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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Cordillera top drug suspect killed, 3 cohorts arrested in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY - The top drug personality in the Cordillera was killed while his three alleged cohorts were arrested by combined police opera-

intelligence agents during an anti-illegal operation in his hideout at Manuel Roxas St. Lower Brookside, here, Saturday night.

Senior Superintendent

Director of the Baguio City Police Office, identified the fatality as Testy Sotero, of legal age, a resident of Ucab, Itogon, Benguet, the top drug personality in the region. Daskeo further

named the cohorts as Reservoir Pablo Quelala, 35, married, apartment owner and of Lower Brookside, Baguio City; Leopoldo

Cont. on page 6



BAGUIO DRUG FREE IN A MONTH?
- Police Regional Office-Cordillera acting regional director C/Supt. Elmo Francisco Saronia informs Mayor Mauricio Domogan that all chief of police are given a month while two month ultimatum for all police provincial directors target to eradicate all illegal drug related activities in the Cordillera region during the weekly "Ugnayan" presscon at the Mayor's Office./
Bonso Cavahvah

Mabuhay ang ating kapulisan na tumutugis sa mga drug pushers dealers. Sana ito'y na-aayon sa proper rules of engagement at due process!



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Reward offered for money changer's killers

BAGUIO CITY – Anti-crime advocates and family members of a murdered local money changer were able to raise some one hundred thousand pesos as reward money to whoever can provide probers with the vital information that will lead to the arrest of his killers, a top police official said here.

Senior Superintendent George D. Daskeo, City Director of the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO), declined to identify the donors of the reward money, citing that the pooled resources will definitely help in the arrest of the perpetrators considering that their identities are already with the law enforcers.

“We take every information leading to the arrest of the murder suspects positively and we want the public to help in solving one of the celebrated cases in the city last month,” Daskeo stressed.

It will be recalled that in the late afternoon of June 15, 2016, a 65-year old money changer died while his brother was injured after they were fired upon by two still

unidentified gun-wielding suspects during a robbery holdup at Purok 5, Bakakeng Norte.

The fatality was identified as Larry Oliva Haya Sr. 65, married, businessman, and a resident at Purok 5, Bakakeng Norte, Baguio City while his injured brother was named as Randolph Oliva Haya Sr., 67, married, and a resident at the same purok.

Initial police investigation showed the businessman was walking towards his house when he was approached by two still unidentified individuals and at gun point allegedly announced the heist.

At this juncture, the two suspects were able to grab the sling bag of the victim containing a huge amount of money in various currencies before he was shot on the face and chest.

His brother tried to come to his rescue after hearing the commotion but as soon as he came out of his house, he was fired upon by the suspects hitting him on his hips.

The suspects were able to flee on foot while the two victims were brought to the Baguio General

Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC) for but the businessman was pronounced dead on arrival by attending physicians.

According to the victim's wife, the sling bag was said to be containing 50,000.00 US dollar (P2,330,000.00); 10,000.00 Malaysian ringgit (P112,000.00); 1,150.00 Pounds (P76,475.00); 1,900.00 Euros (P99,370.00); and P320,000.00.

Daskeo revealed the identities of the suspects were known through the assistance of witnesses and with the help of the anti-cyber crime division of the PNP that enhanced the footages that were taken by a closed-circuit television (CCTV) camera that was able to take footages of the suspects while they were escaping from the crime scene.

He said probers are now zeroing in on the suspects through the help of concerned citizens with the hope that they will be arrested the soonest for them to answer for the crime they committed against one of the well-known money changers in the city./Dexter A. See

No approved parking plan for Melvin Jones

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan disclosed that there is no approved plan for the put up of a multilevel parking structure within the Melvin Jones grandstand, saying that what is available is the conceptual plan prepared by retired Arch. Ignacio Estipono for a one-floor parking but the surface remains as a playing field.

The city mayor explained there is no truth to earlier reports that the pay parking project within the Melvin Jones grandstand was already bid out by the city government, emphasizing that the put up of the pay parking

facility requires a tedious process that has not yet commenced.

“It is unfortunate that there are still some disgruntled quarters who try to misinform our people on the real issues confronting the conceptual plan for the put up of a one-floor parking facility at Melvin Jones. The surface will remain as a football ground that will serve its purposes,” Domogan stressed.

The local chief executive pointed out the conceptual plan will still be subject to a full-blown feasibility study in order to ascertain the feasibility of the parking project and the identification

of solutions on how to address the various social and environmental issues created once the project will be pursued.

According to him, he earlier gave authority to an Australian company to conduct the required feasibility study for the put up of a one-floor parking facility within the football facility and it was found out that the project was feasible.

However, Domogan explained the city did not accept the proposal that there will be commercial establishments that will be put up around the pay parking area considering that the conversion of a

Cont. on page 7

claimed BCPO is proud that no elected city official is involved in the illegal drug trade unlike in other areas in the country where some local officials are being identified as protectors illegal drugs trade.

According to him, law enforcers are now closely monitoring the activities of the barangay kagawad and the two barangay tanods who voluntarily submitted themselves to the police and admitted that they have been involved in the use of illegal drugs, thus, they committed to abandon their habit and identified their sources for the information of law enforcers.

He warned local officials that the non-involvement of elected officials to the illegal drug trade does not mean that the police will stop monitoring their activities, thus, the officials must continue supporting the illegal drugs campaign as this had been contributing to crimes incidents in the different barangays.

Daskeo explained to city officials that the campaign of the police against illegal drugs has a multi-pronged approach in order to account and neutralize the operations of high-profile drug personalities, address the proliferation of illegal drug pushers and users on the ground, thus, the

need for the participation and cooperation of the public in order for the law enforcers to succeed in the campaign in the next three to six months.

He revealed the law enforcers are taking the appropriate precautions in the conduct of the necessary operations against drug personalities, pushers and users in

the city to avoid collateral damage to innocent civilians in the campaign considering that they have a deadline to meet prescribed by no less than President Rodrigo Duterte; but such efforts will not compromise their other anti-criminality and peacekeeping initiatives which are their mandated priority./Dexter A. See

BCPO cites no public official as drug protector

BAGUIO CITY - The leadership of the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) disclosed that no elected public official in the city has been protecting the lucrative drug trade in the city, except for a barangay kagawad and two barangay tanods who voluntarily submitted themselves

for having allegedly used prohibited drugs.

Sr Supt George D. Daskeo, City Director of the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO), said despite the non-involvement of elected city officials in the drug trade, law enforcers continue to do the necessary documentation and valida-

tion of reports on the drug trade in the city to ascertain the protectors.

“We will not stop our campaign against the proliferation of illegal drugs in our city because although hundreds of drug pushers and users have voluntarily submitted themselves to the police and vowed to

abandon the use and trade of illegal drugs, we want to go after those behind the lucrative trade.”

Daskeo stressed. The police official



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The Junction is printed and published by Farco Trimedia Ventures, Inc. (FTV, Inc.) every weekend, with office address c/o Linis Gobyerno, Bldg. 2 Ground Floor PCEC Bldg., Happy Homes, Campo Sioco, Baguio City and marketing office c/o IT Dynamics, Rm 411, 4th Flr., Mt. Crest Hotel, Baguio City;

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Entered as Second Class Mail at the Baguio City Central

Post Office PCC-CAR 01-04-99

Member: Press Foundation of Asia

Philippine Press Institute

Beyond Borders Reporting

Website: www.junctionnews.com

Opinions expressed by the opinion writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of this paper.

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SAFETY IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY - Rescue Team of the Philippine Military Academy demonstrate how to retrieve victims in a collapsed building during an earthquake drill during the observance of National Disaster Prevention Month spearheaded by the Baguio City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council themed: "Kahandaan at Pagtugon sa Sakuna, Tungkulin ng Bawat Isa." held at Burnham Park July 15./By Bong Cayabyab

Roving vendors urged to secure permits, obey rules

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan urged roving vendors in the different parts of the city to secure permits and adhere to the rules and regulations stipulated in their permits to avoid being apprehended by the personnel of the Public Order and Safety Division (POSD).

