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MABUHAYANG PILIPINO!!! BAGUIO CITY, AND LATRINIDAD, BENGUET LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Lawmaker Pushes for Agency Options for Whistle-Blowers



Above photo lifted from the face book page of Grace Bandy. Photos were covered so as not to impute any wrong, ill or malicious doing on all the HONORABLE BAGUIO CITY COUNCILORS. For more information check out Grace Bandy at Facebook. /Junction OIC

The CARAPAL NA KONSEHAL? (PART 1)
Parental Guidance: Explicit Lyrics

ERLAK KUNG KUNG ANG KONSEHAL NA ITU
PLATBOT? BAGA BOT? PALIBOT?
ANG MGA OTONG, LEFT AND RIGHT, MAY PAKAKAMANTAY SA BAY HUB?
SA INANG GURL (AT SA ANAKA) TALA DI MAKUWENTOT?
KEX, ADEKOT KATA, OR MAY PAKAKAMANTAY SA ATENG GIMOT?
GIMOT TATANG SIPOTAKIN LAHAT NG BAKAS SA BAGA BOT?
MAG UP BALON LANTARAN NG BEMBE MATANOT?
BAGAT LANG KALANG ANG GANTONG BEMOTOT?
KALAPA, KWA BKA BAKANG BAKONG SA TAP NA GABA BOT?
KONSEHAL NAMA, KUNG DI NG MATTEL, ANG BILA SA GANTOT?
BE BEMOTOT NA LANA, PUWEEK POT?
AT MARAMI MAMANG KUTWELA, BOTO SA BAKONG?

Senator Chiz Escudero is pushing for a more comprehensive whistle-blower protection bill that will provide more options to potential state witnesses in choosing the government agency they want to seek shelter for personal security.

This after Alfred Mendiola, the primary witness against the notorious Dominguez brothers' carjacking ring, was killed last week while under the government's witness protection program.

"Clearly, we need to revolutionize our current witness protection program," Escudero said.

Escudero, chairman of the Senate committee on justice and human rights, is asking the House of Representatives to approve Senate Committee Report No. 47 (SCRN 47) on Senate Bill 2860 or the proposed Act Providing for Protection, Security and Benefits of Whistleblowers.

Senate Committee Report No. 47 gives a voluntary witness the right to choose which implementing agency he intends to be admitted to as a whistle-blower or witness.

The bill provides that the Senate, Congress, the Office of the Ombudsman, **Cont. on page 9**
Commission on

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Crucial Enrolment Period

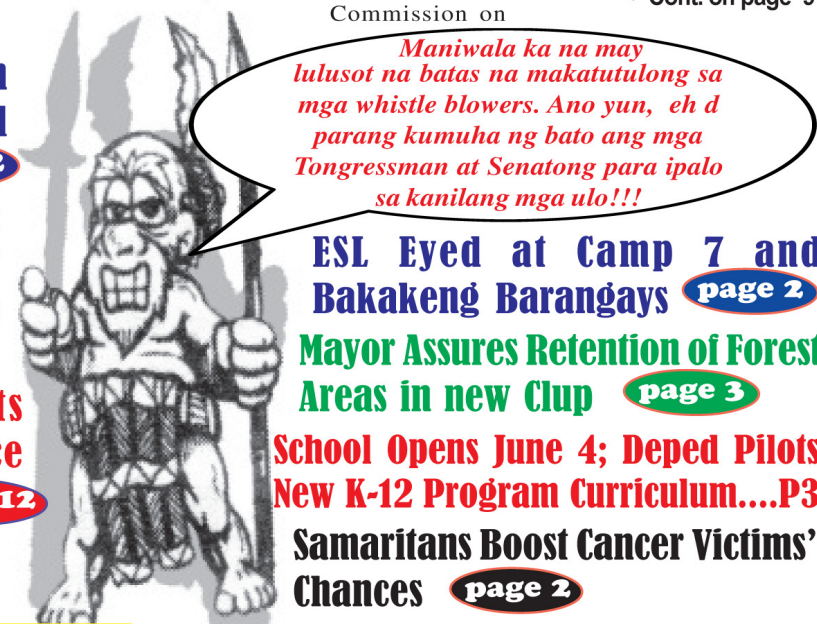
BY: ISMAEL AMIGO SR

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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Filipino Rotarian Honored at Int'l Meet

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



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City Heads Scramble for Solutions as Waste Output Soars

BAGUIOCITY – City officials huddled in an emergency meeting Wednesday to plot resolutions and strategies to tackle the burgeoning waste problem even as Mayor Mauricio Domogan reported that the city’s daily waste output has soared from 166 to 200 tons.

The mayor said the immediate solutions reached were the maximization of the operation of the Environmental Recycling System (ERS) machines and the hauling out of the residual wastes to the sanitary landfill facility in Capas, Tarlac pending resolution of issues with Pro Tech Machineries relative to its contract with the city.

The city environment and parks management office (CEPMO) will submit a detailed estimate of the needed fund for transport and tipping fee for approval by the city council along with the inventory of all the expenses incurred on waste disposal.

The mayor also bared new developments on the long-term solutions being eyed by the city for its waste disposal system.

He said he has been working for a possible tie-up with Benguet province on the establishment of engineered sanitary landfill (ESL) facilities in La Trinidad and in Ampucao, Itogon.

The La Trinidad facility is expected to be finished in two months and he will negotiate with Benguet Governor Nestor Fongwan and La Trinidad Mayor Gregorio Abalos to avail of the facility.

The mayor expressed confidence on the reception of Benguet officials and said the city is willing to pay tipping fees for the use of the facility.

He also disclosed positive development on the Korean-backed multi-purpose waste management system in Ampucao which was earlier thought to have fizzled out due to the reported withdrawal of support by Itogon mayor Oscar Camantiles.

He said Camantiles himself told him of his full support to the project and even encouraged him to help in its pursuit.

Domogan said he will meet with Camantiles anew to sign a joint manifestation of support to continue the project.

The mayor said the city is also considering another possible ESL site in Sablan along with a couple of proposals

Cont. on page 10

Samaritans Boost Cancer Victims’ Chances

Led by a small charity founded by an Igorot karate teacher in Germany, Samaritans have given hope to two mothers and a widower in the thick of their fights against the big C.

Veronica Bitaga, a 56-year old mother of four from Pucsusan barangay here, was wheeled into the hospital last Friday for her second of six monthly chemotherapy treatment sessions for cancer of the colon.

Amparo Rivera, 53 and mother of five, last week was midway through her 25 daily radiation therapy sessions for cancer of the cervix at the Philippine Lung Center in Quezon City.

Adonis Togana, a 45-year old father of two who lost his wife and baby in childbirth, was also into flap surgery for relapsed skin and muscle cancer at the

Obietas Clinic in San Juan, Metro-Manila. Soon, he will transfer to the Philippine General Hospital for radiation and chemo therapy.

“After that, my doctor said it would be good to have my left leg amputated,” he said before leaving for Metro-Manila.

Shoshin (Beginner’s Mind), a foundation led by former world shotokan (knife-hand) karate champion

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City Steps up Campaign Against Man-Made and Natural Calamity

The city strengthened its defense system against calamity – be it natural or man-made – , as mayor Mauricio Domogan signed last week two agreements, one for weather monitoring and another rekindling the city’s commitment to the campaign against illegal labor recruitment.

Domogan Monday forged with regional officer-in-charge Nancy Bantog of the Department of Science and Technology a memorandum for the installation of one automated rain gauge and one manually operated rain gauge at the fire station at Irisan, the city’s biggest barangay, both in area and population.

The two gadgets will complement a manually operated rain gauge the DOST set up earlier at Lourdes Subdivision Barangay, above the perennially flooded City Camp basin.

The gauges in Irisan will be maintained by firemen and barangay volunteers who will be trained by the DOST, which will also shoulder the repair and replacement of parts of the said units.

Through the mayor, the city also renewed last Monday its memorandum of understanding forged with the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration in 2009 for a continuous crack-down on illegal recruiters preying on job applicants for non-existent or exploitative work abroad.

POEA Administrator Hans Cacdac his office’s commitment to provide a courtesy lane for Baguio constituents in their application for jobs at the POEA Manpower Registry Division provided they are properly endorsed by the city’s Public Employment Services Office.

POEA will continue providing the city PESO information materials on the campaign, including updated list of POEA-Government Placement Branch vacancies.

The city vowed to coordinate with authorities in the investigation of illegal recruitment cases and to recommend to the POEA closure of licensed recruitment establishments for violations.

