

November 23-29, 2019

₱8.00

THE JUNCTION

WEEKEND

www.junctionnews.com

Pahayagang Palaban!!!

MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

VOL. XXIII NO. 4
ISSN 0119-7487



Treated unfairly by newspapers that refuse to publish your response? Write us.



Philippine Press Council
c/o Philippine Press Institute
Rm. 206 BF Cond. Bldg.
A. Soriano Ave.
Intramuros, Manila
Tel. No. 5279632 or 5274478 Fax 527-3390
Email - ppi1@mozcom.com



Senior citizens to be exempted from payment of parking fees

BAGUIO CITY - The City Council approved on first reading a proposed ordinance amending Ordinance No. 08, series of 2013, that previously granted senior citizens at least 20 percent discount in parking fees to exempt them from being charged such parking fees.

The ordinance authored by Councilor Betty Lourdes F. Tabanda stated that Ordinance No. 08, series of 2013, which grants senior citizens at least 20 percent discount in parking fees will be amended to grant exemptions to senior citizens from the payment of parking fees.

The ordinance asserts all business establishments shall grant free parking privilege to all senior citizens of the city subject to the guidelines but the measure shall not cover the so-called overnight parking.

The ordinance state the same privilege shall be applicable to all business establishments that collect parking fees from its customers in the different parts of the city.

To avail of the free parking privilege, the ordinance requires that the senior citizen must be a resident of the city; the senior citizen must be the one driving the

motor vehicle or is a passenger of a motor vehicle; the senior citizen must present his or her valid senior citizen identification card; exemption from payment of parking fees shall apply only on the first three hours; on the fourth hour, the corresponding hourly rate shall apply and be collected and no fees shall be collected from the senior citizens in case of a flat rate policy.

The ordinance adds all business establishments covered by the pertinent provision of the proposed measure shall install

the necessary signages to serve notice to the public of the exemptions that will be granted to senior citizens in the collection of parking fees.

Under the proposed ordinance, any violation of the provisions of the measure shall be filed with the Office of the Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) under the City Social Welfare and Development

Cont. on page 7



DISIPLINA MUNA - The city government urges barangay officials to comply with solid waste management laws at all times. The General Services Office has already warned Barangay Officials of Diego Silang for violation of RA9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act particularly dumping of waste in public places, dumping of waste outside the designated collection point and beyond the garbage collection schedule. - Photo by Baguio City GSO

Ay, mayat dayta libre nga parking tapno i-park ko daytoy karag-karag ko ket apanak ag-pasyar diay Burnham.



Baguio's enchanting Christmas opens Nov. 23

Christmas opens Nov. 23

Cabanatuan judge withdraws subpoena to PSD enforcer

Barangays urged to comply with waste management laws or face sanctions

Enrolment in Baguio drops by 2 percent in 2019

FAIR AND SQUARE

Benguet town offers 'kini-ing' as pork alternative

Piggery usufruct agreement signed

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

The Junction News
find us on Facebook
www.junctionnews.com

page 5
The Ninja Fixers (Part 2)
BY: ATTY. JAMES S. VALEROS

page 4
Pagtutuos sa mga gawa ng tao, tiyak darating
BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO

Barangays urged to comply with waste management laws or face sanctions

BAGUIO CITY – Barangays should at all times implement and comply with laws on solid waste management or face sanctions.

Mayor Benjamin Magalong issued this warning after chancing upon piles of garbage dumped at an unauthorized area along a Diego Silang St., a busy road at the central business district.

The General Services Office under Eugene Buyucan immediately collected the wastes and called out the barangay captain of Harrison-Carantes who has jurisdiction over the area.

A notice was issued to the barangay for violation of the Environment Code of the City of Baguio and the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000

or Republic Act 9003 particularly for dumping waste in public places, dumping outside the designated collection point and beyond the collection schedule.

“In line with our continuing quest for a cleaner City of Baguio, please ensure that all pertinent laws and legislations on Solid Waste Management are strictly implemented in your barangays,” the notice reads.

“Persistent violators will be dealt with accordingly,” it adds.

Buyucan earlier also encouraged barangays to manage their own biodegradable wastes through segregation and home and backyard composting also mandated under the said laws.

He said his office provides assistance to barangays in setting up

their own composting materials and in providing drums.

He said residents should practice composting and urban gardening in their homes because it does not only help reduce the volume of both biodegradable and non-biodegradable wastes but is also beneficial for the homes.

He said a simple composting method would only require any container, big or medium-sized and can be plastic, wood or cement where biodegradable wastes can be stored.

“Just cover the refuse with small amount of soil for drying and repeat the process. The compost can be used in one to two months for their backyard garden. Other methods such as the use of African night crawlers may also be done,” Buyucan said./

Aileen P. Refuerzo

Punch list of convention center job eyed

BAGUIO CITY – The city eyes making a “punch list” of the Baguio Convention Center rehabilitation works to determine and correct possible defects and deficiencies in the construction before the actual completion of the project.

Mayor Benjamin Magalong agreed to the suggestion of City Administrator Bonifacio Dela Peña and City Building and Architecture Office Asst. Head Johnny Degay to validate the integrity and workmanship of the structure in view of the glaring flaws the mayor noticed when the city used the facility for the Baguio Day celebration last September.

He said the city has to do the punch list while it is possible to conduct a thorough check-up of the jobs done and the materials installed instead of doing it after the project’s completion which would entail the

dismantling of the installations. Dela Peña said he will arrange a meeting with project implementer Dept. of Public Works and Highways Cordillera Regional Director Tiburcio Canlas for the contractor to accommodate the validation activities.

The mayor admitted having reached a decision not to accept the project because of the poor workmanship of the structure as evidenced by the defective ceiling

and warped flooring they observed during the Baguio Day event.

They also noted the inferior quality of the chairs installed but Dela Peña said this was what was indicated in the project specifications.

The mayor said that

Cont. on page 6

Barangay road audit sought

BAGUIO CITY – Barangays will be asked to audit their roads where parking had been allowed as basis

for validating whether said streets are viable as parking or merely causing traffic obstructions.

Mayor Benjamin Magalong tasked the City Engineering Office Traffic and Transport Management Division under Engr. Richard Lardizabal to check on the barangay roads covered by barangay parking ordinances approved by the city council to determine whether they are suitable as parking zones.

The mayor said the city will continue to allow the

designation of appropriate roads for parking particularly those covered by barangay ordinances only if it will not result to impeding the flow of traffic.

“Either one-way or two-way road, we will not stop the implementation of the parking ordinances as long as it will not obstruct the traffic flow on said roads,” the mayor said.

One practice that will be stopped will be the assigning of the parking spaces to particular persons as residents should be accorded equal

establishment owner to pay the fine of P5,000 or imprisonment of one year, or both upon the discretion of the court.

The ordinance tasked the City Buildings and Architecture Office, in coordination with the Permits and Licensing Division of the City Mayor’s Office, the Baguio City Police Office and the Public Order and Safety Division to ensure the implementation or enforcement of the measure.

The City Mayor’s Office and the implementing offices shall, within 30 days from the effectivity of the ordinance, promulgate the necessary rules and regulation to implement the pertinent provisions of the same.

