

# Professor says Guam EPA should be free of politics

■ **Bob Richmond:** Pressure may interfere with agency's ability to do its job

By **ADRIENNE LOERZEL**  
Daily News Staff

The Guam Environmental Protection Agency needs to be free from political influence, a University of Guam professor said yesterday.

"The bottom line is EPA has never had the ability to act as an autonomous agency," Marine Lab Professor Bob Richmond said. "As we know on this island, everything comes back to politics one way or the other."

During the protection agency's roundtable discussion yesterday, Richmond told officials he is concerned politics may interfere with the agency's ability to do its job.

Richmond said the agency's staff is knowledgeable and professional, but may feel political pressure sometimes.

"There ought not to be any semblance of influence or impropriety when you're dealing as a regulator," agreed Jesus Salas, administrator of the Protection Agency.

The agency will finish its weeklong public comment session today. Officials said they hope to receive a lot of testimony today.

## Environmental issues

Yesterday, a handful of residents showed up to talk about environmental issues.

"I'm surprised that we only have a handful of people outside GEPA," said Ike Santos, of the Young Men's League of Guam.

Santos said he hoped more people would get involved.

## What's next

The last session of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's roundtable talks is open to the public. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. today in the Onward Agana Beach Hotel's Royal Room.

Protection Agency spokeswoman Grace O. Garces said everyone needs to get involved with the environment to make a difference.

"It's going to take more than just us," she said.

## Ordot dump

Garces said the overflowing Ordot dump is just one example of the environmental issues facing Guam.

The dump has been the center of attention recently because of the threat of fines and because of recent protests by several Ordot families.

Paul Tobiason, of the Recycling Association of Guam, said the island needs to keep working on ways to dispose of garbage.

"It seems to me that as an island we have to be superior at waste management... because we haven't got 20,000 acres," he said.

# Police seek suspects in Tamuning robbery

Daily News staff

Police were searching yesterday for two men who allegedly attacked and robbed a 40-year-old Tamuning woman earlier that morning.

Police spokesman Ferdinand Ibabao said the woman was walking at 2:35 a.m. in front of Paseo De Tamuning condominiums when two unknown men confronted her.

"One of them struck her on the head with a stick," Ibabao said. He said the other man grabbed the woman's purse.

Both men fled. Ibabao said the woman suffered a bruise to her head, but refused medical treatment.

The woman told police the two men got away with her purse and the items in it, which were valued at more than \$4,000.

Police have made no arrests and are asking for the public's help to capture the men.

The man who was armed with the stick is described as being 5-foot-5. He has a light complexion, short black hair and is medium built.

The other man is described as being 5-foot-8. He also has black hair, but has a medium complexion and is medium built.

Anyone with information should call Crime Stoppers at 477-HELP (4357) or the Guam Police Department at 472-8911.

# Bordallo names 3 members to decolonization group

Daily News staff

Acting Gov. Madeleine Bordallo appointed three members to the Commission on Decolonization yesterday, according to a press release.

Chris Perez Howard, Ron Rivera and Marilyn Manibusan were appointed to the commission, created by law in January.

By law, the commission will pursue changes in Guam's political status, to include indepen-

dence, statehood, or free association, based on the desire of Chamorros.

The 10-member board still needs appointees from the Mayor's Council, Guam Youth Congress, the judiciary and the Legislature.

Bordallo also appointed five members to the Chamorro Registry Advisory Board. The registry will help create a list of Chamorros for a Chamorro self-determination vote.

# MASGOT

(IMPORTED)

VISA ASSORTED AUTO PARTS FOR TOYOTA • MAZDA • NISSAN • MITSUBISHI • SUBARU • ISUZU • HONDA

MasterCard

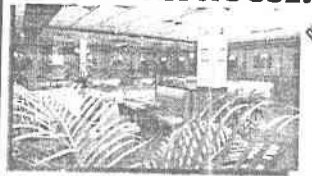
## ALL BODY PARTS ON SALE!

FAN MOTEAS ASSY.	DOOR GLASS	FRONT AND REAR WINDSHIELDS
WHEEL COVERS 14" \$55.00/SET 13" \$45.00/SET	86-96 NISSAN P-UP FENDERS \$73.00	HOODS
86-92 NISSAN P-UP BUMPER \$59	RADIATORS & CONDENSORS	DOORS
ALTERNATORS	ALL SPOILERS 10% OFF	ROCKEND
HIGH POWER AIR FILTER	CLUTCH DISC	SIDE MIRRORS
STRONG EXHAUST THROAT	MIDDLE MUFFLER	HEAD LIGHT ASSY.
ALL PICK-UP UNIVERSAL MUFFLERS \$59	BRAKE PADS & SHOES FOR SENTRA \$24.90	TAIL LAMP
WINDOW REGULATORS		

