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THE JUNCTION Pahayagang Palaban!!!

MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

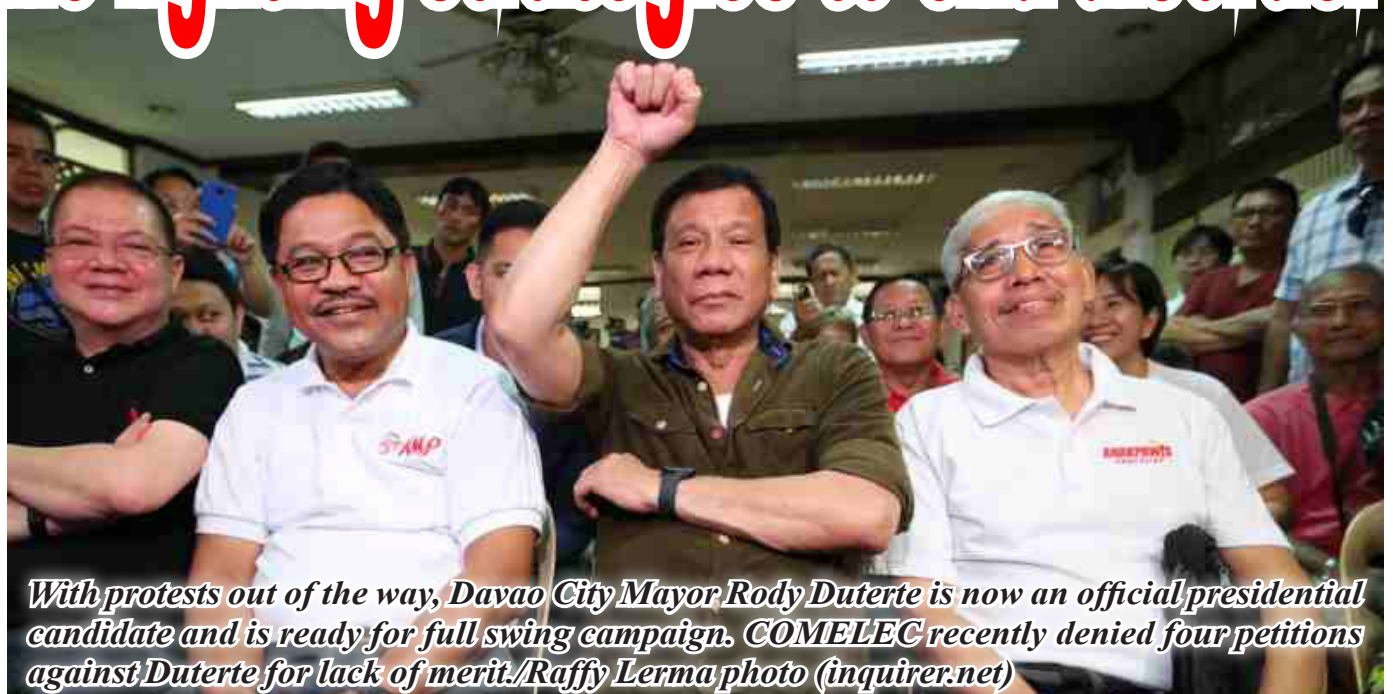
Duterte-Cayetano to jail all "narcopoliticians"; bats for modern crime-fighting strategies to end disorder

"You will all rot in jail."

This was the warning issued by the tandem of presidential candidate Davao City Mayor Rodrigo "Rody" Duterte and Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano to government officials engaged in "narcopolitics."

On Wednesday, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) confirmed the existence of "narcopolitics" in the country, citing the arrests in 2015 of close to 200 government officials who

Cont. on page 6



With protests out of the way, Davao City Mayor Rody Duterte is now an official presidential candidate and is ready for full swing campaign. COMELEC recently denied four petitions against Duterte for lack of merit./Raffy Lerma photo (inquirer.net)

Huwag nating aksayahin ang ating boto, siguraduhin nating may kakayahan/accomplishments ang ating iboboto!!!



Mayor urges taxpayers not to utilize fixers

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ABANGAN!

Simula March 30, maiinit na 12 election issues!

- > Maiinit na exposé hinggil sa mga iba't-ibang kandidato!
- > Alamin kung karapat-dapat nga ba silang iboto!
- > 15,000 copies per issue - libreng ipamimigay!

Elections 2016 bi-weekly issues soon to come!

Painit na nang painit!



Protection, preservation of Benguet heritage sites mullied

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DA-CAR allots P62M for El Nino mitigation measures

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Panahon na Para sa Pagbabago!!!
Alidom at Bichiz

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The month-long 21st Baguio Flower Festival -- Panagbenga 2016 -- opens with a parade through the main thoroughfare of the city featuring the Drum and Lyre Competition-Elementary Division. The opening parade is a preview of the main events on Feb. 27 and 28, the Grand Street and Grand Float Parades, respectively. (PNA photo by Jojo B. Lamaria)

Panagbenga 2016 opens

BAGUIO CITY – Eight elementary school drum and lyre group and performers join the grand streetdancing parade on Feb. 27, with the high school and open category; the winners also to join the float parade next day, Feb. 28.

Mabini, Baguio Central, Dona Aurora, Josefa Carino, Jose P. Laurel, Lucban,

Quezon, and Pinget Elementary Schools qualified, as clad in flower and Cordillera-inspired costumes, showed off with energetic performance from Panagbenga up to Athletic Bowl, Burnham Park last Monday.

With reversible gigantic fans, leaves and baskets, waving flags and fairy gossamer wings, twirling batons and umbrellas, floral head gear and anklets, recycled materials of plastic and newspapers, G-clef and butterflies, colored bands and sashes, palm trees, a mounted lechon, and split-second change in environmental and fiesta scenery, the schoolchildren performed to Filipino music interspersed with the Panagbenga hymn.

Melodies for the performances include “Tayo’y Mga

Pino’y,” “Ako Ang Nagtanim,” “Kay Ganda ng Ating Musika,” and local tunes, “Salidummay,” and “Layad Nan Likatan.”

Aguinaldo, Dominican-Mirador, and Don Mariano Marcos Elementary Schools have the option to join the parade; as announced after the drum and lyre showdown and performance.

Judges for the opening parade are Baguio-based performers, artists, teachers, and choreographers, professionals in their field; Dennis Joel Paraguas, Karen Anton, Jackie Ann Go, Ferdie Balanag, Elizabeth Calinawagan, Melchor Publico, Joseph Morillos, Carmencita Zuniga, Sherwin Santiago and John Glenn Gaerlan.

Congressman Nicasio Aliping, Jr., Mayor Mauricio Domogan, members of the council, and barangay officials joined the parade, with the Philippine Military Academy band performing along the way.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan in his message acknowledged the hard work poured into the “historic, sensational, phenomenal and grand spectacle called Panagbenga.”

The unified efforts through public-private partnership has brought us to witness the 21st Baguio Flower Festival,” he said.

The unwavering support and generosity of sponsors, talents and experiences shared by all participants is expected to equal or even surpass the grandeur of the festival’s twenty years, he added.

It is a privilege to see Panagbenga’s transformation through the years; and we continue to enjoy the grandeur and awesomeness of the festival. The flower festival is more than just a celebration and occasion, it is an opportunity to work together on what we are capable of doing and becoming, with the message that big things come from small humble beginnings. We have the opportunity to excel, and without resting on our laurels or being complacent, we become better to best, the mayor said.

There should be no personal interest, disunity or bickering within the festival as we unite, cooperate, see the flowers as glorious works of

Cont. on page 6

Segregation of occupied areas at Buyog in the works but protection of remaining portion paramount

BAGUIO CITY – The segregation for housing purposes of the built-up areas at the Buyog watershed from the coverage of Proclamation No. 93 which declares Buyog as a forest reservation will be pursued but the city government will ensure the protection of the remaining unoccupied portion of the reservation.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan stressed this as he directed last Feb. 1 city legal officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes to draft a memorandum of agreement stipulating conditions to ensure the preservation of the remaining unoccupied portion of the watershed should the planned segregation materialize.

The mayor’s move was based on the recommendation of Baguio Water District (BWD) general manager Salvador Royeca for the forging of a MOA that spells out conditions for the protection of the remaining portions of the watershed before the BWD will issue a favorable endorsement to the segregation.

“The (BWD) is prepared to a favorable endorsement however, we have proposed some conditions thereto which we believe are for the best interest of the City of Baguio, (BWD) and the residents thereat,” Royeca wrote the mayor.

The BWD’s endorsement of the proposed segregation was sought by Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) NorthLuzon regional coordinator Micheline Inay

In a letter to Inay dated January 25, Royeca cited four conditions: that no further intrusion of buildings should be allowed; that the existing breaches of openings in the existing fence should be closed to prevent entry of unauthorized persons; that residents should be required to install sealed septic tanks; and that the residents should be informed that they have a personal stake in preservation the watershed as it is their primary water source.

“These conditions are sought to be imposed as our inspection has revealed that without these conditions being put in place, we will risk the irreversible contamination of the water sources,” Royeca noted.

He suggested that a MOA “be executed to serve as the basis for our issuance of the requested endorsement.”

City council committee on lands chair Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. asked the mayor to task the city legal office for the immediate drafting of the MOA to facilitate the issuance of the BWD endorsement.

A large portion of the 20-hectare Buyog is inhabited by residents from Pinget,

Quirino Hill and other barangays straddled by the forest reserve.

Pinget barangay officials sought the segregation of 113,193 square meter area occupied by residents for housing as early as 2009. The residents claimed they have occupied the area since the late 70s or long before the issuance of Proclamation No. 93 issued in 1992.

In 2014, Lower Quirino Hill residents sought the intercession of Yangot also for the exclusion of the inhabited portion from the reservation.

Efforts to abate squatting at the reservation peaked in the 1990s when illegal structures were demolished by authorities but the intruders kept on returning prompting the Baguio Regreening Movement under former Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia and the Baguio-Benguet Medical Society to spearhead the fencing of the unoccupied portion to ward off further intrusion and expansion of the shanties.

According to the BRM, of the 20-hectare reservation area, only about 10 hectares remained unoccupied.

Buyog is one of the four major sources of water in the city aside from Sto. Tomas, Busol and Camp 8.

