



MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Pahayagang palaban!!! **Jobless Rate Misleading**



LONESOME JOE - An unidentified city hall employee does a road sweep along Abanao during a massive cleanup drive by city employees dubbed "Operation Panagdalos." ./ Photo by Bong Cayabyab

Sen. Chiz Escudero said one must be careful when reading government figures on the Philippine jobless rate which can be deceiving.

"The unemployment situation in the Philippines is bleaker than the government would like to portray. It has mistakenly included among those gainfully employed the 4.21 million unpaid family workers, like sons who have dropped out of college to help till the soil and daughters who have to mind the small sari-sari store," he added.

He also noted that self-employed workers make up 31% of the employed, which is a virtual army of 10.7 million "sariling-sikap" workers eking out a living through their industriousness rather than through government assistance.

Although the government says unemployment is only in the single digits at 7.7%, there is reason to worry because the bulk of the jobless are in the youth sector.

There is also the fact that the manufacturing sector has shed 121,000 jobs over the past year, and that the

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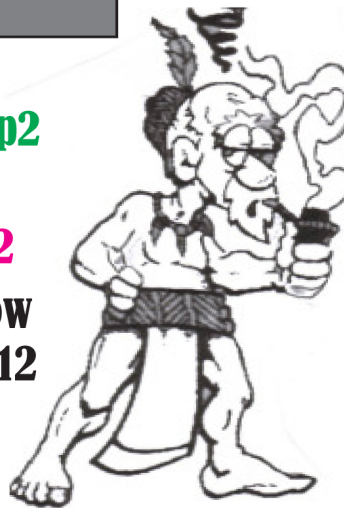
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BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



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Wedding at Cana, and Mary's role as mediator between man and Jesus

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



Don't crucify Nicole

Senator Pia Cayetano today expressed disappointment over the sudden decision of 'Nicole' to recant her testimony and clear American Serviceman Corporal Lance Daniel Smith of the crime of rape.

"It's the biggest letdown because Nicole's case involves not only the pursuit of justice by a woman whose rights have been violated, but also of an entire people's assertion of sovereignty before the world's biggest superpower,

the United States."

But Cayetano appealed on the public to refrain from blaming Nicole even if she decided to accept money and migrate to the US in exchange for clearing Smith.

"The issue here is not Nicole, but on the Arroyo government's conscious failure to assert its justice system and sovereignty. I won't join others who are quick to crucify Nicole. I myself do not agree with it, but I respect her decision."

"Who are we to judge her reasons for backing out? Who are we to blame her for losing faith in the justice system when all along, the justice secretary has been lawyering for her violator instead? Long before Nicole decided to back out, her government has already sold her case."

"Was she bribed or pressured? We wouldn't know. But what we know is that her government has abandoned her from day one. Throughout the trial and

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Chiz Asks Merci: Where Is The Fertilizer Scam Report?

Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero on Monday asked Ombudsman Merciditas Gutierrez to release her office's findings on the 728-million peso fertilizer fund scam as it promised to do so last month.

"The Office of the Ombudsman promised to have the report on the fertilizer scam ready by first week of March, or at the latest by March 15. It's March 16. What will she say next?" he asked.

Her deputy, Assistant Ombudsman Jose de Jesus, was quoted as saying

that Gutierrez was reviewing with a "fine tooth-comb" the 125-page report of the special panel.

"B a k a nagkabali-bali na ang suklay sa tagal ng pag-review," said the opposition senator, who has asked the Ombudsman to step down in October when she completes the seven-year term of her predecessor, Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo.

He also said that continued inaction on the part of Gutierrez will only bolster the perception that she is out to

protect big-time grafters in government.

Escudero also reiterated anew his call for the Ombudsman to release a list of cases still pending in her office so the people will know their status and why they have not been filed with the Sandiganbayan.

The Senate has already recommended the filing of plunder charges against former Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Jocelyn "Joc Joc" Bolante and eight other individuals for their alleged involvement in the diversion

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MRT 'Ghost Riders Taking Gov't For A Ride

Opposition Senator Chiz Escudero on Tuesday said taxpayers are paying for "ghost riders" in the Metro Rail Transit Corp. (MRT) as he backed moves for a government takeover of the light rail firm.

The senator issued the statement in light of frail state of finances of the MRT which he says "continues to drain the national coffers of much-needed funds."

By his calcula-

tions, Escudero said the government subsidy per rider is about P42, computed against the amount of public funds being funneled into the MRT.

"It is like paying for almost three riders more at the current fare rates of the MRT, which on the average is P14 per passenger. The government is paying for riders who are non-existent," Escudero said.

"The MRT has long been bailed out by the government. While its coaches are always full, its

coffers are always empty. The national government subsidy is the one that lubricates its operations. This comes as no surprise because the project was financially engineered to be dependent on government aid," he points out.

In this case, the senator said, it would be better for the government to take over MRT.

"If we own it, then let's run it. And let it be a reminder that when it comes to private-public ventures, never again should we end up privatizing

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In The Search For Truth And Justice

'Keep politics out of Dacer-Corbito murder case'

Opposition Senator Chiz Escudero on Monday warned the government against politicizing the revival of the Bubby Dacer-Emmanuel Corbito double-murder case, saying it should not be used to steamroller the opposition.

"I hope the government is out to ferret out the truth so justice may be

served and not use this opportunity to suppress and even silence sections of the opposition," Escudero said in a statement.

The senator issued the statement in reaction to news reports that a key witness in the murder, former police officer Cesar Mancao, had executed and signed an affidavit in the United States tagging a number of personalities, allegedly including in-

cumbent Senator Panfilo Lacson, a ranking member of the opposition.

Escudero said the government should handle the investigation of the case "with utmost sensitivity" as it could potentially be used for political ends.

"We should always advocate for and help in the search for truth and justice but we should not tolerate any attempts either to silence and suppress

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Mayor clarifies irisan dumpsite reopened for rehab not for waste dumping

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. sought to clarify that the city government has reopened the Irisan dumpsite to complete the rehabilitation work required of the law and not for waste disposal purposes.

Acting Mayor Daniel Farinas aired this clarification in the Ugnayang Panlungsod media briefing aired over Radyo ng Bayan last Thursday.

Farinas said the mayor sought to correct news reports that the facility has been reopened after months of closure to accommodate the city's wastes once the city decides to stop hauling activities to Capas, Tarlac

due to fund lack.

"We are not reopening the dumpsite for waste disposal. The only purpose is to continue the rehabilitation in compliance with Republic Act No. Act No. 9003 or the National Ecological Solid Waste Management Act (which mandates the scrapping of open dumpsites) so people fighting for the closure of the dumpsite need not panic as we are just following the law," Farinas said.

Farinas however said that the dumpsite will be used to receive residual wastes that will be sorted out in the area before transport to the cement plant of Holcim Philippines

Inc. while a part of the residuals will also be used for restructuring and stabilizing portions of the dumpsite in accordance with the rehabilitation program.

City environment management office head Romeo Concio said Holcim with which the city has a memorandum of agreement allowing the city to dump residual wastes in its Bacnotan plant has imposed strict conditions such as that residual wastes do not contain "organics" and are dry "with only a maximum allowable moisture content of ten per-

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City-uniwide dialogue set march 24

BAGUIO CITY – City officials comprising the team formed by Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. to negotiate on the market development are set to hold a dialogue with Uniwide Sales Realty and Resources Corporation (Uniwide) on March 24.

