

NOT FOR SALE

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Mabuhay!! God Bless America!! Hafa Adai!! The People's Newspaper

Gov't Salary Increases: A Fiasco Traced Years Back



A Christmas scene at Pale San Vitores Rd.

NOVEMBER 18, 2015 – The last stroke to recall the salary increases of elected and appointed government officials was voted down by the Legislature, 8:7. A lot of Guamanians were disappointed while majority of the senators stood their ground.

Democratic Senator Michael F. Q. San Nicolas, who filed Bill No. 204-33 together with four others, said he **continued on page 6**

GMHA's doctors are highest paid "unclassified employees" See all executive salaries inside

Amidst the ongoing controversy of the elected officials' retroactive salary increases they gave to themselves and the administration's cabinet officials, the Governor opened up a hornet's nest when

he mentioned that there is a long list of 6-digit earners on the island.

What we found, indeed there are a lot of them, unclassified government employees (appointed or elected), and on top of the list is a GMHA (Guam Memorial Hospital) radiologist Dr. Tuan G. Nguyen, receiving a total of \$676,399.36 annually. GMHA's October 2015 staffing pattern indicates that Nguyen

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Tiyan Campus Purchase: The Untold Story **3rd part on p.11**

Governor signs GMHA rates hike into law Patients expect 5% yearly increase

NOVEMBER 25, 2015 – Guam Memorial Hospital Administration (GMHA) can now implement their rate increase as Governor Eddie Baza Calvo formally signs the hospital's proposed rate adjustments as Public Law 33-98.

Topping the list of rates increase is the "PTA-Tibioperoanal Artery/Branches" and "Intravascular Stent Percutaneous Init" both with a rate increase of 2,572.03%, or from a rate of \$360.32 to \$9,627.86. These are both **continued on page 7**

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The Truth Matters

- Skeletons in their closets!
- Lou for Governor!
- Bully Directors, and Goodbye 8 Senators!

By: Rolando Zabala

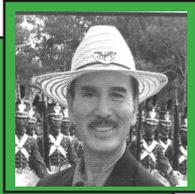


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Fighting for a Cause & More

Terrorism: Victims Will be Vindicated

By: Pat Duque



See you back on Jan. 10, 2016
Updates at junctionnews.com

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GMHA doctors...

from page 1

was hired March 24, 2015 but his appointment letter states that this appointment was effective June 20, 2015 and would expire May 31, 2016. The letter was signed by the Hospital Administrator Theodore Lewis.

Dr. Nguyen received his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in 1988. He speaks French and Vietnamese. He finished his internship (internal medicine) at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in 1989. He took his residency at the Ohio Valley Medical Center from 1989-1991 (diagnostic radiology) and University of Texas Medical School at Houston from 1991-1994 (diagnostic radiology). A search with the American Medical Association (AMA) website reveals that he is not a member of the said organization and his listed specialty vascular and interventional radiology (self-designated). A search of his name with the American Board of Radiology (ABR) for ABR Board Certification in Texas, Arizona, and Virginia did not yield any result.

Second highest paid appointed unclassified employee is Dr. Jared Carlson (general surgeon) receiving a total of \$483,724.28. He was hired on January 1, 2015.

Dr. Seung Young Huh comes in third with a total pay of \$462,156.50. Dr. Huh was hired June 2, 2014. He is

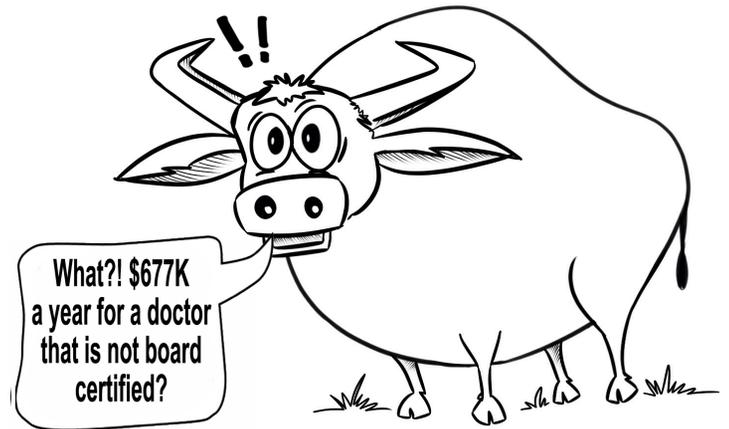
an Emergency Room doctor. Vitals.com described Dr. Huh as graduate of Loma Linda University in California and is board certified by American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABME).

Dr. Hillary A. Chollet comes in fourth also a general surgeon, receiving a total of \$451,479.86. She was hired on October 13, 2014. Dr. Chollet is generally described as someone who graduated from medical school in 1982 and has over 32 years of diverse experience.

GMHA Board appoints its unclassified employees; the members of the board on the other hand are appointed by the Governor.

The fifth is another doctor, Ione de Jesus who receives \$328,139.76 annually. Dr. de Jesus is a psychiatrist at the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (DMHSA). She is a graduate of the University of the East/Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center (UE-RMMC) of the Philippines in 1972. On August 29, 2009 Marianas Variety Guam reported that de Jesus was investigated by the Guam Board of Examiners for providing care to patients of DMHSA even before she was issued local a license to practice in Guam.

In an earlier interview with GMHA's CEO Ted Lewis, he cannot really tell if the GMHA's physicians are being paid lower compared with GRMC's (Guam Regional Medical City). This was when he was interviewed



regarding his misuse of hospital-issued credit card to wine and dine the hospital doctors and vendors as alleged by the Governor.

Summarized below (from highest to lowest) are the salaries and benefits for the highly paid unclassified government employees. Those with salaries below \$50,000 annually are not included. Majority of these unclassified employees are appointed by the Governor, except for the other elected officials at the following offices Guam Public School System, Office of the Public Accountability, Guam Power Authority, Guam Waterworks Authority, and the Department of Law (Attorney General)./The Junction Team

OFFICE	POSITION/TITLE	NAME	SALARY	BENEFITS	TOTAL
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	PHYSICIAN - RADIOLOGY	NGUYEN, TUAN G.	\$480,001.60	\$196,397.76	\$676,399.36
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	HOSPITALIST - GEN. SURGERY	CARLSON, JARED	\$349,980.80	\$133,743.48	\$483,724.28
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	PHYSICIAN - E.R.	HUH, SEUNG YOUNG	\$332,800.00	\$129,356.50	\$462,156.50
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	PHYSICIAN - OPERATING ROOM	CHOLLET, HILLARY A.	\$325,000.00	\$126,479.86	\$451,479.86
Dep't of Mental Health and Substance Abuse	STAFF PSYCHIATRIST	DE JESUS, IONE	\$260,000.00	\$68,139.76	\$328,139.76
Dep't of Mental Health and Substance Abuse	STAFF PSYCHIATRIST	ISMAEL, ARIEL A	\$260,000.00	\$66,137.24	\$326,137.24
Dep't of Mental Health and Substance Abuse	STAFF PSYCHIATRIST	GAHOL, RENATO	\$260,000.00	\$65,736.58	\$325,736.58
Dep't of Mental Health and Substance Abuse	STAFF PSYCHIATRIST	PEREZ, VICTOR M	\$260,000.00	\$65,642.98	\$325,642.98
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	HOSIPTAL ADMINISTRATOR	LEWIS, THEODORE M.	\$199,999.80	\$78,079.82	\$278,079.62
University of Guam	PRESIDENT	UNDERWOOD, ROBERT	\$203,900.00	\$65,813.00	\$269,713.00
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	HOSPITALIST - INTERNAL MED.	FERNANDEZ, GOLDA SOL	\$187,200.00	\$74,127.04	\$261,327.04
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	PHYSICIAN - LABORATORY	ABURIQIZ, IBRAHIM	\$187,200.00	\$71,253.26	\$258,453.26
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner)	Chief Medical Examiner	ESPINOLA, AURELIO	\$198,000.00	\$51,195.24	\$249,195.24
GMHA	PHYSICIAN - NICU	NUMPANG, BEN	\$180,876.80	\$68,017.04	\$248,893.84
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	MANGLONA, BENITA A.	\$144,996.80	\$60,041.28	\$205,038.08
Department of Corrections	CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	TAIMANGLO, PATRICIA LG	\$160,000.00	\$42,037.24	\$202,037.24
Guam Public School System	SUPERINTENDENT	FERNANDEZ, JON J.	\$150,000.00	\$47,622.00	\$197,622.00
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority	ASS ADMIN NURSING SERVICES	PECINA, ZENNA CRUZ	\$131,310.40	\$55,190.98	\$186,501.38
GHURA	EXEC. DIRECTOR	DUENAS, MICHAEL.	\$123,953.00	\$46,161.00	\$170,114.00
A.B. Won Pat International Airport Authority	DEPUTY EXECUTIVE MANAGER	MARTINEZ, PEDRO ROY	\$129,348.00	\$38,911.35	\$168,259.35
GPA (as of 2013)	GENERAL MANAGER	FLORES, JOAQUIN.	\$153,004.00	\$12,330.86	\$165,334.86
GovGuam Ret. Fund	DIRECTOR	PAULA M. BLAS	\$120,000.00	\$43,192.00	\$163,192.00
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	GOVERNOR	CALVO, EDWARD JB	\$130,000.00	\$32,001.84	\$162,001.84
Public Defender	DIRECTOR	MILLER, ERIC D.	\$120,000.00	\$41,040.00	\$161,040.00
Guam Power Authority (as of 2013)	GENERAL MANAGER (CUS)	BENAVENTE, JOHN M.	\$159,993.00	\$576.39	\$160,569.39
Dep't of Mental Health and Substance Abuse	CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	MILLER, LYNDSEY N	\$120,000.00	\$34,577.34	\$154,577.34
A.B. Won Pat Int'l Airport Authority	EXECUTIVE MANAGER	ADA II, CHARLES H.	\$143,121.00	\$11,453.16	\$154,574.16
Guam Public Sch.Sys.	DEPUTY F.A.S.	TAITANO, TALING	\$110,000.00	\$40,087.00	\$150,087.00
EXEC. DIRECTION		CLARK, ARTHUR.	\$110,000.00	\$30,760.48	\$140,760.48
OFC OF THE LT GOV	LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	TENORIO, RAYMOND S	\$110,000.00	\$29,764.94	\$139,764.94
Department of Law	ATTORNEY GENERAL	ANDERSON, ELIZABETH B	\$109,497.60	\$28,076.06	\$137,573.66

OFFICE	POSITION/TITLE	NAME	SALARY	BENEFITS	TOTAL
Guam Visitor Bureau	GENERAL MANAGER	DENIGHT, JON NATHAN	\$101,878.00	\$34,491.00	\$136,369.00
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	GOVERNOR'S LEGAL COUNSEL	MILLER, SANDRA EC	\$106,287.00	\$29,865.65	\$136,152.65
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION		ARTERO, BERNADETTE F	\$106,287.00	\$28,914.83	\$135,201.83
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION		ARRIOLA, FRANKLIN P.	\$106,287.00	\$27,974.15	\$134,261.15
Guam Public Sch Syst	DEPUTY E.C.S.L.	CRUZ, ERIKA.	\$95,000.00	\$37,320.00	\$132,320.00
Dep't of Administration	DIRECTOR	BLAZ, ANTHONY C	\$102,407.00	\$29,530.91	\$131,937.91
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF	RAMSEY, ROSE F.	\$103,407.00	\$28,398.33	\$131,805.33
Guam Waterworks Auth	DEP. GEN. MANAGER	TAITAGUE, TELO T.	\$93,480.00	\$35,141.00	\$128,621.00
BBMR	DIRECTOR	CALVO, JOSE S	\$102,407.00	\$25,174.35	\$127,581.35
Dep't of Rev & Tax	DIRECTOR	CAMACHO, JOHN P	\$102,407.00	\$25,174.35	\$127,581.35
Guam Public School Sys	DEPUTY, C. & I.	SANCHEZ, JOSEPH	\$95,000.00	\$32,094.00	\$127,094.00
Ofc of the Pub. Auditor	PUBLIC AUDITOR	BROOKS, DORIS	\$100,000.00	\$25,964.72	\$125,964.72
Department of Public Works	DIRECTOR	LEON GUERRERO, GLENN A	\$97,068.00	\$23,887.65	\$120,955.65
DEPT of Rev & Tax	DEP. DIRECTOR	BENITO, MARIE	\$91,144.00	\$24,948.68	\$116,092.68
Dep't of Administration	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	DUENAS, ALFRED F.	\$91,144.00	\$24,324.68	\$115,468.68
Senatorial	Senator	James Espaldon	\$85,000.00	\$29,418.98	\$114,418.98
Senatorial	Senator	Tina R. Muna Barnes	\$85,000.00	\$28,924.72	\$113,924.72
Senatorial	Senator	Michael San Nicolas	\$85,000.00	\$28,645.74	\$113,645.74
Senatorial	Senator	Mary Camacho Torres	\$85,000.00	\$28,645.74	\$113,645.74
Senatorial	Senator	D. G. Rodriguez, Jr.	\$85,000.00	\$28,125.22	\$113,125.22
Senatorial	Senator	Thomas Morrison	\$85,000.00	\$26,972.90	\$111,972.90
Senatorial	Senator	Rory J. Respicio	\$85,000.00	\$25,840.34	\$110,840.34
Senatorial	Senator	Vicente A. Ada	\$85,000.00	\$25,840.34	\$110,840.34
Senatorial	Senator	Frank F. Blas, Jr.	\$85,000.00	\$25,840.34	\$110,840.34
Senatorial	Senator	Frank Aguon, Jr.	\$85,000.00	\$25,346.08	\$110,346.08
Office of Finance & Budget	Director, Office of Finance and Budget	Artemio Ricardo A. Hernandez	\$82,160.00	\$27,804.82	\$109,964.82
OFC OF THE LT GOV	CHIEF OF STAFF	DUENAS, JOSEPH	\$82,071.00	\$26,870.09	\$108,941.09
Department of Corrections	DIRECTOR	SAN AGUSTIN, JOSE A.	\$86,820.00	\$21,595.46	\$108,415.46
Office of the Public Auditor	DEPUTY (ASST) PUBLIC AUDITOR	HECHANOVA, YUKARI B	\$85,000.00	\$23,142.46	\$108,142.46
Guam Police Dep't	CHIEF OF POLICE		\$86,820.00	\$21,101.20	\$107,921.20
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	UNPINGCO, JOHN.	\$83,900.00	\$23,697.14	\$107,597.14
DPHSS	DIRECTOR	GILLAN, JAMES W	\$84,611.00	\$22,750.23	\$107,361.23
Guam Fire Department	FIRE CHIEF	SAN NICOLAS, JOEY C	\$84,611.00	\$22,527.15	\$107,138.15
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION		LEON GUERRERO, VINCENT T	\$82,071.00	\$24,629.93	\$106,700.93
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	SPECIAL ASST (GOV)	CASTRO, WILLIAM	\$82,071.00	\$23,852.01	\$105,923.01
Department of Corrections	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	BORJA, CARLEEN G	\$81,522.00	\$24,320.04	\$105,842.04
EXEC. DIRECTION		ALIG, JESSE LG	\$82,071.00	\$23,256.35	\$105,327.35

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Governor signs GMHA... from page 1

Radiology procedures.