790 N. Marine Dr. Box 984  
Tumon, Guam 96911  
Located at Harmon Industrial Road - Unit 2 & 3  
Tel. Nos. (671) 646-1238  
Fax: (671) 649-1238

SAIPAN  
PPP 613 BOX 10000.  
TEL: (670) 235-2998  
FAX: (670) 235-2808

## NEW STEAK HOUSE!



Open 7 days a week 11am-10pm  
East West Business Ctr., Upper Tumon  
Reservations call 649-3099 or 647-3059



California Restaurant

- Soup & Salad
- Steak
- Fajita & Pasta
- Hamburger & Sandwich
- Chicken & Shrimp
- Barbecue Back Ribs
- Beers & Wines

New Menu Items starting at \$4.25!

## PACIFIC ISLAND CARPET CLEANING COMPANY

24 HOUR SERVICE

- 1 Bdrm & living Rm \$50
- Additional Room \$25
- Upholstery Cleaning
- Commercial, Restaurants\*, etc. \*15¢ per sq ft. Removal of Stains, Gum etc.

653-4598/Pager: 476-1910

Micronesia Mall

# BACK TO SCHOOL SALE

FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY • AUGUST 1, 2 & 3

BACK TO SCHOOL SAVINGS

25% OFF ALL MEN'S PANTS

Paul's

For All Occasions

Micronesia Mall

632-1050/51

GUAM COLLECTION REFERENCE ONLY

# Panel prepares Guam for Chamorro-only vote

By LEO BABAUTA  
Daily News Staff

Chamorros will vote within the next couple years to choose which political status they want for Guam — independence, free association or statehood.

The Chamorro-only vote is part of the mission of the newly appointed Commission on Decolonization. The commission aims to exercise the Chamorro right of self-determination, which is the right of a people to determine the way they are governed.

"The main purpose of the commission is to launch an educational campaign," said Sen. Mark Charfauros, one of the senators who is pushing for the appointment of the commission's members. "It has to go to the public and say these are the three status choices, what would you like?"

Commission member Chris Perez Howard said self-determination is a misunderstood right.

"The biggest problem is we have to educate the people here on island," said Howard, president of the Organization of People for Indigenous Rights. "We have to educate everyone, because non-Chamorros have to understand that this is a people's right, not a U.S. citizen's right."

The commission will appoint three groups to support each of the status options. The groups will research and issue position papers on the options, and a public education campaign will be created using those reports.

"It uses terminology that is internationally recognized," commission member Sen. Mark Forbes said of the status options. "Those are the status options that are generally available in the United Nations decolonization process."

Chamorros will vote on the options in a plebiscite. The law that created the commission defines Chamorros as inhabitants of Guam in 1898 and their descendants.

"I would say within two years the Chamorro

## Commission members

- Gov. Carl Gutierrez, chairman
- Marilyn Manibusan, governor's appointee
- Ron Rivera, governor's appointee
- Chris Perez Howard, governor's appointee
- Speaker Tony Unpingco, Legislature
- Sen. Mark Forbes, Legislature
- Sen. Willy Flores, Legislature
- Carlos Pangelinan, Guam Youth Congress

Mayor's Council and judicial branch haven't submitted their appointments yet.

ro people are going to be ready to vote," said Howard.

Members say the new commission won't replace the Commission on Self-Determination, which is supposed to promote the Guam Commonwealth Act.

"I don't see them at all in conflict. The Commission on Self-Determination's job is to deliver the commonwealth act," said Forbes. He said the commonwealth act, approved by Guam voters in 1987, supports Chamorro self-determination. "If anything it enhances the Commission on Decolonization."

The decolonization isn't supposed to eclipse the Commission on Self-Determination, according to law, but it will use the Commission on Self-Determination's staff and offices.

Leland Bettis, the Commission on Self-Determination's executive director, said the two commissions have roles that largely overlap.

"There's also a really big crossover among a lot of the areas," Bettis said. "I don't see it as a problem."

# Public Health tracks jump in sexually transmitted disease

## Majority of those tested for chlamydia are women under 24

By HIROSHI HIYAMA  
Daily News Staff

Public Health wants screening for the sexually transmitted disease chlamydia to be better coordinated.

Increased screening has shown a jump in reported cases of the disease since 1992, though the numbers fluctuate from year to year because of a lack of organized screening efforts said Josie O'Mallan, administrator of bureau of communicable disease control at the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

O'Mallan said clinics and Public Health have to work together more closely to find what the chlamydia infection trend is on Guam.

Chlamydia's common symptoms for men include a burning sensation when urinating and urethra infection. Symptoms for women range from abdominal pain and throat infection to vaginal discharge.

