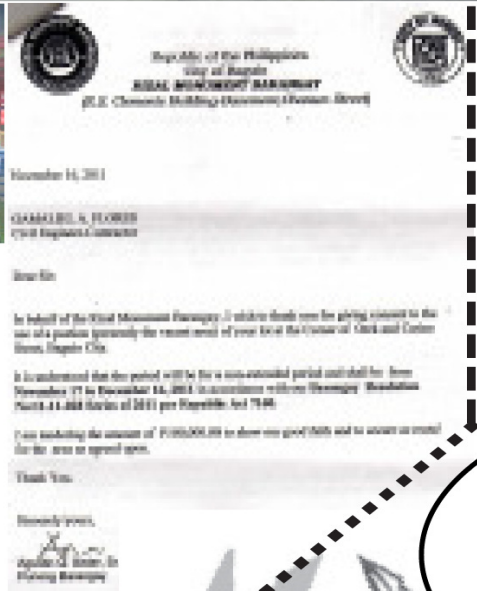


MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

MGD's Autonomy Plea: "Unity for Executive certification to ensure legis'n."



LANTARAN PASUGALAN- Attention: P/Sr. Supt. David Lacdan. Please verify the ongoing blatant gambling at the corner of Otek St. and Carino St operated by Jasmin Egdani. The Barangay communications of Rizal Monument state that the fund raising "kuno" but actual gambling is only for a non-extendible period up to December 16, 2011. So what gives CD Lacdan, Sir? Photo by Orwen Trazo

BAGUIO CITY – "Every action is followed by a fair reaction."

Thus, in essence, declared mayor Mauricio Domogan last week as he called on Cordillera local government units (LGU) to pass necessary resolutions imploring Malacanang to certify the 2011 Organic Act as urgent piece of legislation.

Cordillera solons last week filed HB 5595 in the House of Representatives, pushing for approval of the creation of the Autonomous Region of the Cordilleras.

"The only way we can succeed is if we act together," said Domogan who claimed the bill could have smoother sail through the two houses of Congress if it were stamped with executive certification.

Presidential certification dispenses of the requirement not only of printing but also of reading the bill on separate days as provided in Article VI of the 1987 Constitution.

Domogan said, "If the bill is certified, we could see its approval to law within a month's time... beating our schedule for a plebiscite before the next national elections."

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Ombudsman calls on Criminal Justice System Pillars to be in the Forefront in Anti-Corruption Drive

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Imelda V outperforms other Barangays

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DOST Installs Automatic rain Gauges in Provinces

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Release of Fund for Christmas Dumpsite Rehab Awaited

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MABUHAY KAYO Benguet Cong. Ronald Cosalan at Abra Cong. Maria Jocelyn Bernos. Ang dalawang hindi pumirma sa HB 5595 (CAR Autonomous Region) sa dahilan kulang ng konsultasyon sa kanilang constituents!!!

'Kalikasan' Plea: MGD Maintains no Dumping of Waste in Irisan

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City Eyes Redevelopment of Mines View Park

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THE PEACE COMBATANT

What Christ would have wanted for Christmas

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

Ang Kwneto ng Korona ni Haring PNOY!!!

BY: ODELL P. AQUINO



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Release of Fund for Dumpsite Rehab Awaited

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan expressed hopes that the P110 million approved by President Benigno Aquino for the rehabilitation of the collapsed retaining wall at Irisan dumpsite here will be released soon to ensure early implementation of the project.

“Hopefully the national government will release the fund approved in principle early so the project can be expedited and completed hopefully before the onset of the rainy season next year,” the mayor said.

He said the program of work for the project has been submitted to the Dept. of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

The project will cover the reconstruction of the retaining wall which collapsed at the height of a typhoon in August triggering a trash slide that killed six people.

The new structure is designed to withstand strong typhoons and heavy water flow which toppled the erstwhile protective wall in the area.

Earlier, the mayor formed a technical committee to prepare the plans for the rehabilitation of the wall and other reinforcement measures to strengthen the area.

The committee is chaired by city engineer Leo Bernardez and composed of Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-CAR EMB) regional director Paquito Moreno, DENR-CAR Mines and Geo-Sciences acting regional director Orlando Pineda Sr., city building official Engr. Oscar Flores, Saint Louis University School of Engineering and Architecture Dean Engr. Bonifacio Dela Pena and Non-Government Organization consultant Dr. Virgilio Bautista./A Refuerzo

DTI Reminds Public to be Responsible and Green Consumers

BAGUIO CITY - With the holiday season in, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) reminds the public to be responsible and green consumers.

On buying electronic gadgets or equipment, Gallardo advised the consumers to check and test what they are buying for possible hidden defects and that they should know its warranty stipulations such as warranty period.

Gallardo also stressed that imported products should have an ICC Mark or the Import Commodity Clearance sticker and for local prod-

ucts it should have a PS (Product Standard) Mark.

On the ‘No Return, No Exchange Policy’, Gallardo clarified that only defective products can be returned or exchanged and that it does not apply if the consumer had a change of mind on his purchase.

‘The said policy only covers products with factory defects/s or imperfection due to the seller’s negligence, and does not apply to defective products due to the mishandling of the buyer’, Gallardo stressed.

On buying

Cont. on page 10

Christmas activities on

BAGUIO CITY – The suspension of the number coding scheme for private vehicles begin this Monday, Dec. 19 until Jan. 2, as Christmas activities peak in the barangays and within the central business district. As to the administrative order issued by Mayor Mauricio Domogan earlier, local tourists and visitors may travel to scenic spots around the city in their vehicles and also join in the slated activities.

Linggo ng Kabataan which started Dec. 12 shall end today, Sunday at Malcolm Square; as with the celebration of foreign group balikbayan at SM.

Tomorrow, Dec. 19, Monday, Children’s Christmas Fun Alley and Raffle Joys with the City Social Welfare and Development Office (OCSWDO) shall be done at the DOT-PTA grandstand

Still on-going activities are: the traditional Simbang Gabi in various churches, at the Baguio Cathedral and the Baguio Convention Center; SM’s arctic haven featuring a winter setting exhibit with polar creatures, and Baguio Country Club’s Christmas Village with fairy tale theme environs, with miniature houses and towers.

Other activities are:

Dec. 22 - Diwa ng Pasko at the Silungan Center;

Dec. 22 - Awarding for the winners of the Belen-making contest in the barangays;

Dec. 24 - Special treat for children;

Dec. 25 - Quest for the lucky Christmas Baby 2011 in Baguio hospitals;

Dec. 27 - Balik Baguio 2011, a homecoming of foreign-domestic balikbyans at the Botanical Garden;

Dec. 29 - Rambak Cordillera cultural games along Session road and at Melvin Jones, Burnham;

Dec. 30 - Rizal Day wreath-laying ceremonies at the Rizal monument;

Dec. 30 - Lucky Balikbayan day and Pinikpikan Festival;

Dec. 31 - Countdown and raffle promo program at Abanao Square;

Jan. 1, 2012 Quest for the lucky New Year baby; and

Jan. 14, 2012 - Annual Kafagway Sports Award Program at Malcolm Square

This year’s Christmas celebration theme is, “Warm Christmas in Cool Baguio.”/juliegfianza

‘Kalikasan’ Plea: MGD Maintains no Dumping of Waste in Irisan

BAGUIO CITY – In the face of a petition seeking total abandonment and conversion of erstwhile Irisan garbage dumpsite into a green mound, mayor Mauricio Domogan last week maintained the area “is not and will not be the way it used to.”

“I believe there is confusion here somewhere,” he said adding, “There is no

more dumping at Irisan.”

“We are merely utilizing the [former] dumpsite into a transfer and sorting area for non-biodegradable garbage which is shipped to the Capas, Tarlac Engineered Sanitary Landfill (ESL); bios are fed into Environmental Recycling System.”

Copies of the petition for issuance of a ‘Writ of

Kalikasan’, ‘writ of continuing mandamus’ and ‘prayer for issuance of temporary environmental protection order’ (TEPO) were distributed to City Hall officials, December 14.

The petitioners include Benguet solon Ronald Cosalan; members of the Benguet Provincial Board Johnny Waguis, Leonardo Taganas, Pedro

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THE JUNCTION

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(SGD) Odell P. Aquino The Junction-OIC

DENR says NGP Successfully Implemented in CAR

BAGUIO CITY—The first year of implementation of the National Greening Program (NGP) in the Cordillera is a success meeting its target of planting a total of 3.4 million assorted trees in an area of 6,800 hectares.

According to Regional Executive Director Clarence Baguilat of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the success of the implementation of the NGP is attributed to the concerted efforts by the government employees who are required to plant a minimum of ten seedlings a year, the private sector, students, local government units and civil society.

They played a big role in the accomplishment of our target and we are again asking their support for the NGP in the years to come, Baguilat expressed.

‘It will be a bigger task next year as we will be planting 15,000 hectares with a 7.5 million trees. It is a challenge and I am confident we can do it if we help each other,’ Baguilat said.

According to Baguilat, the DENR is putting additional nurseries and coordinating with the Department of Agriculture to have nurseries for fruit trees.

Big corporations through their corporate social responsibility programs are also encouraged to put up their own nurseries, Baguilat added.

President Benigno S. Aquino issued Executive Order (EO) Number 26 creating the National Greening Program (NGP) in February 2011 to pursue sustainable development for poverty reduction, food security, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaption.