The city mayor said the Baguio City Market Authority (BCMA), the policy-making body empowered to oversee issues and concerns on the public market and vending activities, already allowed the issuance of special permits to roving vendors with specific rules and regulations that is why they must comply with the requirement in order for them not to be apprehended.

One of the rules stated in the special permits issued to roving vendors is that their vending activities will be confined in the barangays where they come from, thus, POSD personnel are empowered to apprehend them once they go beyond the places where they are authorized to sell their goods.

"We continue to find ways and means on how to help our roving vendors because we recognize the

fact that they need to earn income for their families. However, we appeal to our roving vendors to comply with the agreed rules and regulations on how they will vend in order to avoid being chanced upon by POSD personnel," Domogan stressed.

He explained the BCMA fixed the jurisdictions of the vending areas of the roving vendors upon consultations with them that is why roving vendors are aware of such rules which were previously agreed upon, thus, what is important is for them to abide by the rules for them to freely sell their goods.

According to him, it is also unfair for the public to judge the POSD personnel for apprehending several vendors without looking into the violations committed by the apprehended vendors considering that they are just doing their job.

He called on the vendors to report to him the abuses being committed by POSD personnel so that the appropriate disciplinary action could be imposed on them depending on the outcome of the investigation that will

be conducted to give a chance for those being alluded to air their side.

The city mayor asserted the city government will continue its unrelenting and uncompromising campaign against ambulant vendors in order to clear the sidewalks from vending activities that contribute in constricting the smooth flow of pedestrian traffic in the central business district area.

He encouraged the POSD personnel to continue discharging their assigned duties and responsibilities with utmost dedication and passion so that the city's sidewalks will remain free from the proliferation of ambulant vendors in order to send a clear message to those enterprising individuals not to try pursuing their illegal activities in the city in the coming days.

He asserted the BCMA will continue finding ways and means on how to provide leeway for roving vendors to be able to sustain their sources of livelihood without compromising the interest of legitimate vendors in their respective barangays./Dexter A. See

Tax increase proposed for P650M income

BAGUIO CITY – The proposed increase in business and real property taxes will produce an additional income of more than P650 million for the city government annually which would mean improved services to the public.

This was the assessment made by assistant city treasurer Alex Cabarrubias and assistant city assessor Almaya Addawe when they presented the business and real property profiles of the city government during the city officials' transition planning held last July 7-8.

Cabarrubias volunteered that they expect an additional income estimated at P250 million annually if the proposed hike in business taxes is implemented while Addawe reported a P400 million estimated additional revenue for lands alone if their proposed revised schedule of fair market values of real properties will be enforced. This does not include the expected revenue for adjusting rates for buildings and structures.

The two department heads echoed Mayor Mauricio Domogan's call for the immediate passage of the proposed tax increases to update the antiquated rates which are not attuned with the times and with the requirements of the law any more.

Domogan again

Benguet Corp. open site assessed for environmental compliance

BAGUIO CITY – Technical personnel of the city government and the Itogon-based Benguet Corporation (BC) are now conducting the assessment and evaluation of the company's open pit site in Antamok to ascertain whether or not it will be able to pass the standards for the put up of the city's integrated solid waste management facility, Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan said here.

asked the city council to treat the tax measure as priority legislation stressing its urgency after many years of failing to impose any increase due to humanitarian consideration.

Addawe said the city has been given a failing mark by the Bureau of Local Government Finance for being remiss in updating the schedule of fair market values of real properties which has remained unchanged since 1996 making the city non-compliant with the New Local Government Code or the Republic Act No. 7160 provision mandating local government units to undertake a general revision of real property tax valuation every three years.

She said that to temper the huge increase in the market value as a result of the city's passing up on several revision terms, they proposed to drastically decrease the assessment levels from the present 12 percent for residential and 35 percent for commercial and industrial to just three percent for residential and five percent for commercial and industrial properties.

Addawe considered the suggestion of Rep. Marquez Go and Mayor Domogan to review the stratification of the taxable areas as well as the zonal values to make them more appropriate albeit it will entail having

to go through the process of gathering data anew to establish market values.

For business taxes, Cabarrubias said they are proposing an average of 10 percent increase in business taxes under Tax Ordinance No. 2000-01.

He said some proposed percentage increases may appear massive but are still low when translated to their peso value including land, market and cemetery operations.

The city's market rental and fees and garbage charges were last adjusted in 2001 or 13 years ago.

"Public hearings had been conducted with the concerned sectors so I think we can now act on the proposals, not exactly as proposed but what they perceive as reasonable rates based on the outcome of the hearings," the mayor said.

He expressed confidence that residents will be fair enough to consider the adjustments as long as these are realistic and justifiable and are being used for their intended purpose.

Apart from the revenue measures, the mayor also pitched for the proposed policy reforms to update the current levels of garbage and sewerage fees.

The mayor said these tax reforms are needed to further improve the revenue standing of the city and fund priority development projects in the pipeline./Aileen P. Refuerzo

integrated solid waste disposal facility.

"We have to be able to identify which among the existing sites will be the most feasible and with the least development cost so that we will be able to focus our resources for the immediate realization of the project that will eventually solve the city's garbage problem," Domogan stressed.

Earlier, BC management
Cont. on page 7

How many states should PH have under federalism?

Advocates of federalism want to divide the country into 11 autonomous states. With no less than President Rodrigo Duterte a champion for federalism, a good number of politicians and advocates have revived their campaign for charter change in the past weeks.

At least 6 lawmakers in the 17th Congress have passed bills or resolutions calling for either a Constitutional Convention or a Constituent Assembly to change the 1987 Constitution.

Under federalism, sovereignty in the Philippines will be constitutionally shared between a central governing authority and constituent political units called states or regions.

These autonomous states shall have responsibility over their own laws, finances, industries, public safety, education, healthcare, transportation, recreation, and culture.

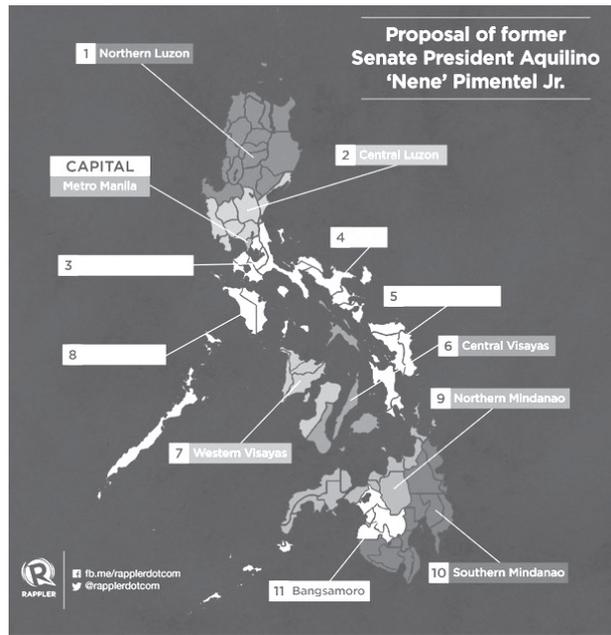
The national government is left to take care of matters with nationwide bearing, like national security and foreign policy.

For Duterte and supporters of federalism, this form of government would remove the centralization of power and wealth at the so-called "imperial" Manila and empower the rest of the provinces. Some lawmakers, however, think federalism will still not address corruption and poverty.

The most basic issue in the debate is how many states the Philippines will be broken into under a federal system?

There are at least two proposals so far.

Proposal by ex-Senate President Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel, Jr



Infographic by Raffy de Guzman/Rappler

Former Senate President Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel Jr is proposing that the country be divided into 11 federal states, while keeping a presidential form of government and increasing the number of elected senators from 24 to 81.

