

AMBULA



NEWS

The Voice of Guam's Working Families

July / Hulio 2007

www.gftunion.com

FREE



**PAGE 6
TALKIN' TRASH.**
It's everywhere it seems. Marine debris kills thousands of animals every day. And there is even a flotilla of flotsam bigger than the state of Texas that has formed in the North Pacific.



**PAGE 16
NOT CHILD'S PLAY**
More than half a million children toil in American fields every day. Educators are surprised to find this legal Child Labor in our own country.

**Tune in
Every Tuesday
at 12 noon
to KPRG 89.3FM
for the
Working Family
Radio Show
with
Matt Rector**

LIBERATION

This month, the people of Guam commemorate the 63th anniversary of the U.S. liberation of the island from Japan, a significant event in U.S. military history. The liberation of Guam was a major milestone in the history of our island, as well. Guam has been an American territory since 1898 and is an important installation for U.S. military defense.

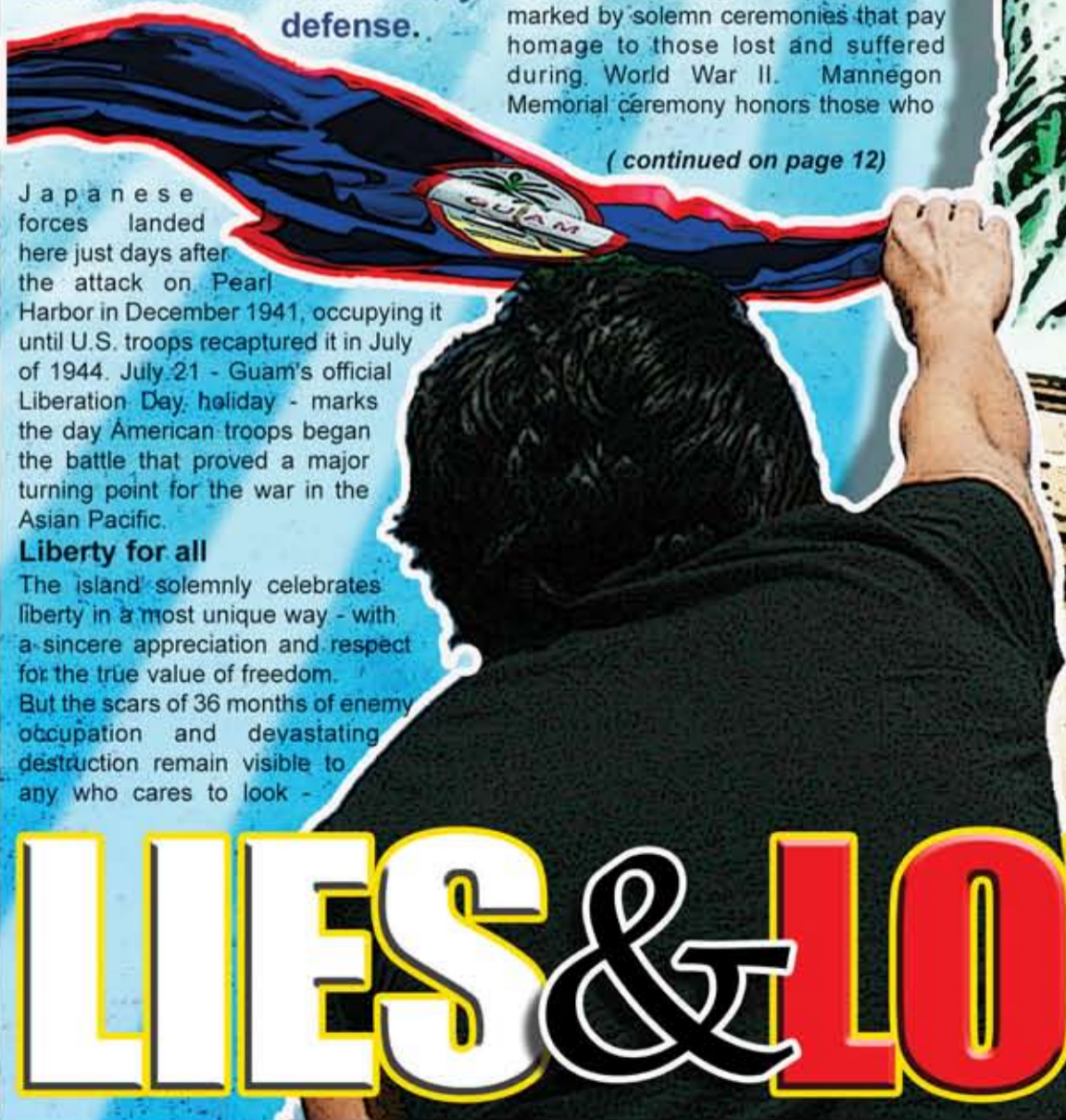
and listen to the stories. Today the survivors still bear witness to the unspeakable atrocities, they experienced as children. Our ma'namko recall personal injuries, rape, malnutrition, forced labor, death marches to internment in prisons or concentration camps - or hiding in jungle caves to avoid internment, or worse. The cost of independence for our island is fixed on the collective psyche of each and every Chamoru man, woman, and child. The experiences of the past, still playing an important role in the evolution of daily life on Guam for all of us. Events that lead up to July 21st, are marked by solemn ceremonies that pay homage to those lost and suffered during World War II. Mannegon Memorial ceremony honors those who

(continued on page 12)

Japanese forces landed here just days after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, occupying it until U.S. troops recaptured it in July of 1944. July 21 - Guam's official Liberation Day holiday - marks the day American troops began the battle that proved a major turning point for the war in the Asian Pacific.

Liberty for all
The island solemnly celebrates liberty in a most unique way - with a sincere appreciation and respect for the true value of freedom. But the scars of 36 months of enemy occupation and devastating destruction remain visible to any who cares to look -

LIES & LOVE



GFT SAYS: "NO ,TO FURLOUGHES! YES, TO FAIR TAXES FOR ALL!" pg.4



important dates

Men born to freedom are naturally alert to repel invasion of their liberty by evil minded rulers. The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well meaning, but without understanding.