Earlier, the Department of Interior and City government (DILG) issued Memorandum Circular No. 2024-119 that directed cities and capital towns to require the installation of CCTV cameras for certain business establishments in accordance with Section 16 or the general welfare clause of Republic Act (RA) 7160 or the Local Government Code of the Philippines to support the

Cont. on page 7

chances over these slots. City Accountant Antonio Tabin agreed that the city should be the one to recommend which roads are suitable for parking based on the measurements of the roads.

He said allowing parking based on barangay ordinances alone without considering the viability of the roads will defeat the purpose of the anti-road obstruction law and the widening projects.

The city council also resolved to thresh out the contradicting provisions of two ordinances of the city that deal on parking and anti-road obstruction./ **Aileen P. Refuerzo**

The JUNCTION
Bing Dawang-Farres: Editor (on leave)
Freddie J. Farres: Consultant
Support Staff: Nelson Tuano, Gerry P. Binwagan, John T. Bagayan, Annabelle Pedronio, Bradenburg Savac, Kevin Villena, Levis
Regular Columnists: Atty. James S. Valeros, Atty. Batas Mauricio Emilio Liwanen, Nestor A. Castro

The Junction is printed and published by Farco Trimedia Ventures, Inc. (FTV, Inc.) every weekend, with office address c/o Valeros Law Office, No. 27 Engineer’s Hill, Baguio City; Mobile Phone No. (0917) 506-9123; Tel. No. (074) 444 - 7025
E-mail Address: thejunctionnews@yahoo.com
Mailing Address P.O. Box 1588, 2600 Baguio City
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.
*Our articles and stories (news/features) are ready to go for printing without the involvement of the editor and publisher who happen to be on leave.

Cabanatuan judge withdraws subpoena to PSD enforcer

general welfare provision

BAGUIO CITY – Judge Nelson V. Largo of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) in Cabanatuan City formally withdrew the subpoena that he issued against an enforcer of the Public Order and Safety Division (POSD) considering that he found the documents that was submitted to his sala on his being apprehended for traffic violation as meritorious.

“Considering that necessary documents had already been forwarded to the court and finding the same to be meritorious, the required explanation is now deemed mooted. The end of justice having

sufficiently met, the order dated October 28, 2019 setting the proceeding for hearing on November 29, 2019 is hereby lifted and set aside. The subpoena and scheduled hearing on November 29, 2019 is hereby cancelled,” Judge Largo in his one-page order dated November 18, 2-10.

The City Council approved a resolution declaring Judge Nelson V. Largo of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) Branch 3 of Cabanatuan City, Neva Ecija as ‘persona non grata’ in Baguio city.

Resolution No. 429, series of 2019, cited as basis Section 16 or the

of Republic Act (RA) 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of the Philippines, which provides in part that ‘every local government unit shall exercise the power necessary for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare, promote health and safety, improve public morals, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants.’

On October 25, 2019, Bernard Batnag, an enforcer of the Public Order and Safety Division

Cont. on page 6

Benguet town offers 'kini-ing' as pork alternative

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet- A new food item that can replace pork meat for the traditionally preserved meat viand is being introduced by the town of Bakun, one of the 13 municipalities of Benguet.

The product, kini-ing chicken, is one of the town's featured items in the agri-tourism fair that opened late afternoon on Monday.

“A resident of Gambang

village tried it and introduced it to the municipal hall and in a snap, it was sold out,” Bakun town Councilor Edgar Ognaden said in Ilocano.

“He introduced it and when we tasted, it was good. It is now regularly being sold at the municipal hall canteen,” Ognaden said.

Several packs weighing one kilo worth PHP190 had been sold on day one of the Agri fair.

Kini-ing chicken is only sold on the second floor of the Bakun booth until November 23. The agri-fair is one of the activities of the 119th Foundation anniversary of Benguet.

“It is a blockbuster product. Some buy because they are curious while others want it because it is chicken,” he said.

“We have enough until the last day of the event,” Ognaden said, adding they brought the product to the event as a pork alternative

Piggery usufruct agreement signed

BAGUIO CITY- A usufruct agreement between Mayor Benjamin Magalong and the owner of a 10,000 square meter property in San Pascual, Tuba, Benguet intended for a city piggery project was signed last week at city hall.

The proposed piggery away from the city addresses backyard hog raising problems, deemed a major factor to waterways pollution extending to neighboring areas. Pig waste is considered a major pollutant in water ways, burgeon-

ing up to billions of disease-causing Coliform, as to samples taken by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Engr. Francis Cuyop represents the lot owner who signified consent to the use of the lot for hog-raising for ten years. The period, however, does not include the construction of facilities, and that permanent improvements redound to owner's use, after the agreed period of use. The owner authorizes the possession and use of the property as stated in the agreement.

Any breach, dispute or litigation in the terms and conditions of the agreement would be filed in Baguio City courts, it was stated.

The signing was witnessed by City Social Welfare and Development Officer Betty Fangasan, Leandro Tabilog, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, and other officials.

According to Mayor Benjamin Magalong, the computer-controlled technology-based piggery to be housed in San Pascual, Tuba, Benguet is expected to be profitable for backyard hog-rais-

DA affirms strong market potential of Cordillera heirloom rice



BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Agriculture is promoting the continuing production of heirloom or traditional rice in the region, not only for its cultural/historical value but also given its higher nutritional value and strong market potential.

DA – Cordillera Regional Director Cameron Odsey, in a kapihan forum here Thursday, affirmed the competitiveness of Cordillera rice farmers especially in the production of traditional or heirloom rice varieties that are mostly being planted at the region's rice terraces and other upland rice paddies.

Odsey disclosed that there are around 500 traditional rice varieties that are indigenous in the region, mostly being planted for personal or family consumption which has been passed from one generation to another.

ers, some members of the newly-inducted Baguio Animal Raisers cooperative (BARaCo). Two piggery facilities within the proposed area are expected to house 1,200 hogs with harvest at least twice a year, the mayor said.

Mayor Magalong emphatically said that piggeries are out of the city by next year.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) grants

Cont. on page 6

To document and to support the continuing production, Odsey shared that in partnership with Philippine Rice Research Institute and the International Rice Research Institute, DA-CAR is implementing a program to identify and to have an inventory of Cordillera heirloom rice varieties. So far, 88 varieties of Cordillera heirloom rice have been identified.

In partnership with the Department of Science and Technology – Food and Nutrition Institute, a nutrition and grain quality analysis has been conducted which result shows heirloom rice varieties tested shows better nutritional value and quality compared to regular or commercial rice, Odsey shared.

DA – CAR data shows that an estimated 14.26 hectares of rice terraces are into heirloom rice production with an average yield of 2.32 tons/per hectare.

With more and more people getting into healthier diet or eating habits, the local market for heirloom rice is expanding and with the marketing assistance of the tourism department, international market is also slowly coming in, he added.

He called for continuing convergence in maintaining the heirloom rice

varieties in the region as well as in looking into improving the production, not only for the region's rice sufficiency but also in improving Cordillera's competitiveness in the rice industry especially the heirloom rice varieties.

