

THE JUNCTION

WEEKEND



**Taiwan Bans
The Selling Of Dog
Meat
...on page 11**

MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, BENGUET, AND THE REST OF THE CORDILLERAS, La Union ILOCOS Provinces

Pahayagang palabanan!!!

Large-scale election fraud seen in '04 polls



Grand opening salvo! Merrily dancing to the beat of the drums, Councilor Braulio Yaranon, after filing his certificate of candidacy last Monday, danced and joined the crowd at the COMELEC-CAR Compound. Yaranon and his running mate, Councilor Peter Rey Bautista were welcomed by a band, when they went to the COMELEC to file their candidacy. His announcement to run as mayor brought joy to the people who support him. Finally and despite the odds, someone will genuinely serve the people of Baguio.

Mayoralty candidate Braulio Yaranon expressed fear that this year's elections fraud might be large-scale because of the new counting mechanism to be employed by the COMELEC. He said a high-tech form of cheating might be employed. From the classic padding and shaving (*dagdag-bawas*), this time around there is a big possibility of "diskette switching."

The changing of "actual results" could even be faster, he said because diskettes could easily be kept, and the results, manipulated.

COMELEC-CAR Regional Director Armando Velasco meanwhile, dismissed this speculation. He said one reason why the COMELEC has pushed for the computerized tabulation of election results is for faster counting of ballots, therefore the possibility of cheating is minimized.

Velasco added that only the personnel of COMELEC are allowed to handle election results from different precincts, not to mention that each party

LARGE-SCALE... p. 6

Tabanda declares stand on casino ...on page 2



Convicted criminal wanting to be Mayor?

...on page 6

Highland crops bargained! ...on page 3

Yaranon: Graft charges filed by Jadewell, baseless

...on page 2

Non-renewal of casino operator's permit - doubtful ...on page 13

NCIP adopts guidelines on introduction of improvements within lands in city ...on page 3

DEPTHNEWS

Will 'Stardust' blind the guillible?

BY JUAN L. MERCADO



on page 4

Tabanda declares stand on casino

"I have always been against the establishment of a casino in the city or anywhere else."

This was stressed by Vice Mayor Betty Lourdes Tabanda amidst the ongoing controversy on the casino operation within John Hay that continue to hound the top city officials including Baguio Rep. Mauricio Domogan and Mayor Bernardo Vergara.

"I have always been against all forms of gambling," she added saying that gambling destroys the family and a person's work ethics. "Instead of hard work and perseverance, it makes one rely on luck. What would become of us as

a people, what will become of our country, if we relied on gambling instead of working?"

Tabanda also denied that she deliberately left the country because of the casino issue. "I was invited as a speaker at the Third World Congress on Sustainable Development at Athens, Greece. I thought it was an honor and privilege to represent the city at the said international gathering." She further stressed that when she left the country on November 1, there was no matter on the casino submitted or pending in the council. "I was completely surprised to receive the news at Athens that the establishment of a casino at

John Hay was introduced and then approved in the same session."

Tabanda also said that in the past she has opposed even the operations of commercial bingo. "I recall how disappointed I was when those who professed to be anti-gambling refused to join us in our mass actions. If I am against commercial bingo, how much more to casino?"

"I do not have the urge, or even the inclination to gamble. I find it ironic that among those pointing an accusing finger are the very ones who have gambled in casinos. I have not changed my position. It's no to casino," Tabanda said in closing.

Zoning board formed

Baguio City – Mayor Bernardo Vergara last week created the Local Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals (LZBAA) to fortify the implementation of the city's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and zoning ordinance.

The city's land use plan has been approved by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board central office by virtue of Housing Land Use Regulatory Board Resolution No. 755 series of 2003 dated De-

ember 17, 2003.

Vergara said Ordinance No. 51 s. 2001 which adopts the Revised Comprehensive Zoning Regulations for the city and provides for the "administration, enforcement and amendment of said regulations, mandates the reation of the LZBAA to address zoning concerns.

The LZBAA will have two main functions: to act on applications of the following nature: variance, exceptions non-con-

forming uses; and complaints and opposition to applications; and to act on appeals on grant or denial of locational clearance by the zoning administrator/zoning officer.

Mayor Vergara will himself act as board chairman with the following as members: Acting City Legal Officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes; City Treasurer Thelma Manaois; City Engineer Leo Bernardez Jr.; Planning Officer Arturo Orig with Engr.

ZONING FORMED...p.8

Budget deliberation deferred anew as Dads seek COMELEC clarification on proposed reorganization

Baguio City – The approval on the proposed 2004 budget will have to wait until the city council has clarified with the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) the possible repercussions of existing poll restrictions on the planned restructuring of offices as included in the financial plan.

The body through City Secretary Ronaldo Perez wrote COMELEC-CAR Regional Director Armando Velasco seeking clarification on whether the city council can approve the budget which includes "appropriation items for a restructuring and possible transfer of officials and employees from one office to another is

other" without violating the election ban involving personnel hiring and transfer embodied in Section 261 of the Omnibus Election Code particularly Resolution No. 6420.

"There is apprehension among the Members of the said body that the act of enacting the budget may expose them to legal suits in the future," Perez noted. Perez also inquired if the approval of the budget that includes the proposed office reorganization scheduled for implementation on September 1 entailing the transfer of officials and employees from one office to another is

covered by the election ban.

"If it is so covered, may we apply for exemption from your Office, as this measure is vital in the efficient and effective delivery of services?" Perez wrote.

Velasco's reply is expected before the body holds its next session on Wednesday.

Mayor Bernardo Vergara who has been pushing for the reorganization of offices pointed out the advantages of the plan with regards to improving public service as he enjoined members of the council to approve the plan as incorporated in the proposed

BUDGET...p.8

Yaranon: Graft charges filed by Jadewell, baseless

Baguio City - There is no basis for Jadewell Parking Systems to file graft charges, as it might only backfire on them, commented Councilor Braulio Yaranon after learning that he, together with Councilors Richard Carino, Delfin Balajadia, and City Treasurer Thelma Manaois, are the subject of a complaint for violation of RA 3019 or the Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, and RA 6713 otherwise known as the Code of Conduct of Government Officials and Employees.

Yaranon said that this move of Jadewell could be considered suicide on the said parking firm's part, as its Chief Executive Officer, Rogelio Tan, has actually thrown himself into

a pit. He said even the COA-CAR, in its audit report on Jadewell's operations confirm that its operation is illegal. The report also mentions that the city still has collectibles to the said parking firm. "I have the COA report to back me up," he said.

Tan, in his complaint dated November 24, 2003, alleges among others, that councilor Yaranon has projected a very bad image of his business (Jadewell). He said through the media, Yaranon called them as extortionists, when as a matter of fact, they are not extorting because what their firm do is simply implementing a city ordinance that regulates parking in different streets in

Baguio.

Further, the alderman has constantly insisted that their operation is illegal. Tan, meanwhile, insisted, their operation is within the bounds of law. He said they are the recognized body to implement Ordinance Number 003-2000. He also added that Councilor Yaranon does not have the legal personality to question their operations, as he was not yet a councilor, when the ordinance was passed.

Yaranon, on the other hand said it is his moral, and social duty to protect the interest of the city government, and its residents.

Councilor Carino, on the other hand, was accused of

YARANON...p.10



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NCIP adopts guidelines on introduction of improvements within lands in city

Baguio City - The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) has approved last December 22 Resolution No. 143 adopting guidelines on the introduction of improvements within ancestral lands in the city.

A copy of said resolution was furnished Mayor Bernardo Vergara who endorsed the same to city Engineer Leo Bernardez and Acting City Legal Officer Melchor Carlos Rabanes.

The resolution was signed by Commissioners Evelyn Dunuan, Pablo Santos, Lagtum Pasag and Chairmain Reuben

Dasay Lingating.

In the resolution, the NCIP said there is a need to formulate said guidelines to help ancestral land claimants whose claims have been recognized by the government protect their lands against squatters.

"The rights of the ICCs/Ips (Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples) to possess and utilize their ancestral lands has been rendered useless or ineffectual for the reason that the City Government of Baguio through the City Engineer's Office could not issue any permit

NCIP ADOPTS...p.8

La Trinidad asks for more time for its trash

La Trinidad, Benguet - The local government unit is negotiating for the extension of the use of the garbage dumpsite at Barangay Buyagan preparatory to the establishment of a sanitary landfill at Sitio Induyan, Barangay Alno.

Awaiting for the final signing of the Memorandum of Agreement anytime this week with concerned land owners numbering to 20, the LGU is working on the requirements for the environmental compliance certificate issuance by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Under Republic Act 9003 or Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 LGUs are required to establish controlled dumpsite until 2005

and to be phased into a sanitary landfill by 2007.

Municipal Planning and Development Office representative Sharon Dacumos said that the minimum funding requirement is pegged between P50 to 56 million adding that the amount may go higher considering the terrain, location and condition of the area to be developed into a sanitary landfill.

Dacumos revealed that said amount shall be utilized among others for the construction of the road leading to the proposed sanitary landfill site that would be first developed into a control dumpsite, construction and establishment of material recovery and composting facilities, survey and inventory of flora and fauna spe-

authorizing the introduction of any improvement for want of a certificate from the NCIP," the resolution noted.

The guidelines will cover only claims recognized by the government through Republic Act No. 8731 which "recognized the claim of private ownership by ICCs/Ips of their ancestral land by virtue of native title and section. The same law also "guarantees the recognition and protection of the right of ICCs/Ips to ownership and possession of their ancestral lands, provides for the inclusion of the right of

cies as well as the conduct of a geological assessment, including other studies to determine the suitability and viability of the place as requirement for the issuance of the ECC. She added that another aspect being worked by the LGU is the social acceptability of the project with residents in the area.

It was learned that the LGU bought the property from a private landowner to the tune of P19.7 million with only remaining balance to date amounting to P1.85 million.

Meanwhile, Dacumos revealed that this is the third time the LGU would extend the use of the Buyagan dumpsite for free. The daily waste generated and dumped to this site is pegged at 30 to 40 tons.

LA TRINIDAD...p.9

Benguet health board seeks funds for health services

La Trinidad, Benguet - The Provincial Health Board enacted a twin-measure requesting funding to strengthen the delivery of health services in the province.

The first resolution is a recommendation for a province-wide conduct of measles eradication campaign activity slated for February this year.

The second resolution is a funding request in the amount

of P350,000 for the conduct of various health related activities with the established inter-local health zones in the province.

Under the first resolution, the PHB through the Department of Health sought the formation of committees to spearhead the conduct of follow-up measles campaign at the provincial and municipal levels.

BENGUET HEALTH...p.7

Highland crops bargained!

La Trinidad-Farmers are again facing low points these days because of the harvest season, different highland crops have flooded our markets. As a result, they are sold at a very low cost.

Baguio Beans, cauliflower and potatoes in particular are being sold at the La Trinidad trading post for a price of P5.00 per kilo, then sold by retailers at the Baguio Public market for a price of P10.00.

La Trinidad Municipal Agriculturist Felicitas Ticba-en said that the selling of vegetables at a very low price is but a natural phenomenon. It occurs whenever there is a flooding of a particular product in the market. She said there is nothing unusual with the way things are going as this is just an occurrence known in the economists' lingo as the law of supply and demand.

Ms. Ticba-en said this is the reason why there is a continuing information and education campaign on the use of "selective

farming."