Acting mayor Daniel Farinas bared this during the Ugnayang Panlungsod press briefing Thursday.

Farinas said the seven-man team chaired by the mayor himself convened last Wednesday and agreed to write the Uniwide president informing of the city's

concerns relative to the development of the market.

Farinas, a member of the team, said they expect the city's concerns to be addressed by the firm during the dialogue particularly on whether Uniwide is still interested and capable to pursue the long derailed project.

Farinas said the

team will also seek to clarify if the city can undertake improvement of certain portions of the market particularly the Blocks 3 and 4, the Rillera building and now the areas gutted by fire in view of the contract which has been declared binding by the courts albeit the de-

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P1B budget officially adopted

BAGUIO CITY – The city council last Monday officially approved this year's city budget pegged at P1 billion.

Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. welcomed the development saying the city's reaching the P1 billion budget mark this year is symbolic and significant as the city is also celebrating its centennial foundation anniversary.

The approval came after adjustments were made on the breakdowns after decisions were made to increase the bud-

get to P1 billion from the P950 million originally proposed by the city executive department.

The body fast tracked the process of deliberating on the proposed budgets of each of the 28 departments of the city government by assigning one councilor to check up the proposed budgets of two departments.

The councilors then presented the inputs and defended the proposed budget of the departments they were assigned to when the body

convened in a session.

The breakdowns of the income and expenditure components are still being finalized by the city budget office as of Friday.

The income portion will be certified by the city treasurer's based on the tax collections and the same will be the basis in the distribution of the budgetary allocations that will fall on the expenditure component./aileen p. refuerzo

Establishments urged to beef up security measures

BAGUIO CITY – The city government is urging business establishments, hospitals, schools and universities here to beef up security measures as a safeguard against terrorism and pranksters.

Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. last week approved city council Resolution No. 73 series of 2009 for this purpose.

The measure was introduced by Councilor Nicasio Aliping Jr., following a spate of prank bomb threats which victimized establishments including a

mall, a hospital, two universities, two banks and others from December to February.

He said these incidents "cannot be disregarded" as they can cause loss of life, limb and property.

"Big establishments...are easy targets of terrorism and pranksters (thus) to preserve peace and order, tight security measures in

these establishments must be introduced," Aliping noted.

The resolution also calls for the set up of plans to prevent stampede and other accidents at the course of such incidents.

"There is a need for these establishments to augment security measures for the maintenance of peace and order," the measure said./aileen p. refuerzo

PROBLEMA Sa Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB-CAR)?

Send us an email at info@hlurb.net or text/call 0917-5069123 and we will post the information at www.hlurb.net.

Magsumbong at mag-ingay para mabawasan ang katiwalian sa Gobyerno!!

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We believe that the Golden Rule applies to animals, too. We don't accept the prevailing notion that "people come first" or that "people are more important than animals." Animals feel pain and suffer just as we do, and it is almost always humans making animals suffer and not the other way around. Yet in spite of how cruelly people behave towards animals – not to mention human cruelty to other humans- we are supposed to believe that humans are superior to other animals. If people want to fancy themselves as being of greater moral worth than the other creatures on this earth, we should begin behaving better than they do, and not worse. Let's start treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves.

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno

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Unique Distinction

In this country, sealed documents often stoke speculations. They also uncork furious reactions.

The "Second Envelope", featured in President Joseph Estrada's impeachment. "Craven Eleven" senator-allies sealed the packet—and unwittingly triggered People Power Two. World Bank reports on rigged bids for road projects surfaced February. The Ombudsman pretended surprise. And legislators white-washed blacklisted firms. The First Gentleman needn't testify on kickbacks, they gasped.

Now, comes an affidavit on a nine-year old murder: the "salvaging" of publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Emmanuel Corbito.

Twenty two armed men, in civvies, flagged down Dacer and Corbito along Zobel and Roxas streets in November 2000.

EDITORIAL

Lejos, Indang Cavite. UP forensic pathologists identified Dacer and Corbito, based among others, on "metal dental plates and a ring."

The Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force washed it's hands. President Estrada used to boast of PAOCTF. Gen. Panfilo Lacson oversaw this agency with aides: Michael Ray Aquino, Cesar Mancao, Glenn Dumlao and others. A PMA class '72 graduate, Lacson rose to national power starting with the Marcos torture chamber: Military Intelligence Security Group, says the Yale University study: "Closer Than Brothers".

That was that for Dacer and Corbito—until this March. At a Florida hearing on his extradition to Manila, ex-police superintendent Cesar Mancao met Dacer's daughter, Carina. Mancao informed her he signed an affidavit. This "identified those involved in the crime." Demetriou Custodio, Dacer's family lawyer, revealed.

The Mancao affidavit hasn't been released. But official Manila is like a sieve. This jaded town holds few secrets. Does Mancao's former PAOCTF superior know what his sworn statement contains?

Lacson carooms all over the place saying he had nothing to do with Dacer's rubout. This is self-absolution. The senator knows it won't wash. So, he insists that a future public "mea culpa", by former aide Mancao, is an administration ploy. It seeks to gag him from further sleaze exposes.

That's for sure, given this regime's unabated serial grafting. "Murder is always a mistake," Oscar Wilde once wrote. "One should never do anything that one can not talk about after dinner."

Carina Dacer, for one, wasn't impressed. "Show biz", she scoffed at Lacson's claim that Mancao is being arm-twisted into fingering innocent people....Lacson "talked to Mancao in September," Carina said. "He knows that the guy has a pending criminal case in the Philippines. Alam pala niya kung nasaan sina Mancao,... He is a senator, and he knows where [former police officer] Glenn Dumlao and Mancao [and yet] he never extended help to find them." Isn't that obstruction of justice?

My grandmother, for one, never bothered with legal definitions, like "obstruction of justice." Dime con quien andas y te dire quien eres, she'd say. "Tell me who you gad about with. And I'll tell you who you are."

It would not have escaped her notice that Lacson's closest aides skipped town to avoid arrest. Michael Ray Aquino and Mancao are in US federal prison. No other public official enjoys that distinction — expect perhaps Joseph Estrada. His midnight cabinet members like Jaime Dichavez, Dante Tan, Lucio Cao Co et al. didn't leave forwarding addresses.

Ex-president Joseph Estrada, meanwhile, dashed to issue himself self-absolution. "I had nothing to do with Dacer." Why?

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THE PEACE COMBATANT

Criminal gangs in the Office of the President

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



That criminal gangs can lead the Office of the President is clearly illustrated in the ongoing Arroyo government case build-up against Senator Panfilo Lacson.

Whether Senator Lacson is ultimately proven as the gallant supercop or as the criminal who ordered the murder of publicist Salvador Dacer and driver Emmanuel Corbito is immaterial: the Filipino people will be the loser whatever the situation. Heads, the devil wins. Tails, the Filipino loses.

Senator Lacson was then the Chief of the Philippine National Police when Joseph "Erap" Estrada was President. Erap supposedly gave the order for Lacson to organize a team to kill Dacer lead by then police officers Michael Aquino, Cesar Mancao, Glenn Dumlao, and Teofilo Vina.