The signing coincided with a seminar for barangay officials on how the could safeguard their communities against illegal recruiters./RD.

ESL Eyed at Camp 7 and Bakakeng Barangays

With the assurance that a portion of a three (3) hectare lot within the city is feasible and accessible for immediate development and use, Honorable City Councilor Isabelo B. Cosalan Jr. has filed with the City

Council a proposed ordinance appropriating the amount of one million pesos (P1,000,000.00)

Cont. on page 9

Medical mission reaches out to data, sabangan

In a country where treatment costs are often beyond the reach of even the employed and those covered by health insurance, a medical mission is always a step up to the plate. It’s an outreach always welcome, always needed any season of the year.

That’s why 258 residents of Data, a village in Sabangan, Mt. Province, took the queue when the Cordillera chapter of

the fraternal group Alpha Phi Omega set up one last April 22.

Add to the figure 68 others who availed of free dental services and 26 young boys who took advantage of the summer break to

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J U E T E N G

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(SGD) Odell P. Aquino The Junction- OIC

School Opens June 4; Deped Pilots New K-12 Program Curriculum

BAGUIO CITY – Public elementary and high schools will open on June 4 with the Department of Education piloting the K-12 program’s new curriculum for Grade I and Grade VII.

City schools division administrative officer Atty. Augustin Laban III said the K-12 curriculum will use the Mother-Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Education (MTB-MLE) where the country’s 12 “mother tongue languages” will be used as medium of instruction.

The languages are Tagalog, Iloko, Kapampangan, Pangasinense, Bikol, Cebuano, Hiligaynon, Waray, Maguindanaoan, Maranaoan, Tausog and Chavacano.

“K-12 offers a more balanced approach to learning that will enable children to acquire and master lifelong learning skills as against a congested curriculum under the ten-year basic education for the 21st century,” Laban said.

The “K” in the K-12 basic education program stands for the institutionalization of kindergarten as part of the basic education system and is “compulsory for admission to Grade 1.”

This means that children aged five years old are required to enroll in kindergarten classes prior to their admission to Grade 1.

The “12” on the other hand refers to the 12 years basic education required under the program spread out as follows: six years in the elementary, four years in junior high school and two years in senior high school.

“A 12-year program is found to be the adequate period for learning under basic education and is a requirement for recognition of professionals abroad,” Laban said.

“A student who completes the K-12 will be equipped with skills, competencies and recognized certificates equivalent to a two-year college degree.”

He said the House of Representatives approved the 2012 budget amounting to P238.8 billion which includes P2.4 billion for the kindergarten component of the program and more budget is expected to be earmarked when the Grade 11 component is introduced in 2016. – A Refuerzo

Mayor Assures Retention of Forest Areas in new Clup

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Wednesday assured the retention of all the forest and watershed areas in the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) of the city.

“We will maintain all our existing forest and watershed areas. These are essential to maintaining balance in our ecology,” the mayor said.

He said this is the reason why the city has been fighting to reclaim the parcels of lots at the various forest reserves which have been issued Certificates of Ancestral Land Title (CALTs) by the National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) particularly at the Forbes Park, Wright Park, Botanical Garden.

It is also the reason why he has been calling for vigilance in protecting forest reservations and public lands against bogus land claims and titles.

He said that while the city government is doing its best to protect the said supposed reservations, support and vigilance from the public is necessary to rally authorities into acting in favor of the city in its on-gong legal battle to recover said forest reservations and retain them as such.

The city has a pending petition through the Office of the Solicitor General with the Court of Appeals for the cancellation of the CALTs issued over parcels of land within said reservations and of titles covering prime pieces of property which were subdivided and eventually expanded by several hectares in Pacdal and

Dontogan barangays.

The preservation of the existing watersheds, forest reservations, parks and other areas supported by Presidential Proclamations and other laws and setting of Environment Development Controls has been included one of the four “major spatial strategies” highlighted in the proposed CLUP.

The others include the decongestion of the Central Business District through the provision of growth nodes along strategic locations in the City and the designation of additional areas for institutional purposes that support the city’s role as an education center north of Manila.

The mayor said the proposed CLUP will be returned to the city council by the City Development Council for approval.

Cont. on page 10

Independence Day Preparations On

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan last week issued Administrative Order 50, s. of 2012 creating the executive committee for the National Flag Day Celebration on May 28, Independence Day on June 12, and National Hero Jose Rizal’s birthday on June 19.

Named as honorary chairman is Congressman Bernardo Vergara, the mayor being the chairman, Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas and City Administrator Carlos Canilao as Co-chairmen and Councilor Peter Fianza and Police Senior Superintendent David Lacdan as action officers.

For the May 28 celebration as to earlier issuances, the Philippine Flag should be displayed prominently in private homes, government buildings, public places and roads by the public sector, government agencies and non-government buildings by individuals, Private and Non-Government Organizations.

Wreath-laying and floral offerings at heroes’ shrine are also encouraged.

In Baguio, a program shall be conducted at the Rizal monument. Expected to be invited as guest of honor is a speaker with exemplary contributions in the field of public service and patriotism.

For the occasions, Vice Mayor Farinas is chair for programs, with Councilors Erdolfo Balajadia, Fred Bagbagen, Phillian Weygan-Allan, Nicasio Aliping, Jr., Isabelo Cosalan, Jr., Pinky Chan-Rondez, Joel Alangsab, Nicasio Palaganas, Karminn Dinney Yangot, Richard Carino, and Edison Bilog. All department heads are also included in the committee.

Councilor Elmer Datuin is chair for the national flag day, independence day and Rizal’s birthday celebration where seminar-workshops focusing on heroism for the present times, shall be conducted. The academic sector are encouraged to send their students to the activities, as these are considered as activities worthy commemoration of the national hero.

Bishop Carlito Cenzon, Atty. Edilberto Tenefrancia, Tourism Officer Benny Alhambra, the academic sector, Commission on Higher Education, the Baguio Tourism Council, and the Rizalistas are members of the committee.

For the technical peace and order, including aesthetic concerns, and venue preparation, Councilor Phillian Weygan-Allan takes charge. Members include: SSupt. Lacdan, City Engineer Leo Bernardez, City Buildings and Architecture head Engr. Oscar Flores, General Services Officer Romeo Concio, City Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council representative Janice Singiten, Fire Officer SSupt. Richard Villanueva and the Baguio-Benguet Volunteer and socio-civic groups.

The city administrators office staff headed by Amelia Joan Clerigo shall be secretariat for all the activities.

Preparation of policies and guidelines, proper implementation of all activities and supporting activities are the responsibility of all members of the committees./juliegfianza

Writ Compromise Seen

BAGUIO CITY – A compromise agreement is in the offing for the settlement of the Writ of Kalikasan case filed against the city government over the use of Irisan dumpsite.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan on Monday tasked the city legal office under Carlos Melchor Rabanes to draft the compromise agreement as agreed on by the parties during the pre-trial conference held May 4 at the Court of Appeals.

Rabanes said the parties reached the agreement on the condition that the city will commit to perpetually stop dumping wastes at the Irisan facility.

He said that during the conference, it was established that the Irisan dumpsite has been closed as affirmed by the National Solid Waste Management Council and the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The city was given 30 days to come up with the agreement for submission to the CA.

Domogan asked Rabanes to include in the points of agreement the possible use of the facility as a transfer station which Rabanes promised to consider even as he admitted that such provision will face a rough road because of what happened at the temporary transfer site at Irisan Limekiln where wastes supposedly for hauling were left untouched beyond the allowable time thus creating a mini-dumpsite.

He said the city will have to provide ample justifications and commitment that the use would purely be for a transfer site and that no wastes will be piled at the facility.

The draft compromise is expected to pass through the city council for approval via a resolution.

The Supreme Court on January 17 issued a Temporary Environmental Protection Order.

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The Lady is not for Turning

“Never grow a wishbone where your backbone should be,” Columnist Dorothy Parker would rib friends in New York’s lower East Side. And backbone is what Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales always had.

Explain within 72 hours the \$10 million stashed in two dollar accounts at Philippine Savings Bank, Morales asked impeached Chief Justice Renato Corona. Five Banks of the PI peso deposits appear “grossly disproportionate” to income.

As Supreme Court associate justice, she penned the 8-7 decision that scrubbed President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo’s draft memo of agreement with Moro Islamic Liberation Front on

EDITORIAL

which MOA-AD was crafted, is in excess of legal authority,” she wrote “(It is) whimsical, capricious, oppressive... The concept presupposes (Bangsamoro Juridical Entity) is a state and implies it’s on the way to independence...