The E.O. states that all proceeds from agroforestry plantations duly accounted by the DENR shall accrue to the NGP beneficiary communities to address food security and poverty reduction./JDP/JPZ- PIACAR



A COMMITMENT FOR BAGUIO - Volunteer groups headed by Baguio Commercial Photographers Guid Inc. with president Carlos Cabillan and the Baguio's Fines spearhead a massive clean up drive along Burnham Park, Rizal Park, Harrison, Legarda and Governor Pack Roads, Athletic Bowl and Veterans Park more than 150 volunteers who "Love Baguio" from CDRMC, OCSWADO Burnham Park-Legarda Barangay and Harrison Road barangays, City Tourism Office Tourism Interns from Saint Louis University and University of the Cordillera, and other concerned individuals. The Alay Sa Kalinisan represented by secretary general Alou Meneses./By Bong Cayabyab

DOH Introduces Complete Treatment pack in CCT areas

BONTOC, Mt. Province — The Department of Health (DOH) introduced the Complete Treatment Pack (ComPack) program to increase patient's access to quality essential medicine, to improve primary health care in the poorest communities, and to provide complete treatment regimens to indigent patients.

The DOH ComPack program is designed to reach the poorest of the poor for the treatment of the common diseases of the country like hypertension, diabetes, infections, and diar-

rhoea; and emphasizes rational use of medicines by promoting compliance or adherence to treatment.

Rachel Bayanes of the Food and Drugs Administration-Department of Health Cordillera explained that the DOH ComPack medicines shall be provided for free to beneficiaries of the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) or the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) of the government.

The DOH grants Rural Health Units (RHUs) with medicines package

for prevalent diseases targeting the families enrolled in the CCT program as the beneficiaries.

The beneficiaries receive full subsidy for medicines provided that they go to the health center, have themselves checked and adhere to the treatment prescribed by the doctor, she said.

The DOH ComPack program is also granted to local government unit (LGU) hospitals and DOH-Retained Hospitals and medicines are for sale but at a cheaper price. Medicines under the ComPack program can be availed of by

Cont. on page 11

Ombudsman calls on Criminal Justice System Pillars to be in the Forefront in Anti-Corruption Drive

BAGUIO CITY - Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales called on all agencies, organizations and sectors composing the five pillars of the Philippine Criminal Justice System to be at the forefront on the country's battle against corruption.

‘We, in the anti-corruption arena, should be at the forefront on the battle against the scourge in society we call corruption. I, thus, loudly call on all of you to end this,’ Morales said in reference to disturbing reports of corruption, abuse or incompetence by members of the different pillars that may unduly result in the erosion of thrust to the system.

Morales was the keynote speaker during the forum dubbed as ‘Bridging the Gaps in Integrity Initiatives’ here at the Baguio Country Club, Mon-

day, in observance of the International Anti-Corruption Day, Transparency International Philippines.

The said forum spearheaded by the Office of the Ombudsman and the Integrity Project of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), was attended by representatives from the Five Pillars of the Criminal Justice System namely law enforcement, prosecution service, courts, correctional institutions and community including civil society organizations and the media.

Morales also stressed that it beholds that each of the five pillars should guard itself against issues affecting integrity, as well as to operate as an efficient system of check and balance, wherein each pillar is equally accountable to one

another, as all of them are answerable to the people that focuses their thrust in the system.

Morales emphasized on three relevant principles on the country's justice system which she identified as independence, access and integrity.

On independence, Morales pointed out that the country's entire criminal justice system is built around pillars that are interdependent with each other and draws its strength primarily from such connections. ‘Hence, the independence of the pillars of the criminal justice system should not be viewed as to isolate one from the others rather the independence should foster interdependence’, Morales said.

‘The pillars in isolation does not constitute a whole. Working together as an intimate network

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DOST Installs Automatic rain Gauges in Provinces

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) is installing Automatic Rain Gauges (ARGs) in the different provinces all over the country to further improve weather forecasting.

DOST-Cordillera Science Research Analyst Hansi Dinumla, in a radio interview said they hope install the ARGs in all prov-

inces including Baguio City before the year end.

Already installed are the ARGs for Benguet located at the rooftop of the DOST Regional Office; in Kalinga at the Kalinga State College and for Abra, in the town of Lagangilang.

Installation of another ARG is on going in Bontoc, Mountain Province.

Dinumla also bared that they have also provided orien-

tation to the respective provincial Science and Technology and other local stakeholders on the operation and maintenance of such equipment.

DOST-CAR Science Research Specialist II Melchor Deponio explained that the said ARGs were designed by the DOST Advanced Science and Technology Institute (ASTI), in partnership with the Philip-

Cont. on page 11

A Great Wind Blowing?

What a difference an honest Ombudsman makes. You doubt that? Ask Lapu-Lapu city's Rep. Arturo Radaza.

He dodged with ease, over the last six years, raps for buying 470 computers overpriced by 116 percent. Now, new Ombudsman Conchita Carpio ordered the former Lapu-Lapu City mayor charged for buying computers at P12 million more than market prices.

The First Gentleman's "classmate" Merceditas Gutierrez used to be Ombudsman then. Under her "cases lie there, And they die there," Philippine Human Development Report said. That's from the 1950 pop song: "Mona Lisa."

She quit to derail impeachment charges. President

Benigno Aquino named Carpio Morales as Ombuds-

EDITORIAL

man, after she retired from the Supreme Court. A "new sheriff rode into town," Sun Star noted. Tiene cojones. "She has balls"

"One swallow does not make a summer," the old proverb cautions. But when a somnolent Ombudsman suddenly uncorks a slew of overdue charges, you sit up.

Gutierrez took years to flip through documented charges by Businessman Efrain Pelaez Jr. He cited a Commission on Audit report that found computers delivered were not the specified Pentium 4 processors, with 512 megabytes of memory, Lapu-Lapu students got Celeron with only half megabytes of memory."

"Conviction rates slumped "dramatically to 14.4 percent by first semester of 2008," under Gutierrez. "Rates (dipped) to as low as 5 percent in March, then 3 percent in May. It was zero by June.

Three months later, only 7 percent of the 349 cases brought forward by Ombudsman Gutierrez resulted in jail terms. In her State of the Nation messages, President Gloria claimed the opposition.

The conviction slide persisted into 2009. "There has been parallel erosion in public perception of the Ombudsman's sincerity". "Cases lie there, And they die there," PHDR said of this agency. That's a line from the 1950 pop song: "Mona Lisa."

City Mayor Paz Radaza offered the de-cajon response, on behalf of her husband. Like many Philippine cities, Lapu-Lapu has had husband and wife take turns at running City Hall.

"We still have to receive a copy of the information from the Office of the Ombudsman, Mayor Radaza told Sun Star. "As soon as we get a copy, our lawyers will study it and recommend to us our next legal move."

Do the Radazas and other Lapu-Lapu officials get the message to get their act together – or be fired? That is the basic issue. Look at some specific findings in COA's latest report on Local Governments:

1. The 20% Development Fund is intended to address urgent human needs, from malnutrition to urgent medical needs. But Lapu-Lapu charged P2.55 million against this vital safety net "without observing pertinent guidelines...resulting in the irregular disbursement of government funds."

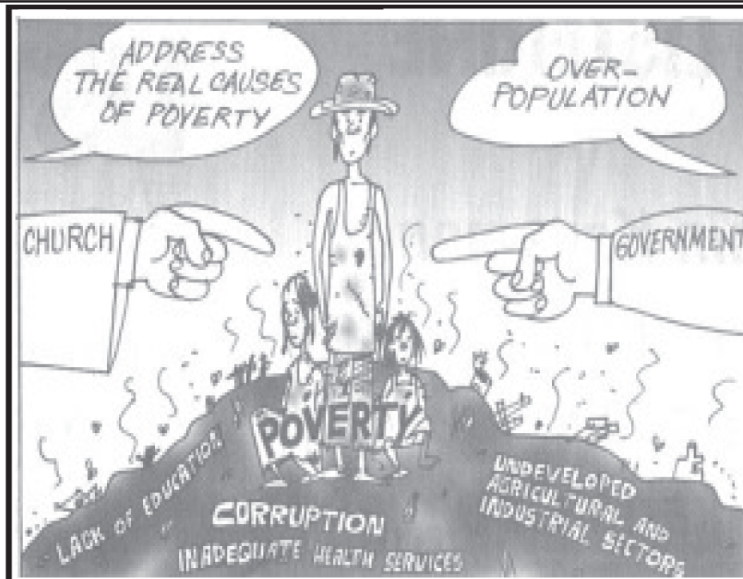
2. Use of the P213.9 million "Hoops Dome and Jeepney Terminal Facilities were not maximized. An income shortfall resulted.

3. Over P11.4 million in cash advances, granted to Lapu-Lapu officials "for travel and special purposes, remain unliquidated. This results in padded entries on receivables. "Issue demand letters or withhold salaries" of deadbeats.

4. To beat COA bidding safeguards, Lapu-Lapu spent P3.0 million for "security services" by splitting purchase orders. The Bids Committee must stop this underhanded practice.

5. A laid back Lapu-Lapu didn't bother to withhold P2.53 million in taxes from P18.3 million allocated for hazard pay.

Is a great wind blowing"? Catherine the Great asked. "That gives you either imagination or a headache." Email: juanlmercado@gmail.com



THE PEACE COMBATANT

*What Christ would have wanted
for Christmas*

BY: ARTURO BOQUIREN



Today we focus on what our birthday celebrant would have wanted for Christmas! After all, Christ is the real reason why Christmas exists. He is THE celebrant on Christmas day.