The breakdown of federal states is as follows:

- Luzon: 4 states (Northern Luzon, Central Luzon, Southern Tagalog, Bicol)
- Visayas: 4

states (Eastern Visayas, Central Visayas, Western Visayas, and Minparom, covering Mindoro Oriental and Mindoro Occidental, Palawan and the Kalayaan Islands, Romblon, Marinduque)

- Mindanao: 3 states (Northern Mindanao, which may be subdivided into Northwestern and Northeastern Mindanao; Southern Mindanao, Bangsamoro)

Metro Manila will remain the capital of the federal Republic of the Philippines. The president and the vice president will be elected as a tandem and not separately, similar to how they are elected under the current system.

A bicameral Congress also remains, but the senators will be elected from every state. Pimentel said this is also another way of power decentralization, as the newly elected senators from the May polls mostly came from Luzon.

Each of the 11 federal states will elect 6 senators and the same goes for Metro Manila. Nine senators will also be elected overseas.

Pimentel wants the federal executive department to hold offices in Metro Manila.

The legislature, meanwhile, will establish its office in Central Visayas. The Supreme Court and a proposed Constitutional Court,

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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Leni's attack on Duterte gov't raises eyebrows

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... Ezra, the priest... faced the square just inside the Water Gate from early morning until noon and read aloud to everyone who could understand. All the people listened closely to the Book of the Law..." (Nehemiah 8:2-3, the Holy Bible, NLT).

-000-

LENI'S ATTACK ON DUTERTE GOV'T RAISES EYEBROWS: Newspapers and other media outlets carried an item on July 13, 2016 which featured Vice President Leni Robredo assailing what she said was a "growing culture of vigilantism and violence" under the Duterte government which, just the other week, accepted her as a member of President Duterte's official family as the secretary of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC).

Maybe because of the jubilation brought about by the decision of the United Nations Arbitral Tribunal upholding our country's right to the South China Sea as against China's encroachments in the area, the grave implication of Leni's statement, released by her office officially to the media to make sure it gets the desired exposure, appeared to have been glossed over or unrealized by many.

Yet, there were many, however, who raised their eyebrows with Leni's statement: was it not an attack against the very government that finally agreed to give her a Cabinet post even if there was no duty on the part of Duterte to give her any position? Was it not treachery to a government that gave her gracious accommodation just a few days earlier? Could she not have just talked to Duterte in private about it, in the first place?

-000-

WOMEN-PARAMOURS CAN BE LIABLE FOR VIOLENCE VS. WOMEN, TOO: What, if any, is the liability of a woman who agrees to be the paramour of a married man? This is the question of Dionisia P., who said her husband suddenly became violent towards her and their children, refusing even to provide for their daily sustenance after entering into a relationship with another woman.

This is an interesting question, but I am of the view that Republic Act 9262, or the Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act, already has an answer: the woman lover of the married man---and even her own parents or children or friends who help her pursue her relationship with the man---could also be liable for imprisonment of up to 20 years under this law.

My reason is that, like any other crime, violence against women and children is an offense that can be committed by several persons at the same time, if they all conspired, by their acts or behavior, towards the accomplishment of the criminal purpose. Since an adulterous relationship can be carried out only by a man and a woman, the woman should be equally liable and, if she is aided by others in the illicit relationship, all of them should be held liable, too.

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FIFTH BIBLICAL PROOF: BIBLE READING FROM DAYBREAK: Today, let me tackle the fifth proof which members of the Anak ng Diyos Kadugo Ni Kristo (or AND KNK, Children of God Blood Kin of the Christ) Church believe is offered by Bible attesting to the Biblical basis of the AND KNK. This pertains to the manner

by which the Church carries out its praise and worship services.

Even from the initial stages of its organization in the Philippines, the AND KNK had been engaged in the reading of the Bible from daybreak until noontime. This was something that, at first, was resorted to by the Church because of the

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MAGKASANGGA TAYO

• UNCLOS - Pinas panalo sa China, eh ano na ngayon???

• Checklist para sa mamamayan!!!



BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

PALSIIT

Saan nga Agtudo Amin a Disso



BY: LEONARDO R. AGUNOY

UNCLOS - Pinas panalo sa China, eh ano na ngayon - Isa nga bang tagumpay at victory na ating maituturing ang naging inaasahan na desisyon ng UNCLOS na pumapabor sa ating bansa? Kung sakali at ito ay isang tunay na tagumpay, ano ba talaga ang kahalagahan at implikasyon nito para sa sambayanan Pilipino, kung mayroon mang kahalagahan ito? Hindi natin maipagkakaila na ang tagumpay na ito ay isang tagumpay na ating masasabi na tagumpay sa papel lamang or only in paper. Ito ay kung ating ihahambing ay katulad sa madalas na sinasabi ng maraming mga sira ulo at mga tulisan na binabalewala ang batas ay "sayo ang titulo o papel ngunit sa akin ang lupa!" Hindi po ba ganitong ganito ang kasalukuyang sitwasyon sa South China Sea or West Philippine Sea? Ang China ang nakaposisyon sa lugar na ito ngunit sa atin ang pagkapanalo o ang desisyon sa papel na malinaw sa ngayon ay hindi natin o ang UNCLOS na maipatutupad???

Base sa mga nakita natin ay dededmahin lang ng China ang desisyon at walang ni sinuman ang may magagawa sa China para ipatupad at sundan ang desisyon ng UNCLOS. Kahit ang Estados Unidos ay walang magagawa pagdating dito at bagama't sa ngayon ay mga aquatic resources pa lamang ang siyang pina-pakinabangan ng mga intsik ay hindi magtatagal ay kanila ring kukunin ang other natural resources katulad ng gas atbp.

Kaya para sa akin ay sang-ayon ako sa mga sinasabi ni DFA Sec Pasay este Yasay na mag-usap na patungo sa joint exploration and development para sa ganoon ay makinabang rin ang ating bayan. Bakit ano ba ang mapapakinabangan natin sa national pride? Makakain ba natin yan? Ano ba ang mas gusto ninyo, mayroon tayong pakinabang o wala???

National Pride and Patriotism starts within our very own country at hindi isang bukang bibig lamang. Mismong sarili nating kababayan ginagago natin eh ano ang national pride, patriotism and love of country na ating sinasabi, ninanais o maipagmamalaki???

TAMA NA AT TIGILAN NA ANG KA -IPOKRI-TOHAN AT PAGKAGAHAMAN NG MGA UBOD ANG KORAP. MABUHAY KA SEC. PASAY este YASAY at PRES. DIGONG !!!

####

Checklist para sa mamamayan- Natutuwa ako at nagagalak sa mga istilo ni Pres Digong kung saan ayaw niya na nakakakita ng mga pila o maraming taong nag-aantay sa mga government offices. Ito ang isang bagay na 100 and 1 percent ako na sang-ayon. Nuong araw ko pa hindi maintindihan kung bakit napakaraming mga tao na UBOD ang BOBOBO na nasa gobyerno lalung-lalo na yung mga na sa frontline services kung saan pinabalik-balik nila ang kanilang mga kliente at para bang ikinatutuwa pa nila ito na kung saan nag aaksaya ng oras, pagod at pera ang mga kliente ng pabalikbalik sa kanilang tanggapan. Sabi ko nga sa aking sarili ay mga feeling Bossing mga 'to kung saan ang kawawang mga kliente ay kanilang sina-subject sa kanilang power tripping, o maaari rin na sinasadya nila ito para sa ganoon ay ma-grasahan ang kanilang mga palad at balsa ng sinasabing padulas o lagay, suhol atbp. Isang uri ng korapsyon sa madaling salita?! Samantalang ang solusyon ay napakasimple at yuon ay gumawa ng detailed checklist indicating in detail the step by step process together with the processing time at saka kung kelan pwedeng pabalikin ang mga kliente na nangangailangan ng kanilang serbisyo at siyempre walang palakasan, first come first →

Saan nga agtudo amin a disso. Pagsasao daytoy dagiti nataengan. Ania ti kayat a sawen daytoy iti literal? Iti kasasaad ti panagbiag, saan nga agpapada. Adda dagiti babaknang; adda met dagiti marigrigat.