She whacked the majority for allowing Eduardo Cojuangco to dip into levies, extorted from indigent coconut farmers, and pocket 16.2 million San Miguel Corp. shares. “The biggest joke to hit the century.”

Three complaints against Corona are before the Ombudsman:: (a) Fudging SALN excluding properties in Bellagio to Spanish Bay. (b) Reporting P27.2 million of actual P31.7 million income; (c) Unexplained wealth of P24.6 million in five accounts at PSBank and P12 million with BPL.

The Ombudsman “has no jurisdiction over the Chief Justice”, Conona’s counsel retorted. “The 10M. does not exist.” Charges black propaganda before impeachment trial resumes Monday. Like Land Registration Authority list and letters to Inquirer editor, they’re “phoney”.

“Our fears are shaped by past betrayals”, Viewpoint noted (PDI/March 23, 2010) “A Supreme Court that grovels before a president whistles up a gross image... when a Chief Justice, trotted behind Imelda Marcos, as parasol bearer.

“To many, that picture showed the extent to which the spirit of the judiciary” had been sapped,” observed 2003 Magsaysay Journalism awardee Shiela Coronel. Can we still repose hopes in constitutional institutions that crumbled before?

Yes. Thanks in part to strong women who challenged perverted institutions.

Tiene cojones. “She has balls” was the irreverent accolade that people paid to Cecilia Munoz Palma. (1913-2006) The first woman Supreme Court justice didn’t play ball when her male colleagues surrendered to Marcos the 12th century prerogative of courts to rule on habeas corpus pleas.

She flayed, in January 1975, the farcical “Citizens Assemblies”. “A referendum under martial rule can be of no far-reaching significance,” Palma wrote with Justice Claudio Teehanke. “It is accomplished under a climate of fear.”

Tiene cojones is also what people said about Auditor Heidi Mendoza, Banker Clarissa Ocampo and the late PCGG commissioner and 2004 Magsaysay Awardee Haydee Yorac. These were women who, when push came to shove, did not tuck tail.

Mendoza audited the AFP Comptroller’s Office and documented that, under Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, the office plundered AFP funds. That included a P200 million reimbursement check from the United Nations for Filipino peacekeepers.

Mendoza, who resigned an Asian Development Bank job to testify, saw her ignored report blow open an almost AFP P510 million loss traced by Congress hearings to comptrollers. Garcia is in prison today.

“I was a foot away” when President Joseph Estrada signed a P500-million loan as “Jose Velarde”, then senior vice president of Equitable-PCI Bank Clarissa Ocampo told the impeachment court. There was an attempt to assign the trust account of Jose Velarde to Jaime Dichavez, a presidential crony. “I refused to certify it,” Ocampo said. She later received threats on her life.

“The sole and only nobility is integrity.” That feistiness showed in Haydee Yorac’s work, from peace negotiator to Commission on Election official. Under Yorac’s watch, PCGG recovered for the national treasury U.S. \$683 million from Marcos’ Swiss bank accounts.

“From her sickbed, Yorac knows she will not complete the task herself,” the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation citation noted. Others will rise to it. “No one is indispensable,” she reminds us all. “Making a difference is enough.” **Cont. on page 9**





1st-APLUMA!

Crucial Enrolment Period

BY: ISMAEL AMIGO SR



We are not only sure if the Aquino Administration is to blame for the sweeping financial crunch many of us are experiencing right now especially in this enrolment period of the year.

But your guess is as good as mine.

Hard times are sweeping across the land but lucky are those who are bachelors like President Noy who don’t have to worry nor mind a child’s enrolment, books, notebooks, school uniforms, school service fees and the like.

I can only empathize with millions of Filipino parents out there hard up figuring out where to source out needed budget for sending kids to school aside from their daily baons.

Its good and bad Malacanang is holding on tightly on the national budget of almost everything from advertising, public relations to soft and hard projects of some representatives and whatever.

And good to us, this is what we got – sweeping kahirapan.

We have no way at confirming this info but according to the grapevine, President Noy and losing vice presidential running-mate-turned DOTC Sec. Mar Roxas used to rib each other in joy while comparing notes on millions if not billions on savings of public funds.

But what savings?

Savings for what?

Where would those savings go?

Savings on public services? My a_ _!

Public service is an inherent right of the people.

That is why we pay direct and indirect taxes and these taxes should and must be returned back to us the people in the form of better roads, better education, better health benefits and so on.

It’s called social contract.

And that is emblazoned in our Constitution.

Nowhere in our Constitution’s articles allow public officials to hold on the flow of public money, hold on the national budget on infrastructures and other public services.

They may not know it but methinks these public officials could be committing a crime they are not aware of.

They are not aware that because of their good intent at saving public funds, millions of Filipinos are dying of starvation.

Public officials hold public offices built around public trust that must be translated into honest to goodness dispensation of their functions as well as honest dispensation of public money.

And that would be the real meaning of “Daang Matuwid” not of saving, holding on to public funds.

Holding on public money or saving it, is public service denied to us.

And that is not “Daang Matuwid” in any which way you look at it.

Okay there is that “Daang Matuwid” program/battle-cry of the Aquino Administration but who cares if many of us cannot even send our kids to schools this coming school year.

Nothing wrong with saving public funds **Cont. on page 9**

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Filipino Rotarian Honored at Int’l Meet

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE’S INSPIRATIONS: “... Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms...” (1 Peter 4:10, the Holy Bible).

-000-
MEAT SMUGGLING ROW CAUSES EMPLOYEE TRANSFERS: Word has reached me that Customs Commissioner Ruffy Biazon is finally doing something to take the heat off against him on the reported 100 million kilos-a-year meat smuggling in the country. No, he is not resigning. And, no, he is not having known smugglers arrested, as some sectors are asking him to do.

He is instead reassigning officers and employees of the Bureau of Customs (BOC), who, unfortunately, are allowing the bringing in of meat only on the strength of import permits earlier issued by Ruffy’s office, and who do not have anything to do at all with any meat smuggling in the Philippines.

The move, Customs insiders told me, was meant to merely appease lawmakers who want him removed from his post, as well as angry hog and fowl raisers who are reporting that the government is losing some P60 billion yearly due to rampant meat smuggling, allegedly right under the very noses of BOC officials.

But Ruffy may have a surprise coming: the complaining lawmakers and hog and fowl raisers know that he is merely pulling the wool over their eyes, and is merely using his subordinates as scapegoats for his inability to stop meat smuggling. Truth to tell, the reassignments will not really address meat smuggling.

-000-
FILIPINO ROTARIAN HONORED AT CONVENTION: Here is a report from the just-concluded 103rd Rotary International (RI) Convention at the Muang Thong Thani Impact Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand: Filipino Rotarians were all teary eyed and beaming with undisguised pride when, among those whom RI President Kalyan Banerjee honored with his Presidential Citation Award, as the convention drew to a close, was RI District 3810 Gov. Ernie Choa.

Choa was the only Filipino Rotarian and District Governor who was so honored by Banerjee, on account of District 3810’s having surpassed the target donation for The Rotary Foundation for Rotary Year 2011-2012, and for its having tremendously improved its membership standing among the 10 Philippine RI Districts by recruiting new Rotarians over and above the goal set by Banerjee.

Banerjee’s award was actually unprecedented in that previous international conventions of Rotary did not include the giving of recognitions and awards for the outstanding performances of individual Rotarians, their Districts or their Clubs. About 20 other RI District Governors around the globe were honored with Choa.

District 3810, which Choa heads, covers Manila, Pasay City, Cavite and Occidental Mindoro. There are about 85 Rotary Clubs in the District.

-000-
GREATEST ROTARY PRESIDENT OF ALL TIME: And as the Rotary’s 103rd Convention reached its finale, the consensus was that Kalyan Banerjee, RI President for Rotary Year 2011-2012, could very well be one of Rotary’s greatest presidents of all time—with his moving discourses, unassuming conduct, and his emphasis on Rotarians’ conducting a self-examination and drawing out their inner strength to enable them to reach out and give service above self to all the world.

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DA-CAR distributes Imported Goats to Farmers
BAGUIO CITY -The Department of Agriculture-Cordillera has distributed 65 heads of imported purebred goats in various areas in the region in efforts to assist farmers pursue and achieve food self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

According to Regional Executive Director Marilyn Sta. Catalina, the recipients of the program are the Abra State Institute of Science and Technology (ASIST) and the Kalinga Agricultural State College (KASC) representing the academe, the Baguio Stock Farm and the Tabuk City Veterinary Office.

