

THE JUNCTION

WEEKEND

"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
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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Pahayagang palaban!!!

The Junction publisher unduly nabbed



DIGGINGS EVERYWHERE. This eye-popping giant mounds of mud at Rose Garden has not only become an eyesore but has paved the way to the discovery of human skeletons said to be from two persons Surprisingly, however, the bones are now mysteriously missing, with the NBI claiming (on Friday, Aug. 13) that they have not yet received any of the bones for examination and investigation (contrary to what was reported by a local paper). Police Stations 5 and 7 also say they don't have the human bones, as it was alleged that the "Burnham Police" re-buried the bones somewhere in the park! What a way to handle evidence! - MGB

At the height of series of killings of mediamen around the country, the de facto publisher of The Junction, last weekend, was unceremoniously arrested for libel complaint filed against him by no less than the Baguio City Police Chief.

Freddie Farres was arrested by members of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group - Cordillera at around 10 in the evening of August 6, a Friday. Having no recourse for bail (in the middle of the night), Farres was detained overnight at the CIDG-

CAR office. Farres and most of The Junction staff happened to be in their Magsaysay office at the time of the arrest, because they had to bed the paper on Friday nights.

Farres believes that the arrest was improper. The CIDG men dressed in informal attire came during an incongruous time in the evening.

The arresting officers even violated the Miranda Doctrine as Farres was not read his rights during his arrest.

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Those Devalued Diplomas

BY JUAN L. MERCADO



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Tired of Graft & Corruption?

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Linis Gobyerno is an anti-graft, corruption prevention and detection office.

Proper Dumping Urged

Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. remarks that the dumping of soil and debris in major entry and exit roads in the City of Baguio have been going on unnoticed for quite sometime.

This situation has been contributing

to the occurrence of a series of vehicular accidents in the major exit and entry points that claimed the lives of a number of people and caused anguish and pain to many.

Vehicular accidents, he adds, usually occur when there is a

Vehicle Sirens for Emergency Use Only

Motor vehicles vehemently using their sirens just to avoid traffic is now prohibited in the city. But that will only happen if Councilor Daniel Fariñas' proposed ordinance to the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* is approved.

The councilor recounts that motor vehicles including ambulances use their sirens and other similar gadgets even when there are no emergencies. They do this just to avoid traffic so they can pass freely during rush hours where traffic is at its worse.

These reckless acts sometimes create confusion and disturbances to the public and other motorists, he adds. It becomes a nuisance and makes annoyance to the people around.

He signifies that it makes it difficult to determine if there is a real emergency hap-

pening or not, sometimes motorists would no longer give way to ambulances and other emergency vehicles during real emergencies because of the unnecessary use of sirens.

"Pasikat" (show-off) motorists and irresponsible emergency vehicle drivers will be fined the amount of P1,000.00 on the First Offense, P2,000.00 on the 2nd Offense and P3,000.00 for the Third Offense where their sirens will also be confiscated.

The proposed ordinance is still lined up to be discussed in the City Council but will immediately take effect upon its approval.

The proposed ordinance, however, is entirely different from the existing traffic rule prohibiting private cars from having implements like sirens. /MGB

heavy downpour of rain causing roads to be slippery due to the soil and debris washed on the road by the rain.

It is thus appropriate for the city government to take the necessary measures to prohibit the dumping of soil and other debris in the major exit and entry roads in the city before further damage is done.

He particularly mentions Kennon Road, Marcos Highway now Palispis-Aspiras Highway, Quirino Highway formerly Naguilian Road, Baguio-Bontoc Road, Baguio-Itogon Road, Baguio-Nueva Vizcaya Road and Philex-Baguio route and all other road networks within the jurisdiction of the city. Dumping of soil and debris along these roads will be prohibited.

The proposed ordinance also assembles that a violator will be penalized the amount of P2,000.00 on the First Offense and or imprisonment of not less than 30 days at the discretion of the court. A Fine of P3,000.00 for the 2nd Offense and or imprisonment of not less than three months and for the 3rd Offense, a fine of P5,000.00 and or imprisonment for not less than six months.

If the violation is committed by a juridical person, the penalty

Balisong: Abolish Casino Resolution!

Although a casino was not officially operated inside Camp John Hay, the resolution allowing its setup remains standing.

This existing resolution urged Councilor Rocky Thomas Balisong to issue a proposed resolution repealing Resolution 248, Series of 2003 approving the operation of a gaming and entertainment complex inside Camp John Hay.

Resolution No. 248, Series of 2003 approved the request of the Bases Conversion Development Authority shall be likewise imposed to the president, general manager, administrator and other responsible officer together with the offender.

All the violators of the ordinance, if approved by the city council, shall be required to clean-up whatever soil or debris dumped at their own expense and failure to do so would mean that the violator shall be required to reimburse to the city the cost of labor for cleaning up the same. /MGB

ity (BCDA) for Guidance upon the operation of a gaming and entertainment complex inside the former U.S. Air Base. The resolution is subject to the condition that only tourists and members of John Hay would be allowed to enter and participate in the gaming activities inside the said complex.

The resolution signed by then Mayor Bernardo Vergara included the operation of a casino where a Business Permit was issued to Royal Highland Gaming Corporation, the business permit however was not renewed.

Balisong says that the authority to grant permit or franchise to operate a gaming complex such as a casino is vested exclusively in congress under the provisions of Presidential Decree 1869 (P.D. 1869) and this fact is even recognized under Resolution No.248, Series of 2003.

Congress, he adds, by virtue of P.D. 1869 has granted a franchise to operate a casino only to the Philip-

pine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) and not to any other entities.

He also cites a series of Supreme Court decisions when it was held that a Local Government Unit cannot prevent the operation of a casino by PAGCOR, thus the resolution passed by the city is not necessary.

Balisong pointed out that the City Council has always been against any form of gambling. Their history proved this by citing different anti-gambling ordinances and resolutions passed in the past.

City Ordinance 481 in 1968 provided stiffer penalties for the crime of gambling. Resolution 38 of the year 1986 alluded to the fact that the overwhelming power of a dictatorial government disregarded the local opposition to the casino.

Resolution 235 in 1991 also opposed the comeback of the **BALISONG..**
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'No sekyu-no permit' policy urged

BAGUIOCITY-Councilor Rufino Panagan wants a "no-security-guard-no-permit" policy imposed on night establishments in the city.

Panagan has proposed an ordinance requiring all bars, cocktail lounges, beer gardens, nightclubs, videokes, sing-along joints and other similar establishments to employ their own security guards and to make this a mandatory requirement for the issuance of business permits.

The alderman noted that most crimes "occur within or near the vicinity of the said liquor establishments."

"The presence of security guards will serve as primary deterrents in the commission of crimes within the said liquor establishments and their immediate vicinity and further aid the city police force in its campaign of crime prevention," Panagan said.