Nupay kasano ti kinarigat ti panagbiag, di kayat lattan ti dadduma ti maawagan ti marigrigat. Apay? Ngamin, adda kas-angna ti kasta a kasasaad. No nanumoka unay, ilupitlupitdaka dagiti tao. Kaarigmo ti ruot a mabaddebaddekan ti wayawaya ken kalin-teganna.

Nupay kasano ti kinarigat ti panagbiag, naibudi ti panagsalukag iti tarigagay a dumur-as ti panagbiagna.

Mapasangangan ti isasangbay ti kalgaw ditoy Kailokuan. Kaaduanna a kakabsat a mannalon no kua ti agnail-il agsipud ta agkurang metten ti pagpasayakda kadagiti mulada. Aglaylay dagiti mulada. Malanetda agingga nga agtamed ken patay. No saan, nakuriteg iti panagdakkelda. Saanto a nasalun-at ti maibunga dagitoy. Agtinnagto metten ti di mapulsot a sennaay dagiti kakabsat a mannalon.

Dimi maawatan ti turay ngamin no dadduma. Ibag-bagada a ti agrikultura, isu ti maipangruna a mataming iti kasapulan ditoy. Tapno saan nga agkamtud, ngem, ketdi, adda umdas a taraon ti pagilian. Ngem, kasla mising in action sa ketdi ti mapasapasamak. Kasla iti agdama, nangina latta ti abono. Ti crude oil, ala, adu metten a serye ti rollback-na. Ngem, di latta mapukaw iti panagduadua dagiti mannalon. Amangan no pagammuan tumayok manen a kasla ullaw ti presio ti crude oil.

Mangliwengliweng a kapanagan ti nalawa a makita ita. Kasla umasa-asuk a disierto ti kapanagan a sigud a nalawa a pagtatalonan. Kuna dagiti mannalon a nakail-ilala dagita a daga. Pinggan a nadadael ti kaarigna. Saanen a pagnumaran iti maapit a taraon. Nakisang la ngaruden ti naapit, nalaka pay ti presio ti irik. Kastoy ti agparparang a makaigapu: ni mannalon, manipud iti bin-i, abono, crude oil, inutangna kadagiti negosiante. Idi panagaapiten, agsingir metten ni negosiante kadagiti mannalon a pinautanganna. Irik ti pagbayad ni mannalon. Uray nalaka ti presio ti irik, iteden ni kabsat a mannalon. Ta mabain met ni kabsat a nakautang a di ti nakautanganna ti pangitedanna ti irikna. Ita, awan met ti sukrot a mapalubosan a sumbrek nga agatang. Adda ditoy ti price manipulation.

Agparparang a maik-ikkan iti kaipapanan ti pagsasao nga URAY MALUGI BASTA SUKI. Ania pay ngarud ti maaramidan itan? Kayat met ti makabayad iti inutang.

Nasawang ti tambak ti karayan. Nadadael pay ti dadduma nga irrigation facilities. Awan ngarud ti namnamaen a pagpadanum dagiti kakabsat a mannalon. Bay-amon ti agtalon, kuna payen ti dadduma.

Kas mapaliw, bassit laengen ti nagraep iti second crop. Nasaysayaaten a kawaw dagiti kinelleng ngem iti maraepan, mamulaan, kalpasanna, agrenggat laeng ti daga. Narigat ti malugi nga agtalon. Narigat ti masansan a masingsingir no di dagus a makapagbayad iti utang.

served!!!

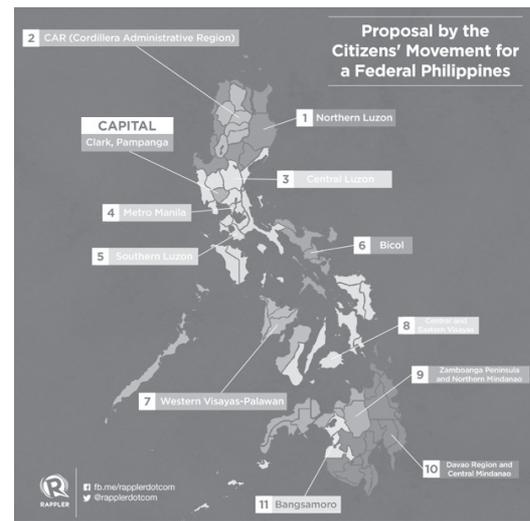
KAYA KAYONG MGA KUPAL SA GOBYERNO AY MAG-RESIGN NA LANG KAYO KUNG HINDI NINYO MAGAWA NG TAMA ANG INYONG MGA TRABAHO. MGA BUUUUUWWWWWWIIIISSSS-SIIITTTT KAYO!!!!!!

Editorial

...from page 4

which will decide on constitutional issues, will hold their main offices in the federal state of Northern Mindanao.

Proposal by the Citizens' Movement for a Federal Philippines



Infographic by Raffy de Guzman/Rappler

The Citizens' Movement for a Federal Philippines (CMFP) is also proposing 11 states, but has a slightly different version of federalism in mind.

According to CMFP Advisory Board chairman and University of the Philippines professor emeritus Jose Abueva, the Philippines would benefit more from a federal-parliamentary form of government.

"With greatly improved governance in a federal parliamentary democracy, gradually we shall be better able to develop greater human and institutional capabilities for good governance: (1) to solve our problems, meet our challenges and achieve our goals as a nation; (2) to effect needed change and reforms faster, and (3) to sustain our development and modernization," writes Abueva.

The CMFP proposes that the Philippines be broken down into the following 11 federal states:

- Northern Luzon
- Cordillera
- Central Luzon
- Metro Manila
- Southern Luzon
- Bicol
- Western Visayas-Palawan
- Central and Eastern Visayas
- Zamboanga Peninsula and Northern Mindanao
- Davao Region and Central Mindanao
- Bangsamoro

Unlike in Pimentel's proposal, the CMFP wants the new capital to be located at the Clark Special Economic Zone in Pampanga. This federal capital will be called "New Manila."

Each federal state will elect a representative to the "Batasang Estados (State Assembly)," whose members will be called as "diputados (assemblymen)." In Metro Manila, the mayors will constitute the State Assembly.

The new Parliament shall be bicameral, composed of the "Balay Sambayanan (House of the People)" and the "Balay Estados or Senado (House of the States)."

Members of the House of the People, called "parliamentaryos," will be elected per parliamentary district.

The "senadores (senators)" from the House of States shall be elected by members of the State Assembly from among themselves.

The Parliament elects the **Cont. on page 6**

The South China... from page 10

ment vessels at Second Thomas Shoal, holding that this dispute involved military activities and was therefore excluded from compulsory settlement. The Tribunal found, however, that China's recent large-scale land

Kakampi Mo Ang Batas ...from page 4

desire of its leaders to finish their praise and worship early in the morning too---early to start, early to finish, or so it appeared.

Yet, as AND KNK leaders studied the Bible more carefully, they found out that even the earliest believers (who were not even called Christians at that point) already had the practice of gathering very early in the morning, and then reading the Scriptures from daybreak until noontime. This account could be found in Nehemiah 8:3, and it confirms what true believers should be doing with their praise and worship services. Praise God!

-000-

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

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH SIMULTANEOUS DEED OF ABSOLUTE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MAURA LOSNONG, a resident of AD- 163 Central Buyagan, La Trinidad, Benguet, who died on November 10, 2008, has been extra judicially settled by the heirs through the Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate with simultaneous Deed of Absolute Sale involving a motor vehicle bearing plate number ABW 131, acknowledged on November 25, 2015 before Notary Public Atty. Robles G. Calabias as per Doc no. 387; Page No. 78; Book no. CXXXVII; Series of 2015.