It supplies water to the Buyog area including Camdas, Dizon, Pinget and Quirino Hill barangays. – A Refuerzo



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Mayor urges taxpayers not to utilize fixers

BAGUIO CITY - With the full implementation of the electronic Business Process and Licensing System (e-BPLS) in the city government of Baguio, mayor Mauricio Domogan advised and urged taxpayers not to utilize fixers at city hall.

The city has set policies and procedures in the process of registration of new business, renewal of old permits and other transactions involving set up of additional lines of business, change of location, ownership or trade name,

partial retirement, retirement of business and replacement of permit and certificates, thus, Domogan encouraged taxpayers to process their permits personally instead of utilizing fixers.

It is the goal of the system to speed up the processing time and eradicate the problem of fixers in the licensing systems.

However, despite of the faster processing time of business permits in the city now, there are still taxpayers who depend on fixers.

"Do not go to fixers. Identify who the fixer is because that is the best way that we can stop it. We do not tolerate this kind of under-taking," said Domogan.

Also, government officials and employees are not allowed to transact business relative to obtaining or renewing business licenses in behalf of an owner of business for whatever reason and regardless of authority granted by the owner, stressed the mayor/Jho Arranz

DOLE reminds public on the rights of domestic helpers

BAGUIO CITY - - The Department of Labor and Employment reminded the rights of domestic helpers during an information drive on Republic Act 10361 or the Batas Kasambahay and the celebration of Araw ng Kasambahay last February 6.

DOLE Batas Kasambahay focal person Patrick Rillorta explained that under the law enacted in 2013, domestic helper or kasambahay pertains to general househelp, nursemaid or yaya, cook, gardener or laundry person, or working children 15 years and above but below 18 years of age or any person who regularly performs domestic work in one household on an occupational basis.

Pertinent provisions include kasambahays must not exceed eight hours of

work a day or 40 hours a week. Those below 15 of age must not be given hazardous work and must not have a working time earlier than 6:00AM and later than 10:00PM.

Rillorta also disclosed that in hiring kasambahays, employer must pay the cost of hiring whether they are hired through private employment agencies or any other party and the employer and the kasambahay should sign a contract of employment.

Employers must also pay the deployment expenses but may recover the cost when the worker leaves without any justifiable reason within six months from employment, he added.

Rillorta also explained that the monthly minimum wage for the kasambahay is

higher in the Cordillera with P2, 500 in cities and first class municipalities and P2,000 in other municipalities (2nd to 6th class) compared to the P2, 000 and P1, 500 in the National Capital Region, respectively.

The employers also have to sponsor additional benefits including SSS and Philhealth when the wage does not exceed P5, 000. If wage is over P5, 000, the kasambahays have to avail of the benefits themselves.

DOLE is the lead agency for the advocacy of the Batas Kasambahay which primarily promotes their welfare and safety as well as the families they work for./JDP/CCD/Clarina Conde & Erlyn Lomboy/PIA - SLU Interns



FOR A SAFE BAGUIO - Baguio city fire marshal Joe Fernand Bangyod leads the call for the total firecracker ban in the city in line with the BFP's Safe Baguio Project which aims to promote a safe city year-round by making the city firecracker injury-free and by enhancing the safety capabilities of the barangays through the construction of fire stations in each of the city's 20 districts and through the provision of an ambulance per barangay to provide mobility during emergency situations./Aileen Refuerzo

HOUSE COMMITTEE OKAYS CORDILLERA AUTONOMY BILL

BAGUIO CITY - The House Committee on Local Governments has approved the passage of House Bill 4649, or Act Creating the Cordillera Autonomous Region, at the committee level paving the way for its endorsement to the plenary for second reading.

This was reported by Baguio Rep. Nicasion M. Aliping Jr. who added the committee approval was made last February 1. Aliping was tasked by Committee Chair Pedro Acharon to head the ad hoc committee to conduct public consultations on the matter.

Aliping said that after seven consultations in the six provinces and Baguio City, no objection to the draft was received by the

ad hoc committee and ensuring the swift approval of the measure at Acharon's committee.

Mt. Province Rep. Maximo Dalog read the committee report before the committee last February 1.

Dalog read, "The Ad hoc Committee received no objection, or major proposal to amend the proposed measure, in fact, those who attended the public consultations expressed their overwhelming support for the passage of the proposed measure. The Committee is in receipt of several manifestos, resolutions coming from the local governments of the Cordilleras including non-government and peoples' organizations, endorsing and supporting the proposed measure which

was presented to them during the public hearings."

The bill gained the support of Quezon City Rep. Winston Castelo and Rep. Carlos Padilla of Nueva Vizcaya, who also signified his interest of co-authoring the bill together with all the Cordillera lawmakers.

Cagayan De Oro City Representative Rufus Rodriguez said that under the new rules of the house, it will be a priority bill in the same committee if refiled in the 17th Congress.

No objections or amendments on the proposed Cordillera autonomy bill were posed by members of the committee present in the hearing which motioned for its approval./Carl C. Taawan

Call for total ban vs. firecrackers snowballs

BAGUIO CITY - The call for the city council to adopt an ordinance for a total ban in the sale and use of firecrackers has snowballed here.

Last Friday, officials of 47 barangays trooped to the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Baguio City fire station to submit their respective barangay resolutions calling for a total prohibition on the sale and use of these pyrotechnic devices.

The resolutions along with the over 14,000 signatures of support to the total ban collated within two weeks in a campaign spearheaded by the BFP Baguio led by fire chief Supt. Joe Fernand Bangyod were turned over to Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda who vowed to sponsor the necessary ordinance at the city council.

Bangyod pushed for the total firecracker ban in line with the BFP's Safe Baguio Project which aims to promote a safe city year-round by making the city firecracker injury-free and by enhancing the safety capabilities of the barangays through the construction of fire stations in each of the city's 20 districts and through the provision of an ambulance per barangay to provide mobility during emergency situations.

Tabanda said her legisla-

tive measure is in response to the clamor for a total firecracker sale and use prohibition which no less than Mayor Mauricio Domogan has been advocating.

The mayor has for years been appealing to the city council to adopt an ordinance to effect a total ban citing the danger posed by these devices on the lives and limbs of the constituents and their harmful effects on the city's environment.

Last week, the mayor also forwarded to the city council the endorsement of city environment and parks management officer (CEPMO) Cordelia Lacasamana which showed that the recorded concentrations of particulate matter at the Baguio Sewage Treatment Plant in North Sanitary Camp elevated and peaked with a concentration of 105.88 micrograms per cubic meter from Dec. 24-26 and to 119.86 mcg/m3 from Dec. 31 to January 2, 2016.

Wastewater Water and Ambient Air Management Division chief Moises Lozano attributed this rise in air pollutants during said times to the firecracker and pyrotechnics combustion and smoke from outdoor cooking and burning in celebration of Christmas and New Year.

The mayor endorsed the report to the city council as reference in the passage of the ordinance disallowing the sale and use of firecrackers.

The city has an existing firecracker ordinance but the prohibition covers only the sale of certain types of devices.

"For the last two years, the mayor had not allowed the sale of the firecrackers in our city so taking cue from the mayor, I decided to approach our fire chief and inform him of my intention to sponsor a proposal and requesting him to provide the necessary documents to support my ordinance," Tabanda told barangay leaders who attended the turn-over program.

She told the barangay leaders that the absolute ban would mean prohibition on the display, sale, use and distribution of these devices.

She said one issue that needs to be resolved will be whether to give exemption to fireworks displays during city-sponsored activities like the Panagbenga and special occasions like Christmas, New Year and Chinese new year.

An informal vote during the meeting showed the barangay leaders divided over the issue prompting Tabanda to ask the officials to further consult their constituents on the matter/A Refuerzo

Aquino spent at least P50B of our money for his BBL fantasy

President Benigno S. Aquino 3rd spent about P50 billion of taxpayers' money on his campaign to get the insane Bangsamoro Basic Law enacted into law, documents as well as sources in government disclosed.

The money was spent on efforts to convince the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) to agree to the BBL, generate support from traditional Muslim politicians and for Congress to pass it into law before Aquino steps down from power.

"With that kind of money, we thought BBL was unstoppable," a source in government said. "But even the legislators we thought were already deep in our pockets found the Mamasapano massacre a perfect excuse to withdraw their support," he added.

What's P50 billion? Consider that as a 20 percent equity for a project, which means it could generate a further P250 billion. With that amount, we would have enough funds to build, for example, two MRT-3s in Metro Manila, establish a Manila-to-Batangas commuter hourly train, or two international airports.

EDITORIAL

What a criminal waste of taxpayers' money then that it was spent on a drive to get the BBL passed, all because of this President's naiveté that the MILF would lay down its arms, the

hubris that he could ask the body politic whatever he wanted, and megalomaniac greed that he would win the Nobel Peace Prize that eluded his mother.

The breakdown of the P50 billion that went down the drain along with his BBL delusion is as follows:

First, the P10 billion hijacked from the 2011 Budget through the so-called Disbursement Allocation Plan (DAP), which according to a Malacañang October 2011 press release would be used for what it termed "Comprehensive Peace and Intervention Package."

Some P8.6 billion of this was used to fund the "Transition Investment Support Fund." This was ostensibly to "fast-track the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao's (ARMM) development," to prepare for the setting up of the Bangsamoro. In reality, these were pork-barrel type of funds given to both MILF-linked, as well as traditional, Muslim leaders to get support for the BBL.

The TISP was unusually huge that even ARMM politicians could not come up with enough projects to justify the money they were receiving, that Aquino scolded them in a speech in Davao City on June 2012: "Gusto ko ho sanang maibalita sa inyo 'yung mga accomplishments. Pero dito po sa status, as of May 31, 2012, napakarami po dito ay 'not yet started' or 'ongoing.'" ("I had wanted to report the accomplishments of the Transition Investment Support Plan. But based on its status report as of May 31, 2012, so many of these have not been started or are reported as ongoing.")

The P10 million individual checks were released directly to each governor and mayor in ARMM, and sources said these politicians had little experience in inventing ghost projects of that scale, that they could easily be charged by the Ombudsman with malversation. "You have to understand the situation in 2012, Aquino was so popular and had so much political support that they thought he had the power to distribute those checks," a politician from Mindanao claimed.