-- Louis Brandeis

july07
hulio

sunday damenggo	monday lunes	tuesday måttes	wednesday metkoles	thursday juebes	friday betnes	saturday sábalu
1	2	3 Executive Council Meeting 5:30-6:30p (GFT Union Hall)	4 American Independence Day	5	6 Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 p - 6:15 p (GFT Union Hall)	7 Fiesta of St. Andrew Kim
8	9	10 12 - 1 p.m. 89.3 KPRG The Working Family Radio	11	12	13 Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 p - 6:15p (GFT Union Hall)	14 Agat Fiesta Our Lady of Mount Carmel
15	16 -Teachers Work Day	17 12 - 1 p 89.3 KPRG The Working Family Radio Executive Council Meeting 5:30-6:30p (GFT Union Hall)	18	19	20 Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 p - 6:15 p (GFT Union Hall)	21 63rd Guam Liberation Day Guam Running Club - Liberation Day 1-Mile Run
22	23 Parents Day	24 12 - 1 p.m. 89.3 KPRG The Working Family Radio	25	26	27 Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 p - 6:15 p (GFT Union Hall)	28 Agat Fiesta Santa Ana
29	30	31				

gft briefs



RALLY AN ORGANIZING OPPORTUNITY FOR PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS
 Since the Chamber of Commerce, the Hotel and Restaurant Ass., and the Contractors Ass. will force their workers to attend the hearing in an effort to protect their tax breaks, GFT will use this opportunity to talk to their employees about the value of organizing a union at their work place. All of these groups pay their employees poverty wages which force those of us that do pay taxes to subsidize their profits by supporting their workers with public assistance programs. As we all know, if we lift the wages of GHRA employees so that they become tax payers as opposed to tax burdens all of our standards of living go up, so show up and talk union to our exploited brothers and sisters.

GOV CAMACHO SUPPORTS GFT ON FAIR TAXES
 For years GFT has been calling for everyone on Guam to start paying their fair share of taxes for the privilege of doing business on our island and the first elected leader to stand up and support our position is Governor Camacho! We respect the Governors bold stance in opposition to the big business special interest in favor of the Public Servants that go above and beyond everyday to keep our island running.

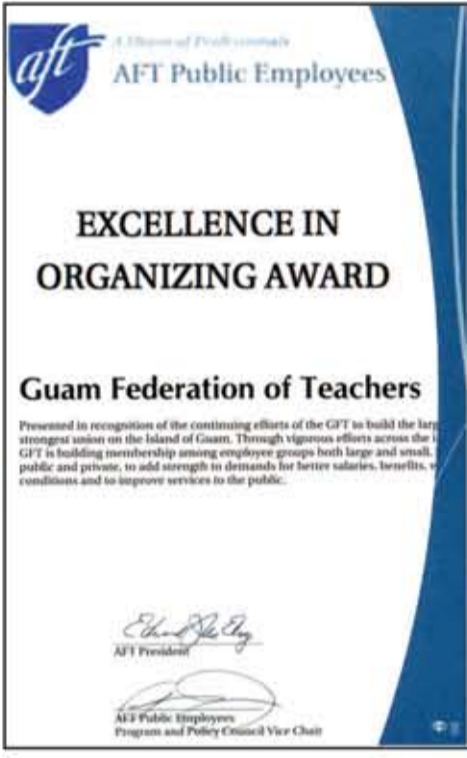
If you or someone in your family has received a furlough notice you must file an individual appeal. GFT will be filing appeals for our members in order to protect their families from the devastation of a 12.5% cut in pay. Membership is open to all classified public servants. In order to save time download the furlough appeal by clicking here. If you are not a member, click here to download an application. Both must be returned to GFT's office in Mangilao and cannot be faxed or mailed.

LIES, DAMN LIES AND FAKE STATISTICS!!!
 The rich and powerful, big corporations and their lackeys are launching a new assault on the truth by trying to pretend that they care for the Guam's working families. Experience tells us that nothing could be farther from the truth. The reason they don't want to pay their fair share of taxes is because it will cut into their bottom line. Everyone on Guam will not pay an extra \$333 a year, the bulk of these taxes will be paid by foreign corporations, and the wealthiest 10 % of our island, but the people will enjoy the benefits of better schools, better roads, better health care and a better public structure in general.

GMH NURSES CONTRACT SIGNED
 After years of struggle for better patient care, better working conditions and dignity and respect on the job GMH Nurse will finally have their contract signed on Monday. As of Press time GFT received reassurances from Gov. Camacho's Chief of Staff that our nurses Collective Bargaining Agreement (contract) is on the Gov's desk and will be signed by press time - we hope!

WE STILL NEED SIGNATURES ON OUR FAIR TAX VIP BILL
 Don't forget we are still collecting signatures on our VIP Bill. If you haven't handed in your petitions please do so and if you haven't collected any, do our families a favor and download the petition at www.gftunion.com and start collecting those signatures.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED A FURLOUGH NOTICE? APPEAL!!!



GFT RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR "EXCELLENCE IN ORGANIZING"
 At AFT's joint national Public Employee/Healthcare conference GFT President Matt Rector and GFD Chair Lance Lord were presented with the Excellence in Organizing Award from the AFT Public Employees Program and Policy Council. The award states, "Presented in recognition of the continuing efforts of the GFT to build the largest and strongest union on the Island of Guam. Through vigorous efforts across the island, the GFT is building membership among employee groups both large and small, both public and private, to add strength to demands for better salaries, benefits, working conditions and to improve services to the public."

We Are...

PHARMACISTS EMTS P...
 EMPLOYEES GUAM POWER AUT...
 SERVICE EMPLOYEES DISTRIBUTION W...
 ADERS MECHANICS ELECTRICIANS CUST...
 S COUNSELORS TEACHERS FIREFIGHTERS...
 MARSHALLS CAFETERIA WORKERS PHARM...
 LOYEEES LEGISLATOR EMPLOYEES GUAM PO...
 S CUSTOMER SERVICE EMPLOYEES DISTRIBU...
 ER METER READERS MECHANICS ELECTRICIAN...
 OPERATORS COUNSELORS TEACHERS FIREFI...
 JIANS COURT MARSHALLS CAFETERIA WORK...
 MAYOR'S OFFICE EMPLOYEES LEGISLATOR...
 ORKS AUTHORITY WORKERS CUSTOMER...
 SEWER MAITANANCE WORKER...
 S LIBRARIANS PUMP STATI...
 SES POLICE OFFICERS CL...
 FFICERS BUS DRIVERS...
 ERS GUAM WATER...
 ADES HELPERS W...
 FFICERS PARK...
 RAPROFESSIO...
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Equipment Operators

Joaquin Tamaya, Mongmong
 Equipment Operator 3, Port Authority of Guam

I've been working at the port for a little over ten years now, and I have seen several guys come and go. I'd really like to see that change. I'd really like for the guys to have a good reason for staying here at the port, to be really enthusiastic about coming to work every day. The best way we can do that is by joining the GFT. I believe the GFT is a really good organization to be a part of. So far I've helped recruit about 20 new members to join the union, but we still have a few dozen more to go to achieve exclusive recognition. It's important to reach that goal in order to give us all a better future.