Legally, some of these men can be classified as alleged principals while others can be classified as alleged accomplices. Whether principals or accomplices, however, the meaning is the same: all are alleged murderers.

Justice Antonio Carpio explains that then President Joseph Estrada was particularly irked by the possibility that Salvador Dacer's was in possession of documents that could link him to the infamous BW stock scam.

This is not the only case where Senator Lacson is being linked to a crime. Earlier, alias Rosebud also accused the Senator of being involved with drug syndicates. Senator Lacson was also linked in the massacre of members of the Kuratong Baleleng.

Of course, others see the Senator as a persecuted hero and as a gallant crime-fighter. The Senator can also claim that he is the principal target among the presidential candidates because he is the only one with a base among the military, something that can really threaten any potential winner of the Presidential election of 2010.

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CORDI NAWI

*THE SCRIPTURES A SAFEGUARD
(Last of 5 Parts)*

BY: EMILIO M. LIWANEN (GUEST COLUMNIST)



All who value their eternal interests should be on their guard against the inroads of skepticism. The very pillars of truth will be assailed. It is impossible to keep beyond the reach of the sarcasms and sophisms, the insidious and pestilent teachings, of modern infidelity. Satan adapts his temptations to all classes. He assails the illiterate with a jest or sneer, while he meets the educated with scientific objections and philosophical reasoning, alike calculated to excite distrust or contempt of the Scriptures. Even youth of little experience presume to insinuate doubts concerning the fundamental principles of Christianity. And this youthful infidelity, shallow as it is, has its influence. Many are thus led to jest at the faith of their fathers and to do despite to the Spirit of grace. Hebrews 10:29. Many a life that promised to be an honor to God and a blessing to the world has been blighted by the foul breath of infidelity. All who trust to the boastful decisions of human reason and imagine that they can explain divine mysteries and arrive at truth unaided by the wisdom of God are entangled in the snare of Satan.

We are living in the most solemn period of this world's history. The destiny of earth's teeming multitudes is about to be decided. Our own future well-being and also the salvation of other souls depend upon the course which we now pursue. We need to be guided by the Spirit of truth. Every follower of Christ should earnestly inquire; "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" We need to humble ourselves before the Lord, with fasting and prayer, and to meditate much upon His word, especially upon the scenes of the judgment. We should now seek a deep and living experience in the things of God. We have not a moment to lose. Events of vital importance are taking place around us; we are on Satan's enchanted ground. Sleep not, sentinels of God; the foe is lurking near, ready at any moment, should you become lax and drowsy, to spring upon you and make you his prey.

Many are deceived as to their true condition before God. They congratulate themselves upon the wrong acts which they do not commit and forget to enumerate the good and noble deeds which God requires of them, but which they have neglected to perform. It is not enough that they are trees in the garden of God. They are to answer His expectation by bearing fruit. He holds them accountable for their failure to accomplish all the good which they could have done, through His grace strengthening them. In the books of heaven they are registered as cumberers of the ground. Yet the case of even this class is not utterly hopeless. With those who have slighted God's mercy and abused His grace, the heart of long-suffering love yet pleads. "Wherefore He saith, Awake thou that sleepest and rise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly.... redeeming the time, because the days are evil," Ephesians 5:14-16.

When the testing time shall come, those who have made God's word their rule of life will be revealed. In summer there is no noticeable difference between evergreens and other trees; but when the blasts of winter come, the evergreens remain unchanged, while other trees are stripped of their foliage. So the false-hearted professor may not now be distinguished from the real Christian, but the time is just upon us when the difference will be apparent. Let opposition arise, let bigotry and intolerance again bear sway, let persecution be kindled, and the half-hearted and hypocritical will waver and yield the faith; but the true Christian will stand firm as a rock, his faith stronger, his hope brighter, than in days of prosperity.

Says the psalmist "Thy testimonies are my meditation." "Through Thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way." Psalm 119:99,104.

"Happy is the man that findeth wisdom." "He shall be as a

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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Wedding at Cana, and Mary's role
as mediator between man and
Jesus*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



Today, I give way to press releases and other items from the Internet. Enjoy reading...

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RP' DOLE INKS AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN FOR SEAFARERS' TRAINING: This one is from the Department of Labor and Employment:

"The Philippines has entered into an agreement with the transport ministry of Japan to provide for the skills training and upgrading of Filipino seafarers employed in international vessels which have been idled or laid-up due to the global economic downturn, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) said.

"Labor and Employment Secretary Marianito D. Roque said that during his recent trip to Japan, he signed the Memorandum of Cooperation on Development of Asian Seafarers with Minister Kazuyoshi Kaneko of Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism to seal the agreement providing for the training of Filipino seafarers under the International Cooperative Training Project for Asian Seafarers.

"Roque was in Tokyo last week for the signing and also to represent the country, along with tripartite partners from the Associated Marine Officers and Seamen's Union of the Philippines (AMOSUP) and the Philippine-Japan Consultative Council, at the Philippine-Japan Seafarer Policy Forum to seek for the preservation of the jobs of over 40,000 Filipino seafarers employed in Japanese vessels.

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SURIGAO REPRESENTATIVE'S POULTRY FARM BURNED: This one came from Ben Serrano, a volunteer correspondent of this column from Butuan City:

"Butuan City - Eight thousand heads of chicken were charcoaled to death after armed men suspected to be members of the New People's Army (NPA) raided and then burned the poultry farm of Surigao del Sur Rep. Florencio Garay, Jr., in Sitio Maputi, Barangay Doda Carmen, Tagbina, Surigao del Sur Tuesday evening (March 17), reports from the Surigao del Sur Provincial Administrator's office said.

"Saddened over the series of NPA raids in the province, Provincial Administrator Johnny Pimentel ordered a thorough investigation of the incident. The NPA has not issued any statement yet over the series of burnings in the southern part of Surigao del Sur.

"Last March 16, 2009, at 10:45 p.m., some 50 fully armed men suspected to be NPA rebels torched at least eight heavy equipment of the Butuan City-based construction firm, SCP Construction, owned by Engr. Sergio Pascual in Barangay Bigaan, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur. The armed men were wearing black fatigue uniform.

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DTI ADOPTS NEW RULES ON AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF BUSINESS NAMES: This one came from an emailer who is known as "lennox_iago", and was coursed through the "Filipinos Worldwide" Yahoo group:

"In an attempt to further encourage entrepreneurship, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) announced that it will implement the automatic renewal of business name registrations even without applications for renewal.

"Trade Secretary Peter B. Favila stated that in view of the displacement of Filipino domestic and overseas workers brought about by the global financial crisis, aside from the automatic renewal, DTI is also implementing measures to avoid queuing in DTI offices.

"To make it even easier for those interested to start their

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One out of four women workers in CAR self-employed in 2007

The nation celebrates Women's Month this March with the theme "Babae, Yaman Kang Bayan". This year's theme underscores the vital role of women in nation building and recognizes that women can contribute to poverty alleviation.

Rightly so. Data recently released by the National Statistical Coordination Board shows that one out of four women workers in the Cordillera region was self-employed in 2007. Or 63,000 or nearly one fourth of the (23.3%) of the total women workers in CAR were self-employed.

Based on the October 2007 Labor Force Survey of the National Statistics Office, unpaid family workers made up the bulk of women workers at 38.5 percent. This is closely fol-

lowed by and salary workers at 37.4 percent during the same period.