As proposed, establishments will be required to hire at least

one security officer prior to the issuance of their business permits.

"The City Permits and Licensing Division shall be tasked in the reporting, monitoring and as well as compelling the owners and operators of these business establishments to comply with the requirement," Panagan proposed.

Panagan's measure was approved on first reading and was referred to a city council committee for study and recommendation. /
Aileen P. Refuerzo



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Benguet Seeks Malacañang Funding Support For A Filtration System For Balili River

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet: The provincial board this week approved on first reading a resolution seeking presidential support for the installation of a biological filtration system along Balili River.

In an interview, board member Lizo Agpas said while the measure aims to address the environment aspect on pollution; it also aimed to take into account the socio-economic development of the province.

The lawmaker said these included the promotion of health and sanitation, and eco-tourism related undertakings, water system for agricultural purposes, eco-system protection as well as livelihood opportunities for the people of Benguet among others.

In their explanatory note, Agpas with co-author Board member Fernando Aritao asked President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to support effort of the provincial government in saving the Balili River through the provision of the necessary fund for the installation of biological system and its infrastructure component.

The two board members proposed a total budget of \$ 18 million where the biggest portion or the amount of \$10 million shall be utilized for the rip-rapping of both ends of the Kilometer 4 Balili river, construction of a minidam for \$2 million and \$ 1 million each for the installation of the filtering system, water dis-

tribution system, construction of 120- unit fish tanks, concreting of both sides of rip-rap works and planting of flowering trees, among others.

“The water entering the Balili River that traverses the town of La Trinidad, Benguet is coming from sewerage of Baguio City which made the river highly polluted due to influx of population in the City and the shortest way to save the river is to install a natural or biological filtration system without the use of chemicals and the construction of infrastructure components,” the resolution stated.

It further added that, “the introduction of these interventions will help maximize the utilization of limited resources because sustainable and integrated agri-aqua livelihood activities and the enhancement of eco-tourism in the town will be achieved.”

In a separate interview, Agpas expressed optimism that various government institutions would endorse the proposed measure and eventually will support the move, “in consideration of the impact of the project I am optimistic that government agencies will not only endorse the move but as well as to provide the necessary support in terms of integrating the various components into their respective programs and thrusts.”

Among the initial line agencies Agpas mentioned in-

Halsema Terraces Recognized As Tourist Vistas

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet: The Halsema vegetable terraces have been officially declared as tourism destination.

This developed as the provincial board this week approved on second and final reading the measure promoting the long stretch of the national highway as a heritage in Benguet province.

Proponent board member Fernando Aritao said that the good climate in

this side of the country made it possible for its people to dwell on vegetable farming as the main source of its livelihood.

Aritao disclosed that construction of the vegetable terraces along the Halsema highway had its historical bearing with La Trinidad then known as the Salad Bowl of the Philippines.

The lawmaker, however, observed that to date most of the vegetable farms are being converted into

commercial and residential purposes defeating the very purpose of the existence of vegetable terraces, “purposely to contain the soil from being washed away during rainy season brings wonder and attraction to passersby because it reflects the strong determination and patience of the local farmers to maintain the vegetable industry.”

Fernando expressed optimism that the best way to keep this heritage through

times is by declaring it into a tourism spot bringing another source of revenue to the people along the area and the local government units in general.

“The promotion of eco-tourism is one of the primary concerns of the provincial government unit. It added that inclusion of the vegetable terraces along the Halsema Highway as one of the tourist attractions is in order that would undoubtedly contribute to increase in revenue./ *Tina Sales*

Benguet SP approves provincial scholarship program

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet: The provincial board this week passed on first reading a measure for the establishment a scholarship fund.

The five board member-proponents observed that such specific move has never been implemented since the enactment of local government code in 1991.

Board members Juan Nazarro Jr., Fernando Aritao, Apolinario Camsol, Joseph Cosente and Johnny Uy ascertained the need to institutionalize scholarship program for the poor but deserving students in the province following one of the provisions of Republic Act 7160, specifically Sec. 46, (a) (3) (IX).

If approved, the proposed ordinance would pave the way for the granting of schol-

arships to at least two students per municipality who will be given P5,000 stipends representing school expenses per semester. An initial proposed budget shall be sourced out from the 20% provincial development fund. The measure came just in time for the preparation of the 2005 budget for the province.

In order to qualify for the “Benguet Provincial Scholarship Program” concerned municipal nominees must acquire a joint affidavit from the Barangay Council and the Municipal Welfare Development Office stating their income status level of the household. This criterion, however, will still be the subject of deliberation in the future meetings of the board defining the required income status of the parents.

Among other criteria include being a bonafide resident of the province and having an average grade of 85% upon graduation from high school

belonging to the top 10 of the class as certified by the school principal or head of the school.

However, the measure, clearly indicated that only those whose age below 21 years can qualify for the screening by the eight-member provincial scholarship program committee.

The proposed members of the screening committee shall be composed of the provincial governor as chairman; and chairman of the SP committee on education, provincial treasurer, parent-teacher federation association president, representative from duly accredited high school student association, ABC federation president and the provincial social welfare and development of-

ficer as members.

In an interview, Nazarro said the measure aims to enhance scholarship projects / programs by both public and state education institutions, civic organizations, and financing groups including other entities providing scholarship programs whether private or in the government.

The lawmaker said this would provide more opportunities to poor but deserving students to continue their studies as he observed that mortality rate among dropout students in college continue to rise relative to the increasing cost of education and the lack of financial capability of parents to finance the schooling of their children in college./ *Tina Sales*

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sino to the city or the establishment of a new one under any other form or disguise.

In 1995, Resolution 292 compellingly opposed the operation of Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office’s On-line Lotto in the city under any condition in the same manner that it vigorously opposed the operation of jueteng and casino.

And in 2002, Resolution 122 reiterated the

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Upfront on the Members of the Press

For the past weeks, the members of the press were shaken by the series of killings of mediamen. The killings are becoming more often, and to make matters worse, they remain unsolved.

This has led to the proposal to arm the press people.

The Justice Department has already expressed its willingness to expedite the

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firearms application of mediamen.

This proposal, to say the least, is an insult to the PNP. It just shows that they are not capable of protecting the members of the press, so the they (media) should take the responsibility of protecting themselves, thus the need to arm them.

But more to the incapability of the PNP to protect the press is the fear that some members of the PNP could be instruments to the upfront of press people's rights.

Take for example the recent incident involving this paper's de facto publisher, Freddie Farres. At 9 in the evening of August 6, a Friday, members of the CIDG-CAR served a warrant of arrest for a complaint of libel against Farres. The warrant of arrest, according to the arresting officers is already 2 months old, thus the need for them to serve it.