DA – CAR spearheaded the kapihan forum in promoting National Rice Awareness Month, an annual observance that aims to promote the consumption of local rice to help rice farmers' increase their production and income.

With the theme “Quality Rice, Quality Life” and slogan, “Buy Local Eat Local, Support Our Rice Farmers, it encourages consumers to patronize and value local rice, motivates farmers to produce quality rice and rallies public influencers to promote the Philippine rice industry.

Joining Odsey in the forum who shared their experiences in region's rice industry were Kalinga “Gawad Saka” awardee Honorio Clemencia, Mountain Province Heirloom Rice Farmers' Agricultural Cooperative manager Saturnina Wadingan, Ifugao Seed and Commercial Rice Grower Jovencio Sevilla, Benguet Heirloom Rice Farmer Sonia Pengosro and Bangued Abra MAFC chairperson Jerome Maba – ay. (JDP/CCD-PIA CAR)

SEAG cauldron, a work of art? Alan Peter Cayetano, a piece of work

By: Yen Makabenta (manilatimes.net)

First word

ALAN Peter Cayetano must think Filipinos will believe anything when he declares before the Senate that the P55-million cauldron for the Southeast Asian Games (SEAG) is “a work of art.”

But there are some of us who do take art seriously (having studied and worked in the arts and the humanities) and who consider it a gross national deception when a high government official foists something as pedestrian as a cauldron on the nation as an aesthetic monument.

That the official who dared to do this is Alan Peter Cayetano will surprise no one. The man has perpetrated so many outrageous things in his career on our public life, that he figures to easily get away with this one.

But if, as he contends, the Southeast Asian Games (SEAG) cauldron is a work of art, the nation should in turn ponder the growing reality that the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Congress is a “real piece of work.” And it may be seeing now only the tip of the iceberg.

The reality underneath could be sordid.

A real piece of work

“Piece of work” is an English idiom that

has grown in popularity in contemporary

times to describe people of low character, dishonest and unpleasant.

According to the Grammarist, “piece of work is a phrase that dates back to Shakespearean times. It has taken on an idiomatic meaning in addition to its literal meaning.

The literal meaning of the term a piece of work is a work produced through someone’s efforts. However, a piece of work is also used as an idiom to describe someone who is unpleasant, dishonest, hard to deal with, of low character. When used in this fashion, a piece of work is a derogatory phrase. The term is found in Shakespeare’s Hamlet: “What a piece of work is a man, how noble in reason, how infinite in faculties...” In this case, the term is used literally.

Around the turn of the 20th century, the term was used in Britain to describe someone hard to deal with or of low character in the phrase “a nasty piece of work.” The term migrated to the United States, where by the 1970s it was used without the modifier “nasty,” and simply evolved into the idiom a piece of work or sometimes, a real piece of work

The idiom fits Alan Peter to a T.

He has parlayed his half Filipino-half American lineage and training in law into a career in national politics, and he has managed to reach as high as the Senate and the House speakership.

No local politician has arguably done more outrageous things in our public life than Cayetano has, and yet has stuck in the nation’s gut without being vomited out.

Cayetano introduced the idea of term-sharing in the election of House Speaker in Congress, setting aside the traditional way of selecting the congressional leadership, so he could maneuver to gain election as the first among the term sharers.

In the May 2016 elections, Cayetano led his family in a crooked scheme to keep all top elective positions in Taguig-Pateros within the family.

Despite losing his vice presidential bid as the running mate of Rodrigo Duterte, Cayetano has craftily milked this connection to extract political favors and assignments.

He got himself appointed as Secretary of Foreign Affairs under Duterte.

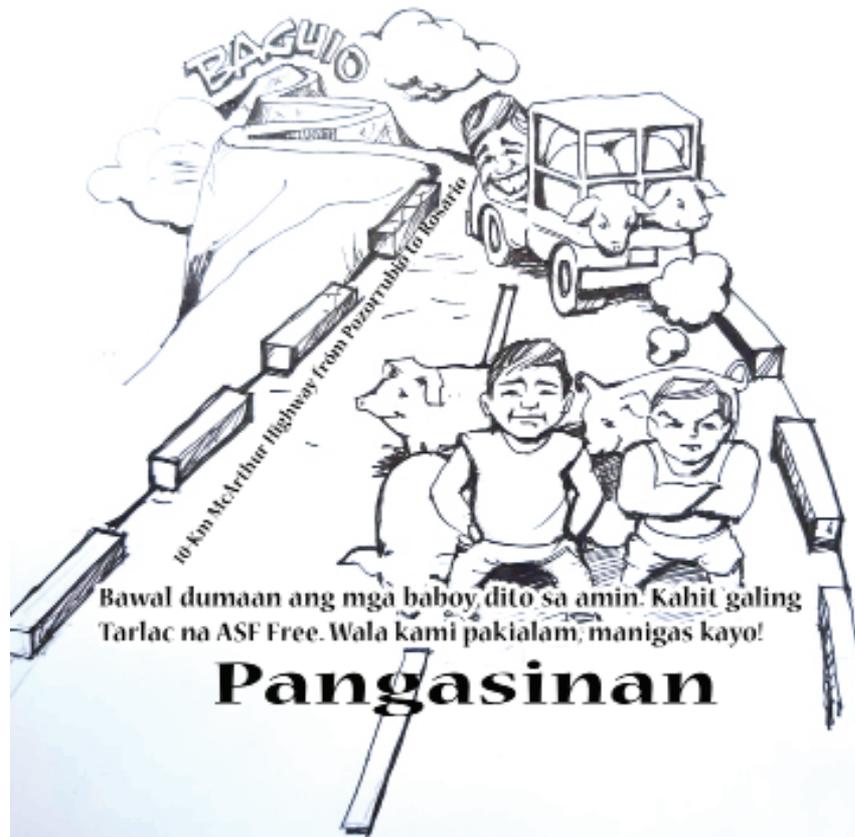
He secured the chairmanship of the organizing committee for the 2019 SEAG, and then placed his own foundation in position to profit from the games.

P55-million cauldron

To the credit of Senate minority leader Sen. Franklin Drilon, he is the one who exposed the scandalous construction of a P 55-million cauldron for the SEAG in new Clark City, which in turn is leading to the exposure of a much bigger financial scandal in the sports extravaganza.

Drilon has vowed to lead a Senate investigation on SEAG immediately after the conclusion of the games on December 10.

For now, there can be no investigation or **Cont. on page 5**



KAKAMPIMO ANG BATAS

Dayuhang namumuhunan,
yumayaman; katutubong Pilipino,
naghihirap

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



INSPIRASYON SA BUHAY: “... Binibigyan ko kayo ngayon ng pagpipilian: buhay o kamatayan; kasaganaan o kahirapan; kapag sinunod ninyo ang mga utos na ibinibigay ko sa inyo ngayon mula kay Yahweh na inyong Diyos... pagpapalain niya kayo... Ngunit kapag tumalikod kayo at ayaw nang makinig sa kanya, sa halip ay naglingkod sa ibang mga diyos, ngayon pa’y sinasabi ko sa inyong malilipol kayo...” (Deuteronomio 30:15-18, Bibliya).