Women employers comprised 2,000 or 0.7 percent of total employed women in CAR in 2007.

In the same survey, it shows that about 7,000 women or 2.5 percent of total workers were unemployed. This was the lowest unemployment rate attained during the five year period, 2003-2007 with the highest at 8.9 percent in 2004. Conversely, the highest employment rate was noted in 2007 at 97.5 percent.

The labor force is defined as the population 15 years old and over who contribute to the production of goods and services.

According to NSCB, it excludes persons who are not working and are not available for work like

housewives, students, disabled or retired persons and seasonal workers.

This Women's Month, the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women enjoins that in response to the current global economic crisis, it is timely to harness the women in order to foster a "gender responsive environment to encourage and support them to venture into high value and more meaningful economic activities and enterprise development."

Meanwhile, the Philippines which is headed by a woman President — holds the world record in the greatest percentage of women in senior management positions.

"The greatest percentage of women in senior management is in the Philippines where women hold 47% of senior positions," said the Thornton International Business Report (IBR) 2009/PIA

Tesda-Car Provides Free Training Assistance To 15 Displaced Ofws

BAGUIO CITY — The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA-CAR), has given free training to 15 displaced Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) as of March 5. Eight of them formerly worked in Taiwan, two in Saudi Arabia, two from Dubai and one each from Hong Kong, Cyprus and Australia.

According to TESDA Regional Operations Division chief Marilyn Necessito, they are regularly tracking the displaced OFWs that are seeking their assistance as part of their work as member of the Department of Labor's (DOLE) Quick Response Team, that responds to the needs of displaced OFWs and local workers, that were affected by the global economic meltdown.

In line with the present economic crisis, TESDA relaunched the President Gloria Scholarships (PGS) program in Cordillera, through a Kapihan forum Tuesday. The forum was attended by TESDA-CAR Director Cenon Querubin and provincial directors Conrado Maraon of Abra, Emma nuel Dabalos of Apayao, Francisco Jucar of Baguio/Benguet,

Genaro Ibay of Ifugao, Julie Ann Banganan of Kalinga and Gabriel Cayacay of Mt. Province.

All so present were David Bungallon administrator of Baguio City School of Arts and Trades (BCSAT), Barbie Belmonte of Baguio City Science Foundation and Filipino Labiste of MMS Dev't Training Center Corp.

Querubin explained that the PGS is part of TESDA's continuing scholarship program, which aims to produce a pool of qualified and globally competent workforce. "The PGS is in response to the President's Economic Resiliency Program, and a way of counteracting the effect of the present global economic crisis," he added.

The PGS is a free-training program, with daily training support, that is open to unemployed, underemployed or employed individual who wants to increase his productivity/career shift, with age 15-55 yrs old and has taken the Nat'l College Achievement exam or if not will take the on-line or PC based Youth Profiling for Starting Career.

Among the

priority sectors with qualifications supported by the PGS in Cordillera are TEK-BOK courses in: Agriculture and Fisheries; Automotive; Tourism; health, Social and other community development services; construction, ICT, Electronics, Garments, Land Transportation; and Metals and Engineering.

Querubin also confirmed that there about 8,000 available slots for the PGS program for the whole region.

In availing of the PGS, interested applicants can go to any of the six provincial offices of TESDA in the region, the Regional Training Center in Loakan Road, Baguio City, TESDA Technology institutions - like the Baguio City School of Arts and Trades and to other TESDA registered private TEK-BOK Providers.

In helping their graduates in getting jobs, Querubin assured that TESDA have been partnering with the industry sector, like the Business Processing Association of the Phils - for IT related jobs and BPOs - like CITEL, People's Support and International Hotel Groups (IHG) in Camp John Hay./Lito Dar/PIA

Inmates taste result of own cooking class

Inmates of the city jail showed literal proof of the pudding by dishing out food to toast their completion of a crash course on organic food cooking last Monday afternoon.

Thirty six who finished the training - 11 women and 25 men - served French bread, chocolate cupcakes, squash juice and other recipes within their temporary means after Dr. Federico Martin, assistant city schools superintendent, confirmed them graduates.

Martin said their finishing the course handled by volunteer teacher Irma Koon is proof "there is life at the end of the tunnel".

He expressed hopes "that your interest (in learning) will be sustained.

The course was initiated by jail warden, Supt. Rebecca Pawid, schools supervisor Arthur Tiongan and coordinator Whitney Dawayen of the Alternative Learning System (ALS) of the Department of Education.

Earlier, the jail management, the city schools and the Baguio City Schools of Arts and Trades represented by vocational administrator David Bungallon inked an agreement to pursue non-formal literacy and vocational education programs for the inmates.

Tiongan also announced the conduct

of classes to allow inmates to apply for academic promotional accreditation in lieu of and equivalent to regular elementary, high school and college grades and years.

"Walang magawa e," a trainee said to explain why he joined the cooking class and went on to admit he enjoyed it.

The inmates set the mood of their graduation with a rendition of Josh Groban's "You Raise Me Up" and ended with a hip-hop performance.

Pawid recognized the efforts of Koon and the cooperative agencies for their support to the jail's reform program. - Inmates' Release.

Most Active Barangay Women Organizations given awards

In line with the Women's Month celebration this March, the Balikatan Sa Kaunlaran – Baguio City Council chaired by Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda, in coordination with the City Social Welfare Office (CSWDO) and Baguio Center for Young Adults (BCYA), gave recognition to 21 of the Most Active Barangay Women Organizations in the city. The awarding ceremony was held at the SM Entertainment Plaza, Wednesday.

Named the Most Active Brgy Women Organization of 2009 is the South Sanitary Camp KALIPI Women's Organization. South Sanitary Camp is also awarded Hall of Fame for grabbing the top award five times. They were awarded with the top prize of P5,000 pesos. Second place with a prize of P3,000

is the Gibraltar KALIPI women and Sariling Sikap Organization. Third place and the prize of P2,000 went to Women's Association of Middle Rock Quarry.

Special prize of P1,000 each was given to Samahang Kababaihan Kabalikatan sa Kabuhayan at Pangkaunlaran, Imelda Village Women's Livelihood Organization, East Quirino Hill Women Welfare Organization, Happy Hollow Women's KALIPI Organization, Loakan Proper Women's KALIPI and Country Club KALIPI Women's Organization.

The barangay women's organization of Holy Ghost Proper, Camp 7, Fairview, Upper Rock Quarry, Ambiong, M. Roxas-

Teachers Camp, Lower Rock Quarry, Irisan, Guisad Surong, Padre Burgos, Dominican-Mirador and Holyghost were also awarded consolation prize of P500 each.

In the same program, the Balikatan sa Kaunlaran also gave recognition to their members, who were recently honored as "Centennial Women Leaders – Co builders of the City", headed by retired Judge Heilia Mallare Phillips.

The awarding was graced by Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda, Rebecca Domogan, BCYA head Marlene De Castro and CSWDO head Betty Fanasan, and with DTI-CAR Director Carmelita Usman as the guest speaker./Lito Dar/PIA

Three Samaritans sustain patients' fight

Supporting the sick and needy can be addicting.

Expatriate Baguio boy Freddie de Guzman, an architect in Canada, recently sent P19,225. It was the latest in a series of humanitarian remittances he quietly began sending about three years ago.