Sta. Catalina said that beneficiaries of the imported goats are required to set-up a housing, appoint a caretaker for the animals, improve their pasture areas and provide other necessary logistics for the operation and maintenance of the multiplier farms.

The animals, Sta. Catalina said, are loaned to beneficiaries who shall pay it back within the period of three years.

To ensure the success of the program, the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) under DAR Cordillera will strictly monitor and give technical assistance to the beneficiaries, Sta. Catalina added./JBZ, PIACAR

BFAR-CAR Barangay Food Terminal Program Tours the Region this May

BAGUIO CITY - In line with the celebration of Farmers’ and Fisherfolk Month this May, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR-CAR) is bringing its barangay food terminal and its other program and services in the different parts of the region.

Spearheading the activity is Regional Fisheries Representative alternate Nieves Saguibal, the recently designated ‘Mangingsdang Director’ for the duration of the celebration this whole month of May.

According to BFAR Assistant Regional Director Dr. Lilibeth Signey, the designation of ‘Mangingsdang Director’ is provided for under Department of Agriculture (DA) Special Order no. 88 and Fishery Office Order no. 80 series of 2005.

The activity which is dubbed as ‘Mangingsdang Direktor Para sa Matatag na Balikatan’, aims to imbibe on the fisherfolk leaders the rudiments of government bureaucracy, Signey added.

On May 8, the BFAR team is going Sebang and Level 13 in Itoyon, Benguet to bring around 300 kilos of tilapia that associations in the barangay bagsakan or food terminal could buy at P95 per kilo.

On May 9 and 10, BFAR will be bringing 1.6 metric tons of tilapia in Abatan, Bugias, Benguet and the municipalities of Tadian, Bauko, Sagada and Bontoc in Mt. Province.

Other scheduled stop of BFAR’s Food Terminal team will be Pinukpuk, Kalinga on May 15-16 and Luna, Apayao on May 28 – 31.

Signey also bared that BFAR will be conducting fish market monitoring, project/facility visitation, fingerling stocking and fisherfolk organization strengthening activities as part of the Farmers’ and Fisherfolk Month./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Bontoc Tech-Voc School Conducts Free Trainings

According to conduct the com- Maria Lourdes competency assess- BONTOC, Mt. Cosme, Adminis- ment after the train- tution, the massage with the given train- ing period of three months.

On the other hand, the ten-day haircut training is jointly being imple- mented by the Of- fice of the Vice Mayor of Bontoc which provided the per diem of the trainer; the TESDA which provides nical Education, each trainee a starter kit upon completion of the course, and the TESDA will

These trainings aim to provide skills and competencies to job seekers through appropriate training programs that are directly connected to existing jobs for immediate employment. TESDA will

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OWWA Celebrates 3 Decades of Dedicated Service; Honors Partners, Graduate Scholars

BAGUIO CITY - The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration -Cordillera Regional Welfare Office (OWWA-CAR), through a simple program joined the OWWA Family all over the country on Tuesday in celebrating their 30th year of dedicated service, with the theme, “Tatlong Dekada ng Serbisyong Tapat at Nararapat”.

Highlighting the program is the awarding of certificate of recognition to OWWA-CAR’s institutional partners in the private sector, as well as to their scholars who graduated this school year 2011-2012. It was spearheaded by OWWA-CAR Regional Director Manuela Peña and OWWA Human Resource Management and Development Division chief, Atty. Alex Valespin.

Among the NGOs given recognition are: the Baguio Center for Young Adults (BCYA) – OWWA’s partner in conducting trainings especially for the Overseas Filipino Workers(OFW) youth scholars and on the regional steering committee during conduct of institutional events; Family Planning Organization of the Philippines (FPOP) Baguio-Benguet chapter – OWWA’s partner in conducting Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS), medical mission to OFW communities and in conduct of community training; Episcopal Diocese of North Central Philippines (EDNCP) – partner in providing assistance to distress OFW families, community organizing and capacity building, among others.

Diocese of Baguio Liturgy Formation Social Action – OWWA’s partner in activities under the CBCP – Episcopal mission on Migrant itinerants and member to the Regional Steering Committee during OWWA institutional events; Cordillera Women’s Research Education and Action Research (CWEARC) – partner in providing education for a on women migrant issues as well as conducting research activities related to OFWs; and Innabuyog – Gabriella Cordillera chapter – partner in referrals of distressed OFW families for OWWA assistance, organing OFW families and establishment of migrant center in the communities.

OWWA also gave recognition to the seven graduates under its various scholarship programs. They are Michael Basilio - Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Nursing, Saint Louis University (SLU); Mark Anthony Ferrer – B.S. Nursing, SLU; Monica Anne Sandoval – a Cum Laude graduate of BS Information Technology, SLU; Berlyn Sitim- BS Nursing, Benguet State University; Joan Mariano- BS Chemical Engineering, SLU; Krisha Lei Delos Reyes- Hotel and Restaurant Services, Pines City College, and Roy Peñaflor- Slaughtering Operations, MMS Development Training Center.

During the program, OWWA Administrator Carmelita Dimzon, in a message read by Valespin, expressed her gratitude to all the (OFWs) for trusting their capacity to provide services to them. This she said also serves as their inspiration to continuously improve and expand their programs and services to all their OFWs members in about 190 countries worldwide.

Dimzon also expressed her gratitude to all OWWA personnel for their sincerest dedication for their work, as well as to the leadership of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the support/partnership given by other government line agencies and NGOs./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

DepEd USEC to Lead Brigada Eskwela Kick off Activity in Ifugao

ALFONSO MUYOT are DepEd Division Office Director Ellen Alberto Muyot of the Department of Education is expected to lead DepEd officials and other stakeholders in the kick off activity of the Brigada Eskwela or the National Schools Maintenance Week at the Alfonso Lista Central School here on May 21. Together with

Education Supervisor Lydia Belingon of the DepEd Division Office here said Brigada Eskwela is set on May 21-25. The Brigada

Eskwela is a yearly campaign

by the DepEd where the community and the private sector, along with parents of students, contribute to and participate in the cleaning and refurbishing of public schools in their areas in preparation for the opening of classes in June.

Alfonso Lista Elementary School was a national awardee as Best Implementer of the program in 2009.

Ifugao Town Imposes no Smoking in Public Places and Utility Vehicles

HUNGDUAN, Ifugao - Smokers have to be more restrained and self-disciplined with the municipal government imposing no smoking policy in government offices, public schools premises and public utility vehicles in the municipality .

The passage of the municipal ordinance banning smoking in public places is in support to the anti-smoking campaign and the unrelenting effort of the local government unit to protect non-smokers from the harmful effects of tobacco products.

This is also in line with Republic Act 8749 or the “Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 that prohibits smoking inside enclosed or confined public places and all public transportation.

Introduced by councilor Lucas A Bugatti, it is unlawful for any person to smoke cigarettes inside public buildings and places, school premises, restaurants, public utility passenger vehicles and other similar places in the municipality. However, a smoking area can be designated which shall not be located in or near areas where people usually gather .

Any person found guilty of violating the ordinance would be penalized P150 or four hours community service for first offense; P300 or eight hours community service for second offense; and P500 or 16-hour community service for third offense and subsequent offenses or imprisonment upon the discretion of the court.

For owners and operators of businesses, their license to operate will be suspended in case of third and consequent offenses and failure of the establishment to pay the fine indicated in a citation ticket within five regular business days from its issuance.

Mayor Hilario T. Bumangabang enjoined the local police, barangay officials, municipal heads and schools administrators, including drivers of public utility vehicles to fully implement this anti-smoking campaign./JDP/MBL-PIA CAR,Ifugao

Benguet Town to give Service Awards to Deserving Elected Officials, Mun. Employees

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - Officials of Tublay town in Benguet deemed it proper to recognize the invaluable efforts and accomplishments of its elected local officials including municipal employees for their dedication in serving the town for a certain period of time.

The Sangguniang Bayan of Tublay passed Ordinance No. 2012-02 which reads, “An Ordinance giving recognition to elected municipal and barangay officials who have served in the municipality and service awards to deserving municipal employees in the municipality of Tublay, Benguet and providing funds thereof.”

As premised, the status of qualified awardee whether resigned, demised, voluntary renunciation or succession to a higher position, shall in no way affect computation of term of service.

