

# Marianas Variety

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75¢

## COR 3 declared for Guam

### Typhoon watch issued

By Jasmine Stole  
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GOV. Eddie Calvo and Rear Adm. Babette Bolivar jointly declared Guam in Condition of Readiness

3, alerting residents that damaging winds from an impending weather system is expected over the next 48 hours.

COR 3 was declared at 5 p.m. yesterday and a little more than an

hour later, the National Weather Service issued a typhoon watch for the Mariana Islands. A typhoon watch means Guam, Rota, Tinian and Saipan might endure damaging winds of 73 miles per hour or greater over the next 24 hours.

Guam and Rota will likely experience stronger winds of about 20

to 25 mph today coming from the northeast. On Sunday, wind strengths will increase to about 25 to 35 mph and increase to about 35 to 45 mph Sunday evening.

Waters will be choppy, NWS officials said. Choppy seas will reach heights between 11 and 13 feet today

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THE Guam Fire Department is investigating a fire that erupted yesterday afternoon in Tamuning at the abandoned warehouse formerly occupied by Goodwill.

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NEW MACBOOK

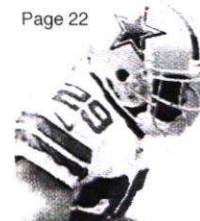
THE MacBook Air was revolutionary when Apple started selling it in 2008. Though still thin and light, the Air now feels like a cheap cousin next to more powerful MacBook Pro laptops.

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SPORTS

KING MURRAY  
LEAVES DALLAS  
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COOL FM

KPRG  
PUBLIC RADIO GUAMBroadcast partner:  
PBS GUAM  
KGTF Channel 12

### Confirmation hearing



From left, RubyJane Buhain-Redila, a member of the Pink Ball Committee; Charles Ada, executive manager of the A.B. Won Pat International Airport; and Ed Untalan, chairman of the airport board deliver their testimony endorsing the nomination for Deedee S. Camacho for the Guam International Airport Authority board during a confirmation hearing at the Guam Legislature yesterday. Jonathan Abella / For Variety

## HBO satire prompts revisit of Guam's political status

By Mar-Vic Cagurangan  
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Variety News Staff

PROMPTED by a biting humor that highlighted the "second-class citizen" status of U.S. territories, the Guam Office of Decoloniza-

tion is poised to rekindle public discussion on Guam's quest for self-rule, according to the Office of the Governor.

"I've long since held that any status is better than the status quo," Gov. Eddie Calvo said.

"I agree with others who have spoken about Guam's efforts, whether it is on voting rights or political status, that our distance from the U.S. mainland has meant fewer people understand our predicament."

According to a press release from Adelup, the Office of Decolonization is preparing an educational outreach to help move the discussion of political status forward.

STATUS continued on page 2

# Delta

Tire and Lube

Airport Rd: 642-3582 [DLTA]  
Ypao Rd: 647-3582 [DLTA]  
Barrigada: 735-3582 [DLTA]  
Sinajana: 475-3582 [DLTA]

drivedelta.com

*\* Guam  
VF: Political Status Commission*



# GFD investigates fire at abandoned warehouse

By Robert Q. Tupaz  
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THE Guam Fire Department is investigating a fire that erupted yesterday afternoon in Tamuning at the abandoned warehouse formerly occupied by Goodwill.

"GFD fire investigators have determined that (Friday) evening's fire was intentionally set," said Lt. Eddie Artero, GFD spokesman. "This is an ongoing investigation."

As the structure burned, passers-by could see thick black smoke billowing along Marine Corps Drive between Kmart and a Shell

*The fire was concentrated in the center of the one-story building, which once housed the Goodwill Thrift Store and industries, but now sits abandoned.*

Service station.

Artero said a 911 call was received at 5:01 p.m. of a burning building in Tamuning. Less than 15 minutes later, GFD units were at the scene along Route 1, Tamuning, directly across John F. Kennedy High School.

Artero described the fire

► The Guam Fire Department responds to a fire at the former Goodwill warehouse in Tamuning yesterday afternoon. The blaze was under control by 6 p.m.

as a multiple alarm fire and said units from Tamuning, Dedado, Sinajana and Barrigada responded.

The fire was concentrated in the center of the one-story building, which once housed the Goodwill Thrift Store and industries, but now sits abandoned.

Artero reported that fire units had the blaze under control by 6 p.m.

The cause of the fire is still being investigated.



Mar. 13, 2015, Guam. Photo by Variety

# Data breach at Kmart last year affects local customers

By Robert Q. Tupaz  
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THE theft of credit and debit card information from consumers who swiped their cards at Kmart stores nationwide late last year also affected consumers on Guam.

Philip J. Flores, president of BankPacific, told Variety that the local Kmart had been mum about how the security breach would affect residents who used their cards at the Tamuning store.

"When Kmart was breached last year they said nothing here," Flores said. "We had several cards used fraudulently," he added. "The 'wave' has stopped. We refunded all customers who notified us."

Flores explained that when information is breached like it was at Kmart or other big chain stores, the information associated with the credit card is made available for purchase on the Internet. "Someone purchased and used some of the Kmart information and if affected some of our customers who used their cards at Kmart."