While the CIDG personnel may just be doing their job, what is questionable is the timing of the service of the warrant. Why on a Friday, and why at 9 in the evening? Since as they claimed, the warrant of arrest is already 2 months old, then why did they have to wait that long and wait for a Friday? There is, on this paper's opinion, a clear intent to suppress Farres' constitutional right to post bail. And mind you, most of the paper's staff were in the office at that time, it being our press night. Thus, we were all witnesses to the CIDG people's non-observance of the Miranda Doctrine, worse, there is even a clear attempt for them to stop us from calling for help.

To make matters worse, The CIDG men brought with them (inside the office) unidentified person who was later found out not to be a member of the CIDG. There were even other unidentified people albeit members of the arresting team (non-CIDG) who were staking outside the office.

It is very scary to think what could have happened if Mr. Farres happened to be alone.

If this incident happened to our publisher, it could happen to any one. It could happen to any member of the press.

But is what is more scary, is that if and when the member of the press is armed, and is accosted alone, his gun may not be able to protect him. In the contrary, those



DEPTHNEWS

Those Devalued Diplomas

BY JUAN L. MERCADO



Is the diploma that parents display, in their living rooms, worth the parchment it's printed on?

No, say five educators' groups working under the umbrella of the Council of Private Educational Associations.

About 700,000 graduates — half of 1.4 million who got elementary school diplomas — flunked already drastically watered-down High School Readiness Test given last May, Copea notes. "This means majority of those enrolling in first year of public high schools know only 27 percent of what they were to have learned in elementary school."

These students never broke out of semi-literacy's twilight world. They enter a complex 21st century where only the educated land the jobs. So, who do we fool with devalued diplomas? "If we're so smart, why ain't we rich?", UNDP's Terence Jones once asked.

Thus, come August 31, the Education Department launches a second round of high school readiness tests. Take the "bridge program", those who fail will be "strongly advised".

This is a rescue package. Reading comprehension of many graduates slumped lower than Grade 6. Results in mathematics and science are more dismal. Filipino students limped in number 38, out of 42 countries, in the International Mathematics and Science Examinations. (Singaporeans were first.)

But Malacañang is tepid about the program. In her State-of-the-Nation Address, the President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo expressed preference for tacking on a year, before kids enroll in Grade One. She left it at that.

Private school students need not take the bridge program. That's understandable. "The quality gap between private and public education stares one in the face," *Philippine Human Development Report* notes.

Private high schools performed 20 percent better than their public

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accosting him might even say that he resisted arrest and tried to fire at them. We do not want to think what could happen next.

What we are trying to say is that the PNP really cannot protect the media. But it is too much if they even allow themselves to be instruments in curtailing the constitutional right of the press, and be an instrument in curtailing press freedom.

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counterparts, PDHR notes. The disparity, in fact, starts in elementary grades: there, the gap is already 27 percent.

My granddaughter's reading list underscores this sorry divide. Now in Grade 6, Camille is reading Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn". She's also leafing through "Animal Farm", George Orwell's allegory on dictatorship, plus "Diary of Anne Frank"—the 14-year old Jewish girl, who wrote while hiding in a cellar, until arrest and execution by the Gestapo. (I read Twain in high school, Orwell and Frank in college.)

In public schools, "tests show that barely any additional knowledge is gained between Grade 5 and Grade 6", studies by scientists like Edita Tan, Ma. Luisa Doronila, Milagros Ibe and others reveal.

Many graduates are "semi-lingual": barely able to communicate in either English or their language. They're hard put to read, analyze or compare.

These are the fortunate: those who managed to stay in school. Of every 100 kids who enroll in public schools, 33 drop out before reaching Grade 6, mainly due to poverty.

"Scary" says an editor, of tomorrow's adults who never heard, much less read, Jose Rizal's El Filibusterismo, Horacio de la Costa's readings in history or novels by the Tiempos or NVM Gonzales, Shakespeare or Tagore.

The program "corrects an oversight

of 64 years", Copea points out. The Education Reform Law of 1940 intended to establish a 12-year cycle of basic education. Fund shortages instead clipped elementary school from seven to six years. That seventh grade was never restored.

Today, most countries require 11 to 13 years of pre-university education. "Even the poorest countries in Asean, such as Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia support 11 years of education."

Results of this truncated cycle have been disastrous. "Our first two college years in the Philippines are often regarded as equivalent to only third and fourth year high schools in some institutions abroad", Copea notes. "At present, the freshman curriculum, in most colleges, comes out as a remedial course on high school English, mathematics."

Timing is important too. "It's better to master the basics before moving on to more complex subjects in high school," the educators stressed. "A pre-high school bridge is the best place to fix the gaps.

It also offers a "rare opportunity for public school students to become academically competitive" with those in private schools.

The program involves the same number of students entering secondary schools. Government already foots the bill. Incidental expenses for parents — from *baon* to pocket money — remain the same.

Parents see diplomas as a escape

hatch. Through schooling, their children can break free from the penury their own lack of schooling handcuffed many of them to.

"He who can use a writing brush need never beg," the Chinese say. That is validated by research. A study by UP School of Economics Arsenio Baliscan shows that "poverty incidence falls by 3 percent for every one percent improvement in literacy."

But parents also sense this occurs only when real learning takes place, not when diplomas are handed out to flunkers. Thus, a recent Social Weather Stations survey shows that 70 percent of parents back the bridge program.

Copea stresses that the bridge program "is not a panacea" but only a first welcome step. Other components — from teachers' training, textbooks, schoolrooms — must be addressed.

The educated citizen is critical for a humane democratic society. "Education is the soul of a society," GK Chesterton wrote, "as it passes from one generation to another." (E-mail

juan.imerado@pacifinetph.com)

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Worse, there were even attempts to prevent him and his companions to call for help.

When asked for their identifications, only one of the alleged CIDG officers (who identified himself as a certain Captain Marquez) presented his ID with much hesitation. He however refused to have his ID photocopied, which

MOSH PIT

Of Grieving and Giving

BY GRACE BANDOY



I watched the movie "Philadelphia" for the first time and I didn't realize it was truly a great movie indeed. I cried like hell when Tom Hanks was dying in his hospital bed!

But after watching it, I was reminded of my father who passed away October of last year. I felt so sad thinking about it and I cried myself to sleep for the nth time after he died. I miss my dad so much. Losing him was the worst feeling I ever had to go through.

I don't ever ever, ever want to feel that kind of pain again! He was the best dad, it brings tears to my eyes whenever I remember him and all those wonderful times we shared together.

I don't think I'll ever get over losing the coolest and most wonderful father there is. Of course all of you guys can also claim your fathers are the most wonderful, but my dad REALLY is! No one can top him, *lalo na sa porma!* And well, I think I sort of got my being *japorms* from my dad. *Minana ko mga belts niya noh.*

Sometimes its easy to say the phrase "time will heal" or "you'll get over it" and all those stuff being said and written to make someone feel better. *Pero sa akin*, I think I will always be in pain from losing my dad.