Second, P30 billion in pork-barrel funds given in 2014 and 2015 to a select group of members of Congress for them to rush the hearings over the BBL. Given the Supreme Court ruling in November 2013 declaring the pork-barrel unconstitutional, the funds were disguised as expenditures under the Bottom-up Budgeting (BUB) system. In 2015 for instance, BUB funds for Camarines Sur's 3rd district totaled P119 million, according to documents from the Department of Budget. The district representative is vice presidential candidate Leni Robredo, who had voted for the BBL.

Third, about P2 billion was coursed through the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), funded both through the DAP and OPAPP, ostensibly for the setting up of "peace centers, Pamayanan Program, strategic roads," and shelter in "conflict-areas." Sources said, in reality, these were used to bribe MILF communities to strictly keep the peace and support the BBL.

Fourth, some P8 billion were sourced from DAP allocations and the regular budget for pork-barrel type of projects and other infrastructure undertaken by the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Department of Agriculture and other agencies, with Muslim and MILF leaders directing them where those projects must be located.

A huge component of the funding for the BBL, though, may not have come from taxpayers' money. Various sources have claimed, although I have not received confirmation of this at this point, that the Malaysians gave P10 billion in funding both to Aquino and the MILF to agree and work together on getting the BBL passed into law.

The funding source, according to one claim, was from the \$700 million that was transferred from the Malaysian sovereign wealth fund 1 Malaysian Development Berhad (1MDB) to the personal account of Prime Minister Najib Razak, according to findings by the Malaysian authorities. However, Malaysian Attorney General Mohamed Apandi Ali two weeks ago cleared Najib, claiming that the money was a donation from Saudi Arabia's royal family.

Last week, though, the Swiss Attorney General shocked Malaysia — and the world — by issuing an official statement that \$4 billion had been stolen from Malaysian state-companies linked to 1MDB, and transferred to Swiss accounts owned by former Malaysian public officials.

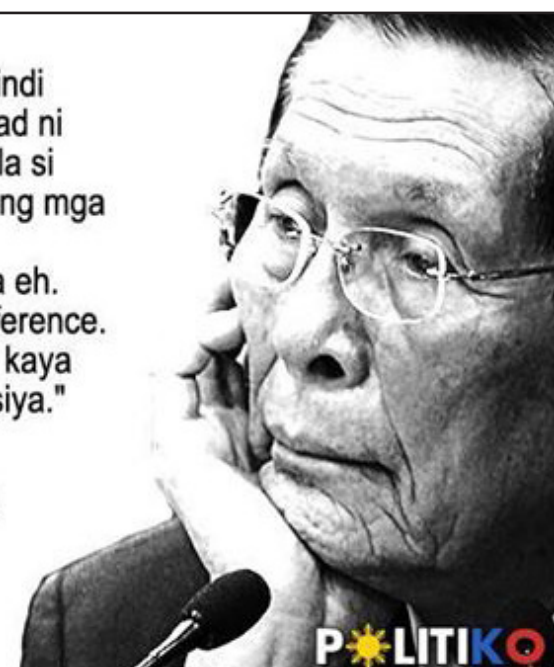
Could that have been the biggest source of grease money used in the Philippines to try to enact the BBL into law? I have written in many columns that the BBL will ultimately create a Muslim independent state at the heart of Mindanao, which could declare later on that it prefers to be part of nation whose state religion is Islam — Malaysia. *

When Malaysian Prime Minister Najib was here in 2014 to witness the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB), which the BBL was to implement, was he merely a mediator, or the architect and financier of the scheme?

[*Paragraph 3.(1) Part I of Malaysia's Federal Constitution: "Islam is the religion of the Federation."]/tiglao.manilatimes@gmail.com

"Yung gabinete niya, hindi niya kinausap. Di katulad ni Obama, nung tirahin nila si Bin Laden, pinulong yung mga advisers niya, Cabinet members, CIA. Ito wala eh. Walang command conference. Sinolo niya. Akala niya kaya niya. Yun pala palpak siya."

Senator Enrile
on PNoy's role in Mamasapano



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*A call to elect only
the godly in 2016*

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many..." (Jesus, our God and Savior, in Mark 10:43-45, the Holy Bible).

-ooo-

A CALL FOR BELIEVERS TO BAND TOGETHER FOR 2016 POLLS: To all voters who profess faith in God, no matter what your religions maybe, let us band together now and assure the election of candidates in the May 2016 elections who fear and love God, and who have a track record of publicly displaying that fear and love of God everyday, not only during election time.

For too long a time, we have given our votes to people who do not deserve to be elected because they have no agenda for God but only agenda for themselves and their families, and it is clear that this has caused misery, pain, suffering, and utmost poverty to many of us. For too long a time, candidates who were even ashamed to talk about God in their campaign---and thus took God for granted when they ultimately won---have been winning.

If we want to change ourselves and our country for the better, we, as believers of God who fear and love Him truthfully and sincerely, must now insist to ask candidates if they even have any plan to pursue spirituality and righteousness if they get elected, and, if possible, to ask them to write down and sign this plan and its specifics, so we can hold them accountable to it afterwards.

-ooo-

THE DOCTRINE OF CHURCH AND STATE, WHAT IT MEANS: Marietta Reyes, an avid reader of our daily Facebook posts our English and Filipino columns at www.facebook.com/attybatas, sent a question to me: if we require candidates to present an agenda on God, or on how to strengthen the spirituality and righteousness of our people, are we not violating the doctrine of the separation of Church and State?

Well, this query is not new, and, in fact, had already been explained in the past by a former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Artemio Panganiban. As we said in our past items here: "Indeed, as former Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban so ably pointed out, there is no separation of the Philippines, as a state, from God even if in its Constitution it has decreed a separation of the church and state."

-ooo-

PUSHING SPIRITUALITY DOES NOT VIOLATE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE: "Basically, Panganiban is saying that the Philippines as a state believes in God, and that even its present Constitution, promulgated by the first President Aquino in 1987, confirms that belief in God by its invocation of the Almighty God's aid."

"That being the case, there should really be no problem as there should be no serious objection if government leaders, no matter what their religion maybe, would be pushing spirituality as a way of life, as distinguished from mere religious affiliation among Filipinos, in an attempt to improve their economic status."

-ooo-

JESUS, AND WHO HE TRULY IS: If Jesus Christ is preached as someone other than what He truly is, are we, His believers and who have been inspired to know who He truly is, to remain silent and simply allow that preaching to happen? The answer is no, and that answer is not even from me, but from Paul, the lawyer who wrote almost half of the New Testament of the Bible.

Here was what Paul wrote: "... For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the Spirit you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough... such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ..."

-ooo-

PLEASE LISTEN: "Ang Tanging Daan" (The Sole Way): a Bible study and prayer session online could now be heard, 24 HOURS a day, in the Philippines and the world at www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan or www.facebook.com/ANDKNK (and look for "Ang Tanging Daan" broadcasts). Phone: 0922 833 43 96, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

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>Baguio Traffic - 5 suggestions for
a permanent traffic solution

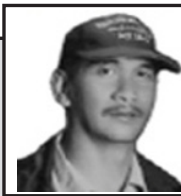
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MAGKASANGGA TAYO

Panahon na para sa Pagbababago!!!
Alidom at Bichiz

BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO



FAIR AND SQUARE

*Where Lies the Blame for
our Traffic Congestion
in the City?*

BY: ATTY. JAMES S. VALEROS



BAGUIO TRAFFIC - 5 SUGGESTIONS FOR A PERMANENT SOLUTION - The Manila traffic is simply unbearable, and if I may also say, unjustified.

I don't buy this idea that there are just too many cars in the road. Most of them I have noticed that cause traffic in Manila takes root in lack of discipline and inconsiderateness of drivers. The "drivers" attitude that they are superior and that only they have a right to their time and to hell with fellow drivers - that to my mind is the pervasive attitude and unless drastically changed will only make the traffic situation in Manila worse.

Baguio, unfortunately, has both, the bad driving attitude and the lack of imagination and justification of the persons in charge of traffic management and solution. What do I mean? We have been witness to the very bad traffic at last years' events. Same time this year onwards up to summer will give us a taste of Manila traffic unless as I said, the traffic managers have the will, the imagination and common sense for it not to happen.

Herewith are my humble suggestions:

[1] Look at the Makati city model, wherein most roads at the Salcedo and Legaspi villages are one way traffic. Any driver will tell you that it is better to drive a longer route for as long as it is continuous and without and/or less traffic.

[2] Designate free parking areas along Marcos Hi-way, Kennon and Naguillan Roads (the 3 major roads entering the city). Locations of the parking areas should be before or very near the city boundaries. These free parking areas should have 24 hours shuttle service (for hire-paid shuttle of course). This will encourage visitors to leave their vehicles at peak hours of the day and take a shuttle.

[3] Strict implementation of traffic laws both for private and public vehicles, walang palakasan, regardless of who owns the vehicle, tiketnan at multahan, ke sino ka pa!

[4] Strict implementation of no parking streets (zones) to include minor road tributaries and side roads. I say strictly implement this and impound motor vehicles who insist on parking their cars along the roads -these car owners who do not have their own private parking and insist on making the streets as their private parking. This alone will be a big help in traffic flow. Although, among the 4 suggestions made so far, this one is the toughest and the one that needs the most political will to implement.

[5] Immediate construction of above and/or underground parking, to hell with the kontrabidas who cite that a multi level parking building will ruin the city's landscape etc..., blah! Blah! Blah! In the first place what city landscape are they referring to that will be ruined? It has long been ruined already. But immediate problems need solutions and it does not take a genius to figure out that the city lacks parking spaces.

Now, after these 5 suggestions have been strictly implemented, I am almost certain that traffic will be a thing of the past. I don't believe we need some master traffic planner etc..., with a fucking Masters or PHD from whatever country abroad to solve traffic. As I said and will say it again, these are what is needed- Imagination, Common Sense and Political Will; otherwise, it is business as usual for the Pinoys which is **NAGLOLO-KOHAN LANG TAYO!!!**

As a further suggestion, whoever should be the traffic czar, if that is the title of the traffic solver, this person, should be from the private sector, should not have any political agenda and/or affiliation, this person should simply have a deep love for the City and want to solve the traffic problem. Put a politician for this position and there you have it, here we go again, let's waste time, money and engage in an endless but meaningless photo-ops!!!