-000-

“AGAGUI’Y ATATENG” NG PANGASINAN: MERON PA BA NITO? “Agagui’y atateng”. Kung kayo ay panggalatok, o taga Pangasinan na ang salita ay panggalatok, alam ninyo kung ano ang ibig sabihin ng “agagui’y atateng”. Kung hindi kayo panggalatok, medyo malabong maunawaan ninyo kung ano ang ibig sabihin nito. Pero, ito ay salitang nagbabadya ng pagkakaisa, pagkakaunawaan, at pagtutulungan ng isang buong pamilya.

Ang kahulugan ng “agagui’y atateng” sa wikang Pilipino ay “magkakapatid, mag-aama”. Ayon sa namayapa kong ama, si G. Melanio Paucio Mauricio Sr., isang tubong Tarlac pero nakakapagsalita at nakakaunawa ng panggalatok, ginagamit ang salitang “agagui’y atateng” upang isalarawan ang magkakapatid at mag-aamang panggalatok na sama-samang bumibiyaha sa iba’t ibang bayan ng Pangasinan (o kahit na sa mga kalapit na lalawigan) at nagtitinda ng kung ano-anong mga gamit pambahay na yari sa kawayan o sa kahoy.

Gamit ang sari-sarili nilang mga kariton na hila-hila ng kanilang mga kalabaw sa kanilang paglilibot at pagtitinda. Laging parang piknik sa tuwing sila ay mag-aal-musal, manananghalian, o maghahapunan, kasi sama-sama silang nagluluto ng kanilang kakainin at pagsasalu-saluhan, saan mang lugar sila abutan.

-000-

MAIPAGMAMALAKING UGALI, DI NA LAMANG NG MGA PANGGALATOK, KUNDI NG MGA PILIPINO: Sa aking tingin, ang estilo ng buhay ng mga “agagui’y atateng” (o magkakapatid at mag-aama na sama-samang nangangalakal sa iba’t ibang bayan gamit ang kanilang mga kariton at mga kalabaw sa kanilang paglalakbay) ay isang bagay na maipagmamalaki di na lamang ng mga Pangasinense o ng mga panggalatok, kundi ng buong Pilipinas.

Ipinapakita nito ang paggalang at pagmamahal ng magkakapatid sa kanilang ama o mga magulang, dahil sinusunod nila ang mga ito sa sama-sama nilang paghahanap-buhay. Nakikita din dito ang paggalang at pagmamahal nila sa isa’t isa, sapagkat nagtutulungan sila sa paghahanap ng kanilang ikabubuhay, sa marangal na paraan. Maliwanag na walang alitan na namamagitan sa kanila, at

Cont. on page 5

Tired of Graft & Corruption?



Linis Gobyerno

is an anti-graft,

corruption prevention and detection office.

Contact Nos. (0917) 5069123, (074) 444-7025
or you can write to P.O. Box 1588, 2600 Baguio
City e-mail: linisgobyerno@yahoo.com website:
www.linisgobyerno.org

Editorial

from page 4

inquiry, because the games must go on as planned, and because the Philippines is committed to host the 30th SEAG and turn it into the biggest regional games ever.

The exposure of the anomalous and irregularities will come later. But there will be no hiding the stink that lies at the heart of the financing and organization of the 2019 SEAG.

The extravagant million-dollar cauldron is ironically the least scandalous in the entire SEAG saga.

P7.5-billion fund diversion

The first anomaly is how Cayetano, who has never been involved in any sport, got himself appointed as chairman of the organizing committee for the 2019 SEAG.

The second anomaly is how Cayetano, as then foreign affairs secretary, effected the unconscionable diversion of the P7.5 billion budget for the Philippines hosting of the 2019 SEAG to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

Cayetano requested the fund transfer when he was still the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and in his capacity as designated chairman of the organizing committee for the 2019 SEAG in the country.

The foreign affairs department has absolutely nothing to do with the SEAG event, or Philippine participation in the competition, other than documentation of foreign participants, officials and visitors.

Hosting and organization of the SEAG is principally the business and responsibility of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC).

Rectification of the mess was quick upon exposure of the fund diversion. Responsible executive branch officials moved with dispatch to correct the situation. It was shortly announced that the P7.5 billion budget for the SEAG would be transferred soonest from the coffers of the DFA to those of the PSC.

Cayetano and Medialdea

My columnist colleague Ramon Tulfo has written a column which discusses in detail how Cayetano was allegedly assisted by Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea in his scheme to turn the 2019 SEAG into a personal financial bonanza.

In his July 20, 2019 column ("There goes Cayetano as House speaker; also Medialdea"), Tulfo wrote:

"President Digong said there was corruption in the preparations for the holding of the 30th Southeast Asian Games to be held in the country in November this year.

Cayetano heads the Philippine Southeast Asian Organizing Committee (Phisgoc), which oversees the preparations for the games that are being hosted by the Philippines.

"But the scandal at Phisgoc, involving hundreds of millions of pesos, may change the President's mind about Cayetano.

"President Duterte may also change his mind about Executive Secretary Salvador 'Bingbong' Medialdea for his endorsement of and support for Cayetano in the questionable multi-million-peso program.

"The scandal involves the gross overpricing of athletes' uniforms and collection of donations from private corporations when Phisgoc is funded by the government to the tune of P6 billion.

"You know how Phisgoc, which is headed by Cayetano as chairman, was able to justify the donations from the private sector?

"They set up the Phisgoc Foundation, supposedly a nonprofit private entity.

"Phisgoc Foundation, which Cayetano also heads as chairman, collected close to a billion pesos from private companies, including San

Cont. on page 6

FAIR AND SQUARE

*The Ninja Fixers
(Part 2)*

BY: ATTY. JAMES S. VALEROS

Measured from the fact that new franchises were still being issued by LTFRB Region 1 (later becoming LTFRB-CAR in 2003) despite the prohibition therefor by both DOTC and the LTFRB, it appears that my letter to Chairman Lantion and Secretary Mendoza requesting for investigation of irregularities in the LTFRB (as alluded to in Part 1 of this article) did not cause even a tiny ripple of fear among LTFRB personnel, the ninja fixers in particular, as to deter them from committing continued irregularities in franchising.

This is also notwithstanding that Baguio City Council has already passed numerous Resolutions to contain the unwarranted issuance of PUV franchises by LTFRB to control the serious traffic congestion already building-up in the city in 2005. Among which Resolutions were the following:

1. Res. 231, s. of 1992: Urging the LTFRB to suspend the grant of new franchises to any public utility vehicle plying the route in Baguio City. (by Hon. Edilberto Claravall)

2. Res. 012, s. of 1994: Appealing to President Fidel Ramos, the lack of support from the LTFRB to previous resolutions urging the LTFRB to suspend the grant of new franchises to any public utility vehicle plying their route in the City of Baguio.

(by Hon. Edilberto Claravall)

3. Res. 316, s. of 1995: Directing the City Legal Officer to file, for and in behalf of the City, an →

Kakampi mo ang Batas

from page 4

mapayapa at masaya silang nagkakasama-sama.

