its Forest Rangers have been deputized as DENR Officers (DENROs) and are authorized to apprehend illegal tree cutting activities in the Camp John Hay Reservation. They vigilantly patrol the Camp to protect and preserve more than 30% of the forest cover of the City of Baguio.

Cont. on page 6

Benguet Town Chief Execs Commit to Sustain Communal Forests, Water Systems

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - Local chief executives expressed their commitments in pursuing measures for the sustainability of six communal forests in some towns of the province.

Governor Nestor Fongwan commended the municipal mayors who expressed their commitments allocating some amounts and other forms of support in sustaining their communal forests.

He also stressed the need to incorporate the sustainability plans in the respective annual investment plans of the municipalities.

The sustainability plan contains the next steps which put in place measures and strategies to be adopted in the communal forests in Ambassadors in Tublay, Banangan in Sablan, Poblacion in Bokod, Loo in Buguias, Poblacion in Atok, Sagpat in Kibungan.

These are the project sites of the "Saving the Benguet Watersheds for Water" two-year project under the European Union in partnership with the provincial government, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Benguet State University, among other stakeholders, and implemented by the Jaime V. Ongpin Foundation, Inc. (JVOFI), a non government organization. The project is now winding up.

Cont. on page 6

Lawmaker Presses Rewards, Protection Policy for Whistleblowers

To encourage and protect those who will step forward and expose graft and corruption and violations of law, Senator Chiz Escudero has filed Senate Bill No. 425 (SBN 425) which seeks to provide protection and benefits for whistleblowers.

"We are expanding the right of the whistleblower to choose which agency he wants to be admitted, which agency is he more comfortable with. The current witness protection law only empowers the DOJ to implement the program," the senator said.

Under the measure, a qualified whistleblower is given the option to choose which implementing agency he intends to be admitted. The bill creates a Whistleblower Council which shall be headed by the Office of the Solicitor General and shall be composed of implementing agencies identified as the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Office of the Ombudsman, the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) and the Public Attorney's Office (PAO).

SBN 425 likewise empowers both the Senate and the Congress to institute their own whistleblower's program for resource persons appearing before their respective committees.

Informants who disclose graft and corruption, plunder, violation of code of conduct and ethical standards for public officials and employees, and other abuse or neglect of duty of an agency, public servants and private entities are protected under the measure.

"We want to protect government informants even before they take the witness stand. This bill bestows a set of safeguards and benefits for witnesses aside from those provided under our existing law on such program."

Section 18 of the proposed bill states that a "whistleblower shall not be subject to any liability whether administrative, civil, criminal for making such disclosure." It frees the whistleblower from any claim or demand for making a disclosure. It also provides that no single evidence presented shall be used against the informant in court. However, in any case that a whistleblower commits any false or misleading disclosure, all protection shall be lifted.

Aside from security and protection, the bill also entitles the whistleblower to financial benefits such as an allowance equivalent to his daily basic financial requirement and a corresponding monetary reward equivalent to at least ten percent of the recovered amount or one million pesos, whichever is lower, as a result of his disclosure.

"By strengthening the protection of the citizen whose testimony is necessary and indispensable for the successful prosecution of a case, we also strengthen accountability and reduce corruption in the public and private sectors," Escudero said.

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Samaritans Trying to Cope with Endless Number of People in Need

Samaritans here and abroad sprung hopes for three seriously ill patients, including a five-month old baby who recently underwent surgery to install a shunt for the draining of fluids from the brain due to hydrocephaly.

The baby's mother received P12,000 support from Shoshin, a small foundation based in southern Germany established in 2004 by traditional karate students under master and former world kata champion Julian Chees.

Shoshin also reached out with a P31,000 support for 43-year Barbara Sianen-Fagcayang who is due for her second round of chemotherapy for ovarian cancer.

Barbara's husband, Carlito, a first-dan blackbelt under the Japan Karate Association to which the Shoshin (Beginner's Mind) School is also affiliated, earlier appealed for support. He apologized for breaking the code of gentle toughness, of enduring pain in silence taught to martial arts students, because of his wife's condition.

Earlier, Shoshin sent P10,929.70 for the hemodialysis treatment of Ferdinand Dumol, a 31-year old laborer and father to three young kids, and other kidney patients.

Locally, a regular contributor who requested anonymity had P15,000 handed over to sustain the dialysis treatment of Joel Gal-od, a 40-year old taxi driver who lost his unit and his house to be able to continue dialysis treatment, for the sake of Lyka, his 11-year old daughter.

Gal-od, whose wife left for abroad years back and later married a foreigner, also had his dialysis session last Monday, also care of the same Samaritan. The amount came from what remained of a P5,000 fund the donor gave for expenses in bringing home to Baguio the remains of Crisly Anayasan, a 21-year old who succumbed to congenital heart ailment last Aug. 7 at the Philippine Heart Center.

Last May, the same donor handed P15,000 to the boy's mother so she could fund return trips to the Heart Center which the mother and son began when he was in the fifth grade, hoping he would eventually undergo surgery.

Recently, too, a businessman based in La Trinidad, Benguet offered to regularly help address the needs of indigent patients. His initial donation of P6,000 was used for one hemodialysis treatment each for two kidney patients - barangay kagawad Jocelyn Singson of Bahong, and 19 year old Dharren Gawili of Balili, La Trinidad.

The third beneficiary was dialysis patient Belinda Allosa, a 36-year old mother to three daughters and wife to a construction worker. Visibly weak, She was knocking on doors at the city hall last Wednesday, saying she was days overdue in her hemodialysis treatment.

Belinda was armed with a social case study report from the city social welfare and development office which noted "purchase of medicines, expensive cost of hemodialysis and regular check-ups (had) drained the financial resources of (her) family"./Ramon Dacawi.



THE JUNCTION

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The Junction is printed and published by Farco Trimedia Ventures, Inc. (FTV, Inc.) every weekend, with office address at Ambuclo Road, Sitio Marooc, Itogon Benguet, and c/o Linis Gobyerno, Bldg. 2 Ground Floor PCEC Bldg., Happy Homes, Campo Sico, Baguio City; Mobile Phone No. (0917) 5069123
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Entered as Second Class Mail at the Baguio City Central Post Office
PCC-CAR 01-04-99

Website: www.junctionnews.com

Member:



Press Foundation of Asia
Philippine Press Institute
Beyond Borders Reporting

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Mayor's Marching Order to POSD: Keep Vendors Away

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan has issued a marching order to Public order and safety division (POSD) personnel to keep ambulant vendors away from the recently cleared roads and sidewalks at the city market and other areas at the central business district proving anew the city's resolve to sustain the clearing campaign.

The mayor on Wednesday said he gave the POSD personnel a specific order to keep their areas of responsibilities clear from vendors or face removal from service.

"Their job is not easy but we made it very clear that if they do not perform, then they have to be removed and replaced," the mayor said.