On Thursday, BankPacific took the lead locally in addressing the issue. A form letter via email was sent to BankPacific customers. "We recently discovered that our BankPacific Visa Debit cardholders may be vulnerable to fraudulent activity as a result of Kmart's in-store data payment systems breach that occurred between September 1 and October 9,

2014," Flores wrote. A hard copy of the letter will be sent to BankPacific customers who used their Visa cards at Kmart.

## Stolen number

Flores said although the initial wave of fraudulent activity has stopped, the stolen credit/debit card numbers and information remain "available for purchase on the Web and could be used later. All one needed to do was Google respective sites to find an account, Flores said."

Variety found some websites confirming Flores' statement.

Flores said that because BankPacific customers who used their Visa debit cards were affected, all Visa debit cards issued by the bank would be reissued with new numbers and personal identification numbers.

The debit card replacement will be free; however, Flores reminded consumers that upon receipt of their cards, they would have to update information with individual companies regarding any automatic or recurring payment programs linked to their debit cards. Flores said all BankPacific Visa debit holders should receive new cards by April 13.

Flores urged consumers to closely monitor their Visa debit accounts. "Because payment data system breaches are on the rise, no one can predict when debit cards will be compromised," Flores wrote. "We urge you to closely monitor your account and report any unauthorized transactions to us immediately."

He added that the institution takes customer fraud protection seriously and invited customers who have further questions or concerns to contact the bank at 472-6704 or visit their nearest BankPacific branch during normal business hours. "We will be glad to assist you," he said.

Last October, newswire reports revealed that retailer Sears said the payment data systems at its Kmart stores had been compromised on Sept. 1, 2014, though its discovery was made on Oct. 9 — the latest in a series of computer security breaches to hit U.S. companies in recent months.

The U.S. Secret Service confirmed it was investigating the breach.

## Typhoon...

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and increase to more than 16 feet tomorrow night. Forecasters expect Guam and Rota to get about 2 to 4 inches of rain as Tropical Storm Bavi moves through the area.

## Typhoon

The storm has the potential to become a typhoon, a statement from the Joint Information Center said yesterday afternoon.

A forecast graphic from the NWS

uploaded at 7 p.m. last night outlined Tropical Storm Bavi's path. The illustration of Bavi's projected track showed the storm looked like it would pass just south of Guam, sometime between Sunday night and Monday.

The NWS public advisory issued at 5 p.m. yesterday said the storm was moving west-northwest from the Marshall Islands headed to the Mariana Islands at 20 mph.

Meteorologists measured the storm's maximum sustained winds to be around 50 mph yesterday and computer models

showed that 130 mph winds would extend north of Tropical Storm Bavi. This is a concern for Guam and Rota since the storm is tracked to pass below the two islands.

"The strongest winds of Bavi are located north of the center which would put Guam and the CNMI in the strongest portion of the tropical storm. However, the system is still evolving and is expected to slowly intensify before reaching the Marianas," NWS officials posted yesterday. "Fortunately, upper-level shear is keeping a check on the intensification of Bavi. Hopefully the system will remain sheared and rela-

tively weak as it travels over 1,000 miles to reach the Marianas over the weekend."

Calvo and Bolivar urged residents to take proper precautions and secure their belongings outdoors and indoors in the event of damaging weather conditions. Regular updates will be publicized on local radio stations and through Facebook posts on Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense's page and on the governor's Facebook page.

NWS forecasters will also be posting regular updates on its website at [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/cyclone.php](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/cyclone.php).

## Status...

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Public discussions on the long-delayed self-rule plebiscite occasionally emerge, but almost always, the fervor fizzles out. A hindrance related to the voter eligibility blocks the completion of the decolonization registry.

The law requires the Guam Election Commission to register 70 percent of eligible voters for the plebiscite to occur, but

so far only 7,192 have signed up for the Guam Decolonization Registry, falling short of the necessary number of voters.

During her address Thursday night, Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo proposed the removal of the percentage requirement. "I urge the legislature to set the vote and let those who are eligible register by a certain deadline," she said. "Achieving decolonization will be a multistep process that will take time, but we must begin to set the stage for this to

completely play out."

In his HBO late-night talk show "Last Week Tonight," political satirist John Oliver mocked the Supreme Court's century-old ruling, which held that individuals born in U.S. territories should not have the same constitutional rights — like voting for the president — as those born in the U.S.

"Mr. Oliver clearly and simply laid out the inequality of the U.S. territories to a global audience," Calvo said. "With such a large viewership, I hope

his commentary will help spark interest in our efforts to improve our political status and general rights as American citizens."

Bordallo noted that resolving Guam's political status with the United States "through a legitimate act of self-determination is the most important step that we can take to address many long-standing legacy issues we have with the federal government, and it would provide us with a stronger foundation to ensure that policies enacted serve the best interests of our people."

"Over the years, we have worked to move this issue forward, but whether it has been a lack of political will or our quest to obtain the perfect process for the political status vote, we have been unable to move off of square one," Bordallo said. "I believe that we must get on with this process, and I am urging the governor and the legislature to work with the Commission on Decolonization to begin the process so that we can make the self-determination vote a reality."