I've got a wife and four kids now that really appreciate me and the work that I've done. I can't help but be satisfied with all of the things they have done for me, and all of the support they have provided. Working at the port has really helped provide me with a good secure job to take care of them. I want to keep all of our jobs at the port secure, and the best way we can do that is by coming together and joining the GFT. Before I came back to Guam I was a member of the Teamsters union for 22 years, so I have seen the good things the union can do. I've now been a GFT member for a little over a year now, and I encourage everyone at the port to do the same. Its only when we come together as an organization of employees that we can achieve our goals.

We represent the hard working men and women of Guam. Do you know a brother or sister worker that deserves a little attention, please contact us at GFT NEWS. Call Ambrosia Mae at:735-4392 or send an e-mail Ambrosia@gftunion.com

GFT MEMBERS WILL BE PROTECTED FROM ILLEGAL FURLONGHS

People literally lined the halls and sidewalk outside of the Hessler Street legislative hall to testify before the Committee on Finance & Taxation, chaired by Vice Speaker Eddie Baza Calvo (R). Guam Federation of Teachers president, Matt Rector started off the fierce day of testimonies with a call to the business community to begin to carry their fair share of the tax burden.

"We are going to hear business people come up and say that there's going to be disaster and Chicken Little will warn us that the sky is falling if they are

Commission has received only a handful of new appeals from GovGuam workers who received furlough notices. Perez says his agency has received appeals from two employees of the Department of Administration and three more from University of Guam staffers. This now brings the total number of appeals to six, with Mental Health employee John Leon Guerrero having filed the first appeal that is currently under review.

Rector encourages all members who have received a furlough notice to stop by the Mangilao offices to find out how



required to pay their fair share of local taxes; they will sound a false alarm that disaster awaits if their tax exemptions are done away with. I am want to tell the business leaders something the rest of us already know: the sky is falling already," said Rector in opening statements at the crowded hearing.

In addition to the controversial tax and fee increases that the Republican administration has orchestrated in isolation, as part of the governor's proposal to start to reign in his administration's over-spending, Camacho would like to see thousands furloughed and their hours cut.

According to the union president, "Furloughs would not only do personal damage to public servants and their families but would do massive damage to Guam's economy as well by not only taking millions of dollars out of workers and thus local businesses pockets. It will also endanger millions of dollars in federal matching funds."

After careful legal review it is GFT's position that the proposed furloughs are illegal. Only individual GFT members that file an appeal will be protected as class action appeals are not authorized.

GFT is encouraging every member that has received a notice of furlough to come by GFT's office in Mangilao, to fill out the appeal. Public servants that are not yet members can sign up on the spot and receive all the benefits of membership immediately. GFT membership is available to every classified employee.

GFT has already collected more than 100 appeals to the furloughs from union members. Guam Civil Service Commission Executive Director, Vern Perez, says that his agency is currently working to deal with an expected influx of further appeals.

they can appeal this injustice and breach of their contracts.

"Because of this administration's inability to provide adequate fiduciary guidance and realistic financial management, the workers and families of Guam are being asked to suffer even further indignation by taking a substantial hit to their household income. GFT will be filing appeals for our members in order to protect their families. If you, or someone in your family, have received a furlough notice you must file an individual appeal.

"These recent threats to public servants and our families are just another example of why working families need to stick together," Rector points out, adding, "As our elected leaders play games at our families' expense they are endangering not only public servants but every family on Guam. We all rely on our public structure. If corporations and big businesses just started paying their fair share of taxes all of our lives would be better."

GFT, Guam's local union, local 1581 of the AFT, AFL-CIO, represents workers in every agency of GovGuam.. They have exclusive recognition for GPSS Faculty and Staff, GCC Faculty and Staff, DPW Bus Drivers, UOG Staff, GMH Nurses, DPHSS Eligibility Specialists, GWA Workers, DODEA Bus Drivers, GIAA Airport Rescue Firefighters and most recently GFD Firefighters.

The union has also applied for exclusive recognition for all of the non-management employees of the hospital. Currently, organizing campaigns at the Port Authority of Guam and GPA are nearly complete and other other campaigns are at various stages of completion.

For more information workers can call GFT at 735-4390.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for our members and their families. We work to ensure fairness and equity at work for all of our GFT members.



Join Today!

Members enjoy great benefits like:

- \$1,000 Professional Liability Insurance
- \$25,000 Accidental Death Insurance
- Free Notary Services
- Benevolent Fund Assistance
- Discounts at Island Businesses (see page 14 for a partial listing)

Some conditions may apply. For more information please call GFT at 735.4390

NEWS

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birthdays

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 Lawrence C. Johnson

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 Sally C. Sablan

7/11
 Suzanne Dionio
 Vanessa Tanega Fowler
 Dorothy Carol Settlemeyre
 Mark A. Toves

Erlinda C. Young
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 Ma. Blesa B. Ramos
 Dominica Rivard
 Mark A. Rozic

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 Janyl Escalante

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 Liwayway A. Nueva

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 Timmy C. Cordero
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 Carmelita I. Gumataotao
 Joseph Von Rodeck
 Mary Rusko
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 Frankie S. Peredo
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 Jeanette M. Guzman
 Annette R. Leon Guerrero
 David A. Manibusan
 Rebecca S. North
 Patrick S. Quenga
 Ricky C. Quinata
 Cheryl M. Sourgose

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 Anna B. Cepeda
 Alicia Charfauros
 Peter B. Frias
 Lydia T. Mendiola
 Maria C.D. San Nicolas

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 Emilia Calla
 Melissa J. Gutierrez-Lujan
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 Valerie Ann T. Mendiola
 Jon U. Quidachay
 Philip J. Sablan

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 Elaine F. Zamora

7/31
 Jovita Ann Q.P. Alcantara
 Jesse C. Manglona
 Almeda R. Okada

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 20)
 There is more intrigue around the office than usual this July and you add to it. Rams are apt to sniff out a work-related romance and jump in with both hooves.