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Panahon na talaga para sa pagbabago, kelangan na talagang baguhin ang ka-ipokritohan ng daang matuwad este daang matuwid, ano kaya yun daang matuwid na yan na sila lang sa Korap na Palasyo ng Malacanang ang nakakaalam??? Dito sa siyudad ng Baguio, kailangan rin ng pagbabago pag dating sa mga City Councilors, base sa aking pakiwari ay dapat karamihan ng mga incumbent City Councilors ay mapalitan na, ang ilan lang sa maisip ko na dapat na manatili as City Councilors ay sina Manong Bobby "Bungo" Ortega, maliban sa kanya ay wala na akong maisip na dapat na manatili at kung ako ang inyong tatanungin ay subukan naman natin ang mga bagong kandidato na katulad nila Orca, Yaranon, Ueda (Wida-Wida lang), Perez, Cabato, Mazo at mga ilan pa na mga bagong kandidato and of course ang mga come backer na katulad ni Manong Erdi Balajadia. Pag dating sa liderato ng siyudad, of course dun na tayo sa dalawang subok na, at ito ay walang iba kung hindi sina Apo Morris Domogan at si Apo Nicasio Aliping, kaya sa darating na halalan bastat tandaan nyo lang is **ALIDOM at wala nang iba, kaya Go na Go na for Alidom. Hi ! Hi! Hi !** Sa aking pag kakaalam si Manong Bernie ay tumatakbo para lang huwag mawala sa eksena at para na rin maka kuha ng daily verbal and visual exercise (hi hi, dami magagandang bebot sa kampanya). Alam naman natin na si Manong Bernie ay isa nang kingmaker at political bigwig at master. Para sa posisyon ng Vice Mayor ng Baguio, sa apat na tumatakbo na sina Bilog, Tabanda, Cosalan at Bagbagen, walang iba siyempre kung hindi si Bro. Edison Bilog at saka-sakali naman ay talagang ayaw nyo kay Bilog ang second choice natin ay si Cosalan, bastat huwag lang kayo magkakamali na iboto si Bagabagen at para lang kayo kumuha ng bato na ipalo sa inyong ulo (Bagabagen pa, huwag naman Mahal na Panginoon!!!).

Pagdating sa mga senatong este senador ay ating pang pinag aaralan kung sino ang aking ieendorso at kung bakit.

Siyempre para sa tunay na pagbabago ang kelangan natin para Pangulo is the One and The Only Vice President Jejomar Binay para pangulo ng Pilipinas at para sa kanyang bise presidente walang iba kung hindi si Senador Chiz Escudero . Kaya sa darating na halalan pakatatandaan ay BICHIZ for Binay-Chiz tandem.

Si Bongbong Marcos dapat tatakbo para pangulo at kapag pangulo ang kanyang tatakbuhan ay siya na ang aking iboboto. Hi! Hi! Hi! Marcos Pa Rin! Marcos Pa Rin! Marcos Pa Rin!

NOGNOG- I am sure you have seen the ads of VP Binay, the Nognog ad. The first time I saw this, I was in awe. I told myself, fantastic, a stroke of genius, ang galing, wala ako masabi, saludo ako. I would imagine this ad definitely touches a sensitive chord(s) with the masses and even those up to the C bracket -demographic. At the end of the ad, it says, "sino pa ba ang mag-tutulungan kung hindi mga Nognog?" But prior to that it defines who are the nognogs. Ang galing, tunay, bilib ako, I hope to be able to meet the creator(s) of this ad. Remember, when they tried to throw everything against former Prez Erap and they made such entertaining lines about his carabao English and to date those lines are now classics. I'd like to see, perhaps some Nognog jokes. Thanks to our Pinoy style, the so-called political correctness and racism lines in relation to political campaigns are non-existent. I can just imagine the regret of the bright boys at the LP who taught of attacking and mocking the VP with that Nognog critique - the guys at the VP Camp are certainly

The City Council

If my memory still serves me right, traffic congestion in Baguio City started to be felt by the Councilors as we also did, as early as the beginning of 1990. Such that retired Judge Edilberto Claravall who was then a Councilor had to author Resolution Nr. 231, series of 1992, entitled: **"Urging the LTFRB to Suspend the Grant of New Franchises to Any Public Utility Vehicle plying the route Baguio City"**

The starting traffic congestion in the city was later articulated in a privilege speech delivered in the Council by Councilor Leandro Yangot and owing to the representation of Congressman Bernardo Vergara, the Board en banc promulgated M.C. No. 95-014, dubbed as the first moratorium circular issued by the newly created LTFRB. The M.C. was entitled: **"Moratorium on the Acceptance of Application for Taxi Service in Baguio."**

By 1996, the LTFRB upon the recommendation of the City Council had expanded the moratorium by issuing M.C. No. 96-002 prohibiting the franchising of all public utility vehicles in Baguio City. In 1998, the loopholes created in M.C. 96-002 using the prepositional phrase "in Baguio City" which enabled applicants for taxi service to apply and secure franchises by just making Tuba, La Trinidad, Sablan even Itogon as base of operation (not Baguio City) was corrected and sealed when City Council Resolution Nr. 292, series of 1998 authored by Councilor Richard Cariño was passed upon approval by Mayor Mauricio Domogan.

This Resolution became the basis of the Board in promulgating M. C. No. 98-026 **"...suspending the acceptance of applications for franchises to operate all passengers public utility vehicles entering or touching Baguio City, La Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan and Tuba."**

For all these gallant efforts by the City Council in the beginning, legislating measures to preempt traffic congestion in the city then starting to develop, it appears the Councilors were not truly serious in their efforts but merely grandstanding, a habit from which they never recovered until now. This is clear and obvious in the way they abandoned the purpose and the spirit by which the moratorium was adopted as a policy by the City Council itself to contain the congestion of traffic in Baguio.

For, in the course of time after passage of M.C. No. 98-026 which was further strengthened by Memorandum Circular No. 2003-028 or nationwide moratorium, the city Council has not shown to have exercised consistently the political will necessary to effectively impose the moratorium.

The City Council not only failed to stop the issuance of new franchises of public utility vehicles by the unscrupulous Regional Directors which, in the first place, was their duty to their constituents to protect their interest and convenience, but the Council instead choose to uncover the protective shield of the moratorium to accommodate its many CPC applicant protégés wanting to apply and secure franchises despite the moratorium.

For all these reasons, from about 4,000 public utility vehicles before 1998, the City, with its limited and narrow roads and byways, is now host to more than double that number of PUVs. Meaning, the moratorium was not taken cared of by the City Council thereby resulting in these traffic jams the residents and visitors are made to experience and suffer.

Incidentally, this is not mention that the City Council has also failed and continue to fail to contain the congestions attributable to private vehicle owners who are allowed to make use of the secondary and tertiary roads and sometimes even the main roads, as garage and parking spaces.

In brief, this is how the City Council, despite their policy to impose a moratorium as a measure to control traffic congestion has lost steam, thus failing in one of their visions of good governance promised the electorate come every election.

Panagbenga 2016...

from page 2

art, and look at participants' sacrifices with good will, Mayor Domogan emphasized. We should treat others with integrity, he added.

Paanagbenga 2016's theme, "Bless the Children with Flowers," make the children the focal point of Panagbenga, the mayor pointed out. Thus, we should leave them not with money, but with good memories and examples, great lessons, a legacy of character, and faith in God, he further said.

Congressman Nicasio Aliping, Jr., also lauded the show of unity which sustained the Baguio Flower Festival for 21 years.

Student-volunteers from colleges and universities helped clean the surroundings before, and after the performances. Police interns were also around to keep order within the stand.

Other Panagbenga activities are: the on-going Baguio Blooms exhibition and exposition at Lake Drive, Burnham Park, up to March 6; Feb. 9, Chinese Spring Festival; Feb. 14, Color Fun Run; Handog ng Panagbenga Sa Pamilya Baguio at the Melvin Jones Grandstand and Football grounds: Let A Thousand Flowers Bloom, Kite-Flying Challenge, Panagbenga Fancy Dress/Costume Competition, Fireworks Display;

Feb. 19 to 21, PMA Grand Alumni Homecoming; Feb. 19, Golf Tournament For A Cause; Feb. 22, Boyce Avenue Concert; Feb. 27, Mr. Panagbenga Muscle Showdown at Baguio Convention Center; ABS CBN Kapamilya Karavan; Pacific Extreme Combat at the Baguio Convention Center; Feb. 27 to 28, Sponsor's and exhibitor's Day at the Athletic Bowl; Feb. 29 to March 6, Session Road In Bloom; March 5, Pony Boys' Day at Wright Park; Panagbenga Princess Pageant; Handog Pasasalamat at Melvin Jones Football grounds; March 5 and 6, 14th Open Scrabble Tournament; March 6, Tambalang Saya; Closing Ceremonies and Grand Fireworks display at the Athletic Bowl and other areas in the Central Business District. /Julie G. Fianza

DepEd sets February 15 deadline for SHS Voucher Program

PASIG CITY -- The Department of Education (DepEd) has set February 15, 2016 as the deadline of application for the Senior High School (SHS) Voucher Program for Grade 10 completers who are not Education Service Contracting (ESC) grantees, who will pursue SHS in June 2016.

The SHS voucher program is a form of government subsidy which offers discount in school fees when a student enrolls in a private school that offers the SHS program, starting SY 2016-2017. It is intended for Grade 10 completers who wish to pursue SHS education in private high schools, local universities & colleges; state universities & colleges; and technical and vocational Schools.

Education Secretary Armin A. Luistro said the voucher program is a support mechanism to ease the financial load of parents who will send their children to SHS.

Non-ESC students from private Junior High School (JHS) may apply for vouchers subject to an assessment of their socioeconomic status. If deemed qualified, they will also receive 80% of the voucher value.