Antibiotics are available to cure chlamydia patients, but cured patients can be reinfected whenever they are exposed to chlamydia trachomatis bacteria, O'Mallan said.

Untreated patients, both men and women, can become infertile, O'Mallan added.

Since 1992, Guam's physicians included a chlamydia screening in prenatal care for all expecting mothers, O'Mallan said.

However, chlamydia is difficult to detect because 70 percent of infected women and half of infected men do not experience any apparent symptoms, O'Mallan said.

O'Mallan added that a majority of Guamanians with chlamydia are young women under the age of 24 who tested positive for the disease during prenatal checkups.

O'Mallan recommends all sexually active individuals with multiple partners to test for chlamydia regularly.

Nationwide, chlamydia is the most frequently reported infectious disease, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control.

The center estimates 4 million Americans contract chlamydia every year. Half of the affected individuals are women between the ages of 15 to 19, the center estimates.

It is not clear how common chlamydia is among students on Guam because the Department of Education, the University of Guam and Guam Community College do not keep such records.

## Chlamydia cases

Reported cases of Chlamydia on Guam

'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97
34	36	217	120	374	516	355	227*

\* Through June

For free testing for chlamydia and other sexually transmitted diseases, call Public Health for an appointment at 735-7137 and 734-2437.

## MERCEDES-BENZ C-CLASS

The High Fashion Successory



Atkins Kroll

Marine Drive, Tamuning • Tel: 646-2360  
HOURS: Monday to Friday 8AM-7PM  
Saturday 9AM-3PM

You're dressed to win in your Mercedes-Benz C-230. It's the perfect fit for your career and your lifestyle. Stable, strong and sensible... just like your automobile, your future is secure. So is the time you spend on the road because your C-230 is engineered with quality and built with safety first in mind. And, it comes with the promise of roadside assistance 24 hours a day. Of course, the fact that you can lease it with an affordable monthly payment or own it for less than \$38,000 doesn't hurt either.



Mercedes-Benz

**SPEEDIPRINT**  
NOW OPEN!  
On-Demand Color Copies  
• from your slides  
• from your transparencies  
• from your color negatives  
472-KUMU (8042) 201st Chalan Santa Rosa on Route 4

**IN THE BIBLE**  
  
Pastor Lewis

What is the purpose of life? Someone has said, "Life is a moment of time in which to prepare for the long, long eternity." In this brief, fleeting second of time we are asked to answer one question, "Where do you wish to spend eternity?" The purpose of life is to let you personally choose the abiding place of your soul.  
John 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

**Harvest Baptist Church**  
Harvest Christian Academy  
Harvest Family Radio  
KHMG 88.1 FM  
Call 477-2627 or 477-6341

GUAM COLLECTION REFERENCE ONLY

# SUNDAY FORUM

## Does Guam need a lieutenant governor?



"Yes, so they can back up the governor when the governor is off-island. Plus, they're a team."

**JOSE LANIYO**  
22, Inarajan student



"Possibly not, because the lieutenant governor doesn't really have an active role until the governor is absent."

**EDUARDO BAYSON**  
18, Yigo student



"Yes, with all the trips the governor goes on."

**RYAN SHOOK**  
19, Yona student



"Yes, because when the governor is out doing his duties, a lieutenant governor has to take over."

**KYLA AQUINO**  
18, Barrigada student



"I don't know. I'm not politically involved."

**TYPRINA KASIMIRO**  
17, Mangilao student

By Krystal Paco/For Sunday News

### Opinion page election policy

Between now and the General Election in November, the Pacific Daily News will not print letters that personally endorse or attack candidates running for political office. We do encourage letters that address policy decisions and other issues voters need to consider.

# Transfers of power are nonsensical

By Robert Klitzkie

The question for today is, "When is a governor not a governor?" Here's one answer: "When he is in Rota."



Klitzkie

loses all his powers. It follows that when the governor is pursuing our interests in the

Section 8 of the Organic Act requires that when the governor of Guam is temporarily absent from Guam, "the lieutenant governor shall have the powers of the governor." Thus, even when the governor is visiting a place so close that we can see it on a clear day, he

tion's capital, he is without his powers, which are then to be exercised by the lieutenant governor during the governor's absence.

So when the governor is off island, he becomes the inchoate governor, i.e. he has the potential to be governor once he returns to Guam. Because of this quantum mechanics approach to governance, we have to have another public official, with all the expensive trappings of office, to serve when the governor is absent from the island.

Parallels are hard to find. When the President of the United States is in Canada or China, he is still the president with all the powers of the president. Given modern communications and transportation, the governor could function from Timbuktu as well as Tamuning. Well, not really. With or without a lieutenant governor, the governor would spend most of his time here. But with 21st

century communications and transportation, no matter where he is he could return quickly, be in constant communication with the island and sign or veto bills.