From the fund, P3,500 paid for the latest chemotherapy session of John Brix de Guzman, an eight-year old boy battling leukemia. A total of P1,155 was used for the infant formula of a baby boy whose 32-year old mother can't breast-feed due to her own medication for affective bi-

polar disorder.

Freddie also reached out with a P4,000 support to English teacher Noemi Harold of the Irisan National High School and P645 for the medicines of a woman inmate of the city jail. Both women are afflicted with cancer.

He contributed P3,000 to a joint fund drive of the Venture Club and Minda's Buddies, a support group for cancer victims headed by cancer survivor Marivic Bugasto.

Freddie's personal effort began when he read of the plight of a then 49-year old widow and mother of nine diag-

nosed for breast cancer. He bankrolled her chemotherapy and the patient went on remission.

Since then, Freddie never stopped sending amounts, even after he lost his job last year. He admitted his days can't be complete without reconnecting to Baguio. He said a friend helped him out with the latest remittance.

Another Samaritan who requested anonymity recently delivered P10,000, also his latest in over a year, to bank executive Rolly de Guzman of RCBC.

Of it, P2,500 helped the family of

Toddler needs to have a hole in her heart mended

Trinalyn Mangisel's heart condition surfaced just after the toddler turned one last October.

Like any kid, she tried to cope with distress or pain by crying. When her wails became incessant, Lorna, her 26-year old mother, brought her to a hospital to determine what was wrong.

Tests revealed the baby has a hole in her heart, a congenital defect medically known as patent ductus arteriosus.

According to the Seattle Children's Hospital, "the ductus arteriosus is the temporary blood vessel that allows blood to bypass the baby's lungs before it is born". This is because the baby does not breathe on its own before it is born.

When the baby is born, the lung starts to provide oxygen and the ductus arteriosus closes. In the case of Trinalyn, it did not, hence the qualifier "patent", which means "open". If it remains open, "too much blood may go into the baby's lungs (and) this could lead to heart failure", be-

children's hospital said in a medical advisory.

Pediatric cardiologist, Dr. Gerry Acosta of the Baguio Heart and Lung Diagnostic Center confirmed the finding. Early this month, he recommended a repeat 2D Echo (two-dimensional electrocardiography) to determine if heart surgery would be needed.

Because of the costs, neither has been done. A 2D Echo procedure costs about P3,500. If surgery would be required, the family would need about P130,000 to mend Trinalyn's heart.

Before the diagnosis, Lorna (nee Sagorsor) stayed home, going out only to bring or fetch six-year old Trishalyn, her elder daughter, to and from kindergarten school. Since then, she and the two kids need to get out, to look for support towards Trinalyn's healing.

The young family subsists on the pay of Joel, their 27-year old father who issues out bingo cards at the Centermall. They share a house owned by Joel's parents at 203 Lamen Village, Purok 20, Upper

John Roe Aclopen, a 17-year old boy from Camp 8 who recently succumbed to a rare disease medically known as spiral cerebral atoxi. An equal amount went to the family of 44-year old Christopher Guzman of Loakan Proper who was diagnosed for hepatocellular carcinoma.

Adonis

Togana, another high school teacher battling cancer, received P2,000. The remaining P3,000 was divided equally for social welfare officers Jane Concepcion and Letty Tumbaga.

Jane and Letty have worked for years helping ease other people's suffering. As social workers of the city, they reach out to the

Irisan.

"The family can not afford the needed medical test due to limited income," social welfare officer Shirley Casallo said in a social case study report issued last week.

Trinalyn's condition is similar to that of Santy John Tuyan, then nine-year old whose successful surgery for PDA was made possible by internet chat room mates, mostly women, in 2006.

One of the women who calls herself "Princess Lea", broached an "e-wagwagan," an on-line auction inspired by eBay and the "ukay-ukay" hand-me-down dry goods stores here, to raise money for Santy John's surgery.

One of them "auctioned" herself for a date while another offered to be kissed for a fee to contribute to the fund drive. Princess Lea, a Baguio girl working as a nurse in the United States, and her two sisters, contributed bulk of the fund. On her advice, the remaining amount after surgery was used for other patients.

Now it's one-year-and-five-month old Trinalyn's turn. People who want to see her grow up like any normal kid may ring her mother's cellphone number 09186666303./Ramon Dacawi.

sick and needy, sometimes using their own resources. Recently, both were diagnosed for cancer.

From southern Germany, fourth dan traditional karate instructor Julian Chees of the Shoshin School advised that part of a P66,000 fund he earlier allotted for three orphans in Ifugao be used for other pa-

Cont. on page 11

Peace Combatant....**.... from page 4**

However, this defense if ever invoked, will not hold water. Firstly, Senator Lacson is not among the most viable candidate in the 2010 elections. Other candidates outshine Lacson and these are Vice-President Noli de Castro, Senator Manny Villar, and Senator Francis Escudero. So if Lacson is not the main competition in the presidential elections, why target him?

Secondly, the circumstances in the arrest of former police officers Cesar Mancao and Glenn Dumlao suggest that the hand of the United States is at work. In essence, this suggests that United States authorities consider Lacson, Mancao, and

Dumlao as probably guilty.

Proving the guilt or innocence of Senator Lacson may be difficult. However, whether the Senator is guilty or innocent, this fact would remain: criminal gangs are in the highest offices of the Philippines. If Senator Lacson is guilty then this implies that gangster gangs can dominate the Philippine National Police (and also the Office of the President).

If Senator Lacson is not guilty then this implies that the Arroyo government is doing the dirtiest tricks against a Senator of the Republic. This implies that the alleged criminal gangs that Senator Lacson had persecuted during his heyday as PNP Chief have been accommodated by the Arroyo government: the group and the

likes of Reynaldo Berroya. Ultimately, this also indicates or confirms that criminal gangs are the ones dominant in the Arroyo government.

In contrast, if Lacson is the devil, then this implies that criminal gangs can reach their way up to the Office of the Chief of the Philippine National Police and the Office of the President. If Lacson is the angel, then the implication is essentially the same: criminal gangs can dominate the head offices of the police and government.

(The author maintains a website at www.geocities.com/arturoboquiren and can be contacted through artboquiren2040@yahoo.com and 0927-536-8431)

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

ALPHA FADLEN**Applicant****Case No: 97-BC-949****NOTICE OF HEARING**

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 19th day of March 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

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

SPS. RUFINO & AURORA CHUNGALAO**Applicant****Case No: 98-BC-670****NOTICE OF HEARING**

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 19th day of March 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

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

ESTRELLA NICHOLAS -Vendor**ANACLETO F. BUSTAMANTE- Vendee****Applicant****Case No: 2005-BENG-CAR-657****NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience with Substitution of unit to operate a Taxi Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CORSIALLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 19th day of March 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

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

GL/LIZARDO TRANSPORTATION CORP.**Applicant****Case No: 2007-CAR-0297****NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUB Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO CITY - BANA- AO via BESAO and Vice Versa with the use of one (6) units.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 19th day of March 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

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

PERCIVAL B. BAYAONA**Applicant****Case No: 2004-BAG-CAR-0271****NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA - LOWAR FAIRVIEW via Naguilian Road, Roman Ayson, Sepic Road, Avelino St. and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 19th day of March 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

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

WILLY CROSBY**Applicant****Case No: 88-01-1261****NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation and passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA - MIDAS via KEYSTONE and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paddal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 19th day of March 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT BRANCH
4
(FAMILY COURT
FOR BENGUET)
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
La Trinidad,
BENGUET

IN THE MATTER
OF THE PETITION
FOR
LEGITIMATION
AND
CORRECTION OF
ENTRY IN THE
CERTIFICATE OF
LIVE BIRTH OF
THE MINOR
NICOLIE
DONGALEN
KHAYAD,

FRANCIS S.
KHAYAD JR.,
Petitioner,

-versus-

THE MUNICIPAL
CIVIL REGISTRAR
OF LA TRINIDAD,
BENGUET.