In this method, farmers are encouraged to plant only those that the concerned agencies could predict the country needs. There will also be certain areas wherein each Municipal Agricultural Of-

It shall be recalled that in 1998, by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 4, the national government adopted a 10-year plan known as the Philippine Measles Eradication Campaign that aims to stop the circulation of measles virus in all communities by 2008. The first phase of this campaign was successfully implemented in the same

ficer (MAO) will identify areas where crops will be grown. In this manner, flooding of crops in the market could be avoided. Higher income for the farmers is also guaranteed./Rimaliza A. Opina



A living tradition - Tawas Baniwas, head of the prominent Igorot clan from Tuding, Itogon, Benguet, his wife Jean and three of their children - Joy, Genesis, Jeanalyn - hold the rope as a "mambunong" presides over a ritual honoring their departed kin. The whole family, now based at the United states, came home here to renew kinship, trace their cultural roots and pass these on to their younger generation who were born in America./Photo by Bong Cayabyab

Casino and politics

Few months before the campaign and election period, our present set of leaders are already trying to clean up their mess, at least when it comes to the issue on casino.

Now we hear them talking.

The Mayor already said that he will not renew the business permit of the casino operator.

The Vice Mayor, in a press release made her point denying that she is part of the grand casino plot. She maintains that she is against gambling, whether it be casino, bingo, and other forms. She insists that she had nothing to do with what the Councilors, the Acting Presiding Officer, and the

Acting Mayor had done while she was away. She said her trip was pre-scheduled, and an official one, and that she was invited. This is to dispel notions that she intentionally went out of the country when the issue on casino is about to be tackled.

We have yet to hear from the Congressman who decided to be silent about the matter.

But our officials missed the point. And in their effort to clean up their mess, they caused themselves to sink deeper.

The people are not stupid. Since day one when the Mayor and the Vice Mayor arrived from their official trips abroad, the people have been waiting for them to talk. They want to know what they intend to do. But they heard nothing. It was then safe to presume that they consented to the mess the officials back home created while they are away.

Then now they say they have nothing to do with it, and that they now want to make some amends by not renewing the casino operator's business permit?

And why? Is it because casino is big a issue that will surely cause a dent on their standing come election time?

When will these people learn that the people of Baguio are not stupid? When will they ever learn that what goes up will surely go down? When will they ever learn that they cannot always have their easy way out?

But casino is just one issue. There are more issues, and surely the people of Baguio remember them all.

To put it bluntly, the people had had enough. The people of Baguio can still recall all the promises each and every official made during campaign four years ago.

Surely, the people cannot forget that this present local administration did very little (if ever they did anything at all) for them.

To put it bluntly too, it is not enough that the business permit will not be renewed. The damage has already been done.

To this we say, too late the hero.



DEPTHNEWS

Will 'Stardust' blind the guillible?

BY JUAN L. MERCADO



Many claim that presidential aspirant Fernando J. Poe has nothing to show in public governance. That's bunk.

Look at his senatorial candidates.

Never before did one man marshal, in so short a time, so many talented cut-throats. And FPJ accomplished that feat without uttering a word in public.

Of course, Poe is bereft of ideas, let alone programs of government. But it helped that his "senatoriables" were People Power discards. Most were desperate for any window of opportunity to claw their way back from political oblivion.

Juan Ponce Enrile is exhibit number one. *Nino bonito* of the dictator, Enrile strafed his car, in a "communist rubout", to trigger martial law. He gleefully served as bouncer for a detested dictatorship that, up to now, never accounted for it's salvaging, torture and thefts.

In sledge-hammering democratic institutions, Enrile was superb. Thus, Marcos anointed him, along with Eduardo Cojuangco, into his "Rolex 12" roundtable. Expensive wrist watches were the signet of this perverted "knighthood", reserved for zealous collaborators in freedom's rape.

Along that blood-splattered way, Enrile became one of the country's richest cronies. As a sideline, he enriched Philippine political vocabulary by his unique invention: *dagdag-bawas*.

This vote-shaving-cum-ballot-padding cheated Cory Aquino out of over 350,000 votes in Cagayan, Enrile admitted at Edsa. In the 1995 elections, Senator Aquilino Pimentel was swindled out the winning circle and replaced by a losing Enrile — courtesy of *dagdag-bawas*...

Will Pimentel appear on the same stage with Enrile? Both are wedged into Poe's senatorial ticket "You can't learn too soon that the most useful thing about principle is it can always be sacrificed to expediency," the writer Somerset Maugham once said. But expedience also guarantees riotous governance.

Then, there's Francisco Tatad, Marcos' propagandist and censor. Indelibly seared into public memory is Tatad, frantically scratching his legs while reading, on gagged government tv, Proclamation 1081.

In Public Information Order No. 1, Tatad padlocked the media, justified detention of independent journalists and nurtured the servile crony press. "I keep reading between the lies," noted the imprisoned publisher, Joaquin "Chino" Roces..

DEPTHNEWS...p.6

GUILTLESS THOUGHTS**A question of priority****BY ANTHONY "KABAYAN
TONY" ARAOS**

With countless vehicles negotiating the roads at the central business district, who is not going to complain on the air pollution problem?

Clean air is our God-given right. Unfortunately, the air pollution level in such thoroughfares as Session Road is so high many are praying hard for some kind of relief from the officialdom. Even some real cynics are saying that black air is good for business. For face masks, smoke-emission test centers and even hospitals. But isn't the preservation of human life still important?

Henceforth, the proposed electric trolley bus system and its perceived benefits in so far as curbing the air pollution problem brings some hopes to many. So it is worth looking into the said benefits. For improving the health conditions of our people through major reduction in air pollution is at stake.

However, Councilor Delfin Balajadia raised the possibility of displacing thousands of jeepney drivers and so the need to hold extensive consultation with the public easily arises. And I fully agree with him. By all means, let the residents take part in the decision-making process. Absence of public consultation in such matters as the passage of the pro-casino resolution is a well-known dilemma. This is a major problem to confront in the years to come, simply because some councilors ignored the overwhelming sentiments that gambling has no place in a metropolis that calls itself as a Character City.

Various people's organizations have expressed the opinion that the use of natural gas is well deserved because it greatly reduces air pollution. For one, there is Esterol Biodiesel, a clean fuel alternative derived from locally-made coconut that may be used by the public to replace polluting diesel.

Biodiesel is one of the best substitutes for petroleum diesel in the market these days which will enable vehicles to comply with the emission standards of the Clean Air Act. Studies indicate that using biodiesel in diesel engines significantly reduces carbon dioxide emission by 78% and carbon monoxide by 50% - the main cause of air pollution in Metro Manila - and sulfates, which causes respiratory ailments, by 100%.

And if there is no backup plan for thousands of jeepney drivers to be affected by the proposed project, let us also consider drawing up a comprehensive re-routing scheme in the said area. If and only if, we don't want to increase the number of jobless residents Mario Montejo that the proposed project is designed to carry between 40,000 to 60,000 passengers a day holds true. So to the minds of many, it is a question of priority.

By the way, last month several barangays in the city were without electricity for a number of hours in a day with no inclement weather. What sort of guarantees do we have that power supply of outlying barangays are not to be sacrificed for the sake of the electric bus trolley system?

Imbued with youthful idealism, Michelle Ann Labo's early exposure to politics from his father, ex-Baguio City Mayor Ramon "Jun" Labo has stirred her the innate commitment to serve that inspired her to run for public office. She vows to continue working for the fulfillment of the dreams and ambitions of the young.

In last week's commentary, certain paragraphs were inadvertently missed. So here's the missing piece. City Camp Central Kagawads Gilbert Alo, Avelina Carbonell, Norma Reguino, Rodrigo Soriano and Julius Santos as well as SK chair Ronald Alo, Marcoville Punong Barangay Ramon Enriquez, Kagawads Ruel Casuga, Danilo Terte, Samuel Herreria, Norm Bejar, Guillermo Manuel, Aurora Blanca Madrid and Emilio Cacayuran Jr., as well as SK chair Olivia Concepcion Atijera, Quezon Hill Proper Punong Barangay Angelita Padilla, Kagawads Leticia Layug, Armando Tanguin, Job Esquillon, Grace Corazon Dalisay, Aurelio Ganzon, Juan Caccam III and Ronnie Fernandez as well as SK chair Walter Olson and Lourdes Subdivision Lower Punong Barangay Lourdes Tamayo, Kagawads Augusto Warren, Narra Torres, Carlota Asuncion, Adalia Bejar, Norlie De la Cruz, Victor Patricio and Erlinda Gacoscos as well as SK chair Loraine Bernal.

MOSH PIT**New year new cool****BY GRACE BANDOY**

Happy new to year one and all! *Hindi na po natin mapigilan ang pagtanda natin!* There's no stopping our getting into our twilight years. Too bad for us we might not be alive and kicking when humanity's partying on the planet Mars. Earth has finally landed on the Red Planet and it won't be too long when another Armstrong goes stumping on the grounds of Mars!

Let us all hope and pray that we should be alive during those times. Let's keep our bodies free from diseases and sickness and weakness. Let's all be healthy and let's start now. Stop smoking. Stop excessive drinking and staying up all night. Stop eating junk foods and all those other food-stuff out there that are overflowing with chemicals which the body doesn't really need. Avoid eating too much fatty foods. Control the consumption of meat if you can't be a strict vegetarian. Avoid the intake of too much softdrinks. Remember that too much caffeine a.k.a. chocolates, coke, coffee is unhealthy. Drink plenty of water, eat lots of fruits and vegetables and don't forget to Exercise! Exercise! Exercise! Don't commit suicide.

There are actually a lot we can do to keep our bodies strong and eventually live a long life. It would be nice to live long enough and see Madonna's child become another superstar, watch KC Concepcion get married and have a child, to be able to play with our 100th grandchild, to have traveled all the beautiful cities on earth and to travel to Mars aboard a super plane that can travel to Mars in just one day!

This new year, let's all indulge into a healthy lifestyle and live a hundred years!

Allow me further to congratulate Session Road Punong Barangay Zenaida Monteclaro and her kagawads. PB Monteclaro is considered by many as one of the most popular village chieftains in the city. She has spearheaded several projects in her barangay, aimed at improving the lives of her constituents and at bringing the government closer to the people. Her Kagawads are Jesus Cesar Canave, Eduardo Canave, Guillermo Canave, Onofre Ibanez, Florence Dicano, Julio Viloria and Eugene Estabillo Jr. Session Road SK chair is Anjolica Apron.

Let us also commend the efforts of Engineer's Hill Punong Barangay Council for undertaking several noteworthy projects such as on sports and cleanliness. Kudos to Punong Barangay Cecilio Sales, Kagawads Victor de Vera, Ronald Antonio, Trinidad Coquia, Jerry Sales, Remedios Martinez, Victoria Olunan and Filomena Vistro. SK chair is Elaiza Lagera.

Baguio, at its best, is a city where the contributions of the youth is greatly valued and expected. So we welcome and applaud the actions of Loakan Proper SK chair Ryan James Solano (who is also the vice president of the city's SK Federation) against the casino."