TAURUS (APR 21 - MAY 21)
 You are numero uno in the party department. Venus lights your way all through July. Suddenly you find yourself on everybody's A-list. Bulls should make the most of this rare and enjoyable energy before it evaporates.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUN 21)
 Twins find themselves staying closer to home this July. Venus encourages

you to spruce up your surroundings with not only a few redecorating projects but also with an attractive coterie of pals.

CANCER (JUN 22 - JUL 23)
 Not only are you especially charming, you know how to spread it around to get what you want this July. Crabs should not be shy and retiring now. Be sure to move fast and feverously into local projects, neighborhood causes and even global platforms.

LEO (JUL 24 - AUG 23)
 You see what and who you want and can go and get 'em. Success is there for the taking, at least early in July when the wind is in your sails and you are soaring high on confidence. Lions can not only financially benefit from their passions, they can also reach new personal heights.

VIRGO (AUG 24 - SEP 23)
 Virgins are social magnets all through July. Go out and attract a few steely characters. It is a great time to expand your sphere of influence by meeting new people and floating some new, impressive ideas.

LIBRA (SEP 24 - OCT 23)
 If you "feel" that you have a secret admirer, go with the flow. You find that July brings them into the open in surprising ways. Libras have much better attuned intuitive powers which illuminate all dark corners.

SCORPIO (OCT 24 - NOV 22)
 Nutritionists say that we should eat more vegetables. Well how about an olive? Preferably in a cocktail. July brings you into some of the more exclusive and exciting social circles.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 23 - DEC 22)
 Archers can make their mark in July with all powers-that-be. But of course, you can be a bit contrary and wind up seeking accolades from more underground sources.

CAPRICORN (DEC 23 - JAN 20)
 Not only can you find romance (if you keep your heart open to it) you can also create an interest for some of your pet projects.

AQUARIUS (JAN 21 - FEB 19)
 It will be hard to count that high. Thanks to Venus, Aquarians have a choice of attractive and randy prospects. You are charming, sexy and very alluring.

PISCES (FEB 20 - MAR 20)
 Partnerships hit a high note this July when both of you are in sync and enjoy every minute of each others' company. Single Fish who are ready to be hooked can find a few nice nets in which to get tangled.

MARINE DEBRIS

Trash in Our Oceans

By Peggy Denney



ing gear. All marine debris negatively impacts the environment in a variety of ways. Trash on the beach not only looks ugly and dirty, but it can often be harmful to the health and safety of beach users. Obviously, with tourism providing up to 60% of the government's revenues, tourists are a significant portion of the beach users. But the beaches and related marine resources are very important to Guam residents in a variety of other ways, and consequently every one of us should be doing our part to enhance their beauty and safety.

In addition to the human impacts already described, many types of marine animals can swallow marine debris and suffocate or starve. Sea birds often swallow small plastic pieces which look like fish eggs, and sea turtles have been known to swallow clear plastic bags which look like jellyfish.

As far as derelict fishing gear is concerned, various types of traps and fishing nets, when abandoned in the ocean or on the reef, continue to "ghost fish" or entangle sea turtles, fish, crabs and other marine animals.

So how can we help reduce or eliminate this problem? Generate less trash, recycle as much as you can, and dispose of the rest in a responsible manner. Never litter.

You can do a lot to contribute to saving our oceans- and ourselves - from ecological and economic disaster. You can participate in beach cleanups, such as the 13th Annual Guam International Coastal Cleanup, which takes place this year on

GFT Union members are real leaders. They set an example in the community for others by working together for the greater good of all.

The ideas of solidarity includes a commitment to making our home a better place, too.

This September, GFT joins thousands around the world- and right here at home - for an International Coastal Clean Up event.

The 13th Annual Guam International Coastal Cleanup will take place on Saturday, September 15, 2007. Let us all turn out!

If you have any ideas on how to organize and create some fun and competition between the GFT member units, call us at our offices in Mangilao, or stop by to share your ideas. GFT members show us how to keep it real; now lets organize our strength to show 'em how to keep it beautiful!

There is a 'Trash Vortex' bigger than the state of Texas located in the North Pacific.

Saturday, September 15, 2007, with 14 shoreline sites and two dive sites. This is a wonderful opportunity to help beautify our island and protect the environment and marine ecosystems at the same time.

For more information about the International Coastal Clean-Up, you can contact Tom Quinata at the Guam Coastal Management Program. He may be reached at 475-9668 or 472-4201 or 4103.

One of the many benefits of living on Guam is enjoying the magnificent ocean views all around the island. But as one moves closer to the beaches, the beauty, in many instances, become overshadowed by litter and illegal dumping, and this appears to be an ever-increasing problem. As we strive as an island community to address the issue of appropriate and environmentally safe waste management, each of us should ask ourselves: "Am I part of the problem or am I part of the solution? Am I disposing of the trash I generate in a responsible manner?" This includes not only the trash we create at home but also at work, at the beach, at fiestas, and on the road in our vehicles.

If we can honestly answer "yes" to that question, then it is safe to assume that we never throw paper or cigarette butts out the window as we're driving along; we never leave litter on the beach after a barbecue; and we wouldn't dream of dropping a bag of trash off in the boonies because we don't want to pay for trash pickup.

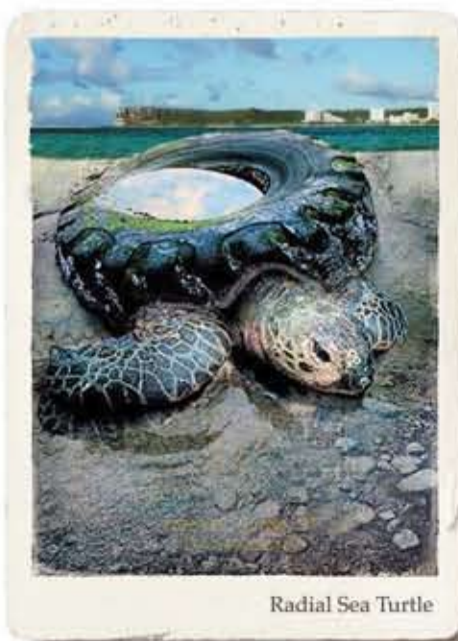
Of course, if we're truly acting responsibly with respect to waste management, then we are also employing the 3R's - **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** - in our daily lives.

That is, we are trying to create less waste in the first place, reuse items as often as we can, and recycle everything that can be recycled on Guam.

Although we may not realize it, litter thrown from vehicles along the road or overflowing from trash cans or dumpsters often makes its way onto our beaches, our reefs, and into our coastal waters.