For municipal officials and barangay officials, first and second termers will be awarded a certificate of appreciation and certificate of recognition, respectively. Third term municipal officials will be awarded a gong and a 21 carat ring while barangay officials will be given a gong and a 14 carat ring.

Municipal employees who served for 15 years will be conferred a loyalty award and given a gong. Those who served for 25 years will be conferred an exemplary award, a gong and a 21 carat ring.

Awards will be bestowed to qualified recipients during the Municipal Foundation Day. Initial funding of P100,00 will be appropriated for the service awards program.

The provincial board referred the measure to the committee on personnel for further review and recommendation./JDP/SCA- PIA CAR,Benguet

Meanwhile, elementary and secondary schools nationwide starts on June 4, 2012 and ends on March 22, 2013 for public el-

200 school days of which 180 days should be actual teaching-learning days./JDP/VDB-PIA CAR,Ifugao

220 mountain bikers for environment finish the Cordillera Challenge

BAGUIO CITY - About 220 recreational mountain bikers for environment from all over the country finished the gruesome third Globe Cordillera Challenge along Mt. Sto. Tomas, Tuba, Benguet last weekend.

The eco-tourism sporting event which aims to raise awareness for the need to protect and rebuild the forest areas, was organized in partnership with Cordillera Conservation Trust (CCT), a non-stock, non-profit organization dedicated to help preserve the Cordillera mountain ecosystem headed by its executive director, JP Alipio.

Ralf Joseph Abocado from Metro Manila led the top ten finishers, followed by James Dacayanan, 2nd; Boom Rabilas, 3rd; Marvin Domingo, 4th; Cris Andaya, 5th; Jose Cortez, 6th; Rayman delos Angeles, 7th; Irnand Raflores, 8th; Cristopher Salanga, 9th, and Jeofrey Hidalgo, 10th place.

The bikers contributed P1,000 to help support the establishment of 20 seedling nurseries to be put up in public elementary schools.

The nurseries will grow various fruit bearing trees, pines trees and hard wood trees that thrive in the Cordillera region in support to the National Greening Program (NGP) of President Benigno S. Aquino III, Alipio said.

The riders were given jerseys made of recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles, Alipio said.

“This is great experience for the bikers especially those coming from the lowlands. They were treated with the one of the most challenging ride while traversing mossy and pine thick forest with fresh mountain air and experience a majestic view of China Sea”, said Department of Tourism Cordillera regional director Pura Molintas, who supported and promoted the eco-tourism sports event./JBZ-PIA-CAR

Ifugao Mayor Reiterates Proper use Slaughter House

LAGAWE, Ifugao - The mayor of this capital town reiterated the proper use of the municipal slaughter house for the general welfare of the consuming public.

Mayor Ceasario D. Cabbigat said the slaughter house will be utilized only for the slaughter of livestock intended for sale to the public and home consumption.

“Livestock for slaughtering shall enter in the stockyard from 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM and be confined for 6-12 hours before slaughtering and for the conduct of ante-mortem inspection,” he stated. Cabbigat said that livestock and carcasses of animals found infected with any of the zoonotic diseases and unfit for human consumption during the inspection shall be condemned outright and be disposed properly with a condemnation receipt from the meat inspector.

Furthermore, all meat intended for public sale shall always be accompanied by a duly signed meat inspection certificate stating that the carcass had undergone ante-mortem and post mortem-inspection at the slaughter house.

Cabbigat explained that meat or meat products and carcasses of livestock and poultry that were slaughtered in accredited abattoir/poultry dressing plant with a meat inspection signed by meat inspectors shall be allowed to be transported from slaughter house to the point of destination.

Meat products and carcasses that entails two or more hours of travel time, shall be transported in refrigerated and accredited van pursuant to the order of the National Meat Inspection Council (NMIC) to ensure the safety of said products.

The mayor stressed that illegally slaughtered animals found in the possession of meat traders and meat vendors would be confiscated and properly disposed by the meat inspector with the revocation of licenses of violators or be banned from engaging in business.

Cabbigat also informed that the municipal slaughter house should be closed from 6:00AM up to the time of slaughtering, and to prevent contamination, the premises will be disinfected at least three times a month or when deemed necessary./JDP/MBL – PIA CAR, Ifugao

COMELEC Bangued Bares 2013 Elections Calendar of Activities

BANGUED, Abra - The municipal election office of this capital town has started information education campaign (IEC) on the calendar of activities and periods of certain prohibited acts in connection with the May 13, 2013 national and local elections.

Municipal Election Officer, Atty. Mae Richelle B. Belmes, in an informal press briefing, presented COMELEC Resolution No. 9385 dated April 3, 2012: Calendar of activities and periods of certain prohibited acts in connection with the May 13, 2013 national and local elections.

The schedule of filing of certificate of candidacy to all levels in the national and local elections will be on October 1 to 5, 2012.

Last day for overseas voters to file application for transfer of registration records from the overseas registry to the local registry is on October 15, 2012.

Belmes also informed that local voters have only until October 31, 2012 to file applications for registration, transfer of registration records, reactivation, and correction of entries.

Election period is from January 13, 2013 to June 12, 2013.

The campaign period for candidates for the national level and party list groups will start February 12, 2013 up to May 12, 2013, a Saturday while candidates for members of the House of Representatives and elected regional, provincial, city and municipal positions will start on March 29, 2013 and ends on May 11, 2013, Belmes said.

Belmes enjoined the public that for other information or inquiries regarding the forthcoming elections, they are free to visit her office at the 2nd floor of the Technology Livelihood Development Center (TLDC) Building, Abra Provincial Capitol Compound, Zone 5, Bangued, Abra./MTBB/PIA-Abra

PDEA Intensifies Campaign vs. Illegal drugs in Baguio-Benguet

BAGUIO CITY - The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA-CAR) has intensified its campaign against illegal drugs here in Baguio-Benguet area. For the first week of May alone, two buy-bust operations led to the arrest of two drug pushers and a raid of a shabu ‘tiangge’.

According to a report by PDEA-CAR Public Information Officer Emely Fama, a buy-bust operation last May 5 led to the arrest of Warren Byrd Canisi, a 39 years old van driver along Purok 7 Asin Road, Baguio City. Canisi was said to be formerly listed in the Target list of drug personality.

Canisi’s arrest subsequently led to the raid of a Shabu ‘Tiangge’ in barangay Asin, wherein 23 sachets of meth, various paraphernalia for packaging and use of shabu, drug money and records of drug transactions were seized. Apparently, Canisi utilizes his unit for the repackaging, selling and using of meth; and repackaging is actually a phase of the manufacturing process of dangerous drugs.

The repackaged shabu confiscated from Canisi had an estimated overall weight of 3.34 grams, with street cost of around P40,000, Fama reported.

Canisi was charged last May 7 before the Office of the City Prosecutor in Baguio for Violation of Section 5 (Sale of Dangerous Drugs), Section 8 (Manufacture of Dangerous Drugs), Section 12 (Possession of Equipment, Instrument, Apparatus and Other Paraphernalia for Dangerous Drugs), Section 11 (Possession of Dangerous Drugs), and Section 15 (Use of Dangerous Drugs) of Republic Act 9165 (The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002).

Three days earlier, last May 2, PDEA agents in coordination with the La Trinidad Municipal Anti-illegal drugs special operation task group, arrested Camlon Amerol, 37, of Ambiong, La Trinidad, Benguet in another buy-bust operation. Amerol traded 0.13 gram of shabu, worth 1,500 to a PDEA undercover agent during the buy-bust operation.

According to Fama, Amerol is a suspected supplier of sabu to jeepney/taxi drivers and automotive repair shop workers. He is also a suspected close aide of a newly identified shabu distributor in Cordillera.

A case for violation of RA 9165 was also filed against Amerol before the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor in La Trinidad, Benguet last May 3.