The first book on the New Testament is from the apostle Matthew. On chapter 1 of his witness, Matthew said that Jesus was conceived in Mary by the Holy Spirit. Matthew testified that the name "Jesus" is associated with salvation. Jesus' father Joseph was commanded to name the child who is about to be born as "Jesus" because He will save many from sins. Yet, at the same time, Matthew also witnessed that the birth of Jesus will be the fulfillment of what the prophets said through the ages that "the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son" whom people will call as "Immanuel" which means, "God with us." The prophecy that the virgin's son will also be known as "Immanuel" was written in the Book of Isaiah chapter 7 verse 14.

Thus, the Book of Matthew connects itself with the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. Of course, man-made religious customs and traditions probably removed the emphasis on this but the link is clearly affirmed in the New International Version of the New Testament. Christ birth is clearly linked with what have been written in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. This reference also appears to be clear in versions of the New Testament with the imprimatur of Roman Catholic authorities.

The emphasis of the Book of Mark is a little bit different. Mark's introduction of Jesus starts in chapter 1 with St. John the Baptist who was to preach the baptism of forgiveness. Thus, the Book of Mark emphasized on forgiveness as a central theme of Christianity. But here is a catch. The Book of Mark began with the introduction of the introducer of Jesus, John the Baptist. In turn, John the Baptist, witness for Jesus is in these words, "I will baptize you with water but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In effect, John the Baptist's introduction of Jesus emphasized on the Holy Spirit. Baptism with the Holy Spirit is the baptism that only Jesus can provide based on the testimony of St. John the Baptist as per the documentation in the Book of Mark.

The witness of the Book of Luke chapter 1 on Jesus also began with the person who was to prepare the way to Jesus. In preparing a people ready for Jesus, the Book of Luke said that St. John the Baptist was to "turn the hearts of the fathers for their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous —to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Thus, the emphasis of the Book of Luke is that **preparedness for Jesus is also important related to his birth, the first Christmas.**

The Book of Luke contain a prophecy for Jesus, "He will be great and will be called the Son of **Cont. on page 11**

ADVOCACY MINDANOW

*Mining's Big Fight!
Part 1*

BY: JESUS DUREZA



(The author, a journalist-lawyer, was former Chairman of the Mindanao Development Authority and Presidential Adviser for Mindanao during the administrations of President Ramos and President Arroyo.)

DIPOLOG VISIT — I was back in Dipolog City a few days ago. There's an interesting and important court case now before the Regional Trial Court there. And it's worth watching because the court ruling is crucial on issues on mining, local autonomy, police powers of the state, and other issues clearly with constitutional undertones. It may help resolve the pestering question: if a local legislation comes in conflict with national laws, which one should prevail. Collateral to this is the question on whether the local Sanggunian Panglunsod (SP) or Provincial Board has the authority to pass an ordinance that will outlaw what the national law, the Mining Act allows. Or whether the so-called powers under the local autonomy law allow the LGUs to abridge effective and subsisting contracts. There are still a host of other collateral issues. This Dipolog case will eventually end up in the highest levels: the Supreme Court. It will be precedent setting.

POLICY ISSUES — There are also policy issues. For example: Is the national government now under President Aquino really dead serious in its announced policy that it is supporting mining? If so, why are the anti-mining elements in the present administration doing their own thing as if they have their own agenda and ignoring, nay, undermining if not embarrassing, the president's own public avowals?

On the other hand, perhaps the president himself is indeed NOT supportive of mining. If so, this must be clearly spelled out so everyone, including investors, mostly foreign, will be properly advised. There should be no gray areas in policies. Clarity is needed.

HOW IT STARTED — Here's how the controversy started. In August, this year, the SP of Zamboanga Del Norte province, quietly passed Ordinance no. ZN-11-128 totally banning open pit mining and giving the governor of the province "draconian" powers over "life or death" for a mining company operating within its territory. He can play god. Good if done to protect or promote a greater good. Bad if the purpose is for something else. But that's too early yet to tell.

TVI EXPERIENCE — TVI Resource Development (Phil) Inc. has been doing mining operations in its tenement and plant in Canatuan, Siocon town in Zamboanga del Norte for 7 years now starting 2004, although exploration started 10 years earlier in 1994. Early in the game, it experienced problems and challenges. For example, TVI trucks were ambushed twice in 2002 killing 15 Subanens and injuring several, mostly IPs. But it stayed the course. I was in charge of Mindanao then for Malacanang and I was directed to help clean up the mess. It's been 17 years of TVI doing Mindanano. Then this Ordinance

TVI has a Mineral Production and Sharing Agreement (MPSA) with the Philippine government and has complied with all requirements to allow it to do open pit mining. In the years it has been in operations, it brought progress and development to Siocon which was then a sleepy, conflict-affected 4th class municipality becoming a 1st class unit with its economic boom clearly evident immediately as you get into town. Mindful of the issues about mining and how it destroys the environment, TVI when it first came to town, rolled up its sleeves and busied itself doing a clean up of the poisonous and toxic waste left in the wake of crude, dangerous small scale mining. Using the modern mining technology in accordance with stringent requirements of its own country of origin (Canada in this case), TVI went for it and eventually reaped recognitions and awards extolling its pioneering efforts in responsible and sustainable mining. Its Canatuan processing plant even became the Mecca of the curious and the inquisitive — observers, researchers, including doubtful do-gooders — as a showcase of what a model mining company should be.

Interestingly, the Zamboanga church hierarchy refused to even take a look at the site, steadfast in its opposition, (perhaps afraid to be confronted with the truth and therefore losing a favorite whipping boy?) But that's par for the course.

I did several visits myself. I was fascinated seeing a "detox" plant to clean up wastes before they are dumped to posterity. I saw palay (for rice) lushly growing in one filled up dam. Their tailings dams were built along the best of the world standards.

TVI RESORT — I was first there at the TVI mountain top area about 10 years ago and from the helicopter I saw a cogonal hillside jotted with ugly diggings and tunnels, courtesy

Cont. on page 10

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*Constitutional crisis, chaos
& anarchy*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... The Lord will send on you curses, confusion and rebuke in everything you put your hand to, until you are destroyed and come to sudden ruin because of the evil you have done in forsaking Him..." (Deuteronomy 28:20, the Holy Bible).

-000-

CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IS REAL: No matter how Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda may try to deny the existence of a Constitutional crisis in the wake of the clash between President Aquino and Chief Justice Renato Corona, Malacanang cannot hide the truth: the crisis is real and is threatening our country and our people as a whole.

Lacierda need not wait for the sky to fall, as he mockingly told reporters in a press conference at the Palace right after Corona's speech last Wednesday, December 14, 2011, to say there is a crisis right now. All he has to do is look around him, particularly in various Facebook and Internet groups where Filipinos are now openly advocating revolution not only against Corona, but even against Aquino.

And lest Lacierda downplays once more these Facebook and Internet postings, he can try to go to the barber shop, talk to his barber, and find out for himself that many Filipinos now are so divided they are raring to lynch those who hold contrary views. If nothing is done about this problem, it is just a matter of time before a civil war will finally erupt and consume our people.

-000-

DISRESPECT AND DISOBEDIENCE VS. ALL BRANCHES OF GOV'T: The Constitutional crisis is also very evident in the disrespect that Cabinet men and other government leaders are showing not only against Corona but against the entire judicial branch. Everyone in government now is badmouthing Corona and the Supreme Court and the judiciary, which act encourages disobedience and defiance.

With a government that disobeys and defies the Supreme Court and the judiciary, can we expect the ordinary man on the street to obey and respect the Supreme Court and the courts all over the land? The answer is a clear no, we can no longer expect the ordinary man to respect and obey the Supreme Court and the courts below it.

Where would all of these lead to? Again I will boldly say, it would lead to chaos and anarchy, and to people taking up the law in their own hands. It is not difficult to see that while the original target of disrespect and disobedience and defiance is the Supreme Court and the judiciary, that disrespect, disobedience and defiance will reach even the executive and legislative branches of government, in due time.

-000-

CHAOS AND ANARCHY PRESENT NOW: Even now, chaos and anarchy are crystallizing everywhere. In the House of Representatives, congressmen belonging to the ruling coalition are either resigning or are being booted out of their chairmanships, because they could not stomach the haste with which the articles of impeachment against Corona was required to be signed.

Court transactions grounded to a halt because judges and court personnel walked out of their courtrooms in support of Corona. The Integrated Bar of the Philippines is threatening to question every move of the government relative to Corona's impeachment.

The Supreme Court itself is now a divided court, with its justices arrayed into two opposing groups—the first one consisting the appointees of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and the second consisting of the appointees of President Aquino and those who are allied with President Aquino even if appointed originally by Arroyo.

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Supreme power

Former President Joseph Estrada once branded the sage men and women of the Supreme Court as "hoodlums in robes" but grave as his accusation was, libel charges escaped him, spared owing maybe of his Chief Executive status then.

But the good men and women in robes only bided their time and when the opportunity came for them to pin him down,

Estrada went tumbling down and PGMA, now CGMA, was swiftly sworn into office via Chief Justice Davide then.

Even during her tenure, PGMA also experienced first-hand the supreme power throughout the land that the Supreme Court possesses or have.