This trash, combined with the litter and garbage left by beach-goers and the trash produced by ocean vessels that washes up on our beaches, is a major component of marine debris. Another component of marine debris is abandoned or derelict fish-

Non-Native Species Alert!



Radial Sea Turtle



Spork Crab

Non-Native Species from Guam Waters...not only does trash in our oceans look unsightly, detracting from the value of our island as a tourist destination, but it creates hazards for our wildlife and marine animals that depend on a healthy eco-system for their survival. What kinds of animals and sea life will be able to thrive amongst our trash and debris? What will we leave behind for the generations to come to find?

Whether you are traveling for business or pleasure the further your trip the more chances you have of being affected by jet lag. Some are lucky and never seem to be affected, however for others jet lag can be quite severe and something that we really would prefer to avoid.

Some people say that it actually takes the body one day per time zone that we cross to fully recover from jet lag! This is why it is so important to actually minimize jet lag and the affects it can have. After all if you are traveling on business you need to arrive fresh and ready for the heavy schedule, if you are on vacation, you deserve to enjoy every minute you can get - right?!

With increased air traffic a lot of airlines especially on their long haul flights - and lets face it, every flight from Guam seems to be a long haul -



flights which normally depart in the evening and others that leave early morning. The airlines will tell you the advantages of both and it is true that they both do have very strong arguments to support an early AM or late PM departure.

However, it very much depends in which direction you are traveling, and whether you are an active flyer or a 'wake me up when we land' sort.

Let's use the Guam to California as an example. If you leave in the evening you likely will arrive at your destination across two time zones and the international dateline, sometime in the early morning hours.

This means you will have about 12 hours or so to fill, sleeping will only

occupy so much of that time and you will also need to rest once you get to your final destination. If you don't rest when you get there, fatigue could ruin the first few days of your vacation for you.

You should set your watch to the local time of your destination as you board, and sleep on the plane according to that. This helps your body to start the change in its body clock, which is so important when combating jet lag.

Let's say for example that you are flying from Tokyo to Seattle, then when you board the plane you should set your clock to West Coast time and try not to sleep until it is close to sleeping time in Seattle.

Some people use sleeping tablets to try to alleviate jet lag. This is a dangerous approach as sleeping pills induce a comatose state with little or no natural body movement, and it is well known that prolonged immobility during flight can lead to fatal blood clots (deep vein thrombosis). This was reported as far back as 1988 in the Lancet, which said it was estimated "that over three years at Heathrow Airport, 18% of the 61 sudden deaths in long distance passengers were caused by clots in the lungs." Picture the leg veins as bags of blood. When this blood doesn't circulate there is a risk that it will clot. In addition, many so-called sleeping pills are variants on anti-histamines and they tend to dehydrate significantly, adding to the already significant problem of in-flight dehydration.

Once air-borne, avoid alcohol during your flight; with the pressurized air in the cabin your body dehydrates substantially, and alcohol affects the body clock by not giving you a full and refreshing sleep. In fact, try to drink as much water as possible. Drinking a lot of water helps greatly. It is also highly recommended to move around when in-flight. Walk up and down the plane, do some stretching exercises to keep the blood circulating and stop joints from stiffening. And remember to rotate your ankles in a full circular motion while seated; do this from time to time. With a little nap time, some roaming the plane and easy conversation with travel companions you will be refreshed and ready to hit the ground running when you arrive at your destination!

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Micronesia's hometown airline is celebrating 25 years of dedicated, consistent, and reliable service to Manila. And as a special treat for you, we're offering a terrific, all-inclusive getaway package to Manila. Plus, aside from earning miles on OnePass[®], our frequent flyer program - we'll give you 500 bonus miles for each ticket purchased. For reservations call Continental Airlines at 647-6453, or visit continental.com.

(Fare based on round trip travel. Fuel surcharge included.)
MANILA
\$392



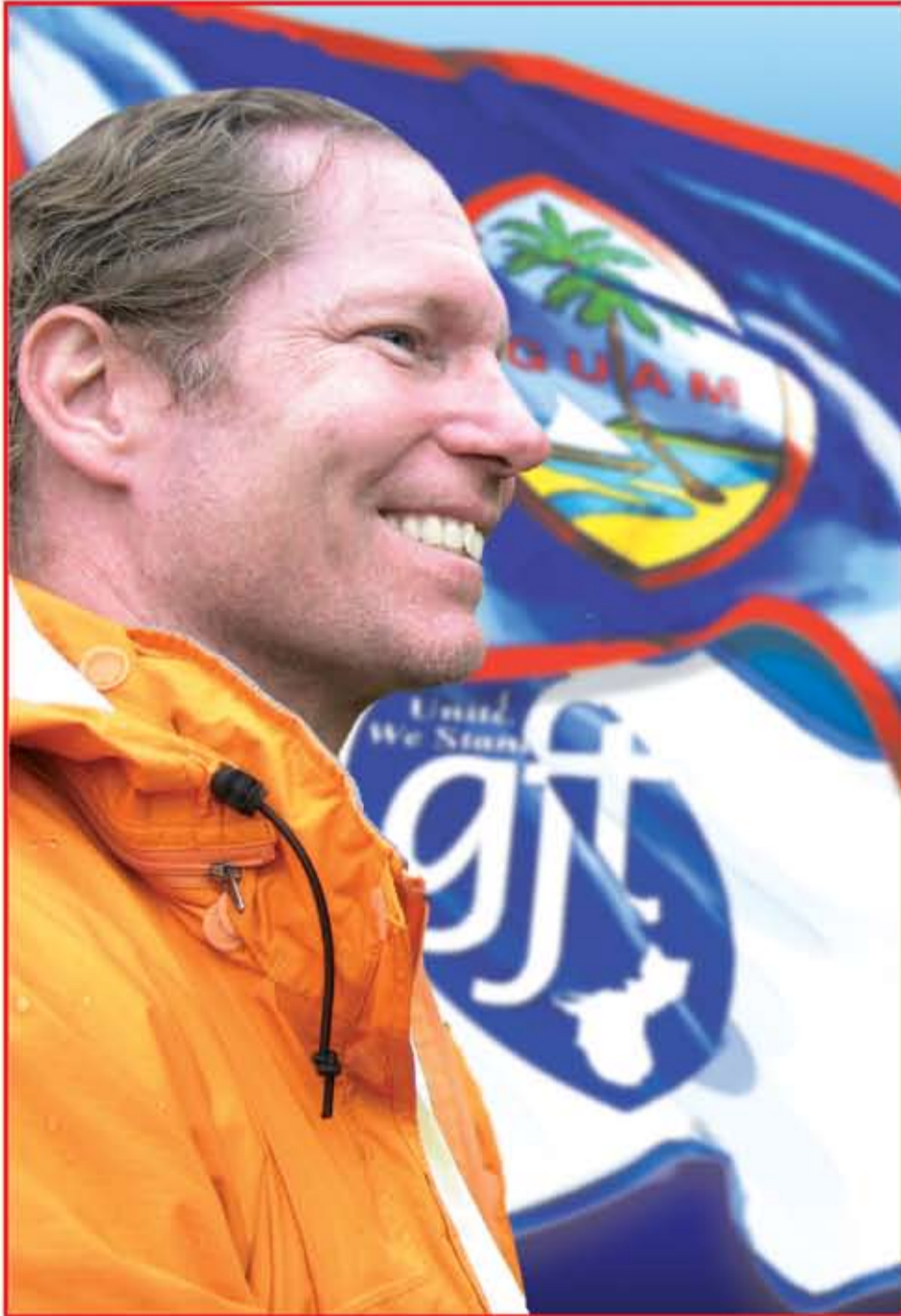
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president's corner