Two other separate buy-bust operations of PDEA agents last April 19 also led to the arrest and filing of charges against three other suspected drug users/pushers operating in Baguio City./CCD/PIA CAR

of Lagawe and member of the Bontoc-Lagawe Vicariate of the Roman Catholic Church, scored a victory through his persistent determination in opposing illegal gambling in

Cont. on page 11

Cervical cancer, Santos explained, is mainly correlated to the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection, which is sexually transmitted and more often happens on sexually active women with multiple partners or those who have a single partner who is also engaging in multiple-partner sex. It also shows high risk among women who started to experience sex at an early age.

window for college
education and tech-
nical-vocational

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

She explained that concerned barangays have a stake if the Balili river will be designated as WQMA, she said stressing the co-ownership of the local government units covered

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-citizenship, is a journalism of humanity, of and for today's world. <http://www.nationalpressclub.org.ph>

Notice is hereby given that the Estate of the late GOYGOYEN GASILANG who died on January 10, 2004 at Bontoc, Mt. Province without will, consisting of one (1) unit of ISUZU Jitney with Motor No. 4BB1-321070, Chassis No. EVER96-52182 C and Plate No. ADG-783 and covered by a franchise under LTRFB Case No. 97-BC-750 had been the subject of EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE AMONG HEIRS WITH SIMULTANEOUS WAIVER OF RIGHTS on 11 May 2012 as per Doc. No. 803, Page No. 161 Book No. XXVII, Series of 2012, of the Notarial Registry of Atty. James S. Valeros of Baguio City.

May 12, 19 & 26, 2012

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
First Judicial Region
OFFICE OF THE CITY SHERIFF
Baguio City

NOTICE OF SALE ON EXECUTION OF REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, by virtue of the Writ of Execution issue by Atty. Gail M. Bacbac, Clerk of Court V of the Regional Trial Court, Branch 3, Baguio City, on August 9, 2010 in Civil Case No. 5044-R entitled M A R J O R I E GUINID ET AL., versus PETER COSALAN, ET., AL.,for the recovery by way of distraint Actual Damages of Two Hundred Thousand Pesos [P 200,000.00] Moral Damages of One Hundred Thousand Pesos [P 100,000.00] , and Attorney’s Fees of Fifty Thousand Pesos [P 50,000.00] with legal interest from date of this Judgment , costs of suit plus expenses in connection with the execution and sale , levy was made by Deputy Sheriff Edgardo F. Ancheta on February 22, 2011, thru the Register of Deeds, Baguio City, on the rights , interests and participation of defendant PETER COSALAN in the real property along with its improvements more particularly described as follows :

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-97834 REGSTER OF DEEDS, BAGUIO CITY

‘ A parcel of land [Lot2 Psd-

Editorial

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From her track record, Carpio-Morales won’t cave in when clashes erupt over Corona’s dollar and peso accounts. One can almost hear Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher’s challenge to 1980 Conservative convention. “U-turn if you will. The lady is not for turning.”/Juan L. Mercado

CAR-016771] being a portion of Tsi-1-2-000141; situated at Rurban Code 131102 Res Sec. ‘ H’ City of Baguio, Island of Luzon Bounded on the SE., along line 1-2 by Lot 1 of the subd . plan; on the SW., along lines 2-3-4-5-6-7 by MAGSAYSAY AVENUE [20.00 m. wide]; on the N., along line 7-8 and on the NE., along line 8-1 by Lot 6, IR-305, Executive Proc. 312. Beginning at a point marked ‘ 1’ x x x to point of beginning . Containing an area of THREE HUNDRED NIN [309] SQ. METERS, more or less.’

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of said Writ of Execution and in accordance with Rule 39, Section 18, of the Rules of Court, the City Sheriff of Baguio City will through the undersigned Deputy, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, on May 31, 2012 at 10:00 o’clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the lobby of the Justice Hall Bldg., Baguio City, the rights, interests and participation of defendant PETER COSALAN, in the above-described real property in order to satisfy said Order of Execution together with the Sheriff’s fees and expenses of sale.

Baguio City, Philippines, May 2, 2012.

FOR THE EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF OF BAGUIO CITY
By :

EDGARDO F. ANCHETA
Sheriff IV

Publication Dates;
May 5, 12 and 19, 2012

Lawmaker Pushes for Agency Options for Whistle-Blowers.....from page 1

Human Rights and Public Attorney’s Office can each promulgate their own rules in implementing their respective witness protection, security and benefits program for qualified witnesses.

At present, only the Department of Justice has the sole power to manage and institute the state witness protection program.

“We are pushing for this whistleblower bill because it has a wider application. It is more inclusive and it encourages more witnesses to come forward and be under an agency of their choice where they are more comfortable, where they have better trust in,” Escudero said.

The senator lamented that whistleblowers and witnesses are always put under constant threats and intimidation to stop them from testifying, and this should prompt the government to provide more options to ensure their safety.

“We want to provide options for our people to have distinct and independent agencies from any other bureau for witness protection programs. We want to avoid pitfalls where the investigation might be prejudiced and the safety of the witness might be jeopardized especially when public authorities are involved,” Escudero added.

One of the key features of the proposed legislation is Section 8, which provides for the preservation of testimony. Once admitted into the program, a whistle-blower may preserve his/her testimony pursuant to Rule 134 of the Revised Rules of Court in the event of loss or unavailability of the testimony.

“This is an additional measure to preserve and depose of an already executed testimony,” Escudero said. “What happened with Alfred Mendiola was very unfortunate considering he is under the protection of the state. It sends an uncomfortable signal about our protection system. I hope that Mendiola was able to give out his testimony as a witness and that it has been proceeded in accordance with Rule 134.”/Office of Senator Chiz Escudero

1st - Apluma

..... from page 4

alright but what’s wrong is holding on to it as if they own it and starving the whole country to death.

For instance, the price of fossil fuel, a commodity which efficiently dictates the unit prices of all other commodities.

The government can actually keep it low if it wants to by simply letting other suppliers in.

Or better yet, put up a shadow business organization tasked at importing nothing but fossil fuel from as far as Russia and other sources who can offer low, lower barrel prices.

They simply have to spend some on it. Simple idea but a lot of help.

Okay did I hear someone say: “Okay, pag-aaralan po namin yan.”

Hehehe./1st-APLUMA (1st-Alliance of Provincial News Practitioners)

ESL Eyed

.....from page 2

from the city’s development fund or from any available fund source for the conduct of a feasibility study of the proposed engineered sanitary landfill (ESL) site at Cap 7, Sto. Tomas and Bakakeng Barangays in the City of Baguio.

The said proposed legislative measure is an offshoot of City Ordinance numbered 59, series of 2009 which authorized the survey of an identified multi-land use area located at Camp 7, Sto. Tomas and Bakakeng Barangays in the city with an area of more than one thousand three hundred square meters to include the site for an ESL, as well as the indorsement coming from the City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) which states among others, “Members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) Siting Team headed by the City Engineer, Engr. Leo Bernardez identified and agreed that portion of the three (3)hectares located at Sitio Bilis, bakakeng Central is the area feasible and accessible for immediate development and use”.

It can be recalled that the City Government thru the City Lands Needs and identification Committee had earlier indentified a tract of land with an area of 1,392,835.732 square meters located at Camp 7, Bakakeng and Sto. Tomas Barangays for multi-land use such as an ESL, housing, scholls and government offices and facilities site. The survey borne out of ordinance numbered 59, series of 2009 was intended to establish the metes and bounds of the said identified land , determine the area for certain specific use as well as secure the necessary data for preliminary basic design and engineering works especially for the ESL and other government facilities site.

The proposed legislative measure of Councilor Cosalan which has been calendared as a new matter and expected to be discussed on the august body’s next regular session on Monday signals the earnest intent of the City Government to fast track the establishment of an ESL in order to solve the garbage woes of the city. If approved, the said legislative measure will authorize the immediate release of the above cited amount which will be used for the conduct of a feasibility study at the proposed ESL area which is located within the jurisdiction and boundaries of the city.

It can further be recalled that several proposed sites within and outside the city had been previously considered however, these did not materialize either due to the opposition of those that will be affected by the putting up of the said ESL or negotiations broke down at the early stages.

It is hoped that with an available site for the ESL already assured as feasible and accessible for immediate development and use the city is on its ways to effectively managing its waste as mandated by Republic Act 9003 or the law on solid waste management./ SP Press Release

Samaritans Boost

.....from page 2

pion Julian Chees, sent last Thursday P10,000 to enable Bitaga to undergo chemo on time two days before Mother’s Day.

“Read about a mother, Mrs. Veronica Bitaga, so I texted right away (Shoshin secretary) Renate (Doth) to send about 195 Euro to get at least 10 thousand pesos for her,” Chees e-mailed last Thursday.

A native of Maligcong, Bontoc, Mt. Province, Chees became the only non-German by birth to be drafted to the Germany’s national karate team. Being the smallest in the team, he concentrated on kata, the formal exercises of the shotokan school under the Japan Karate Association, winning various European titles before topping the event in the World Shotokan Championship in Saarsbrucken, Germany.