On October 13, GMHA submitted a proposed rate increase for some 402 procedures for the following department: Respiratory Therapy, Special Services, Hemodialysis, Laboratory, Rehabilitative Services, Nuclear Medicine, Radiology, Nursery, and Emergency Room. GMHA claims they need the increase to improve the financial standing of the hospital. GMHA's CFO Benita Manglona said the hospital's charges are outdated and aside from the 5% increase they did last April, the hospital rates are at year 2009 level. The law allows the hospital to implement an increase not greater than 5%. A legislative action would be needed for increases more than 5%, thus they

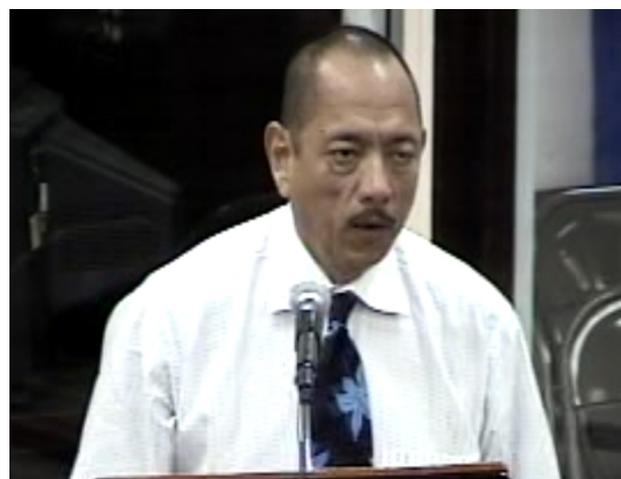


referred their proposed increases to the Legislature. Senator Dennis Rodriguez, Jr. sponsored the bill.

On the public hearing, Take Care's President Jeffrey Larsen said the increase would result to an average of 26-28% increase in health insurance premiums. He said the staggering increase by as much as 2,500% "should raise red flags," and asked the lawmakers "to demand to know why such astronomical increases are occurring at a rate substantially greater than healthcare trends." He also said some services listed in rate increase are not being provided by GMHA, rather they are services by a third party.

Manglona refuted Larsen's claim that the rate increase they are proposing is above healthcare trends. She said they are just following the current Medicare APC rates.

Vice Speaker B.J. Cruz on the other hand has a different idea. He questioned the hospital's collection



CRUZ

rate, which from Manglona's data is 50%. Manglona said they are trying to beef up on their collection and that they are working on Request for Proposals (RFP) for a call center "so there can be people dedicated to just calling for patients to pay their bills." Cruz wants the hospital to boost its collection first and if that is fixed and the hospital would still need more funds, then that would be the time talk about increases.

But aside from the low rates the hospital is charging, Manglona said that another reason for low gross collection is that the Federal government is not reimbursing enough for the cost of hospitalization of migrants from FSM under the Compact-Impact Treaty. Manglona took the chance to mention that the lawmakers should help them with that.

When GMHA's proposal was debated on by the lawmakers in the floor, Senator Rodriguez read the

findings of the Office of the Inspector General US Department of Interior's evaluation on GMHA on December 2014.

"GMHA provides a variety of medical service to the people of Guam but is not well funded and does not maximize opportunity to generate revenues. GMHA has not adjusted its fees since early 1990s. And current fees

are not sufficient to cover operating cost. The Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates

have not kept pace with the cost of providing medical services. Without the necessary funding, GMHA cannot pay vendors leaving the hospital with long-standing and increasing accounts payable.

GMHA also has difficulty collecting payments from patients. GMHA's funding challenges make it difficult to develop and maintain the infrastructure necessary to provide medical services.

"A new private hospital opening in 2014 may exacerbate GMHA's current difficulties in maintaining staff and retaining patients who can afford to pay for services.

"GMHA's funding and cash flow is not enough to provide the necessary medical services for Guam citizens. The hospital cannot get the funds it needs to manage its cash flow because:

1. Its fees have not kept pace with rising cost.
2. The Federal government does not fully reimburse it for cost of providing Medical and Medicaid services.
3. Vendor costs are rising due to GMHA's outstanding invoices.
4. The hospital is not efficient in its collection of accounts receivable."

Rodriguez said that the adjusted rates are already the lowest rates, and that these are the "facts of life - what it takes to run a business." He said the rates are still low compared to the new hospital, referring to Guam Regional Medical City.

Rodriguez proposed for the body to "approve the rate increase for the services that being performed at the hospital while disapproving the proposed rates for services that are not being performed."

Cruz, wanted to know those services, not being performed. He wants those to be clearly identified. On that same day, GMHA representative trimmed down the list by crossing out the items that are not performed by the hospital. Entries under Nuclear Medicine were all crossed out, except for one (intrathecal lumbar puncture). Out of 402 procedures, 304 was left after the trimming down. Cruz just wanted to be very sure as he said, "I've been burned before. I want them marked. Trick me once shame on you, trick me twice, shame on me."

Senator Frank Blas, Jr. pointed out that the Inspector General's report states "\$239,000 of the estimated of the 123-M owed by uninsured patients was collected," saying "Are we trying to catch up by raising the fees?"

Meanwhile, Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas reiterated the concerns of Jeff Larsen that the insurance premiums will increase as a result of the rate hike. San Nicolas said the insurance premium hike can "buy you a new car."

"We are taking the financial problems of the hospital and were passing it through to the customers who pay these bills. It does not feel right at all. \$137 to do the

God Bless you, our dear Keandre Zabala on your Christening!

December 5, 2015; Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Yigo, Guam.



RODRIGUEZ

biopsy. It's going to go up and cost \$1,052 just to check if it is cancerous.

"Imagine somebody who is self-pay and they go in to get checked, and the doctor says 'we found a mass, and we need to biopsy it.' And then they ask, 'how is that going to cost me?' And they say 'it's going to cost you a thousand dollars. I am very afraid that we're going to have our people say, 'you know what, I'm OK.'"

"I have full appreciation of the financial troubles of the hospital. But I don't believe that this proposed bill, this solution is the way for us to go about tackling that. We have to find better ways.

"Vendor cost of GMH is too high. When you dig deeper into this report, what it basically says is because GMHA does not pay its vendors on time, they're getting cut-off from the cheaper vendors and they're having to resort to the more expensive vendors."

He quoted the Inspector General's report, "GMHA's primary vendors often refuse to extend credits forcing the hospital to seek other suppliers. Secondary suppliers tend to charge nearly double for supplies, so the hospital finds that it is paying higher rates for some supplies and services. For example, intravenous tubing from a primary vendor costs GMHA's \$98.65 per case of 24. But because that vendor is cutting them off because they are not paying them on time, they have to go to the secondary vendor and they're charged \$212.40 for the same case of 24 intravenous infusion tubings."

Clearly stating his objection, "I don't think that this is the time for us to be moving this legislation forward."

He would prefer that they're all "going to work together as a body, look very carefully at the entire operations of the hospital until it can be said that collection is done to our best efforts, the vendors are paid on time, and we're getting the best pricing that we can possibly get. And from there figure out how much more does the hospital need in terms of subsidy.

"The hospital should continue to remain affordable for those people who aren't able to get health insurance

continued on page 8

Guam Free Press Foundation, Inc.

This paper is now published by the Guam Free Press Foundation Inc., a non-profit corporation. Our main focus now is to be able to develop a truly independent newspaper, the people's newspaper.

While some may wonder if there is or is not a truly independent newspaper in the Island, as far as we see it, there certainly is not a single independent English newspaper and therefore there must be one.

The founding fathers and constitutionalists of great America who made sure to enshrine the first amendment knew then the undisputable importance of the first amendment. To not have an independent and free press that is free to write without fear that they would loose advertising revenue or fear that the paper would not be patronized by the moneyed advertisers is simply the antithesis to a free, just and vibrant democracy. It would just breed corruption and other forms of abuses.

Fortunately for us Guamanians, the last time we checked Guam adheres and is still in a democracy.

Ask yourselves the following: Are you satisfied and content with the information you hear or read in the news? Are they factual or could the news be sanitized and filtered, leaving out the hard and cold facts? The lack of factual news is tantamount to misinformation.

As humble and lowly taxpayers, ask yourselves if you are content with the performance of the current officials you entrusted your votes too. Ask yourselves too how much you care for Guam, and do remember the immortal words of Edmund Burke "for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

Among our lofty aspirations is to come up with an advertising-free paper (we will of course accept advertising as long as it is unconditional). Coming up with such, can there only and truly be an independent newspaper, for whether we like it or not, there now is a high cost to know the truth and unfortunately, the masses or the common man is not in a position to finance such, and should a newspaper naively think that it can count on advertising revenue to come out with what needs to be published, should not be in the newspaper business. It is often a choice between the devil and the deep blue sea.

We urge our readers, our silent supporters to do their part in helping us realize our vision for an independent newspaper. No mater how small your help or assistance may be (information you send, etc), once taken collectively, will certainly come a long way.

You, the tax payers are not beholden to the officials you elected. They (elected officials) are the ones who are beholden to you.

Help this paper to be among the instruments as a candid and truthful information provider. Let us all help ourselves, for good governance will translate to a better Guam, and a righteously governed Guam would translate to a better future for us all.

As we go through this joyous merriment season, let us be reminded of those who have less in life and how we can share whatever we can with them, as that is the essence of the season we are celebrating.

We wish all our readers and supporters a Merry Christmas, as we leave you the following we had taken to heart: "Freedom of the press, or to be more precise, the benefit of freedom of the press, belongs to everyone - to the citizen as well as the publisher. The crux is not the publisher's 'freedom to print,' it is, rather, the citizen's 'right to know.'" Arthur Sulzburger - 1990 - American newspaper publisher.

In parting, acknowledgments are in order as we express our deep gratitude to Ms. Lou Leon Guerrero, President of the Bank of Guam for her valuable assistance and support. Mr. Emelio Uy, FCG Chairman and owner of National Office Supply, a few old time members of the local media and a former active blogger whose names and/or gender we cannot mention (you know who you are), our numerous informers (be patient with the information you provide as we are highly undermanned as information needs verification). Most of all, to our valuable readers, silent and not so silent supporters.

THANK YOU ALL! Mabuhay po kayo! Si Yu'us ma'ase!!!

Editorial

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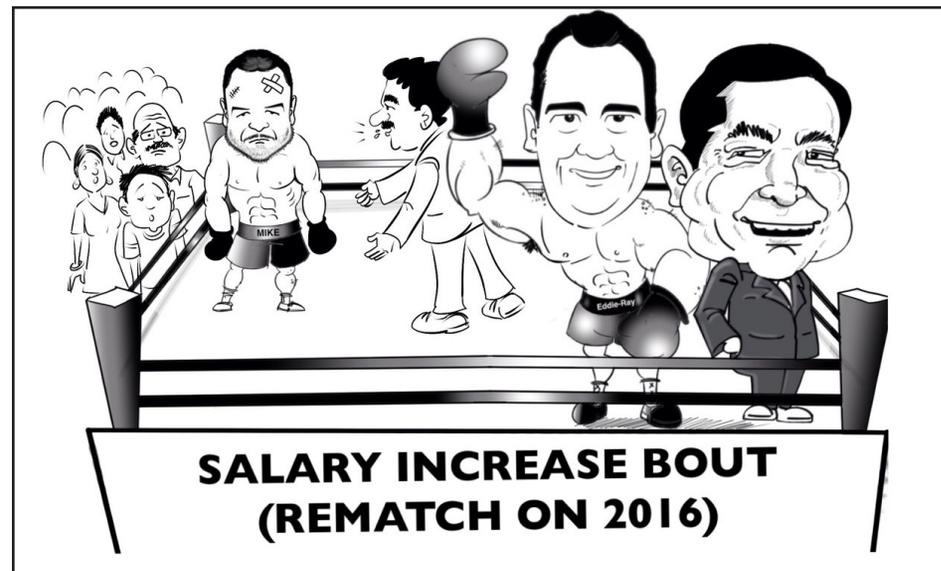
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- Bully Directors, and Goodbye 8 Senators!

By: Rolando Zabala



Lou Leon Guerrero for Governor- While some may say that it is too early for me to be writing about who should be Governor come 2018, I somehow just cannot help but express my humble opinion when it comes to matters that are of extreme importance as what the position of Governor is.

Certainly if Madam Lou runs, she is more than qualified to be governor of Guam. She brings with her a wealth of experience both in the private and government sectors. Her integrity is unquestionable and her word of honor, well it should also be unquestionable.

Having said this, should the presumptive Lt. Governor be matched up or whoever may be the de facto (underground) Calvo backed candidate will not stand a chance for one Lou Leon Guerrero.

There certainly is hope for Guam. But of course things will be much better for the island if the next members of the legislature come from the Democrat Party.

We are thankful for your unconditional support Madam Lou. Biba Guam, Biba Guamanians!!!

Goodbye 8 Senators!- The way I see it, there will be an opening for 8 new senatorial slots that will be elected this coming 2016. I need not explain in detail why I say this, but I refer to these 8 Senators as no other than Senators Rory Respicio (Democrat), Dennis Rodriguez (Democrat), Tina Muna-Barnes (Democrat), James Espaldon (Republican), Frank Blas (Republican), V. Anthony Ada (Republican), Brant McCreadie (Republican), Thomas Morrison (Republican). While mine is not wishful thinking that these 8 Senators that I had just mentioned will no longer be re-elected,

mine is simply common sense based on my faith on the level of understanding and discernment of the Guamanian voters. We the voters had clearly seen the true colors of these 8 Senators when they voted to retain the patently illegal and immoral retroactive (selective) salary increases, and I believe that no amount of good PR and damage control can redeem any of them as what is done is done and they now have to bear the consequences of a disgusted public. Perhaps some of them are thinking that since election is still a year away, the voters by then would have forgotten. Tsk! Tsk! Tsk!, I doubt that!!! They had shown their true and real colors, for which in the Philippines their kinds are

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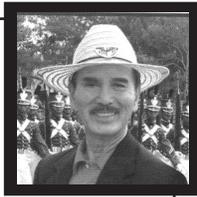
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Fighting for a Cause & More

Terrorism: Victims Will be Vindicated

By: Pat Duque



These Islamic terrorists are always active! On and off. And Pres Obama is going to accept more than a 100,000 Middle Eastern Muslim refugees to US. We don't know them no matter how well we screen them. There will always be infiltrators.

Remember that Jesus had just 13 disciples and He didn't know that one of them was Judas. With this number as a basis (by ratio and proportion estimation), there'll be a potential 7,692 Judases to pass through Guam!

Our leaders should refuse this proposal.

Here is an article lifted from my book written 13 years ago. You will notice that this applies now and I dedicate this as a lesson for these terrorists. The day of reckoning always come.

Last night I dreamt. Finally, the day of judgment came.

Osama bin Laden and his associate Omar, the Taliban leader, earlier met Allah. While waiting for Allah, those destined for hell were put in cauldrons of boiling oil. The greater their crimes, the more they're submerged. I saw Stalin standing in one cauldron where the boiling oil was just up to his neck; Hitler was up to his mustache. But to my surprise, Osama was just up to his ankles only!

I confronted Allah, "How come this mass-murderer's punishment is so light?"

Allah: "Osama is stepping on the head of Omar..." Allah added, "whenever Omar tires, Osama sinks!"

Osama: "Allah, what's that choir singing beautifully? A welcome concert for Omar and me?"

Allah: "These are souls of the 3,000 victims you murdered on 9/11."

Osama: "I'm very sorry. These romantic songs instead haunt and chill us to the bones. I thought suicide and murder are part of your teachings."

Allah: "It's a serious sin to take one's or anybody's life; no exception. Now, here's my judgment."

Osama: "Please, make it light."