Respondent.

X-----X

SPECIAL
PROCEEDINGS
Case no. 09-C-1538

ORDER

Petitioner,
through counsel
filed this verified
petition praying
that after due no-
tice, publication and
hearing, the court
orders the Local
Civil Registrar of
La Trinidad,
Benguet to correct
the following en-
tries in the Certifi-
cate of Live Birth of
Nicolie D. Khayad as
follows:

Name of Father
- from FRANCIS
TOM SORIA
KHAYAD JR. To
FRANCIS SORIA
KHAYAD JR.

Date of Mar-
riage of Parents:
from SEPTEMBER 5,
1994 to APRIL
19, 1996

Place of Mar-
riage of Parents:
from TUBA.
BENGUET to LA
TRINIDAD
BENGUET

And to DE-
CLARE Nicolie D.
Khayad as the le-
gitimated child of
Francis S Khayad
Jr. and Eunice D.
Khayad

WHEREFORE,
finding the petition
to be sufficient in
form and substance,
the court sets it for
hearing on August
6, 2009 at 9:00
o'clock in the morn-
ing before the Ses-
sion Hall of this
Court. Benguet
Provincial Capital.
La Trinidad.
Benguet and all
persons interested
may appear and
show cause, if any,
why this petition
should not be
granted.

Let this order
be published at the
expense of the pe-
titioner in the
JUNCTION

NEWSPAPER, a
newspaper of gen-
eral circulation in
Baguio City and
Benguet Province,
once a week, for
three (3) consecu-
tive weeks, the first
publication to be
made not later than
March 22, 2009.

Furnish copies
hereof together
with a copy of the
petition and its an-
nexes to the Office
of the Solicitor
General, Makati
City; the Provin-
cial Prosecutor of
Benguet, the Local
Civil Registrar of
La Trinidad.
Benguet, The Junc-
tion Newspaper,
The Petitioner and
Counsel

SO ORDERED.

This 17th day of
March 2009 at La
Trinidad, Benguet.

SGD. FRANCIS S.
BULIYAT SR.
Presiding Judge

March 21, 28
and April 4,
2009

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

IN THE
MATTER OF
PETITION FOR
CORRECTION
OF ENTRIES IN
THE
CERTIFICATE
OF LIVE BIRTH
OF MARION
JOY C.
SUMALI,

MARION JOY C
SUMALI,
represented
herein by her
Father QUINTO
B. SUMALI,

Petitioner,
-versus -

HL,- LOCAL
CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF
BOKOD,
BENGUET

AND THE
NATIONAL
STATISTICS
OFFICE,

Respondents,

X-----X

SPECIAL
PROCEEDINGS
CASE NO. 09-C-
15308

ORDER

Petitioner,
through counsel,
filed this verified
petition
praying the after
due notice, pub-
lication and
hearing the court
orders the Local
Civil Registrar of
Bokod,
Benguet to
change the fol-
lowing entry in
the certificate
of Live Birth of
Marion Joy C.

Sumali as fol-
lows:

Sex : from MALE.
to FEMALE

WHEREFORE,
finding the peti-
tion to be suffi-
cient in form and
substance, the
court sets it for
hearing on July
29, 2009 at 9:00
o'clock in the
morning before
the Session Hall
of this Court,
Capitol, La
Trinidad Benguet
and all persons
interested may
appear and show
cause, if any,
why this petition
should not be
granted.

Let this Or-
der be published
at the expense of
the petitioners in
the
JUNCTION NEWSPAPER
a newspaper of
general circula-
tion in Baguio
City and Benguet
Province, once :
week, for
three(3) consecu-
tive weeks, the
first publication
to be made not
later than March
22, 2009..

Furnish cop-
ies hereof to-
gether with a
copy of the peti-
tion and its an-
nexes to the Of-
fice Of The So-
licitor General,
Makati City; the
Provincial Pros-
ecutor of
Benguet; the Lo-
cal Civil Regis-
trar of Bokod
Benguet, ; The
Junction Newspa-
per ; the peti-
tioner and Coun-
sel

SO OR-
DERED.

This 16th day of
March 2009 at La
Trinidad .
Benguet.

SGD. FRANCIS
A. BULIYAT SR.
Presiding Judge

March 21, 28
and April 4,
2009

Editorial

..... from page 4

Did anybody say he had? Has he peeked into the Mancao affidavit? Or is this be-lated recognition of command responsibility? "Conscience is the inner voice which warns us that someone may be looking, editor H. L. Mencken once wrote.

Will Mancao's affidavit disappear be-tween his Florida prison and a Philippine legal forum? That could be a court, or the Ombudsman or a congressional hearing. Don't bet on it. Stranger things have hap-pened.

What we know, so far, about Dacer-Corbito is found, not in Philippine investi-gative reports, but in US federal court records. Sad but true. Leaf through the 90-page decision of US District Court Judge William Walls in New Jersey that denied bail for Michael Ray Aquino. Some excerpts:

In October, 2000, Mancao asked Aquino: "Noy, ano ba itong Special Operations na ito?" (Noy, what is this Special Op-erations?), Aquino answered, "Yang kuwan-yan, sir, Dacer. Ok na yan sa Malacanang." (That's Dacer, sir. That's already OK with Malacanang.").

Mancao, then asked Aquino, "Clear na ba ito sa boss natin, kay 71 (referring to Gen. Lacson)?" ("Has this been cleared with 71?"), Aquino then allegedly stated: "Sila na daw ang bahala sa kanya." (They said they will take it up with him.)

On Nov. 24, 2000 between 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. this text message came from Aquino "Nakuha na si Delia. Paki T.I. mo siya coordi-nate with 19 (referring to C/Insp. Vivente Arnado). Huwag kang magdala ng taga Bicol." (They got Delia (Dacer), conduct tactical in-terrogation and coordinate with 19. Do not bring men from Bicol.) Dacer is from Bicol.

Will the truth finally emerge? The boast by Richard III meanwhile resonates: "And thus I clothe my naked villany With odd old ends stol'n out of holy writ, And seem a saint when most I play the devil".

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

SPS. RAMON & IMELDA ANGWIT

Applicant

Case No: 98-01-2297

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable FEDERICO J. MANDAPAT, JR. - REGIONAL DIRECTOR this 19th day of March 2009.

(SGD) GREGORIO R. RETUTA, JR.
Hearing Officer

Jobless Rate...**.... from page 1**

National Capital Region, which accounts for the biggest chunk of GDP, has registered the highest unemployment and underemployment rate of 14% and 12.4%, respectively. "If there are fewer jobs in Manila, then those flocking over here to seek work are in for a rude awakening. But what's even worse is that five of every 10 unemployed individuals are in the 15-24 age group, and that three of every 10 who are jobless are in the 25-34 age group."

