



Re: Calvo appoints new members of his Cabinet
6.4.2013

JRSablan commented:

Manny Duenas a staunch advocate for sustainable fishing? More like a staunch advocate for resource exploitation through any means possible. Although it won't happen, Mr. Duenas should remove himself from the coop while in this position, as there is a clear conflict of interest with his ongoing advocacy against marine preserves, while tasked with managing the agency that implements them. Another questionable move from the governor's office. Ag has suffered through inept leadership for long enough under this administration, and this move already stinks.

JoshuaKidd commented:

Fantastic news for Agriculture! Finally...the Governor hires an extremely qualified person like Manny Duenas! The naysayers, especially TNC, Vange Lujan and some federal NOAA folks DO NOT want to give up their FEDERAL TAKEOVER of our Guam oceans! Manny, you need to kick butt! No matter what! Last two Governors failed our local fishermen! We will support you! Don't give in to stupidity and kick the Director's butt to get to working!!! She is incompetent and should be replaced!!!! Governor Calvo.....you got Manny Duenas, Lorilee Crisostomo and Joe Cameron....these people are all helping to restore oceans back to local hands... CONGRATS TO GOVERNOR CALVO!

Re: Governor backs Rodriguez bill to borrow for hospital
6.4.2013

Mathew commented:

This should not be controversial or have any opposition: borrow and raise fees for GMH's benefit. Apparently, it is only raising taxes on something or somebody that will have folks up in arms.

Re: Tiyan Parkway bill dissected
6.4.2013

JosephAGuthrie commented:

Land purchases will be for naught, as the GARVEE bonds necessary to fund the construction of the Tiyan Parkway will not sell. They will not sell because their sale would violate the borrowing limit of Section 11 of the Organic Act, insofar as GARVEE bonds are not revenue bonds. The Tiyan Parkway will never be built, and gridlocked traffic in Central Guam will be Pepsi's enduring legacy.

Re: Bill will fine businesses employing illegal aliens
6.4.2013

.com//ments

mvguam

Mathew commented:

Apparently, it is not just Gov. Calvo who has started the campaign for 2014 with his retroactive increment plan, but also Sen. Ada with these sorts of legislation. Sen. Ada is no friend of labor, legal or otherwise. I remember him yelling at then Sen. Rector at one hearing, "I know what you are trying to do. Well, I know what you are trying to do when the rest of the nation is moving away from this strain of legislation. You are trying to carve out some votes on the fringe, votes that will not go your way, anyway."

Businesses that do these things will move their 'abuse chain' from illegal labor to legal labor. Look at the abuses directed at the FAS community, for instance, who have publicly stated in the media that they have filed complaints at the DOL, and to no avail.

Here is my testimony ahead of time since not very many will be an advocate for folks affected by this legislation: Let them work. It is better to work than to sit in prison or on the couch, collecting welfare. Plus, those jobs that Sen. Ada mentioned are jobs that local folks do not want or cannot do. Remember that the illegal immigrant population is small here, not large like in some border states, because of the heavy Fed presence. If it is large, there are political consequences for targeting them. (Hence immigration reform on the national scale.) If it is small, there are probably none, except to burnish your law-and-order credentials for higher office.

Re: Nothing comes easy
5.31.2013

RAPCON commented:

You can't swing a dead cat without hitting a controversy in Guam procurement process and law. Add to that the less than obvious lean towards a 'choice' company. Whichever way you move in this tiny closet of inner circle movers and shakers you're bound to find some sort of connection, either directly or indirectly (or inadvertent). This backdrop will always present chum for competitors to feed on. Let's face it, when it comes to procurement and acquisition, here on Guam there's always a back story, ALWAYS!

by Julian Bevacqua

When the moon waxes



'Decolonization Stagnation'

CHAMORROS and representatives of Guam have been traveling to the United Nations to testify in support of Guam's decolonization for more than 30 years now. I became one of them in 2007 when I traveled to the UN in New York to testify before the 4th Committee. It can be both an inspiring and frustrating experience.

For those who come from colonies or Non-Self-Governing Territories like Guam, we don't get regular representation at the UN as sovereign nations do, but we do get several chances a year to have our cases heard. The 4th Committee is also known as the Special Political Committee and it oversees the decolonization mandate of the UN. It is the most auspicious of the limited number of occasions that people from the colonies can speak to the world community. You sit before a microphone in a large room surrounded by delegates from the entire world.