Relatedly, may I commend the efforts of the officials of Barangay Councils of Ambiong, Lower Magsaysay, Rizal Monument, Outlook Drive, South Drive, Sto. Nino-Slaughter Compound, Lower Rock Quarry, Guisad Surong and Campo Filipino for promoting concerns related to health care and ecology. They are Ambiong Punong Barangay Arthur Willy, Kagawads Randy Gati, John Degay, Jaime Tisico, Mari Cecilia Escolastico, Lilia Elefante, Ronald Gomez and Benjamin Marcelino as well as SK chair Justina James Tisico, Lower Magsaysay Punong Barangay Fidel Oyan, Kagawads Eriberto Cacdac, Lilia Laureano, Peter Arcega, Yolanda Fuentes, Babylyn Halog, Susana Oyan and Maris Frimajoy Oyan as well as SK chair Saldivar Amagen, Rizal Monument Punong Barangay Gonzalo Ong, Kagawads Lourdes Balabad, Eduardo Barren, Benilda Carlos, Clemente De la Rosa, Dominador Lorenzan, Salvador Gopela and Federico Melliza as well as SK chair Shaun Lorenzana, Outlook Drive Punong Barangay Miguel Arnaiz, Kagawads Lorna Malliones, Arsenio Pascual, Perlita Labonete, Loreto Dorian, Amy Rowena Apolo and Teofilo Dumo as well as SK chair Glenna Apolo. South Drive Punong Barangay Leonil Loreto, Kagawads Cesar Munar, Raul Planas, Francisco Ochoco, Carmen Acosta, Gloria Villanueva,

GUILTS THOUGHTS

...from p.5

Catalina Ramos and Ramil Fernandez as well as SK chair Jovelyn Loreto, Sto.Niño-Slaughter Compound Punong Barangay Leon Tacata, Kagawads Camilo Tacbas, Santiago Ramos Sr., Beatriz Aglosolos, Marilou Havan, Ramon Ramos Sr., Aurora Padaco and Teofilo Malapit and SK chair Gemmalyn Buzon, Lower Rock Quarry Punong Barangay Alberto Bravo Sr., Kagawads Alejandro Chan, Daniel Rodillas, Nelson Bacani, Benigno Marzan, Marianito Hapitan Sr., Ofelia Basbas and Elizabeth Naulgan as well as SK chair Michael Cominga, Guisad Surong Punong Barangay Bobby Tangalin, Kagawads Michelle Labo, Josephine Sarmiento, Lourdes Tangalin, Saturnino Picart, Ruena Nimuan, Ernesto Romero and Shiel Marie Francisco as well as SK chair Mary Ann Acosta and Campo Filipino Punong Barangay Joseph Sta. Maria, Kagawads Narcisa Nera. (to be continued)

DEPTHNEWS...

...from p.4

The leg-scratching censor's image was supplemented by a frozen half-smirk as Tatad manned signal switches for the "Craven Eleven" in sealing, at the abortive Estrada impeachment, the Second Envelope. "By their fruits, you shall know them."

Of course, there's "Jingle Bells". No, no, no. That's not the Christmas carol.

It's "code" for one who pocketed jueting payoffs, the impeachment court heard: "Jinggy" Estrada. Upon intercession by Jose Velarde a.k.a. Joseph Estrada, Poe crammed "Jingle Bells" into his senatorial list, despite earlier rejection.

The formidable Good Shepherd nun, Christine Tan, slammed Jinggy for cornering sweepstake funds, painting ambulances with his name, and doling them out to camp followers. He's out on bail, necklaced with pending plunder charges. Will election, on the coattails of Poe, spell *defacto* immunity?

The late Manila mayor Arsenio Lacson pegged a Poe candidate — Ernesto Maceda — early on: "So young, so handsome — and so corrupt."

Maceda has never shaken off "Arsenic's" perceptive tag all these years. In fact, the PCGG's irrepressible Haydee Yorac bit off President Macapagal's head when she tried to name Maceda to a government post.

It will dog him now. Maceda, meanwhile, grabs every opening to speak for the lip-zipped Poe, muscling aside Spokesman Rod T. Reyes. He did that too when Eduardo Cojuangco was making noises about running for president. But is anyone fooled? .

But FPJ's senatoriables are betting precisely on that: "stardust" from a movie icon will blind an impoverished, half-educated electorate, hooked on entertainment, enough for them to crawl back into power. Then what?

Then, FPJ won't even know he's being chewed alive by predatory cut-throats, as the "stardust" dissipates and the country inevitably skid further into chaos. Will the military step in then? The Oakwood mutiny forms part of the continuing Marcos legacy.

"All democracies live in fear of the influence of the ignorant," as Harvard University's John Kenneth writes. "The good society does not concede authority to military power...because it is governed by its own interest which can be intensely damaging to the larger public needs and goals." Has FPJ ever thought in those terms? (E-mail: juan_mercado@pacific.net.ph)

LARGE-SCALE...

...from p.1

will designate their own watchers. He said there is a low possibility of fraud.

Yaranon, in a press briefing last Monday, explained that because the newly formed group, *Koalisyon Kontra Kasino atbp* or KKK is on a shoe-string budget, his group might be a victim of election fraud.

Councilor Reinaldo "Peter Rey" Bautista Jr., running mate of Yaranon said as early as now, the ruling party here has unleashed its tentacles by adding to their line-up someone with the same family name as his. The *Timpuyog Ti Baguio* has one of its candidates for councilor, former City Administrator Virgilio Bautista. "It's part of their strategy to bring in, another Bautista so as to confuse the public," he said. Bautista was a former member of *Timpuyog ti Baguio* but he has bolted out recently due to "differ-



Convicted criminal wanting to be Mayor?

On New Year's eve, Innabuyog-Gabriela got a rewarding message regarding one case of violence against women which we handled since October 2002. The Baguio-Benguet Vicariate released a pastoral letter containing the sanctions of Fr. Nardo Cayat, barring him from exercising the faculties of a priest. We were informed that it was read in all Roman Catholic parishes within the Vicariate and other areas last December.

To recall, the said priest was convicted from a case of acts of lasciviousness of which he pleaded guilty upon on October 3, 2003. The victim-survivor however was looking for a more concrete action on the part of the Baguio-Benguet Vicariate in the light of the creation of the CBCP's Pastoral Guidelines on Sexual Abuses and Misconduct by the Clergy. That concern was once again raised by Innabuyog until we were informed of the release and circulation of a pastoral letter. This is an acclaimed victory of victim-survivors of violence against women who stubbornly fought their case to attain justice. It is also a victory on the progressive women's movement as the case will hopefully blow a whistle for other victims of violence.

It was a learning experience. It was also a display of sincerity on the part of the Vicariate of correcting its erring clergy. Of course, most happy to learn about the action was the victim-survivor. Hopefully, this particular struggle will serve as a light to other women victims and a lesson to perpetrators of violence against women and children.

If Fr. Cayat however was sanctioned from exercising the faculties of a priest, he made another turn by filing his candidacy for the mayoralty in his hometown. In that sense, a convicted criminal is allowed to be a candidate to any public office and this alone is a big defect in terms of the qualifications of whoever is running in public office.

If it's not the COMELEC's role to scrutinize the records of the candidates who have filed their COCs, then there should be a mechanism to study that indeed the candidate has no record or deed meriting for his disqualification. The rules of disqualification should be clearer and more specific. We were also informed that only when there is a petition filed against a candidate that COMELEC can act based on COMELEC procedures. It is no wonder that Philippine politics is so immoral, dirty and corrupt because criminals and persons with clear records of moral turpitude are condoned to run in public positions. Petitions can be filed any time after the filing of the certificate of the person whose candidacy is sought to be denied or cancelled but only until January 7, 2004.

Filing of a petition is also prohibitive for ordinary petitioners whose only wish is to bar candidates with criminal records from using public positions to further commit crime. The filing fee alone is P3,000.00 plus a research fee of P50.00. Fr. Cayat is supposed to be serving his sentence until February but is on provisional liberty because he applied for probation. What is the assurance that he has indeed rectified and he will not do another case of sexual harassment when he will be in public office?

We believe it is the interest of the public to bar any criminal or candidates with notorious records to run a public office. Public information and education on this should be a role of all concerned voters and citizens if we want to make the elections positive and beneficial for us./ *Vernie Yocogan-Diano, secretary-general, Innabuyog-Gabriela, cwerc@mozcom.com*

ences in principles."

However, the group (KKK) expressed confidence that they could surely give the ruling party (*Timpuyog Ti Baguio*) a good fight, especially since they do not have "excess baggage" with them. The present administration, he said has accumulated garbage that now stinks, such as the present state of

Camp John Hay, where unfortunately, the present administration has not done anything to preserve its natural environs. Tree-cutting activities has constantly been reported to the present administration but nothing has been done. There was also, no effort on their part to collect unpaid taxes from the devel-

LARGE-SCALE...p.7

Brgy. Update: Noteworthy Irisan project for moms

Spurred by assessments that self-help or livelihood projects are really helpful in a nation where about 40% of the populace are definitely considered poor, the Irisan Mothercraft Nutrition program is indeed one endeavor worth replicating here and throughout the country because it is a source of social amelioration and relief for many.

More importantly, a growing number of people from the marginalized sections of society are expressing their interest in the project inputs of the Irisan Mothercraft Nutrition program.

Expectedly, Councilor Faustino Olowan, the program's guest speaker, exhorted participants to keep up their good work and continue developing depressed communities.

"It is a unique character among others mothers to be caring for their children and so I hope our graduates also have time in community development activities," he said.

All in all, it was observed that skills learned by program participants are essentials when they seek out or try income-generating ventures. As they also try to source out capital for said ventures. Most mothercraft nutrition programs are centered on the elevation of food products as must-buy items.

Like many other city residents who are affected by the economic crisis, an elderly woman who attended the program has reacted coldly to a query of this scribe if the government is doing its best to improve the conditions of the poor.

"The surveys easily show that President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is far behind among the presidentiables. This easily explains the fact that her administration has failed to reduce the poverty problem and what we are witnessing instead is unprecedented level of corruption," she said in the national language.

So the program's participants and even other Irisan residents are hoping for better times where economic policies will focus on bringing the benefits of economic growth and development to the majority who are still impoverished.

Official records show a sharp increase in poverty incidence even in urban areas like Baguio. Persistence of high unemployment in said areas is said to be also affecting the peace and order situation. This may well explain why the said eledetly person is not poised to support President Macapagal-Arroyo and her Lakas party of K-4 coalition poll bets.

For now, the prospect of more concrete actions by the Irisan Barangay Council has grown stronger. For Punong Barangay Bernardo Calatan and Kagawads Virginia Luna, Basilio Wallang, Thomas Dumalti, Jimmy Saguid, Jonah Cirilo, Antonio Cutay and Leticia Colingan as well as SK chair Kurt Lyndon Posnayan are strongly committed to effective governance.

And this early, there are strong indications that the 72 graduates are likely to provide all-out support for the Irisan Barangay Council's incoming projects.

In a society where the issue of generation of jobs is very important, the success of the barangay's mothercraft nutrition program is clearly being shared by those who attended this activity. They are Neli Tegan, Rosalie Alcaparas, Mary Domingo, Angelita Sabado, Emma Taguitag, Choy Itliong Hilda Narbonita, Diana Gajonera, Zenaida Quijana and Rose Cayaos. Also in attendance were Mayor Bernardo Vergara, Vice Mayor Betty Lourdes Tabanda and Councilor Elmer Datuin. The program was also highlighted by a mass wedding ceremony./**Anthony A. Araos**

LARGE-SCALE...

...from p.6

oper of CJH.

There was also no effort to preserve the city's environment as evidenced by tree-cutting activities at the area where the City Hall extension now stands, and the proposed construction of the BGH Flyover.

The city's streets and roads, which are supposed to be beyond the commerce of man, have also been awarded to a private parking firm.

These among, others, Yaranon said has disappointed the people of Baguio.

The group adopted its name from the famous rebel group headed by national hero Andres Bonifacio. Red was chosen as the group's official color, which, symbolizes their willingness to fight and change the kind of leadership that this city has.

He said the present leadership may have made improvements in this city, but he emphasized that what the present leadership lacks is

BASIC HONESTY.

Yaranon and Bautista said while they do not have a budget with that of other political parties, they have sincere efforts to bring back Baguio's lost glory.

Yaranon's group is presently listed under the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP). He however said that they are awaiting the nomination from the group of presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr.

Their line up include councilor Galo Weygan, Atty. Mia Joy Cawed, Rodolfo Casuga, Isabelo Cosalan, Joselito Cruz, Atty. Perlita Chan-Rondez, Julius Kitong, Atty. Fred Bagbagen, and former Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas./**Rimaliza A. Opina**

BENGUET HEALTH...