The SC shoot contracts after contracts Malacanang had before during PGMA's time whatever international repercussions they may have.

Now, CGMA could only hope she'll be dealt with a more friendly card yes, from no other than personages she appointed before.

Xmas bonus

Government employees are assured of a White Christmas what with President Aquino's announcement that the national government would give P10,000 in additional holiday bonus to each one of the 1.17 million civil servants, including those hired on temporary, casual or contractual basis.

But wait, here's the kicker: Malacanang said the full amount will only be given to employees who had rendered at least four months of service as of November 30.

This would be "on top of the (13th month pay and the P5,000 cash gift), there is a P10,000 productivity enhancement incentive (PEI), which is due to be given by December 15," Mr. President said.

Nice, eh?

Satisfaction survey

Malacanang's feeling of Christmas generosity may be attributed to P-Noy's latest so-so rating that says more and more Pinoys believe that life would be better in the next 12 months to come, meaning in the next chapter of our lives or in 2012.

Social Weather Stations (SWS) conducted the survey from Sept. 4 to 7 of which found 39 percent of respondents believe or expect that the quality of their lives would improve ("optimists") in the next 12 months.

Pessimists only had a nine percent share expecting their lives would only get worse or for a net score of 30.

Take note, the said survey was higher than the 36 and 35 percent optimism recorded in June and March, respectively.

On Quality Of Living

For the information of everyone, Imperial Manila ranks 128 out of 221 cities in the world.

This is again based on a survey by Mercer's 2011 Quality of Living ranking highlights.

Said Quality of Living Survey is based on political and social environment, medical and health considerations, public services and transport, consumer goods, economic environment, socio-cultural environment, schools and education, natural environment, recreation and housing criteria. New York serves as the base city for the ranking.

More spending

We really hope for a better 2012 if Malacanang will make good with its promise to spend more in 2012.

When money flows by a drip, life would really be agonizingly slow to all of us Filipinos especially when there are but a little amount of public services are flowing on a snail pace.

If there is no infrastructure projects flowing from your congressman chances are there is but a little job available to townspeople and local economy also comes to a standstill.

Now this is the very reason, Malacanang is stepping up spending next year particularly on infrastructure development.

Take it from PS Edwin Lacierda: "We're going full blast by 2012 and we expect more PPP projects coming out... both from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC)."

One of this is the government's plan to bid out this year the Daang Hari-South Luzon Expressway Road construction project and the Metro Rail Transit (MRT) project.

There are already interested bidders for the Daang-Hari project and it is expected to be awarded before

Cont. on page 10

PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

Ang Kwneto ng Korona ni Haring PNOY!!!

BY: ODELL P. AQUINO



Talaga naman itong mga ka-alyado ni Machong PNOY sa tongreso este Kongreso, ang bibilis kumilos kapag inutusan ni Haring PNOY. Kaya naman pala nilang kumilos ng ganoon kabilis kung bakit ang maraming mga panukalang dapat na isabatas ay inaabot ng siyam-siyam at ang mga ibat-ibang dapat na isabatas katulad ng Freedom of Information Bill (FOI) ay hindi nila mapasa.?! Isipin ninyo mga dear readers 188 na tongresmen este kongresmen ang pumirma ng impeachment complaint sa tatlong oras (3 hours). Hanep talaga, yan ang speedy dispensation of justice. Hi! Hi! Hi! , Patay ka nga CJ Corona!!! Sa aking pananaw mga dear readers (sa unang punto) ay mali itong isinagawang pagmamadali (fastrack) ng impeachment complaint ng hindi nila idinaan sa masusing paliwanag at debate sa plenaryo ng kongreso (kahit na moro moro lang). Ang ipinapakita lang nito ay kaya ng kongreso at ng malacanang na brasuhin ang hudikatura, kaya kayong nasa hudikatura kapag mayroon ayaw ang malacanang sa inyo ay mag-ingat na kayo at baka kayo ma-impeach. Sa pangalawang punto ay kung bakit si CJ Corona lamang ang pinag-iinitan at siya (pa lang) ang iniimpech, samantalang isa lamang siya na miyembro sa isang collegial body na kung saan isa lang ang kanyang boto and the majority votes are the ones that make up the final supreme court decision. Dapat sana ay lahat ng mga justices na nag bigay ng mga alleged erroneous or un-constitutional decisions ang isinabay-sabay ng iniimpeach. Bakit kung matalang ba si CJ Corona ay magbabago na ba ang mga desisyon ng korte suprema at ma-giging pabor na ba sa mga kagustuhan ng Malacanang? Kaya dapat ay lahat na supposed to be Gloria Justices ay siyang ma-impeach ng sa ganoon ay ang papalit any ang mga PNOY-Justices, tama ba Mahal Na Hari este mga dear readers !?!?! Wag kayong malilito mga dear readers hingil sa aking pananaw at kung kanino ako pumapanig, sapagkat sa aking palagay ay may katwiran din si PNOY sa kanyang pag-hangad ng isang independent Supreme Court, ngunit sa kasalukuyan sitwasyon ng ating kultura at sistemang politikal, naniniwala ba kayo na posible tayong magkaroon ng isang tunay na independent Supreme Court na siyang hindi tatanaw ng utang na loob at posibleng kumontra sa mga kagustuhan ng pangulo ng siyang nag-appoint sa kanila?!?! Mamate Ka!!! Kaya tunay na nakalulongkot at ating sitwasyon sapagkat kahit na ma-alis si CJ Corona at ang kanyang mga ka-kosa ng GMA appointees, ang papalit ay ang isang Korte Suprema ni Haring PNOY at ang mangyayari ay ang isang sitwasyon na mas-malala pa sa kasalukuyan sapagkat walang wala na tayo ng sinasabi na checks and balances kung saan dapat na ang tatlong hanay ng gobyerno [ehekutibo, lehislatura, hadikatura] ang siyang nagbabantayan sa isat-isa at hindi nag-konontsaban katulad ng nakita natin na matinding pag kokontsaba ng lehislatura na ka-kontsaba ang ehekutibo sa pag impeach kay CJ Corona. Kaya ating aabangang ang magiging laro o play sa darating na impeachment trial sa Senado kung saan hindi pa hawak ni Haring PNOY ang mayorya sa Senado (ang Villar block). Abangan ang mga darating na kabanata sa mga Kwneto ng Korona ni Haring PNOY!!!

Hybrid Rice Producer says Dredging of Chico River Will Result to Gov't Revenue

TABUK CITY, Kalinga – Dredging the Chico river from siltation will result to revenue generation derived from agriculture particularly from rice farming. This is the contention of the chairman of the Kalinga Hybrid Seeds Producers Cooperative.

Dr. Jaime Almora, in his proposal to dredge a 24-kilometer stretch of

the Chico river from Calanan to Cabaruan, estimated that P240 million in government revenue will be sourced from an estimate 500 hectares of reclaimed lands and quarrying.

The computation he said is based on the 12% value added tax imposed to the agriculture industry that is producing 65,000 tons and valued at roughly P2.2 billion

in annual production.

He said the revenue to be derived from agriculture production and business opportunities from quarrying in the affected areas is not realized because of flooding and scouring of fertile lands all the time by the swelling river during heavy downpour.

"85% of the money in circulation in this city is derived

Cont. on page 10

Ifugao Women's Group Embarks on Natural Chicken Production Project

ASIPULO, Ifugao - The Amduntog Women Rural Improvement Club (AWRIC) here started their natural range chicken production project using fermented or organic feeds instead of commercial feeds which is more economical and sustainable.

This was made possible through the technical assistance of the Provincial Veterinary Office (PVO) who trained the members in the making of fermented feeds with the use of indigenous materials available in the place as one way of promoting organic farming to protect and preserve the environment from destruction at the same time minimize if not avert the impact of climate change caused by the contributory factor of commercial feeds.

Gilbert Caclini of the PVO said that this natural system of raising chicken is more economical and sustainable especially in rural areas.

Making the organic chicken feeds involve the use of corn grits, corn bran, rice middling, sugar, azola, ipil-ipil and madre de agua which is fermented for four days before it can be used to feed the chickens.

He said that ten members of the organization were already given 17 heads of kabir chickens each consisting of two roosters and 15 hens which they will raise using the fermented feeds until they reproduce and after one year by the last quarter of 2012 they should repay them with the same number of chickens to be re-dispersed to the second line of beneficiaries so that it will continue expanding using the same appropriate technology.

Caclini said the money used in purchasing the 170 heads of chicken that were distributed to the first line beneficiaries came from the Livelihood Enhancement and Agricultural Development (LEAD) Project of the National Agriculture and Fisheries Council of the Department of Agriculture.

He added that their office will continue to monitor and evaluate this project and render technical assistance to the chicken raisers until they master it and succeed for others to emulate./JDP/DBC-PIA CAR,Ifugao

Population Office calls on public to observe safe Sex to avoid HIV/AIDS

LAGAWE, Ifugao - As the province observes World AIDS Day, the Provincial Population Sustainable and Development and Ifugao Youth Development Division (PPSD/IYDD) here warn the public to do away with unsafe sex activities.

Speaking in the daily program Humangan with PIA this morning, Wilson Domingo of the PPCD/IYDD appealed to the public to know more about Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency disease (HIV/AIDS), know the causes and how to avoid acquiring the said dreaded disease.