Allah: "I'll construct a twin tower. On top one tower, I'll hang you upside-down, and Omar will be on the other. Every minute, planes manned by your suicidal pilots will hit you and Omar. It'll go repeatedly for a thousand years."

Osama (shaking): "That's heavy punishment. Omar and I couldn't withstand a minute!"

Allah: "As to your wealth, it'll go to your victims." Adding, "Why do you target Americans? Can't you see that they're still giving aid to your impoverished countrymen."

Osama: "Allah, frankly, I love America - it's swinging and extravagant lifestyles. That's why my families, including my wife, once resided in the US. I was surprised the Americans didn't harm them. (Sobbing). We just hate US foreign policy. US government supports the Jews, who in turn kill million Israelites but gains the hatred of 100 million Arabs and a billion partisan Muslims worldwide."

Allah: "I understand. Earlier, I had a talk with Jesus Christ to convey our important message to US leaders not to play the role of a god in this Palestine - Israeli conflict. This role is reserved for me and Jesus. This conflict had been going on for a thousand of years, even before Jesus and Mohammed were born. US should change its foreign policy of arrogance and dominance and should leave this matter to the UN to space American resources and lives. Billions of dollar sugar-coated as aid to buy loyalties are bleeding the US economy while many US states and territories are in great need."

Allah warns, "With reduced presence of US forces, Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea are tempted to destabilize the region."



People's Voice

Over-speed on Guam

Further comments to your editorial of 11-17.Oct.2015 regarding speeding and dangerous driving on Guam roadways.

You described the problem very well and pointed out the poor enforcement. Of course, it's quite a workload for the few GPD officers that are assigned to traffic duty. So I've wondered if anyone ever thought to use the manpower of other personnel that also carry a badge. There are court marshals, customs officers, GFD fire personnel, etc. While they may not be authorized to issue citations I'm sure they see dangerous behavior and can report it to the GPD dispatcher. Also by showing their badge they could perhaps remind drivers to slow down, not to tailgate, show more patience, etc. Junction quote: "The fact always is that crime prevention/deterrence is always better than crime solution. When growing up I often heard the adage: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure".

You were certainly correct to point out that over speeding gains few minutes for your destination arrival. But the over speeding does increase the probability of a near miss or a crash. And, having a crash is such a headache with all the paperwork and extra effort involved. It's just not worth it if only drivers would take pause to really think about it. With our increased number of vehicles and traffic lights having a vehicle with a 600 hp engine does little good.....speeding up to the next red light only to wait...

Far more sensible to drive slower, keep a safe distance and arrive 3 minutes later.

I suspect that there are only 5 true vehicle accidents each year on Guam. The rest would more correctly be "crashes" that could have been avoided. Unmarked GPD "observer" cars could be very effective. Two officers would only observe and report to the dispatcher. Then a marked car could stop the driver.

A citation is not always necessary. Sometimes just a written reminder which should be recorded would be sufficient for many drivers. Then if that driver ends up in traffic court these records would help the judge determine if the driver might need to attend driving education courses.

It's hard to change someone who has a bad attitude behind the wheel but at least we should identify them and perhaps remove them from our roads. And, bad driving behavior does not help our island culture image....friendly, relaxed, courteous, patient...

*Hoping for the best,
Paul Tobiason, Chalan Pago*

"A new world order is shaping up!"

Osama: "Oh Allah, forgive us!"

Allah: "After a thousand years in hell, I'll send you back to earth reincarnated."

Osama and Omar (excited at last): "Thank you, Allah. We'll be back someday to meet our fanatic comrades, marry four wives, produce a lot of children, and sow terror again!" as the heavenly choir was singing at the background.

Allah: "Yes! You can do anything you like. Sky is the limit..."

Smiling, He added, "I shall reincarnate both of you as castrated sheep!"

Dessert for Thought:

Any form of writing also follows the law of physics: For any action, there is an opposite & equal reaction. But in real world, the reactions/fallout could be more.

Patrocel Duque is the author of four (4) books and a musical drama: Mathematical Proofs that God Exists, Fighting for a Cause, Manning the Maritime Industry, Guam in War & Peace (poetry) and Our Life is Your Life (musical).

Available worldwide: Amazon.com, National Office Supplies, bookstores in Guam & Philippines.

A Salute to the Marines

A keynote address by Carl T. C. Gutierrez, former Governor of Guam on the ExPat Marine Association's Celebration of the 240th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps

November 8, 2015 at Angeles City, Philippines



Good evening, Mabuhay, and Hafa Adai, as we say in Guam!

It is quite an honor to be here this evening with all of you as we celebrate the 240th birthday of the United States Marine Corps. When I was first asked by the ExPat Marine Association to speak

at this event, I accepted without hesitation. Although I am an Air Force man myself, I feel inextricably connected with the Marines.

As you probably know, Guam had a Marine presence since the early 20th Century, with the Americans having claimed Guam after the Spanish-American War in 1898. Since that time, many familial ties have been established between Marines and Chamorros, much like there have been with Filipinos.

But more than that, I, as a Chamorro, feel inextricably linked with the Marines, and will forever be grateful to them, because of the liberation of my island of Guam from the Japanese Imperial forces on July 21, 1944.

If you would indulge me for a few moments, I'd like to share with you a little bit about my personal history and that of my wife Geri, who has accompanied me this evening. . Was born on October 15, 1941. When I was not quite 2 months old, just hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Guam was invaded by the Japanese Imperial Forces, who occupied our homeland for the next 31 months.

I really have no memories of the occupation, but have heard what has been passed on by my elders. In the waning months of the Japanese control of Guam, the brutality escalated. Concentration camps were set up at various sites throughout the island. My family, who resided in the central village of Agana Heights, was forced to march with hundreds of other families to the internment camp at Manenggon.

I was 2 years and 9 months old by then. My parents later recounted the experience with such emotion that I can almost envision it: my mom and dad alternating between carrying me, my three older siblings, and my infant brother as they made the long trek of about 10 miles from Agana Heights to Manenggon; the scorching heat, followed by the torrential rains, which made treading upon the red clay dirt slippery and precarious; the cruelty displayed by the Japanese soldiers toward those who slowed down or even collapsed from exhaustion-the elderly, the weak, and even the children.

When we finally arrived at the camp site, life consisted of simply surviving-of scrounging for food, but yet always finding enough to share with others, as is our Chamorro way; of bathing in the same river where from which we drank; of witnessing atrocities that betrayed humanity.

For my immediate family, I guess you can say we were lucky because we all survived the ordeal. But for many others at Manenggon - not to mention the many more at the other massacre sites in the island-they were not so lucky.

Listen, for example, to the story of a beautiful young woman, just 27 years old - a mother of three daughters, ages 8 years, 7 years, and 15 months. Her name was Hannah Chance Torres, the daughter of a Chamorro mother and a Caucasian father. She had

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Gov't Salary Increases...

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is very disappointed with Republican Senator Brant McCreadie saying his affirmative vote "would have accomplished it."

Bill No. 204-33 seeks to restore the salaries of elected and appointed officials to levels prior to PL 32-208. Alongside Nicolas' Bill was McCreadie's Bill 201 excluding of the senators from the Competitive Wage Act of 2014, and Bill 202 seeking senators' repayment of retroactive salaries disbursed under PL 32-208.

November 13 - The three bills were simultaneously heard in an emotionally-charged public hearing that lasted around 6 hours. Governor Eddie Baza Calvo showed himself up three hours into the hearing to the cheering of his supporters that filled in the public hearing room - his cabinet officials.

But what really is this salary increase fiasco about? How did it reach this stage?



CALVO WITH HIS CABINET

The Hay Pay Plan

James W. Gillan, the current Director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), as part of his written testimony for the November 13 public hearing summarized the chronology of the Hay Pay Plan (some details are from our documentary research):

Aug. 31, 2006: Executive Order 2006-21 (by then Governor Felix P. Camacho) orders DOA (Department of Administration) to obtain a private firm to conduct a comprehensive compensation review to update the Unified Pay Schedule, which was implemented/developed in October 1991. This Unified Pay Schedule was put together by the Hay Group (Hay Study).

Jan. 3, 2008: PL 29-52 (section 13) appropriates \$500K to contract a consultant which would conduct a study of all GovGuam positions "including those in autonomous, semi-autonomous agencies, public corporations, and all instrumentalities, and the judiciary." This was authored by then Senator Eddie Baza Calvo (who was also the Acting Speaker). Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio was also a senator and the Secretary of the Legislature at that time.

May 2010: Hay Group presents its draft study/report to Legislature. The study presented six pay plans - Executive Pay Plan (Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Judges); Nurses; Law Enforcement Officer; Educator; Attorney; and General Plan. Those positions not included in the 6 pay plans were identified and "Rate of Pay" positions. This would include the Governor, Lt. Governor, Judges, Attorney General, Public Auditors, Mayors, and Vice Mayors. It is important to note that the Senators are NOT included in any of the pay plans.

July 13, 2010: Bill No. 439-30 (budget bill that includes funding for the implementation of the 2009-2010 Hay Classification, Compensation and Benefit Study) is introduced by Gov. Camacho. This was passed on August 20, 2010. Then Senators Eddie Baza Calvo and Ray Tenorio voted against the bill. Senators Frank Blas, James Espaldon, and Telo Taitague did not make any vote.

Sept. 1, 2010: Governor Camacho signs Bill No. 439-30 into Public Law 30-196 (The Government of Guam Competitive Wage Act of 2011). The amount of \$13-M was appropriated for the implementation of the Hay Classification, Compensation and Benefit Study. The appropriated funds, this law says, "shall be used only for the salary adjustments of permanent classified personnel filling authorized full-time equivalent (FTE) position" and that it did "not include position(s) such as unclassified personnel, limited term appointees or any personnel under non-permanent status." PL 30-196 provides that the Hay Study recommendations shall be effective only upon formal adoption by the Governor of a plan consistent with the study.

September 23, 2010: Governor Camacho signs E.O. 2010-24 adopting the Hay Study and instructing the DOA to implement it "upon an additional legislative appropriation of \$5.5 Million and availability of funding."

Oct. 29, 2010: Governor Camacho signs E.O. 2010-25 amending E.O. 2010-24 and instructs DOA to implement Hay Study effective Oct. 1, 2010 (making it retro-active).

Jan. 14, 2011: Governor Eddie Baza Calvo signs E.O. 2011-02 rescinding E.O. 2010-24 and 2010-25 citing "unavailability of funds to adequately implement the Hay Study," effectively putting a halt on the pay raises GovGuam wide.

June 6, 2013: Governor Calvo signs E.O. 2013-005 serving notice to the Legislature of the use of the 2% reserve for FY 2014 for the incremental and phased-in implementation of the Hay Plan beginning FY 2014 subject to cash flow availability. The Governor also instructs the Director of Administration to be begin preparing and making all necessary updates and adjustments to the Hay Plan.

Sept. 11, 2013: Budget bill is signed into PL 32-068. Chapter XI Section 1 (Competitive Wage Act of 2014) repeals Chapter XI Section 7 (Competitive Wage Act of 2011). It directs the Governor's office to transmit to the Legislature a final, implementable plan to adjust compensation, classification, and benefits for Legislature's approval. The amount of \$7-M was appropriated for its implementation. The Governor was given a January 15, 2014 deadline to submit the plan. The implementation shall be effective 30 calendar days after receipt by the Speaker unless disapproved or amended. The Legislature may approve, disapprove, or amend the plan prior to effective date to ensure that that it is implemented fairly and consistent with the appropriated amounts. The Governor is not happy with the budget bill. He signed it with heavy heart. The Leg-

Position	2010 Pay	2010 Hay Study	Competitive Wage Act of 2014
Governor	\$90,000	\$110,000	\$130,000
Lt. Governor	\$85,000	\$100,000	\$110,000
Senators	\$65,000	*not includehd	\$85,000
Public Auditor	\$100,000	\$105,000	\$110,000
Mayor	\$46,062	\$55,488	\$75,000
Vice Mayor	\$42,264	\$49,897	\$68,000

islature did some cuts on his proposed budget. It was unanimously passed.

Guam Competitive Wage Act of 2014

Jan. 15, 2014: Government of Guam Competitive Wage Act of 2014 is submitted to the Legislature, as required by PL 32-068. This was prepared by Benita A. Manglona who was the Director of Administration then (Manglona is now the CFO of GMHA). But this wage plan is inconsistent with the 2010 Hay Study. Among the inconsistencies are:

January 24, 2014: Sen. Michael F.Q. San Nicolas files Bill No. 268-32 approving DOA's implementation plans of the Competitive Wage Act of 2014, but requiring a performance-based standard for Directors and Deputy Directors of line agencies, the Governor and the Lt. Governor. The bill seeks not to increase the Senators' pay as per Hay Pay Study. It also sets the salaries of Mayor and Vice Mayor to the Hay Study

recommendation. As to the Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and Public Auditor, the bill seeks to maintain their 2010 salaries and the remainder of the recommended pay shall be paid pursuant to the provisions of the Performance Pay Plan criteria as provided in the bill. This means, these officials' additional pay is tied up with their performance. This bill was passed February 1, 2014, with nine yes votes and 4 no votes (V. A. Ada, C.M. Duenas, M. Limtiaco, and T. Morrison).

Jan. 31, 2014: Public Hearing for Bill 268-32 which is well attended by both supporters and oppositors to the bill.

February 3, 2014: Governor Calvo introduces Bill 269-32 short titled as General Appropriations Act of 2015. This appropriates \$5-M from Section 30 Funds to pay the 50% salary adjustments as a result of Competitive Wage Act of 2014, retroactive to January 26, 2014.

February 13, 2014: Governor Calvo vetoes Bill 268-32, saying he "objects to this interference on executive functions." The Governor pushes for the implementation of the Hay (Study) Plan effective February 14 according to Competitive Wage Act of 2014.

February 20, 2014: Sen. Pangelinan introduces Bill 278-32. It repeals salaries of elected leaders and cabinet members, pegging them to Oct. 1, 2013 rates. The bill got 11 yes votes (Senators T.C. Ada, F.B. Aguon, B. J. Cruz, C.M. Duenas, M. Limtiaco, T.R. Muna-Barnes, V.C. Pangelinan, R.J. Respicio, D.G. Rodriguez, M.F.Q. San Nicolas, and J.T. Won Pat) and 4 no votes (Senators A.A. Yamashita, T. Morrison, B. McCreadie, and V.A. Ada). This was passed on same day. Public hearing was waived. This lapsed into PL 32-136. The Governor stated he disagrees with it but there has been enough discussion on the subject. He then said he hopes "the Senators will direct their attention and efforts to our schools, our homeless and foster children, crime, and the other important issues."

August 25, 2014: The Governor's Bill 269-32 was passed.

September 5, 2014: Bill 269-32 was signed into law and becomes Public Law 32-181, the budget law includes the remaining 50 percent owed to employees under the General Pay Plan. The appropriation is retroactive to Jan. 26, 2014.

Nov. 21, 2014: Right after election, Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio calls the Legislature into session, introduces Bill No. 1 (8-S) to repeal and reenact PL 32-136, setting salary rates according to Competitive Wage Act of 2014. In this turn of events, the bill was passed signed into law the same day as Public Law 32-208. It was passed with 10 yes votes, and a solitary no vote (Michael Limtiaco). Three senators were absent at that time (T.C. Ada, D.G. Rodriguez, and M.F.Q. San Nicolas). Public hearing was waived with a justification that a public hearing was already conducted for a similar bill. This is the law that is the subject of controversy to this date.