July 2, 9, and 16, 2016

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE with simultaneous waiver of rights

Notice is hereby given to the Estate of the deceased spouses Maximo B. Guzman also known as Maximo Candiao and Emilia Pog-e Guzman who died on September 18, 2013 in Kapangan, Benguet and January 14, 2013 in Baguio City, respectively, that the estate has been the subject of an Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate with Simultaneous Waiver of Rights executed by the heirs of said deceased executed on April 14, 2016 and registered and docketed as Doc. No. 27; Page No. 6; Book XIV; Series of 2016 of the Notarial Book and Register of Atty. Meshack C. Macwes of the City of Baguio.

July 9, 16, and 23, 2016

reclamation and construction of artificial islands was incompatible with the obligations on a State during dispute resolution proceedings, insofar as China has inflicted irreparable harm to the marine environment, built a large artificial island in the Philippines' exclusive economic zone, and destroyed evidence of the natural condition of features in the South China Sea that formed part of the Parties' dispute.

An expanded summary of the Tribunal's decisions is set out below. The Tribunal was constituted on 21 June

Editorial ...from page 5

leader of the majority party or coalition as the prime minister. He or she heads the Cabinet, and they will be responsible for the policies and program of government to be implemented.

Abueva said the president will be a "symbolic and ceremonial" head of state to be elected for a term of 5 years.

"The President shall symbolize the sovereignty of the people and the unity and solidarity of the nation with its ethnic, linguistic, religious, cultural, social and economic diversities," Abueva said.

Judicial power shall be vested on the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, which will have a division in the capital of every state.

A Constitutional Tribunal will also be put up to decide on disputes involving the constitutionality of decisions by the federal government and the states./ Rappler.com

2013 pursuant to the procedure set out in Annex VII of the Convention to decide the dispute presented by the Philippines. The Tribunal is composed of Judge Thomas A. Mensah of Ghana, Judge Jean-Pierre Cot of France, Judge Stanislaw Pawlak of Poland, Professor Alfred H.A. Soons of the Netherlands, and Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum of Germany. Judge Thomas A. Mensah serves as President of the Tribunal. The Permanent Court of Arbitration acts as the Registry in the proceedings.

Further information about the case may be found at www.pcacases.com/web/view/7, including the Award on Jurisdiction and Admissibility, the Rules of Procedure, earlier Press Releases, hearing transcripts, and photographs. Procedural Orders, submissions by the Philippines, and reports by the Tribunal's experts will be made available in due course, as will unofficial Chinese translations of the Tribunal's Awards.

Background to the Permanent Court of Arbitration

The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) is an intergovernmental organization established by the 1899 Hague Convention on the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. The PCA has 121 Member States. Headquartered at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands, the PCA facilitates arbitration, conciliation, fact-finding, and other dispute resolution proceedings among various combinations of States, State entities, intergovernmental organizations, and private parties. The PCA's International Bureau is currently administering 8 interstate disputes, 73 investor-State arbitrations, and 34 cases arising under contracts involving a State

Cont. on page 7

Cordillera top drug... from page 1

Prigilla Helaryo, Jr., 35, single unemployed and resident of Upper Market Subdivision, Baguio City and Jonard Wansi Manuel, 26, single, unemployed, a resident of Upper Market Subdivision, Baguio City and a native of Ambasadador Tublay, Benguet.

"We were supposed to serve the warrant of arrest against Sotero in his suspected hideout when he opted to engage the operating troops to a shootout that resulted to his being killed. The death of the region's top drug personality will be a big blow to the illegal drug operations nationwide.

Confiscated from the notorious drug personality and his cohorts were a loaded caliber 22 revolver and an empty cartridge that was used by the accused Sotero. Also recovered at the crime scene were several glass vials containing brown crystalline substance of various

weights; several heat-sealed transparent plastic sachets containing white crystalline substance; improvised glass tooters, an undetermined volume of shabu, as well as other paraphernalia usually used in shabu business.

Responding police operatives and elements of the Scene of the Crime Operation (SOCO) team recovered from the crime scene multiple spent shells of calibre .45 pistol.

The arrested cohorts of the suspect were subsequently brought to the BCPO headquarters for further questioning while the remains of the suspect was brought to a local funeral parlor.

Daskeo said the death of the notorious drug personality in the region should serve as the final warning to those who are involved in the illegal drug trade to give up such illegal activity or face the consequences of their illegal actions./Dexter A. See and Daniel Carino (PIO intern)

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

ELPIDIO G. LITILIT Petitioner Case No. 91-CAR-751

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on July 26, 2016 at 2:00 PM. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time 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 oppositions 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 Atty. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director this 8th day of July 2016.

GREGORIO R. RETUTA
Hearing Officer

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

DENVER M. OCAMPO Petitioner Case No. 2004-BAG-CAR-0308

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 freights on the line BAGUIO PLAZA - GREEN VALLEY and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on July 26, 2016 at 2:00 PM. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time 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 oppositions 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 Atty. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director this 13th day of July 2016.

GREGORIO R. RETUTA
Hearing Officer

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

DOMINGO L. FAGYAN SR Petitioner Case No. 2000-01-2037

NOTICE OF HEARING

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

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on July 26, 2016 at 2:00 PM. at the LTFRB Office, Pacdal, Baguio City in which date and time 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 oppositions 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 Atty. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director this 13th day of July 2016.

GREGORIO R. RETUTA
Hearing Officer

Priest asks: Where's the moral outcry for life?

MANILA — Amid the rising death toll of drug-related violence, a Catholic priest said what is more alarming is the public silence against extrajudicial killings.

Redemptorist Fr. Amado Picardal, a known human rights advocate, said the problem is unlikely to stop because "there is no moral outcry" for life.

"It is not only the killings but the reaction of the citizens, majority of them are Catholic," Father Picardal said over Radio Veritas.

"Others are quiet or they approve of it, the thing is justified until a member of their families are included and that is my worry that (killings) will not stop because there is no outcry from

the citizens," he said.

More than a hundred suspected illegal drug pushers and users have already been killed in less than a month.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines earlier expressed alarm at a sharp increase in police killings of suspected criminals since Archbishop Socrates Villegas, CBCP President, said signs of vigilantism and the offering of bounties for criminals are "equally disturbing."

Father Picardal warned that the lack of public outcry and the seeming normality of summary executions will only make the problem worse.

"If this will continue and this will worsen, I think there is madness that is happening in our country today," he said./

Ysabel Nicole Hilado/CBCPNews

No Approved Parking... from page 2

portion of the football ground into commercial areas is not pursuant to the concept of maintaining the park.

He claimed the conceptual plan remains a plan until such time that there will be a feasibility study that will show that the put up of a one-floor parking facility within the Melvin Jones grandstand will be feasible and that all other social and environmental issues shall have been appropriately addressed for the benefit of the present and future generations of city residents.

Domogan assured local residents that the city government will remain transparent in the conduct of consultations regarding the project and that it was never the intuition of local officials to pursue the project without the conduct of a detailed feasibility study that will address the various issues surrounding the realization of the put up of the pay parking facility within the Melvin Jones grandstand.

It was earlier proposed that there will be a one-floor underground parking underneath the Melvin Jones football ground while the surface of the facility will remain as a playing field.

Domogan encouraged concerned stakeholders of the city to continue submitting their recommendations on how to effectively and efficiently address the current problem on the absence of sufficient parking areas that will accommodate a bigger volume of vehicles so that motor vehicle owners will not just park their vehicles in any vacant spaces along major roads that contribute to the smooth flow of traffic in the city's central business district area./

Dexter A. See

The South China... from page 6

or other public entity. The PCA has administered 12 cases initiated by States under Annex VII to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

In July 2013, the Tribunal in the South China Sea Arbitration appointed the PCA to serve as Registry for the proceedings. The Tribunal's Rules of Procedure provide that the PCA shall "maintain an archive of the arbitral proceedings and provide appropriate registry services as directed by the Arbitral Tribunal." Such services include assisting with the identification and appointment of experts; publishing information about the arbitration and issuing press releases; organizing the hearings at the Peace Palace in The Hague; and the financial management of the case, which involves holding a deposit for expenses in the arbitration, such as to pay arbitrator fees, experts, technical support, court reporters etc. The Registry also serves as the channel of communications amongst the Parties and the Tribunal and observer States.