...from p.3

year.

Pursuant to such proclamation, on September 29, 2000, the PSB recommended the inclusion of representatives from the Department of Edu-

cation, Provincial Social Welfare Office and the Department of Interior and Local Government in the Provincial Steering Committee.

It was likewise recommended that the Provincial Health Office shall be the lead agency to undertake the activity with no less than Provincial Health Officer Dr. Esteban Piok to serve as the action officer to be responsible in the organization of working committees to include but not limited to social mobilization, and surveillance committees.

Signatories in the twin resolutions include PHB chairman Governor Raul Molintas; Vice-Chairman Provincial health Officer Dr. Esteban Piok; and Vice-Governor Edna Tabanda; Sanggunian Panlalawigan Chariman of the Committee on Health, Department of Health Representatives Dr. Amelita Pangilinan and Dr. Nick Gorgo, Dr. Julie Cabato representing the Shontoug Kalbaryo Foundation and Provincial Nutrition Action Officer Juanita Villena as members. It was learned that by virtue of Executive Order No. 205 issued during the administration of former President Joseph Estrada, the inter-local health zones were created in Benguet.

It was further learned that the last time the inter-agency zone provided with fund was three years ago and that, "notwithstanding the necessity of funding for effective implementation of their program and functions," the resolution stated. In order to maximize resources of the various health zones for purposes of improving the quality of basic health service delivery in Benguet, the PHB recommended that the following fund allocations be appropriated per health zone: the first health zone is composed of the towns of Atok, Buguias, Bakun and Mankayan – P100,000; second with the towns of Bokod and Kabayan – P50,000; thirdly the communities of Kibungan and Kapangan – P50,000; and while the last health zone composed of the municipalities of Itogon, Tuba, Tublay, La Trinidad and Sablan with P150,000. Such amount shall be utilized for the conduct of seminar-workshops of the inter-health zones staff and officers; visitation activities and monitoring of health related undertakings of each group, among others.

Both resolutions were referred to the SP committee on finance headed by Board member Cresencio Pacalso./**Tina Sales**

The following ailments can be cured through Acupressure therapy (ACP)

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Arthritis | 13. Hypertension |
| 2. Asthma | 14. Dysmenorrhea |
| 3. Diabetes | 15. Hyper Acidity |
| 4. Heart Failure | 16. Ulcer |
| 5. High Blood | 17. Ambiances |
| 6. Rayuma | 18. Toothache |
| 7. Insomnia | 19. Mild Stroke |
| 8. Sinusitis | 20. Paralysis |
| 9. Tonsillitis | 21. Gall Bladder |
| 10. Migraine | 22. Pasmado |
| 11. Hepa. A | 23. Back pain |
| 12. Kidney Failure | 24. Gout |

CONTACT: RODOLFO O. OCON, Barangay Camp Allen, Baguio City, Tel. # (074) 300-2778, Cel. # 09162531444

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

IN RE: ADOPTION OF THE MINOR RALPH GIAN ORDUÑA RAMOS

ROGER D. AWINGAN
Petitioner

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE NO. 03-A-0854

x-----x

ORDER

Petitioner through counsel filed this verified petition for adoption respectfully stating that he is of legal age, single, Australian citizen but formerly Filipino citizen and a resident of JC 295 Pico, La Trinidad, Benguet; that minor Ralph Gian Orduña Ramos is his illegitimate son with one Gertudes Orduña Ramos as evidenced by his Certificate of Live Birth (Annex "A"); that on June 3, 1997 he acknowledged the said minor as his son; that the said minor has

been under his joint custody with Gertrude Ramos for three years from 1997 to 2000; that at present, the minor continues to be under the custody of his mother while he continues to support him; that he filed this petition in order that the said minor be legitimated and will enjoy the corresponding benefits of a legitimate child; that he is physically, financially, morally and emotionally capable to adopt as he possessed all the qualifications and none of the disqualifications provided by law on adoption whether in the Philippines or Australia; that the natural mother of the said minor has given her written consent to the adoption as proven by her Affidavit of Consent; that he has no other child except for the minor sought to be adopted; that he prayed after due notice, publication and hearing that this petition be granted considering that it is for the best interest welfare of the said child.

WHEREFORE, finding the petition to be sufficient in form and in substance, it is hereby ordered set for hearing on APRIL 7, 2004 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning be-

fore the Session Hall of this Court, Provincial Capitol, La Trinidad, Benguet and all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any, why this petition should not be granted.

Let this Order be published at the expense of the petitioners in The Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province once a week, for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than JANUARY 17, 2004.

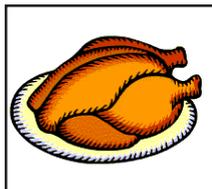
Furnish copies hereof together with a copy of the petition and its annexes to the Office of the Solicitor General, Makati City; the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Court Social Worker for her to conduct a social case study on this petition to be submitted to this Court on or before MARCH 12, 2004; the petitioner and their counsel.

SO ORDERED.
La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, this 18th day of March, 2003.

(SGD) FRANCIS A. BULIYAT
Presiding Judge

Jan. 10, 17 & 24, 2004

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ZONING FORMED...
...from p.2

Rodolfo Maningo and Accountant Terry Eslabra as non-government organizations representatives.

The city council recently approved on third and final reading an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 51 s. 1991, city's zoning law to include a provision for environmental development controls. The committee adopted the recommendation of the committee on urban planning, lands and housing on the amendatory ordinance submitted by the City Planning and Development Office under Orig.

The new measure incorporates environmental development controls contained as Article VII-A that pro-

vide regulations on landscape, heritage, building character and architectural design, reforestation/tree cutting, air quality and land and building management./
Aileen P. Refuerzo

BUDGET ...
...from p.2

budget. The mayor earlier said the plan aims to streamline the functions of certain offices at the city government with the end in view of strengthening and improving the city's systems for faster delivery of services. Included in the proposed restructuring which the mayor said has been endorsed by the Department of Interior and Local Government Baguio Field Of-

fice, and the regional offices of the Department of Budget Management and the Civil Service Commission is the division of the Office of the City Architect and Parks Superintendent and the creation of a new department to be called the Environment Management Office.

Some members of the council, however, feel that the proposed restructuring of offices need more careful review especially with regard to its effect on personnel movement.

Mayor Vergara has submitted as executive budget of P710,238,000 for next year or an increase of 18.2 percent or P109,238,000 from the current budget of P601,000,000. As proposed, the estimated income will come from the beginning balance of P73,000,000; tax and non-tax revenue amounting to P401,000,000; and International Revenue Allotment share of P236,238,000.

The expense category is distributed as follows: P257,761,590 for personal services; P168,469,776 for maintenance and other expenses; P87,348,840 for capital outlay; P67,569,200 for non-office expenditures and P129,088,594 for 20 percent development fund./*Aileen P. Refuerzo*

NCIP ADOPTS...
...from p.3

ICC/Ips to sustainable use, manage, protect and conserve land in accordance with the knowledge, beliefs, systems and practices as part of the indigenous concept of ownership."

The guidelines will specifically cover the following categories of ancestral land either actually occupied by the owner, co-owner, beneficiary or claimant or in their constructive possession:

- Ancestral lands covered by Certificates of Ancestral Land Claim (CALC) issued by the DENR pursuant to DENR S.O. No. 31 series of 1990 as amended and DENR DAO No. 2 series of 1993;

- Ancestral lands covered by applications where the process under either DENR S.O. No. 31 series of 1990 as amended or DENR DAO No. 2 series of 1993 have been completed but not issued a CALC or that the CALC was not signed by the DENR Secretary; and

- Ancestral land covered by applications pending with the Special Committee on Review and Veri-

NCIP ADOPTS...p.9

LA TRINIDAD...**...from p.3**

Aside from the landowners to be represented by a certain Loreta Bilag, signatories to the Memorandum of Agreement include the municipal negotiating team Councilor Dionisio A. Literato, Municipal Department heads and some scavengers. The MOA covering the period of five months, or from January to May this year cited among others the role of the LGU to see to it that the area covered by landowners shall be free of garbage coming from the members of the community who dump their garbage along the curb of the road leading to the dumpsite; that the scavengers shall not be allowed to build temporary shanties and use the same said area as temporary storage of recovered garbage materials; and that no municipal garbage dump trucks and other private trucks within the area occupied by concerned landowners.

The LGU is expected to install bill/sign-board stating among others that the dumping site area will be used up to the end of May 2004. Other responsibilities of the LGU include the bulldozing and scraping of the existing garbage of the area covered/occupied by the landowners towards the western end of the dumpsite; ensuring that the dumping of garbage shall be limited to the western side only; asking the residents of the community to throw their garbage in the designated area and full responsibility to control the activities of the scavengers.

These include among others that for the scavengers to remove the garbage and shanties as well as to stop them from storing their recovered materials within the area covered by the landowners by selling them immediately to the junk shop dealers and for this group to police their members by reporting to concerned authority any violation of the MOA./Tina Sales

NCIP ADOPTS...**...from p.8**

fication as per A.O. Mo. Series of 2002.

The guidelines do not apply to the following:

- Ancestral land claim applications that have been denied by the Special Task Force on Ancestral Lands (STFAL) under DENR S.O. No. 31 series of 1990, as amended, or the Community Special Task Force on Ancestral Land (CSTFAL) under DENR DAO No. 2 series of 1993.

- Individuals seeking a certification who were not among the beneficiaries, co-owners or claimants of the ancestral land where the structure or improvement will be constructed; and

- Ancestral land claim applications that are fraudulent or patently false.

The guidelines will be applicable to the following types of improvement: construction of residential house, additional portion or extension or residential house, repair of residential house, construction or repair of commercial building, excavation or leveling, construction of stonewall or parapet, permanent fence, temporary fence or other structures or improvements.

The resolution also spelled out the procedures involved in applying for improvements, to wit:

1. filing of letter-request with the NCIP City Office at Baguio City
2. evaluation of the request
3. verification of documents
4. ocular inspection
5. recommendation to the Chairman of issuance of certification
6. issuance of certification by the Chairman

As to the required documents, the following should be submitted by the applicants: letter-request addressed to the City Officer, NCIP Baguio, photocopy of CALC, where applicable, copy of application for ancestral land, sketch plan or approved and photographs of the portion of ancestral land where improvement shall be introduced.

An applicant should also secure certification from the NCIP chairman to attest that he/she is a member of the ICC/IP community indigenous to the city of Baguio, owner or co-owner of the land, entitled to the right

to utilize the lot and that the purpose of said certification is to support any application for a permit to introduce the desired improvement.

“For all types of improvements referred to herein, the party granted a certification can only be allowed to construct the structure but shall be required to execute an undertaking, duly notarized, that he/she shall voluntarily demolish or dismantle said structure or improvement at his/her own expense when required to do so and that the structure constructed shall not be considered nor introduced as evidence of possession or occupation of the ancestral land,” the resolution noted.

Protests or objections to the application prior to the issuance of the certification shall be filed before the regional hearing office within ten days from discovery or knowledge of such information./Aileen P. Refuerzo

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

ERIC SMITH**Applicant****Case No. 98-BC-516****NOTICE OF HEARING**

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on January 20, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable ALFREDO P. MONDIGUING - Regional Director this 7th day of January.

(SGD) ATTY. BRENDA D. POKLAY
Hearing Officer

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

ESTATE OF THE LATE VIRGILIO SIMON SR.- Assignor NOVILYSIMONALOOT- Assignee
Case No. 2001-BC-247/2004-BAG-CAR-0008

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on January 20, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable ALFREDO P. MONDIGUING - Regional Director this 7th day of January 2004

(SGD) ATTY. BRENDA D. POKLAY
Hearing Officer

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

LUMBAS PISANDO
Applicant
Case No. 2000-01-2708

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on January 20, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

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

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

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

WITNESS, the Honorable ALFREDO P. MONDIGUING - Regional Director this 7th day of January 2004.