The city has a total of 67 men in its POSD roster who are employed on a job order basis. Thirty of them were recently hired purposely to augment the force manning the city market. The mayor had also renewed the appointment of Ret. Police Supt. Fernando Moyaen as head of the division effective August 1.

The mayor said there had been recent cases of termination from duty involving POSD personnel for being remiss in their work and this should serve as an example for the others not to take their duties and responsibilities lightly.

The mayor also reiterated the need to sustain the clearing campaign to put back order at the city market after years of tolerance by the city and abuse by the vendors.

"There is no question that we need to clear our market which is supposed to be the show window of the city," the mayor said.

He said the city has in the past given the vendors too much leeway but this was met with wanton disregard of the city's rules particularly on the payment of the dues, the putting up of stalls and subleasing them and the upkeep of the vending areas, prompting the city to decided to stop these abuses.

The mayor said the city will pursue its long delayed development whether it will still be through the venture with Uniwide Sales Realty and Resources Corporation (Uniwide) or with other companies.

The mayor reiterated his suggestion for the vendors to consider organizing themselves and bid for the development of the city market once the project has been cleared for rebidding.

The mayor has time and again brought up the possibility of the vendors groups undertaking the development project saying that set-up will be more advantageous for both the city government and the vendors themselves./A Refuerzo

More Improvements seen for Old City Structures

BAGUIO CITY - the dilapidated state of some city structures is now being eyed for complete renovation.

City Mayor Mauricio Domogan during the Weekly Ugnayan Presser stressed the need to develop old structures found within the Central Business District (CBD) to conform with its intended purpose.

The mayor said the 15 year old structure at the

Malcolm Square needs to be modernized immediately to address problems with its roofing and cracks and leaks on the walls.

"We have already appropriated P7.8 million for the total upgrading of the facility but based on plans and specifications of the City Building and Architecture Office (CBAO), the cost estimate for all the work to

be done has reached P9 million more or less," Domogan said.

Domogan further stated the city is now looking for additional funding to cover what is lacking before bidding starts.

"We have to demolish the existing structure and put-up a new one which can be used for the enjoyment of the public," he said.

The Malcolm
Cont. on page 7

Dads Suggest P-Noy Intervention on CALT Problem

BAGUIO CITY – President Benigno S. Aquino III must step in to help solve the city's growing problem on indiscriminate issuance of Certificates of Ancestral Land Titles (CALTs) over forest reservations, parks and other government lots in the city.

Three councilors made this call in separate proposed resolutions last week.

Councilor Fred Bagbagen who initiated the council inquiry on the CALTs the other week, proposed a resolution asking President Aquino to order the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples to stop the issuance of the CALTs in the city.

Bagbagen further sought to request the Senate and the House of Representatives to conduct a congressional inquiry and investigation on the CALTs issued on city reservations in another proposal.

In a separate proposed measure, the father-and-daughter tandem of Councilors Leandro and Karminn Dinney Yangot proposed that the city issue an appeal to the President "to intercede and intervene in resolving the most serious problem of the city" at present.

In their measures, the aldermen said Aquino has to intervene to make his effort to protect and preserve the city along with Boracay as prime eco-tourism destinations in the country work.

"The issuance of the titles over road right-of-ways, rivers, easements, parks, forests and watershed reservations runs counter to the efforts of the Aquino administration to protect and preserve Baguio City as one of the prime ecotourism destinations in the country," Bagbagen noted in his resolution.

"All efforts at uplifting the city's tourism potential and at addressing our environmental concerns will be put to naught with the most serious problem besetting our city – the indiscriminate and unscrupulous titling by way of CALTs of our remaining government parks, playgrounds, roads, reservations, forests and lands owned by the government by the (NCIP)," the Yangots echoed.

The aldermen stressed that based on the report of Mayor Mauricio Domogan and the city planning and development office, one-fifth of the city's total land area is now covered by CALTs and if left unchecked, the city stands to lose all available parks and forests.

"Albeit some of these approved CALTs are subject of reversion and cancellation proceedings, it is but appropriate and proper to seek the immediate help of the most powerful officials and citizens of the Philippines, who can use all available powers needed to restore what rightfully belongs to the people so that everyone may enjoy what Baguio City has to offer," the Yangots noted.

Earlier, Mayor Domogan reiterated that the biggest dilemma the city is facing at present is the wanton issuance of CALTs over reservations like the Forbes Park, Botanical Garden, Wright Park, portions of Busol watershed, Loakan airport and Casa Vallejo along Upper Session Road.

The mayor said the city is now faced with legal battles to cancel the CALTs over Forbes Park, Botanical Garden and Wright Park and to drive away squatters at the vital Busol watershed and the Casa Vallejo area along Ses-



MONITORING THE AIR QUALITY OF BAGUIO - Members of Roadside Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Team from the City Environment and Parks Management Office install an air quality monitoring device in front of City Hall to monitor Baguio's air quality./By Bong Cayabyab

Another Lot Problem Crops up at Busol Watershed

BAGUIO CITY – As if its problem on squatting and bogus ancestral land claims is not enough, the city government faces yet another problem in protecting Busol watershed following the discovery that a 77,849 square meter lot covered by a 211 and located within the reservation has been subdivided into several titles by the Register of Deeds (ROD) despite lack of revalidation.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Wednesday said he has tasked city assessor Nilda Navarro to immediately coordinate with city legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes for the filing of necessary action to nullify the titles.

Navarro discovered the spurious titles upon review of applications for tax declaration covering the subdivided lots and noticed the lack of revalidation of the Original Certificate of Title No. 018-0162 before its subdivision into 22 lots with duly issued Transfer Certificates of Title (TCTs).

The so-called 211 titles are those issued under Civil Reservation Case No. 1 Record 211 and which were declared void by the Supreme Court because the court that issued the same had no jurisdiction. The said titles can be legalized only upon undergoing validation proceedings.

Rabanes said that considering that the lot is situation within Busol and the title was not revalidated, the city will treat said titles as "null and void."

Busol watershed is one of the few remaining pinestands of the city now endangered by squatter infestation and fake ancestral land claims./A Refuerzo

He said the city will also tackle the CALT reportedly issued over the Loakan Airport including portions of the Philippine Military Academy.

"I'm praying that actions will be done on this pending very serious problem confronting the city," he said.

The proposed resolutions will be tackled by the city council in its session on Monday./A Refuerzo

Geography as destiny

Suppose our 80 provinces were countries. How would we compare with 185 other nations, say in increasing life expectancy? What about improving health? Or keeping kids in school longer, plus tamping down gender bias?

The Philippine Human Development Report (PHDR) 2013 raises those issues in a country reeling from legislators slurping at the pork barrel. That detracts attention. This eighth PHDR probes how hazard-studded geography can cripple people's access to health clinics, schools and jobs. Is geography destiny?