-to be continued-

Autonomy is for future generations of Cordillerans – MGD

BAGUIO CITY – The realization of autonomy in the Cordillera will not be for the present generation but will be for the future generations of Cordillerans who reap the fruits of self-governance that is being clamoured for by the national government, Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan said during the kick off ceremony of the Unity Gong Relay here.

The local chief executive asserted he will remain a staunch advocate for autonomy regardless of what will be its outcome so that the future generation of Cordillerans will not put the blame on the previous generations on why they were not able to work out the attainment of self-governance which is the ultimate solution to the current predicaments of various stakeholders on the snail-paced development, among others.

"We are elated over the increasing awareness of Cordillerans on the real essence of autonomy but we need to continue working extra hard to convert such awareness to votes in favour of autonomy once Congress crafts an autonomy law that is acceptable to the people," Domogan stressed.

While he is alarmed over the possible deletion of the constitutional provision mandating the establishment of autonomous regions in Muslim Mindanao and the Cordillera with the shift from the current presidential to federal form of government by the Duterte administration, the city mayor pointed out that it this is the opportune time for realizing the constitutionally mandated autonomous region, and not to wait for the issue to be overtaken by events in the future.

According to him, the future generation of Cordillerans will be the ones that will enjoy the advantages and benefits of autonomy but the realization of the quest for self-governance must be done by the present generation so that 'our children and our children's children will not blame us for failing to work for it and grab the opportunity granted to us by the Constitution.'

He opined that while it is true that autonomy

can exist within a federal state, Cordillerans should not wait for that state because the situation might be different in the future, thus, it is high time that the autonomy bill be passed and subsequently ratified by the people in order to establish the autonomous region prior to the establishment of the federal state.

Domogan expressed optimism that the Constitutional Convention or Constituent Assembly to be created to introduce amendments to the 1987 Constitution to realize the aspiration of the Duterte administration for a shift to federal form of government, will not outrightly delete the existing constitutional provisions mandating the establishment of autonomous regions in Muslim Mindanao and the Cordillera.

Various stakeholders nationwide stipulated that there is still a need to continue and expand the existing programs and projects leading towards the realization of autonomy with the inclusion of federalism in the advocacy so that people will be able to understand that autonomy can still exist even in a federal form of government that will reflect the uniqueness of the Cordillerans in terms of land area, type of people, culture and traditions among others./

Dexter A. See

Benguet Corp... from page 3

ment offered to the city government the possible use of its open pit site in Antamok for its engineered sanitary landfill or integrated solid waste disposal facility to help the city government and other neighboring towns of Benguet solve their garbage disposal problems.

Under the planned integrated solid waste disposal facility, the city government plans to put up a centralized materials recovery facility, a waste to energy plant, an anaerobic digester, Environmental Recycling system (ERS) machines, engineered sanitary landfill, health care and medical waste treatment plant and a special waste treatment plant in order to permanently solve the current garbage disposal woes of the city.

The city earlier planned to put up the integrated solid waste disposal facility within the 139-hectare city-owned property in Sto. Tomas School area but the prohibitive development cost in building the access roads to the site aggravated by some issues on land claims compelled local officials to consider the offer of BC to use its open pit site as a site for its solid waste disposal facility.

Domogan said the final results of the on-going technical evaluation of the BC open pit site will serve as the basis of the city solid waste management board to partially amend its 10-year solid waste management plan that was approved by the NSWMC, specifically on the site on where to put up the facility, in order for the concerned offices to finalize existing plans and programs for the eventual realization of the project.

While the city is looking for a permanent site on how to dispose its garbage, the hauling of garbage to the engineered sanitary landfill in the lowlands will continue in order to prevent the residual waste from being stored in the staging area of the hauler in Longlong, Puguis, La Trinidad, Benguet./

Dexter A. See

According to him, the future generation of Cordillerans will be the ones that will enjoy the advantages and benefits of autonomy but the realization of the quest for self-governance must be done by the present generation so that 'our children and our children's children will not blame us for failing to work for it and grab the opportunity granted to us by the Constitution.'

He opined that while it is true that autonomy

Cordillera is always at the losing end of the bureaucracy – DILG-CAR

BAGUIO CITY – The Cordillera office of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG-CAR) cited the Cordillera will always be at the losing end of the bureaucracy when national standards are implemented to the fullest because of its small population and land area that deprives the people of substantial development projects and better delivery of basic services.

Engr. Marlo N. Iringan, DILG-CAR regional director, said it is high time that Cordillerans embrace the reality that their local government always got the least allocation from the budget of the national line agencies and share from the Internal Revenue Allotment

Cont. on page 8

City dad sends off unity gong with 'pitik'

BAGUIO CITY - City Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan administered a Cordilleran practice called "Pitik" during the kick-off ceremony of the unity gong relay in celebration of the 29th Cordillera Day last Saturday July 9 at City Hall.

Pitik which is the same as prayer is a practice observed by many Cordillerans as a sacred procedure when invoking the name of Kabunian, the supreme ruler and other deities who have control over all events.

Before a ritual is carried out especially when a ceremony requires the playing of the gongs

bringing out a ceremonial jar or "Culi" and wine will be served, an elder preferably of good moral and reputation in the community is honored to intercede for the ancestors and ask for their approval for the peaceful conduct of an occasion. It is believed that by doing so, the ancestors who first practised the same will be pleased and that they will forge unity amongst the living mortals. Failure to offer wine in solidarity with them can turn the event into a failure by inflicting sickness or temporary insanity to anyone or worse, an accident may happen

during an impending travel. This is to remind the people that they were remiss or have forgotten the procedure.

In this occasion, Mayor Domogan thanked God for blessing the Cordilleras with His bounty and asked for His continued support to this land, its people and culture.

"May He grant to His people the value of love and care so that they will become responsible stewards over His great resources so that we can pass them to the generations to come."

He invoked God's favorable approval of the move to establish a

Cordillera Autonomous Region so that the Cordillerans will not be disenfranchised regardless

Cordillera is Always... from page 7

(IRA) because of its small population and land area.

"We have to continue our efforts towards achieving autonomy because it is the only justifiable and legal means by which the region as a whole could demand from the national government the allocation of more resources for the overall development of the region considering that the Cordillera will be treated as a regular region in terms of the allocation of the government's resources if it will remain as a special administrative region or opt to become a regular region," Iringan told stakeholders during the kick off ceremony of the Unity Gong Relay in the city Saturday.

Under the law, the IRA is allocated to local governments using the formula 50 percent for population, 25 percent for land area and 25 percent for equal sharing.

The DILG-CAR official said the whole population of the region is more than 1.7 million and its land area is more than 1.85 million hectares compared to the population of Cavite which is more than 1.6 million and more than triple in terms of land area, thus, Cavite's IRA is much bigger compared to the IRA of the local governments in the region combined.

Earlier, the Regional Development Council (RDC) in the Cordillera admitted that the region as a whole had been receiving the least budgetary allocation from the different national line agencies over the past several years amidst the persistence of congressmen and local officials to lobby for increased allocation to fund the implementation of more development projects and improve the delivery of services for the people.

Iringan rallied Cordillerans to join the bandwagon established by the RDC-CAR and its partners in order to perk up the support of concerned stakeholders to the region's renewed quest for regional autonomy even with the federalism being strongly advocated by the Duterte administration.

He encouraged barangay and other local officials regionwide to include autonomy in the crafting of their short, medium and long-term development plans so that the region will give justice to the stalwarts of self-governance who risked their lives in the past just to gain a giant step words achieving autonomy, which was the creation of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) by virtue of Executive Order No. 220 issued by former President Corazon C. Aquino on July 15, 1987./Dexter A. See

of their ethnic affiliations.

The mayor likewise invoked God for His protection for the officials who will bring the unity gong to the provinces, that they may effectively convey the message of this year's theme, "Working Together for an Autonomous and Empowered Cordillera" as sonorous as the sound of the gongs.