Ang problema lang, tila kokonti na lamang ang gumagawa pa ng ganitong sama-samang paghahanap-buhay ng magkakapatid at mag-aama, kundi man tuluyan na nga yatang nakalimutan na ito. Kasi naman, yung mga bagay na pupuwede sana nilang ikalalal o ipagbili sa mga nasa bahay-bahay ay madali ng mabibili sa mga malls na nakatayo na sa maraming lugar sa Pangasinan at mga kalapit na lugar. Ang problema lang, ang mga malls na ito ay kadalasang pag-aari na ng mga dayuhan.

-ooo-

DAYUHANG MAMUMUHUNAN, YUMAYAMAN; KATUTUBONG PILIPINO, NAGHIHIKAHOS: Sa totoo lang, pati na din yung mga maliliit na tindahan o mga maliliit na sari-sari store sa mga kanayunan ay nangangawala o nagsasarado na din. Puwersado silang itigil na ang kanilang mga maliliit na pinagkakakitaan dahil napakalapit na ng mga malls o mga department stores na pag-aari madalas ng mga dayuhang mamumuhunan (na nagnenegosyo dito matapos silang magkamit ng Filipino citizenship, o nakakakuha ng mga Pilipinong magiging dummy nila).

Bakit nangyayari na ito? Sa totoo lang, ibinabala ang ganitong mga pagkawala ng mga hanapbuhay o pagkakakitaan ng mga katutubong Pilipino. Sinabi sa babala na mababasa sa Deuteronomio 28:15 at 43-44, na ang mga dayuhang makikitira sa atin ay yayaman ng yayaman samantalang tayo naman ay maghihirap ng maghihirap sa ating sariling bayan. Mga dayuhan ang magpapa-utang sa atin, at, sila pa ang magiging pinuno natin sa ating bayang sinilangan.

Ang ganitong mga pangyayari ay sumpang ibinibigay ng Diyos. At ibinibigay ng Diyos ang ganitong sumpa dahil ang mga tao ay hindi nakikinig sa Kaniyang Salita sa Bibliya, at hindi na sumusunod sa Kaniyang mga

Cont. on page 6

urgent petition with the LTFRB and DOTC to stop, oppose and suspend the processing of all applications for franchises of PUVs in Baguio City. (by Hon. Nicasio Palaganas)

4. Res. 171, s. of 1997: Requesting the LTFRB to deny petitions for amendment of franchises to make Baguio City the authorized route or venue of operations to control the issuance of new and additional taxi and PUJ franchises in Baguio City. (by Hon. Nicasio Palaganas)

5. Res. 236, s. of 1998: Requesting the NBI to investigate Reg. Director Daniel Tapia of the LTFRB and all others involved in the unabated proliferation of public utility vehicles in the City of Baguio. (by Hon. Richard Cariño)

6. Res. 292, s. of 1998: Prohibiting issuance of new franchises in routes entering and touching BLIST. (This resolution became the basis for LTFRB in issuing the moratorium Memorandum Circular No. 98-026), by Hon. Richard Cariño

7. Res. 158, of 1998: Seeking the immediate ouster of Reg. Director Daniel Tapia, LTFRB Region 1 and declaring him as persona non grata in the City of Baguio for acts inimical to the interest of the people of Baguio. (by Hon. Richard Cariño)

And because circumvention and gross violation continued to persist despite the above resolutions, the City Council further passed the following measures:

8. Res. 050, s. of 1999: Strongly urging the LTFRB en banc to review motu proprio the actions of LTFRB, Region 1 which granted the CPCs and after due notice and hearing, to cancel or recall all CPCs found to be irregularly or fraudulently issued by the LTFRB, Region 1. (by Hon. Richard Carino)

9. Res. 251, s. 2001: Authorizing Hon. Richard Cariño and Hon. Delfin Balajadia to collate all necessary documents and evidences and file the necessary complaints against erring public officials of the LTFRB involved in the issuance of new franchises affecting Baguio City in spite of the moratorium.

10. Res. 317, s. of 2001: Interposing vigorous opposition to all franchise applications now pending in the LTFRB Reg. 1 which affect Baguio City and in violation of MC 98-026 and other LTFRB Memorandum Circulars. (by Hon. Edilberto Tenefrancia)

11. Res. 109, s. 2005: requesting the Hon. Elena Bautista Chairman, LTFRB to suspend the issuance of new franchises for taxi units in the City of Baguio and other BLIST areas. (by Hon. Leandro Yangot)

With all these measures taken by the Baguio City Council, who would ever think that the moratorium when conceptualized by the LTFRB from these resolutions would fail. Probably nobody. But it did anyway, why? The reasons perhaps was that we residents of the city, relying mainly in the ability of LTFRB to regulate public transportation being its function, failed to anticipate that one day there will be ninjas that will come to destroy the noble intent and purpose of the conceived moratorium.

While personnel of the present LTFRB-CAR may have shown some improvements in their dealings with the public, they are not sufficient indication that all is well in that agency for, there are still some hidden acts by a few seemingly acting as ninjas. Thus, I am constrained to chronicle highlights of the exploits and adventures of the ninja fixers in the past that have bearings on the cause of traffic congestion in the city and for the benefit of the uninitiated stakeholders (including members of the City Council) all puzzled and asking why congestion was not controlled despite the moratorium. Here they are, following:

I

In this region before the advent and creation of LTFRB-CAR in 2003, car dealers

Cont. on page 6

Fair and square

from page 5

in Baguio City could easily obtained franchises for their units they would sell to the buyers wanting to operate taxi service amid the existing moratorium. As it happened, liaison employees of the car dealer would go down early in the morning to San Fernando, La Union where the former LTFRB Regional Office was then located with only an envelope on his left hand with instruction from his boss to hand it over to a designated ninja fixer of the Regional Director or to the Director himself, to facilitate the purpose. And before noon of the same day, without having filed any application or paid a filing fee therefor, the liaison employee would go up to Baguio with a copy of Decision or franchise on his right hand to be given to the car dealer as instructed by the attending ninja fixer. Naturally, the Decision or franchise issued in this case would not be recorded in the docket of the LTFRB until in the future a transaction in the case would come up such as: Dropping and Substitution, Extension of Validity or Sale and Transfer of CPC wherein a verification of the case record is essentially required for the Record. Here the same ninja fixer or a new one would come to the rescue to facilitate the filing of Motion to Docket arranged with the Regional Director and the Records Officer since this type of Motion is not authorized as a pleading under the Rules of the Board.

In sum, it is estimated that hundreds, if not thousands of franchises mostly for taxis were granted in this manner in the more than 3 years stay of a Regional Director in his regional turf. Although fraudulent, void and illegally issued, these units covered by such franchises continue to operate in CAR and now the major cause of debilitating traffic congestion and pollution in Baguio City.

To be continued

Piggery usufruct...

from page 3

P10M for the piggery project, while Thailand-based CPF food company provides training and basic materials for the hog-raising facility.

Construction of the planned piggery goes on after the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) is accomplished with a public hearing set in Tuba, 9AM, Dec. 13.

Meanwhile, the BARaCo officers were inducted by the mayor last week. The cooperative is a requirement for the piggery project set in Tuba.