The PHDR first came off the press in 1994, crafted under then National Economic and Development chair Solita Monsod's no-nonsense leadership. The 1997 report tracked gains, by women, in education, jobs—and constraints. As insurgency flared, the 2005 report dealt with "Human Security and Armed Conflict." The 2009 theme examined how institutions and politics impact on human development.

The latest study continues a 19-year effort, to shatter one-dimensional yardsticks. Gross Domestic Product divides national wealth by population, and shoves the beggar,

EDITORIAL

wailing over President Aquino's plan to auction the confiscated Roumeloites jewels.

Conventional gauges reveal "what sets toothpaste prices," the late Mahbub ul Haq of the World Bank noted. Are these the "right questions"? No, responded 1998 Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen. Focus instead on life spans, hunger, primary schools, and human aspirations, too. "We need a measure that is not as blind to social aspects as 'GNP' is."

Would that include toilets? Sen triggered an international uproar in July when he wrote in his new book "An Uncertain Glory": "Half of all Indians have no toilet."

At the UN Development Program, Sen and Haq crafted human development indices. HDIs measure average performance, by a country, in terms of longevity, knowledge, and decent standard of living. HDIs were deployed for the first time in the 1990 global Human Development Report. "People are the real wealth of a nation," the lead sentence read.

Twenty-three years later, the PHDR found the topnotchers here clustered in Luzon: Benguet, Batanes, Rizal, Cavite, Bulacan, Bataan, Laguna, Nueva Vizcaya, Ilocos Norte, plus Pampanga. Life expectancies were almost two decades longer than those in conflict-ridden provinces. Those who lived in Benguet had 74-year life spans. It's a truncated 57 in Sulu.

Seen in an international matrix, the life span for a Filipino is 69 years—similar to Indonesia but behind Thailand's 74. The Philippines is wedged as No. 114 among 186 countries in terms of human development, says the UNDP's "The Rise of the South." We're sandwiched between Moldova and Uzbekistan. Malaysia is way ahead at Slot 64.

Lagging provinces, as in the past, included Lanao del Sur, Masbate, Zamboanga del Norte, Sarangani, Davao Oriental, Agusan del Sur, Zamboanga Sibugay, Tawi-Tawi, and Maguindanao. In the bottom five provinces, kids dropped out of school after six years—compared to almost 11 years for the top five.

As in earlier PHDRs, the "Provinces Versus Countries" analysis provides insights by comparison. Achievements in Benguet and Metro Manila, for example, are bracketed between Singapore on one end and Kazakhstan on the lower end.

Cebu, Zambales, Cagayan, Nueva Ecija and Davao del Sur are boxed in by Paraguay on top and Africa's Moldova below. The performance of Guatemala and Equatorial Guinea compress that of nine provinces: Camarines Norte, Zamboanga Sibugay, Western Samar, Romblon, Mountain Province, Northern Samar, Sultan Kudarat, Palawan and Basilan.

Jose Rizal's epigraph is relevant to issues that PHDR 2013 addresses, writes University of the Philippines economist Emmanuel de Dios, who heads the Human Development Network. Some are happy in their place of stay or even have the luxury of choosing it. "Others are simply condemned by their circumstances to endure it."

Geographic inequality impacts economic growth and interlock "basins of attraction" like cities and mass markets. But "social and political barriers can frustrate people's efforts to better their own lot," the PHDR stresses. Still, "uneven, unbalanced growth is not incompatible with inclusive human development."

Sure. But current public policy falls short. Overcentralized government programs tailor a "one-size-fits-all" approach. Disease-specific health campaigns skip neglected tropical ailments. Transport reforms are piecemeal. A "silo" complex buttresses an unresponsive bureaucratic framework that locks out human needs.

Improvement of the HDI has been slow but steady. It masks the oscillating performance in some provinces that haven't closed the gap in human development. These provinces are locked into the vicious cycle of falling incomes and slumping health and education outcomes.

No effective political authority today tracks the record of human development at a province's level. Hence, response is scattershot to cities and farms are strapped with leading or lagging areas.

There is need to change the current citycentric emphasis. A maze of laws and planning practices guts provincial tax bases and powers. A window of opportunity is opening in public sentiment to revisit the Local Government Code (1991) after more than two decades of implementation.

Provinces need elbow room, in law and budget allocations, to plan and implement programs with the democratic accountability that autonomy entails. As philosopher George Santayana grouched: "It seems a dreadful indignity to have a soul controlled by geography." /email:juan_mercado77@yahoo.com



ADVOCACY MINDANOW

CAR BOMBS ANYONE?

BY: JESUS DUREZA



I was on the phone with Col. Dickson Hermoso of the 6th Infantry Division stationed in Cotabato City right after the bomb went off. He said he just passed the blast site when he heard a loud explosion. When he looked back, he saw a huge black smoke rising. What first came to his mind was: No, it was not the trade-mark IED (improvised explosive device) usually used by "bombards", a local name for those bomb experts of rebels or terrorists whose main technology uses mortar or howitzer cartridges for bomb making. The recent Cotabato bomb, which also triggered a fire in the buildings, could be made of dynamites or from ammonium nitrate mixed with fuel oil. It was a big bomb, no doubt. Not to mention that the bomb was latched to a multi-cab left in the scene, a more expensive operation than leaving an old worn out, expendable "back pack" to explode.

LEVEL UP —Are we entering the next-level phase of terrorism using "car bombs"? We know that terrorists in the troubled areas in other parts of the world are good at this. And finding the real culprits are hard, unless some lucky breaks in the investigation take place — which is not usual as we know.

Interestingly, a series of explosions in various areas in the Cotabato area followed. Looks like the "bombard" group is now in business!

BREAK DOWN — But hold it folks! This could not have come from one single group as many may immediately conclude. Yes, the Muslim renegade groups "owned up" their bomb operations. But not all can be attributed to them. The fact is during times when law and order and normalcy break down and "hired hands" are available to do dirty jobs, many "free riders" will ride on the occasion. Meaning, those who have personal grudges can bomb away their own enemies to settle a score. Or politicians or businessmen or plain vengeance seekers who wish their opponents are gone to oblivion, can conveniently eliminate them and "charge it to the terrorists".

ANGRY HOUSEWIVES — I remember at the height of the summary killings and "salvaging" in Davao in the early 1980's by NPA "Sparrows" there was a proliferation of threat letters ostensibly signed by NPA hitmen. I know several philanthropic husbands got threatening notes warning: "leave your mistress o "isang bala ka lang". Signed "Commander X". Of course, no doubt these were coming from angry housewives! Or a collection letter from hopeless creditors, sending demand letters signed by "Commander So and So.". Don't be surprised but the tactic worked in many instances. Better than demand letters from lawyers!