Shoshin began connecting to the needy in the Cordillera in late 2004. Chees and his martial arts students were struck by television footages of communities wrecked by a typhoon at Christmastime and decided to pass the hat. Chees then traveled to Banaue, Ifugao where mayor Jerry Dalipog led him to the victims. He handed P70,000 to two mothers who lost their two children in a landslide that buried their house among the rice terraces.

Also responding to Bitaga’s plea, a Baguio family with an eatery along Session Road here handed over P3,000. A vehicle shop owner and a donor from Kabayan, Benguet contributed P1,000 each.

Veronica’s husband, Eddie, is an off-and-on construction worker whose income she tried to augment by selling small souvenir items at the Mines View Park before her latest illness was diagnosed last February.

Last March, she underwent surgery for colon cancer. It was her fifth operation. Her first was 15-years ago, when she delivered by caesarian section her twins – Elizabeth and Elvira, who just finished high school.

The caesarian section proved a blessing of sorts. Doctors found her ovaries showed tumor growth and had to be removed. She had two more surgeries were after that - for removal of her inflamed appendix and gall stones.

Rivera’s 25-day radiation treatment at the Lung Center was arranged through a P10,000 support from Shoshin, donations from local Samaritans, the kindness of an Igorot businessman who offered her billeting in his place along East Avenue, also in Quezon City.

Ricky, Amparo’s eldest child, brought her back to Baguio last week for blood transfusion and will deliver her again today for the resumption of her radiotherapy tomorrow.

It’s also a long haul for Togana, a teacher at the Pines City National High School here who was sidelined since he was diagnosed for “squamous cell carcinoma” in 2008.

Samaritans from all over helped him pull through his first set of chemotherapy sessions. Last year, he thought he was on remission when a check-up revealed the pesky cancer cells were back.

Adonis lost his wife and fellow teacher Maria and their baby in childbirth in 2005. He just couldn’t give up and is ready to have his leg amputated after the flap surgery and chemotherapy, as recommended

by his doctor.

His fight is for Trojan, his 15-year-old son, and Jezrelle, his 13-year old daughter.

Reason enough for Shoshin to work his corner with a P10,000 support, Reason enough for Renato Valencia to add US250 on top of the donations of individuals and institutions here.

Another patient, nurse Shirley Concepcion of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center, is slowly on the way to deliverance after her recent heart surgery at the Philippine Heart Center.

Like Bitaga, Togana and Rivera, Sshirley keeps a roster of her Samaritans. They include her fellow workers at the BGHMC and inmates of the city jail who also reached out to her./Ramon Dacawi

City Heads

.....from page 2

for new waste technology but these remain in the drawing board.

On Thursday, waste collection activities went back to normal following the clearing of the waste piles at the temporary transfer station in Irisan Limekiln.

CEPMO officer-in-charge Cordelia Lacsamana said the city will continue to use the Limekiln site to hold wastes but only on a 24-hour basis as committed by the city to residents of the affected puroks who protested against the piled up garbage.

While clearing the waste deposit at the transfer site, the city resorted to a truck-to-truck system of hauling that slowed down the collection in the barangays.

Lacsamana said that with the resumption of the waste collection schedule, the city can tackle the garbage backlogs as well as the new wastes in the barangays.

The mayor said city officials will meet again on Tuesday to continue deliberations.

He urged anew residents to do their usual share by segregating and bringing out only their trash on the day of the scheduled collection.

He pinpointed the market area as the most problematic of all and warned vendors of penalties for not complying with the rules.

Market authorities however blamed residents of nearby barangays who they claimed were the ones dumping unsegregated wastes at the market even outside of the pick-up schedule causing the piled-up garbage at the market area./A Refuerzo

Medical Mission

.....from page 2

submit to circumcision.

Coordinated with the “Anak ti Amianan Peace and Development Foundation”, the mission drew medicine support from the office of Vice-President Jejomar Binay and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

Project coordinators Jim de Vera and Albert Malona said the provincial hospital in Bontoc town provided the backbone by fielding volunteer physicians Robert Nocum, Carol Yawan and Davy Ayan for the day-long community immersion.

Dr. Jovita Balião handled the dental patients while nurses Marvin Bueno, Constance Fagyan, Kendal Andrada, Charlie Gasmenia, Lalaine Aclay, Mae

Malona and Cindy Malona composed the support staff with volunteers Shamie and Sharie Malona.

“It’s a community effort,” Albert, a nurse based in Melbourne, Australia, said. He acknowledged the support of natives of Data and other parts of the Cordillera now living in the United Kingdom, Hongkong and Canada, aside from Data barangay officials led by village chief Gabriel Lantec.

“Coming up with a medical mission is always challenging but people from all over just came in one after the other to help clear the barriers,” he said. “It takes more than a village to conduct a mission, and they include those who provided support, moral and otherwise.”

The outreach is the latest in a series of missions initiated over the years by expatriates for villages in the Cordillera.

Early this year, GO-MED (Greater Outreach Medical/Educational Destinations) based in Vancouver, Canada sent a 32-member mission that performed surgical procedures for indigent patients at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center.

Headed by Dr. Peter Blair and Baguio girl and nurse Shirley Pinlac-Maas, it was the group’s latest mission to the BGHMC in a series spanning several years now./Ramon Dacawi.

Writ Compromise Seen

.....from page 3

tection Order (TEPO) to stop the use of Irisan dumpsite as dumping area and as temporary holding or staging point for wastes in relation to the petition for Writ of Kalikasan filed by petitioners led by Benguet Rep. Ronald Cosalan.

The city government on Feb. 3 filed its answer to the allegations lodged in the Writ of Kalikasan.

The Supreme Court relegated the case to the CA which held the pre-trial conference where the possibility of an amicable settlement between the parties was explored.

The CA has tentatively set the next hearing for June 4./A Refuerzo

Bontoc Tech-Voc

.....from page 5

Meridian as the venue of the training, Cosme added.

She said these trainees are given lectures then hands on training.

For the massage training which will end on May 19, 2012, the trainees have been conducting community service on free massage during week-ends in the central barangays of Bontoc where they applied what they have learned particularly in shiatsu, swedish and reflex. They also scheduled a free massage from May 7 to 11, from 5:00 PM to 10:00PM, in the school.

For the haircut trainees, a community service on free hair cutting was conducted last May 4 at the Bontoc municipal ground and on May 7 to 11. They will be finishing the course on May 12.

Cosme also informed that in its desire to help more poor students acquire a skill, the Meridian here will be sponsoring 10 students from three Bontoc barangays to a ten-day free training on massage which is expected to start on May 19.(JDP/JBS-PIA CAR,Mt. Province)

NSO

.....from page 12

provinces in the region, Mt. Province reported the highest CPI of 131.1 followed by Benguet at 127.5, while Apayao has the lowest at 116.7.

By commodity groups, food and non-alcoholic beverages had the highest CPI with 135.3; with the province of Benguet attributed the highest index in this commodity group at 138.6, closely followed by Mt. Province at 138.5.

Transport and alcoholic beverages/tobacco followed next at 130.3 and 125.9, respectively, while communication had the lowest CPI at 83.5.

Despite a higher CPI, Beltran though also discloses that the region’s inflation rate last March which is 2.7 percent, is 0.6 percent lower compared to the same period in March 2011, which she attributes to the effect of other price or consumer related factors.

Meantime, Beltran also discloses that at present their census for the updating of list of establishments in all of the cities, provinces in the region is already on-going and that they are also set to undergo training for the census on agriculture and fisheries.

She called on public support for the censuses being undertaken by NSO as such data will be the basis of economic and development planners in crafting programs and projects that will bring in inclusive growth for the nation./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Baguio City, La Trinidad

.....from page 8

holders . Apart from LGUs are water districts, business establishments, non government organizations, communities and other organizations within the contiguous area.

The BRSRC is currently undertaking series of orientation among stakeholders where EMB-DENR-CAR leads the information campaign on the WQMA concept. This is one of the preparatory activities in the designation of Balili river system as WQMA, the legal basis of its implementation is the Clean Water Act.

“Water is life. Just in case there will be no more water from underground source, where else do we get our water source - but the river system. Balili river is one of them so we have to clean it up,” Andres stressed to the barangay officials./JDP/SCA- PIA-CAR/Baguio

SSS

.....from page 8

(tech-voc) skills training.

SSS-Baguio Senior Communication Analyst Mariane Garcia, in an interview over PIA Hour Radio Program, disclosed that SSS members who are earning P10,000 or less a month can apply for the Educational Assistance Loan Program (EALP), to enable them, their spouse or one of their dependents shoulder college or tech-voc courses enrollment costs.