In the middle of the last century, when Congress passed the Organic Act, it made sense to have an alternate to take over for the governor when he was abroad. If we were writing on a clean slate today, would we design a governor whose powers evaporated off shore? Probably not.

Of course, need one or not, we'll have a lieutenant governor until the Organic Act is changed by Congress or by the people of Guam, by means of a patriated Organic Act, as proposed in Bill 259 (<http://www.bobsoffice.org/bill259/>).

Robert Klitzkie is a senator in the 28th Guam Legislature.

# We need to revise Guam's Organic Act

By Ron McNinch

President Harry Truman's vice president, Alben Barkley, was fond of telling a tale about working with people. As the story goes, Alben was running for re-election to Congress and one of his strongest supporters had been telling people that he was considering voting for the other candidate in the race. On a trip back to his district, Alben paid a visit to the man to talk over his concerns.



McNinch

Alben reminded the man how he had visited him in a hospital after he was wounded in France in World War I. He also went down a list of items he had helped the man with over the years, a low-interest farm loan, crop subsidies, paved roads, etc. After he recited the list, Alben asked the man why he was telling everyone he was considering the other candidate.

"All of the things you said are true," replied the man, "but what have you done for me lately?"

On Guam, our government structure is outlined in the Guam Organic Act. The office of the lieutenant governor is jointly attached to the office of the governor and candidates for both offices run as a team. Unless we changed the Organic Act in some way, there is not

much we can do about this arrangement. I do have one strong suggestion though I will mention later on.

Here is a bigger question in the meantime though: Why do we need to constantly have an acting governor every time the governor goes on an off-island trip? Of course, the answer is the Organic Act, again. Why can't the governor's office and powers be portable? Outside of some sort of disaster response, there is no need to constantly shift to acting governors.

When both the governor and lieutenant governor are off-island, our government goes into a parliamentary mode — the Organic Act calls for the speaker of the Legislature to become the acting governor. To be quite frank, we need to reconsider the line of succession and allow a top cabinet officer to serve in this role. While Speaker Mark Forbes has never abused this power, we need to respect a separation of powers principle in our system.

Before we had an elected governor, the governor of Guam had a territorial secretary, a sort of secretary of state. In fact, our lieutenant governors have been members of the national organization for secretaries of state. Also, a number of current states use this title for the person designated to succeed the gov-

error in case of death, disability, resignation, recall or impeachment. A non-partisan secretary of state position might be a good alternative to a lieutenant governor. This person might serve a number of ceremonial roles and be the elected official in charge of elections. In fact, in case the office of the governor is vacated, this person might be in charge of a special succession election.

Now here is the neat part. Why do we have to run to Congress to get some of these improvements made? Why can't we ask the Congress to let us have the power to change the local government portions of the Guam Organic Act at the local level?

For example, what if we wanted to move to a bicameral legislature instead of a single house? What if we want to hold elections on the first Saturday in November in even years and make the holiday question moot?

Here is my suggestion: Put an item on the ballot for the November election that reads something like this: "The People of Guam respectfully request Congress to allow us the power to make adjustments to the local government sections of the Guam Organic Act."

This one simple change to the Organic Act will allow the people, Legislature and governor to figure out some solutions to our problems. Also, it would allow Delegate Madeleine Bordallo to concentrate on important federal relations issues.

Ron McNinch is an associate professor of public administration at the University of Guam.

### Next Sunday

# To increase government revenues, should the QC program be overhauled?

In order to better run the government of Guam, spending must be in line with revenues, which is never the case.

The government of Guam routinely overspends its budget, but part of the problem is that the revenue stream falls short of expectations, for one reason or another.

With critically needed infrastructure projects, and the need to improve education, health care and public safety, the question becomes: Where will the money come from? It's clear that the government needs to

streamline and rightsize to become smaller and more efficient. But it could also use a boost in its revenue stream. One way to do that, without raising taxes, is to eliminate or reduce the amount of taxes that GovGuam doesn't collect from businesses because of the Qualifying Certificate program.

▲ To increase government revenues, should the QC program be overhauled?

We want your thoughts and insight. A roundtable discussion on the topic will be held at noon Sept. 21 at the Pacific Daily News. Call

Editorial Editor Duane M. George at 477-9711, ext. 415 or send e-mail to [dmgeorge@guampdn.com](mailto:dmgeorge@guampdn.com) if you are interested in attending.

To contribute an article for the Sunday Forum, limit it to less than 500 words, include a picture (if possible), as well as your village and a contact number. Fax articles to 477-3079, drop them off at our offices in Hagåtña, or e-mail to [voice@guampdn.com](mailto:voice@guampdn.com).

Deadline: 5 p.m., Sept. 21