December 16, 2014: Bill 436-32 (LS) is introduced by Sen. Frank Aguon, Jr. which seeks to Amend PL 32-208 by removing senators from the Competitive Wage Act of 2014. The bill is voted down with only 3 yes votes (F.B. Aguon, M. Limtiaco, and M.F.Q. San Nicolas). McCreadie was absent.

January 5, 2015: Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas introduces Bill No. 4-33 (LS) which seeks to restore salaries for elected officials and cabinet members prior to PL 32-208, prevent waiver of public hearing for bills proposing salary changes, and for any change in salary for elected officials to take effect before a general election. Again, this was overwhelmingly voted down.

The series of recent events lead to the formation of a civil society group, Guamanians for Fair Government which has been actively opposing the salary increases of elected and appointed officials. And while the legislators may have thought, the people will forget, it was just the opposite. The opposition continued to brew and issue just wouldn't go away.

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October 30, 2015: Senator Brant McCreadie files Bill Nos. 201 and 202 to echo Aguon's failed bill to exclude the senators from the Competitive Wage Act of 2014 and for the senators to repay the retroactive salaries disbursed under PL 32-208. McCreadie tried to do away with public hearing but failed.

On this same date, Speaker Won Pat urges Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas who has been in the forefront against the salary increase "to do the right thing" and bring the issue to public hearing. San Nicolas then introduces Bill 204-33 together with Speaker Won Pat, Vice Speaker Cruz, and Senators Underwood and T.C. Ada. This bill seeks restore salaries of elective and appointed officials to levels before PL 27-05.



SAN NICOLAS

of office filled the public hearing room hours before the scheduled hearing leaving little to no room for the supporters of the bill. And they didn't yield to San Nicolas's request to give seats to those who signed up to testify. Instead, they jeered and booed.

San Nicolas was practically ridiculed, they tried to cut him down to pieces. But he remained calm and focused. Sticking to the point - "we cannot afford it."

Voted down

But despite the overwhelming voice of the people to repeal the raises, the Bills failed.

San Nicolas voted in favor of McCreadie's bill, but the latter did not reciprocate.

In Kuam News' interview with San Nicolas right after the voting, he said "I am very disappointed that Senator

McCreadie did not follow through Bill 204 and vote yes on it because if he was sincere in his attempts to rollback of raises for senators, that would have accomplished it. Now we are back to square one." "This was my final best attempt to bring the same matter to the floor in a different way and now it's up to our voters to decide on the election how they feel about us not rolling back these raises," he adds.

"We came within one vote. Every vote counts. Thank you to my colleagues who bravely joined me on this

effort in the face of enormous confrontation. Leadership in adversity is true public service," said Senator San Nicolas in press release. "In a democracy the people rule. This issue is now in the hands of our voters to affect in the coming election."

When the bill was debated on the floor, Senator Underwood said, "Right after election, his first action as Lt Gov was to reinstate pay raises and to pay retroactive pay. That was his bill that he transmitted to this body. If we want to pull back these raises because of the elected officials who did it, we have to go back to the source, and the source is Ray Tenorio."

Tony Ada on the other hand has a different view. He said if salary raise is an issue, it should have been looked at when the budget was passed. He added that the Legislature should look at the agencies themselves and look at where we can cut spending. "If we really want to look where the bleeding is at, let's look at the agencies."

The following senators voted yes on Bill 204-33 to repeal the raise for elected and appointed officials: Sen. Tom Ada, Sen. Frank Aguon, Vice Speaker Benjamin Cruz, Sen. Michael San Nicolas, Sen. Mary Torres, Sen. Nerrissa Underwood, Speaker Judith Won Pat

The following Senators voted against Bill 204-33, preserving the pay raises for themselves and elected officials: Sen. Tony Ada, Sen. Frank Blas Jr., Sen. James Espaldon, Sen. Brant McCreadie, Sen. Tommy Morrison, Sen. Tina Muna-Barnes, Sen. Rory Respicio, Sen. Dennis Rodriguez Jr./*The Junction News Team*

Calm in the midst of chaos

Public hearing was conducted. It was a perfect attendance for the senators.

A cross section of Guamanian voters finally had the chance to talk face-to-face with the legislators and express their concerns, disappointments, and disgust.

But the supporters of the pay raise did not take things sitting down. The government offices' heads

GMHA Doctors... from page 2

OFFICE	POSITION/TITLE	NAME	SALARY	BENEFITS	TOTAL
Bureau of Statistics & Plans	DIRECTOR	CRISOSTOMO, LORILEE T	\$79,075.00	\$26,148.06	\$105,223.06
Dep't of Land Mgt.	DIRECTOR	BORJA, MICHAEL	\$81,522.00	\$23,403.02	\$104,925.02
Department of Public Works	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	BENAVENTE, FELIX C	\$81,521.20	\$22,901.55	\$104,422.75
GOVERNOR'S OFC	SPEC. ASSISTANT	ROJAS, JON J	\$82,071.00	\$22,138.09	\$104,209.09
DECOLONIZATION COM	EXEC. DIRECTOR	ALVAREZ, EDWARD	\$82,071.00	\$22,138.09	\$104,209.09
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	SPECIAL ASST (GOV)	DUENAS, CHRISTOPHER M	\$82,071.00	\$21,960.51	\$104,031.51
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION		SAN NICOLAS, BRIAN J.	\$82,071.00	\$21,643.83	\$103,714.83
Department of Labor	DIRECTOR	CONNELLEY, MARIA S	\$82,071.00	\$20,450.95	\$102,521.95
EXEC. DIRECTION		CALVO, MARK G	\$82,071.00	\$20,450.95	\$102,521.95
EXEC.DIRECTION	CHIEF OF STAFF	BAMBA, JOSEPH	\$82,000.00	\$19,762.00	\$101,762.00
GHURA	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	TAITANO, MELINDA.	\$71,476.00	\$29,610.00	\$101,086.00
Director's Office	Director's Office	Vincent P. Arriola	\$74,484.80	\$26,305.43	\$100,790.23
Civil Service Commission	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	LAMORENA V, ALBERTO A	\$79,238.00	\$21,197.68	\$100,435.68
Dep't of Parks & Rec	DIRECTOR	BLAS, RAYMOND	\$76,188.00	\$24,018.65	\$100,206.65
UMATAC MAYOR	MAYOR	QUINATA, JOHNNY	\$75,000.00	\$25,165.98	\$100,165.98
DPHSS	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	CASIL, ELIGIO G	\$76,188.00	\$23,212.13	\$99,400.13
Mayor's Council of Guam	EXEC. DIRECTOR	SABLAN, ANGEL R	\$76,149.00	\$22,602.39	\$98,751.39
EXEC. DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	CRUZ, VICTOR F.	\$75,000.00	\$23,732.34	\$98,732.34
YIGO MAYOR'S OFFICE	MAYOR	MATANANE, RUDY.	\$75,000.00	\$23,732.34	\$98,732.34
AGANA HEIGHTS MAYOR'S OFFICE	MAYOR	MCDONALD, PAUL M	\$75,000.00	\$23,732.34	\$98,732.34
Senatorial	Senator	Brant McCreadie	\$85,000.00	\$13,593.48	\$98,593.48
Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency	DIRECTOR	LEON GUERRERO, PEDRO A. JR	\$76,188.00	\$21,838.55	\$98,026.55
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	ARTERO-CAMERON, JOSEPH	\$76,188.00	\$21,838.55	\$98,026.55
AHRD	DIRECTOR	MABINI, SHIRLEY	\$76,345.00	\$21,654.08	\$97,999.08
BARRIGADA MAYOR'	MAYOR	BLAS, JUNE U	\$75,000.00	\$22,431.56	\$97,431.56
DEDEDO MAYOR	MAYOR	SAVARES, MELISSA	\$75,000.00	\$22,431.56	\$97,431.56
INARAJAN MAYOR	MAYOR	LUJAN, DORIS F	\$75,000.00	\$21,552.24	\$96,552.24
YONA MAYOR	MAYOR	ADA, KEN JOE M	\$75,000.00	\$21,552.24	\$96,552.24
HAGATNA MAYOR	MAYOR	CRUZ, JOHN A	\$75,000.00	\$21,552.24	\$96,552.24
MAYOR - MONGMONG/TOTO/MAITE	MAYOR	VILLAGOMEZ, ANDREW C	\$75,000.00	\$20,910.04	\$95,910.04

OFFICE	POSITION/TITLE	NAME	SALARY	BENEFITS	TOTAL
Department of Youth Affairs	DIRECTOR	MENDIOLA, ADONIS J	\$70,873.00	\$24,665.63	\$95,538.63
Guam EPA	ADMINISTRATOR	PALACIOS, ERIC	\$70,873.00	\$24,665.63	\$95,538.63
SINAJANA MAYOR'S OFFICE	MAYOR	HOFMANN, ROBERT RC	\$75,000.00	\$20,433.98	\$95,433.98
TAMUNING / TUMON MAYOR'S OFFICE	MAYOR	RIVERA, LOUISE C	\$75,000.00	\$20,433.98	\$95,433.98
Dep't of Parks & Rec	DEP. DIRECTOR	REYES, WILLIAM	\$70,873.00	\$24,488.05	\$95,361.05
HOMELAND SECURITY	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	MCDONALD, JAMES	\$74,000.00	\$21,311.24	\$95,311.24
DISID	DIRECTOR	SERVINO, BENITO	\$76,188.00	\$19,033.15	\$95,221.15
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY	HOMELAND SEC. ADVISOR	CONSTANTINO, AMBROSIO D.	\$74,000.00	\$21,186.96	\$95,186.96
Dep't of Land Mgm't	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	CAMACHO, DAVID V	\$70,873.00	\$24,171.37	\$95,044.37
GOV'T HOUSE	SPEC. ASSISTANT	ADA, JANICE S.	\$70,000.00	\$24,455.24	\$94,455.24
AGAT MAYOR	MAYOR	TAYAMA, CAROL	\$75,000.00	\$18,746.84	\$93,746.84
MERIZO MAYOR'S OFFICE	MAYOR	CHARGUALAF, ERNEST T.	\$75,000.00	\$18,746.84	\$93,746.84
TALOFOFO MAYOR'S OFFICE	MAYOR	TAITAGUE, VICENTE S	\$75,000.00	\$18,746.84	\$93,746.84
SANTA RITA MAYOR	MAYOR	ALVAREZ, DALE.	\$75,000.00	\$18,746.84	\$93,746.84
REG. TRANSIT AUT	EXEC. MANAGER	AGUSTIN, ENRIQUE	\$75,000.00	\$18,569.26	\$93,569.26
GOVERNOR'S OFC	SPECIAL ASST (GOV)	SUDA, CECILE B	\$75,000.00	\$18,569.26	\$93,569.26
Fiscal Office	Chief Fiscal Officer	Agnes A. Cruz	\$69,804.80	\$23,652.18	\$93,456.98
DECOLONIZATION COM		PEREZ, MICHAEL J	\$72,500.00	\$20,949.74	\$93,449.74
MANGILAO MAYOR	MAYOR	BLAS, NONITO C	\$75,000.00	\$18,252.58	\$93,252.58
PITI MAYOR'S OFFICE	MAYOR	GUMATAOTAO, VICENTE D	\$75,000.00	\$18,252.58	\$93,252.58
CHALAN PAGO/ ORDOT MAYOR	MAYOR	GOGUE, JESSY C	\$75,000.00	\$18,252.58	\$93,252.58
BARRIGADA MAYOR	VICE MAYOR	BAUTISTA, JESSIE	\$68,000.00	\$21,238.82	\$89,238.82
Guam Environmental Protection Agency	DEPUTY ADMINIS-TRATOR	CRUZ, YVETTE MARIE LG	\$65,623.00	\$23,400.38	\$89,023.38
GOVERNOR'S OFC	SPEC. ASSISTANT	TOPASNA, RAY S	\$70,000.00	\$18,734.72	\$88,734.72
EXEC. DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	GOGUE, ELAINE.	\$68,250.00	\$19,925.49	\$88,175.49
SINAJANA MAYOR	VICE MAYOR	IRIARTE, RUDY D	\$68,000.00	\$19,865.24	\$87,865.24
YIGO MAYOR'S OFFICE	VICE MAYOR	SANCHEZ, ANTHONY P	\$68,000.00	\$19,865.24	\$87,865.24
Sen. Thomas A. Morrison	Chief of Staff	Jason S. Tedtaotao	\$65,000.00	\$22,723.74	\$87,723.74
EXEC. DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	CHACO, DIANE C	\$67,860.00	\$19,831.50	\$87,691.50
OFC OF THE LT GOV	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	TUNCAP, JADEEN L	\$70,000.00	\$17,541.84	\$87,541.84
Senatorial	Speaker	Judith T. Won Pat	\$85,000.00	\$1,626.82	\$86,626.82
Senatorial	Senator	Thomas C. Ada	\$85,000.00	\$1,626.82	\$86,626.82
EXEC. DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	UNPINGCO, JOY	\$63,500.00	\$22,888.74	\$86,388.74

Governor signs GMHA...

from page 3

or to continue to remain at a price point where insurance companies aren't going to raise premiums that would take hits to their households."

Rodriguez said the adjusted rates will be effective immediately upon its enactment.

OPA (Office of Public Accountability)'s Audit Report on GMHA for years 2013 and 2014 states the hospital is going to increase by 5% every year. The same audit says "GMHA has not made required payments of

withholding taxes for certain quarters of tax years 2010 and 2011."

GMHA operates under the authority of a nine-member Board of Trustees, all of whom are appointed by the Governor of Guam with the advice and consent of the Guam Legislature," the audit says./The Junction News Team

CCU Gives Incentives for Energy-Saving Appliances

GPA Customers purchasing energy efficient appliances starting December 1st can apply for cash rebates with the submittal of completed application(s) for qualified appliance models from local vendors. Energy Sense is the name of the program approved by Public Utilities Commission and the Consolidated Commission on Utilities that provides for direct cash incentives for qualified energy efficient air conditioners, washers and dryers.

"Residential customers seeking to purchase new air conditioners, washer

and dryers are encouraged to participate in this rebate program" stated Mercy A.F. Castro, Utility Service Administrator, "Ask your appliance vendor if they have available energy efficient models that qualify for our Energy Sense Rebate; if the model is qualified, the vendor should be able to fill out the application for you."

Completed applications must be submitted to GPA Customer Services within 120 days for processing of the application for the cash rebate. If the qualified appliance does not replace an existing unqualified model appliance; no certification of disposal is required.

If the qualified model appliance does replace an existing unqualified model appliance, then certification from a licensed recycler or from Guam Solid Waste Authority is needed to accompany the application for processing

"Energy Sense is a great program for our residential customers to use qualified energy efficient air conditioners, washers and dryers to help reduce their monthly power usage," remarked Castro, "Residential customers will be receiving a mailer within the post boxes this week to learn more about the program; customers can also give GPA Customer Services a call at 647-57/8/9 for more information as well."

GMHA Doctors...

