

The Pacific Daily News welcomes letters and short articles on topics of public interest. Submission guidelines: never-published letters (including Internet.)

- ▲ Signature of a single author.
- ▲ Include village of residence and daytime phone number for verification.
- ▲ Letters should be 200 words or fewer.
- ▲ Subject to editing.

- ▲ Limited to one published letter a month.
- ▲ For fastest publication, letters should be typed, double-spaced, and addressed to: Voice of the people, Box DN, Hagåtña, Guam 96932 or fax them to 477-3079.

Letters can also be sent via e-mail to voice@pdnguam.com. Opinions expressed by letter writers and columnists are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Pacific Daily News.

Is something bugging you? Or are you looking for a way to recognize someone who's making life better?

Send us your thoughts. But make sure to send your name (no pen names, please), village of residence and a phone number where we can reach you during the day.

Perhaps our quest for self-determination could therefore be considered "unreasonable" and a danger to their "community" as well.

D. AFLAGUE
Mangilao

July 1 plebiscite to determine survival

I am writing this letter to my Guamanian brothers and sisters, most especially to those who are of Chamorro ancestry.

While it's true that we have been Americanized, there has never been an exercise of self-determination for true self-government for the Chamorro people.

Yes, we have read and heard that Guamanians are not second-class U.S. citizens. But, as Chamorros and depending where you're coming from, let it be known that the Chamorro people have become full-fledged second-class U.S. citizens.

This letter is to wake up my Chamorro brothers and sisters, for our destiny is approaching.

We Chamorros will be asked to cast our vote on July 1, 2000, the plebiscite which will determine the survival of the Chamorro race.

Knowing about our culture, language, customs, traditions and identity is nothing if we don't protect it or preserve it.

Also, there has been evidence that the U.S. immigration policy has been allowing 10,000-plus legal and illegal immigrants every year in the last 10 years to migrate to Guam.

This is just one of the numerous injustices the federal government promotes to make the Chamorro people the minority in their

own native land.

Fanohge Chamorro! Protehi i direchota! Ti nisisario na un americano para un libre gi tanota, i tano i man Chamoru.

The strongest human rights of all is our God-given rights.

VICENTE U. GARRIDO
Dededo

Angel Santos' arrest a disappointment

I recently read about the arrest of former Sen. Angel Santos. It disappointed me, because Judge Unpingco is sentencing Santos to six months in prison, which I feel is not right.

Santos was just doing what was right for his family though he broke a court order.

I feel that Santos should be a free man and should continue what he was doing and that is fighting back for our own land.

What Judge Unpingco said about Santos being a danger to the community is untrue.

Santos is the only Chamorro I see out there fighting back for the lands that belong to the people of Guam.

What happened to Rights? Freedom? Democracy?

Judge Unpingco, think about all the people you are hurting out there right now: family, friends and supporters.

By Garry Trudeau