Until now, I can't seem to imagine myself having no father. I hate signing papers where I have to put there that my father is deceased. Really, until now, I can't accept it.

Of course I know I can't bring him back the way he used to. Walk and talk with me, hear him in the early mornings waking me up, screaming on the dogs, etc..

Lalo na he was cremated, how the hell can I assemble him ulit?!

Ba't kasi kailangan pa may mamatay sa mundo?

Sana we can all just live forever and watch all the younger generations grow old *rin*. I hate deaths and dying.

Pero there are a lot of things that makes me happy *pa naman kahit papaano*.

My niece who is seven months old is such a bundle of joy. We believe she was sent to us by God in replacement of my dad.

And then there's the *ukay* where I really feel heavenly when I'm out there shopping. Shopping for 5 or 10 pesos *na* stuff is such a bliss. I can't afford those *mahal na ukay* believe me! 100 or 50 pesos *na ukay* is expensive for me *na!* *Mas* may thrill *mag uks sa* 5, 10, 15 or 3 for 10 pesos *na ukay*.

And then there's the TV where I waste 50% of my time on earth.

And of course there's all the food out there that brings me so much joy and makes me forget all my angst.

And sometimes, in my dreams, my dad is there. I don't ever want to wake up when I dream of my dad. It's like *dejavu* when I'm with him in my dreams. Sometimes it seems so real.

Well, at least God made dreams. At least *kahit paminsan minsan* I get to be with my dad, before I totally give in to the idea that he's gone forever.

And sometimes too, dreams do come true. *Siguro nga* we could all be in that one place someday.

created a big doubt and suspicion. It was also learned that while 3 men served the warrant of arrest, only 2 of them are members of the CIDG, while it was learned later that their 3rd companion is not from the CIDG.

When questioned why they came late at night and on a Friday, the officers insisted the warrant is

already two months old. Farres and his staff then gave a copy of the MOA entered into by the National Press Club or NPC (where Farres is a bonafide member), the PNP and the DILG stating that arrests made to members of the press for cases in relation to their performance of their press functions, should first be coordi-

nated with the NPC. The arresting officers however (upon telephone instructions by their Deputy Regional Officer) refused to honor the MOA stating that a MOA cannot in anyway supersede a law. Farres then had no recourse but to submit

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himself to the authorities, even if believes that his rights are being violated.

Atty. Thomas Tayengco, Farres' lawyer also maintains that the Supreme Court issued a Memorandum for arrests not to be made on Fridays and at night where the arrested individual has no chance of posting bail. The Memorandum, he says, applies for cases like libel, most especially so if the person to be arrested is believed not to escape away from the law. He said Farres is not the person who will run away from a libel complaint, most especially so that he was just imputed in the crime, being the publisher of The Junction. "He is not even the author", he said.

Farres was able to post bail the next day, a Saturday.

Farres maintains that he was not hiding, and the CIDG men have all the time to serve the warrant of arrest. Why they chose to serve it late in the evening and at a Friday at that, he believes is meant to humiliate and harass him at the least. While the arresting officers said they have been trying to locate him but his Camp Sioco Office was closed, Farres maintains that the phone number of his new office and also his personal cellphone number was posted at the door of The Junction's office. The Junction telephone numbers and Farres' cellphone are also in the staff box, so that there could be no reason for the CIDG to be unable to call Farres. It is also believed that the arrest was meant to harass because it was served at the time when the paper is being bedded. "Surely, they know that it was our press night that is why they are here at this time in the evening" this paper's editor said to the NPC Director, who even tried to talk to the CIDG men (over the phone) to postpone the arrest (to no avail).

What is more disturbing, Farres said is the fact that the CIDG brought with them unidentified men, in and outside of Farres' office.

The case stemmed from an article written by one of the columnists of The Junction with pseudonym Kenshi on April, about the persistent operation of jueteng in Baguio City.

In Nerez' affidavit-complaint, the libelous offense was committed in the Volume VI, No.26 issue of The Junction specifically under the column PRANGKAHAN TAYO authored by a certain KENSHI wherein he wrote the article captioned "VM Tabanda napikon, May Jueteng pa ba Col. Nerez?"

The libelous statement complained of was contained in the third paragraph of the said column which reads "SR./SUPT. ISAGANI NEREZ – STOP JUETENG KA MUNA – akala ko pa naman na itong si Col. Nerez ay isang magiting at marangal na opisyal ng PNP. Yun pala ay mukhang nagkamali ako. At bakit ko nasabi yun mga dear readers, simple lang, hangga't may jueteng sa lungsod ng Baguio, ibig sabihin ay NAKIKINABANG SI SR./SUPT. NEREZ AT SI MAYOR BERNARDO VERGARA ETAL...o hindi ba tama ako mga dear readers. Kung sabagay ay inamin naman ni Mayor Vergara sa TV patrol nuong siya ay ininterview noong Huwebes hinggil sa mga isyu ng Stop Jueteng na mayroon

talagang Jueteng sa Lungsod..."

"KENSHI" also continued to write "...PRANGKAHAN TAYO COL. NEREZ hindi ba't pareho naman kayong PMAYER ni General Virtus Gil at hindi ba't pareho lang naman kayong pinag aralan ni General Gil sa academy? Eh bakit nakayanan ni General Gil na ipatigil ang jueteng sa buong CAR (pa man din) samantalang sa Baguio lamang ay hindi mo magawa?"

Nerez claims that the statements had publicly imputed incompetence on his part and that such public imputation being malicious tends to cause public ridicule, dishonor, discredit and public injury to his reputation.

When interviewed over ABS-CBN's local TV Patrol, Farres said he believes that Nerez, being a lawyer and a gentleman has nothing to do with the improper arrest (which he termed as bastusan). The reporter who interviewed Farres said she was able to locate Farres by dialing the telephone numbers posted in The Junction's office. /MGB and BAD

BALISONG..**...from p. 3**

standing sentiment that gambling is inimical to public interest and said resolution suggested to Congress through Congressman Mauricio Domogan and Senator Juan Flavio the amendment of P.D. 1869 and Republic Act 1169 (Charter of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes) so that gambling activities be done only when the local government units and their constituents agree.

Balisong also reiterates that in 1994, City Council Resolution 362 set the 19 conditionalities for the development of Camp John Hay after it was abandoned by the Americans in 1991.

Item number 02 of the said resolution required that "only wholesome, family-oriented entertainment and recreational activities are conducted within the zone. No casino operations shall definitely be allowed under any guise or form."

Balisong accentuates that gambling does not strengthen one's faith in God even if it serves as a desert experience but rather it promotes a double standard morality and destroys the family which should be protected and strengthened.

The city was declared a "Character City" in 2003 through City Council Resolution No.107 which encouraged character building in all sectors of society including the City's Schools and families. Resolution 248 approving operation of a gaming and entertainment complex to include casino runs contrary to character building, Balisong concludes.