MINDANAO SEIGE — I was not a bit surprised to hear some of my media colleagues in Manila who attended the Round-table Media Forum at Hotel Rembrandt in Quezon City a few days ago already having their own advance conclusions on who were behind the recent bombings. The series of incidents are hard to ignore. In the face, one newspaper headlined "MINDANAO UNDER SEIGE". Although we in Mindanao are worried about this, it is not accurate to paint the whole island region as in trouble.

How the authorities will solve this is something we need to know fast. Chances are, until the next bomb explodes somewhere, we may not be able to get the bastards! With the many bombs already exploding within the last few days something must give!

Cont. on page 6

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Killer meat loaf;
'road less traveled'*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me..." (Psalm 30:1, the Holy Bible).

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TWO SISTERS KILLED BY CANNED MEAT LOAF?

Can anyone tell the Filipino people what was the brand of the meat loaf that is being suspected to have poisoned and then killed two sisters from Alcoy, Cebu? The report from a major television network from Quezon City did not only fail to mention the names of the sisters. It also failed to identify the meat loaf brand.

I am sure the TV network could have done a greater public service if it mentioned the brand, to warn people against eating meat loaf, or any other product, coming from the company that made them. As it is, the death of two women arising from eating contaminated food is a public interest case that warrants identification of the offending brand or the company that produced the food.

The health and safety of the eating public is much more important than the reputation and good standing of a food manufacturing or processing company, even if that company happens to be an advertiser paying millions of pesos in advertising or commercial revenues.

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MIKAELA FUDOLIG: BE BRAVE: I am sharing here portions of the 2007 graduation speech of then 16-year old Mikaela Irene Fudolig, a summa cum laude with a degree of BS Physics from the University of the Philippines. For one reason or another, some fans of Mikaela Irene have been uploading the speech in Facebook. Read on:

"... Today, the nation needs brave, defiant pioneers to reverse our nation's slide to despair. Today, we must call upon the spirit that beat the tracks. Today, we must present an alternative way of doing things. Do NOT just take courage, for courage is not enough.

"Instead, be BRAVE! It will take bravery to go against popular wisdom, against the clichéd expectations of family and friends. It will take bravery to gamble your future by staying in the country and try to make a prosperous life here. It might help if for a start, we try to see why our Korean friends are flocking to our country. Why, as many of us line up for immigrant visas in various embassies, they get themselves naturalized and settle here. Do they know something we don't?

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TAKE NOT THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED: "Do NOT just be strong in your convictions, for strength is not enough. Instead, DEFFY the pressure to lead a comfortable, but middling life. Let us lead this country from the despair of mediocrity. Let us not seek to do well, but strive to EXCEL in everything that we do. This, so others will see us as a nation of brains of the highest quality, not just of brawn that could be had for cheap.

"Take NOT the road less traveled. Rather, MAKE new roads, BLAZE new trails, FIND new routes to your dreams. Unlike the track-beaters in campus who see where they're going, we may not know how far we can go. But if we are brave, defiant searchers of excellence, we will go far. Explore possibilities, that others may get a similar chance. I have tried it myself. And I'm speaking to you now.

"But talk is cheap, they say. And so I put my money where my mouth is. Today, I place myself in the service of the University, if it will have me. I would like to teach, to share knowledge, and perhaps to be an example to new UP students in thinking and striving beyond the limits of the possible. This may only be a small disturbance in the grass. But I hope you'll come with me, and trample a new path. Good evening, everyone..."

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MAGKASANGGA TAYO

*Kasakiman Kaakibat
ng Ka-Demonyohan!!!*

BY: NESTOR CASTRO



Kasakiman o kung sa ingles ay **greediness**, mga ganitong klaseng mga tao ang parati natin nakikita na sila ang mga sumasabit, napapasama at sa kasamaang palad ay nakapagdudulot sila ng kasamaan at pighati sa kanilang sarili at sa kanilang kapwa. Katulad halimbawa ng mag-asawang Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos dahil sa kanilang kasakiman ay ninais nilang manatili sa kapangyarian kaya ayun kung ano-anong pagpapatagal katulad ng martial law na siyang idineklara ni Macoy at nung nag snap elections ay dinaya pa si Cory Aquino kaya ayun nayari tuloy sila ng Edsa People Power 1, sabi nga ng the Guinees Book of World records ang salitang Kleptocracy ay para kay Ferdinand Marcos. Etong si President Joseph Estrada dahil sa kasakiman para magkamal ng salapi pati ba naman lagay ng Jueteng ipinadedeliber pa mismo kay Chavit sa kanyang bahay mismo at pati na kung ano anong raket ipinasok na ng kanyang bataan na si Atong Ang kaya ayun na butasan siya tuloy at na People Power 2. Si Presidente Gloria Arroyo at ang kanyang asawa na si Mike Arroyo, sa kagustuhan na manatili sa kapangyarian ay kung anon-anong kasinungalingan ang pinagsasabi sa publiko kesyo mag-teresign at dina tatakbo pagtapos ng kanyang unang termino kaya ayun na Hello Garci tuloy at ang dami pang mga anomalya na umusbong at naglabasan na pinaggagawa ni PGMA at ng kanyang mister na si Mike Arroyo, dala uli ito ng kasakiman (**greediness**). Mabuti na lang at itong sina Presidente Cory Aquino at Presidente Fidel Ramos ay sa kanilang panunungkulan ay hindi gaano ang mga transaksyon na pumapalibot sa korapsyon (bagamat mayroon din at wala naman tayong makikitang super clean) ang napabalita, bagamat mayroon din ngunit hindi na sila gumawa ng kung ano-anong katarantaduhan para manatili pa sila sa kapangyarian. Etong si Janet Lim Napoles, dala uli ng kasakiman (**greediness**). kaya tuloy siya ibinisto mismo ng kanyang pinsan na si Benhur Lim Luy na di umano ay kanyang ginigipit samantalang bilyon ang kanyang mga nakukurakot eh ilan milyon lang ang hinihingi ni Benhur Lim Luy hindi pa nya mapagbigyan, dala uli ito ng kasakiman (**greediness**). At kung sabagay sa laki na rin ng halaga na nakamal ni Janet Lim Napoles, kung naisipan ba niya na bumitaw na sa kanyang mga raket nuong araw pa na naka-kamal na siya ng malaki-laki ng mga nakaw, malamang ay hindi na pumutok ang kanyang mga katarantaduhan, dala uli ng kasakiman (**greediness**). Marhil siguro ay itong mga **MATITINDING MAGNANAKAW** na ito ay nagpaplano sila na dadalin nila sa hukay ang kanilang mga nakaw na yaman. Kung sabagay, pwede rin naman talaga isama sa hukay ang kanilang nakaw na yaman bastat lakihan lang nila ang kanilang ataol para magkasya lahat ang kanilang nakaw. Hi! Hi! Hi! Mayroon nga akong kilalang isang opisyal ng local government pagkatapos niya manungkulan ng tatlong termino ay misis naman niya ang pinatakbo niya at pagakatapos naman ng 1 term ng misis niya ay siya na ulit ang tumakbo, kaya sa ngayon ay tatakbo siya uli para forever na siya manatili sa kapangyarian. Kung sabagay **Cont. on page 7**