The Baguio Animal Raisers Cooperative (BARaCo) officers inducted were Julie Mangigil as chair, Luis Dulagan as Vice Chair, Elizabeth Bayla, Julie Enio and Helen Mokyat as Board of Directors. Coop secretary is Carmen Apressan, and treasurer is Mary Fanak-il. Billy Kitongan is Chair of the election committee, Vice-chair is Faustino Wayas, and Secretary is June Galmote; while the audit committee is headed by Jane Faruyen, Vice-chair is Benedicta Kitan and secretary is Beatriz Aliwan.

The officers pledged to be guided by cooperative principles of self-help, equality, honesty, and being law-abiding, among others. /Julie G. Fianza

Kakampi mo ang batas

from page 5

utos. Ang nakakatakot dito, walang katapusan ang sumpang ito hanggang hindi tayo nalilipol, nawawasak, o di kaya ay nawawala sa ating sariling bayan. Nakow! May magagawa ba tayo dito? Tawag po kayo sa mga numerong nasa ibaba nito, o magpadala kayo ng mensahe sa aking email address o Messenger, na makikita din dito!

-000-

REAKSIYON? Tawag po sa 0977 805 9058, 0918 574 0193, 0933 8251308 o sa aking Messenger account sa Facebook: Melanio Lazo Mauricio Jr. Email: batasmuricio@yahoo.com, mmauriciojr111@gmail.com. Maaari din po kayong mag-post ng inyong mga reaksiyon sa aking Facebook page, www.facebook.com/attybatas.

Cabanatuan judge...

from page 3

(POSD) under the City Mayor's Office, issued a traffic citation ticket (TCT) to the driver of an illegally parked vehicle along the Baguio City public market and for violating the pertinent provisions of Ordinance No. 01, series of 2003 or the Baguio City Number Coding Scheme as amended.

The resolution stipulates that the license plate of the vehicle was thereafter confiscated by Batnag as per protocol enshrined under the city's traffic rules and regulations.

Earlier, Mayor Benjamin B. Magalong requested the city legislative body to pass a resolution condemning the alleged questionable acts of the judge and declare him as 'persona non grata' in the city.

The resolution notes it was later found that the illegally parked motor vehicle was owned by Judge Nelson V. Largo of the MTCC Branch 3 of Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija.

Punch list of convention...

from page 2

with its current workmanship, the facility's safety is suspect and accepting the project would put the city government in a compromising situation.

The project worth P169 million was started in March 2018 and is projected for completion in February 2020.

DPWH-CAR officials and the contractor had earlier assured compliance to the plans and specifications approved for the project. /Aileen P. Refuerzo

Editorial

from page 5

Miguel Corp. and the MVP Group.

"This is not to mention the P200 million that the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., a government entity, gave to the Phisgoc Foundation.

"Phisgoc, the government entity, says the P6 billion set aside to fund the 30th SEA Games is intact.

"However, there is no accounting for the private donations amounting to, I repeat, close to a billion pesos.

"Cayetano was appointed by the POC as chairman of Phisgoc. He then created the Phisgoc Foundation without the knowledge of the POC.

"Cayetano went to Executive Secretary Medialdea to ask him to support the private Phisgoc Foundation.

"Medialdea, apparently without the President's knowledge, issued Memorandum Circular 56 ordering all government agencies and government-controlled corporations to support the Phisgoc Foundation.

"The circular, issued on Jan. 25, 2019 to take effect immediately, was signed by Medialdea, 'by authority of the President'."

The SEAG controversy is a big story. It is more than a matter of money and numbers. It is also a story of abuse and betrayal of public trust.

This is a matter for the Ombudsman to investigate. When Alan Peter Cayetano and his foundation moved to allegedly make money from the SEAG, they violated a cardinal rule in government ethics.

Benguet town offers...

from page 3

in the wake of the African swine fever (ASF) scare.

"Kini-ing" is a preserved meat, originally pork, that undergoes smoking using pine wood. The meat is hanged above the fire used in cooking at a traditional kitchen that uses wood for three to four days.

Such a process of preservation has been practiced by several villages in the Cordillera as a means of preserving the meat from butchered animals, making them last for many months, ready for the rainy season. —>

Asserting that the act of seizing his motor vehicle license plate violated due process, Judge Largo charged the POSD enforcer with indirect contempt and directed Batnag and the chief of traffic enforcers to appear before his court in Cabanatuan city on November 29, 2019 by virtue of a subpoena dated October 29, 2019.

Judge Largo alleged in his order dated October 28, 2019 that the confiscation of the license plate of the vehicle being issued by the court's presiding judge evidently caused delay in the scheduled hearings, and if done arbitrarily, oppressively or without valid cause or lawful order, is illegal and downright contemptuous.

The city chief executive signed the approved resolution that will be transmitted to Judge Largo and the Supreme Court (SC) for information, guidance and ready reference. /Dexter A. See

City updates high school...

from page 8

respectively as editors-in-chief, assistant editors-in-chief, and managing editors of their respective newspapers or organs of the schools; students in any public school in the city enrolled in a special science class, a special program in journalism, and a special program in the arts; students who become members of the Supreme Pupil Government and Supreme Student Government in any public school in the city, and students who represent the city and won in any Department of Education-recognized or endorsed competition in the regional, national or international level.

The ordinance prescribed the categories and the monthly incentives to be received by the students in the special science programs and special programs in the arts – P500; special program for sports and athletes, school paper staffers, band members, honor students who garner first places and honor pupils from Grade I to 6 – P400 and second place honor students – P300.

The ordinance stipulated that to motivate and recognize deserving and qualified students, multiple incentive allowances can be given to students who qualify under all the provided categories.

Further, with the implementation of the Kto12 basic education program, the ordinance added that the incentive allowances shall apply to students in the junior high school and the senior high school to sustain the program given to basic education in the city.

The ordinance explained that a formula increasing the incentive allowances granted under the proposed measure may be formulated and adopted taking into account inflation rates and economic conditions in the city.

Ordinance No. 110, series of 1988 was enacted on December 14, 1988 and amended by Ordinance No. 03, series of 1990, Ordinance No. 63, series of 1992, Ordinance No. 001, series of 1993 and Ordinance No. 049, series of 2001.

Concerned stakeholders in the city recommended for the amendment of the ordinances to include the junior and senior high school achievers in line with the Kto12 basic education program and the possible increase in the incentives whenever funds are available for the said purpose. /Dexter A. See

The Cordillera adapts meat preservation which is all part of the native delicacy. Whether it is "Kini-ing", "etag" or "kinuday", they all come in pork, which is a "necessity" during gatherings.

Ognaden said the kini-ing is primarily added when cooking the traditional "pinikpikan", native delicacy of the region which is the secret to the flavorful soup.

It is also used to add flavor to boiled vegetables, or when cooking legumes, simply sliced thinly as an appetizer when drinking "tapuy" (rice wine), or sautéed with onion as a stand-alone dish. "For those who do not eat pork, this can replace the taste we are looking for when we eat pinikpikan," Ognaden said. (PNA)

Enrolment in Baguio drops by 2 percent in 2019

BAGUIO CITY – The Department of Education–Division of City Schools disclosed the enrolment in the public and private elementary and high schools in the city dropped by 2 percent compared to the enrolment data gathered by the agency last year.