Although casino has not been "really" operating in the city, On-line Lotto by the PCSO, which was opposed by the city in 1995 emerged to be the citizen's favorite form of gambling where millions of pesos are the prizes at stake.

Jueteng, also opposed in numerous resolutions passed, appear to be unbridled and also a million-peso business. Jueteng comes and goes, it disappears for a few weeks and comes back strong again. The city can't seem to totally eradicate this notorious form of gambling the way they oppose casino's operation here. /MGB

Educational Tours for Baguio City Hall Employees to be Stopped

Baguio City – "Lakbay-aral" and out-of-town planning seminars will now be stopped. This was the urgent call by Baguio mayor Braulio Yaranon during a two-hour forum with students of the University of the Cordilleras – BCF last August 11 at the UC Theatre.

Yaranon, speaking on good governance to students and faculty members of the College of Business Administration said there must be judicious spending of taxpayers' money in the light of saving funds for more important projects for the city.

"Why should they be enjoying at the beaches at the expense of the taxpayers' money?" added Yaranon who was joined in the panel by UC-BCF president Jerry Salvosa, CBA Dean Leonarda Aguinalde and Graduate School Dean Cleofas Basaen.

EDUCAT'L TOURS... p. 8

INTERNATIONAL UNICYCLING CHAMP – Unicon 12 (Tokyo-Japan Unicycling Convention) multi-medalist "Baguio Boy" Richam "Jing" Almocera shows his winning form from descending city hall's stairs after a brief courtesy call at the Mayor's office last Tuesday. Almocera bagged the Over-all Champion in Slow Race (Age Category) and two gold medals in Uni-Basketball with Puerto Rico All Stars and Slow Race (Age Category) respectively, including a silver in Mountain Unicycling trials. Not to be outdone, his brother Alrich bagged also two gold in Slow Race (age category) and in Unibasketball with Puerto Rican team respectively and a silver medal in Individual Artistic (age category) and Over-all Silver medal for Slow Race last July 22 in Tokyo, Japan.—Bong Cayabyab

Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
 Cordillera Administrative Region, Baguio City
RICKY ALBIS-Vendor
ROMUALDO S. XEDIC-Vendee
CASE NO. 99-01-1498/2004-BAG-CAR-1049
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Sale and Transfer with Extension of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a VEHICLE FOR HIRE Service with Amendment for the Transportation of Passengers and Freight on the line from BUGUIAS, BENGUET TO ANY POINT IN REGION I TO BUGUIAS, BENGUET TO ANY POINT CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and vice versa with the use of 1 unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on August 24, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 6th day of August 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
ANITA B. CALABIAS-vendor
JOSEPH CHAPICHAP-vendee
CASE NO. 2004-BAG-CAR-672/2004-BAG-CAR-1048
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Sale and Transfer 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 Cordillera Administrative Region and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on August 24, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 30th day of July 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
DAVIDSON C. LARUAN-vendor
LUIS B. DANGATAN-vendee
CASE NO. 2003-CAR-635/2004-BAG-CAR-1048
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Sale and Transfer 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 Cordillera Administrative Region and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on August 24, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 2nd day of August 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
EMMANUEL RAMOS
Applicant
CASE NO. 2000- 01 - 2481
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 – AURORA 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 August 24, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 13th day of August 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
VIRGINIA BANZUELA -vendedor
SAMSON A. BELINO. -vendee
CASE NO. 2002-BC-003/2004-BAG-CAR-1046
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a VEHICLE FOR HIRE Service for the Transportation of Passengers and Freight on the line BAGUIAS TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on August 24, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 27th day of July 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
IKE PATRICK DANGATAN-vendor
ALBERTO R. LARON -vendee
CASE NO. 96-01-1551/2004-BAG-CAR-1044
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Sale and Transfer of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ - JITNEY Service for the Transportation of Passengers and Freight on the line BAGUIO PLAZA – NAVY BASE and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on August 24, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 30th day of July 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
ABRILA PILO
Applicant
CASE NO. 89 – CAR – 216
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: MANKAYAN – PACO via Lepanto and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on August 24, 2004 at 9:30 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 13th day of August 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
ERNESTO B. CALIAS-vendor
JOHNNY T. COMPALAS-vendee
CASE NO. 2003-CAR-907/2004-BAG-CAR-1047
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Sale and Transfer of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a VEHICLE FOR HIRE Service for the Transportation of Passengers and Freight on the line ABATAN BUGUIAS TO ANY POINT IN CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION EXCEPT (B.L.I.S.T) Baguio, La Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan, Tuba and vice versa with the use of one (1) unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on August 24, 2004 at 9:00 A.M. at the LTRFB Office, Pacdal, 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 28th day of July 2004.

(SGD)ATTY. BRENDA D. POKLAY
 Hearing Officer

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Dads want junk food banned in Baguio school canteens

BAGUIOCITY— Two councilors last week proposed a resolution “prohibiting the sale, distribution or bringing of junk food and softdrinks” in school canteens and stores within the premises of all elementary and high schools in the city.

Proponent councilors Faustino Olowan and Antonio Tabora Jr. said this is in support of the Department of Education (DepEd)’s renewed call for nutrition consciousness among schools.

As proposed, all

junk food that will be included in the list to be provided by the Department of Health will be banned in stores within the school premises.

They also sought to instruct the permits and licensing division at city hall to specify the said prohibition in the business permits to be issued to these establishments.

However, the council committee on health headed by Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia, in its recommendation cautioned that the proposed mea-

sure might be “an act of restraint of lawful enterprises and trade.”

“Hence the city may be faulted for using its legislative powers to curtail lawful businesses in the city,” it noted.

“With all due respect, it is the well-considered opinion of the committee that the City Council must not prohibit lawful and legitimate businesses but may only regulate them. For this purpose, school authorities should be strongly urged to discourage operation of canteen within school premises to sell these perceived food items that carry with them substances that may be injurious to the health of the students. Likewise, teachers should be instructed to point out the harmful effect of ingesting such food by informing the students the health hazard that these food

Vice-mayor and City Dads want Number Coding Scrapped

Vice-mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr., Councilor Federico Mandapat Jr. and Councilor Antonio Tabora Jr., released a proposed ordinance repealing Ordinance 001, Series of 2003 otherwise known as the “The Number Coding Ordinance of Baguio City”. The same ordinance they authored under the mayoralty of Bernardo Vergara.

The three juniors said “The Number Coding Scheme Ordinance of Baguio City failed to address and rationalize the downtown traffic situation as envisioned upon its passage.”

They also discussed that the ordinance has not been an encouragement to the tourist industry to which the city government of Baguio derives a great level of revenue.

Various professional groups is said to have clamored for exemption from the ordinance. Some were even granted exemption already.