A qualified voucher recipient who successfully enrolls in a private SHS Provider becomes a Voucher Program Beneficiary (VPB). The SHS Voucher Program will only cover two years regardless of the number of years it takes for the student to finish SHS. Vouchers are only valid if redeemed within the first semester of the school year immediately after the completion of JHS. Voucher payments will be released on a per semester basis to the SHS provider where the VPB is enrolled.

The implementation of SHS starting SY 2016-2017 completes the K to 12 curriculum which started at kinder and ends at Grade 12. Depending on their skills and inclination, Grade 10 completers can choose from four major strands namely academic, technical-vocational livelihood, sports, and arts and design.

Considered automatic beneficiaries are Grade 10 completers from public schools and those who are ESC grantees. "If you belong to these two categories, you need not apply because you are automatically covered," Luistro said.

Know more details about the program by visiting <http://www.deped.gov.ph/k-to-12> and <http://ovap.deped.gov.ph>.

City focuses on children's welfare

BAGUIO CITY - Believing that the children is the future of the country and the world as a whole, the city government here continuously carry out the different programs intended for the welfare of the children in the city pines.

The various programs, projects and activities of the city government here imparted to the children made Baguio a child friendly city.

In 2014, the city council has passed seven ordinances and 32 resolutions for children.

Comprehensive Development Plan for 2015-2020 and Local Development Plan for Children for 2006-2025 were also formulated.

As to the resource allocation and utilization, 95.01 % of the total amount allotted or children was spent for the children. While, an external funding with the partner non-government organizations allotted an amount of P11,528,241.00.

The city extends health services with the presence of essential child health services like breastfeeding, immunization, micronutrient supplementation (vit. A and iron), new born care, prenatal care among others. Also, the city was able to fully immunized 93.56% children.

With regards the underweight 0-71 months children, the city is 1.48% very low compared to the national prevalence of 13.65%.

Other health services offered to the children includes food assistance and nutrition education program, iodized salt testing, and the availability and access on safe water.

The existence of a medical outreach in coordination with the Baguio Health Department and the Special Division of the Mayor's Office is being realized.

Simultaneous with the medical services is the health information campaign like responsible parenthood, family planning, adolescent reproductive health and VAWC.

On the other hand, there are 90 day care workers manning the 112 day care centers in the city wherein 13 of them holds a plantilla position and 77 are under the Parents Committee being subsidized by the city government of Baguio. Other day care workers are sponsored by partner organizations such as the Balikatan sa Kaunlaran, Inc. and Baguio Women's Club.

364 schools, both public and private are serving the children in the city.

Children at risk are undergoing intervention programs under the supervision of social workers, Barangay Council for the Protection of Children, faith-based organizations, among others.

The city government conducts Basic Integrated Theatre Arts (BITAW) for child abuse victim survivors while radio guesting on prevention of child abuse being undertaken by the Anti Child Abuse network (ACAN).

Further, the Street Urban Working Children (SUWC) come together at the City Social Welfare and Development Office every Saturday for their tutorials, spiritual enrichment, arts workshop and other values formation activities that aims to promote and improve their social development.

Meanwhile, street children who are out-of-school are provided with psychosocial services such as referral to other facilities for them to undergo life skills training.

In light with the country's commitment to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in pursuit for the development of indigenous people, the city crafted the Life Skills Development Appreciation of Culture and Ethnicity for Urban Indigenous Youth.

This is an opportunity for urban indigenous youth to be exposed to ethnic dancing, singing and use of basic musical instruments.

Highlighting the city's concern for children is the Scout Officials for a Day wherein boy and girl scouts took a reign for a day in the different government offices and the Sight for Kids which is a joint venture among other local partners and local lions clubs.

The Angat Bata project is a joint project of the city government and Texas Instruments wherein educational assis-

Duterte-Cayetano to jail...

from page 1

were allegedly involved in illegal drug trafficking.

"I will not allow our people to be governed by 'narcopoliticians'. If elected, in the first year of my term with Sen. Cayetano, I will detoxify the government of these criminals and send them all to jail," Duterte said.

Meanwhile, Cayetano pushed for a high-tech police force to combat crime, drug trafficking and cyber-pornography. The vice presidential bet explained that today's criminals have become better at using technology to commit illegal activities.

"Sobra na ang gulo dahil ang ating kapulisan ay walang sapat na kakayahan at teknolohiya para sugpuin ang krimen sa ating bansa," Cayetano said.

Cayetano cited as examples the illegal copying or skimming of automated teller machine (ATM) card information and the emergence of the country as an important hub for a thriving international child cybersex industry.

The Duterte-Cayetano tandem is pushing for several measures to modernize the crime-fighting and solving capabilities of the Philippine National Police (PNP). Some of these are:

1. Modern crime response center similar to Davao City's Integrated Emergency Response System 911 that works and brings help within minutes.

2. More CCTVs (with facial recognition software) in strategic locations and thoroughfares.

3. Body-worn cameras for police personnel to record their interactions with the public and gather video evidence at crime scenes.

4. Modern crime laboratory services to make match ballistics information and crime reconstruction to solve crimes more efficient.

"Better facilities and technology mean better chances of rounding up criminals and ending the reign of disorder in our country. Sa isang modernong PNP, matatapos ang gulo at magkakaroon ng tunay na pagbabago," Cayetano said./DC/HQ

"Keep Right" along sidewalks and overpasses pushed

BAGUIO CITY - It has been observed that the city government of Baguio is experiencing human congestion problem along the sidewalks and overpasses, thus, mayor Mauricio Domogan encourages the public to abide with the "Keep Right" regulation.

The city has already started the "Keep Right" painting along the sidewalks of the central business districts and soon to paint along the overpasses.

With the said paintings along the sidewalks and overpasses, human congestion most especially during rush hours of the day is expected to be relieved and improved.

"We have to start disciplining ourselves now. At dapat sana tayo, pag may nakita rin tayong mga pasaway, dapat na pagsabihan din natin sila. If we can do that, it will form part of our habit to keep right," stressed Domogan.

Apart from the Baguio residents, a significant number of students from the different provinces and countries get here in the city, being the center of education entire the Philippines. Various traders and visitors, among others also draw in this mountain resort./Jho Arranz

tance to identified 100 children (elementary and high school) are extended to indigenous families. An amount of P4,000 per year is given per child and at the same time said beneficiaries are being supervised by the CSWDO and partner NGOs.

The FBCPC conducts BATAlympics, Children Got Talent competition and Children's Congress every October.

As a result of these various programs and activities intended for children, Baguio City qualified and short-listed for the Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipalities and Cities.

Other competing cities for the presidential award this year are the cities of Bacolod, Mandaluyong and Davao./Jho Arranz

IPs deprived of representation with Sulong Katribu disqualification

Protection, preservation of Benguet heritage sites mulled

Sulong Katribu Partylist deplores its recent disqualification by the Commission on Elections and the Supreme Court (SC) from participating in the 2016 partylist elections. Sulong Katribu views this as an outright denial to a genuine political representation of indigenous peoples in the halls of congress.

In her statement, Jill K. Carino, 2nd Nominee of SK, stated that the disqualification further marginalizes the already marginalized indigenous peoples who face dislocation, disenfranchisement and human rights violations in the communities. Specifically, Sulong Katribu highlights the lack of a genuine IP voice in congress to tackle the burning issues of human rights violations, development aggression and environmental destructions against

the Lumads of Mindanao; the Agtas of the Zinundungan Valley; indigenous migrants in Nueva Vizcaya and Isabela. Did we ever hear from any IP partylist in congress condemning these atrocities committed against the IPs or even dared to file a resolution for an on-site investigation?

Carino added that the disqualification also stifles the voices of genuine indigenous representatives who could contribute much in formulating national laws and policies for the rights and interests of indigenous peoples. Clearly, based on experiences on the ground, there are national laws and policies that contradict indigenous peoples systems on land ownership and natural resource management such as the Regalian Doctrine, Philippine Mining Act of 1995, National Integrated Protected Areas, PD

705, PD1067, and the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act. These are laws that a genuine IP representation can raise in congress for possible amendments favoring IPs.

Carino further added that clearly, political misrepresentation and patronage continues to dominate in the elections. She urged fellow indigenous peoples to continue fight for the rights to land and self-determination in all ways possible.

The SC may have disqualified Sulong Katribu but the fight is not over. Sulong Katribu will still work and strengthen its ranks among the indigenous peoples to end national oppression, political misrepresentation and discrimination. *For reference: Jill K. Carino, 2nd Nominee, Sulong Katribu, 0999 674 8434*

Balili residents welcome transformation project

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet, -- Residents of barangay Balili in this capital town warmly welcomed the Rev-Bloom Project which aims to revive and revisit the old lively La Trinidad by beautifying and filling their houses with colors.

Inspired by the design of favelas in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, a community with similar feature with Km. 3 in La Trinidad, which feature brightly painted buildings that foster pride and attract tourism to the community, the Rev Bloom project involves the painting of more than 200 houses in three sitios here to become a large piece of art as designed by the Tam-awan Artists.

The project was launched Wednesday by Department of Tourism -Cordillera Regional Director Venus Tan, La Trinidad Mayor Edna Tabanda, Davies paint Philippines Vice President for Sales and Marketing Albert Lee, Benguet Governor Nestor Fongwan, Chanum Foundation President Jordan Mang-osan and Balili residents.

Residents from the sitios of

Botiwtiw, Sadjao and Stone Hill expressed support to the implementation of the beautification project.

According to Gloria Agasen, a women leader and resident of Botiwtiw, it was August last year when DOT Director Tan raised the idea of transforming the area like the favela in Brazil. Among the 200 households that were surveyed, most (172) households agreed and supported the said project. The number of the households who agreed increased as the survey continued, she added.

Agasen said this project could help promote La Trinidad as a tourist spot and its products such as strawberries, flowers, wines and other products that originated in La Trinidad.