After the Pitik, officials of this city together with Mayor Salda of La Trinidad, Regional Directors Milagros Rimando of the National Economic Development Authority-Cordillera and Marlon Iringan of the Dept. of Interior and Local Government honored guests, took part in the toasting of wine amid the beat of the gongs and the Cordillera hymn sung with fervor by the City Hall Choir./June B. Bacbac

Angry China warns against 'cradle of war' in sea

China warned its rivals Wednesday against turning the South China Sea into a "cradle of war" and threatened an air defense zone there, after its claims to the strategically vital waters were declared invalid.

The surprisingly strong and sweeping ruling by a UN-backed tribunal in The Hague provided powerful diplomatic ammunition to the Philippines, which filed the challenge, and other claimants in their decades-long disputes with China over the resource-rich waters.

China reacted furiously to Tuesday's decision, insisting on its historical rights over the sea while launching a volley of thinly veiled warnings to the United States and other critical nations.

"Do not turn the South China Sea into a cradle of war," vice foreign minister Liu Zhenmin told reporters in Beijing, as he described the ruling as waste paper.

"China's aim is to turn the South China Sea into a sea of peace, friendship and cooperation."

Liu said China also had "the right" to establish an air defense identification zone (ADIZ) over the sea, which would give the Chinese military authority over foreign aircraft.

A similar zone set up in 2013 in the East China Sea riled Japan, the United States and its allies.

"Whether we need to set up one in the South China Sea depends on the level of threat we receive," he said.

"We hope other countries will not take the chance to blackmail China."

The Chinese ambassador to the United States, Cui Tiankai, was even more blunt over the ramifications of the verdict.

"It will certainly intensify conflicts and even confrontation," Cui said in Washington on Tuesday.

China justifies its sovereignty claims by saying it was the first to have discovered, named and exploited the

sea, and outlines its claims for most of the waterway using a vague map made up of nine dashes that emerged in the 1940s.

Those claims overlap with those of the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan.

Manila, under previous president Benigno Aquino, launched the legal case in 2013 after China took control of Scarborough Shoal, a rich fishing ground within the Philippines' exclusive economic zone and far away from the nearest major Chinese landmass.

China has also in recent years built giant artificial islands capable of hosting military installations and airstrips in the Spratlys archipelago, one of the biggest groups of islands in the sea.

- 'No legal basis, unlawful' -

Aside from stating that China's historical rights were without "legal basis", the tribunal ruled that its artificial island building and the blocking of Filipino fishermen at Scarborough Shoal were unlawful.

However the Philippines, under new President Rodrigo Duterte, declined to celebrate the verdict, saying on Tuesday only that it welcomed the ruling while calling for sobriety and restraint.

Duterte has repeatedly said he wants to improve relations with China, which plummeted under Aquino because of the dispute, and that he would seek Chinese investment for major infrastructure projects such as a railway for the impoverished southern Philippines.

His Foreign Minister, Perfecto Yasay, told AFP in an interview last week that the Philippines would seek to use the verdict as the basis for direct talks with China aimed at achieving a long-awaited code of conduct among rival claimants for the sea.

However China faced immediate pressure from Western powers, which insist they have legitimate interests in the dispute because of the need to maintain "freedom of navigation" in waters that hosts more than \$5 trillion in shipping trade annually.

The United States emphasized on Tuesday that China, as a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, should accept the verdict.

"As provided in the convention, the tribunal's decision is final and legally binding on both China and the Philippines," State Department spokesman John Kirby told reporters in Washington.

Kirby called on all sides "to avoid provocative statements or actions".

- 'Reputational costs'

Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop warned China on Wednesday there would be "strong reputational costs" for ignoring the ruling, as she called for an end to Chinese island building.

"China seeks to be a regional and global leader and requires friendly relations with its neighbours. That's crucial to its rise," Bishop told national broadcaster ABC.

Military tensions in the sea had already spiked in the lead-up to the verdict.

China launched naval drills in the northern areas, while the US Pacific Command said it had deployed an aircraft carrier for flights to support "security" in the sea.

Taiwan, which was another loser in the verdict as its claims are very similar to those of China, sent a warship to the sea on Wednesday to protect its claims.

China used deadly force to seize control of the Paracel Islands from South Vietnam in 1974, and Johnson Reef from a united Vietnam in 1988./ AFP

Obesity among Cordillerans alarming – NNC-CAR

BAGUIO CITY - The Cordillera office of the National Nutrition Council (NNC-CAR) is alarmed over the increasing obesity and overweight cases among various age brackets amidst the improving advocacy among concerned government agencies, local agencies and private partners on good nutrition and healthy lifestyle.

Rita Papey, NNC-CAR Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator, said that while the Cordillera is faring good in the management of under nutrition, the continuous increase in overweight and obese cases region-wide is alarming and should serve as a wake-up call for concerned stakeholders to refocus their programs in reducing obesity in the region.

“Malnutrition refers to both under- and over-nourished individuals who must be given attention to be enable them to embrace good nutrition practices that will improve their nutritional status for better quality of life,” Papey stressed.

For pre-school children, there are 6.1 out of 100 Cordillerans who are obese which is much higher than the national average of 5 for every 100 pre-schoolchildren.

Further, there are 7.8 out of 100 schoolchildren in the Cordillera who are obese compared to the 5.9 out of 100 children national obesity average.

On the cases of obesity among those in the adolescents, there are 11.6 out of 100 adolescents in the Cordillera who are said to be obese or overweight compared to the national average of 8.3 in the same age bracket.

The incidents of obesity among adults in the Cordillera is 34.5 out of 100 compared to the national average of 31.1% as of last year.

The NNC-CAR official attributed the continuous increase in obesity cases regionwide to the lifestyle of people, especially those living in urban centers, because of the emergency of ready-to-cook and processed foods which has now become the choice of people for convenience, among others.

According to her, the

Cordillera placed second to the National Capital Region (NCR) among all age brackets in terms of the existence of obese and overweight cases in their respective areas of jurisdiction, thus, the need for people to go back to the old ways of life by eating the right kind of food which are nutritious and contain the right kind of minerals and vitamins for maximum growth and the attainment of the optimum development potential for individuals.

Papey claimed it will be an uphill climb for concerned stakeholders to inform and educate the parents on the importance of embracing good nutrition for their children to avoid obesity and overweight, considering that they will be prone to contracting dreaded diseases that will significantly compromise their health condition.

She said it is high time that people learn to go back to the basics of life by eating the right kind of food and allowing children to be exposed to eating nutritious food for the benefit of their growth/Dexter A. See



CORDILLERA MONTH CELEBRATION - Clad in full Igorot regalia, Mayor Mauricio Domogan chants an indigenous ritual/uggayam during the 29th Cordillera Month Celebration themed: “CAR@29: Working together for an autonomous and empowered Cordillera” while CAR local officials and head of line agencies witnessed the occasion held at the Baguio Convention Center July 15./ By Bong Cayabyab

Gov’t agencies, LGUs not compliant to putting up lactating stations

BAGUIO CITY – Most government agencies and local government units were found to be not compliant to the establishment of lactating stations for breastfeeding employees and clients in their respective offices, a top nutrition official said here.

Rita Papey, Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator of the Cordillera office of the National Nutrition Council (NNC-CAR), said the major reason why government agencies are not able to put up their lactating stations is that they are simply renting their respective offices and that the spaces they are occupying are just enough for their officials and employees, thus, the failure on their part to put up the appropriate lactating stations for breastfeeding employees and clients.

She added that other reasons cited by officials of government agencies on this concern is the claim that all of their female workers are already beyond the lactating years and that establishing a lactating station is useless.

“We understand the predicament of our line

agency and local officials on the establishment of lactating stations but we have to point out to them the importance of the lactating stations, especially for their clients who are breastfeeding their babies,” Papey stressed.

On the other hand, the NNC-CAR official revealed that based on the inspection done by the officials and employees of the Department of Labor and Employment – Cordillera on the compliance of private establishments to the putting up of lactating stations in their respective businesses, there were 37 establishments that were found to have been compliant to the said requirement.

