

Chamorro-only status vote is about equity

The lawyers for the rancher and fifth-generation descendent of New England Calvinist missionaries who sued the Hawaiian Trust Lands Board think that this is the beginning of the assault on the benefits derived from the trust.

It sounds to me like the beginning of a huge raid on the trust and educational, health and social benefits provided by the trust. The ultimate goal, of course, will be what it has always been: Get what is left of the native land out of the hands of the natives and deliver it to the developers and big business interests.

For the Chamorro people, this should be uppermost in their minds as they engage in their people's right to decide their political fate as a people. The upcoming plebiscite has been the only structure ever provided for this exercise of the Chamorro people's right, whether by U.S. laws (Constitution) or by local law.

All other peoples on Guam have made their decision on their political fate, whether through their declaration of independence by their ancestors, or by virtue of U.S. laws that allow their in-migration to this unincorporat-

ed territory called Guam. This vote is not about equality it is about equity.

HOPE A. CRISTOBAL
Tamuning

Plebiscite may help island secure its fate

I became a U.S. citizen on Guam as did my my sister-petitioner who married a Fil-American who came here in the late 1940s as a worker. By having the right connection, it appears easy to become an American citizen. But actually, this is not the case.

It took me years of uncertainties and waiting before my family and I were issued our

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.