This, the three officials said, negates the very objective of the legislation.

This proposed ordinance which has not yet been taken up in the city council ordains the repeal of the Number Coding Scheme and all provisions to the ordinance be declared null and void.

All deputized traffic enforcers are mandated not to enforce the said ordinance upon its approval./MGB

The proposed measure will be tackled during the council’s next session./Aileen P. Refuerzo

Various groups had proposed to the city government the installation of a tram system in major roads in the city and to submit the study to the city council.

Baguio to Go Alsan

Francisco

The city’s traffic problems is one of the local government’s and the city council’s main trepidations. The mayor and members of the city council have come up with all the possible solutions one can possibly think of to address this problem.

The installation of traffic lights, the Number Coding Scheme, stiffer traffic regulations seem to be derisory to fully solve the traffic crisis in Baguio.

Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. has thought of another way to tackle the issue.

Yangot is requesting the City Planning and Development Office and the Public Utilities Services Office (PUSO) to conduct a feasibility study on the possibility of installing a coco diesel-powered tramline system in major roads in the city and to submit the study to the city council.

He comments that the traffic congestions in the major roads in the city are not only getting worse despite the implementation of various schemes to ease the same but the air pollution is also in its alarming stage.

Various groups had proposed to the city government the installation of a tram system in major roads in the city and to submit the study to the city council.

BAGUIO...p. 9

EDUCAT’L TOURS...

...from p. 6

Yaranon noted that educational tours are useless programs and that trainings and seminars for the rank and file should now be done at the newly-constructed multi-purpose hall instead of expensive hotels to save on funds.

“We should instead focus more on putting fundings for educational, medical and other social services,” said Yaranon as he reiterated the need to minimize victims of tuberculosis and AIDS referring to them as scourges of the 21st century.

In his speech, Yaranon, a former judge, vice-mayor and city councilor, explained to the more than 200 students that filled the UC Theatre that good governance is “...not limited to infrastructure for people but should instead start with people we serve.”

“We should start good governance by being judicious in spending money and include changing the attitudes of public officials by refusing to accept commissions and working with jueteng and gambling lords,” said Yaranon.

Yaranon also urged the UC students, faculty and administration to support his fight against Jadewell and the casino in the city.

The forum was part of a weeklong activity by the CBA which also included lectures on the Six Sigma Productivity by Alexnader Montes of Moog and Tax Management by Prof. Edwin Valencia of SLU. Other resource speakers were Research and Development Director Alfred Jose Herbolario on Economics; Atty. Carlos Canilao on Selling with Power and Value on Values./Gaby Keith

Fariñas Pleads to GMA repair of Athletic Bowl

The Baguio Athletic Bowl in Burnham Park has been the venue of many sports and other programs not only of the city but of the Cordillera Region.

Regional sports meets are held yearly in Athletic Bowl, major programs of Baguio like the Panagbenga activities are also celebrated there.

For the Athletic Bowl to be suitable for national sports compe-

ditions, Councilor Daniel Fariñas says, “If Baguio Athletic Bowl will be rehabilitated and repaired to cope up with the standards for national sports competition, then the city can accommodate regional and well as national sports activities which will make our city not only as tourism center but as sports center.”

Farinas in a proposed resolution, is requesting her excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo through the Philippine

Sports Commission (PSC) to provide funding for the repair and rehabilitation of the Baguio Athletic Bowl to make it available for national sports competition.

He also adds that the city do not have enough funds to undertake such rehabilitation and repair.

Copies of the resolution if approved in the city council will be forwarded to the president’s office through the PSC./MGB

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

Datuin Vs. Mandapat in Controversial Proposal

Councilor Elmer Datuin's proposed resolution caused a stir among members of the city council when it was discussed in the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* last Wednesday.

The proposed resolution reads "Resolution enjoining City Mayor Braulio Yaranon to present his program of government and propose policies and projects for the consideration of the city council."

He clarifies that under the Local Government Code, the city mayor exercises general supervision and control over all programs, projects, services and activities of the city government.

The city mayor, Datuin adds, at the start of his term must present his program of government to enable the city council to consider the mayor's proposal for the benefit and welfare of the constituents of the city. Yaranon has not presented his program of

government to this date, Datuin stresses.

"It could have been done during the opening of the regular session of the city council to have a better working relations with the legislative branch of government."

Datuin also states that the presentation of the program of government will also guide the city council in the preparation of their own legislative agenda.

Yangot, during the council session last Wednesday said there was no need to pass a resolution like that, referring to Datuin's while Vice-mayor Bautista disrupted by saying that clarifications must be made whether a proposed resolution is funny or offensive.

Councilor Daniel Fariñas then argued that there was really "nothing wrong with this kind of proposal", people want to know the programs of the administration. This should be an eye-opener for us, he

added, so that the city council can support the administration in some form of legislation.

Farinas suggested that they appeal or request the mayor instead of asking him to enjoin the city council since time is of the essence.

Councilor Federico Mandapat, on the other hand, said that the matter can be done internally. The vice-mayor, he says, can submit plans of legislative agenda to the mayor.

He stressed that they should believe in the fundamentals of the land with the legislative, executive and judicial being separate and different from each other and that each branch cannot tell each other what to do.

"What if the mayor suddenly asks us our plans too?" addressing his statement to Fariñas and Datuin, we must try not to step on somebody else's shoes he added.

Mandapat also cited that there was no instance in the past when the city council asked the mayor of his program of government. He says this is too upfront to the mayor, "I say this even if I don't belong to the coalition" Mandapat added, yielding laughs from the audiences in the council.

Mandapat said he did not sign the committee report recommending the approval of Datuin's proposal because he did not agree with it.

The Committee on Laws is chaired by Datuin with Councilors Balisong and Mandapat as members.

Councilor Galo Weygan also argued that the proposal may not be the proper way

to do it. There are other ways he said. The legislative cannot dictate what the Executive should do.

Datuin said again that the proposal was for them to work together for the good of Baguio and for the mayor to present his plans, mission and visions for the city.

Councilor Edilberto Tenefrancia also said the city council should be partners with the mayor, they should work together until they are agreed.

He also quoted the mayor in the newspapers as saying "It is a waste of time to talk to the city council".

Councilor Faustino Olowan remarked that the mayor never enumerated to the city council his programs and kidded that they were friends with Yaranon for two years and all of a sudden Yaranon abandoned them.

Bautista then criticized the media for spinning their stories in portraying the council in different terms.

Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia also gnarled that Datuin's proposal is proper and that the mayor should take it in proper light.

"We cannot force him or urge him

Dad Wants Upper Session Restored to Two-way Traffic

Upper Session Road and Governor pack Road was converted to a one-way traffic supposedly to address the traffic problem brought about by the opening of Shoemart Baguio.