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OFFICE	POSITION/TITLE	NAME	SALARY	BENEFITS	TOTAL
FED. PROG. OFFICE - GOV COMM OUTRE	GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR	MORRISON, CECILIAAQ	\$67,150.00	\$19,166.13	\$86,316.13
Clerk's Office	Clerk of the Legislature	R. Vanessa C. Meno	\$62,524.80	\$23,364.41	\$85,889.21
EXEC. DIRECTION	SPEC. ASST (GOV)	PEREZ, CAROL	\$65,824.00	\$19,340.82	\$85,164.82
TAMUNING / TUMON MAYOR'S OFFICE	VICE MAYOR	SANTOS, KENNETH C	\$68,000.00	\$17,059.84	\$85,059.84
Senatorial	Vice-Speaker	Benjamin J.F. Cruz	\$85,000.00		\$85,000.00
Senatorial	Senator	Nerissa Bretania Underwood, Ph.D.	\$85,000.00		\$85,000.00
DEDEDO MAYOR'S OFFICE	VICE MAYOR	BENAVENTE, ANDREW PETER A	\$68,000.00	\$16,565.58	\$84,565.58
MANGILAO MAYOR	VICE MAYOR	UNGACTA, ALLAN	\$68,000.00	\$16,565.58	\$84,565.58
Dep't of Youth Affairs	NONE INDICATED	ADA, PETER A	\$65,623.00	\$18,891.72	\$84,514.72
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	CAMACHO, KIMBERLY C	\$61,875.00	\$20,569.22	\$82,444.22
EXEC. DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	CRUZ, JUANITA B	\$62,000.00	\$19,792.82	\$81,792.82
Dep't of Agriculture	DIRECTOR	TAITAGUE, MARIQUITA F	\$65,623.00	\$15,992.72	\$81,615.72
STATE CLR'G HOUSE	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	BALTAZAR, KATE G.	\$61,875.00	\$19,162.36	\$81,037.36
Guam Election Commission	DIRECTOR	PANGELINAN, MARIA ID	\$61,939.00	\$18,683.52	\$80,622.52
Guam Developmental Disabilities Council	EXEC. DIRECTOR	ADA, ROSANNE S	\$62,037.00	\$18,428.16	\$80,465.16
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION		DELA ROSA, JULIE	\$61,875.00	\$18,389.12	\$80,264.12
OFC OF THE LT GOV	SPECIAL ASST (GOV)	TERBIO, JIM MARVIN Z	\$61,875.00	\$18,389.12	\$80,264.12
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	FLORES, CHRISTINE M	\$61,875.00	\$17,270.86	\$79,145.86
Sen. V. Anthony Ada	Staff Assistant	Edward G. Lee	\$58,011.20	\$20,654.35	\$78,665.55
OFC OF THE LT GOV	SPEC. ASSISTANT	UONG, LEILA E	\$59,625.00	\$17,846.86	\$77,471.86
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	TOPASNA, TRISHA	\$61,875.00	\$15,583.72	\$77,458.72
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	TENORIO, ANTHONY V	\$61,875.00	\$15,406.14	\$77,281.14

San Nicolas opposes Hybrid Retirement Plan Contribution Rates, Calling it a Tax on GovGuam Employees

In a letter to Vice Speaker Cruz, Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas firmly opposed the change in contribution rates proposed by the Retirement Fund to pay for the Hybrid Plan as introduced by Vice Speaker Cruz's Bill 2-33. In a letter to the Vice Speaker, Senator San Nicolas describes the change in contribution rates as a tax, stating "The contribution rate changes you propose in the Hybrid Retirement System at the urging of the GovGuam Retirement Fund Board is nothing less than a tax on GovGuam employees, to bailout bad policy choices of the Fund."

The Hybrid Plan, according to San Nicolas, would reduce government contribution rates from 5% to 1.6%, while ballooning employee contribution rates from 5% to 10.5%. According to retirement fund estimates presented at the public hearing on Bill 2-33, these changes in contribution rates will take out \$100 every two weeks from an employee making \$26,000 a year, \$200 every two weeks from an employee making \$52,000 a year, and \$300 every two weeks from an employee making \$78,000 a year. "As with any tax, this reduction in take home pay for over 8,000 government workers will have a serious economic impact on businesses that rely on their rate of consumption, and financial institutions which base their lending on that cash flow." San Nicolas warns. "Bill 2-33 would cause direct disruption on middle class taxpayers who are already overburdened by a tax system that disregards their role as the bedrock of our economic sustainability." San Nicolas added.

In his letter, Senator San Nicolas further points out that additional "hidden middle class taxes" were voted

on in the recent legislative session with the passage of Senator Dennis Rodriguez's Bill 189-33, which raises GMH fees up to 2000%. According to testimony on the recently passed legislation from TakeCare Insurance CEO Jeffrey Larsen, these fee increases will see insurance premiums go up by \$1,000 a year for individuals, and \$3,000-\$4,000 a year for families. Senator San Nicolas and Vice Speaker Cruz voted "No" on Bill 189-33.

"The hidden middle class taxes in the passage of GMH fee increases in Bill 189-33 and its increase in insurance premiums, coupled with the hidden middle class taxes as proposed in your Hybrid Retirement System Bill 2-33, unfairly place the cost burdens of poor policy decisions within this government squarely on the backs of middle class taxpayers. This is unacceptable, and an alternative course that focuses savings, future revenue growth, and the restructuring of existing debt must first be exhausted before moving these types of hidden middle class taxes forward." San Nicolas concluded.

Vice Speaker Cruz has committed to passing a version of the Hybrid Retirement System in March of 2016. Round table discussions on the Hybrid Retirement System are scheduled to take place between now and then to finalize the version that will be brought to the legislative floor./Office of Sen. San Nicolas

OFFICE	POSITION/TITLE	NAME	SALARY	BENEFITS	TOTAL
Guam Energy Office	DIRECTOR	CALVO, PETER S	\$60,482.00	\$16,440.88	\$76,922.88
Facilities/Protocol/Reproduction	Sgt-At-Arms	Thomas J. Unsiog	\$54,766.40	\$16,888.17	\$71,654.57
Sen. Thomas C. Ada	Chief Policy Analyst	Joseph M. Borja	\$62,400.00	\$8,529.82	\$70,929.82
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	STAFF ASSISTANT	SAN AGUSTIN-CLAROS, EVELYN U	\$55,000.00	\$15,595.78	\$70,595.78
Sen. Benjamin J.F. Cruz	Chief Policy Analyst	Carlo Jude N. Branch	\$62,400.00	\$7,756.58	\$70,156.58
Sen. James V. Esplaldon	Senior Policy Analyst	Michael D. Carlson	\$65,000.00	\$4,972.50	\$69,972.50
Finance & Budget	Chief Fiscal Analyst	Carlos Pangelinan	\$60,008.00	\$7,573.60	\$67,581.60
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	NGIRAIRIKL, OYAOL	\$50,625.00	\$16,873.86	\$67,498.86
Finance & Budget	Fiscal Analyst	Matthew C. Santos	\$59,508.80	\$7,535.41	\$67,044.21
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION	STAFF ASSISTANT	CASTRO, CASSANDRA C	\$50,625.00	\$15,677.86	\$66,302.86
Office of Finance & Budget	Budget and Policy Analyst	Bertha M. Duenas	\$61,000.16	\$4,666.51	\$65,666.67
FED. PROG. OFFICE - GOV COMM OUTRE	PROG. COORDINATOR (GOV)	SANCHEZ, DWAIN P	\$50,100.00	\$15,551.34	\$65,651.34
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE	STAFF ASSISTANT	QUINATA, NATALIE J	\$50,625.00	\$14,858.08	\$65,483.08
Sen. Frank B. Aguon, Jr.	Chief of Staff	William J. Iglesias, Jr.	\$60,060.00	\$4,594.59	\$64,654.59
GOVERNMENT HOUSE	STAFF ASSISTANT	AGUON, ANN Q	\$50,625.00	\$12,872.46	\$63,497.46
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	STAFF ASSISTANT	PEREZ-JACKSON, JESSICA J	\$50,000.00	\$12,544.26	\$62,544.26
Sen. V. Anthony Ada	Policy Advisor	Peter Leon Guerrero	\$58,032.00	\$4,439.44	\$62,471.44
Sen. Thomas A. Morrison	Senior Staff Assistant	Rowena F. Fejeran	\$52,000.00	\$4,155.58	\$56,155.58
Sen. Thomas C. Ada	Office Manager	Juliette A. Gillham	\$52,000.00	\$3,978.00	\$55,978.00

The Truth Matters

...from page 4

referred to as TRAPUS (translation meaning Rugs). And what should the voters do with rugs once sullied and dirty is simply to dispose off and not vote for.

As for the seven (7) Senators who opted to take the high moral ground and vote to repeal the immoral and patently illegal retroactive (selective) salary increases, the following are - Senators Mike San Nicolas (Democrat), Judith Won Pat (Democrat), BJ Cruz (Democrat), Thomas Ada (Democrat), Frank Aguon (Democrat), Nerissa Underwood (Democrat), and Mary Torres (Republican). Their re-election is more than re-assured. MABUHAY PO KAYONG PITO AT MAKA-AASA KAYO SA AMING SUPORTA HIGIT SA AMING MAKAKAYA!!!

Bully Directors! - Never in my life even at the sometimes chaotic legislative style in the Philippines have I witnessed such arrogance and bullying from so many department heads, their assistants and lackeys. What do I mean? When these Department heads who can just skip office hours at their whims and caprices chose to occupy all the available seats during the public hearing on the salary increases and they chose to shop up as early as 3.30 PM for a public hearing scheduled at 5.30 PM and occupy 99% of available seats. Some of them were even unruly/boisterous/disrespectful at the public hearing. What the &^%\$#@ was their agenda and intent, if not to bully the Senators and to marginalize the opposition? This shebang would actually not have been possible without the kind connivance of Senator Rory Respicio, the head of the ethics and rules committee whom I understand, much earlier in anticipation the office of Senator Nicolas had already requested that the allocation of seats be accorded to the public equitably among the pro-bill and those against it. Unfortunately, Sen. Respicio was not up to being equitable. And I thought most of them were educated people, only for me to confirm otherwise. One truly is not considered educated by the college degree(s) one has or doesn't have, but instead can be seen in instances and situations just cited as in the public hearing. Contrary to what they were thinking which would be to show support to the law and to show support to the unintended or is it intended guest the Governor, these department heads had just proven and shown to the Guamanians that they are the bullies that as they are in power. Damned if any of the humble and simple Guamanians dare go against them. Not content with occupying all the seats, they even dispensed with self-serving ludicrous litanies that had taken up to 80% of the time for the whole hearing. No wonder the Calvo-Tenorio administration is mediocre or should I say way-way below par. Just look at the kind of bully department heads around, add to this a grandstanding Senator Anthony Ada who just had to show how disrespectful he can be to the committee chair. And to make things worse, the unintended guest the Governor, for a while lost his cool. Ha! Ha! Ha!

Skeletons in their closets!- For how long can skeletons be kept in their closets? For how long can this circumvention of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Guam Sunshine Law be circumvented by these guilty as hell corrupt officials??? In the Philippines and other parts of the world, the powers that be would want to stay in power for as long as they can so that whatever SHIT they had caused will not come to fore or at least should there be a transition, their partners in crime should be entrenched in the next administration. Much as that is the ideal scenario for the countless crooks that abound. We all know, that usually is not the case and when a new administration comes in, at times no matter how good their supposed to be calculated moves are, turn haywire. And if and when the day comes, the Feds and other law enforcement/

LOCAL NEWS

A Salute to the Marines

...from page 5

fair skin, reddish-brown hair, and from every account I've heard, she had a fiery spirit that captured both her Chamorro and Irish roots.

She and her family were also on this forced march to Manenggon. The date was July 15, 1944. Those who marched alongside Hannah have said that her appearance, which was more American than Chamorro, caused her to stand out, attracting the attention of the Japanese soldiers.

Her husband, Felix, was pulled away and made to march separately with some other men. So with the assistance of the women in her clan, Hannah and her two older daughters trekked along, while Hannah carried her infant daughter.

As you might imagine, her steps eventually slowed from exhaustion, and she fell several times in the slippery terrain. This, coupled with her Caucasian look, enraged the soldiers-so much so that they began beating her. While she was crouched down and doubled over, she cradled her infant child in her arms, her own body shielding her baby from the flows of a saber.

Once the soldiers relented, Hannah's sister-in-law rushed to the crying infant, while the other women helped Hannah, limping and beaten, walk about three more miles to a resting spot and the camp site.

There, a few short hours later, Hannah died from massive internal bleeding-just 6 days before the Marine invasion that liberated Guam.

That 15-month old girl, whose life her mother protected at the expense of her own, grew up to become an equally beautiful and spirited woman who, 19 years later, would become my wife. Our family's tragedy is not unique-hundreds of families have stories just as painful about the forced marches and the internment camps, the disappearances of loved ones during the war, the use of beheadings, and systematic murder of the leaders of the village of Merizo.

And while our marches were certainly miniscule compared to the horrors of Bataan, as with everything else in life, it's all relative: For us in Guam, our population went from 25,000 before the war about 22,500 after the massacres, in which 10% of our entire island population was decimated. So yes, the atrocities here in the Philippines were certainly bigger in terms of the sheer numbers, but the blow to Guam was, for us, just as horrific. The brutalities witnessed and experienced still haunt those who lived through them, and still evoke so much emotion even for those of us who have only heard the stories

I mentioned earlier that I really have no personal memories of the occupation. But I will tell you this—

prosecutorial agencies may just start coming around.

Which now brings me to the obvious proposition that whoever is in power would do everything to stay in power through his dummy and lackey. Knowing this, the 2016 Senatorial elections is truly critical for whoever will get lucky by 2018. At least Guam has hope by 2018 should the right Governor come into office!!!

To those not afraid to read about an independent and free press reporting style who supported our humble fund raising luncheon held this day (Dec 6, 2015) at the Sea Food Chef, many many BIG THANKS. Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Mabuhay!!! You can count on us to write news on matters without fear or favor. To the members of the local media who have been very helpful in extending to us their advice and wise counsel (Ms. MC, Ms. GR, Mr. RC), I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I look forward to us working together. No more discreet and incognito meet-ups.

"Till my next column which will be around a month from now.

I wish all of this paper's readers a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a JOYOUS NEW YEAR ahead.

my very first memory, the image that I recall when I try and go back into the furthest reaches of my mind—is of being carried away from the Manenggon upon the shoulders of a Marine.

I was less than 3 years old and suffering from a hernia, and that Marine—who might as well have been God himself as far as I was concerned—placed me on his broad shoulders and carried me the entire way to Agana Heights. This is what I meant when I told you I feel inextricably linked with, and thankful to, the Marines.

For me and for my people—especially those of us who experience the liberation of Guam—we will forever be grateful. Guam continues to remember and honor the United States Marine Corps, even naming our main thoroughfare Marine Corps Drive.

I believe that my personal gratitude to the Marines is what inspired in me a desire to live a life of service—service to my country and to my island. I chose military life, enlisting in the United States Air Force just one hour after my graduation from South San Francisco High School.

After my time in the Air Force, I embarked on what became a 40-plus year long career in public service—as a senator and speaker in the Guam Legislature for several terms between 1973 and 1995, and as Governor of Guam from 1995 to 2003. In various ways to this day, I continue in my efforts to advance the causes of Guam and our region, nationality and internationally.

My father, who passed away when I was 16 years old, had a mantra that he always repeated to me and my 10 siblings. In Chamorro, it goes: Maseha hafa na estao na gaige hao, cha'mu malefa ginen manu hao magi. Translated, it means: No matter what station or stature in life you achieve, never forget where you came from.

Tonight, as I stand before you proud and honorable Marines, I want you to know that I have never forgotten that you—the Marines—are a large part of where I came from. You, the Marines, brought my island back from the clutches of enemy occupation. You, the Marines, carried me—a weak, scrawny, and sick toddler—on your shoulders away from the horrors of the concentration camp. You, the Marines, inspired me to choose a life of service to my country and my people of Guam.

And like most things in life, Guam's relationship with the Marines is coming full circle, as our island prepares to welcome you back. We recognize the important role you will once again play in protecting our island and our region, in a time when, both regionally and globally, our nation faces new and ever-evolving security threats.