FASTRACK

*Pork Barrel Scam makes
PH the laughing stock of
the world!!!*

BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES



Unbelievable and Incredible! Is there any other word to describe the Billion Pesos Pork barrel scam? What else is not yet being revealed to the public? Whose other Honorable PDAFs have gone the same route as the Napoles billion-peso deals? It's funny, but how come we are all focusing on Napoles? Why give her too much credit for this? She may have been the mastermind, still she could not have pulled this off without the willing accomplices. So now the hugas-kamay scenario of the willing accomplice-Honorables will be that Napoles falsified all their signatures! Mamati ka! What about the Commission on Audit (COA)? They are supposed to audit the usage of the funds, where were they? What about the Department of Budget of Management (DBM)? How come they approved the release of the funds without the required due diligence to make sure of the purpose of funding? What about the alleged local-level officials who claimed that their signatures were faked like the Mayor's etc? Do you believe the crap that all their signatures were faked? And the most hilarious and ridiculous piece of crap said so far by some law-makers is that they have no way of monitoring and/or making sure of the implementation of their PDAF! My GOD, up to when will the Filipinos be subjected to such insulting statements, or better yet up to when will the Filipinos accept such insulting statements?

Accordingly, the scam goes this way – between 50%- 70% of the amount earmarked to the dummy NGO of Napoles goes to the lawmaker. All it takes is the signature of the lawmaker and no sweat, 50%-70% is advanced by Napoles to Mr. Lawmaker and the remaining 30% is chopped up by Napoles between the DBM, COA, Local Official (if necessary), Executive Official, herself, and others.

I truly pity the millions of self-respecting OFWs and Migrant Filipinos who now can no longer keep their heads up high because of this mother of all scams, the worst of the worst not because of its enormity but simply because the players involved are the Honorable Lawmakers, the Senatongs, the Tongressmen, the officers of the Executive, the very people who are sworn to uphold the Philippine Constitution and love this country, and not bastardize it. I pity myself because I cannot defend this particular scam to my foreign contacts and simply relegate this to one of those isolated scams. This whole scam is a perfect example of a **Major Failure** of the system. This Napoles et. al. scam makes our former Congressman Vergara look like a saint! I can only wish that we do not give all the credit to Napoles but also give the credit to the lawmakers (lawbreakers) involved for they equally are, or are more deserving of credit, as Napoles could not have pulled this off without their willing participation.

Who says we are not the most corrupt country in Asia and among the top 10 most corrupt countries in the world? Daang Matuwid, as I have always been saying is one fancy worthless hypocritical slogan, no more no less!!!

In the meantime, with the recent unfolding of events wherein Napoles can no longer be located, I am willing to bet my One Peso. Napoles will no longer be found and all the blame will simply fall on her lap. Kasalanan niya lahat, siya ang may gawa ng lahat, kawawang mga Senatong at Tongresman sila ay mga naloko at nagamit lang at ang dapat na sisihin at ibitay ay si Napoles. Case closed, end of scenario, next scenario pls!!!

CJHDevCo...

from page 8

Most recently, CJHDevCo's lawyer and spokesperson, Atty. Manuel Ubarra Jr., was charged by the DOJ with perjury before the Municipal Trial Court of Quezon City for knowingly making false accusations against the Directors of the BCDA before the Office of the Ombudsman.

In its resolution, the DOJ wrote that "respondent Ubarra is a lawyer. It needs no reiteration that the ethical standards applicable to a member of the bar, who thereby automatically becomes a court officer, must necessarily be one higher than that of the market place."

"It is quite ironic that the person who speaks the most on behalf of CJHDevCo, one who also happens to be a lawyer, is now set to face trial for perjury. It is a glaring indicator of which party is morally upright, and which one is erring, in this whole dispute," Casanova said.

'Diversion tactics'

Casanova also pointed out that while the BCDA's cases against CJHDevCo officials are making progress and headed for trial, CJHDevCo's own cases against the BCDA have been dismissed. Recently, the Department of Justice (DOJ) dismissed the libel case filed by William Russell L. Sobrepeña, older brother of Robert John Sobrepeña, against officials of the BCDA for lack of probable cause.

"It is a pity that Mr. Sobrepeña has resorted to asking his older brother to file yet another libel case against the BCDA. It is a clear sign of desperation on their part," Casanova remarked.

The elder Sobrepeña's case against the BCDA is just the latest from CJHDevCo that have been junked by the courts. Previously, libel charges filed by CJHDevCo against BCDA officials were dismissed, while a perjury charge against Casanova was also junked.

"Clearly, their repeated attempts to file the same baseless charges are merely diversion tactics that aim to distract the public from the real issue—that CJHDevCo owes billions of pesos to the government," Casanova said.

People of Baguio losing out because of CJHDevCo

The BCDA head explained that the agency's case against CJHDevCo, as well as CJHDevCo's own "incurable breaches," can have far-reaching impact on Baguio as well as the rest of the country.

Casanova added that "for the people of Baguio City, this case is not just a legal battle between corporations; it has an impact on Baguio's residents and communities, as well as the city's visitors and locators. CJHDevCo owes P3 billion to the government, and from this amount, P750 million belongs to the city and its people."

"This is a huge and game-changing amount which can be used to fund infrastructure, develop livelihood and medical programs, improve Baguio's tourist sites, and other initiatives,"

Casanova remarked. "The people of Baguio are losing out because of CJHDevCo's refusal to pay the government. That is why we are very happy that their key officials are now about to face trial. And soon, we hope to be able to reclaim their debt."

'We will abide by arbitration'

As the cases against Sobrepeña and other CJHDevCo officials head to the courts for trial, the arbitration between the BCDA and CJHDevCo is likewise proceeding, which Casanova assured that the agency will abide by. "We are committed to respecting the arbitration process, and we have prepared all our documents and evidence," Casanova said. The arbitration is expected to reach a resolution by early 2014.

Aside from the malversation and perjury charges, the BCDA had also previously charged CJHDevCo with estafa for the "double sale" of a property in Camp John Hay, and with professional squatting for the building of illegal structures within Camp John Hay.

Advocacy Mindanow...

from page 4

The question is: why is the PNP, the AFP and the rest of those in government INCLUDING THE CITIZENRY appear helpless in the face of all this? What should we, plain citizens do to navigate this temporary atmosphere of fear and terror?