Under the provisions of the Milk Code of the Philippines, government and private offices are mandated to put up a lactating station within their buildings for the use of breastfeeding employees and clients.

Papey encouraged government agencies, local government units and private establishments that have not yet set aside a room in their buildings exclusively for lactating stations to comply with the provisions of the Milk code of the Philippines.

According to her, putting up lactating stations in government and private offices provides convenience for breastfeeding mothers transacting business with them considering that they will be given a chance to relax and breastfeed their babies, instead of exposing their breasts to the public while their babies are sucking milk which will not be good in the view of others.

The NNC-CAR official expressed optimism that there will be more government offices and local government units that will realize the importance of lactating stations in their respective buildings so that the concerns of their breastfeeding employees and clients will be effectively and efficiently addressed and for the privacy of lactating mothers to be upheld and allow them the use of such lactating stations while doing business in the said offices./By Dexter A. See

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The Tribunal Renders Its Award

A unanimous Award has been issued today by the Tribunal constituted under Annex VII to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the "Convention") in the arbitration instituted by the Republic of the Philippines against the People's Republic of China.

This arbitration concerned the role of historic rights and the source of maritime entitlements in the South China Sea, the status of certain maritime features and the maritime entitlements they are capable of generating, and the lawfulness of certain actions by China that were alleged by the Philippines to violate the Convention. In light of limitations on compulsory dispute settlement under the Convention, the Tribunal has emphasized that it does not rule on any question of sovereignty over land territory and does not delimit any boundary between the Parties.

China has repeatedly stated that "it will neither accept nor participate in the arbitration unilaterally initiated by the Philippines." Annex VII, however, provides that the "[a]bsence of a party or failure of a party to defend its case shall not constitute a bar to the proceedings." Annex VII also provides that, in the event that a party does not participate in the proceedings, a tribunal "must satisfy itself not only that it has jurisdiction over the dispute but also that the claim is well founded in fact and law." Accordingly, throughout these proceedings, the Tribunal has taken steps to test the accuracy of the Philippines' claims, including by requesting further written submissions from the Philippines, by questioning the Philippines both prior to and during two hearings, by appointing independent experts to report to the Tribunal on technical matters, and by obtaining historical evidence concerning features in the South China Sea and providing it to the Parties for comment.

China has also made clear—through the publication of a Position Paper in December 2014 and in other official statements—that, in its view, the Tribunal lacks jurisdiction in this matter. Article 288 of the Convention provides that: "In the event of a dispute as to whether a court or tribunal has jurisdiction, the matter shall be settled by decision of that court or tribunal." Accordingly, the Tribunal convened a hearing on jurisdiction and admissibility in July 2015 and rendered an Award on Jurisdiction and Admissibility on 29 October 2015,

deciding some issues of jurisdiction and deferring others for further consideration. The Tribunal then convened a hearing on the merits from 24 to 30 November 2015.

The Award of today's date (July 12, 2016) addresses the issues of jurisdiction not decided in the Award on Jurisdiction and Admissibility and the merits of the Philippines' claims over which the Tribunal has jurisdiction. The Award is final and binding, as set out in Article 296 of the Convention and Article 11 of Annex VII.

Historic Rights and the 'Nine-Dash Line': The Tribunal found that it has jurisdiction to consider the Parties' dispute concerning historic rights and the source of maritime entitlements in the South China Sea. On the merits, the Tribunal concluded that the Convention comprehensively allocates rights to maritime areas and that protections for pre-existing rights to resources were considered, but not adopted in the Convention. Accordingly, the Tribunal concluded that, to the extent China had historic rights to resources in the waters of the South China Sea, such rights were extinguished to the extent they were incompatible with the exclusive economic zones provided for in the Convention. The Tribunal also noted that, although Chinese navigators and fishermen, as well as those of other States, had historically made use of the islands in the South China Sea, there was no evidence that China had historically exercised exclusive control over the waters or their resources. The Tribunal concluded that there was no legal basis for China to claim historic rights to resources within the sea areas falling within the 'nine-dash line'.

Status of Features: The Tribunal next considered entitlements to maritime areas and the status of features. The Tribunal first undertook an evaluation of whether certain reefs claimed by China are above water at high tide. Features that are above water at high tide generate an entitlement to at least a 12 nautical mile territorial sea, whereas features that are submerged at high tide do not. The Tribunal noted that the reefs have been heavily modified by land reclamation and construction, recalled that the Convention classifies features on their natural condition, and relied on historical materials in evaluating the features. The Tribunal then considered whether any of the features claimed by China could generate maritime zones beyond 12 nautical miles. Under the Convention, islands generate an exclusive economic zone of 200 nautical miles and a continental shelf, but "[r]ocks which cannot sustain human habitation or economic

life of their own shall have no exclusive economic zone or continental shelf." The Tribunal concluded that this provision depends upon the objective capacity of a feature, in its natural condition, to sustain either a stable community of people or economic activity that is not dependent on outside resources or purely extractive in nature. The Tribunal noted that the current presence of official personnel on many of the features is dependent on outside support and not reflective of the capacity of the features. The Tribunal found historical evidence to be more relevant and noted that the Spratly Islands were historically used by small groups of fishermen and that several Japanese fishing and guano mining enterprises were attempted. The Tribunal concluded that such transient use does not constitute inhabitation by a stable community and that all of the historical economic activity had been extractive. Accordingly, the Tribunal concluded that none of the Spratly Islands is capable of generating extended maritime zones. The Tribunal also held that the Spratly Islands cannot generate maritime zones collectively as a unit. Having found that none of the features claimed by China was capable of generating an exclusive economic zone, the Tribunal found that it could—without delimiting a boundary—declare that certain sea areas are within the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines, because those areas are not overlapped by any possible entitlement of China.

Lawfulness of Chinese Actions: The Tribunal next considered the lawfulness of Chinese actions in the South China Sea. Having found that certain areas are within the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines, the Tribunal found that China had violated the Philippines' sovereign rights in its exclusive economic zone by (a) interfering with Philippine fishing and petroleum exploration, (b) constructing artificial islands and (c) failing to prevent Chinese fishermen from fishing in the zone. The Tribunal also held that fishermen from the Philippines (like those from China) had traditional fishing rights at Scarborough Shoal and that China had interfered with these rights in restricting access. The Tribunal further held that Chinese law enforcement vessels had unlawfully created a serious risk of collision when they physically obstructed Philippine vessels.

Harm to Marine Environment: The Tribunal considered the effect on the marine environment of China's recent large-scale land reclamation and construction of artificial islands at seven features in the Spratly Islands and found that China had caused severe harm to the coral reef environment and violated

its obligation to preserve and protect fragile ecosystems and the habitat of depleted, threatened, or endangered species. The Tribunal also found that Chinese authorities were aware that Chinese fishermen have harvested endangered sea turtles, coral, and giant clams on a substantial scale in the South China Sea (using methods that inflict severe damage on the coral reef environment) and had not fulfilled their obligations to stop such activities.

Aggravation of Dispute: Finally, the Tribunal considered whether China's actions since the commencement of the arbitration had aggravated the dispute between the Parties. The Tribunal found that it lacked jurisdiction to consider the implications of a stand-off between Philippine marines and Chinese naval and law enforce-

Cont. on page 6



Hearing in session, July 2015, Peace Palace, The Hague. Clockwise from top left: Registrar and PCA Senior Legal Counsel Judith Levine; Judge Stanislaw Pawlak; Professor Alfred H. A. Soons; Judge Thomas A. Mensah (Presiding Arbitrator); Judge Jean-Pierre Cot; Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum; PCA Senior Legal Counsel Garth Schofield; former Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Mr. Albert F. Del Rosario; former Solicitor General Mr. Florin T. Hilbay, Counsel for the Philippines; Mr. Paul S. Reichler; Professor Philippe Sands; Professor Bernard H. Oxman; Professor Alan E. Boyle; Mr. Lawrence H. Martin.

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