And so I thank you, personally and on behalf of a grateful Guam and a Grateful Chamorro people. Si Yu'os Ma'ase and Happy Birthday, Marine Corps! Oorah!

Lawmaker seeks

...from page 10

class and our part-time workers get started with retirement savings to ensure their retirement security in the future. I am grateful for the help of Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo in ensuring Guam residents can participate in this new federal program,"said San Nicolas.

In a 2015 Federal Reserve Report, 31% of non-retired people said they had no retirement savings or pension whatsoever. A 2013 report by the National Institute for Retirement Savings found that 42% of those without any retirement savings said it was because it was not offered by their employer. 62% of part-time employees nationally do not have access to a retirement plan at work. Nearly 20% of the Guam workforce is part-time.

Tiyan Campus Purchase: The Untold Story

(Third Part)

For this part of our Tiyan series, we would want to present to you the historical timeline of the Tiyan Campus purchase as concisely as we can.

June 2008: JFK staff and students share GW (George Washington) High School in double sessions.

2008-early 2009: GSA puts out an Invitation for Bid for the "Lease and maintenance for the interim facilities JFK High School and its collateral equipment." Deadline for submission was February 20, 2009.

January 1, 2009: Bill No. 1 (LS) is introduced by Speaker Judith Won Pat. This would become PL (Public Law) 30-37 which would allow tax credits to pay for rent and collateral equipment for the interim JFK campus.

June 23, 2009: Dr. Michael Cruz (then Acting Governor) signs the 2009 Lease Agreement with Option to Purchase

June 25, 2009: Legislature passes Bill No. 1 – An act to authorize tax credits to the lessors of the temporary location of the John F. Kennedy (JFK) High School. Eleven senators voted in favor of the bill, three were absent, and the only one who voted against it was the late Senator Ben Pangelinan.

June 25, 2009: Dr. Michael Cruz signs Bill No. 1 into law as PL 30-37. Note that this law does not mention "purchase" of property. It merely allowed the use of tax credits for lease payments and purchase of collateral equipment (tables, chairs, and other school furnishings). The October 2015 report of the Office of Public

Accountability states that a total of \$44-M tax credit was authorized under this law, of which close to \$32-M was already claimed by Core Tech or its assigns. The law however clearly appropriated \$8,438,000 for the purpose - \$3,944,000 for JFK's collateral equipment and \$4,494,000 for lease payment. How the tax credit reached \$44-M is not clear. GEDA was tasked to administer this project's tax credit program. Note also that the lease agreement was signed earlier than the Public Law that would facilitate its funding.

June 2, 2011: Governor Eddie Baza Calvo cancels the lease citing lack of funds– this was narrated by the late Senator Ben Pangelinan on his article "Lessons from Tiyan" on June 20, 2013 (benpen.com).

August 2011: JFK moves out of Tiyan Campus along with its collateral equipment. This left Tiyan empty.

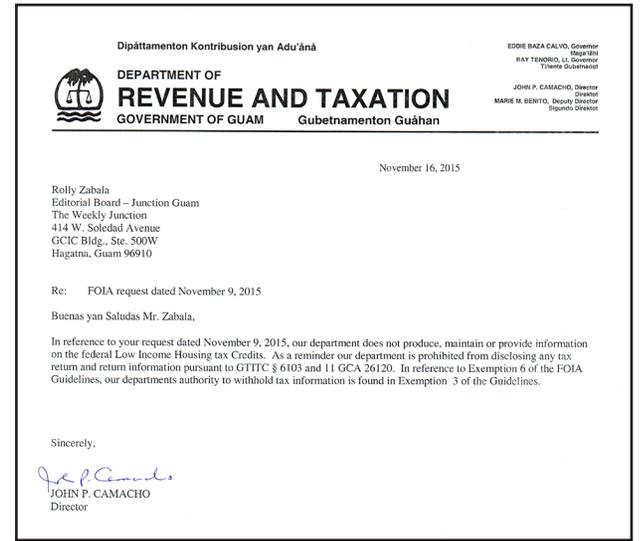
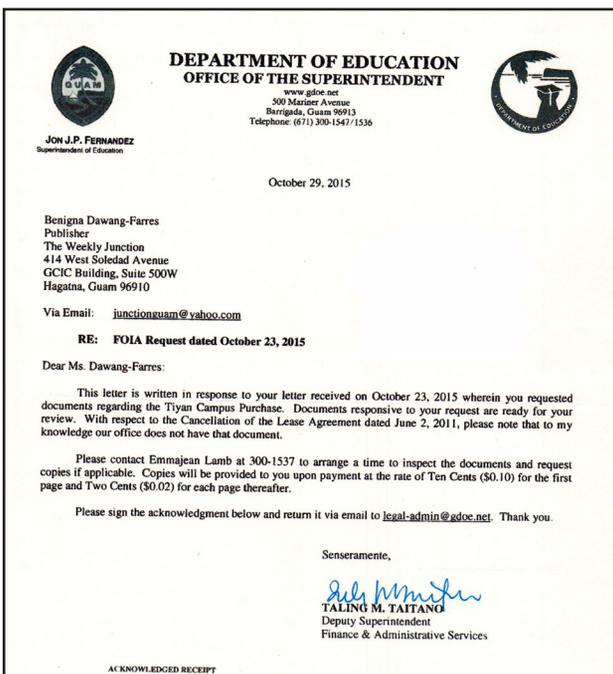
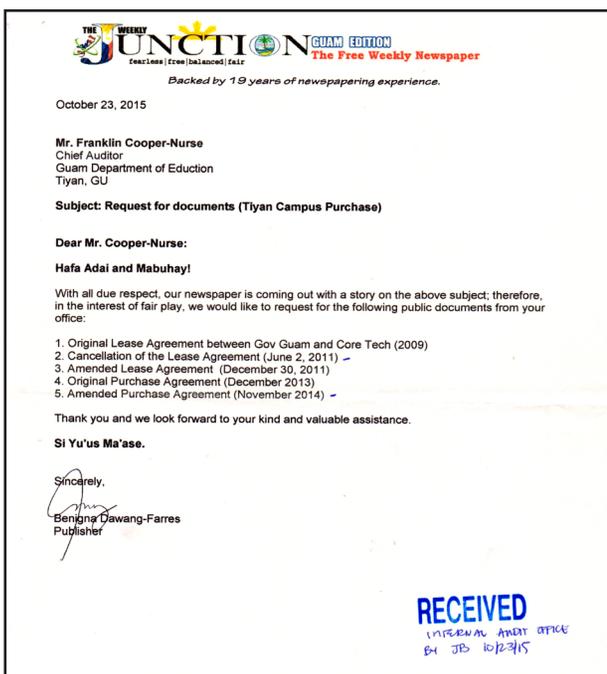
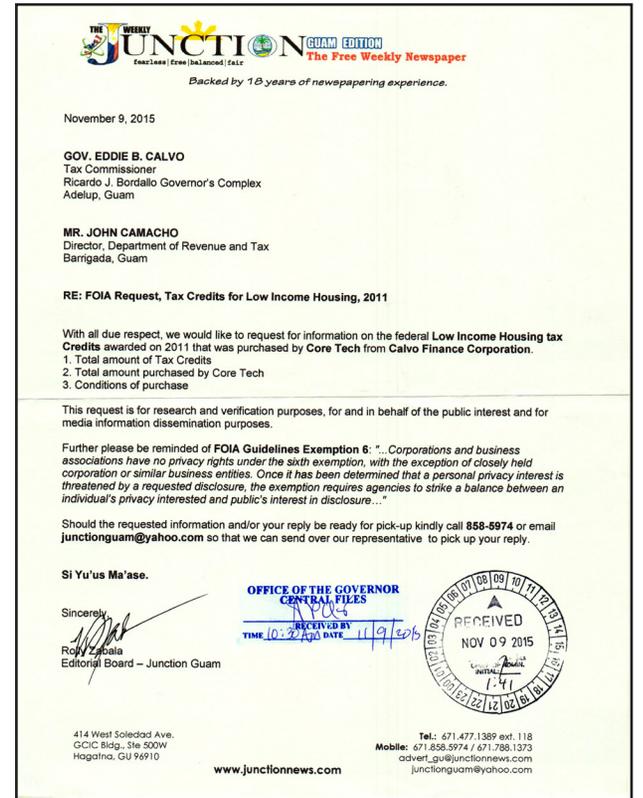
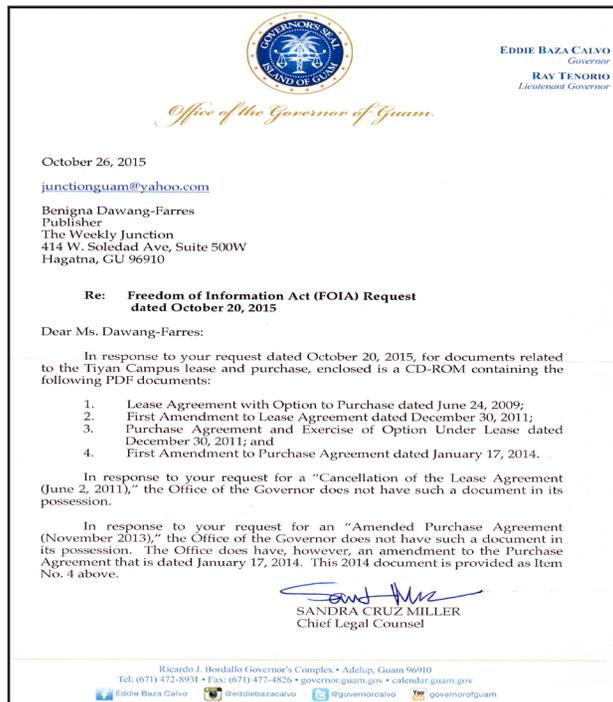
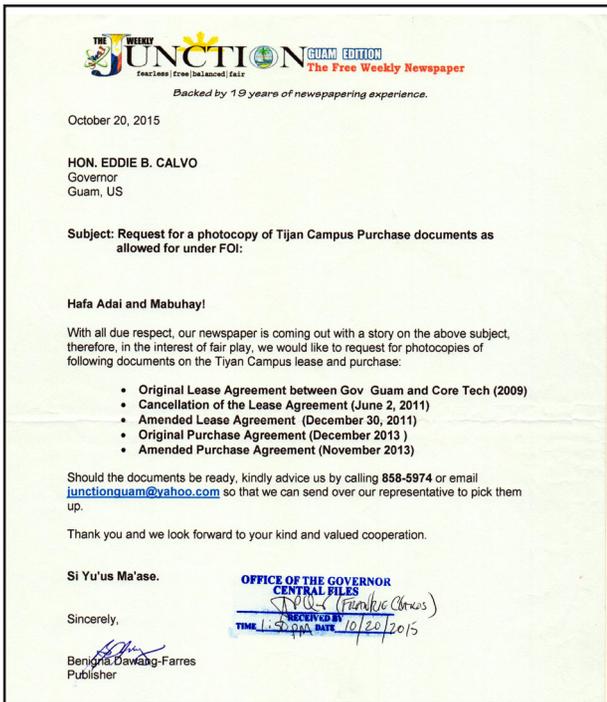
September 15, 2011: Public Law 31-76 is enacted into law. This law was requested by the governor himself. Among others, it amended certain provisions of PL 30-37 to allow the use of Tiyan campus for interim school facilities other than JFK and for it to be used also by GovGuam agencies as offices.

September 22, 2011: According to the late Sen. Pangelinan, in the same article, "the governor flip flopped and rescinded his notice to terminate the contract."

We wrote (FOIA) the Governor's office for the documents (cancellation and rescission of notice to terminate) but they claim not to have them. See letters below.

December 2011: The Governor's office offered Tiyan facilities for the use of Untalan.

December 30, 2011: "Just three days after the awarding of tens of millions of federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits which Core Tech eventually purchased from Calvo Finance Corporation, an amendment was made to the Tiyan Core Tech contract" exercising its option to extend the lease up to October 31, 2024. We also FOIA'd the governor as Tax Commissioner and the Department of Revenue and Taxation about the Low Income Tax Credits but the governor ignored our request while the DRT denied the request. See letters below.



January 2012: Untalan moves to Tiyan. This was expedited when Public Health closed Untalan (which then underwent renovation and was scheduled to be completed in time for school year 2014-2015).

December 30, 2013: Exercising its option to purchase, GovGuam enters into a Purchase Agreement with Core Tech. However, the original lease agreement has undergone three (3) amendments on the same day (Dec. 30, 2013) before the Purchase Agreement was executed and approved. These "amendments" were mentioned in the third paragraph of the Amended and Restated Lease Purchase Agreement, but there was no mention of what the changes were. It is interesting though that everything happened in ONE DAY.

January 2014: GDOE Central Office and other facilities begins to move to Tiyan campus.

June 2014: Untalan moves back to its renovated campus bringing along its collateral equipment.

June 16, 2014: Bill 309 authored by the late Pangelinan with Vice Speaker B.J. Cruz was passed. This bill specifically blocked and disallowed tax credits to

continued on page 12

Junction's 2015 Year-end Award Nominees

This is done in the spirit of fun, light banter, and entertainment. Not all of the nominations are to be taken seriously. Adapted from the Baguio Midland Courier, one of the oldest and successful community papers in the Philippines. Email us at junctionguam@yahoo.com for your other nominations. Cheers. -Ed

Public Hearing of the Year - Public Hearing for Bill No. 204-33 on the salaries of elected and appointed officials
Balimbing Senator of the Year- Senator Dennis Rodriguez
Banned Newspaper at Adelup (etc) of the Year- The Junction Newspaper
Moralist Senator of the Year- Senator B.J. Cruz
Sleek & S Senator of the Year- Senator Frank Aguon
Hot blogger on leave of the year - Romeo Carlos
Insurance company of the year - Take Care Insurance
Government Insurance company provider of the year - Calvo Insurance
Grandstanding Senators of the Year – Senators Tony Ada and Brant McCreddie
Most Promising and Achiever Senator of the Year - Senator Mike San Nicolas
Most loved and Popular Senator of the Year - Senator Mike San Nicolas
Media Buyout of the Year - Marianas Variety
Hardworking Former Governor of the Year – Carl T. Gutierrez
Hard Hitting, No-holds-barred Columnist of the Year – Rolly Zabala of Junction Newspaper
Contentious Legal Decision of the Year- Same sex marriage
Up & coming Developer of the Year- Former Governor Felix Camacho
Most Silent Attorney of the Year- Attorney General Elizabeth Barret Anderson
Scandal of the Year- Too many too mention
Most Courteous and Friendliest Stewards(ess) of the Year- PAL stewards(ess)
Holiday of the Year - Black Friday
Suggested Alternative Name for the Island of Guam for the Year - Pacific Island of Calvo (PIOC)
Most Awaited Airline of the Year- Cebu Pacific
Outstanding Pinoy of the Year - Emelio Uy of National Office Supply
Outstanding Pinay of the Year - Nita Baldovino, FCG President
Future FCG President of the Year - Shelly Calvo
Most Envied Lawyer of the Year - Eduardo “Champ” Calvo
Most Envied CNMI Official of the Year - Joe Lifofoi
Most “generous” Airline to a Select Few of the Year - United Airlines
Department Head Public Servant of the Year – Benito Servino (DISID)
Most Controversial & Free Newspaper of the Year - Junction Newspaper
Recycler Conservationist of the Year - Paul Tobiason
Onion-Skinned Official of the Year - Gov. Eddie B. Calvo
Little Puzzle of the Year - Veteran’s Cemetery \$3.2-M contract
Most Burglarized Government Office of the Year- Veterans Affairs Office
Vacation of the Year – 1-year Jail Sentence of Francisco Santos
Bank of the Year - Bank of Guam
Outstanding Government Office (Achiever) of the Year - Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB)
Used Car Dealer of the Year- Carmony at Hagatna
Brand New Car Dealer of the Year- Atkins Kroll (Toyota)
Discreet and Not-so discreet Meet ups of the Year- Craigslist
Monopoly of the Year- United Airlines
Free Monthly Magazine of the Year- Island Tribune
Discreet Male seniors 24-hour Pastime Activity of the Year - Massage Parlors
Marriage of the Year- Same sex
Korean-owned Pseudo/cum Pinoy Radio Station of the Year- 101.9 Mega Mixx
Immigration Lawyer of the Year - Attorney Mark Kondas
Rumored Media Acquisition of the Year - Sorensen Media
Rumored Contenders for Governor of the Year - Lou Leon Guerrero, Frank Blas, Dennis Rodriguez
Prayed-for Elected Governor of the Year for 2018 - Lou Leon Guerrero
Easy-money of the Year- Bingo games operators
Bullies of the Year - Department heads during the public hearing on salary increases
Heavyweight Bingo Operator of the Year- Hafa Adai Bingo
Justice of the Year- Justice Robert Torres
Big Deal of the Year - Core Tech’s and Eddie B. Calvo’s Tiyan Campus purchase
Tax Cheat of the Year – Francisco Santos
Government Official Master in Circumventing FOIA requests of the Year - John Camacho of Rev & Tax
Governor Wannabee for 2018 of the Year – Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio
Silence of the Year - Legislature on the Tiyan Campus deal
Fund Raising Venue of the Year- Seafood Chef Restaurant
Long-shot Governor for 2018 of the Year - Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio
Tax-Cheat-Supporting Senators of the Year- Senators James Espaldon and Tina Muna-Barnes
Top Government Earner of the Year- Dr. Tuan Nguyen of the GMHA