FOR COTABATO CITY — I have a few suggestions, if I may, guided by my past work facing similar past situations: a. a dialogue or meeting be called to be attended by multi-sectoral groups in Cotabato City or its environs where citizens are given a chance to raise their anger, angst or disgust at the situation. Something concrete may evolve from there. **Archbishop Orlando B. Quevedo, OMI** can be the focal person here. Business groups, NGOs etc must all converge. b. a quiet dialogue be called among groups or personalities who are key players or actors who can help ease up the situation. (like the *Guianis* and *Semas* and the other political and influential families in the area.)

c. a meeting of the ceasefire committees or the **Ad hoc Joint Action Group (AHJAG)** of the government and the MILF be convened to tackle the situation;

d. the **President**, no less, should fly to and hold a Command Conference in Cotabato City to deal with the situation and receive and act on the inputs, if any from the multi sectoral group.

I am sure, there are already initiatives done along the lines of what I have outlined above. But I have not seen any these being relayed to the public. The citizens' apprehensions must be allayed and eased.

But the undeniable fact must remain: **WE CANNOT ALLOW THE BAD GUYS TO WIN. WE CANNOT ALLOW THE TERRORISTS TO DOMINATE OUR LIVES!** Government cannot do it alone. Everyone must help!

Follow us at Twitter: [AMFI_Mindanow](#)/Email us: info@advocacymindanow.org/Visit us: www.advocacymindanow.org

JHMC Intensifies...

from page 2

Furthermore, she stated that the planting of an additional 13,600 pine tree seedlings, as well as the harvesting of some 136 dead and pest-infested Benguet pines that will prevent the spread of disease to healthy trees, both contribute to good forest management.

For his part, JHMC Chairman Silvestre C. Afable Jr. said that "JHMC has gone a step further in ensuring the health of the pine trees by engaging the services of a Forest Pathologist who will evaluate the overall condition of the forest". He explained that the pathologist will provide a strategic plan to abate the infestation with *Ips calligraphus*, a bark beetle, and the means by which these challenges can be met institutionally.

JHMC secured the permit from the DENR to cut the pest-infested dead pine trees. The Sanitation Cutting and Pruning Permit was granted by the DENR last July 17, 2013.

Since 2012, JHMC has established and maintained community-based fire lines covering an area of 69,320 square meters in at least six barangays in the John Hay Reservation to prevent the spread of forest fire and further intensified its forest management program in support of the National Greening Program of the Aquino administration./JHMC PR

Benguet Town...

from page 2

Kibungan Mayor Benito Siadto assured budget allocation connecting water source to households and encouraged the Sagpat Community Water Association to immediately elect their officers. He also assured that some proposals in the plan may be integrated in the town's Annual Investment Plan.

Bokod Mayor Mauricio Mackay, on the other hand, said the local government unit will utilize the Department of Energy yearly budget allocation for reforestation of communal forest.

Among those committed by Mackay are fencing of watersheds through the establishment of boundary monuments, designation of Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer (MENRO), creation of monitoring and evaluation team for the communal water association projects.

He added that they will sit down with the CWA and come up with proposals for forest brigade incentives. Likewise incentives for forest patrol or 'bantay gubat' to be designated by DENR will also be considered, he said.

Sablan Mayor Arthur Baldo, for his part, assured his commitment underscoring that "water is source of life." He also committed the designation of MENRO. He said the LGU allocated funds for the distribution of water to households and expected that the barangay will sustain what has been started.

Baldo also shared Banangan barangay was able to pay its water rights for the development of water

resources in the area.

Tublay Mayor Ruben Paoad said they will prioritize the protection of its environment as it is the only chance the town will develop. He reported that they have already hired a MENRO who will focus on environment issues and concerns.

Atok Mayor Peter Alos, meanwhile, assured to give their counterpart in sustaining the communal forest and the established water works system in the town.

Commonly identified gaps that need to be addressed in protecting watersheds include incentives for the Barangay Multi-Sectoral Forest Protection Committee/forest brigades, forest patrol, budget for monthly meetings of forest brigades from municipal to provincial level, perimeter fencing, vegetative fencing, monitoring and evaluation, creation of MENRO Office and plantilla position, information education campaign, completion of resources inventory, procurement of additional tools and equipment for forest brigade, seedlings, fire fighting tools, nursery tools and communication equipment./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet

Magkasangga Tayo...

from page 5

wala naman masama sa parati kang ibinoboto ng iyong mga constituents bastat tunay na gusto ka nila at hindi ka lang nananalo dala ng pandaraya sapagkat ito ay isang indikasyon ng kasakiman (**greediness**).. Kung sabagay ang asawa nitong si local official na ito ay mayroon mga ill gotten wealth dala ng kanyang pinaggalingan na posisyon sa gobyerno. Tsk! Tsk! Tsk! Dapat talaga na maturuan ng matinding leksyon ang ganitong klase na mga sakim na ang iniisip lang nila ay ang kanilang sarili at kung бага ang sinasabi nila sa lahat ay sila lang ang anak ng diyos at manigas na kayong lahat! **Tama ba Mr. and Mrs. SAKIM !?!!** Katulad ni Janet Napoles, ni Ferdinand Marcos, ni Erap Estrada, ni Gloria Macapagal Arroyo (na kasalukuyan naka hospital "palusot" arrest) at ng marami pa na mga iba, iisa ang parehas sa mga ito- **SILAAY PUROS MGA SAKIM !!!** Tunay na nakalulungkot ang mga taong sakim, lalo na at sila ay tumatanda na sapagkat hindi naman natin hawak ang ating buhay, eh pano kung bigla tayong itinawag ni San Pedro at siya ay ating nakaharap at tayo ay kanyang tinanong marahil ay sasabihin ng mga sakim na ito ay relax lang San Pedro at may dala ako para sayo, konting pasalubong, ipinasama ko sa kabaong ko ang aking mga nakaw na yaman, parahan kita San Pedro, meron ka rito 5% sayo. Hi ! Hi ! Hi ! Patay na nga at kausap na nga si San Pedro, sakim pa rin!

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
First Judicial Region
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
&
EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF
Baguio City

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (Pag-IBIG Fund),

Mortgagee,

-versus-

GORDONE GARIN,
Mortgagor,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. 13-432-S FOR

EXTRAJUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135, as amended.