Barangay Kagawad Saturnina Wanawan also expressed appreciation to the residents for accepting this project. "This project will help a lot in the beautification of our community and in businesses as well. There are a lot of houses for rent here and they are the number one who will benefit from this. This is a very big help to the

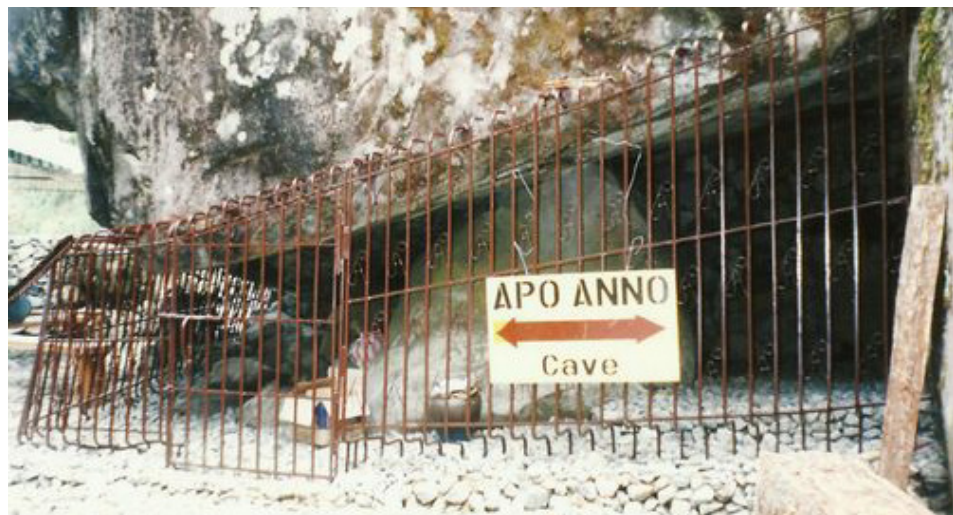
residents of Balili and hoping that this will be completed."

Km 3 head representative Franklin Cocoy meanwhile said the project revives the spirit of Bayanihan system as it calls for the cooperation of the residents through manpower. As the counter part of the residents, they were tasked to help in the painting.

Barangay Captain Ramon Tomin voiced his gratitude for the project. "This is really a good project and we are very happy. Thank you also to the residents because you are very supportive in the implementation of this project", he said.

The painting activity starts on February 1, 2016, and targeted to be completed before the Strawberry festival in March.

The project is spearheaded by the DOT-CAR with the Chanum Foundation for the Tam-Awan artists group, the Municipality of La Trinidad and the Davies Paint Philippines. *JDP/RMC- Abegail Clemente and JillieOmin-ga-PIA/UC Interns*



LA TRINIDAD, Benguet, - Heritage sites with their cultural or physical significance have to be preserved and protected to create a balanced atmosphere where the historic past coexists in harmony with modern society.

This is provided under Republic Act 10066 or the "National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009".

In Benguet, Board member Blas Dalus authored a measure for the preservation and protection of all heritage sites in the province.

According to Provincial Tourism Operations Office Clarita Prudencio, their office identified heritage sites and events which need to be safeguarded.

For historical sites, many are listed in Kabayan such as the Pyramid or the Kineppol ni Nabaloi located at the Poblacion Municipal Ground, which was constructed around three centuries ago, and the burial tomb of Henry A. Kamora, the Grand Old Man of Kabayan; the Tinongshol

and Bangao Burial Caves, abode of centuries-old mummies; Mt. Pulag, the highest peak in Luzon and second in the country; Mt. Timbac with its burial caves and centuries-old mummies; imprinted large footprints on big solid rocks believed to be footprints of the legendary "Besang" found in barangays Ducan, Adaoay and Pacso; Tabalan Hill; Embosi, the first Ibaloi settlement found in Pacso; Bulalakaw Lake, the abode of the huge flying fish called "Bulalakaw"; Dabonay Yard in barangay Kabayan Barrio where Dabonay, the lone husky Kabayan lady heroine wrestled and pinned down a male enemy; Carino Cave in Talukip, Eddet where then Governor Ora Cariño hid and was later captured by the Americans in 1900; and Manenchen, the site of the massacre of the residents of Eddet during the Japanese Imperial Army.

Other historical sites include those in Kapangan namely Camp Utopia, the sanctuary of the 66th Infantry Regime-Philippine Army in

World War II; Darew Ancient Ruins of Civilization on the top of the mountain where trading, intermarriage and alliances were forged; Katampun Burial Ground in Bileng-Bilis and Dakiwagan Burial Ground in Balakbak.

In Buguias is the Mummy Apo Anno Cave in Nabalicong, the adobe of the legendary Benguet mummy Apo Anno stolen from his ancient burial cave sometime in the 1920s, and returned in 1998.

For cultural sites, the Talingguroy Burial Ground in Wangal and the Peril Mummy Cave in Alapang in La Trinidad and the Mt. Sto Tomas Burial Sites 1 and 2 found in Tuba.

Cultural events are also counted as heritage like the Bendiyan Festival held every May and the Adivay every November.

Dalus said there are heritage sites which are yet to be identified and validated by the Provincial Tourism Office. *JDP/SCA-PIA CAR, Benguet*

DOLE reminds holiday pay rules for Feb. 1 and 25

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Labor and Employment- Cordillera Regional Office (DOLE - CAR) reminds employers to pay their workers based on the holiday rules on February 8 and 25 which Malacañang declared as special holidays. February 8 is Chinese New Year while February 25 is the anniversary of the EDSA People Power.

DOLE -CAR Regional Information Officer Julianne Fortunato iterates Labor Advisory 01, series of 2016 for the Payment of Wages for the Special (Non-Working) Day on February 8 and 25, wherein if the employee did not work, the "no work,

no pay" principle shall apply unless there is a favorable company policy, practice or collective bargaining agreement granting payment on a special day.

For work done during a special day, the employee should be paid an additional 30 percent on his daily rate on the first eight hours of work. For work done in excess of eight hours (overtime work), the employee shall be paid an additional 30 percent of his hourly rate on the said day.

For work done during a special day that also falls on the employee's rest day, he shall be paid an additional 50 percent of his daily rate on the first eight hours of

works and lastly, for work done in excess of eight hours (overtime work) that also falls on his rest day, he shall be paid an additional of 30% of his hourly rate on said day.

Fortunato also shared that DOLE Regional Director Jalbuena is urging all employers to pursue labor standards-based excellence by observing the pay rules and other core labor and occupational safety and health standards during holidays as this will boost the productivity of their workers. *JDP/CCD/Brandon Ellamil and Zhang Yu/PIA - SLU Interns*

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL
COURT OF BAGUIO
CITY
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
BRANCH 3

IN RE: PETITION
FOR CHANGE OF
NAME OF JESSICA
VALERIE BORILLO
ORCALES AND
JUSTINE MARLON
BORILLO ORCALES
TO JESSICA VALERIE
ORCALES JULIAN
AND JUSTINE
MARLON ORCALES
JULIAN

JESSICA VALERIE
BORILLO ORCALES
AND JUSTINE
MARLON BORILLO
ORCALES,

Petitioners.

-versus-

LORETO B. JULIAN,
LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF
BAGUIO CITY
AND THE PHILIP-
PINE STATISTICS
AUTHORITY,

Respondent.

x-----x

SPL. PROC.
CASE NO. 2516-R

ORDER

A verified petition
was filed by petitioner
through counsel, alleging
among others that:

1. Petitioners are
siblings, both of legal age,
both Filipino citizens,
and residents of No. 65
Immaculate Conception
Street, South Central,
Aurora Hill, Baguio City.
They may be served with
process emanating from
the Honorable Court
through their under-
signed counsel.

2. Respondent
LORETO B. JULIAN, of
legal age, married to the
mother of the Petitioner
and a resident of the same
address as the petition-
ers is being impleaded
herein being the biological
father of the Petition-
ers to be granted.

3. Respondent Local
Civil Registrar of Baguio
City with office address
located at T. Alonzo
Street, Baguio City and
the Philippine Statis-
tics Authority located
at Solicarel Building,
Ramon Magsaysay
Boulevard, Sta. Mesa,
Manila are being
impleaded as nominal
parties considering
that these offices shall
implement the court
decision relative to this
case.

4. The Petitioners,
JESSICA VALERIE
BORILLO ORCALES

and JUSTINE MARLON
BORILLO ORCALES
were born out of wedlock
on August 24, 1994 and
August 9, 1993, respec-
tively, to Spouses Loreto
and Myrna Julian.

5. In the Certificate of
Live Birth of the Petition-
ers, their father's name
was not indicated therein,
because at the time they
were born, their parents
were unsure if they will
settle as husband and
wife. Copies of their
respective Certificates of
Live Births are herewith
attached as Annex "A" and
Annex "B".

6. Subsequently, on
December 9, 1996, Peti-
tioners' parents Loreto
B. Julian and Myrna
O. Julian contracted
marriage with each other.
A copy of their certificate
of marriage is herewith
attached as Annex "C".

7. Since preschool
to the present, both
Petitioners used their
father's surname in all
their transactions. Hence,
initially, they did not find
it necessary to change
their surname to Julian.

8. The affidavit of
acknowledgement of
paternity and consent to
use the surname of their
father, Loreto B. Julian, is
hereto attached as Annex
"D".

9. The Petitioners in
all their transactions with
third persons and insti-
tutions consistently used
their name Jessica Valerie
Orcales Julian and Justine
Marlon Orcales Julian.
School records of the
petitioners showing that
they used their respective
correct names are hereto
attached as Annex "E"
and "Series".

10. In order to capture
the correct name and
legal status of the peti-
tioners, it is fitting and
proper to allow them to
change their name.

Petitioners pray that
after due notice, publi-
cation and hearing, an
Order be issued to allow
the change of name of
Petitioners from JESSICA
VALERIE BORILLO
ORCALES and JUSTINE
MARLON BORILLO
ORCALES to JESSICA
VALERIE ORCALES
JULIAN and JUSTINE
MARLON ORCALES
JULIAN.

It appearing that
the instant petition is
sufficient in form and
substance, the same is set
for hearing on August 8,
2016 at 11:00 o'clock in
the morning before this
Court at its Session Hall,
Justice Hall Building,
Baguio City. Any person
may appear and show
cause, if any, why said
petition should not be
granted.

Let a copy of this
Order be published at the
expense of the petition-
er once a week for three
(3) consecutive weeks,
the first publication of
which should not be later

than February 7, 2016 in a
newspaper of general cir-
culation in Baguio City to
be determined by raffle
pursuant to the provision
of Presidential Decree
No. 1079; let copies
hereof together with the
copies of the petition and
its annexes be furnished
to the Solicitor General,
134 Amorsolo St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati
City, Metro Manila,
National Statistics Office
(now known as Philip-
pine Statistics Authority
PSA)-Solicarel Bldg. I.
R. Magsaysay Blvd. Sta.
Mesa, Manila.