ins & outs

- In:** Gov. Camacho supporting GFT's position that big business must pay their fair share of taxes.
- Out:** The lie that increasing taxes on businesses will hurt working families
- In:** GMH Nurses finally having their contract signed and in place
- Out:** That it took so long
- In:** Saving working families money by properly funding our Public Structure
- Out:** The rich man's "YOYO" plan (You're On Your Own)
- In:** Properly funding and staffing the Department of Public Health Eligibility Specialist so that none of our families go hungry.
- Out:** That the six week delay in getting assistance not only hurts needy families but keeps millions of federal \$\$\$ out of Guam's economy.
- In:** Every worker winning dignity and respect at work and a better life for their family by organizing a union with GFT, Guam's Local Union - (call 735-4390 and ask Jakobe for more info.)
- Out:** Thinking that the corporation will take care of their workers just because it's the right thing to do. (Union workers make over 50% more, and have better benefits and retirement than non union workers in construction and service industries bls.gov)
- In:** Living in Paradise
- Out:** That so many of Guam's families live in Poverty.
- In:** Justice
- Out:** Vengeance
- In:** Spending more on Education
- Out:** Spending more on Prisons because we didn't spend enough of education in the first place.

In 1944 the US Marine Corps freed the people of Guam from Japanese occupation. Today, we must stand up to tyranny once again. Our families and future generations are relying on us.

The people of Guam have a long and proud tradition of standing up against oppression both at home and abroad. Today, our oppressors aren't an occupying army. They are the rich, the powerful, the big corporations; those who get wealthy at the expense of our families, our island and our children's future.

They use slick ad campaigns to convince us that our children don't deserve decent schools, that our Manamko don't deserve a decent retirement, that our people don't deserve decent health-care and our workers don't deserve decent wages, benefits and retirement plans.

The Marine Corps won't liberate us from our current oppression. It's our job to work for that freedom. We must all be active in every way that we can, because we are able to see in hindsight what happens we are not active or vigilant!

The path to liberation is as easy as 1-2-3

Step 1: Get involved in your union. At GFT we do amazing things with incredibly limited resources. It takes all of our members doing just a little, in order for us to win a lot.

If we have not called you to ask for your help, then don't wait - call us. Even if it's just to volunteer to

answer the phone for an hour or two, or deliver papers at your work site, every little bit will help - and in a big way.

Step 2: Assist others to organize their own union at work. Even though no one can go through a day on Guam without interacting with a GFT member, there are still thousands of workers who don't have the support and protection of a union contract and union membership.

You know them; you can help. They are your family members and friends that may still getting \$6 per hour after 3 years of work; on a job that would pay \$20 per hour anywhere else in our nation. Talk to them about organizing a union at their job site and give us a call 735-4390.

Step 3: Get involved in Politics. As a citizen of a democracy it's not just our right, it's our duty!

Many people are reluctant to step up. We are told not to talk politics at parties, to accept that there is little or nothing that we can do to change the way the system works. These are lies designed to keep workers from organizing.

Our elected officials jobs are to improve the quality of life for our families; and even though they pass hundreds of laws every session, our quality of life has gone steadily down while an elite few living in their gated communities profit at our expense.

We must speak truth to power at every opportunity. It is not complicated and you don't have to be a rocket scientist to know that things are not right and that more can be done to ensure we have quality

public structure in place for all of our people.

Let this liberation day be the day that we renew our commitment to free our families from the economic and social oppression caused by greed, incompetence and self-serving interests.

The day we decide that we can do just a little bit more, will be the day that we as a people will accomplish great things. The day we start the conversation of what is right and what is wrong, will be the day of judgment for the old system and enemies of justice.

On that day, we shall stand up and declare, "Enough! My family deserves better and I'm ready to fight for it!"

Celebrate Liberty and Always Fight for Justice... Happy Liberation Day and Biba Guahan!