HIV is a virus is transmitted from person to person through the exchange of body fluids such as blood, semen, breast milk and vaginal secretions. Sexual contact is the most common way to spread HIV/AIDS, but it can also be transmitted by sharing needles when injecting drugs, or during childbirth and breastfeeding. As HIV AIDS reproduces, it damages the body's immune system and the body becomes susceptible to illness and infection, explained Domingo.

He said the disease is not a big problem in the province, but the public should be informed and be cautious especially that nowadays people are mobile and they can acquire the HIV elsewhere.

Reacting to a listener from Hungduan town who texted his concern on the presence of videoke bars all over the province wherein young girls from outside the province are sometimes being used by customers and probability that bar girls might be the carrier of the said silent disease, Domingo appealed to the local government units to put more teeth into their ordinances covering said business establishments.

According to the Philippines AIDS Council, the number of new cases in the country is nearing the 8,000 mark as 200 new cases were recorded in October. The Philippine HIV/AIDS registry showed that from January 1984 to October 2011, a total of 7,884 cases have been recorded; 937 of them had progressed into AIDS, while 339 had died.

In October, the number of cases recorded was 92 percent higher the 104 cases in October 2010. Public health records showed that 97 percent of the cases were males. The median age was 27 years but ranged from 15 to 65. The 20-29 age group had the most number of cases.

The males having sex with males sector is still the leading contributor of new cases, accounting from 85 percent of the new cases. 17 injecting drug users contracted the virus by sharing contaminated needles.

Of the 200 new cases, one case, that of a 27-year old male, had progressed to AIDS-related death which was recorded in October./JDP/VDB-PIA CAR, Ifugao

Hybrid Rice

.....from page 6

from agriculture," according to Almora.

He said the only way to realize this is revenue is to dredge said portion of the Chico river in order to re-channel its flow and sustain de-silting through quarrying.

"Flood controls like concrete clad and gabion wire dikes were constructed but did not solve the problem on flooding, Almora claimed.

"Immediate effects from dredging is faster velocity of water flow, shorter transit time, slower siltation," Almora, who is also the Director of Almora General Hospital, said./PAB/PIA-CAR/Kalinga

Provincial Treasurer reminds Taxpayers of Tax schedules

BONTOC, Mt. Province — The provincial government through the Office of the Provincial Treasurer once again issued a notice reminding all concerned taxpayers to pay their taxes on time to avoid surcharges and interest.

Provincial Treasurer Cawed A. Gamonnac issued a notice that the following taxes and charges are payable without surcharges and or interest on the dates specified pursuant to the provisions of Provincial Ordinance No. 101, S. 2010, otherwise known as the "Updated Revenue Code of Mountain province."

Professional tax is scheduled to be paid on or before January 31, 2012. The amount of P150.00 is to be

paid by registered electricians, registered radio-TV technicians, registered nurse, X-ray technicians, midwives, associate and assistant electrical engineers, and school teachers receiving salaries lower than their counterpart in the public schools, while other professions pay P300.00. New professionals shall pay their tax before practicing their professions.

Tax on printing and publication shall be due and payable in quarterly installments within the first 20 days following each quarter. For newly started business, tax which is 1/20 of 1% of the capital investment shall be paid before the business starts to operate, and 60% of 1% of gross

annual receipts for the preceding calendar year.

Franchise tax shall be due and payable within the first 20 days of January or each subsequent quarter as the case may be. For newly started business, tax shall be paid before the business starts to operate and 60% of 1% of gross annual receipts for the preceding calendar year.

An annual fixed tax of P500.00 shall be paid by every delivery trucks or vans within the first 20 days of January; Amusement tax on admission which is 30% of gross receipts from admission fees shall be due and payable within the first 20 days of the month next following that for which they are

due.

A tax of P40.00 per cubic meter on sand, gravel and other quarry resources shall be due and payable in advance to the Provincial/Municipal Treasurer or his duly authorized representative before materials are extracted.

Tax on transfer of real property ownership which 60% of 1% of the total

consideration involved or the fair market value, whichever is higher, shall be the duty of the seller, donor, transferor, executor or administrator to pay to the Provincial/Municipal Treasurer within 60 days from the date of the execution of the deed or from the date of the property owner's death.

Rentals of buildings and the

lots shall be payable within the first five (5) days of the following month.

Failure to pay the stated taxes and charges on the specified dates shall subject the taxpayer/leaseholder concerned to a surcharge of 25% of the tax/rental due, and an interest of two percent per month on the unpaid amount. JDP/JBS-PIA CAR,Mt. Province

Ifugao folks Oriented on the Organic Agriculture

LAGAWE, Ifugao -Farmers, fisherfolks, municipal and barangay officials in the different municipalities here were oriented by the Provincial Agriculture Office on Republic Act 10068 or the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010.

Catherine Buenaventura of PAO said that the activity seeks to promote, propagate, develop further and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the country that will cumulatively condition and enrich the fertility of the soil.

She explained that organic agriculture will increase farm productivity, re-

duce pollution and destruction of the environment, prevent the depletion of natural resources, further protect the health of farmers, consumers and the general public, and save on imported farm inputs.

The program undertakes a comprehensive program for the promotion of community based organic fertilizers such as compost, pesticides and other farm inputs, together with an educational promotional campaign for the use and processing, as well as the adoption of organic agricultural system as a viable alternative.

Organic agriculture systems also promote the development of related commu-

nity-based industries, namely organic agriculture, prime habitat and eco-tourism among others. These communities provide clean, safe, nutritious and sufficient food, water air and health conducive environments and enhances food sovereignty and substantially contributes to food security, she added.

In its goal to reduce environmental pollution and ecosystem destruction and prevent the depletion of natural resources, the program shall endeavor to promote the low carbon development path and its strategies.

Organic agriculture boosts community resiliency to disaster risks and climate change vulnerabilities caused by anthropogenic factors and naturally induced hazards and contributes to risk reduction, Buenaventura explained.

The Department of Agriculture is aggressively promoting among farmers organic agriculture for better health and healthier environment./JDP/VDB- PIA CAR,Ifugao

Republic of the
Philippines
REGIONAL
TRIAL COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL
REGION
BRANCH 10
La Trinidad,
Benguet

SUPPLICATION
AND CORREC-
TION OF EN-
TRIES
IN THE CERTIFI-
CATE OF LIVE
BIRTH
ORDER

SERYL DANG-GA
PAYANGDO

Petitioner,

-versus-

THE LOCAL
CIVIL REGIS-
TRAR OF
KIBUNGAN,
BENGUET AND
THE NSO

Respondent,

X——X

SP. PROC. CASE
NO. 11-C-1719

FOR:

Petitioner,
through counsel,
filed this verified
petition on 8 De-
cember 2011 pray-
ing that after due
notice, publication,
and trial, judge-
ment be issued di-
recting the Local
Civil Registrar of
the Municipality of
Kibungan, Benguet
and the NSO to cor-
rect the entry as re-
gards the gender of
SERYL DANG-GA
PAYANGDO from
"FEMALE" to
"MALE" and to sup-
ply the middle
names of his father
and mother as
"ATAM" and

"MATEO", respec-
tively.

WHEREFORE,
finding the petition
to be sufficient in
form and substance,
the same is hereby
set for hearing on
March 6, 2012 at
8:30 o'clock in the
morning before the
Session Hall of this
Court, 2nd floor,
Justice Hall, Justice
Hill, La Trinidad,
Benguet and all per-
sons 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 peti-
tioner in THE JUNC-
TION 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
December 25, 2011.

Furnish copies
hereof together
with a copy of the
petition and its an-
nexes to the Office
of the Solicitor
General, Makati
City, the Adminis-
trator National Sta-
tistics Office; the
Provincial Prosecu-
tor of Benguet; the
Local Civil Regis-
trar of Benguet; The
Junction Newspaper,
the petitioner
and his counsel.

SO ORDERED.

DONE IN CHAM-
BERS, this 12th
day of December
2011 at La
Trinidad, Benguet.

By: (SGD)
EDGARDO B. DIAZ
DE RIVERA, JR.
Presiding Judge

Publication Dates:
December 17, 24
and 31 2011

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

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno www.linisgobyerno.org

Walter William's Journalist's Creed

This creed was written by Walter Williams (1864-1935), the man who founded the world's first school of journalism at the University of Missouri and perhaps contributed more toward the promotion of professional journalism than any other person of his time.

I believe in the profession of Journalism.

I believe that the public journal is a public trust; that all connected with it are, to the full measure of responsibility, trustees for the public; that acceptance of lesser service than the public service is a betrayal of this trust.

I believe that clear thinking, clear statement, accuracy and fairness are fundamental to good journalism.

I believe that a journalist should write only what he holds in his heart to be true. I believe that suppression of the news, for any consideration other than the welfare of society, is indefensible.

I believe that no one should write as a journalist what he would not say as a gentleman; that bribery by one's own pocket book is as much to be avoided as bribery by the pocketbook of another; that individual responsibility may not be escaped by pleading another's instructions or another's dividends.

I believe that advertising, news and editorial columns should alike serve the best interests of readers; that a single standard of helpful truth and cleanness should prevail for all; that supreme test of good journalism is the measure of its public service.