Baguio City, Philip-
pines, this 27th day of

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

IN THE MATTER
OF PETITION FOR
ADOPTION OF MI-
NOR SALEM (A.K.A.
SALEM ARMANI)
DALISAN BANWA.

SPOUSES ARMAN-
DO A. LACTAWEN
SALVADORA K. LA-
DISAN,

Petitioners,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL
REGISTRAR OF LA
TRINIDAD, BEN-
GUET and THE
PHILIPPINE STATIS-
TICS AUTHORITY,

Respondents.

x-----x

Special Proceedings
Case No. 15-A-1029

ORDER

Petitioners, through
counsel, filed this ver-
ified Amended Petition
for Adoption, praying
that after due notice,
publication and hearing,
the prospective adoptee,
SALEM (a.k.a Salem Ar-
mani) DALISAN BAN-
WA, be declared the leg-
itimate child and legal
heir of the petitioners
and that he shall then be
known as SALEM AR-
MANI DALISAN LAC-
TAWEN.

WHEREFORE, find-
ing the Petition to be
sufficient in form and
substance, the petition-
ers are directed to meet
and confer with the
Court Social Worker for
the conduct of the Child
and Home Study in re-
lation to this Petition.
The Court Social Work-
er therefore is directed
to conduct a Child and

January, in the year of
Our Lord, 2016.

(SGD) EMMANUEL
CACHO RASING
Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

1. The Solicitor General
2. Local Civil Registrar of
Baguio City
3. Philippine Statistics
Authority
4. Atty. Ma. Conception
C. Castro-Santiago
5. The Junction
Newspaper
6. Loreto B. Julian

Publication Dates:
February 6, 13 and 20
2016

Home Study and sub-
mit to this court her
REPORTS, incorporat-
ing therein her findings
and recommendations,
and furnishing copies
thereof to the Office of
the Solicitor General;
to the Office of the Pro-
vincial Prosecutor of
Benguet; and the Office
of the Regional Direc-
tor of the DSWD-CAR,
Baguio City. The said
offices may or may not
file Comment to said
REPORTS.

The REPORT of the
Court Social Worker
should be submitted to
this court at least fifteen
(15) days before the ini-
tial hearing of this Peti-
tion, which shall be on
March 16, 2016 at 9:00
o'clock in the morning.

Let this ORDER be
published at the expense
of the Petitioner in the
Junction, a newspaper
of general circulation in
Baguio City and Ben-
guet Province and the
Cordillera Administra-
tive Region, once a week
for three (3) consecutive
weeks, the first publica-
tion to be made not later
February 14, 2016. All
interested persons may
come to court and show
cause, if any, why this
Petition should not be
granted.

Furnish copies of this
ORDER, together with
copies of the Petition
and its annexes, to the
Office of the Solicitor
General; the Office of
the Provincial Prose-
cutor of Benguet; the
Office of the Local Civil
Registrar of La Trini-
dad, Benguet; the Court
Social Worker and the
Office of the Regional
Director, DSWD-CAR,
Baguio City. Furnish
copies of this ORDER to
the Junction and the pe-
titioner and counsel.

SO ORDERED,

In chambers, this
27th day of January 2016
at La Trinidad, Benguet.

(SGD) RUFUS G.
MALECDAN, JR.
Acting Presiding Judge

Publication Dates:
January 30, February 6
and 13, 2016

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the
intestate estate of GALO R. REYES
who died in Baguio City on October
31, 2014 was extrajudicially settled
by the heirs on November 30, 2015 as
evidenced by Doc. No.04; Page No.
02; Book No. IV; Series of 2015 of the
Notary Public Romeo D. Lopez.

Publication Dates: January 23, 30, and
February 6 2016

King of the Mountain run set February 21

BAGUIO CITY - - A total of 160 high
Altitude runners have signed up for the
first series of King of the Mountain Trail Run
Philippines (KOTM) or the Mount Ugo
Marathon on February 21.

Constante Mendoza, organizer, race
director and editor-in-chief of frontRUN-
NER magazine, said some runners come from
Europe, America, and Asia.

Most of the runners are young profession-
als, businessmen and soldiers ages 18 to 62
years old who loves challenges and running
in fresh air and clean environment, he said.

The KOTM said initiated to establish
a defining trail race in the Philippines
that runners would admire the beautiful
mountains, centuries-old trails and
panoramic views in the Cordillera.

The second series dubbed as Old Spanish
Trail and Four Lakes will be on April 2 and
the killer and final series Mount Pulag is
set on May 20.

The races do not offer cash prizes but par-
ticipants will be gratified to know that the
KOTM events benefits schools and communi-
ties along the race routes. Part of the registra-
tion fees and funds are used for rehabilitation
of old and dilapidated foot bridges, minor
repairs of classroom and toilets, medical and
dental mission.

KOTM races are accredited by the France-
based International Trail Running Associa-
tion passing its standards for quality of orga-
nization, characteristics and difficulty of the
course and care for the environment, among
other criteria./JDP/JBZ/A. Sampilo and R.
Nunag - PIA/SLU interns

97 massage therapists take licensure exams

BAGUIO CITY -- At least 97 massage
therapists including 13 visually
impaired from different parts of Luzon
took the nationwide licensure examina-
tion in Baguio City recently.

The examination given by the Depart-

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE AMONG HEIRS

Notice is hereby given that the Estate of
the late AIDA JONSON TOLEDO who
died intestate on 25 October 2015 in Ba-
guio City without will, consisting of the
following property: Transfer Certificate of
Title No. T-55730 "A parcel of land (Lot
1, Psd-CAR-000719), being a portion of
Tsi-V-1568-Amd. Townsite Sales Patent
No. 1308). Situated at Res. Sec. "B", Baguio
City, Island of Luzon... had been the sub-
ject of EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT
OF ESTATE AMONG HEIRS on 26 Jan-
uary 2016 as per Doc. No. 768, Page No.
154, Book No. XXXVIII, Series of 2016
of the Notarial Registry of Atty. James S.
Valeros of Baguio City.

Publication Dates: January 30,
February 6, and 13, 2016

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

GREGORIO B. SALVINO
Applicant/s

Case no. 88-01-2751

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the MOTION TO REFILE APPLICATION
FOR SALE AND TRANSFER WITH EXTENSION OF VALIDITY;
DROPPING AND SUBSTITUTION of a Certificate of Public
Convenience to operate a PUBLIC UTILITY JITNEY Service for the
transportation of passengers and freight on the line: BAGUIO CITY-
AGOO LA UNION with the use of ONE (1) UNIT.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on
February 16, 2016 at 2:00 P.M. at the LTFRB 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 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 Regional Director JOSE EDWARD L.
NATIVIDAD This 9th day of December 2015.

(SGD) ATTY. ROBERT B. BASCO
Hearing Officer

ment of Health is in compliance with
Department of Health Administrative
Order 2010-0034 which states, "No
person is authorized to practice massage
as a profession in the Philippines without
holding a valid Certificate of Registration
issued by the Committee and approved
by the Department of Health".

This is to 'ensure that only qualified
individuals enter the regulated profes-
sion and that the care and services which
the massage therapists provide are within
the standards of practice'.

Ten examinees came from Asian
Wellness Spa Academy (AWSA) in Baguio
City, nine from Region IV-A Spa Career
Development Training Center, 31 from
Central Luzon Alternative Health Devel-
opment (CLAHD) and 47 from the Occu-
pational Oikegeniea Providers Corpora-
tion (OOPC).

According to OOPC head and exam
facilitator Rebecca Tarcelo, the examinees
earlier passed the theoretical or written
examination last December 2015, the first
of two phases of the examination.

Tarcelo said the second phase is the
oral/practical examination which consists
of the Pre-Massage, Massage Proper and
Post Massage Phase.

The result of the said examination will
be released on February 12./JDP/RMC &
Abigail Clemente-PIA/UC Intern

THE JUNCTION

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The Junction Newspaper is in need of two (2) Researchers/Reporters. Male/Female/LGBT, preferably single, with a lot of common sense. Willing to work long and odd hours, not afraid to write and expose the facts regardless of who is/are involved. Must have news writing experience. Knowledge and background in sales and marketing is an advantage. Competitive salary and allowance awaits the successful applicant. Open to undergraduates.

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BENECO installs additional transformer

BAGUIO CITY - - The Benguet Electric Cooperative (Beneco) inaugurated last week a new 50 mega – volts ampere transformer in its North Sanitary Camp Barangay substation in continuing efforts to improve its services.

The event Thursday was graced by BENECO officials headed by General Manager Gerardo Versoza, National Grid Corporation of the Philippines District 2 OIC Florendo De Luna and Baguio Congressman Nicasio Aliping Jr.

Versoza said that the new transformer assures of consumers enough power supply despite the continuing increase in demand which he puts at around 3 percent per year of its actual load, and goes as high as 70 megawatts on peak days.

The 50 MVA transformer can also help lessen power outage during BENECO's regular maintenance work, he added.

"Hopefully, we will be able to improve reliability as when our engineers conduct preventive maintenance there will now be an alternate power source that maybe provided", Versoza said.

In further ensuring stable power supply, Versoza also disclosed that BENECO is looking into establishing an underground power system initially for Baguio's Central Business District (CBD).

"We are looking into around 11 kilometers of underground system from this source that we hope to present to the Board (of Directors) by June. Once in place the underground system will ensure least disturbance (power outage) even during the typhoon season", he explained.

Assuring continuing power within the CBD will ensure ease of doing business, as well as continuing service to the consuming public, he added. /JDP/CCD and Lauren Alimondo – PIA/SLU Intern

BGHMC to put up center for children with developmental delay

BAGUIO CITY - - The Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC), in partnership with the Department of Health, is set to establish Child Development Center under its Department of Pediatrics within the year.

Dr. Maria Lourdes Trajano of BGHMC disclosed

Wanted: Uggayam chanters

BAGUIO CITY – The city needs to discover more uggayam chanters if only to relieve Igorot chant doyen Mayor Mauricio Domogan of this extra task from time to time.