Councilor Rocky Thomas Balisong said the undertaking is a violation of the provisions of City Ordinance Number 7, Series of 1984 particularly Article 14, Section 14, paragraph 4 which clearly states: **DAD WANTS... p. 10**

to come up with anything," Councilor Melencio Molintas disputed.

Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. then tiffed that he was misquoted in another newspaper as saying that Datuin's ordinance is a nuisance proposal. He also defended that the mayor never said that talking to the council is a waste of time.

It was earlier mentioned during the session that Yangot commented negatively about Datuin's proposal. Yangot denied this and said he was misquoted in one of the local papers.

Yangot added that the mayor knows exactly how it feels like being in the city council as he was a councilor just a few months ago. He quoted the mayor as saying "We

will continue with the unrealized projects of the past administration."

Yangot probably thought this issue compelled Datuin to present his proposal.

Tenefrancia then reiterated that the executive and legislative branches should be walking on parallel lines and going on the same direction. They should be talking to each other not through the newspapers but face to face.

Councilor Galo Weygan then proposed that he will personally talk to the mayor and propose a meeting between them all.

The proposed ordinance was then deferred and will be discussed again in the next council sessions./ **MGB**

BAGUIO ...

...from p. 8

tem but was not really given much attention by past administrations. It could also be that there was lack of sufficient studies to support the proposal, Yangot nags.

There is a present proposal for the installation of a coco diesel-powered tram system in major roads that will not only clear the air but will also serve as a tourist attraction similar to the wooden-bodied trams famous at San Francisco in California.

The city, Yangot adds, needs to come out with alternative mass transport system that is not so costly to put up in order to eliminate the daily traffic gridlock and encourage people to walk as well as help as clean the air from pollutants emitted by motor vehicles.

This is necessary since the present administration headed by Mayor Braulio Yaranon includes in its development thrust the protection and preservation of the remaining forest cover in the city to ensure ecological balance as well as promote the use of environmentally-friendly modes of development./ **MGB**



SCATHING RINK - The Skating Rink at Burnham Park has been useless for quite sometime now, although a million-peso roof was installed. The diggings being done now just make the Skating Rink look all the more dilapidated. Heaven knows when will this be operational -**MGB**

Drag Racing to be Prohibited At Last!

BAGUIO CITY - Councilor Rufino Panagan finally released a proposed ordinance that strictly prohibits the conduct of drag racing, an illegal form of street car racing, within the City of Baguio particularly along National Roads, airport runways and other roads or streets within the city's jurisdiction and providing penalties thereof.

Panagan explains that there have been reports obtained by local authorities that drag racing has been an intermittent occurrence in the main thoroughfares of the city particularly along Harrison Road in the

wee hours of the morning.

The city, he recalls, was witness to a tragic accident involving the deaths of three teenagers who were allegedly participating in a drag racing conducted at the runway of Loakan Airport a few years back.

"The presence of these drag racers along the main streets of the city endanger the lives and property of other motor vehicles owners as well as constituting a nuisance of public disturbance detrimental to the general welfare of the public."

He suggests that the ordinance is necessary in order to

prevent further loss to life, limb and property as well as the protection of the general public from this pernicious activity.

The proposal ordains that it is illegal to conduct any form of streetcar racing in any of the roads, streets or airport runways within the territorial jurisdiction of the city without prior permission and consent granted by the local government.

The Baguio City Police Task Force shall also strictly monitor the occurrence of the said illegal activity along the

main roads of the city and apprehend violators.

The penalties set for the proposal by Panagan is P1,500.00 for the First Offense and impoundment of vehicle, P3,000.00 for the Second Offense plus impoundment and P5,000.00 for the Third Offense plus impoundment.

Drag racers will soon face their last racing days with the onset of Panagan's proposal which is expected to get a favorable response from the city council./MGB



Office of the President
NATIONAL HOUSING
AUTHORITY

FIRST NOTICE OF LOT CANCELLATION

TO ALL NHA LOT AWARDEES:

Notice is hereby given to the named delinquent awardees whose account are in arrears for more than one (1) year to settle/update their respective accounts with the National Housing Authority (NHA) in Baguio Field Office, Diaz Castellamonte Building, 12 Otek Street, Baguio City within 30 days from the date of publication to wit:

A. Tuba Housing Project

AWARDEE	MONTHS IN ARREARS AS OF JULY 2004
1. ABAN, MA CORAZON	75
2. ALICIO, JULIO	113
3. ARZAGA, ROSARIO CORAZON	64
4. CAGUIOA, ESTRELLA	87
5. FRANCISCO, HERMINIGILDO	70
6. GONZALES, JANE	84
7. HAGID, AURELIO	50
8. LOSA, LEA CORAZON	43
9. MONES, LORETO DOREEN	74
10. RILLORTA, PATRICK	53
11. ROCO, MARICHELLE	73
12. ANSELMO, JUAN	103
13. AROMIN, AGNES	12
14. AROMIN, JUDITH	12
15. BLAS, EUNICE	61
16. CADA, WILFREDO	55
17. DURAN, REICH XAVIER	104
18. GALAPON, MARIBEL	42
19. GUILLERMO, CONRADO	104
20. MAMAUAG, ARNOLD	24
21. MATEO, ISAGANI	43
22. NISPEROS, EMELYN	27
23. SOLOMON, PRISCILLA	70
24. TAGALICUD, KRISTOFFER	12
25. TULAGAN, MA. LOURDES	104
26. YARCIA, PEPITO	54

B. Monterrazas Housing Project

AWARDEE	MONTHS IN ARREARS AS OF JULY 2004
1. ANGELES, VICTOR	23
2. DE RIVERA, EDGARDO	27
3. DE LEON, EDUARDO	22
4. HIZON, MYLENE	44
5. SALANDANAN, WILFREDO	19
6. ROBERTO, LUISA	13
7. ROMERO, MARILOU	23

Traffic Officers Urged to be Strict

BAGUIO CITY - Countless proposals have been passed to confront and solve the current traffic problem in Baguio.

And now, Councilor Daniel Fariñas in his proposed resolution is authorizing the Baguio City Police Office (BCPO) particularly the Traffic Division to strictly implement the No Stopping, No Loading and Unloading Traffic Scheme along busy streets like Assumption, Lower General Luna, Zanduetta and other connecting streets.

He also urged the undertaking of experiments on other streets where said traffic scheme may be effective to help decongest traffic jams.

Farinas accentuates that traffic congestion usually happen along streets near junctions due to violations of the No Stopping and Loading and Unloading ordinances.

It is observed that many jeepney and taxi drivers do not comply with these said ordinances causing the jamming of other vehicles. Negligent drivers stop anywhere they please unmindful of the signs posted on certain areas in the city.

Strict implementation of traffic laws is necessary in order to discipline motorists and in order to prevent traffic congestion that usually result to vehicular traffic and accidents.