Pinoy Resto of the Year - Ben & Yan
Offshore Hospital of the Year - St. Luke’s Hospital
“Colorum” Taxis of the Year - Mikki taxi
Number 1 Family Breaker of the Year- Over speeding drivers
Highest Paid Mayor and with the Least Population of the Year - Umatac Mayor Johnny Quinata
Foreign Visitors of the Year - Japanese (arigatoo gozaimasu)
Political Gimmick for the Pinoy Voters of the Year- Visa Waiver
5-star Hotel of the Year - Dusit Thani
Wasted Branding of the Year – Marianas Variety
Most Disappointing Airline of the Year- United Airlines
Most Fragmented Ethnic Group on Guam of the Year- Pinoys
Most Aspired Jobs of the Year- Special Assistants of Governor Eddie B. Calvo
Thankless Jobs of the Year- Cops and Firefighters (we salute you guys)
Frustrated Careers of the Year- Some media practitioners
Expectation of the Year – Bases build-up
Mobile and Wifi Provider of the Year – Docomo Pacific
R and R of the year – Solaire Resort and Casino
Adjuster of the Year - PDN
Contractor of the Year and of the Years to Come – Core Tech
Hospital of the Year- GMHA
Chamorro Delicacy of the Year- Kellaguen
Most Self-serving Statement of the Year – “We deserve our pay increases”
Pride of the Year - Matao
Speed Reducers of the Year- Village roads’ potholes
Energy Saver of the Year- Power outages
Cop out of the Year - “Off island”
Supermarket of the Year- American Grocery
Most Envied Private and Government Contract of the Year- Gov. Calvo with Core Tech on the Tiyan Campus Purchase
Lopsided Contract of the Year - Gov. Calvo with Core Tech on the Tiyan Campus Purchase
Best Beach of the Year - Ritidian Point
Best Sandwich Joint of the Year - Mc Krauts at Inarajan
Best-kept Un-talked-about Open Secret of the Year- Calvo’s Tax credits
Most promising Republican Senator of the Year- Mary Camacho Torres
Lottery of the Year- GHURA’s lottery for Section 8
Tax Refunds Saver of the Year- Section 30 funds
Nightmare Presidential Candidate of the Year – Donald Trump
Trustworthy US Presidential candidate of the Year- Hillary Clinton
Delay of the Year- Tax refunds
Most-imagined Promising Careers of the Year (for a few Pinoys) - Influence peddling
Most Disappointing Former Governor of the Year- Felix Camacho
Guam Godfather of the Year – Ho S. Eun of Core Tech
Low Key International Godfather of the Year – Willie Tan of Tan Holdings
Future Political Kingmaker of the Year- Governor Eddie B. Calvo
Unnecessary Government Expense of the Year - Bottled water

Tiyan Campus Purchase...

from page 11

be used to construct a new GDOE gymnasium, GDOE office, and GDOE warehouse at Tiyan campus for Fiscal Year 2014 and beyond. Pangelinan does not favor the purchase of Tiyan campus, more so adding buildings and other facilities all to the tune of \$256-M. This bill was vehemently objected to by the representatives of GDOE but Pangelinan was firm on his stand that “we just don’t have that money.”

Aug. 2014: Gov. Calvo and Core Tech entered into “Amended and Restated Lease Purchase

Agreement.” Around this time also, Tiyan High School opens its doors at the Tiyan Campus.

Nov. 2014: First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Lease Purchase Agreement is signed that would reiterate and clarify that the base rent and additional rent would be paid in cash, and only the collateral equipment will be paid via tax credits.

On the fourth and last part of this series, we will bring to you the damning purchase agreement and the all the more damning amended

and restated agreement that so disadvantageous to the government. We will also bring to you the collateral equipment and how much you bought them for vis-à-vis prevailing retail value. We will show you why this Tiyan purchase is not for the best interest to the people of Guam. Pending the details, it is worth noting that everything beyond the initial lease of Tiyan and its initial collateral equipment, is negotiated – we did not see any record of public bidding.

Why did the governor enter into such a lopsided and one-sided deal that would only favor Core Tech leaving Guamanians to pick up the bill for the next 25 years?

Kabayan Pinoy

- DU30 is the Man!!!
- Bastos na Pinoy!!!
- Korapsyon sa Guam matindi!?

By: **Ben Tufo** (E-mail: bentufo_guam@yahoo.com)



Kumpiramado na, wala nang awat, pormal nang Kinanunsyo ni Mayor Rodrigo "Rody or Digong" Duterte ang kanyang pagtakbo bilang pangulo ng Pilipinas katambal ng kanyang running mate na si Senator Alan Peter Cayetano. Konting panahon na lang mga dear readers at atin nang matutunghayan ang isang malaking pagbabago.

Una sa lahat, kapag itong si DU30 na ang pangulo ay manunumbalik ang kapayapaan. Pinangako niya na kanyang ire-restore ang death penalty o capital punishment. Ibabalik niya ang peace and order at alam naman natin na kapag maganda ang peace and order sa isang lugar ay hindi na nalalayo ang economic development.

Ang problema ko nga lang kay DU30 sa ngayon ay maraming mga nakapaligid sa kanya na mga tunay na trapo at mga ubod ang kokorap. Etong mga ito ang matindi niyang problema na kakaharapin. Kapag pay back time na at kanyang tutulong ang mga korap na nakapaligid sa kanya, ayun na, patay na.

Malinaw na ang peace and order and economic prosperity ay hindi makakamit kung matindi ang korapsyon. From corruption stems all this social ills. Kaya masakit man isipin ngunit sa palagay ko ay papalpak din si DU30 kung hindi niya marereporma ang kalakaran sa Pinas.

Ngayon, para mag-tagumpay si DU30 at ang buong sambayanan, simple lang ang dapat niyang gawin. Siguraduhin niya na ang mga nakapaligid sa kanya na iisa ang layunin na paunlarin ang bansang Pilipinas, at kapag sumablay ang mga nakapaligid sa kanya at gumawa ng mga katiwalian ay kanya itong dapat na iharap sa hustisyang matindi at tutuhanan, at hindi

isang moro-moro.

Kung gaano niya kakanain ang isang simpleng kriminal ay ganuon din dapat or kung maari pa nga ay mas matindi ang parusang haharapin ng mga nakapaligid sa kanya na kanyang pinagkatiwaalan. Gayahin niya ang istilo ni the late Lee Kuan Yew na Singalong este Singapore na gumamit ng kamay na bakal ngunit hindi nag-payaman.

Ang tanong ngayon ay, kakayanin kaya ni DU30? Kayo na po ang sumagot.

Ngunit bago natin ipanalangin na maging pangulo si Mr. Executioner DU30, obserbahan muna natin kung malulusutan niya ang kanyang pagmumura kay Pope Francis. Sabi ko nga, murahin mo na lahat ang tao sa mundo huwag lang si Pope Francis na pinakamataas na lider at popular na popular na lider ng simbahan Katolika. Eh mukhang sumobra ang pag-mumura ni DU30 against the Pope at siguradong makaka turn-off ng maraming botante itong kanyang madahas na pananalita.

Ngunit yung kanyang pagiging honest (honest kunwari at inunahan na niya mga kalaban niya) na mayroon siyang dalawang asawa at dalawang girlfriend ay isang magandang strategic move na kanyang ginawa at marahil ay hindi makaka-apekto kahit na sa mga botante na kababaihan. Nakita naman natin kay pangulong Erap na nakabuti pa nga ang kanyang pagiging pabling.

Ibang klase rin talaga naman ang ibang mga kababayan natin ano? Porke't mayaman at big time ay inakala ko na isa siyang edukadong nilalang at inakala ko na mayroon siyang pinag-aralan ay wala rin pala naman. Oo, may masters degree ka pa ngunit wala kang modo at isa kang BASTOS. Ano ang ibig kong sabihin? Ang pahayagan na ito ay may isang fundraising luncheon at ating binigyan ng letter solicitation with some tickets ang ungas na buwisitman este businessman na ito at alam naman natin na purely voluntary ang

ating fundraising na luncheon sa Seafood Chef nitong December 6, 2015. Aba eh akalain niyo nung ifafalow up ko nung Dec. 3, 2015 at kukumustahin ko na kung siya ay kukuha ng tickets, ang sagot ba naman ni Mr. Big Time Businessman sa akin ay kanyang itinapon sa basurahan ang mga tickets sapagkat hindi siya interesado. Siguro ay dapat mo lang itapon pagkalipas ng Dec. 6, 2015 o kung matagal ng nasa iyo ang mga tickets, ngunit aking ifinalo-up ang mga ticktes nitong Dec. 3, 2015 lamang at ang sagot ay ibinasura ko na kasi hindi ako interesado. Magaling ka na nilalang. Magaling na negosoyante na marami raw siyang magagaling na diskarte sa gobyerno at malakas daw sya kay gob, kaya nga na appoint as a board member ngunit hindi naman na-confirm for reasons of conflict of interest.

Merry Christmas sa 'yo Mr. Buwisitman este Businessman at sana'y sa darating na 2016 ay huwag ka masyadong maka -small at maka-trato ng para kang kung sino sa isang hamak na kababayan mo. PWEEEEEE....

Ano ang sa palagay ninyo mga dear readers, matindi rin kaya ang mga nagaganap ng korapsyon sa Guam? Obserbahan niyo po sa mga iba't-ibang hanay ng opisina ng gobyerno at kilatisin ninyo kung sa palagay ninyo ay mayroon mga pango-ngorap na nagaganap. Sa tutuo lang ay hindi ninyo makikita ang iba't-ibang uri nang korapsyon na lantaran. Lahat o karamihan ng uri ng korapsyon ay parating patago at palihim. Ngunit, inyong ma-aamoy o makikilatis ang iba't -ibang uri ng korapsyon kung kayo mismo ay makikipag transak sa mga opisina ng gobyerno. Katulad halimbawa sa mga opisina na ito, mag-masid at mag-siyasat po kayo sa DPW, DOL, Governor's Office at iba pa at kapag mayroon kayong naamoy o nakilatis ay iparating lamang ninyo sa akin at ating mas sisilipin ang posibleng mga karumaldumal na nagaganap.

Sa pagkakataong ito ay nais ko kayong iwanan ng isang MALIGAYANG PASKO AT MALIGONG este MANIGONG BAGONG TAON. Hanggang sa muli, see you on January 2016.



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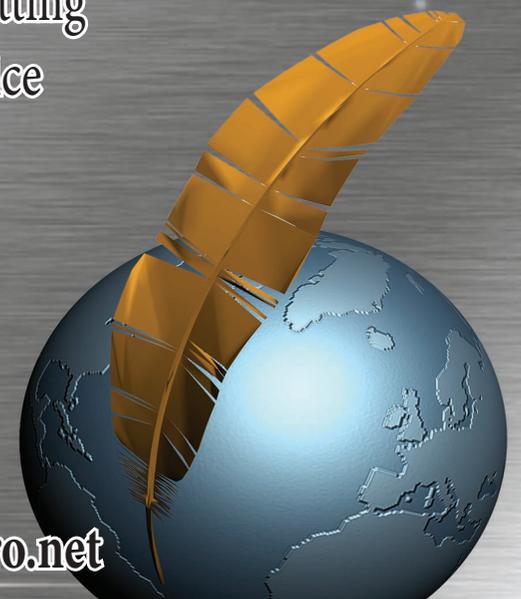
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Joe Guevarra, Jr. - a family of bankers

Perfect numbers, like perfect men, are very rare.

--Rene' Descartes

His Filipino Heritage

We started the interview by recalling his childhood.

One look at the man even in his recent pictures and you won't see a typical 84 year-old. He doesn't seem to dress like a grandpa. I assume he loves to hang out and smiles at family celebrations a lot. I never got the chance to meet the gentleman but I chanced upon him on the time of his early morning nap around 10am when I called and ask for the Interview.

Advised by her daughter, she said to me that I need to speak louder than the usual for his dad to hear me. I nodded to myself and said "okay," and then hearing a man's voice on the other line saying "hello." Finally, we introduced ourselves to each other - his name is Mr. Joe Guevara, Jr.

Joe or Mr. Guevarra, is not your average guy as I may say, and that he came from a very prominent, well-rounded family blood-line that speaks of numbers proficiently. From his Grandfather, Father, him, his siblings and down to his children they are all Bankers. In his own words he call themselves - "kami ay pamilyang Bankero" (we are family of bankers).



Loren Legarda is global champion for resilience at COP 21

PARIS, France - The veteran campaigner and advocate, Senator Loren Legarda, has been recognized at the Paris UN Climate Conference, COP21, as a Global Champion for Resilience. The appointment was announced by Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction, yesterday at the Climate Vulnerable Forum High Level Meeting.

UNISDR recognized the Philippine Senator's unrelenting and vigorous support in advancing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, nationally and internationally, through legislation, policy leadership, and advocacy at all levels.

Ms. Wahlström said: "Senator Legarda has been a driven advocate of disaster risk reduction policies in the Philippines and Asia, implementing new laws to adapt to climate change and working tirelessly to build sustainable development in Asia. She deserves her title today as a Global champion for resilience.

"We hope that she will inspire many more governments, parliamentarians, mayors and citizens to follow her path, as we need more action to achieve resilience."

Senator Legarda who was unable to attend in person because of her duties as chair of the Senate Committee on Finance, stated in a message: "I wish to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to Ms. Margareta Wahlström, who has been most supportive in our initiatives to strengthen resilience of the various institutions in my country. You have ably led the UNISDR in empowering nations, business, individuals and the whole of society to build safer communities. I thank you for the trust given to me as Global Champion for Resilience."