(SGD) ATTY. BRENDA D. POKLAY
Hearing Officer

NOTICE OF SELF ADJUDICATION OF THE ESTATE OF DECEASED PERSON

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late BRYAN MAT-AN who died on January 1, 2000 at Baguio City without will, consisting of one (1) unit of public utility jitney with Plate No. AVA-449 and its franchise under LTRFB Case No. 92-CAR-535 have been the subject of Self Adjudication by the sole heir REGINA M. MAT-AN on 23 Decemeber 2003 as per Doc. No. 096, Page No. 020, Book No. 382, Series of 2003, of the Notarial Registry of Atty. Hermenegildo M. Monta of Baguio City.

Dec.28, Jan. 4 & 11, 2003

ENTREPRENEURS

Joining the business
olympics

By TRINIDAD CAYADING



Participating in the global market is similar to joining the Sports Olympics. Athletes who win the gold medals come from countries whose athletes are well trained, well fed, well equipped, and well endowed.

In sporting events like boxing where efforts are made to "level the playing field" and players are matched according to their weight, the Filipinos do get to win.

But a Pinoy victory in the Olympics is still more the exception than the rule, isn't it? Similarly, global market players are countries with different endowments in natural resources, cultural orientation and value, and levels of economic and political development.

Some countries are better equipped and prepared to compete than others. In the global markets, there is no "leveling of the playing field." Only the fit will survive.

In the past, the Philippines depended on cheap labor to entice foreign firms to set up their factories in the country for their export business. A good example is the garments industries.

Today, that advantage no longer exists with the opening up of other developing countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and China, whose wage rates are lower than those of the Philippines. As a consequence, many foreign investors have moved out of the country.

The feedback from the Foreign Buyers Association of the Philippines (Fobap) and the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (Citem) is that Filipino entrepreneurs seem slow to streamline their operations to align with world market standards.

This may be why many of them lost some of their customers to other countries.

How may the Filipino entrepreneur shape up for the business Olympics? Are they ready to join the global game?

Entrepreneurs can take a leaf from experience and learn from those who have taken initial but decisive steps to go global.

Organize for strategic advantages. The Meycauayan Jewelry Industry Association (MJIA) has put up the Philippine Jewelry Center where world-class gold-smiths are trained and where common processing facilities are made available.

On the other hand, the Philippine Jewelers Guild is tackling the problem of international marketing by setting up a marketing consortium.

Get professional help. Rex Dagdag, handicraft entrepreneur from Jaro, Iloilo City, wanted to shine in an international trade fair he was about to join. He engaged the services of a designer from the Product Design and Development Center of the Philippines (PDDCP).

The designer helped him create new designs according to what was "hot" in countries abroad for that season. The designer also guided him on what products to offer and how to cost materials as well as gave him a hand in putting up an impressive display booth. That year, the fair yielded substantial orders for Dagdag in contrast to previous years when he came home almost empty handed.

Create, innovate. Ramon Castillo who is in the electronics sector, sees product development as a hedge against tightening competition. So he has begun to offer multiple services to offset the market share grabbed by the competition.

Gigi Campos, a handicraft exporter-producer, makes it a point to keep in touch with what's happening in the world. Know the trends, read the forecasts, find out what competition is doing, she urges fellow entrepreneurs.

She has also demonstrated in her operations how to use indigenous materials as a competitive edge. As a result, she has something new to offer her buyers each year.

Take advantage of information technology. Contrary to fears of the uninformed, it will not necessarily marginalize small businesses but rather equalize opportunities for them.

Castillo did product development by surfing the Net of customer specifications and information on integrated circuits. After developing the products, he launched a Net-based marketing campaign, which cost him considerably less than if he ran it the old way. On the other hand, Jun Raquiza did programming operations, including computer aided designs and software development through the Internet.

Develop a niche market. Rosemarie Miguel made good use of market segmentation in her educational toy line. She identified this to be the high-end market for whom she has created labor-intensive and intricate designs.

She deliberately made the designs a tough act to follow to keep design "pirates" at arms length.

SP business Tuba ordinance on mining tax sales

La Trinidad, Benguet – The provincial board give would deliberate on Tuba's enacted ordinance imposing tax on the yearly sales of a mining firm operating in the locality.

Invoking Sections 142,43 and 186 of the 1991 Local Government Code, Tuba passed Ordinance No. 04-3 during the first quarter of 2003 requiring mining companies to pay one percent tax on the sales of extracted all inorganic materials.

Sections 142, 143 and 186 are provisions in the code referred to LGUs' scope of taxing powers, type of business that maybe imposed with taxes and power to levy other taxes fees and charges, respectively.

Section 3 of the measure stated that, "It is hereby imposed a Mining Tax of one percent (1%) on the gross receipts or sales of the preceding calendar year of mining activities within municipality.

The equivalent value on the sales of ore materials shall be paid during the first quarter of every year preferably within the first 20 days of January as provided for under Section 4 of the ordinance.

Failure to comply would entail additional mandatory payment of other charges. Section 5 of the ordinance stated that "Failure to pay the tax within the time required shall subject the taxpayer to a sub-charge of Twenty-Five percent (25%) of the amount of the tax due plus an interest upon the unpaid amount at the rate of Twelve Percent (12%) per annum, from the due date until the tax is fully paid."

To ensure correct valuation of tax that maybe imposed, the local ordinance provided a provision requiring a mining firm to furnish copy of the company's receipt under oath or a sworn statement of its yearly sales receipts as embodied under Section 6 of the ordinance.

Tuba enacted the ordinance during its regular meeting held March 4, 2003. Whether this can be carried out beginning this year, the provincial board is yet to render its opinion on the enacted measure as it was referred this week to the committee on legal matters headed by Board member Danio Bolislis.

Local government code under Section 468 provides that the SP has the power and duty to review all ordinances approved by the component municipalities to determine whether the same is within the scope of the prescribed power of the local councils. **Tina Sales**

YARANON...

...from p.2

depriving some employees of Jadewell their jobs, because he allegedly promised that upon the rescission of the contract of Jadewell and the City of Baguio, employees of said firm shall be absorbed as regular employees of the city government, provided that they already file their resignation. This however, did not materialize, as the rescission that took place, led to a series of court litigations. At present, the case is now at the Supreme Court, following the affirmation of the Court of Appeals that the contract of Jadewell and the city gov-

ernment could not be rescinded.

Another reason cited was when Councilor Carino, through a proposed resolution, asked that Tan be declared *persona non grata* in the City Baguio. Carino was prompted to file the said resolution because in various communications of Tan different officials here, he used harsh words such as "demagogue, publicity hungry, grandstanding officials," they, on the other hand, were civil in their dealings with him.

Councilor Balajadia, on one hand, through a

YARANON...p.14

Taiwan Bans The Selling Of Dog Meat

In mid-December the Taiwan Legislative Yuan passed new rules under Taiwan's Animal Protection Law to ban the selling of dogs and other companion animals as food.

Previously the law only banned the killing of dogs and cats for their skin, meat or other parts. This failed, however, to stop vendors from selling dogs and cats to restaurants, or to keep the restaurants from offering their meat as a delicacy, as the vendors and restaurant would avoid fines by saying that they did not kill the animals themselves.

The fine for violators of the rules against killing dogs and cats will increase from NT\$10,000 (about US\$1500) to NT\$250,000 (about US\$7350). The fine for abandoning or abusing

dogs will remain at NT\$50,000.

Although they do not list dog meat on their menus, restaurants in Linkou, in Taipei county, are infamous for offering it to their customers.

According to myth, dog meat is believed to ward off illness in those who consume it. The meat is especially popular during the winter months when colds and the flu are more prevalent.

Animal rights activists believe as many as one-third of the stray dogs in public shelters end up being sold to restaurants to be served to diners.

Shen Jung-chen, founder of Care for Animals and Protect the Earth Organization, said the selling of dog meat by restaurants



and street vendors was due to a lack of law enforcement.

"Our survey suggests that the unit price for dogs varies from NT\$300 to NT\$3000," Shen said.

According to a survey, shops selling dog meat still exist throughout Taiwan.

Fifty-six members of the legislature took the initiative to introduce the new revisions to put some "bite" into the law which previously only prohibited the butchering and selling of pet

meat without giving law enforcement officials the power to punish violators.

The new laws will allow law enforcement agents to file charges directly, and levy fines against any person or restaurant caught violating the rules.

Help-Save-a-Pet Fund, a non-profit animal rights organization in Taiwan, said it was pleased at

the tougher penalties to be given to violators of the law, and that they planned to offer rewards to those providing tips about individuals selling dog meat.

Secretary-general Liu Yu-tung said she hoped a future law change would ban the eating of dog meat altogether. / *Sherry Morse © 2003 Animal News Center, Inc.*

Dogs help men escape burning house

Two Jack Russell terriers named Barbie and Lucy are being honored as heroes in Gainesville, Florida after waking up their two human guardians and alerting them to a fire on Christmas Eve, enabling them to dash to safety just moments before their house went up in flames.

Richard Pla and Kyle Strohmann were awakened around 8:30 a.m. on Christmas Eve by the sound of Barbie and Lucy barking. Thanks to the early warning, they were able to escape

with only minor burns and smoke inhalation.

According to Pla, the dogs gave them "the almost 30 seconds we had to get up, get to the front door, get ourselves out and get them out before the house went into flames."

After vacating the home, Pla, Strohmann, Barbie and Lucy went to another part of town to stay with family members temporarily, but found Lucy missing December 27. They were

concerned, but suspected the dog was trying to get back to her home.

Luckily, Lucy was found December 28, safe and sound, about a mile away. Pla said she appeared to indeed have been headed back toward the burned house.

"She's been so traumatized, well, we all have," Pla said, "she just thought she would go home."

Officials investigating the fire said it was likely

DOGS HELP MEN...p.12

Pit bull saves child from house fire

A three-year-old pit bull named Marley is credited with saving a little girl in Alaska from a house fire in early December.

Marley, a black and white dog who looks like Pete from the Little Rascals television show, grabbed the back of six-year-old Autumn Marley's jacket to drag her out of the burning house.

Autumn alerted her mother who was cooking dinner that the entryway to the house was on fire. Julie Marley then forced open a seldom used back door so

she and her two daughters could escape the fire.

As Ms. Marley left the house she turned to see Marley the dog pulling Autumn through the door to safety.

Jennifer Ingram, Marley's guardian, said that, "She's always been an awesome dog, but I didn't know she was capable of doing this." Ingram has raised Marley from a puppy.

Ms. Ingram was out shopping for Christmas presents when the fire broke out and arrived home to find

Marley running loose in the midst of all the firefighters and bystanders.

She planned to take Marley to the vet to treat frostbite on her feet from being out in the snow.

Thanks to Autumn and Marley no one was injured in the fire, although the house was a total loss.

The Red Cross set up a place for the Marley family to stay, while Ms. Ingram and Marley the dog are staying with a friend. / *Sherry Morse © 2003 Animal News Center, Inc.*

Artists' killing animals for 'Art'

Some artists have taken to killing animals in the name of what they call art.

In May of 2003, an art student at the Victorian College of the Arts in Australia killed a live chicken as part of a performance piece done in front of his class.

Other students in the class were not impressed, and complained about the student's actions to the RSPCA.

At the time, Sue Baker, head of the arts department, stated, "We've come down hard on this student and said, 'You don't do this for art, you do it for food, and it is offensive for anything to do with cruelty to animals to be portrayed as art.'"