City Schools Division Superintendent Marie Carolyn Verano disclosed there were a total of 56,658 enrollees in the 35 public elementary and 22 high schools in the different parts of the city while

there were some 35,246 enrollees in the various private elementary and high schools in the city for schoolyear 2019-2020.

She explained the decrease in the enrolment in both the public and private education institutions in the city reflects the reported decrease in the population among the young population due to the change in the generations of people living in the city.

The education official claimed while there was a slight drop in the enrolment in the

public and private basic education institutions in the city for the current year, there was an increase in the number of classrooms provided by the government's investments on the construction of schoolbuildings and classrooms in the different parts of the country to help decongest heavily populated schools to provide a conducive learning environment for the youth.

On the other hand, Verano reported that Baguio City performed well in the National

Achievement Test (NAT) among both

Grade 6 and Grade 10 students with Grade 6 pupils from the city garnering a passing rate of 50.46 percent while Grade 10 students got a passing rate of over 50 percent, both are above the national passing rates.

Of the 5 major subjects, both the Grade 6 and Grade 10 examinees excelled in Pilipino, English and Araling Panlipunan but did not perform well in the Math and Science subjects, thus, the need for the city education officials to review their strategies to

enhance the interest of the pupils and the students in learning both subjects.

Earlier, the government embarked on the strengthening of its existing strategies in teaching the Math and Science subjects to the pupils and students in the basic education program to ensure graduates are ready confront the realities in life where Math and Science are needed, both subjects having been identified by education experts helpful in molding productive citizens among today's youth.

While pupils and students in the city did not meet the projected passing percentage in

the previously concluded NAT, education officials pointed out appropriate teaching strategies will be introduced to innovate current teaching methods to improve the learning environment and thus improve the performance of pupils and students in the future conduct of national examinations.

She said the accomplishment of pupils and students in the NAT serves as a gauge of the learning environment and thus, the need to enhance this aspect for future examinees to be able to perform well. */Dexter A. See*

SNP legacy lives on

from page 8

partner in the Silahis project, as guests.

But then a second mass was held the following day with the PNP Officers and Ladies Club led by Lally Eleazar, wife of the Philippine National Police director for operations Guillermo Eleazar.

Then the real work started for Fritz, who is still clueless on what he went into or how he will run the program when his dad was unable to impart anything in running the whole show.

"I had bits of this and that. The times I was here when I drive them around or help bring something to his event. But those were few instances. The fact is I really don't know where to start," he said.

But then slowly, he got the a glimpse of the whole picture with help from Fangasan.

"This is it, we will launch on December 1 at →

Senior citizens to be...

from page 1

Office that will assist in the filing of the necessary complaints or charges against the identified violators.

The ordinance revealed any business establishment collecting parking fees found to be in violation of the proposed measure shall be P1,000 for the first offense, and P2,000 for the second offense.

Earlier, the city legislative body approved Ordinance No. 8, series of 2013, which required business establishments collecting parking fees in the different parts of the city to grant at least 20 percent discount in the parking fees charged to senior citizens patronizing their businesses.

In a status report on legislative tracking and analysis conducted by the research division of the local legislative body on Ordinance No. 08, series of 2013, several findings, comments and recommendations as well as suggestions were presented for consideration to further improve its implementation for the full benefit of the elderly, thus, the need to introduce the appropriate amendments to the existing measure.

The proposal was referred to a committee of the local legislative body to evaluate and assess whether the same will be passed on second and third readings in the coming months and the same will have to pass through a series of consultations with the concerned sectors. */Dexter A. See*

7AM with the Children's Mardi Gras, the traditional start of the Christmas in Baguio celebration," he said. The he asked: "Will I be Santa?"

Hearing this, Mayor Benjamin Magalong, who Fritz worked for briefly years back, commented during the Enchanting Baguio Christmas press conference last Wednesday at the IP Building said: "Fritz? He is too thin to be Santa."

"Well we will see. There will be a surprise," said the younger Padilla, a former radio announcer for Star FM, Bombo Radyo's FM counterpart.

The younger Padilla sees a very busy December for the Silahis working committee. After the Mardi Gras, it will be the Lucky Christmas Family on December 7 and 8 where the poorest of the poor family in Baguio and in Tuba Benguet will be selected and given a one day royal treatment with city tours and in Tuba, a mass at the Shrine, an overnight stay at Albergo Hotel and a Christmas package of grocery items. "We will give this family something they will never forget and their will be two families, one from here and another from Tuba," he added.

On December 15, it will be the day for the special people with the Special Olympics and Game-o-rama with blind, paraplegic and deaf and mute people which the OCSWDO will select. They will have competitions like walkathon for the blind, wheelaton and other games where they can win prizes. Soup kitchen will be set up along the upper part of Lower Session Road from the circle to Sizzling Plate where they can avail of food provided by supporters of the project. There will be added surprises for them like free grooming, noche Buena packages and concerts for their entertainment.

On December 22, it will be the day for the sick indigent children at the Baguio General Hospital. "This is an evolution of the original where we give gifts to indigent children, this time we will go to them and give gifts, these are the very sick ones," he said.

Then the traditional events like Christmas Baby on December 25, the TALA and KSLAP award on December 30 and the New Year Baby on January 1. Then the last will be the closing program which will be a thanksgiving mass at the Shrine on January 5.

"This is a program for the community, the indigent which is the meaning of Silahis which has changed over the years. It means "ray of hope" and it is one that we will give to our indigent brothers and sisters as well as those with special needs," he added. */PML*

Baguio's enchanting...

from page 8

Louis University Lantern Parade that will be followed with the lighting of the Christmas lights at Session Road, Malcolm Square (Peoples Park) and Burnham and to be followed by fireworks.

It will actually be a busy December 1 with the Children's Mardi Gras that will kick off the 36-day Silahis ng Pasko (SNP) which will continue despite the passing of its founder, the late city councilor Narciso Padilla.

"All the program of my father will be pursued although it will be a little different without my father," said son Fritz Gerald Padilla, the SNP organizing committee chairman.

Among the major events of the festivity are: the Philippine Military Academy Nutcracker parade with Ballet Baguio's Nutcracker performance at the Christmas Village on December 8; Musikgarten Christmas party on December 12; Christmas gift-giving on December 14; Ongkoleyt day and choral fest on December 15; simbang gabi and soup kitchen on December 16-24; Phoenix Fuel's Day on December 28; and local band "The Edralins" concert on December 29.

Meanwhile, the SNP will have the following as other events: Lucky Christmas Family on December 7 and 8 in both Baguio and Tuba; the Special Olympics for Persons with Disabilities on December 15; the Share a Joy for sick children on December 22; the Lucky Christmas Baby on December 25; the TALA and KKISLAP for elderly and athletes on December 30; and, the Lucky New Year's Baby on January 1.

A closing ceremony for the SNP will be on January 5 at the Shrine of Brown Madonna in Tadiangan, Tuba, Benguet.

Silahis means "ray of hope" and was founded by Padilla in 1973 to provide for the less fortunate, indigent and people with disabilities.