I believe that the journalism which succeeds the best-and best deserves success-fears God and honors man; is stoutly independent; unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of power; constructive, tolerant but never careless, self-controlled, patient, always respectful of its readers but always unafraid, is quickly indignant at injustice; is unswayed by the appeal of the privilege or the clamor of the mob; seeks to give every man a chance, and as far as law, an honest wage and recognition of human brotherhood can make it so, an equal chance; is profoundly patriotic while sincerely promoting international good will and cementing world-comradeship, is a journalism of humanity, of and for today's world. /http://www.nationalpressclub.org.ph

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Food Sufficiency Program Includes Promotion of other Staple Food Crops

BAGUIO CITY - Pursuing the Department of Agriculture (DA) "policy of food staples self-sufficiency," the department implementing food production programs to develop and promote basic food staples in the continuing quest to ensure local food sufficiency and availability in areas where these are grown.

According to Regional Executive Director Marilyn Sta. Ana, the emergence of this policy widens the DA's playing field from its usual food production program areas to include and attend to beneficiaries covered by the President Bengino Aquino's Social Agenda.

The promotion and development of food staples will be done along with the department's regular programs on rice, corn, high value crops, livestock, and fisheries, she said.

Its staple food crops beside rice, include white corn, rootcrops such as cassava, camote, taro, and colored and aromatic rice in the uplands, among others, Sta. Catalina said.

This development bring well-meaning challenges that make agricultural advances work relevant to more people in the countryside who need our support, she noted.

Sta. Catalina encouraged farmers participation and all primary stakeholders in the development of project proposals for rice, white and yellow corn, livestock, heirloom rice and other important local agricultural commodities.

We are promoting their (farmers) involvement in the planning and implementation of agricultural programs and projects to increase income and their livelihood, Sta. Catalina added./JDP/JPZ- PIACAR

3 Baguio Schools use Local Dialect as Medium of Instruction

BAGUIO CITY - The mother tongue-based- multi lingual education (MTB-MLE) of the Department of Education (DepEd) is being implemented in at least three schools in remote areas in the city and has been found effective.

According to City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Ellen Donato, the MTB-MLE program being piloted in Sto. Tomas Elementary School for Kankana-ey dialect, and Fort del Pilar Elementary School and Roxas Elementary School using the Ilokano dialect, is effective.

The pupils in these schools speak a common dialect that is why MTB-MLE is useful and effective. But we cannot implement this in schools in the city proper where there are various dialects being used, she said.

Donato said mother tongue-based education prescribes the use of the language learners speak at home in delivering lessons and in classroom discussions. The MTB-MLE is implemented from pre-school up to Grade 3 and in the alternative learning system.

DepEd Secretary Armin Luistro, in an statement said "local and international studies show that the use of the learner's mother tongue or the language used at home is the most effective medium of learning and it is the easiest way for children to access the unfamiliar world of school learning."

Studies made by educators say that when the use of mother tongue is discarded in favor of an unfamiliar language upon the children's entry into grade school, the learners lose interest in their studies because there is a disconnect in the language used at home and in school.

For better implement this program, the DepEd has allocated funds for the development and production of indigenized teaching and learning materials.

DepEd Order 90 series of 2011, provides that the types of learning materials to be developed and produced are story books in big and small book formats; flash/activity cards using letters and numbers; basic sight words or grade level words and picture dictionary; and thematic picture chart for oral literacy./JDP/JPZ-PIA CAR

DOH to give free A-H1N1 Anti-Virus Vaccine to Indigent Elderly

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Health (DOH) is set to provide free AH1N1 flu-shots to the elderly, especially the indigents identified under the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) of the Department of Social and Welfare and Development (DSWD).

This is in line with President Aquino's Health Agenda of 'Kalusugan Pangkalahatan', which aims to provide access and quality health care to the Filipino people.

DOH-Cordillera Regional Director, Dr. Myrna Cabotaje in a kapihan forum, disclosed that priority for the said AH1N1 anti-virus vaccine are the indigent senior citizens in Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) or Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) areas.

She also affirmed that by next year AH1N1 anti-virus will be incorporated to the usual flu-vaccine that will be made available to the public noting that very young, pregnant and old people who are the common group that are vulnerable to flu virus of any kind.

Cabotaje also reiterated their advisory to the public especially those in Baguio that there is no cause or need for alarm on AH1N1, as it is already being considered as common and non-serious type of flu virus that may thrive on cold places.

Meantime, Cabotaje also affirmed there will be more and intensified health program implementation in line with Aquino Health Agenda of 'Kalusugan Pangkalahatan' next year.

According to Cabotaje, the national government, through the DOH, will continue to pay the PHILHEALTH - insurance premium of all the poor families identified under DSWD's NHTS-PR.

In partnership with the DSWD, the Department of Education (DEPED) and the various local government units and through the different Community Health Teams which are established and trained in the different localities for intensified information, education and communication (IEC) advocacy, will be put in place, as well as monitoring and assistance, especially to the poor families for better access to quality health care services.

Included in the key or primary focus of the Aquino Health Agenda are the upgrading of health facilities and equipment of various hospitals and rural health units in the country, as well as on bringing in the needed programs and services to achieve the country's health-related commitment to the Millennium Development Goals./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

GSIS Grants Emergency Loan to members in Mt. Province

BAGUIO CITY— The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) is extending emergency loan assistance to eligible members residing and/or working in the Mt. Province after the said area was severely affected by recent typhoons.

Qualified members can apply for an emergency loan starting today, December 12 until January 10, 2012 via the GWAPS kiosk using their eCard or their UMID eCard.

GSIS said members who do not have an eCard Plus or UMID eCard but who are eligible to apply for the loan can apply via over-the-counter (OTC).

Proceeds of emergency loan applications filed via OTC will be credited to a temporary eCard

which the GSIS has begun to issue for members without the eCard Plus or the UMID eCard.

Under the emergency loan program, each eligible member can borrow P20,000. The loan program carries an interest rate of six percent per year computed in advance, and is payable in three years in equal monthly installment. An Emergency Loan Redemption Insurance (ELRI) of 1.2 percent of the gross loan amount shall be deducted from the proceeds of the loan.

In addition, any outstanding balance of previous emergency loan shall be deducted from the proceeds.

Member-borrowers with outstanding emergency

loans shall be allowed to renew the loan if the borrower has paid at least 12 monthly installments but not earlier than the anniversary date of the previous loan.

Members who can avail of the loan are bona fide employees of the agency located in the declared calamity area or are resident of the declared calamity area; are in active service and not on leave of absence without pay; have no pending criminal or administrative charges; have no arrearages in the payment of mandatory social insurance contributions; and have no loan that has been declared in default.

The agency of the member-applicant must not also be suspended because of non-payment and non-remittance of premiums and loans./GSIS/PIA

MGD's Autonomy Plea: "Unity for Executive certification to ensure legis'n."from page 1

The content of the resolutions: expressions of sentiments of each of the legislative bodies desire to institute autonomy in the region.

Domogan said the bill was disseminated among the Cordi region's six governors for their blessings before its submission to the highland congressmen for their own take on the proposal.

Benguet congressman Ronald Cosalan and Abra rep Maria Jocelyn Bernos declined affixing their signatures on what could be a historical document that would outlive its prime-movers.

The reason: lack of consultation with their respective constituencies.

This would be the region's third attempt at autonomy after HB 5595's precursors failed ratification in 1990 and 1998 in plebiscites held for the purpose of realizing the elusive 'autonomy dream' laid down by Article X of the 1987 Constitution.

Domogan iterated, "With autonomy, there will be devolution of powers from the national government to the regional administration."

"And the bottom line is that we could now manage our natural resources without waiting for trickles veiled with uncertainties from national government agencies."

He guaranteed, "The issue here is not political... it is getting what is due for our region, our children, and our children's children."/isl

Advocacy Mindanow.....

.....from page 5

of small-scale miners at the height of their destructive trade. When I returned recently, I saw lush forests that TVI developed. In fact, I told friends that I visited a mine site but I saw a resort.

Even the host indigenous people's community, the Subanens which was hostile initially, is now the bulwark of TVI's stakeholders support. The Siocon town, with a swash-buckling former ABS CBN journalist for its mayor (Cesar Soriano) eventually came around and is the strongest and loudest supporter of TVI for seeing up close its operations and recognizing its windfall effects on everyone in the area — and even beyond.

"SALIVATING?" —Unfortunately for TVI, the provincial government, headed by 3-term Gov. Rolando Yebes, saw it differently. He had been salivating for sometime hoping to get a piece of the action. Hounded by the thought that he could get more, beyond the pitiful 2 % on gross revenues as excise tax that first goes to the national government, (by the way, taking almost forever to remit to the province its 40% share of that pittance, of which it has to download 35% to Barangay Tabayo and 25 % to Siocon municipality) then bolstered by the church anti-mining campaign championed by Bishop Manguiran no less, Gov Yebes rallied his political cohorts in the SP to pass the Ordinance without anybody noticing it. For one reason or another, he did not affix his signature to it but allowed it to lapse into effectivity. One morning in November, TVI woke up to belatedly discover that the proposed ordinance was quietly ap-

proved 3 months earlier, already in effect and giving TVI 12 months to pack its bags and get out of the province! Pronto!