Unfortunately, however, gallery owners do not seem to share that point of view.

One gallery owner in Sweden said recently that in spite of protests against the actions of an artist currently exhibiting at his gallery, who likes to kill animals and call it art, "She's going to continue to make her art. Is it better to kill animals for makeup than for creating art? These people forget that art is food for the soul."

The gallery owner claimed the artist's work involving the killing of animals was "very important" and added, "I have tried to get her to try to work with larger animals, like dogs."

The galleries that exhibit the work of animal-killing

ARTISTS' KILLING...p.12

China to kill 10,000 palm civets

After a man in Guangdong Province in southeastern China was re-

ported ill with a strain of SARS similar to that found in palm civets, Chinese officials have ordered the closure of wild animal markets and the immediate killing of all captive palm civets in the province.

A local official estimated that about 10,000 palm civets will meet their deaths in the cull.



Palm civets are widely eaten in Guangdong Province.

The Hong Kong headquartered animal welfare organization 'Animals Asia' says the latest crisis highlights yet again the urgent need to ban

China's live animal markets

CHINA TO KILL...p.12

DOGS HELP MEN...**...from p.11**

caused by an electrical problem. The house had a smoke detector, but the men told authorities they didn't hear it go off.

"The dog is the hero in this Christmas story," fire department spokesman Michael Heeder said.

"Animals being lower to the ground have cleaner air and, especially dogs, have a keener sense of smell," he explained. "If they determine there is a problem from the scent or from observing flames, it has been documented when pets have barked and alerted occupants."

It took more than 20 firefighters about 20 minutes to get the fire under control. Estimated damage to the 55-year old house was set at \$85,000./ *Patricia Collier © 2003 Animal News Center, Inc.*

ARTISTS' KILLING...**...from p.11**

artists believe that the images created using the dead animals arouse thoughts and questions that the viewers might not otherwise have had, and, therefore, these works are art.

They attempt to justify the killing of animals strictly for art by saying that the pictures reflect the shallowness and double standards held by a society which objects to animals being killed to create pictures, but not to the killing of animals for food or clothing.

An artist who recently had an open exhibit featuring animals she had

killed was reported to public prosecutors by the local veterinary association for failing to have a veterinarian present when the animals were killed.



A spokesman for the veterinary association said the artist violated laws regulating the use of animals for public viewing which require that when animals are killed for the purpose of public entertainment a veterinarian has to be present to ensure the animal does not suffer.

According to some, shock art-

ists of this sort are really just trying to attract attention and build their names, and like most children who seek attention, the more attention they receive the more likely they are to repeat the action which brought them the attention in the first place.

As one animal welfare advocate noted, if killing animals brings publicity to one artist, others might be tempted to try to garner publicity by doing the same.

Some artists who have used dead animals in their work claim that doing so shows that life and death are not opposed, but linked. Others have said that they do no more than what normally takes place in a slaughterhouse, using animals which would have ended up there anyway.

Still others have claimed they are guaranteed the freedom of artistic expression by law and that this supersedes any rights that the animals they kill may have.

Actress Brigitte Bardot, who has protested exhibits featuring the slaughter of animals, said, "I have never heard of a performance where people pay to rejoice in the suffering of animals."

Animal advocates have been contacting the ministry of Sweden to voice their protests./ *Sherry Morse © 2004 Animal News Center, Inc.*

CHINA TO KILL...**...from p.11**

countrywide - once and for all.

After documenting the wild animal markets for nearly 20 years, Animals Asia investigators returned to China's notorious Zhengsha market in November 2003 and found in excess of 60 wild, domestic and endangered species, caged and pouring into the markets on the backs of trucks - stressed, diseased, dying and dead.

Despite new Government regulations many of the animals were clearly wild caught and were packed together in close concentrations of numbers along with thousands of reptiles, mammals, amphibians and birds.

Caged together in close proximity, the animals suffered violent and barbaric methods of slaughter which then allowed blood, gut contents, feces and urine to contaminate the surrounding area - and allowed viruses, previously kept under control by the immune system, to multiply and be excreted.

Animals Asia Media Direc-

BSU to initiate ASEAN vegetable research center

La Trinidad, Benguet - The Benguet State University will initiate the establishment of a Semi-Temperate Vegetables Research and Development Center (STVRDC) this year initially to serve the needs of the Cordilleras and the North Luzon area and eventually similarly situated in the South East Asian (ASEAN) region.

Benguet State University President Rogelio Colting announced in a Kapihan sa Benguet forum here last week that the Center would be launched around midyear or earlier and is expected to address problems of vegetable production such as a seed system to produce quality planting materials and postharvest handling and marketing among others.

Colting said the Philippine Institutional University Cooperation (PIUC) Project

for Annie Mather said: "Whilst it is clear that many market traders have been selling animals trapped in the wild and ignoring Government regulations to sell 'farmed raised species', it should actually be recognised that farming palm civets and other wild animals does not lessen the risk of disease and that they are potentially at risk of shedding viruses as any animal caught in the wild."

In 2003, a resolution proposed by the Animals Asia Foundation and supported by Hong Kong Legislator and Member of China's National People's Congress, Dr. David Chu Yu Lin, and local animal welfare and conservation groups in

Phase II from the Belgian government is providing initial financial support to start up the STVRDC. The Center's services would be expanded to Southeast Asian countries with similar conditions as Benguet having semi-temperate vegetable products. BSU is looking into the possibility of collaborating with other partners to enhance the center. Colting is looking into the possibility of negotiations with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam who sent a visiting delegation last week.

BSU Vice-President for Research and Extension Dr. Sonwright Maddul said the Belgian VLIR-PIUC II has released the equivalent of P20 million for this project. The STVRDC office will be temporarily housed at the Research and Extension Complex on the road to Barangay Balili and existing personnel of the

University will man the office and run the project.

Maddul said their initial activities will be to set up nurseries and research green houses mainly to produce vigorous quality and disease-free planting materials. This, Maddul, said is still our main stumbling block because almost all semi-temperate vegetable planting materials are imported. The produces planting materials will be sold to farmers at cost even at subsidized prices.

Colting is looking for other networking linkages because the projects that the center would need more funding to set up laboratories, testing centers and various necessary equipment and materials especially when they start undertaking further research on diseases and recommended farming practices./ *N.E.A and Susan C. Aro*

Hong Kong urged the Government to ban the trading and consumption of wild animals and dogs and cats, which was then submitted to Beijing's National People's Congress by Dr. Chu.

Supporting the closure of China's wild animal markets, Chen Run Shen, Secretary General of the Government's China Wildlife Conservation Association in Beijing said: "Whilst reform is the first step, in principle I believe that all wild animal markets should be closed in China. The wild animal trade has direct conflict with the progression of a civilized society. It also brings direct harm and damage to the animals them-

selves."

Following the Guangdong Government decision today to close all markets and kill the palm civets, Animals Asia Founder Jill Robinson MBE appealed to the authorities to euthanise the animals in the most humane way possible and to never again relax the new ban, as they have done in the past.

"We urge China to extend these regulations country wide, to include companion animals such as dogs and cats, and to take the lead in Asia towards ending decades of cruelty and disease," Robinson said./ *ANC Staff and Animals Asia © 2004 Animal News Center, Inc.*

Wushu, judo jins top Cordillera sports Chinese new year preparations on citation

Baguio City – Three Cordilleran warriors who earned gold medals in last year's Southeast Asian Games were cited as the top athletes of the previous year.

Edward Folayang, Dolly Andres and Helen Dawa were named the athletes of the year in the Kafagway Sports Awards to be held at the Peoples' Park here on January 18.

"They deserve to be athletes of the year," said Kafagway chair Nars Padilla as he praised the accomplishments of the three athletes in international competitions.

Folayang, the youngest of the wushu-sanshou team, earned a medal in the 70-kilogram division, while Andres made up for her size to take the 56 kilogram category of the wushu-sanshou competition.

Dawa took the gold in the 52 kg. division of judo as the University of Baguio alumna gave the region its third gold medal. Folayang also earned a bronze in the World

Wushu Championship held in Shanghai in November last year. Joseph Pasiwat and Jennifer Laguilag were named the wushu players of the year after garnering a silver and broze medal in the SEAGames. They also had a bronze each in the World Wushu championships.

The wushu team was also named the top team, while coach Tony Candelaria, or Tsing Tsong Sai in the movies, were also given special citations for their efforts in sports.

The other members of the wushu squad are Rexel Nganhayna and Eric Kelly, who each had a bronze in the SEA Games and the same production in the world's.

Other athletes who were cited are: Brent Velasco (muay thai), Flordeliza Cachero (track and field), Estegay Liwanen (judo), Mars Garcia (golf) and Aljon Siblagan (chess).

Others to be cited are: Romeo Guido (coach of the year), Danilo Alimbuyao

(coach of the decade), Pigeon Lobien (sportsman of the year), Geraldine Barcelon and Jorge Borja (sportsmen of the decade), Texas Instrument (Patron of the Year, Philex Mining Corp. (sports patron of the decade), Baguio Tennis Club (sports club of the year), YMCA (sports club of the decade), Bobby Vinluan (sports coordinator of the year), Edcel Ngina (sports coordinator of the decade), Gaby B. Keith and Lalaine Cruz as sportswriters of the year.

The following were also given recognition for their efforts in promoting sports: SPO1 Francis Hulanib, Leo Cariño, Nelson Millari, Manny Fortuny, Rogelio Mejia, Baguio Ladies Football Team, Crisanto Serafica, Mayor Rogelio Leon, Mayor Nestor Fongwan, University of Baguio, Baguio Colleges Foundation University and Benguet State University./Nars Padilla

Non-renewal of operator's permit - casino doubtful

Baguio City - Mayoralty candidate Braulio Yaranon doubts Mayor Bernardo Vergara's motives for his declaration that he will not sign the business renewal permit of the Royal Highland Gaming Corporation, the operator of proposed casino gaming complex in Camp John Hay.

Yaranon said at the time some groups asked him to veto the approval of the city council of the casino operations, he has

openly declared that there is nothing he could do, as then Acting City Mayor Elmer Datuin, has already granted the business permit of the operator of the casino.

Vergara was out of the country when the city council passed a resolution amending an old resolution that prohibits the operation of a casino in CJH.

Yaranon then said, had the Mayor

sincerely wanted to do his part, rejecting the casino resolution would not have been impossible.

What is evident, Yaranon said is that the Mayor could be doing this as a tactic in order to gain back the trust and confidence of the people of Baguio, which has, in the past years, have slowly dwindled due to decisions that has not benefited majority of the residents of Baguio.

NON-RENEWAL...p.14

Chinese new year preparations on

Baguio City – A grand parade featuring the lion dance, awards dinner night with the Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines as guest honor and speaker and fireworks display shall ring in the Chinese new year on January 23, 2004 as planned by the executive committee last week.

Various activities of the Cantonese association and other Filipino-Chinese groups with Dr. Charles Cheng, Paul

Go, simeon Neria, Jimmy Uy, Dennis Sy as representative shall also be featured in a press conference this week.

Also included in the activities shall be a fireworks display after the grand parade which starts at the Valejo hotel at Upper Session Rd. According to City Administrator Jose Taguba, school drum and lyre bands shall be invited to participate, aside from the participation of lion dancers from various

Chinese communities, and the pupils and students of the Baguio Chinese Patriotic School.