Matt Rector
President, GFT Local 1581



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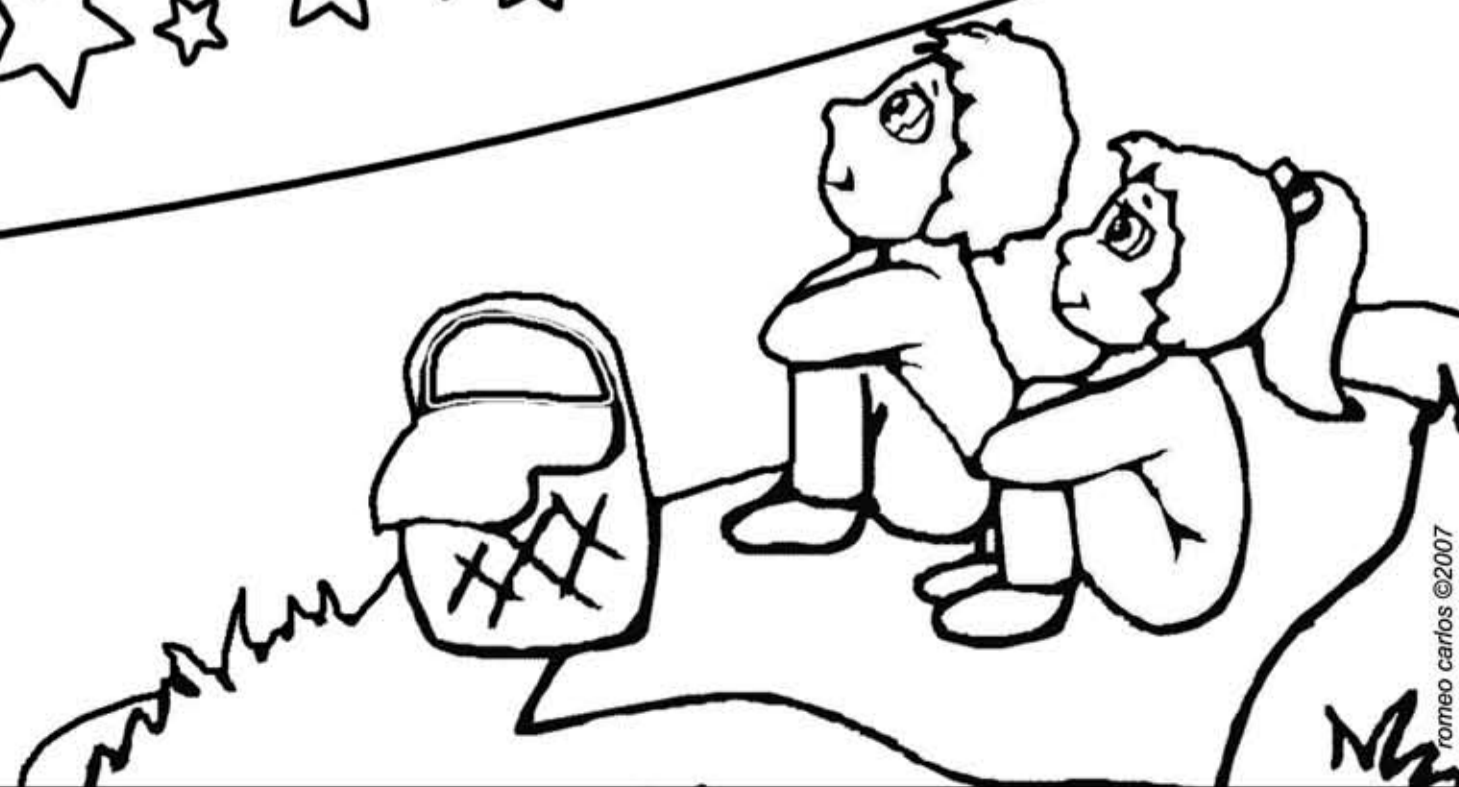


kids' page

July 21st of every year is the day that we celebrate freedom on Guam. Do you know why? What does 'freedom' mean to you?

Get your crayons and markers

**HAPPY
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were made to suffer an island-wide round up of the civilian population by Japanese occupation forces. Days ahead of the American military assault to liberate Guam, thousands made the horrific march to Mannegon. Some died along the

ety will change; it must change! We must manifest the change we seek on Guam so that everyone, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, economic status, religion, age, or ability, has an equal opportunity to grow, thrive and live with dignity and respect. Guam should not

signs of an attack against liberty is an assault on truth and justice. Opponents of progress would deconstruct public structures in order to gain more profits for their corporations and less money for working families. They use an old Nazi tactic of stating a lie as truth and then

It incorrect to believe the lie that liberty stands no chance in the battle of ideas. The idea of liberty must be reasserted by those with the vision to see through the fog, and rediscovered by the young and courageous. Most people are accessible to new ideas only in their youth; with the

Liberty is not the demand of special interests; it is a plea for the good of the entire society.

way. There is another memorial held each year to remember those who perished at the Fena Massacre. These events and masses are held in the most reverent manner; even the weather each year seems to turn overcast to reflect the solemnity of the occasion. The skies are usually wet and gray, almost as if crying for the loss and suffering.

Liberation, and the fight for freedom, still demands a costly toll. It is a price invested in the hardships and cruelties of the past and the lives lost to wars and terror today. We should reflect this July, not only upon the value of independence, liberty and freedom in the lives of Guam's people, but also on our commitment to the responsibilities we have inherited from our elders at such a high price. It is a costly price we still pay, not only in the villages and hamlets of our island but throughout our entire region. As the island's strategic value to America's new defensive posture in the world increases, the liberty that the people of Guam suffered for should not be lost to 'friends' at home.

Lies against liberty

Liberation is a state of being. We, as a community, must liberate ourselves from the thought-patterns and actions of social systems of oppression in which we have all been immersed. Whatever form change takes for us over the coming years, it is important to remember the priceless lessons of liberation. We must guard against complacency towards the enemy within - the enemy of change. Change is happening now and it will affect us for generations. How the change required of progress is managed should be of paramount importance to us today. Guam soci-

be a place that future generations must leave in order to survive. It should be instead, the kind of place that people come, or return to, bringing with them their hopes and dreams. A place of opportunity for people that, in turn, will create properly balanced opportunities for more corporate and new business investments.

The new enemy is not an army from a foreign land; rather, it is more familiar than that. Here, at home, living among us, are those that seek to exploit the people of Guam in the same way that foreign occupiers have done for centuries. These destructive forces hope to succeed where our enemies failed through the use of lies and propaganda. Their aim is to forestall real change and limit progress that does not contribute to their bottom lines or personal interests.

The new threat to Guam comes from those who would sow the seeds of ruin for their short-term, vested interests. But the success of these special interests

depends on their ability to eliminate workers' rights, limit basic liberties and benefits for Guam workers. Not at all unlike the way it was under enemy occupation; the way it is for Saipan. On the island just north of us, we readily see the harvest of failure that has been the result of special interests achieving their ideas of success. One of the first

repeating it often and loudly. The negative forces attack the integrity and commitment of government workers. They insist that private sector contracts (which their companies would of course hold) can provide faster, leaner, and more efficient services despite the fact that our limited experience with outsourcing indicates otherwise.

It is also not true that providing workers a livable wage will bankrupt businesses; we have heard these lies before. While corporate profits and executive management salaries continue to rise, frontline workers find it harder and harder each month to stay ahead. Today our government is in a morass because of the indulgences of corporate and special interests. We must take advantage of our freedom to find the way to change.

Love is all we need

Truth be told, the key to successful change is love -- love for your community and your island. Doing the right thing for one another is not difficult if love is in your heart. When greed and corporate profits become more important than the people that drive a business forward then the results will be disastrous for everyone.