But the potential for the moment means little in terms of its actual effect. The day I testified it was like moving through an assembly line. Names were called. Testimonies given. Thanks were given for the testimony. Move on, next name: It went on like that for hours. No questions asked while I was there. No comments, no dialogue. Nothing. I worked hard on my testimony, crafting it as best as I could to say as much as I could within the short seven-minute time frame they had given me. After I was done, I felt strangely cheated. Why did I work so hard on this statement when the only purpose it served was to be recorded? This wasn't a forum where reality was actually effected. I felt I could have gone up there and simply described Dick Cheney and George W. Bush in different Kama Sutra-inspired positions, and no comments would have been offered and I would have received a "thank you" for my intervention.

The United Nations has done a very good job overall in terms of helping move colonies toward decolonization, but in the past 30 years they have stalled significantly. One reason for this is due to the fact that most of the remaining colonies are small islands. As I have written about before in this column, islands function differently in relation to the rest of the world. They are seen as being fundamentally different because of the way they are "isolated," "cut off" or "distant."

Islands are ideal places for testing missiles, for hiding bases, and simply escaping from the world and enjoying potent tourist fantasies. Because of their alleged disconnect they are in general treated differently, and if they are small, they are naturally treated as less important and even invisible.

Most people understand themselves as land/

continent-based, they see islands as being a lesser form of existence. The water is seen as something that does not connect, but something that blocks and inhibits; it makes them in their very nature less sustainable. This is why even though we can all agree that colonization is wrong, people can still calmly and rationally argue that it should still exist or can still exist since the remaining colonies in the world cannot survive on their own. Because of the nature of their geography and reality, they can never make it on their own, so colonialism may be necessary to take care of the world's remaining "dependencies."

Dependency is a dangerous euphemism for colony. It has the ability to define a place not through its subordinate, immoral status, but rather a naturalized need to be dominated or controlled. The true difficulty for islands is that even prior to someone knowing anything about you, they most likely have already made several assumptions about what you must be like because you are an island. As an island, people already imagine that you have to be dependent because of your status as an island. If you refer to an island as a dependency, it makes perfect sense since islands are cut off from the world and need those who live on solid and dependable continents to help them out.

Another reason why decolonization is so stagnant at the UN level is because the colonies that are left in the world primarily "belong" to large countries that don't want anyone else telling them what to do. The United States holds Guam, American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The United States however doesn't even try to make the usual dependency arguments at the UN, it just doesn't participate and claims the UN has no right to interference in what it does to its possessions.

It is already tough enough to decolonize small places that everyone assumes have no vitality and no ability except to suck social programs from the teat of their colonizer. But to mix in recalcitrant colonizers makes it impossible for anything to take place. The UN has always played a dual role of being an arbiter meant to protect the sovereignty of nations, but also an interloper who can sometimes infringe on the right of nations in the name of something universal and just. But with decolonization the UN has shown little willingness to interfere with colonies if their colonizer is not engaged with the UN process. This is a recipe for oblivion for Guam since it could remain in this status forever, since the United States hasn't given any indication that it wants to change Guam's political status.





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Rate your level of confidence in GPD's renewed investigation into the Blue House brothel.

Very confident	7.1%
Confident	7.7%
Somewhat confident	14.5%
Not confident	70.8%

Total Votes: 366
As of 9:45 p.m., Oct. 5

Decolonization registry sign-up at Micronesian Island Fair

Pacific Daily News

The staff of Sen. Ben Pangelinan will be at the Guam Micronesia Island Fair this weekend at Gov. Joseph Flores Beach Park (Ypao Beach) to register eligible individuals to the Decolonization Registry. This will be the third year that senator's office has offered this service to the community. Pangelinan is running for re-election. Additionally, the staff is now deputized as registrars for voter registration, so you can also register to vote in this upcoming General Election.

■ The staff will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and tomorrow. Look for the sign "Sign up Here, Decolonization Registry."

■ To register to vote, the documents you must provide are your: U.S. passport; certificate of U.S. Citizenship; certificate of Naturalization; a combination of an original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a state or territory or similar document, and a driver's license or picture ID issued by a state or territory.

■ To register for the Decolonization Registry, you must provide a photo ID, such as a driver's license, passport or Guam-issued ID.



/GuamPDN

CLEARING THE RECORD

We care about accuracy. If you would like to clear the record, call the Pacific Daily News at 479-0407.

Forecast: Rain will linger

By Gaynor Dumat-ol Daleno
Pacific Daily News

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More of the same rain that we've been getting the past several days will linger in our part of the Marianas this weekend, the National Weather Service stated.

Besides more rain and possible wind gusts of up to 30 mph, there was no sign of a tropical storm or tropical depression, Roger Edson, science and operations officer of NWS' Weather Forecast Office on Guam, said as of 4 p.m. yesterday.