"In short, eight out of every 10 who have no work are in the youth sector, and 40% of the unemployed are either college graduates or have at least attended college. This government is presiding over the greatest wastage of human resources," Escudero said.

He expressed disagreement with the government's plan to provide jobs because "it's temporary at best; job creation should be private sector driven."

Escudero recommended that government roll out projects that can be funded by the 2009 budget while imposing job benchmarking for every peso spent for taxes.

He also said that it was important to fund the agricultural sector even more; repair farm-to-market roads and other infrastructure like irrigation; and continue supporting cooperatives.

"We should address the skills-job mismatch. Having too many nursing graduates has created a long white line of unemployed. At the same time, government must freeze tuition fee hikes in state colleges and universities to improve their holding capacity and lessen the number of dropouts that can only lead to increased unemployment." /Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Don't crucify....**.... from page 2**

even after Smith's conviction, her government has not been protecting her." "When it was the VFA itself that was put on trial, her government scrambled to defend the agreement despite the serious legal and constitutional questions that were raised against it," stressed Cayetano, the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Social Justice and President of the Committee of Women Parliamentarians of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

"President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez must be the happiest people in the world right now, aside from Daniel Smith. They can rejoice all they want, but Filipinos know the truth."

"I am all praises for Nicole's lawyer, Atty. Evelyn Ursuja, and the women's groups that valiantly pursued this case despite all the adversities. There's still hope for the country./Office of Senator Pia S. Cayetano

Chiz Asks Merci:....**.... from page 2**

of P728-million in fertilizer funds to the 2004 campaign kitty of local officials allied with President Arroyo.

The Ombudsman has also been slammed for its failure to act on a number of controversial cases such as the alleged rigged bidding for World Bank-funded road projects and the ZTE-NBN national broadband deal.

In the impeachment complaint filed against her, among the cases cited by the petitioners were the Mega-Pacific agreement contract entered into by former Comelec chairman Benjamin Abalos, Sr., the extortion case against former Justice Department Secretary Hernando "Nani" Perez, and the case against the "Euro" generals.

"How can we expect the public to trust government when many high-ranking officials involved in such allegedly anomalous practices and transactions are not taken to task for their actions? If we allow this to continue, we will witness the collapse of institutions and, subsequently, democracy itself," Escudero said./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero.

MRT 'Ghost Riders'....**.... from page 2**

profits while debts are nationalized," said Escudero.

He revealed that to pay for the arrears of MRT alone, the government shelled out P2.2 billion in 2007 and 2.45 billion in 2008. He added that this year, it will remit some 1.19 billion for the same purpose.

Escudero also said that the government subsidized MRT operations and maintenance to the tune of P579 million in 2007 and P618 million in 2008, while a total of P645 million is earmarked for this purpose this year.

"If fares are priced to recover costs, you court a commuter revolt. Mass rail transit is a losing proposition. Rents of real estate in stations or depots are supposed to make up for the losses but these have been ceded to private partners. So government ends up picking the tab," he said.

"And MRT is economically viable, meaning it is an important cause in the overall scheme of things. But alone, it is not financially viable if only turnstile or farebox income will be considered."

Escudero noted that the because of the "high guaranteed ridership forecast" of the MRT at its inception, with the shortfall to be shouldered by the government in this railway version of the "take-or-pay provision in the independent power producer (IPP) contracts," the government will be paying for the fares of what are essentially "ghost riders."

"This should serve as a cautionary tale in future light rail projects so ridership won't be inflated," he said.

Escudero said that another cause for the hemorrhage of public funds through the MRT is the cost of its maintenance.

He said that the MRT has a high maintenance contract with a Japanese firm, which is onerous if compared with lower fees the LRTA is paying for the upkeep of its two lines.

"To top it all, MRT debt carries a high 12.5 percent to 15 percent annual interest rate," he explained.

The senator also said the government should refinance the \$865-million debt with "low-cost money," a mode that will book savings in the long run.

"But the pricing of obligations should be done transparently and verified by independent appraisers when warranted."/Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

In the Search....**.... from page 2**

the opposition especially groups known to have long been fighting against this corrupt, insensitive, and incompetent government," he said.

Mancao had reportedly executed an affidavit last Feb. 14 in Broward County, Florida in the United States detailing his knowledge of the double-murder case, following his extradition from the US./Office Of Senator Chiz Escudero

Mayor clarifies irisan....**.... from page 3**

cent". He said the city needs to strictly comply with these conditions thus it would need an area where the wastes will be segregated and sorted out.

Concio said discarded residual wastes will indeed be used to fill up recessed or open spaces in the dumpsite before these can be covered with soil preparatory to the vegetation process, which is also part of the rehabilitation program for the dumpsite.

Concio said the city would need tons of discarded residual wastes as there are numerous recessed portions needed to be filled up especially when the city implements the construction of the perimeter fence around the area.

As to the biodegradable wastes, Farinas and Concio said the city is working out a deal with the Department of Agriculture for a centralized composting arrangement using the open-air composting scheme being prompted by Loakan Liwanag barangay captain Fred Fangonon, starting April.

DA will allow the use of an area in the stockfarm while the city will be in charge of constructing a tire path toward the place and to fence the area for security purposes.

Concio said if plans push through, the city will begin collecting anew biodegradable wastes from the barangays.

Concio said they are working out the collection schedule in the barangays were they plan to revive the twice-a-week collection schedule for biodegradable and residual wastes, respectively.

Farinas also directed Concio to prepare a transition plan for waste disposition in relation to the cessation of hauling activities.

Concio said he is considering the immediate stoppage of the hauling activities due to the dearth of funds for the purpose./aileen p. refuerzo

City - uniwide....**.... from page 3**

cision remains on appeal.

Apart from the mayor and vice mayor, the team is also composed of Councilors Richard Carino, Elaine Sembrano and Antonio Tabora Jr., city treasurer Thelma Manaois, city administrator Peter Fianza, legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes and secretary to the mayor Ronald Perez.

The mayor formed the team in recognition of the immediate need to take action on improving the market following the fire that gutted a section of the trading center amid the Panagbenga celebration last March 2. Last year, another portion was razed in another blaze.

"The recurring fires at said area are unavoidable due to the rapidly deteriorating state of the market exposing market frequenters, merchants and tourists to the risk of being caught in another mishap. Aside from being a fire hazard, it poses danger to health and life as it also has become a health and peace and order risk," the mayor.

He said the Regional Trial Court has upheld the validity of the contract between the city and the Uniwide, a decision that dissolved the temporary restraining order that prevented the city from pursuing the deal with Uniwide.

Rabanes said that three possible actions can be expected from Uniwide which are either to push through with the development, form a consortium to undertake the project or sell rights over the project.

The mayor had earlier expressed preference for Uniwide to cede the development project to the city government so the city can have the freedom to chart the development on its own. / aileen p. refuerzo

Recently laid....**.... from page 12**

prior to the month of separation from employment but not to exceed Php15,000. For a one month loan, a member must have accumulated 12 monthly contributions. For two month loan, a member must have accumulated 24 monthly contributions prior to the month of separation from employment," Neri said.