This year's celebration shall also feature six outstanding citizen awardees, three each from the Chinese and Filipino communities, to be chosen by the committee chaired by City Administrator Jose Taguba. They will be honored during the awards night immediately after the grand parade./Julie G. Fianza



Kung hei fat choy – the year of the Monkey will be celebrated by the Chinese community and the city government of Baguio on January 23 as a traditional celebration of the city in the observance of Chinese New year or Spring Festival. Chairman of the parade Peter Ng said the grand parade featuring dragon dance and other colorful presentation which will start at 3:00 pm down Session Rd./Photo by Bong Cayabyab

City thanks Flavier for new health department edifice

Baguio City – City officials led by Mayor Bernardo Vergara and Rep. Mauricio Domogan Thursday took turns paying tribute to Senator Juan Flavier for initiating the reconstruction of the old Baguio health department office into an imposing five-floor building.

"We have no one else to thank for this structure but Senator Flavier whose handiwork it was that led to its completion,"

Vergara said after the edifice was blessed by Catholic Bishop Carlito Cenzon.

Domogan noted that about 80 percent of the estimated P70 million fund for the project came from the countrywide development fund of Flavier.

"It should be an inspiration for all of you to maximize health services," Domogan told the city health workers headed by City Health Officer, Dr.

Florence Reyes.

Vergara also noted Flavier's initiative in the expansion of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center, the Baguio City National High School and the city hall.

The mayor likewise told employees that President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo had also approved the city's request for it to take over and developed the Baguio Convention Center, the

CITY THANKS...p.14

KENNON RD...**...from p.16**

mini-bus sapagkat kaya nito ang volume ng mga pasahero, kumpara sa iba na limitado ang kayang isakay.

Bilang resulta ng suspensyon na ipinatupad, marami umano sa mga estudyante, ang madalas ay nahuhuli, kung hindi man ay tuluyan nang lumiliban sa klase, dahil sa kawalan ng masasakyan.

Bukod sa hirap sa pagsakay sa umaga, hirap din daw sila sa pag-uwi lalo na sa hapon, madalas diumano na marami sa kanila ang gabi na bago makauwi. Tanging ang pagpapanumbalik sa mga mini-bus, diumano ang solusyon sa kanilang mga suliranin.

Ang naturang usapin naman ay kaagad na inindorso ng Sangguniang Bayan ng Tuba sa kinauukulang tanggapan upang agad itong maaksyunan ng kinauukulang mga tanggapan./**RAO**

COMELEC...**...from p.16**

magpapatala ng protesta ng kandidatura ng isang kandidato. Ang naturang usapin naman ay dedesisyunan ng hukuman.

Umabot sa 66 katao ang nagpatala sa iba't ibang posisyon dito sa Lunsod, samantalang umabot naman sa 39 ang nagpatala sa lalawigan ng Benguet./**Rimaliza A. Opiña**

YARANON...**...from p.10**

resolution asked that the City Engineer's Office and the Office of the District Engineer-DPWH to remove all road signs installed by Jadewell, as it does not have the proper permits to install road signs.

City Treasurer Thelma Manaos also, was not spared. Tan, in his complaint affidavit, has accused Manaos of making money for her personal gain through his business. Allegedly, Manaos tried to enrich herself by making demands that the management finds impossible to follow. Allegedly, Manaos required them to stamp their ticket booklet twice, on the front and the back cover of the booklet, and once for every original and duplicate of the ticket. Tan said, under the rules of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), the stamping of the front and back covers is just enough.

Furthermore, Manaos was also said to have harassed him by sending demand letters, asking them to pay un-remitted taxes to the government. Tan said Manaos misinterpreted the MOA and the supplement to the

MOA, so that she did a separate computation for the taxes to be paid for off-street parking, and the Ganza parking area.

Meanwhile, Councilor Carino said the filing of a complaint by Jadewell is politically motivated. He said the *Timpuyog Ti Baguio* could be behind this, as he is one of the few councilors who have steadfastly rallied against the operation of Jadewell in this city.

The Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Northern Luzon, through Director Joaquin Salazar gave the respondents 10 days to file their reply./**Rimaliza A. Opina**

NON-RENEWAL...**...from p.13**

The alderman said the overwhelming rejection of the people of Baguio of the incoming operation of casino in the city of Baguio, is clear evidence that Mayor Vergara's popularity is slowly dwindling.

He added Vergara is banking on the issue to make him popular among the people. Yaranon said what the mayor does not realize is that there is now an overwhelming rejection of the people of Baguio on the casino operations.

It is recalled that on November 5, seven councilors voted in approval for the operation of a casino inside CJH, provided that only tourists and club members shall be allowed to enter the casino. At that time, Councilor Edilberto Tenefrancia was the only one who voted against casino operations. Councilor Yaranon, who was also against, was not able to vote, as he walked out of the session hall, even before the voting took place.

After the approval, a series of public demonstrations followed. This, Yaranon, said the ruling party has been bothered about./**Rimaliza A. Opina**

CITY THANKS...**...from p.13**

former site of the Hilltop Hotel above the city market and the former Diplomat Hotel.

"We are grateful to the President in hearing our plea for us to manage these properties and turn them into revenue-generating assets to further improve public service," Vergara said.

Additional funds for the new health center came from the city and the congressional initiative of Domogan who added that another

ARASAAS KEN KARASAKAS**Ti naglabas, ti agdama, wenno ti masanguanan****BY ROMEL E. VALDEZ**

Ket adtoy ti umuna a panagsurattayo para iti daytoy a kolum iti daytoy a tawen 2004. Ado la ketdi manen kadatayo a no kasta a sumagpat ti baro a tawen, sirmataentayo ti adayo ket saludsodentayo ti bagitayo, ania man ngatan ti iyeg ti daytoy a baro a tawen. No di man matukod nga ibuksilan dagiti pagilasinan iti agdama, sukimatentayo dagiti naglabas a pasamak bareng adda sadiay ti sungbat para iti agdama. Ania kadi ti adda iti 2004? Ania met ti imbat ti mensahe ti 2003 para iti baro a tawen?

Bayat ti panangnanamko ti espiritu ti apaglabas a Paskua, adda dagiti pasamak a nangted toy numo ti pagpampanunatan.

Idi parbangon iti Disiembre 25, pimmusay ti kabsat ti maysa a gayyem iti tawenna a 39. Kalpasaan dayta iti ado a bulan a paagtuokna gapu iti sakit a bato. Insardeng isuna nga asikasuen pay dagiti doctor iti ospital gapu ta terminal ti kimmamet kenkuana a sakit. Iti panangur-urayna ken patay, kiniddawna ti Namarsua a danunenna laengen ti kasangayna. Napatgan dayta. Nagkasangay isuna idi Disiembre 9. Kalpasanna, kimmiddaw pay. Danunenna laengen ti kasangay ti Messiah. Ket idi rabii iti Disiembre 24, iti panangsubsubo kenkuana ti kasimpungalanna, naisaona nga adon ti balonna. Ket idi malpas iti masansan a panagrosarioda, kiniddawna nga agrosarioda pay ken baketna. Namitlo a daras ngarud dayta a panagrosarioda. Ket iti parbangon ti Disiembre 25, isun ti inna isisina. Iti panangbisitak ti bangkayna iti dayta met laeng nga aldaw iti Camp Allen, langana ti matmaturog a sisisimbeng, nairut a turog a kas man maamakka a makaaramid ti madi baka masinga ti pannaturogna.

Idi met Disiembre 27, pimmusay met asawa ti kasinsin ti inak iti Narvacan, Ilocos Sur iti tawenna a 59. Iti laeng iti uneg iti sumurok-kumurang a maysa a lawas a panagdikar ti sakit iti dalem, impadto dagiti dodoktor a saanen nga agpaut pay isuna. Nariknana dayta a panagngangabit ken patay, banag a pinaayabanna amin a kameng ti pamiliana. Nagpakada daytoy a napnya panagsagana.

Kasta man met laengen ti napasamak ti bilas-to-be ti kabsatko a lalaki iti isu met laeng nga ili. Pimmusay isuna apaman a simmagpat ti Enero 1 iti tawenna a 33 gapu iti komplikasion ti puso. Nabayag isuna a nagsagaba ket napasungadanna ngarud met inna ipupusay. Nakasagana met.

Kuna man ti maysa a nasantuan a mongha kadagiti pasurotna idi maikapad a siglo, masapul nga agpanunotda no kasta a bigbigat baka saanda a madanon pay ti rabii, kasta met ti aramidenda iti rabii baka saanda a madanon pay ti agsapa. Kinunana pay nga agrabrahoda a kas man dayta ti maudi a mabalinda nga aramiden.

Dagita la ketdi ti maysa kadagiti mensahe para toy numo toy biang ti naglabas a tawen ken Paskua 2003 para iti daytoy tawen 2004.

Kasapulan la ketdi a kanayon ti panagsagsagana. Ket wen, past is past. Ket ti masakbayan, saantayo a maibaga no addatayonto sadiay. Ket ti masinunotayo, addatayo iti agdama ket ditoy ti mabalintayo a paggarawan. Napateg ngarud ti tunggal kannito nga aglabas saan nga iti adayo a masanguanan ken ti nalpasen a naglabas.

P5 million have been released by the DBM, also from Flavier, for the additional work requirements.

"*Bunga daytoy ti panagkaykaysa tayo* (This is the fruit of our cooperation)," the mayor pointed out as he, the congressman and Vice Mayor Betty Lourdes Tabanda distributed tokens to the health workers.

City Engineer Leo Bernardez said some P2.6 million from the city is being used to complete the canopy and concreting of the road and entrance leading to the

structure while the Department of Public Works and Highways has programmed some P4 million for the ramp and other fixtures.

Domogan said it took time to finish the building as release of the funds from Senator Flavier came in several trances./**Ramon Dacawi**

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PINUPUNA AT PINAPANSIN

PNP Dir. Gen. Ebdane inutil

Ni ODELL "BOMBITO" P. AQUINO



Election time na naman at mamimili ang buong sambayanang Pilipino kung sino ang kanilang iuupo sa Malacañang, Senado, Kongreso, City Hall, Munisipyo at Kapitolyo.

-oOo-

Congrats ang Happy Newly Wedding to Baguio City Fire Marshall Constantine Supanga at ang kanyang butihing asawa na si Graill Cadiogan-Supanga last Dec. 28, 2003. Sir, Mam may you have many more kids to come.

Binabati ko rin ang mga kaibigan kong sina Josaphat Corral, and Victoria Tatunay-Corral para sa nalalapit nilang pag-iisang dibdib sa Jan. 29, 2004 sa Agoo, La Union.

Happy Birthday din kay Janrie Mark Rarang on Jan. 25 and to Lito Cabanban, Jan. 5, 2004. Binabati rin ni Joi si Windy na magdaraos ng kanyang kaarawan sa Jan. 26. May you have many more b-days to come.

-oOo-

Walang iba, na dapat sisihin sa pagkawatak-watak ng United Opposition at ng Samahan ng Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LPD) kundi itong si Sen. Angara. Kaya naman ganun na lamang ang pag-aarburuto ni Sen. Ping Lacson.

Tama marahil si Lacson sa kanyang hinala na pakawala yata at tuta raw po ng Malacañang itong si Angara. May puntos si Lacson sa kabibira kay Angara sapagkat makikita naman talaga ang pagiging balimbing nito. Balimbing sapagkat bakit niya iniindorso ang mga kandidatong hindi naman niya kapartido? Pwe!

Kaya naman tuloy nagdududa itong si Lacson sapagkat nakakasilip siya na medyo malalim ang pakay nitong si Angara, o dili kaya'y hidden agenda itong si Sen. Angara? Posibleng ibenta nito ang sinasabi nating Presidential nomination, o kaya naman siya awtomatikong may posisyon siya pag nanalo ang manok niya, hindi po ba mga bespren? Pwe!