X———X

SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

Upon verified petition for foreclosure and sale extra-judicially under Act 3135, as amended, filed by HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (Pag-IBIG Fund), hereinafter referred to as the MORTGAGEE, for the satisfaction of the mortgage indebtedness of GORDON E. GARIN, hereinafter referred to as the MORTGAGOR, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of June 21, 2013 now amounts to ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR and 36/100 (P 1,335,154.36) PESOS, Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest and penalties, but excluding other charges, attorney's fees, sheriff's fees and expenses incidental to the foreclosure proceedings, the undersigned or any

duly authorized sheriff will sell at public auction on August 28, 2013 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the lobby of the Justice Hall Building, Baguio City to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the property/properties together with all the improvements existing thereon, more particularly described as follows:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 018-2010001742

A parcel of land (Lot 1-5-A-8-D, Psd-CAR -015596, being a portion of Lot 1-5-A-8, Psd-CAR-014299; situated at urban code 131102, Res. Sec. "D", City of Baguio, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NW., along lines 5-1-2 by Road Lot 1-5-A-9, Psd-CAR-014299; on the NE., along lines 2-3 and on the SE., along line 3-4 by Lot 1-5-A-8-1 (Alley) of the Subdivision Plan; on the SW., along line 4-5 by Lot 1-5-A-8-C of the Subd. Plan. Beginning at a point marked "1" on plan being N. 69 deg. 39, W., 2283.96 m. from BLLM No. 1, called BAGUIO, to corner "1", THENCE: N. 30 deg. 07' E., 5.45 m. to point 2; S. 34 deg. 47'E., 23.23 m. to point 3; S. 69 deg. 32'., 22.13 m. to point 4; N. 25 deg., 57' W., 18.92 m. to point 5; N. 68 deg. 39' E., 14.00 m. to point of beginning. Containing an area of FOUR HUNDRED (400) SQUARE METERS. More or less.....xxxxxxx. Prospective buyers/bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the property and encumbrances thereon, if there be any.

Baguio City, Philippines, July 31, 2013.

By: (SGD) LINDA G. MONTES-LOLOY
Clerk of Court VI/
Es-Officio Sheriff

By: (SGD)
JOSELITO V.
ITLIONG
Sheriff IV

Publication awarded by raffle to The Junction Newspaper, Publication dates: August 3, 10 and 17, 2013. Copy furnished all parties.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO APPROVE THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THE LATE A Q U I L I N A PAGUIO - ALCANTARA

AUGUSTO WARREN,
Petitioner,

SPL. PROC. CASE NO. 1993-R

X———X

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

This Court, after having approved the designation of Atty. Renato Rondez as Administratrix of the estate of the deceased Aquilina Pagui-Alcantara and he having taken his oath, gives NOTICE to all persons having money claims against the decedent Aquilina Pagui Alcantara arising from contracts express or implied, whether the same is due, not due or contingent, including claims for funeral expenses for the last illness of the deceased, as well as claims arising from judgments for money against the same deceased, to file their claims thereto with the Office of the Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Justice Hall, Baguio

City, within seven (7) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and at the same time serving a copy thereof to Administrator Atty. Renato Rondez at his address at 58 Guevarra Subd., Pacdal, Baguio City.

WITNESS the H O N O R A B L E

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

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE JUDGE

IN RE: PETITION FOR RE-COMMISSION AS NOTARY PUBLIC ATTY. GREGORIO T. ABALOS, JR.,
Petitioner,

NOTARY PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS CASE NO. 13-NC-0288

X———X

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a summary hearing on the petition for renewal of commission as Notary Public for and in the Province named petitioner shall be held on August 29, 2013 at

Ito gon Officials...

constituents and hampered the implementation of development projects, programs and activities.

"Since the payment of our (LGU) share in National Wealth Tax is your "legal obligation" mandated by law, particularly by the Local Government Code, the Municipality of Ito gon through this representation hereby demands immediate settlement of the above-stated obligations by your companies to the municipality through the Municipal Treasury of Ito gon and to the respective Barangay Treasuries of Ampucao and Dalupirip." Palangdan's letter stated.

The measure was referred to the provincial board's committee on ways and means for favorable review and appropriate action./JDP/SCA- PIA CAR, Benguet

CECILIA CORAZON S. DULAY-ARCHOG, Acting Presiding Judge of this Court, this 8th day of July 2013.

By: (SGD) ATTY. MYLENE MAY G. ADUBE-CABUAG
Clerk of Court V

Publication dates: August 3, 10 and 17, 2013

10:00 o'clock in the morning before of the Regional Trial Court, La Trinidad, Benguet.

Any person who has any cause or reason to object to the grant of the petition may file a verified written opposition thereto on or before the date of summary hearing.

Let this Notice of Hearing be published once (1) a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in The Weekend Junction Newspaper, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province, the first publication to be made not later than August 18, 2013.

SO ORDERED.

La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, this 8th day of August, 2013.

By: (SGD) DANILO P. CAMACHO
Executive Judge.

Publication dates: August 17 and 24, 2013

Brother Seeks...

from page 8

Tadian, Mt. Province now residing at 25 Purok 4, Pinsao Pilot, Baguio City.

Junio noted he was diagnosed for end-stage renal failure in 2010. From 1977 to 1990, he worked as a small-scale miner and, from his earnings, was able to build a family home. In 1994, he worked in Korea but came home for good in 2009 because of attacks of arthritis and the diagnosis of kidney ailment.

Hemodialysis treatment, scheduled twice a week for life, had drained whatever savings he had. Last year, Felicito offered himself as donor for a kidney transplant. The tissue matching yielded positive results and the family decided to have its common lot back home Lubon serve as collateral for a loan to raised P1.5 million for the transplant and recovery.

Problem was Requino's medical condition worsened. He was too weak, doctors said, for the transplant to proceed. So he was back on dialysis.

To cope with the costs, his wife went to Korea as a factory worker. As the social case study report noted, however, there has been no communication from her for one year now.

From the city hall, Felicito last Monday morning braved the weather to his brother's home and have him sign an authority for his need for medical support to be written and published, so that Samaritans would know and help.

Because of the raging storm. Felicito was advised authority to publish the following morning, when the weather had improved. Instead, he submitted it as soon as Requino signed the document.

Donors who can help may ring up Requino's number (09477271917) or Felicito's (09475542694). They may see Requino at the dialysis room of the BGHMC during his scheduled treatment sessions from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays and from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight on Saturdays./ Ramon Dacawi.

More Improvements...

from page 3

Square, part of the design of Daniel Burnham will remain as an open space for people within the CBD.

Meantime, renovation works are ongoing for the Baguio Convention Center (BCC) in time for the city's Charter Day celebrations come September 1. The structure has been allotted a P15 million fund for its rehabilitation which comprises repairs for the roof, comfort rooms, replacement of carpets and seats, lighting and landscaping works.

It can be recalled that the city government has acquired the structure including the 10,000 square meter parcel of land from the government Service Insurance System (GSIS) for a total consideration of 250 million pesos under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed in February, 2003 and January, 2004.

The structure was constructed in 1974 and has been chosen as the venue for the 1978 World Chess Championship between Russian Grandmasters Anatoly Karpov and Victor Korchnoi./ paul rillorta

from page 8

Mt. Province Officials Grateful for Completion of Aluling Bridge

TADIAN, Mountain Province - Officials of Mountain Province are grateful for the completion of the Aluling Bridge which links Ilocos Sur to this province which took 35 long years to be finished.