Members with approved applications shall pay their loans within three years with a year grace period following the date of the loan.

Loans shall be charged with a nominal interest of 10 percent per year: the first year interest will be deducted in advance on the proceeds of the loan. A one percent service fee will be charged. This means borrowers will receive loans with deductions.

Borrowers must submit their applications at the nearest SSS servicing branch together with certifications from their employers that they were laid off or retrenched from January 1, 2009 onwards.

These certifications, Neri said, will be endorsed or validated by regional directors of the Department of Labor and Employment./PIA

Keep graduation....**.... from page 12**

their children to school.

"Bigyang parangal naman natin ang ating mga magulang, kahit sandali lang, o sa buong araw lang na yon," the vice-mayor said. "Sila ang naghirap para makatapos ang ating mga anak," he mused.

Vice mayor Daniel Farinas is acting mayor, as Mayor Bautista, Jr. is presently in Istanbul, Turkey. /juliegfianza

Batas.....**..... from page 5**

own business, we are announcing that all new applications for business name registration together with the other requirements shall be received by the concerned DTI office or officially designated areas," Favila said.

"This means that upon application, DTI shall process and issue the BN certificate upon proof of payment within five working days following the day of submission," he added.

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WEDDING AT CANA, AND MARY'S ROLE AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN MAN AND JESUS: The Bible's account of the wedding in Cana, where Jesus turned the water into wine as narrated in John 2:1-11, now forms part of the Holy Rosary of the Roman Catholic Christians as its Second Luminous Mystery (or Second Mystery of Light).

Among many Christian believers, this part of Jesus's life is often unknown or is little heard of, although it should occupy a place of importance because, as the Bible itself in John 2:11 says: "This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana, in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him."

Being the very first miracle of Jesus, it is significant to note that the Bible appears to have portrayed Him as a little hesitant in performing it, considering His refusal to do anything when Mary, His mother, first approached Him when wine had run out during the wedding banquet. Jesus told Mary: "Dear woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come."

But it was only because of Mary's persistence—she told the servants, "do as He says" even when she was already rebuffed by her Son—that Jesus relented and, as the Bible itself emphasizes, this became His first ever recorded miracle, the very first revelation of His glory.

If anything at all, therefore, this wedding totally justifies the Roman Catholic Christians' giving of importance to Mary and calling her, among others, as the "mediatrix of all grace".

Indeed, it is conceded that the only mediator between God and man is Jesus Christ. But, as shown by the wedding at Cana and the turning of the water into wine, Mary is the most effective mediator between Jesus and man.

Cordi Nawi..**.... from page 5**

tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit" Proverbs 3:13; Jeremiah 17:8.a.

Lastly, the author of this article you just read is an amazing and a wonderful woman, Ellen G. White, culled from one of her book "the great controversy" chapter 37, though only a third grader but endowed with spiritual gift by God. She authored more than 45 beautiful, amazing books, writer, lecturer and counselor, and was born in Gorham, Maine, November 26, 1827, one of eight children of Robert and Eunice Harmon.

During her 70 years of active service to the Seventh Day Adventist Church, she found time to write voluminously. She is credited with having written 100,000 manuscript pages and 45 books. Ellen G. White is reputed to be the most translated woman author and the most translated author in American history. For example, her little book *Steps to Christ* is available in more than 100 languages and one of her book, *The Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 9, pp. 12-13 wherein she predicted in 1915 before she died that fateful day of September 11, 2001, the crushing of the Twin Towers in New York City, more or less 93 years before it happened. After a full life dedicated to the service of God and others, she died on July 16, 1915, confidently trusting in Him whom she had believed.

Three Samaritan.....

tients.

..... from page 7

Of it, P6,000 helped settle the burial costs for Jessica Tampol, an eight-year old pupil at the Rizal Elementary School who recently succumbed to complications of diabetes.

From the Shoshin (Beginner's Mind) fund, P359.75 paid for a can of infant formula for the same toddler being supported by Freddie. This was aside from P510 for the baby's elder sister, who turned 11 last month.

Another P500 settled the elementary graduation fees of a son of Rhoda Boquien, whose family could hardly make ends with what she earns from sorting recyclables from garbage.

Julian recently sent P10,000 to support Anabel Lampaz, a mother of eight facing eviction for the nth time for non-payment of rent. A lady Samaritan in New York also offered form lumber the family needs to build a shanty so it won't be evicted again.

Freddie and Julian had requested anonymity, but relented when told releasing their names would give a human face to the humanitarian cause - and perhaps inspire others to take on their addiction./ Ramon Dacawi.

Recently laid off workers may now seek emergency loans at SSS

The Social Security System (SSS) will be working with the Employees Compensation Commission in extending emergency loans to its members who lost their jobs due to ongoing financial crunch.

"The Employees Compensation Fund has good cash flows and quite solid. They're more than happy to assist us in the process," a grateful SSS President Romulo Neri told reporters during a briefing at Malacanang Palace, "SSS will be managing these loans in

their behalf."

Neri recalled that SSS had problems accommodating loan applications for unemployed members after it exceeded the 10 percent legal limit on its salary and emergency loans. Because of that restriction, he said they had to suspend processing applications to protect the integrity of SSS funds.

To avail the emergency loans, borrowers should have the following qualifications: must be

separated or retrenched from employment from January 1, 2009 onwards; must have paid at least 12 monthly contributions prior to the month of separation from employment; must be in good standing—must have paid at least 6 contributions in the calendar year 2008 and/or updated loan amortizations as of December 31, 2008; members who were not previously granted refund of contributions, retirement or total permanent disability benefits; and members who are not been disqualified by the Social Security Commission as a result of filing fraudulent loans with the SSS.

"The amount of loan shall be based to the highest monthly salary credit for the past six months

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UNDER OATH - Regional Trial Court Branch 60 Judge Edilberto Claravall inducts into office newly elected officers of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Baguió Chapter president Daniel Mangallay, VP Isagani Mamaril; Ruth Bawayan, Secretary; Cristeta Leung, Treasurer; Sunny Sacla, Auditor; Ronald Perez, P.R.O. and outgoing president George Dumawang as ex-officio member (center) and Board of Directors Francisca Claver, Isagani Calderon Juliet Tuma-ac, Stephabie Rachel Castro and Allan Antonio Mazo held at Justice Hall last March 16./By Bong Cayabyab

Keep graduation rites solemn – Mayor

BAGUIOCITY—Mayor Reynaldo Bautista, Jr. last week issued a memorandum to all public and private school principals and administrators to devote most of the graduation ceremonies to honoring the graduates and their parents.

It has been observed that "politicians usually grace these events, either invited or otherwise, wherein the students being honored are often outshined and overshadowed," the mayor's memorandum read.

As a salute to the graduates and for respect and appreciation to their parents, "there is a need to ab-

stain from counting politicians in the various graduation rites in the schools in the city," it further reads. "...to preserve the solemnity and purity of these occasions."

The memo was issued as graduation rites are celebrated in the different schools in the city; including preschool, day care centers, primary, secondary and the colleges and universities.

Vice mayor Daniel Farinas who conducted the Ugnayang Panlungsod last Thursday, agreed

with the mayor, noting that some long-winded speeches leave the parents and graduates waiting for hours. Sometimes, he said, even the speeches have nothing to do with the students or their parents' plight in sending

Cont. on page 11

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