Domogan in his press briefing last Wednesday expressed his wish for an uggayam singer to surface as he recounted his struggle to attend the Baguio Flower Festival 2016 opening program last Feb. 1 only a few days after undergoing an appendectomy.

The mayor said he was not supposed to attend the program but he went just the same because, "I did not want to let our colleagues (in the Baguio Flower Festival Foundation Inc. and the city government) down during this important event."

He may not have said it directly but he was also concerned as to who will render the uggayam as a form of prayer and blessing for the opening rites of the city's major tourism event.

Despite his post-operation condition, the mayor managed to deliver his traditional melodic verses and impromptu lyrics with usual flair.

Uggayam is a "traditional vocal music" or "ethnic melody" of the Cordillerans sung in all occasions except during funeral rites. It has no fixed lyrics and the words are supplied extemporaneously by the singer according to the occasion. It is described to have "poetic form wherein the endings of the verses rhyme."

In his entire career as government official, Domogan has become the virtual go-to man for uggayam performances during important city occasions and even in regular social events. His performances of the traditional chant have almost always become the center of attraction and awaited highlight of the programs so much so that uggayam has become his trademark of sorts.

But the mayor now sees the need for more chanters to come forward for the times that he is indisposed.

"I hope somebody else will be discovered to do it aside from me. I believe there are others out there who can do it a lot better than I do. It is just a matter of them coming forward," the mayor said.

He said to be an effective uggayam chanter, one has to have a quick mind not just to weave meaningful thoughts but also to make the words rhyme.

Otherwise, even if your message is significant, it would still sound flat if the words do not rhyme, he advised. /A Refuerzo

during the DOH– led kapihan forum that the center will focus on the development of a comprehensive approach in dealing and handling children with developmental delays so that specific attentions and services can be given to them.

"Children with developmental concerns need not only medications but also interpersonal and recreational activities, as well as better attention from families and friends", she stressed.

Autism she explained is a form of developmental disorder that affects the behavioral and intellectual aspects of a person that covers three domains namely impairment in social skills, in behaviour and communication, either in uncontrolled or controlled manner.

In terms of prevention, Trajano highlighted the importance of complete vaccination regimen from as early as new born up to the adulthood.

We have to make sure that we complete the vaccination of preventable diseases or disorder from child to adulthood contrary to the perception of parents today that after the vaccination given by the health center during childhood is already enough, she stressed.

Trajano also encouraged parents to closely monitor the development of their child pointing out that in every growth stage of a child there's always an expected milestone that they need to achieve.

DOH is also continuously doing information, education and communication campaigns to promote better public awareness on the needs and welfare of persons with developmental disorders. /JDP/CCD and Lalaine Galagala/PIA – UC Intern

Baguio City ready for Feb. 6 CARAA opening

BAGUIO CITY -- The city government of Baguio and the Department of Education - Schools Division Office of Baguio City are all set for the opening of this year's Cordillera Administrative Region Athletic Association (CARAA) meet on Saturday, February 6.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said that the city is ready to host the more than 5000 delegates from the region's six provinces and Baguio City. Billeting areas of delegates and the venues for the different events including facilities are ready, he assured during the Ugnayan forum on Wednesday.

Provincial athletes and coaches started arriving February 1 for their acclimatization and other preparations.

The renovated Baguio Athletic Bowl with rubberized track oval is the main venue of the week-long athletic meet.

For the different sports events, the various venues are as follows: Archery- Ibaloi Park; Arnis- University of Baguio; Athletics- Baguio Athletic Bowl; Badminton- Cooyesan; Baseball- Benguet State University; Basketball- elementary division- t SLU-Pacdal, Secondary division- DPS; Boxing-Cooyesan; Chess-BCNHS; Football-Melvin Jones; Gymnastics- BCNHS; Tennis-Baguio Tennis Club; Sepak Takraw-Baguio Athletic Bowl; Softball-Melvin Jones; Swimming- Baguio Swimming Pool; Taekwondo- Baguio Convention Center; Volleyball- SLU-Pacdal for elementary and UC for Secondary; Billiards- Puyat Sports; Kadang-Kadang-Baguio Athletic Bowl; Sanggul- Baguio Convention Center; Wrestling-PFVR; Wushu-Woodsgate, Camp 7 and Futsal-PFVR. Other special events will be at the Baguio Athletic Bowl.

The city assured at least 12 jitneys will be provided to augment the transportation service of the participants to ferry them to and from billeting schools or playing venues. Other amenities like water ration and sacks of rice will also be provided by the City government.

To ensure fitness of the delegates, team from DepEd Regional Health Services Unit headed by Dr. Juliet Pontino conducted an accreditation and assessment on the athletes and coaches on February 3. An athlete from Apayao was isolated at the Baguio General Hospital for treatment of chicken pox as of February 3.

Pontino assured that while the different provincial delegations have their own medical teams, the City of Baguio is ready to assist them in case of medical emergencies. Medical personnel will also be assigned in sports events.

School Governance and Operations Division Chief Elma Donaal added that there will be free hospital assistance to CARAA coaches and athletes. They will be given referral IDs for emergencies that will need hospitalization. /JDP/ RMC-J.Ominga & A.Clemente-PIA/UC Interns

Baguio wins national...

...from page 10

ment. "Right now, they are the recipients of our National Certificate (NC) II training project with TESDA and Baguio City School of Arts and Trades (BSCAT)."

Domogan said the award is a testimony of the how hard the city through the OCSWDO and those at the DSWD-CAR in implementing projects that uplift the welfare of the poor.

"We just did what we thought was right for the city of Baguio by choosing those projects for our constituents. This award proved that the projects were effective by providing opportunity to our constituents to be employed likewise," Domogan said.

Other awardees of Gawad Listahanan are Iloilo Province in the provincial government category and Jaen, Nueva Ecija in the municipal government level.

Listahanan is an information management system that provides national government agencies, LGUs and other stakeholders a comprehensive list of poor families as basis for determining beneficiaries of their social protection programs and services. /A Refuerzo

DA CAR allots P62M for El Nino mitigation measures

BAGUIO CITY- - The Department of Agriculture Cordillera-Cordillera has set aside a total of more than P62 million pesos for its mitigation measures for the El Nino.

Lorenzo Caranguian, DA-CAR regional director, said that even as the region is not greatly affected by the El Nino phenomenon, the agency continues to take precautionary measures for both vulnerable and non-vulnerable areas in the provinces.

The rice and corn producing provinces in the region like Abra, Apayao, Kalinga and Ifugao will be provided with certified and hybrid seeds which are proven resilient, he said.

Under the High Value

Crops Development Program, Caranguian said, the agency will be providing seedling trays, coco coir dust, compost and plastic mulches.

In the livestock program, the agriculture department will be giving biologics including multi-vitamins, vaccines, antibiotics, and dewormers.

Aside from these, the department will also be providing agricultural equipment and technical support, he said.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration announced the expected occurrence of drought due to the El Nino is up to May this year./JDP/JBZ- PIA CAR

Duterte-Cayetano to amend Juvenile Justice Law, rescue children from crime and disorder

Presidential aspirant Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte and his running mate Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano today pushed for the amendment of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, whose loopholes they said are being exploited by crime and drug syndicates to use children for illegal activities.

"Sobra na ang gulo kaya sobra na ang hirap ng tao. In many cases, drug traffickers use minors as couriers, a modus operandi made rather convenient by the law. Often times, these guys just go scot-free and grow up with no sense of accountability,"

Duterte said.

"It's time to bring back order and keep our kids off the streets as we wage an all-out war against organized crime," he added.

The tandem said the minimum age of criminal liability should be lowered from 15 to 12 years old, noting that moral autonomy usually develops as early as age 10. For repeat offenders, they said a new provision should be inserted so that those above 15 but below 18, who were subjected to a diversion program and are not first-time violators, shall be treated as adult offenders.

Cayetano clarified, however, that minors

would be placed in separate detention facilities and given the same rehabilitation, reintegration, and after-care services to ensure their normal growth. He said tough anti-crime measures must go hand in hand with restorative justice when it comes to children in conflict with the law (CCIL).

"Sa kamay na bakal na pupukso sa krimen, may kamay na aaruga sa nais magbago at magbalik loob sa batas. Ito ang tatak Duterte-Cayetano," the senator said.

The duo is also studying the possibility of aggravating the punishment for adults who try to exploit minors and use them in carrying out their criminal activities.

"Our goal in pushing for these amendments is to end the disorder in the streets. Through this, we reduce the number of crimes committed by minors and protect them from notorious criminals and syndicates who take advantage of their vulnerabilities," Cayetano said.

There are over 11,000 CICL in the country as of 2009, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (JJWC) reported. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) observed that most of these CICL are between 14 and 17 years old, but some cases involve much younger children./DC/HQ

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Baguio City welcomes the delegates from the different CAR Provinces to the 2016 Cordillera Administrative Region Athletics Association (CARAA)./photo by HFP, BMC.

Baguio wins national award in social service

BAGUIO CITY - Baguio City clinched the "Pagkilala sa Natatanging Kontribusyon sa Bayan" (PaNata Ko sa Bayan) Gawad Listahanan award, a national honor conferred by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to outstanding local government units.

City social welfare and development officer Betty Fangasan and Ryan Mangusan, representative of Mayor Mauricio Domogan received the award consisting of a plaque and a P50,000 cash from DSWD Dinky Soliman during DSWD's

65th founding anniversary program last Jan. 28.

Baguio bested other finalists in the city government category of the award including the cities of Cebu, Davao and Bislig.

The Gawad Listahanan recognizes the local government units' performance in the implementation of the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) also known as Listahanan for providing services and assistance to the Listahanan-identified poor.

"In 2014 to 2015, Baguio City funded under its

Bottom-Up Budgeting process and local funds the skills enhancement and employment of 154 youth for the second round of household assessment in the city in partnership with the DSWD. As a result of the said activity, an updated database of households in the city was established whereas 2,085 households were identified as poor," shared Kay Ann Mapalo of the DSWD-CAR social marketing unit.

Fangasan said the identified poor households will be beneficiaries of other programs of the city govern-

Cont. on page 9

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