About 2 to 4 inches of rain could pour this weekend, based on the Weather Service forecast.

The Weather Service is closely watching any possible changes, Edson added.

Satellite imagery yesterday showed numerous showers embedded within the monsoon surge, which extends from near Guam to beyond Yap, according to the Weather Service.

A high surf advisory remains in effect, the Weather Service stated.

Around noon yesterday, the Guam Homeland Security/Office

ON THE NET

■ For weather updates, go to www.GuamPDN.com.
■ National Weather Service: www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/guam/

of Civil Defense announced that a tropical disturbance was located about 120 miles north-northwest of Guam.

The local Civil Defense stated a tropical disturbance could bring 4 to 6 inches today and possible flooding in low-lying areas.

On Wednesday, the military leadership on Guam elevated the

military bases' condition of readiness to 3, a step above normal.

Joint Region Marianas yesterday announced the military has reverted to its normal Condition of Readiness 4.

Due to Guam's location in typhoon alley, Condition of Readiness 4 is in effect year-round for the military facilities on Guam unless a higher condition is set.

U.S. Naval Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base have returned to normal operations, Joint Region Marianas announced in a press release.

Project HATSA helps self-sufficiency

By Arvin Temkar
Pacific Daily News
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For several years Sara Falgan was on welfare. But the single mother, with the help of another government program, has found a job and is transitioning off government assistance.

Falgan was one of 23 graduates of Project HATSA, which stands for Helping Achieve TANF Success through Actions. The year-long, federally funded program teaches basic construction skills, and aims to get women off the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families welfare program.

Falgan, now an administrative assistant at dck pacific Guam, said after completing the program she's found confidence in her job skills and hopes to use her position as a stepping stone in building a career.

Project HATSA started in January of this year, and has had two rounds of participants, said Christine San Nicolas, social services supervisor at the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

The skills program is a collaboration between Public Health, Guam Community College, and the Agency for Human Resources Development.

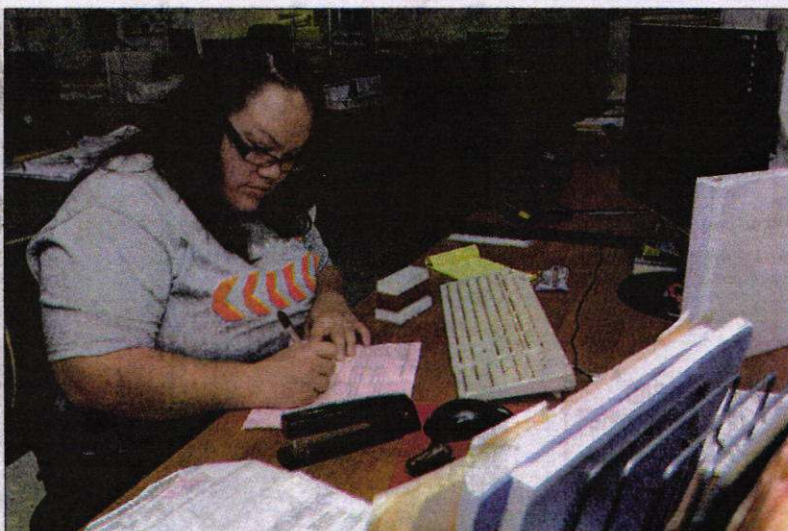
Participants, like Falgan, attend construction classes at GCC and learn everything from operating a forklift to preparing for a job interview. They also are required to do internships at companies.

Dck swept up Falgan, who is 27, almost immediately after she started her internship.

The dedicated worker is an "excellent role model," said Douangchan Lasrithammavan, human resources administrator for the company.

Lasrithammavan spoke highly of her employee, and of the government program.

"It's a win-win situation," she said. "It gives the employer an opportunity to test the individual, and the individual (the opportunity) to see what the employer can offer



'I really got so much from this program': Administrative assistant Sara Falgan, 27, of Maite, works at her desk at the dck pacific Guam office in Harmon yesterday. Falgan, who was once a single mother and recipient of public assistance, began working at the construction company after four months of training and a 120-hour internship at dck through Guam Community College and the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services' Project Helping Achieve Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Success through Actions program or, HATSA, which helped Falgan gain skills necessary to help her find gainful employment. Ric A. Eusebio/For Pacific Daily News

AT A GLANCE

■ Project HATSA, which stands for Helping Achieve TANF Success through Actions, is a yearlong, federally funded program to teach basic construction skills. It's sponsored by The Department of Public Health and Social Services and Guam Community College.

FOR MORE INFO

■ Contact the Work Program section of Public Health at 735-7256.