Garcia explained that for a college course, maximum loan amount per semester is P15,000 while for tech-voc program, which must be two years and higher, it is up to a maximum of P7,500 per semester. The educational loan will continue until the beneficiary finishes his course.

According to Garcia, loan releases will directly be given to the school involved which must be a Commission on Higher Education (CHED) or Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)- accredited educational institutions, and must be used for tuition and miscellaneous fees only.

For qualify for the program, SSS members must have at least paid 36 months contributions, including three monthly premiums within the past 12 months. She also stressed that each eligible member is only entitled to borrow for one beneficiary under the program.

For loan payment, members have up to three years to repay for tech-voc courses loan and up to five years for college degrees. Payment also have a grace period or will start after 18 months of the final loan releases for a college course and after 15 months for a tech-voc program.

The SSS and the national government equally share P3.5 Billion each for the program, and only the SSS portion carries a minimal rate of six percent per annum based on the diminishing principal loan balance until fully paid.

The program is in line with the government’ effort to boost the country’s economic growth by developing competent professionals and skilled workers, as well as to enhance job and employment opportunity for the country’s current and future workforce.

For more information about the said program, members can inquire to the SSS branch near them. For loan application, members can get it to any SSS branch or download it from their website at www.sss.gov.ph/JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Ifugao Priest Crusade

.....from page 8

the community, when he stopped the operation of several number games during the recently concluded municipal town fiesta celebration called “Kulpi Ad Lagawe”.

Seeing gambling games at the municipal ground in front of the Municipal Hall, Father Dimoc went to the Municipal Police Station headed by Inspector Aquino Bayangan to report the existence of the gambling activities such as ABC drop ball, “salisi” gambling and other forms of gambling and requested their assistance to stop these operations.

Bayangan together with some police personnel accompanied the priest to the scene of the gambling operations but were told that operators were allegedly given permits by the municipal government to operate for the duration of the town fiesta and claimed they have paid some fees for their operations.

With no permits to show however allegedly these are still under process by the municipal government, Dimoc confronted some municipal officials about the alleged issuance of the permits and discovered that there was really none so the gambling activities were stopped.

Fr. Dimoc started his crusade against gambling in Lagawe way back in 2009.He said many of those engaged in gambling are poor families and gambling is one of the root causes of broken families in Ifugao. He also shared his observation that during fiestas or social occasions, gambling is the prevalent event that most people are engaged and even include the children and youth who at their tender age are already trained to gamble.

What kind of society shall we have if most of the people are addicted to gambling? There will be moral decay aside from the contributory incidence of criminality attributed to gambling so this evil vice must really stopped, he stressed adding he will not cease fighting it./JDP/DBC-PIA CAR, Ifugao

DOH

.....from page 8

It take 20 to 25 years for the HPV virus to develop as a full blown cancer in the cervix. Thus, Santos reiterated the need for women to undergo regular screening through pap smear.

Pap smear is a screening test used to detect potentially pre-cancerous and cancerous processes in the endocervical canal (transformation zone) of the female reproductive system. The test remains an effective, widely used method for early detection of pre-cancer and cervical cancer. It may also detect infections and abnormalities in the endocervix and endometrium.

“If a person waits for cervical cancer’s symptoms such as experiencing pain during sexual intercourse and bleeding or having foul odor discharge from the female sex organ (vagina) to manifest, then it may be already late or the cervical cancer may be in its advance stage which will make it harder to treat”, Santos stressed.

The DOH regularly provides a free pap smear during the month of May in observance of Cervical Cancer Month.

Santos also disclosed that there are two types of vaccines which could help in the prevention of cervical cancer. These though are quite expensive, she added./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Road Closures for Repairs

BAGUIO CITY –All measures are being done to alleviate inconveniences to the general public caused by road repairs around the city, Mayor Mauricio Domogan announced last week. The projects are being fast-tracked, for it to be finished before the onset of the rainy season and opening of classes as well, he added.

The mayor asked for the indulgence of the riding public and motorists. The cooperation of all is enjoined, he said.

Gov. Pack road has been closed April 9 and is scheduled to be opened by June 9. All vehicles utilizing said area for parking has been relocated to the Baguio Convention Center since then.

Kayang rd. extension was partially closed since May 1 to be opened by June 1, and Chanum st shall be totally closed from May 15 to July 13, as to Administrative Order 46, s. of 2012 issued earlier by the mayor. Public Utility Vehicles utilizing the area for parking have also been allocated to an adjacent area.

Said roads are closed for rehabilitation/reconstruction/upgrading of damaged paved national roads, by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

As stated in the AO, light vehicles from Naguilian rd going to the central business district area should take the Queen of Peace road while heavy vehicles, trucks, buses, mini buses, PUJs are advised to turn right along Yandoc road.

Kayang rd. extension will be passable to one lane vehicular traffic while the roads in front and at the back of city hall will be opened to light vehicles only during the duration of the projects./Julie Fianza

BSU Open U conducts Skills enhancement training to Benguet Town Teachers

ITOGON, Benguet - The Benguet State University Open University conducted a one-day Skills Enhancement on Effective and Efficient Presentation for teachers last Saturday at the Midas Elementary School in Ucab, in this mining town.

The activity which drew 13 participants from elementary schools in the area, was initiated by the teacher-students of Masters in Non-formal Education.

The training included basic computer operation and using Microsoft Power Point for school lectures and lesson related presentation. A workshop was also held for the participants to learn how to prepare their own power point presentation and on how to properly present it.

According to Open University Masters in Non-formal Education adviser Dr. Marlowe Aquino, the activity is part of the field practicum of the masteral students, which aims to apply what they have learned and as well as to share and impart their skills and knowledge that can be helpful to the elementary teachers in the area.

“This will be a support program already of BSU Open University, under the directorship of Dr. Lita Colting and with the enthusiasm shown by the participants, I think the teachers (Open University students) will have a very good interaction with the participants, as this activity is both teaching and learning, which are both essential element of education”, Aquino added.

He also bared that BSU is open to hold similar activity in the future if there are formal request for specific trainings.

Midas Elementary School Principal Christine Puguon was grateful that the activity was held here. Though there was a similar training held here before, some of the teachers in the

municipality have missed the opportunity to attend, she said./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

The JUNCTION

Pahayagang Palaban!!!



CNN HERO. Filipino-American midwife Robin Lim (3rd from left) gets a special citation from the Philippine Senate through Senate Resolution No.764 authored by Sen. Pia Cayetano (2nd from left) for being named 2011 CNN ‘Hero of the Year.’ Also in photo (left to right) are Senators Ferdinand ‘Bongbong’ Marcos Jr. and Loren Legarda, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile and 2009 CNN Hero Efren Penaflorida.

GSIS Accepting Application for Educational Assistance Until Dec. 28

BAGUIO CITY - The Government Service Insurance System(GSIS) educational assistance program to help members shoulder the education expenses of their children up to the second semester of the school year will run until December 28 this year, announced GSIS President and General Manager Robert G. Vergara.

GSIS Baguio Branch Manager Victorina Perez in an advisory said, the GSIS launched last week its educational assistance program following the President’s Labor Day announcement on the availability of a joint P 11.2 billion Educational Assistance Fund from SSS and GSIS.

Under the GSIS assistance program, all active members of the pension fund, regardless of salary grade, are entitled to P4,000, payable in five years at six percent interest rate. Monthly payment is only P20.00 through salary deduction with the first payment to start three months after the grant.

The pension fund will neither require electronic certification from the employer nor charge any service fee. “This means that members will get the full loan amount,” Vergara added.

Members may file their application through any GSIS office; designated agency liaison officer; and the GSIS website, www.gsis.gov.ph, where the forms can be downloaded.

For inquiry about this educational assistance program, members may call the GSIS hotline at 479-3645 or visit the nearest GSIS office.

The GSIS Office in Baguio is located at EDY Building, Kisad Road with telephone number 446-8060./JDP/MC-PIA CAR

NSO: Cordillera Posts Higher Consumer Price Index Last March

BAGUIOCITY - The Consumer Price Index of Cordillera Administrative Region in March of this year registers at 125.8, higher by 3.3 percent during March of 2012.

NSO-CAR Statistician 3 Camille Beltran, in an interview over PIA radio

program, explained that consumer price index (CPI) measures changes in the price level of consumer goods and services purchased by households. It is also defined as a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services.

According to Beltran, generally, there was an increase in the CPI of all the provinces due to the stand up in the average prices of goods and services. Among the six

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