It is staged in coordination with the City Social Welfare and Development Office. */Pigeon Lobien (PNA)*

Edict on updated CCTV...

from page 2

maintenance of peace and order and public safety providing for the minimum technical specifications of CCTV cameras to be installed in covered business establishments. */Dexter A. See*



www.linisgobyerno.org www.beyondbordersreporting.net

SNP legacy lives on

The Silahis ng Pasko will kick off on December 1 without its icon who started a children's mardi gras, chose the lucky Christmas family and baby, the new year's baby and so many more but who succumbed to massive heart attack leading to his death last March.

But his spirit lives on with a 50-year old son, who will, if necessary, don the Santa Claus costume the former city councilor and city tourism officer used to wear.

"But it is too small," said the 5'9" Fritz Gerald Padilla, whose father Narciso died last March 3 due to a massive heart attack after months of going in and out of the hospital.

The late Padilla was rushed to the hospital after New Year's Day last January 1 after concluding the 45th Silahis ng Pasko with the Lucky New Year's Baby.

"For five years he had been defying doctors' order for him to slow down because his heart won't take it. But knowing my old man, he won't just stop," recalled the younger Padilla.

When he was named the mayor for a day as senior citizen in 2017, the late Padilla was even more determined to pursue his lifetime works: commemorate special Baguio days, the SNP and its sister project the 33 year old Shrine of the Brown Madonna, a pilgrimage at Kilometer 7, Tuba, Benguet.

And that, the young Padilla said, "might have hastened my dad's life, ahead even of my sickly mom Sol. He just won't stop, thinking that he is still that man of 40 years ago, who moves around all the time."

In last year's Silahis, the older Padilla was a shade of his old self. Radio and TV broadcaster Eddie Carta would say that he

(the late Padilla) is not his old self and time must have caught up with him. Before any of his event, Carta said, the old man appears weak and shuffling when walking, but when he gets to his old self with that booming voice that is distinctively the Nars Padilla many Baguio folks know.

It was a transformation noticeable during the TALA and KSILAP awards held at the Sunshine Park when some of the most noted locals - artist, professional photographer and sportsmen past their prime - were guests and awardees in the event. But like the month of December, the last in a year, and the gloomy weather that brought rains and chilling wind, the late Padilla was definitely in his last days but holding on to a cause he had spawned nearly five decades ago like a walking cane that serves as a support.

Fritz would text this writer after New Year's Day that "pops was rushed to the hospital and in the ICU (intensive care unit)."

Fritz had to quit his job in Manila as a security professional to dedicate his time with his parents. "It was just the two of them, so I had to quit and relocate my family here," said the youngest of five broods and whose eldest sibling, Maryjane, died last year, the second in the family. Nonie Marzan died almost a decade ago from cancer.

The second attack last March where Fritz had to ask for an ambulance to ferry his dad to the hospital was a total heart breaker. "He had to go. It was too much," said Fritz, who had dreams of his old man days before still hale and springy with that booming voice of his.

"And so I told him, in his dying breath, that I will continue his life projects. Although I had no idea

what it was and how he does it," said the younger Padilla, whose remaining siblings - Marisol and Raymond - are either in Manila or abroad.

He said that days after the funeral, he checked on his dad's bank account and had only P11 to his name. "He practically died penniless," he said adding that his old man's bank records show that the withdrawals were made during his events. "He was practically financing the events, money sent by my siblings for their upkeep - food and medicines - but mostly used in funding his events," he explained.

The road to this year's Silahis ng Pasko may have started last June, during the Heroes Portrait Sport-scope, an art exhibit at the Baguio Museum of Baguio - Cordillera athletes and which served also as a tribute to the old Padilla, who was a sportsman and camp director of the Gintong Alay Project in the 1980s.

"I made a promise to my pops and I mean it," he told athletes while his mom was cradling a framed drawing of his old man done by artist Gladys Anne Labsan, who did most of the art works. It was Labsan who made the drawings of some of the athletes recognized during the KISLAP award in December 30 last year.

Last October, the younger Padilla made true his promise by doing repairs and cleaning at the Shrine of the Brown Madonna which celebrated its 33rd year last October 6. But he said, the commemorative mass will be held later in the month, the last Sunday, to be nearer to his old man's birthday on the 31st.

The mass and tribute was held on October 27 with Tuba mayor Clarita Sal-ongan and City Social Welfare Development Officer Betty Fangasan, the late Padilla's

Cont. on page 6



Baguio's enchanting Christmas

opens Nov. 23

BAGUIO CITY - Christmas celebration here starts on Nov. 23 with the fair at the Christmas Village in Burnham Park Rose Garden with the Cultural Center of the Philippine's Bayanihan Folk Dance Company as performers.

This is but a soft opening for the more than a month celebration that will make Baguio more festive during the season, like in the past, said Baguio Tourism Council (BTC) interim

chair Gladys de Vera in a press

conference on Wednesday. "It will be well-curated, well-directed performances," said local artist Ferdie Balanag, who will incorporate creativeness into the celebration that is 45 days long.

Balanag said the village and the fair will officially open the following day with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra's (PPO) performance.

Organizers said they took advantage of the orchestra's two-day stay where the PPO will be

playing at the University of the Cordilleras as part of its outreach program that will also bring the orchestra to Iloilo, Aklan and Nueva Ecija.

While the orchestra plays, lights to the village which has a European theme will be lit transporting promenaders to the enchanting villages of the said continent that were the birthplace of fairy tales.

Thus, the festivities title: An Enchanting Baguio Christmas which will officially kick off on December 1 with the Saint

Cont. on page 6

City updates high school student's incentive fund measure

BAGUIO CITY - The City Council approved on first reading a proposed ordinance further amending Ordinance No. 110, series of 1988, otherwise known as the Baguio City Public High School Student's Incentive Fund measure as previously amended, to increase the stipend being

given by the city government to top performing and talented youngsters.

The ordinance authored by all members of the city legislative body stated it will be a continuing policy of the city government to grant

incentive allowance to students enrolling in any public school within the city who receive highest honors, high honors and with honors at the end of the schoolyear; any student-athlete who enrolls in any public school within the city at the beginning of the schoolyear who is certified by his or her

school principal to be a full pledged member

of the region's delegation to any national meet the previous year; students enrolled in any public school in the city who shall be accepted as a regular member of the school band or orchestra; students who become or are elected or appointed,

Cont. on page 6

Ad Rates

1 page :	P19,000.00
1/2 page:	9,500.00
1/4 page:	4,750.00
1/8 page:	2,375.00
1 col. cm.	85.00

Above rates are for black and white. For colored Ads, add 30%.

Generous rate discounts available depending on volume of ad placements.

Judicial Publication Rates: 80% of commercial advertising rates as per PD 1079 and SC A.M. No. 01 1-07.

All Baguio and Benguet Judicial Publication Rates are standard as agreed with the IBP and RTC as follows: Baguio City - P180/column inch; Benguet - P160/ column inch.

Published every weekend except during election season when publication is on a bi-weekly basis.

The JUNCTION
www.junctionnews.com
Paper/Page Size: 10" x 13"
(25 cm x 33 cm)
1 column length: 29.75 cm
@ 7 columns per page for
judicial ads