In Your Voice
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www.guampdn.com

them as well. It's not just a one-way street."

Before joining the HATSA program, Falgan was part of a Public Health work program, where she learned to be a receptionist and an administrative aid. Those skills were a stepping stone into the job she has now, she said.

She once dreamt of opening her own business — not working in



/GuamPDN

the construction field. But she realized she needed to find a way into the job market, and Project HATSA was her ticket.

Now she hopes to eventually become a safety officer with the company. Then, someday, she might start a business.

Four of the 23 HATSA participants who graduated in September found jobs, said San Nicolas. The

others are job searching or doing internships with companies.

"I really got so much from this program," Falgan said. "I wanted to voice to the public, it works."

San Nicolas said there's a stigma that those on welfare are lazy and can't work, but she thinks training individuals can help them on a path away from government assistance.

About 100 people applied for Project HATSA last December for one of 17 slots, according to Pacific Daily News files. The program will have two more rounds of participants.

"There's a lot that come in and they have the drive to be hired, they just don't have the skills," said Falgan.

Pacific Daily News

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VOL. 45 NO. 144 HAGÄTÑA, GUAM, JUNE 25, 2013

HAFA ADAI, IT'S TUESDAY

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■ Don't forget to vote and comment on today's Pacific Daily News poll. Today's question:

Do you agree with the Legislature's decision to tie gambling to the hospital's finances?

■ Results from yesterday's PDN poll are on **PAGE 2**

430 days

since roadwork began at the Agaña Bridge

■ Southbound lanes have been shifted to the seaside. The median area is closed off.



■ All lanes are set to open again by July. The overall project is set to be completed by December.



FIERY FLAMES FEATURED

Young gearhead lays down blazing paint on his Altima.

SEE STORY, **PAGE 14**

Gambling tied to hospital

Senators: Gaming illegal after GMH debt paid



By Mark-Alexander Pieper

Pacific Daily News
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All gambling on Guam could become illegal after senators yesterday passed a measure tying it to the hospital's finances.

Bill 19, which was unanimously approved during yesterday's session, allows some forms of gambling to temporarily continue on Guam in order to subsidize Guam Memorial Hospital and other public agencies.

But all gambling would become illegal as soon as the financially troubled hospital has its vendor debt erased, the bill states.

The hospital, which is heavily subsidized by taxpayers, has traditionally lost money every year because of poor collections and uninsured patients. As of March, it owed about \$18 million to vendors.

TO THE POINT

■ A sunset provision in Bill 19 ties the legality of gaming on Guam to the hospital's finances.

VIDEO AND PHOTOS ONLINE

■ For video and more photos, go to www.Guam-PDN.com.

■ See Gambling. Page 4

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Sunset amendment: After three days of debate in session, senators passed Bill 19, with amendments by Sen. Ben Pangelinan, front, who introduced what lawmakers call the "sunset amendment," which eventually could end all gambling on Guam. Sen. Mike San Nicolas, center, took it a step further, introducing a successful amendment that would end all gaming and limited gaming activity on island when Guam Memorial Hospital's vendor debts are paid. Masako Watanabe/Pacific Daily News/mwatanabe@guampdn.com



No progress on decolonization

By Phillip H. Blas

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The governor has set a November 2014 target date for the island's political status vote, but little progress has been made since he relaunched the government's Commission on Decolonization in September 2011.

During yesterday's commission

TO THE POINT

■ The Commission on Decolonization hasn't made any headway in goals it set for itself.

WHAT IS IT?

"The general purpose of the Commission on Decolonization shall be to ascertain the intent of the Native Inhabitants of Guam as to their future political relationship with the United States of America. Once the intent of the Native Inhabitants of Guam is ascertained, the Commission shall promptly transmit that desire to the President and the Congress of the United States of America, and to the Secretary General of

meeting, members still were struggling with the basic question of how much it will cost to fund the effort and where to find the money.

the United Nations."

What are the options?

"The Commission shall create three Task Forces. Each task force shall be composed of seven members, appointed by the commission, who are advocates for the status for which they are appointed. The three task forces are: Independence Task Force; Free Association Task Force; and Statehood Task Force."

Source: Guam law

The commission in December 2011 sent lawmakers a proposed public education plan for the three status options — independence,

free association or statehood — stating it would start in early 2012. None of the proposals, which included a voter survey, a media campaign and setting the budgets for the respective status task forces, have been accomplished.

When it happens, the non-binding vote will state Guam's preference for its future relationship with the United States. It currently is an unincorporated territory.

Members were ill-prepared for yesterday's meeting, which was supposed to focus on the format of

■ See Decolonization. Page 4



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