"NEVER MINDS" — The "go pack up order" shocked everyone. Never mind if TVI has still about 10 years to legally operate under the MPSA with about 4 years of estimated viable mine life left. Never mind if it has already infused \$60 Million (PHP 2.5 Billion!) into its operations. Never mind if it sends about 1,000 gainfully employed and competent Filipino workers to the streets and join the throng of the unemployed. Never mind if the social benefits and royalties estimated at P75 to P100 million annually, given to host Subanen communities will have to also suddenly and prematurely stop. (No wonder the IPs mounted a rally in Dipolog town during the initial court hearings condemning the ordinance.) Never mind if it has built many roads, schoolhouses, gave livelihood programs, funded scholars, etc. Never mind if TVI already offered to increase directly the municipal and provincial share by voluntarily setting up a rehabilitation fund under its social development and management project (SDMP) for the LGUs to manage in coordination with other interested affected sectors to make up for the LGUs pitiful share. Never mind if there is a contractual obligation in place between the national government and TVI and its terms abridged and thrown out of the window. Never mind if it sets the fuse to trigger a hemorrhaging of the vital lifeblood provided by the mining industry all throughout the country. Never mind if it closes down a company that has been the model of what a mining company should be. Oh, a list of more "never minds" but those will suffice for the moment.

FIGHTING MOOD — In the face of all this, under the leadership of Canadian Clifford James, a maverick of sorts, an old hand in mining and a Mindanao adventurer since the 90's, TVI decided to give it a fight and not succumb. He filed a case in the Dipolog court for relief believing that the judge, a no-nonsense, soft-spoken former audit bureaucrat, former prosecutor, former law professor and known for his independence and clear legal mind, will rule on this on the merits, Zamboanga peninsula's grip by political lords, notwithstanding.

—"I intend to fight this to the end and will not allow the bullies to have their way," Cliff told an equally fired-up crowd of miners and investors in a forum the other day at Makati, the country's economic hub. He also warned his co-travelers in the mining industry that while TVI is willing and in fact going head-on for it single-handedly, a "domino effect" is looming in the horizon: Tampakan, South Cotabato first, Zamboanga del Norte now. Perhaps, Zamboanga Sibugay next. And so on and so forth. The mining crowd c h e e r e d .

PROXY FIGHT — The Makati crowd clapped and cheered for TVI's Clifford James for taking on a survival fight for his company and his investors. They admired TVI for having the "balls" as the industry's proxy in this fight. But I think that's as far as they can go. We know that businessmen are the most cowardly when it comes to fighting "city hall", never mind if this is also a survival fight for the host IP communities, the stakeholders, the mining industry as a whole and on a higher plain, for the benefit of the Philippine economy as well.

Sadly, the national government appeared nonchalant by the wayside, watching helplessly "biting its nails" as this parade goes by.

1st -Apluma

.....from page 6

year's end the PS says.

The Department of Education (DepEd) is also looking on PPP for the construction of more classrooms, he added.

"The respective Cabinet members will be announcing the forthcoming PPP projects," he said.

Also, Lacierda said, the government has instituted reforms so it can scrutinize projects in the pipe line while at the same time ensuring speedy implementation.

According to the government, projects that could still be included in the 2011 bidding list will be the P6.8-billion New Bohol (Panglao) airport project, the P8.85-billion LRT Line 2 East extension, the P83.25-billion LRT Line 1 South extension, the P4.14-billion Puerto Princesa airport development project, the P450- to P675-million-a-year Laguindingan Airport O&M contract, and the P6.88-billion New Legazpi airport development.

So there, let's wait and see... Merry Christmas!

1st-APLUMA (1st-Alliance of Provincial Newspaper Publishers)

DTI

.....from page 2

food products, Gallardo advised the public to always check the labels especially on the products 'expiry or best before date' and the price tag before the purchase. Consumers, he said, should only buy from reputable establishment and avoid buying from people that they do not now or from fly by night stores.

"People should also avoid buying food products that are in excess of their actual need", Gallardo added.

He also advised the public to be green consumers. "The public should practice proper waste disposal, segregate, re-use and recycle. "When going to the market, people should also bring in their own plastics or bags, so that they will not need to acquire additional plastics, which will only become an add-on to the non-recyclable wastes in their homes", Gallardo emphasized.

Meantime, Gallardo affirmed that based on their monitoring, there is sufficient supply of food products in the market for this Christmas and New Year particularly Noche Buena food products, and their prices remain stable./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AFFIDAVIT OF SELF ADJUDICATION

That Ray Lecarte Bagano, of legal age, single, Filipino, being the surviving legal heir/son of the deceased Mary Lecarte Bagano who died on November 13, 2011 had left at her death a savings account deposit with the Bank of the Philippine Islands Burnham Branch, Baguio City with Account No. 0563-7796-67 . That affiant Ray Lecarte Bagano executed on November 29, 2011 this Affidavit Of Self Adjudication before Atty. Nicasio Aliping and entered into the Notarial Registry under Doc. No. 329; Page No. 67; Book No. 50, Series of 2011.

Publication Dates: December 3, 10 and 17, 2011.

'Kalikasan'**.....from page 2**

Buyagao, Mike Bunnol, Erlinda Soriano, Elisa Mariano, and Hilario Palos; Aringay, La Union vice mayor Eric Sibuma and members of the Aringay council.

The respondents: The City Government of Baguio and the City Solid Waste Management Board (CSWMB) represented by Domogan; Domogan in his capacity as mayor of Baguio; vice mayor Daniel Farinas, members of the Baguio Council; City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) chief Cordelia Lacsamana; and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The petition takes root from the August 27 "trash slide" caused by "typhoon Mina" that claimed lives of six residents along Asin Road and which event, ramified into various ecological Catch 22's.

Domogan said, "Nobody wanted the trash slide to happen". He maintained the accident was a fortuitous event which clearly, nobody could have foreseen.

'Kalikasan' is a legal remedy to address those whose rights to a healthful ecology is violated or threatened with violation by an unlawful act or omission involving environmental damage of such magnitude as to prejudice the life, health or property of inhabitants in two or more cities or provinces.

This is apparently the reason why Benguet and Aringay joined hands in the filing of the petition.

To issue, the magnitude requirement with regards to the destruction or imminent destruction of the environment which is sought to be prevented, must be present.

While Domogan welcomed the petition, he guaranteed the city and concerned agencies have been doing everything humanly possible to address all Irisan dumpsite concerns, hinting the "magnitude requirement" for the issuance of the writ may no longer exist.

"In fact", he said, "Rehab of the area is now ongoing with needed budget fueling construction of structures needed to protect surrounding areas."

The projects, i.e., repair of retaining wall preventing trash from being swept down the slopes toward the Asin area in Benguet has been funded right after the Baguio City Council declared a "State of Calamity" after Mina.

"In a more recent development," he added, "Malacanang through the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) recently approved a P110-million funding for the rehab and conversion of the area into an eco-park."/is/

Ombudsman.....**.....from page 3**

for cooperation is the very foundation of which the system is built. All pillars, therefore, should get their acts together and strive to mutually support each other while maintaining independence," Morales stressed.

Access is another essential principle. Morales pointed out, "access to the criminal justice system especially by the poor, marginalized and vulnerable. I believe is the single most persuasive indicator that the system is running and running smoothly. It is unfortunate that we have yet to achieve universal access to the system", she stressed.

Morales pointed out that independence

and access may be worthy principles for an effective criminal justice system, but it can be undermined by the lack of integrity.

The Ombudsman pointed out that disturbing reports of corruption, abuse or incompetence by the different pillars that may unduly result in the erosion of trust to the system, are needed to be addressed.

Morales stressed that it beholds, therefore, that each of the five pillars should guard itself against issues affecting integrity, as well as to operate as an efficient system of check and balance, wherein each pillar is equally accountable to one another as all of them are answerable to the people that focus their thrust in the system./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

DOST**.....from page 3**

pine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), also a DOST attached office.

According to Deponio, the ARGs can automatically record on real time rainfall volume and at the same time send its reading to a central server or data terminal, including other pre-identified destinations, which will now become one of the basis of PAGASA weather forecast.

Deponio also informed that there are also Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) – stand-alone devices that measure other weather-related factors such as air pressures, temperature and humidity that are installed in Bangued, Abra, Benguet State University (BSU), BSU annex in Bugias, Benguet and at the Ifugao State University.

"These AWS, along with the ARGs, will play critical role in disaster or hazard mitigation particularly during typhoons and floods, which will help save lives and properties", Deponio said.

He also announced that the raw data being recorded by both ARGs and AWS in the different parts of the country can be accessed on Google Earth, though for now, they are still working for the webpage name.

Deponio also affirmed that other government agencies as well as private companies are also independently installing ARGs and AWS in the different parts of the region. DOST he said still needs to work out how they can tap or connect to such equipments./JDP/LD-PIA CAR

Imelda V.....**.....from page 12**

lowed by Loakan Proper which received P15,000 and Pacdal which got P10,000 as incentive.

SSD chief Noel Mabutas praised the two panels of judges who spent months validating the reports of the barangays which competed in the twin contests. He also used the awards program as venue for also citing the city's partner agencies and volunteers in the "Pasadang Pambarangay" grassroots service delivery of city hall.

Chaired by Patricia Anne Gallardo of the Save Our Women Foundation, the board of judges in the "berst performing barangay" category was composed of city councilor Joel Alangsab; city director Evelyn Trinidad of the Department of the Interior and Local Government; city police director, Sr. Supt. David Lacdan; city planning and development officer Evelyn Cayat; Walter Pedro of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources; city health officer, Dr. Florence Reyes; city social welfare and development officer Betty Fangasan; and executive assistant Rafael

Tallico of the city mayor's office.