Fariñas advocates that traffic re-routing or other experiments can be undertaken by the BCPO, Traffic Division to help ease out traffic jams and congestions, which problem had been observed most especially during rush hours in the city.

He also protests that parking of Public Utility vehicles in no parking zones complicate and compound these problems for which the BCPO need to undertake experiments from time to time to come out with immediate action in times of heavy traffic congestion.

With all these proposals from the city government, the traffic situation in the city has remained at its worse./MGB

DAD WANTS ...

...from p. 9

"A person shall not bar, impede, or divert the flow or direction of traffic from any road, street or highway, unless or except when the closure of a road or any street thereof to traffic or the diversion of traffic is directed by reasons of emergency to protect the public from calamity, fire or other public danger."

Balisong reiterates that the unauthorized closure of a Two-Way Traffic at Upper Session Road, Gov. Pack Road and the left turn at Upper Session Road has been the subject of numerous complaints and criticisms by the public.

He also criticizes the single lane of the said roads resulted to more traffic congestion in other surrounding roads and has slowed down economic activity and the smooth flow of travel.

The proposed resolution directs the

Baguio City Police-Traffic Management Branch and all other offices concerned to restore Upper Session Road, Gov. Pack Road as a Two-way Road and restoring the use of the Rotunda at Upper Session Road.

In contrary, it can be recalled that Councilor Pinky Rondez issued a proposed ordinance clearing the presence of certain objects in the Post Office and Upper Session Road Area, to give way to a more orderly flow of traffic. She proposed to the city council the possible removal of the rotunda.

Balisong's proposed resolution is forwarded to other concerned offices and also to the management of SM in order for them to devise a traffic system that will not impede the smooth flow of vehicular traffic along major thoroughfares within its vicinity./MGB

Recognition of native burial grounds sought

BAGUIOCITY—Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. has sought the recognition of the burial grounds of native residents of the city.

In a proposed resolution, the alderman said there is a need for the city government to “fully recognize the customs and traditions of the Ibalois, Kankanaeys and Kalanguyas,” among which their interment practices.

He said the recognition of the rights of the indigenous people to apply their practices has been enshrined in the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

“Part of the customs and traditions of the Ibalois,

Kankanaeys and Kalanguyas is to bury their dead loved ones within their ancestral homes located in the different parts of the city. This practice is a concrete example on the observance and implementation of the provisions of the Constitution...” Yangot noted.

“There is a need for the city government to fully recognize the practices of the Ibalois, Kankanaeys and Kalanguyas to show respect to the customs and traditions of the tribes and to comply with the provisions of the Constitution,” Yangot said.

He said that one way to show recognition of the practice is for the city government to exempt the

tribes from the implementation of local ordinances dealing on interment ways.

The council committee on health chaired by Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia recommended approval of the proposed measure subject to the condition that the tombs within the ancestral lands where the dead will be interred will not pose health hazard to the community.

Councilor Edilberto Tenefrancia, a member of the committee, suggested that the proposal be first referred to the city health office for comment and recommendation.

The matter is scheduled for discussion at the city council next week. /*Aileen P. Refuerzo*

Housing summit proposed; measure on lot sale probe recommended for approval

BAGUIOCITY—Councilor Faustino Olowan has proposed the conduct of an urban housing and development summit to focus on socialized or mass housing to address the worsening problem on dwelling lack and squatting in the city.

In his proposed resolution, Olowan noted the need for a high-level meeting that will focus on housing concerns to come up with plans of action to solve the housing backlog and the problem on land speculation in the city.

“With the burgeoning of organizations of so-called urban poor and the landless, there is a need to identify those legitimate beneficiaries in accordance with exist-

ing laws from squatting syndicates and to protect private or public lands especially watershed areas from unscrupulous land speculators,” Olowan said.

He urged the city mayor to convene the summit with the participation of concerned agencies from the city government, line agencies and non-government organizations.

The council committee on urban planning, lands and housing recommended approval of the proposed measure.

Olowan in another proposed resolution also sought to require housing associations and cooperatives to apply for accreditation with the city government for the city to identify and monitor their activities.

Meanwhile, the

committee on urban planning, lands and housing headed by Olowan recommended approval of the proposed resolution of Vice Mayor Daniel Farinas calling for the investigation of anomalous land sale and award of public lots in the city.

In his proposal, Farinas said there were reports that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) have entertained public land application through townsite and miscellaneous sales applications over lots which are subject of previous applications.

“These practices have adversely affected the rights and interests of the af-

AO issued for Anti-dengue program in Baguio

BAGUIOCITY—Due to a reported rise in the dreaded dengue illness in the city, Mayor Braulio Yaranon last week issued Administrative Order 43, series of 2004, regarding the implementation of an anti-dengue preventive and control program in the city.

The mayor thus declared an all-out war against dengue, directed the mobilization of all government resources for said cause, and engage the support of all sectors specially the barangays and schools. Stated in the AO are the following strategies for the realization of the endeavor:

- **A c t i v e** barangay participation and mobilization of dengue brigades;

- Sanitation drives and proper waste container management;

- Removal of dengue breeding places and mosquito control;

- Participation of Non-Government and government organizations (NGO/GO);

- Implementation of laws/ordinances on dengue prevention and control, and

- Public education and information drives.

The mayor authorized the City Health Office as main office to implement the program, monitor and feedback to his office reported dengue cases, and other developments.

The following aspects are expected from the said agency, the mayor stated:

- **D e n g u e**

breeding places in the barangays and schools should be eliminated by created and mobilized anti-dengue brigades;

- Early identification of dengue cases in the barangays should be undertaken by barangay emergency response teams, to be created and mobilized, with the Barangay Affairs Office as lead office;

- The maintenance of clean, healthy and sanitary surroundings needs to be instilled through a cleanup and sanitation drive, with the General Services office as lead office; and the

- Propagation of the “Four O’Clock Habit in the daily routine in the households and offices, with the Public Information Office as lead office. /*Julie G. Fianza*

Increased police patrol urged in parks, critical spots

BAGUIOCITY—Tighter police watch has been urged at various parks and other critical spots here following reports that these areas are being used for drug deals and other crimes involving students.

Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. filed a resolution asking city police under Sr. Supt. Isagani Nerez and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) regional office to regularly patrol Burnham Park, Baguio Convention Center, Sunshine Park, Athletic Bowl and Melvin Jones where drug and fraternity activities reportedly take place.

Yangot said no less than the principal of the Baguio City National High School informed him that drug dealers use these

places to meet and dispose illegal drugs to willing students.

The alderman said that as per the information sachets of shabu are being sold to the students at costs ranging from P50 to P150 per sachet.

Apart from this, the said areas are also reportedly being used by some fraternities as convergence point or meeting place for student-recruits, Yangot added.

He said these activities must be stopped immediately for the protection of the students.

Yangot’s proposal is scheduled for discussion at the city council. /*Aileen P. Refuerzo*

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