Wala palang isang salita itong si PNP Dir. Gen. Ebdane? At bakit po ba natin nasabing walang salita eh ano po ba ang tawag sa isang taong puro napako ang mga pangako? Hindi ba't "inutil"? Opo. Inutil ang tawag sa taong hindi natutupad ng pangako nitong si Ebdane na kanya raw pong ipatitigil ang operasyon ng jueteng sa buong Pilipinas sa loob lamang ng isang buwan. Pwe! At bakit po ba tayo napapa-pwe kay Ebdane, eh hanggang ngayon eh, wala naming nagagawa si Ebdane para ipatigil ang jueteng diyan sa Ilocos Sur.

Ang balita nati'y nginig daw po yata ang tuhod nitong si Ebdane kay Mr. Chavit Singson na sinasabing may kontrol pa rin ng jueteng diyan sa maraming bayan sa Ilocos. Totoo ba Sir? Pwe!

-oOo-

Sa susunod po nating kolum, atin pong ilalabas ang mga reklamo hinggil na mabahong amoy sa may basement ng Shoemart (SM) Baguio.

PRANGKAHAN...

..from p.16

kumuha pa siya ng birds of the same feather flocks together na Carino-Velasco tandem na ayon sa ilan nating mga TB ay talaga naman daw mga sangkot sa katiwalian?

Maari sigurong mag-react itong si Pio Velasco hinggil sa mga impormasyong ito para sa ganoon ay atin ding mailabas ang kanyang panig at malinawan ang ilan sa mga katanungan na ito.

Talaga naman itong tambalan RCV na ito oo, the Roco-Carino-Velasco, bagama't ganito palang kaaga ay nakikini-kinita ko na ang

dami ng mga isyung ilalabas laban kina Carino at Velasco kaya't kung ako itong si Roco ay didistansiya na ako sa kanyang Mayor and Vice Mayoral candidates na ito.

oOo

Ayon pa sa isa nating TB ito raw si Konsehal Lover Boy Carino ay isa raw staunch oppositionist ng John Hay Development at mayroon pa raw mga bukang bibig na hindi raw siya kailan man maglalaro ng golf sa John Hay hanggang ang nagpapatakbo nito ay ang Fil-Estate, at pa kunwari pang kontodo opposition itong si Carino sa John Hay development, yun pala, ayon sa isa rin nating TB ay nagpapataas

Banyagang illegal recruiter hinatulan

Baguio City- Natuklasan ng hukuman na ang isang recruiter na nagngangalang Ali Zaid at mula sa Angel International Placement Agency (AIPA), na walang dudang nagkasala ito ng paglabag sa Labor Code at Estafa.

Matatandaang si Zaid, sa pamamagitan ng AIPA ay ang itinalaga bilang company representative ng Al Amari Manpower na nasa Saudi Arabia. Kabilang sa kanyang trabaho ay ang pakikipagtransaksyon sa mga recruitment agency dito sa bansa, na siya namang mangangasiwa sa paghanap ng mga papasok sa isang trabaho. Ang company representative naman ang nagsasagawa ng pangunahing interview, pagkatapos ay

lang daw ng presyo at tanggap mula sa John Hay itong si Carino, kaya't ayun, OKS na siya sa John Hay at panay na ang kanyang paglalaro ng golf at ang natitira na lang na oppositor ng John Hay ay si Yaranon at Yangot. Tutuo ba lahat ang mga ito Konsehal Carino?

oOo

Ayon pa sa isa nating TB ito raw si Konsehal Carino ay tumanggap rin ng maganda gandang BONUS para aprubahan ang operasyon ng casino. Ito kaya at totoo? Ano ang palagay ninyo mga dear readers tumanggap nga kaya ng salapi o ano mang suhol o lagay itong si Konsehal Carino para sa kanyang pagsama sa grupo ng mga JUDAS este mga konsehal na nag-aprub sa ma-

ang pag-indorso nito sa kumpanya sa ibang bansa na nangangailangan ng empleyado.

Sa hatol na ibinaba ni Judge Edilberto Claravall ng RTC Branch 60, noong Disyembre 8, natuklasan na si Zaid sa kabila ng kaalaman nito na expired na ang lisensya ng nasabing recruitment agency ay nagpatuloy pa rin ito sa pagre-recruit kasabwat ang isang nagangalang Loraine Ginseng, isang ahente.

Ayon sa isinampang reklamo, kinukunan daw ng mga ito ang kanilang binibiktima ng hindi bababa sa P10,000. Sa loob ng ilang buwan, agad umano na makakaalis ang biktima. Sa kasamaang palad, wala palang pag-asa na makaalis ang biktima dahil wala silang

lisensya mula sa POEA.

Sa katunayan, nasa watchlist pala ito ng POEA. Bago ang kasong kito na naganap noon pang taong 2001, nagkaroon na ng record ang naturang kumpanya, kabilang si Zaid. Mismong mga kawani ng POEA ang nagpatunay nito.

Ang salarin na si Zaid ay hinatulang mabilanggo ng mula 2 taon hanggang 6 na taon, bukod pa sa pagbabayad ng kabuuang halaga ng P126,850.00.

Hindi hayagang isinaad sa hatol ang nationality ng hinatulan.

Samantala, ang nakilalang ahente ng naturang placement agency na si Loraine Ginseng ay nananatiling nagtatago sa batas./

RAO

anomalya at immoral na casino sa John Hay?

Marami na siguro ang mga isyu na ating nailabas tungkol kay Carino na nararapat lamang na kanyang bigyan ng kinaukulan reaksyon at pansin kaya't umaasa tayo na sana'y sa pagkakataong ito ay hindi niya tayo dededmahin muli! Ngunit hindi pa ito ang last part ng ating komentaryo hinggil kay Konsehal "Lover Boy" Carino sapagkat ayon sa isa nating TB ay mayroon pang

dalawang mahalagang impormasyon tungkol kay Konsehal Carino na dapat ay malaman ng madla, ngunit bago natin ibunyag ito ay sinabi ko sa ating TB na mag-bigay o mag-pakita ng kahit na kaunting pruwera o konting supporting documents muna hinggil sa impormasyon (in fairness to Konsehal Carino) sapagkat medyo mabigat ang ating latest info tungkol sa kanya. Kaya't abangan ang susunod nating kolum.

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Muling paggamit ng Kennon Rd. para sa mga minibus isinulong

Tuba, Benguet-Naghain ng isang petisyon ang mga magulang, mag-aaral at mga guro ng Twin Peaks National High School na muling paggamit ng DPWH ang mga mini-bus na dumaan sa Kennon Road.

Ayon sa petisyon na nilagdaan ng mahigit 70-katao, mula nang suspendihin ng DPWH ang pagdaan

ng mga mini-bus ay nahihirapan na ang mga mag-aaral ng Twin Peaks National High School na pumasok sa paaralan.

Ayon pa sa petisyon, mas pinipili nila ang sumakay sa mga mini buses dahil mas mura ang pamasaha rito kumpara sa mga jeep, at vans.

Idinagdag din nila na mas malaking pakinabang ang nagagawa ng mga

Baguio City-Kagaya ng ibang tanggapan ng COMELEC sa iba't ibang panig ng bansa, dinagsa rin ang lokal na tanggapan dito ng COMELEC ng mga magpapatala ng kanilang kandidatura para sa gaganaping halalan sa Mayo 2004.

Gaya rin ng sitwasyon ng ibang tanggapan ng COMELEC, nakatanggap at nakapagtala rin sila ng mga kandidato na hindi malinaw ang intensyon ng kanilang magpapatala.

Nilinaw naman ni Election Officer Atty. Julius Torres na hindi nila puwedeng tanggihan ang isang nagpapatala nang

walang sapat na kadahilanan.

Anyang kung legalidad ang magiging basehan, kwalipikado ang mga nagpapatala sa kanilang tanggapan bagama't maituturing na ang ilan sa mga ito ay hindi kilala sa lipunan.

Sa ilalim ng

batas, ang nagnanais na maging isang kandidato para sa isang posisyon ay kailangan lamang na isang tunay na Pilipino, mahigit 30 ang gulang, marunong bumasa at sumulat, rehistradong botante sa lugar kung saan siya bumuboto, at

nanahan sa lugar kung saan boboto sa loob ng isang taon o higit pa.

Maaari lamang maganap ang diskwalipikasyon kung walang hindi nasunod ang isa sa mga alintuntunin ng batas at kung mayroong isang

COMELEC ...p.14

PRANGKAHAN TAYO

Lover Boy Cariño for Mayor (Part 2)

NI KENSHI



Katulad ng ating sinabi ng nakaraan natin kolum hinggil kay konsehal lover boy Cariño, ako ay nadidismaya sapagkat mukhang dededmahin na lang ni konsehal ang ating mga katanungan!?

Dapat sana sa ngayon ay nakatanggap na tayo ng kahit na anong kasagutan o ano mang reaksyon mula kay konsehal. Marahil, kaya siguro hindi nagre-react itong si Konsehal ay sapagkat alam niyang mayroon pang part 2 o baka may part 3 pa ang ating mga komentaryo tungkol sa kanya kaya't marahil ay inaantay ni konsehal na matapos muna ang lahat ng ating sinusulat tungkol sa kanya bago siya magbigay ng kinaukulang kasagutan o ano man reaksyon?!

Katulad ng aking sinabi ay hindi ko personal na kakilala itong si Konsehal kaya't lahat ng aking sinusulat ay aking inaasa mula sa ating mga TB – (Taga Bulong).

Ngunit bago natin ihayag ang ilan sa mga komentaryong ating nakalap ay nais ko lang munang tanungin itong si Konsehal Cariño kung bakit sa dinami-dami ng makukuhang running mate bilang vice mayor ay kanyang napili ang isang nag nangangalang Pio Velasco na isang kontraktor o kontratista na sanay mangontrata sa DPWH. Anong DPWH? Ito yung opisina ng gobyerno na sinasabing "Dito Po Walang Honest".

Ayon sa isa nating TB, ito raw si Pio Velasco ay nagunguna raw sa mga katiwalian at katarantaduhan sa mga kontrata sa DPWH at kung minsan pa nga ay na black list pa itong si Pio Velasco sa pagtanggap ng mga kontrata dala ng kanyang kapalpakan daw sa kanyang mga kontrata.

Ayon pa sa isa nating TB, ay itong si Pio Velasco raw, ay noong nakaraang eleksyon ay tumakbo na bilang Konsehal at ginamit pang pakunwari ang isang pekenjing na grupo na kanilang itinayo na itinawag nilang CONTRACO, ang ibig sabihin ay Contractors Against Corruption.

At ayon pa sa isa nating TB ay mahina naman daw ang nakuhang boto nitong si Pio Velasco noong nakaraang eleksyon.

Ako naman ay takang-taka dito kay Presidentiable Raul Loco este Roco kung bakit sa dinami-dami ng makukuhang mga kandidato ay

PRANGKAHAN...p.15



Huwag pakasisiguro- Ito marahil ang nais iparating ni Atty. Thomas Tayengco sa mga nagsasabi na walang magtatangkang lumaban sa isang maituturing na bihasa na sa larangan ng pulitika. Katunayan, isa si Atty. Thomas Tayengco, kilalang abogado ng mga market vendors, ang nagsumite ng kanyang kandidatura sa COMELEC, at walang iba kundi ang kagalang-galang na direktor ng COMELEC-CAR na si Atty. Armand Velasco ang nag-notaryo ng Certificate of Candidacy ni Atty. Tayengco. Si Atty. Tayengco ay kumakandidato bilang Congressman ng Baguio. Siya rin ang legal counsel ng The Junction, isang direktor ng Linis Gobyerno at kabilang sa partidong Isang Bansa, Isang Diwa..

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

-Mahatma Gandhi

(a message by Linis Gobyerno

www.linisgobyerno.org)