Senator Legarda is often acknowledged as the country's foremost environmental legislator. She is the principal author and sponsor of the Climate Change Act of 2009 that created the Climate Change Commission, the lead Philippine agency that negotiates in the yearly climate talks, including COP 21.

She has been chiefly responsible for the enactment of many other Philippine laws on environmental governance like the Clean Air Act, Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, Renewable Energy Act, Environmental Awareness and Education Act, People's Survival Fund Law, and the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act.

As incumbent chair of the Senate Committee on Finance, she encouraged and ensured the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in the annual budgets of government agencies, an approach she has been advocating for since 2010.

Through her advocacy as UNISDR regional champion, Legarda has conveyed to world leaders the need to rethink approaches to development in the context of our fast changing global environment and the increasingly warming planet.

Using all avenues of communication for increasing public awareness, Legarda spearheaded a behavior-changing education campaign on understanding risk and strengthening disaster and climate resilience.

She worked with various government agencies to create the Disaster Preparedness Handbook, and produced films that explain disaster risk and climate change, its

over the course of time even until he turned into a young man himself.

After the war, he was sent to Manila (in Marikina) to prepare himself as a freshman student in college.

Just like any other typical student of Manila, Mr. Guevarra has his own share of experience with the Espana traffic and the knee-high flood along the boulevard as he went through his college education in the University of Sto. Tomas (UST) and took up Banking and Finance. - What else?!

And yes, he played for the varsity team of the Tigers during his younger days.

Mr. Joe Guevara, Jr. finished his college course in UST and went on to pursue his life-long influence and became a real Banker himself in one of the most prestigious banks in the Philippines - Metrobank.

What is admirable in this man is the fire or the passion he has for doing what he does best. He practically works every single day until in 1980, his boss finally talked him to be the Manager of Metrobank's first Branch on Guam; and he said yes!

He, together with his lovely wife packed their bags and went on their way to a new life in the Island of Guam where they raised their 5 kids of 3 boys and 2 girls; and 3 of those became Bankers too.

It was nothing fancy he said, and just be plain and simple, as Mr. Guevarra went on the years of his marriage, family life, and career with a happy note. It was his traditional Filipino family values that made him who he is right now.

It doesn't really matter where we are, as long as in our hearts we remain pure of love for our family and the rest of the good things in life will follow.

Today, you will see him around the Filipino communities in Guam actively participating in every organization meetings or events. He spends his typical day at the comfort of his home together with his still-beautiful wife and other members of the family where he gets to see his grandchildren most of the time.

That is who Mr. Joe Guevara, Jr. is. Simple and happy - Always.

Yan ang Galing Pinoy!

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Us Recognizes PH Progress in Addressing Workers' Rights

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The United States Trade Representative (USTR) published on 25 November 2015 the formal closure of the review case under the US Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) regarding workers' rights in the Philippines. The move recognizes the progress made by the Philippine Government in addressing workers' rights issues primarily through reforms of labor laws and regulations.

The US GSP program was instituted on 2 January 1976, and is renewed periodically by the US Congress. The current program is effective until December 2017.

It provides developing countries with preferential and duty-free entry to the US market of products from 122 designated beneficiary countries (DBC) and territories, including the Philippines.

The trade benefits, however, are conditional on enforcing intellectual property (IP) rights protection, upholding of workers' rights, and protection against child labor. The GSP country review, which was initiated in 2008, focused on Philippine labor standards and practices.

"The Philippines welcomes the formal closure by the USTR of the GSP country review case regarding our protection and promotion of workers' rights. It is a testament to the great strides of the Philippine Government, under the Aquino administration, towards establishing a system of governance that is based on the rule of law, respect for human rights, and the notion of accountability," Philippine Ambassador Jose L. Cuisia, Jr. said in response to the USTR's decision.

Ambassador Cuisia also noted that the formal closure of the country review will allow the Philippines to enjoy GSP without change to its trade benefits.

According to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in Manila, in 2013, Philippine exports under the US GSP reached US\$ 1.256 billion, making it the 5th largest user of the program. Major Philippine exports under the US GSP include: measuring and checking instruments, appliances and machines (USD 78.2M); other cane sugar (USD 74.8M); telescopic sights for rifles not designed for use with infrared light (USD 61.9M); other acyclic monoamines and their derivatives (USD 60.4M); and insulated electric conductors (USD 60M).

In a statement announcing the review closure, the DTI noted that this issue had been in the forefront of the DTI-led Trade and Investment Facilitation Agreement (TIFA) meetings between the Philippines and the US, and in various bilateral meetings, including representations by the Philippine Embassy in Washington D.C.

"The hard work and excellent collaboration among the Departments of Labor and Employment (DOLE), DTI, Foreign Affairs (DFA) and the Philippine Embassy in Washington D.C. made this possible," DTI Undersecretary Adrian S. Cristobal, Jr. added. /Philippine Embassy - Washington DC Press Office

Loren Legarda...

from page 14

impact on everyday lives and how leaders can strive for a resilient development.

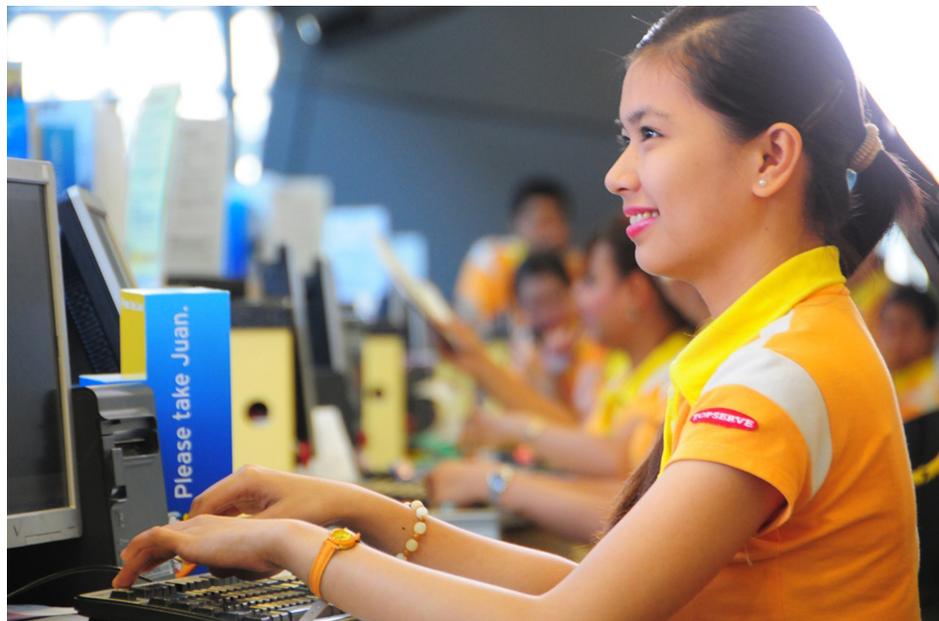
In the year 2000, the World Economic Forum held in Davos named Legarda as one of the Global Leaders for Tomorrow. In 2001, the United Nations Environment Programme included her in the Global 500 Roll of Honor. The University of the Philippines, her alma mater, also recognized her as its Distinguished Alumna for Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Adaptation (2013).



The certificate of Senator Loren Legarda's appointment as Global Champion for Resilience was received from the Head of UNISDR, Margareta Wahlstrom (right) by Ambassador Ma. Theresa Lazaro (center), Philippine Ambassador to France, and Commissioner Emmanuel M. de Guzman (left), Philippines Climate Change Commission, on behalf of Senator Loren Legarda, who was unable to travel to Paris because of her duties as Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance. (Photo: UNISDR)

Cebu Pacific...

from page 16



In August of 2014, during Cebu Pacific's long-haul flight expansions to the U.S., Middle-East and Europe countries, Philippine Airlines or PAL (a Lucio Tan-owned Airlines) responded with extreme aggression by launching their own Dubai and Abu Dhabi flights.

The announcement of PAL was about the same time that Cebu Pacific entered Dubai and confirmed their intent to take the Philippine Airline wings over Dammam and Riyadh ahead of Cebu Pacific according to the earlier reports of Centre for Asia-Pacific Aviation or CAPA.

Despite of the heavy competition, not only for the long-haul market flights but also for being the bearer of the Philippine flag all over the world, CEB is prepared to wither the storm, CAPA said. Speculations is that PAL is more likely to retreat as they are in turmoil over the ownership structure of the (PAL) airlines in the year 2013.

That same year of 2013, Ramon Ang's San Miguel Corporation or SMC admitted that there were still talks or discussion for divesting from PAL or buying the Lucio Tan Group.

San Miguel Corporation was earlier reported to enter into an investment terms with Trustmark Holdings Corp and Zuma Holdings and Management Corp, giving Ramon Ang's SMC a 49% share for both PAL and Air Philippines amounting to \$500 Million U.S. dollars.

PAL operates a total of 26 weekly flights to the US, with frequencies to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Honolulu and Guam while Cebu Pacific has yet to take every Juan to the United States, but they will very soon.

CEB's coming into the picture will add 1,440 seats weekly to the current 5,900 available for the Manila and Guam flights. The Gokongwei owned budget airlines is well known for its tag line of "It's time that every Juan flies" where Juan pertains to every Pinoy worldwide. The airline has also strategized against the pioneering competitors by giving the Pinoy the cheapest rates ever for any domestic and International flights – Always!

The Manila to Guam flight and vice versa one-way promo fare is only \$40 USD or equivalent to 2,500 Philippine peso all-in fare of which was not offered by any airline to the Filipino people ever in the history of aviation. Who can top that?!

Regular fares will be priced Php7,197 after the promotional period.

Going into Details: Cebu Pacific's 55 Strong Fleet Airlines

Cebu Pacific Air's winged cargo consists of Eight (8) Airbus A319, Thirty Three (33) Airbus A320, Six (6) Airbus A330 and Eight (8) ATR-72 500 aircraft. Now on its 3rd year of the multi-billion expansion program that started last 2013, CEB awaits for 5 more brandnew Airbus A320s and 30 Airbus A321neos. Sixteen ATR 72-600 aircrafts were also added on top of CEB's original list that was ordered 3 years back.

Airbus A320 is widely used around the world, with its distance travel ranging up to 6,480 km. (3,500 nautical miles). It has 156 seats, 2 galleys, and 4 identical large-sized passenger doors for comfort and quicker turn-around used by CEB for their International and Domestic flights.

Airbus A319neo is in between the A320 and A319. A319neo means it is the enhanced version of A319 with neo meaning "New Engine Option." It has 180 seats, 2 galleys, and 4 identical large-sized passenger doors for comfort and quicker turn-around. This is also used by CEB for their International and Domestic flights.

ATR 72-600 is for short-haul or regional trips that can accommodate 74 passengers in a single-class configuration.

The newly added routes has brought Cebu Pacific's net to a total of sixty four (64) destinations on 98 routes including flights to Sydney, Doha, Beijing, Tokyo, Bali, and Dubai. /The Junction News Team

Cebu Pacific all set for its first U.S. flight with cheapest rate of \$40

Finally, every Juan meets Uncle Sam!

Manila, Philippines - Cebu Pacific will finally soar high for its first U.S. debut flight bound to the Island of Guam on March 16, 2015. On their press release, November 25, the Cebu Pacific Management announced that they are going to have four (4) flights for the route Manila-Guam every week starting March next year.

Following Cebu Pacific's announcement of their first ever U.S. flight is a USD40 seat-rate on their website - the lowest-rate ever for a one-way route flight from Manila. The promotional seat-rate of USD40 was available until last November 29 or until the last seats were sold with travel period from March 15, 2016 up to November 2016 next year.

CEB President and CEO Lance Gokongwei said, "Having Guam in our network sets us off on another expansion path across the Pacific. With the launch of Guam, we offer fares that are up to 83% lower than other airlines. Fares this low can only mean more tourists to both countries, more Filipinos visiting home, and more opportunities for everyone," in an email from Ms. Candice Iyog, Vice President - Marketing and Distribution at Cebu Pacific Air.

Early Expansion Plans

Gokongwei already announced in a ceremony as early as September of 2013 that he has allotted a \$4 Billion budget in for the expansion of his airline wings to the United States and Europe which includes the Island of Guam.

Gokongwei also told reporters that Cebu Pacific Air is expecting 49 units of Airbus to be delivered between the years of 2013 and 2021. The heirloom airline owner awaits his fleet of 15 brand new A320s, 30 units of A321neo's, and four (4) A330s.

Cebu Pacific' expansion program to fly over the U.S. soil started out after the



Federal Aviation Authority granted the Gokongwei-owned aviation's upgrade to Category Class 1 last April 2014, technically clearing the runway for Cebu Pacific's take-off across the United States.

Alex Reyes, head of Cebu Pacific's long haul division said in his 2014 press interview that the airline (CEB) is continuously studying opportunities for further growth.

Known as the sky pride of Cebu, it has also gained clearance access to take its flight to Saipan, Honolulu (Hawaii), San Francisco, Los Angeles and of course Guam after getting the United States Department of Transportation's nod on their application last 2014.

The Manila-Guam flight plans were already laid down and supposed to commence as early as by the end of 2014 but was halted as Cebu Pacific was required to secure an ETOPS approval or an extended-range twin engine operations for its fleet of A330.

Hours of Operation

Cebu Pacific's Guam flight will be Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays of the week using its new fleet of A320s.

Guam to Manila flight will depart from Guam International Airport at exactly 12:30 pm and will be arriving in Manila at 2:55pm. The Manila to Guam on the other hand will depart from Manila at exactly 3:45 am on the days mentioned and will arrive on Guam at 10:45 am.

Tourism Boost

"With Cebu Pacific joining our Guam family, we will see more tourists and investors coming in from different parts of the region," Guam Governor Eddie Baza Calvo said in Cebu Pacific's press release. "That will help us meet the goals set in Guam 2020. We invite our Filipino brothers and sisters to visit our beautiful and affordable island for the weekend, for extended vacations, or for business."

Cebu Pacific's launching of the lowest seat-rate for Guam-Manila flight will also invite additional tourism to the Philippines, just in time for the summer season where Philippines hosts many festivities in the island provinces. It will also contribute to the increasing numbers of awed-tourist who experienced our powder-like sand beaches and awesome nature-made landscapes.

The Department of Tourism will be kicking off its "Visit the Philippines again 2016" campaign very soon, following a successful run of this year's drive, just in time for Cebu Pacific's cheapest seat-rates promotion of the Guam-Manila route.

The Public's View: The Pinoy Community in Guam

Filipino-Guamanians are delighted when they heard the news that The U.S. Department of Transportation gave permission to another new carrier, Cebu Pacific to launch flights from Manila to Guam and vice versa. Living on Guam for many years now and having to travel back to the Philippines either for vacation or business has been costly for Filipino-Guamanians.

At last, there is now a budget carrier that can readily give them at least 10-40% cheaper fare on a non peak season compared with Philippine Airlines. Besides, competition is always welcome especially for consumers.

There are about 50,000 Filipinos living in the island or at least 26% of the population. Filipinos are in fact the 2nd biggest ethnic group on Guam. The entry of Cebu Pacific will give them wider choices as they are given more affordable rates, thus making it possible to do more frequent vacations.

It will also entice people to visit the island for leisure and increase tourism. A potential in business alliance between Guam and the Philippines is also seen benefiting from this new development.

Cebu Pacific has been aggressively working on expanding their flight portfolio, flying to new destinations and venturing into long-haul flights. Who knows what the next destination would be. It could be the entire U.S. Mainland.

Sizing Up the Competition

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