City prosecutor Gloria Agunos chaired the judges' board which ranked the 20 entries for the "lupon" contest with her were city councilor Alangsab, DILG city director Trinidad, police director Lacdan, and Mabutas./Ramon Dacawi.

DOH**.....from page 3**

PhilHealth's eligible members as stake home medication in accredited hospitals, she added.

Medicines under the ComPack program include Amoxicillin 500mg, Cotrimoxazole (800mg sulfamethoxazole + 160mg trimethoprim, tablet), Erythromycin 500mg, and Cloxacillin 500mg, all for adult; and Amoxicillin 100mg/ml granules (suspension), Cotrimoxazole (200mg Sulfamethazole + 40mg trimethoprim/5ml suspension, 30, 60 ml), Cotrimoxazole (400mg Sulfamethazole + 80 mg Trimethoprim/5ml suspension, 30, 60ml) and Cloxacillin 125mg/5ml, 60 ml, all for pedia which are for common infectious diseases like pneumonia, upper respiratory tract infections, urinary tract infections and otitis media.

It also includes Metformin 500mg, Glibenclamide 5mg, and Glizalide 80mg for diabetes; Doxycycline 100mg and Metronidazole 500mg for adult for acute gastroenteritis; Amlodipine (5,10mg), enalapril (5, 10,20mg), Metoprolol (50, 100mg), Hydrochlorothiazide (25, 50mg), Aspirin oral (80, 160mg), and Losartan 50mg for hypertension and cardiovascular; Simvastatin oral 20mg for hypercholesterolemia; Sambong 250mg tablet for renal problems (diuretic); and Lagundi 300mg tablet for respiratory (bronchodilator)

All the ten towns of the province are put under CCT with program implementation in five towns set next year./JDP/JBS-PIA CAR,Mt. Province

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

the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of His father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, his kingdom will never end." The Book of Luke also documented Mary's song for Jesus, "His mercy extends to those who fear him from generation to generation." Further, Mary revealed in her song for Jesus that the Lord, "has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty."

Years later, Jesus himself witnessed for himself. In Luke chapter 14, verses 18-21, quoting the Book of Isaiah 61:1-2, Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Jesus emphasized, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Now, let us go back to question: what would have Jesus wanted for Christmas, the birthday celebrant on Christmas day?

The answer to the question may be in our hearts as we read the bible's passages today.

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

Baguio Police ready for the Yuletide Season

Baguio City Police Office Director Senior Superintendent David Q Lacdan has ordered the police force to strengthen police patrol operations this coming Yuletide season. Implan "Yuletide Season" has also been released as a measure to ensure the peaceful celebration of Christmas.

All units were tasked to strictly enforce laws related to firecrackers/pyrotechnics by strengthening efforts on the inspection of warehouses and manufacturing sites, intensifying checkpoint operations to prevent proliferation of loose firearms, and instituting appropriate measures to prevent PNP personnel and other gun holders from illegally discharging their firearms during the yuletide season.

BCPO will also deploy Route Safety Marshals along main thoroughfares and Public Assistance Hubs around Baguio city to assist the general public. Church goers especially during "Simbang Gabi" will also be guarded by the Cops on Churches tasked to provide area security while the Tourist spots will be manned by the heightened operations of the Tourist Police. Eighty personnel from the Regional Public Safety Battalion (RPSB) were detailed at BCPO as augmentation force for the duration of the season and will be assigned mostly at the Central Business District.

A simultaneous ceremonial muzzle taping of firearms will also be conducted on Friday, December 16, 2011 to ensure that no PNP personnel will discharge their firearms during the celebrations. Each head of office is directed to tape the muzzle of the issued firearms of their respective personnel with their signature and conduct checking upon the culmination of the yuletide season.

The police officers will also be backed up by the BCPO's explosive ordnance division (EOD) and special weapons and tactics (SWAT) in case of any untoward incidents. Lacdan said that the intensification of police visibility is part of the Police Regional Office Cordillera's directive to maintain peace and order and public safety during the coming Christmas season. / **PINSP KARISSMA G STA JUANA**

City Eyes Redevelopment of Mines View Park

BAGUIO CITY – The city government plans to redevelop Mines View Park here to restore its glory as a promenade center and tourist destination.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said they have allocated P4 million in this year's budget for the improvement of the park which he said will begin as soon as the vendors vacate the park's premises and move to the satellite market building constructed by the city government nearby.

The satellite market project that cost P50 million was intended to house the legitimate vendors occupying the park along with the barangay hall, multi-purpose hall, day care center and health center of the barangay. It was envisioned to solve the vending problem and put back order in the area in the hope of reclaiming its status as a park and favorite tourist hub.

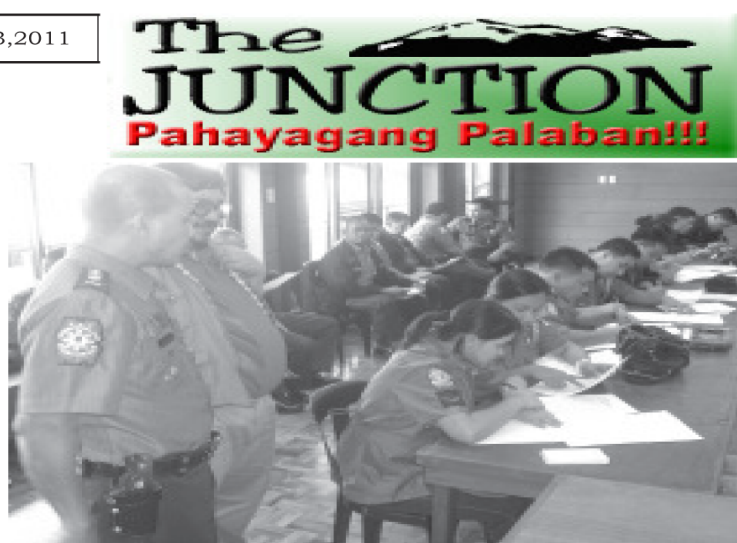
The mayor said the city government will fast track the screening of the vendors to be accommodated in the satellite market based on the guidelines and master list of legitimate grantees along with the Memorandum of Agreement between the city government and the Mines View Open Market Vendors Association and the Mines View barangay.

"We hope to speed up the process so we can start the redevelopment of Mines View to bring it back to its old condition as a park and tourist spot," the mayor said.

Mines View was delisted as a park by the Dept. of Tourism (DOT) after vendors mushroomed and turned the site into an eyesore.

As planned, the legitimate vendors will be immediately relocated to the satellite market upon completion based on guidelines to be set by the city government.

The area will be then be cleared and spruced up to restore its erstwhile appearance and ambience as a promenade center. / **A Refuerzo**



JOURNALISM SEMINAR FOR THE BAGUIO'S FIN-EST - Seasoned journalist Dexter See and City Police Director David Lacdan look on during a Journalism Workshop/Seminar for the Baguio's finest being conducted by the members of the Baguio Press Corp which is also headed by president See. / **By Bong Cayabyab**

Imelda V outperforms other Barangays

Imelda Village emerged the city's best performing barangay for the third straight year, this time besting 24 others which qualified for the annual contest sponsored by the city, through the Special Services Division (SSD) of the mayor's office.

For its threepeat, the community led by punong barangay (PB) Arturo Rapelo Jr. won P55,000 cash prize presented during the awards rites last Thursday at the Abada Hall of the Teachers' Camp.

Imelda Village received an additional cash of P30,000, also for having topped earlier the 2010 search for the city's most outstanding "Lupong Tagapamayapa". The barangay fast improved on its third-place finish in 2008 and runner-up position in 2009.

Rapelo attributed the twin awards to the human resource development program of the barangay, leadership adjustments to various situations, links with various organi-

zations and proper documentation of programs.

"I am sure the performance you have accomplished will be remembered," city mayor Mauricio Domogan told the awardees after presenting the awards with city councilor Peter Fianza and other officials.

"You are the front-liners in governance hence we can not underestimate the vital role you play," the mayor added.

City Camp Proper under PB barangay Aurora Abellera finished second and received P45,000 while Loakan Proper led by PB Jesusa Vizcaya took the third slot, good for P35,000 cash prize.

Irisan, the city's barangay in terms of area and population headed by PB Thomas Dumalti received P30,000 for finishing fourth while Pinget under PB Teresita de Guzman got P20,000 for ranking fifth.

The 20 finalists which received P4,000 each were Alfonso Tabora under PB Alexander Yan, BGH (PB

Ronaldo Garcia), Brookspoint (PB David Puguon), Campo Filipino (PB Mohammad Camil Abdullah), Dominican-Mirador (PB Remedios Laigo), East Modernsite (PB Nenita Trinidad), Fairview (PB Justina A n d a y a) , Greenwater Village (PB Magdalena Lambac), Hillside (PB Ferdinand Bucad), Imelda Marcos (Ernesto Laguardia);

Lourdes Subd. Extension (PB Benjamin Macadangdang), Lualhati (Norma B u s t a r d e) , MRR=Queen of Peace (PB Catherine Quinones), Pacdal (PB Roberto Medina), Pinsao Proper (PB Horacio Willy), Quezon Hill Proper (PB Gloria Corazon Dalisay), San Roque Village (PB Gerry Uy), Sto. Rosario Valley (PB John Abat), Sto. Tomas Proper (PB Miguel Kiswa) and Upper Rock Quarry (PB Luis Badecao Jr).

Irisan added P20,000 to its coffers for its second-place ranking in the "lupon" contest, fol-

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