Presidential sister Viel Aquino Dee, assisted by Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Secretary Rogelio Singson and Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin, officially opened Alluling Bridge through a ceremonial pass through, unveiling of marker and an inaugural program in Barangay Aluling, Cervantes, Ilocos Sur on August 15.

The event was witnessed by local officials, government employees, town folks, students, media practitioners and representatives from Ilocos Sur and Mt. Province.

Tadian Mayor Anthony Wooden, in an interview, expressed the gratitude of their town and the rest of the province to the administration of President Benigno Aquino for finally completing the bridge as this will surely bring in economic movement and tourism development in his municipality which is nearest Ilocos and the rest of the province.

Mt. Province Congressman Maximo Dalog, in a statement, also highlighted the importance of the Aluling Bridge which physically connects the Ilocos regions to Mt. Province and the rest of Cordillera.

He said it is also his primary concern to physically integrate Mt. Province to the neighboring provinces and regions, through networks of roads and bridges.

Alluling Bridge is being considered as the longest bridge in the Philippines, not because of its length but because it took 35 years to build, from its conceptualization in 1978 until its final completion on March 25 of this year.

Now as the bridge is finally opened, it will pave the way for a faster and safer movement of people, goods and products between regions one and the Cordillera Administrative Region which hope to benefit an average of around 1,200 motorists a day.

They no longer have to brave the dangerous Abra River especially during rainy season to bring in their trade and to travel to and from Ilocos and the Cordillera.

President Benigno Aquino III was supposed to grace the inauguration of the bridge which he highlighted in his recent State of the Nation Address, but due health concern, he was represented by his sister Viel who read his message./JDP/CCD- PIA CAR

Brother Seeks Donors for Ailing Sibling

Off-and-on pocket miner Felicito Todlem, 54, couldn't wait for Typhoon Labuyo to subside before searching for Samaritans. It's for his younger brother, 50-year old Requino, a kidney patient who needs at least two hemodialysis sessions per week to survive.

So there he was looking for whoever could help at the city hall at the height of the storm last Monday morning. He had come up to Baguio from his dog-hole in Abra, worried his brother wouldn't make it to his scheduled treatment last Wednesday, unable to raise the P2,200 needed for the blood-cleansing session at the

Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center.

He had with him Requino's report from the city social welfare and development office. Prepared by social welfare officer Jeterda Junion, the report said he's 50 years old, married with two children and a granddaughter, and that he's a native of Lubon.

Cont. on page 7

23 Vying for "Miss Baguio" Title

Twenty three beauties are vying for the "Ms. Baguio 2013" title in the annual pageant revived last year as a regular feature of the city's foundation anniversary celebration.

The hopefuls will be presented during a press conference evening of Aug. 21 at the newly opened Fortune Hongkong Seafood Restaurant here, according to Sonny T. Production which the city tapped for the revival of the contest.

The candidates will be back evening of Sept. 1, Baguio Day, for the pre-pageant, talent search, swimsuit competition and interview at the Crown Legacy Hotel.

Final judging and coronation will be evening of Sept. 7 at the Baguio Convention Center. The pageant will be replayed in telecasts over Sky Cable Baguio on Sept., 11 and 15.

"We have been chosen and privileged in staging Ms. Baguio 2012 and with the trust and confidence of the city government, Sonny T. Production continues with Ms. Baguio 2013 beauty pageant," the outfit said.

"As the pageant grows to reach a broader range of audience, our goal is to continue assisting charitable causes," explained over-all coordinator Sonny David Ticwala.

This year's pageant, Ticwala said, will benefit indigent families and children of Upper Rock Quarry Barangay through a feeding program in eight consecutive Saturdays.

The 23 candidates are Mayumi Lara Dawisan Kanda of Victoria Village, Maybelle Busitan Pengdaden of Dizon Subdivision, Annalyn Jarligao Jose of Pinsao Proper, Alana Joy Pedro Pajarillo of New Lucban; Yna Jalin B acalanmo of Trancoville;

Phoebe Sherrae Fermin Langaon of Pinget; Joana Marie Sanqui Atraje of Trancoville, Cassandra Kein Bautista Co of Richview (Bakakeng), Karen Joy Espinueva Santiago of Teachers Village (Marcos Highway), Arlyn Anne Ramos Hagad of West Modernsite;

Joanna Nathalie Ramos Pascua of Dominican, Monica Valencia Sebastian of Salud Mitra, Precious Jaiunah Romero Landingin of Quirino Hill, Eujene Carla Valdez Boquio of Fort del Pilar, Joanna Marie Sanchez Bautista of Leonila Hill;

Dennisse Carla Estrada Brana of ABCR Barangay, Maricris Bangao Abuyan of Cabinet Hill, Verlyn Michelle Dulay Virador of Dontogan, Orille Kim Bangloy Basali of Irian, Crhsitine Joy Fabros Picardal of Cabinet Hill;

Trizha Bartolome Ocampo of Victoria Village, Arlene Caguioa de Vera of Engineers' Hill and Jean Marie Parrocha Feliciano of Holy Ghost Proper./ Ramon Dacawi.

The JUNCTION Pahayagang Palaban!!!

Itagon Officials Bat for National Wealth Tax Payment from San Roque Hydro Power Plant

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - Itagon officials are battling for the payment of the town's share of national wealth tax from the utilization of water resources in the operation of the San Roque Multi-Purpose Hydro-Electric Power Plant.

Itagon municipal council crafted Resolution Number 166, series 2013 expressing their support to the letter of Mayor Victorio Palangdan to the National Power Corporation (NPC) and Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Sector (PSALM) demanding the payment of their share of national wealth.

Palangdan's demand letter addressed to NPC President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Froilan Tampinco and PSALM President and CEO Emmanuel Ledesma Jr. dated July 22, 2013 was copy furnished members of the municipal council, Gov. Nestor Fongwan among others.

Based on the unnumbered billings of Itagon Municipal Treasurer Angela Cariño, the town including host barangays Ampucan and Dalupirip totaled P61.52 million collectibles covering the period 2011, 2012 until second quarter of 2013.

The municipal share amounts to P32,477,667.80 while amounts due to host barangays Ampucan and Dalupirip each totaled P18,170,172.40 and P10,868,761.96, respectively.

Palangdan said such letter will serve as the last and final demand for the payment of the town's share including its host barangays from the national wealth tax.

He claimed that the non-payment of the accumulated amount representing Itagon's shares brought negative impact on the delivery of basic services and facilities to the

Cont. on page 7



DRY RUN - A one-stop shop simulation exercise using an Electronic Business Permit Licensing System is undertaken by the Department of Interior and Local Government- Baguio Field Office headed by Asst. City Director Samson Aboy, Department of Trade and Industry, the City Treasurer's Office under officer designate Alicia Onoza and other officers concerned to fast-track the delivery of service and totally eradicate "fixers" at City Hall./ By Bong Cayabyab

The JUNCTION

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