We must combat the pernicious lies of defeatism that undermines the confidence of workers, the stability of the family and the growth of our island. We must stand up against the disinformation and assault upon liberty by new threats from special interests. We can make Guam a true paradise if we are willing to fight for it. When wars and party politics are forever on the attack against the individual and the common good the mistake is to believe that our efforts are in vain.

progress of age the ability to welcome them diminishes. This is why we put so much of our efforts into education of our young people. Only victory in the battle of ideas will secure a future of freedom for Guam's working families.

Intellectually, the new enemies of Guam's working class cannot conceive of a movement that does not seek the triumph of a special interest, but only the common good. They simply cannot believe that anyone would be involved in intellectual affairs who doesn't have some axe to grind. Idealism, they think, belongs in monasteries, not public affairs. Another reason is political: the triumph of liberty against power would undermine their own special interests, so the new enemy of the people fight this prospect with everything they have.



Home-grown Freedom Fighters

(Right) The Guam Insular Force Guard was comprised of about 80 native sons of Guam and they were authorized for enlistment by the US Navy in April 1941. Guard Headquarters were located on the Plaza de Espana in Hagatna.

(Below) Cave formations in the Fena Reservoir area of Guam, these caves were utilized by the Japanese military as gathering places for the murder of innocent civilians in the days leading to the recapture of Guam by the United States.

(Bottom) LCI (landing craft infantry) run into the reef-line to off-load infantry

(Facing page) One of the first American flags to fly over Guam since December 10, 1941. Planted by U.S. Marines 8 minutes after they hit the beach. July 21, 1944.



War Shelter

(Below) Civilians were rounded up and forced to march to concentration camps, like the one in Mannengon. In this rare image, children peer out of the only shelter they had available in the camps, unaware of the horrors the enemy had planned for them.



We learned: to be tolerant when conditions were intolerable; to be generous when there was so little to give; to be patient when our deepest desire was to end our bondage; to be ourselves, preserving our language and culture while the enemy was trying to impose his on us. We clearly saw and keenly appreciated the basic choices of life, between freedom and bondage; justice and oppression; hope and despair; surviving and perishing. Through the heat and dust and smoke, we saw ourselves and what we stood for. "...we must remember that the work begun by the Liberators in 1944 is not yet complete. The people of Guam picked up the torch of freedom passed to them on July 21, 1944. All who call Guam home have worked so hard and so determinedly that the entire world can see the island and its people have come so far from that terrible time of long ago. But true self-determination and equality still evade our people. Thus, the quest endures."

-- BEN BLAZ B/GENERAL, USMC (RET)
MEMBER, U.S. CONGRESS (1985-93)

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation of Guam

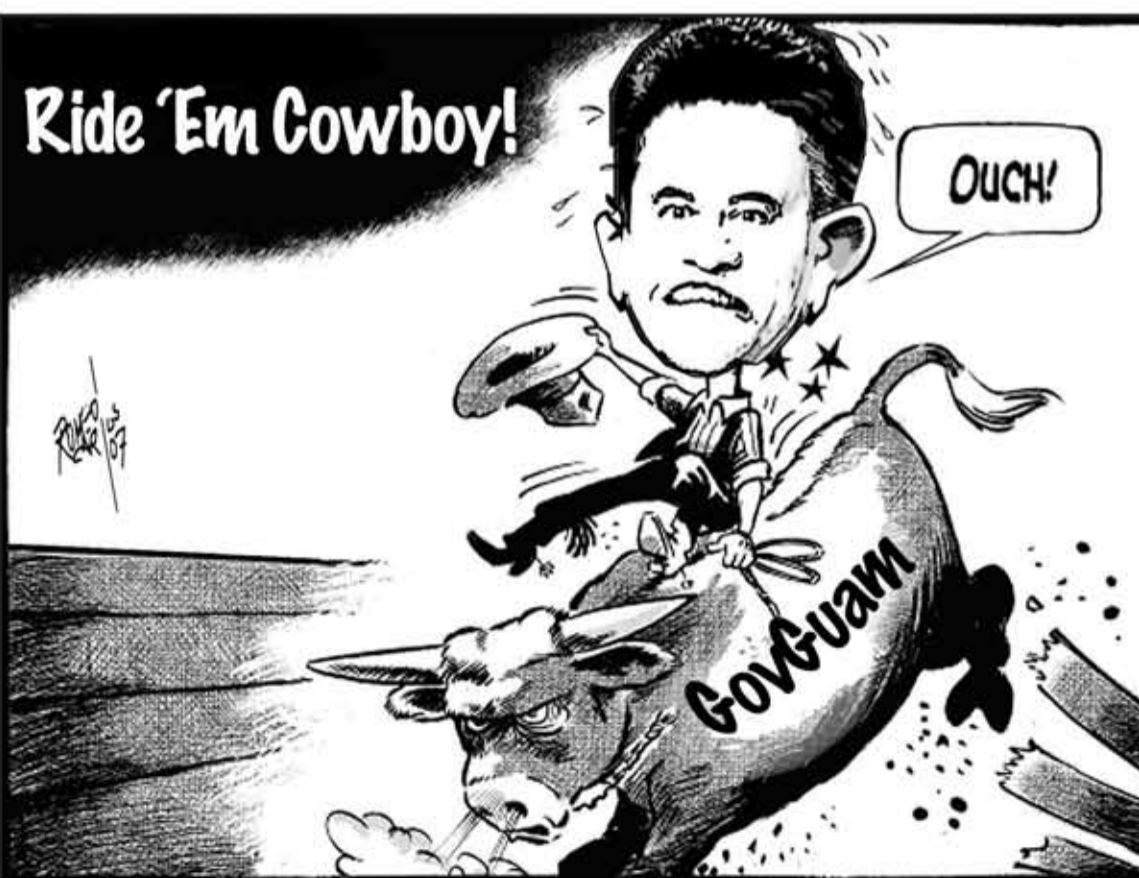


Celebrating Liberty...The people of Guam commemorate the solemn anniversary of freedom each year with a number of ceremonies to pay respect tot hose who died and suffered during the war. But, by the time the 21st of July rolls around, everyone is in a party mood and festivities culminate with a beauty pageant, a parade with floats and military colors, as well as, the traditional month-long carnival. Fireworks over the Agana Bay top off the month of activities and ceremonies.



A TOUGH PILL TO SWALLOW

Will there be anyone who is pleased by the steps taken by the Camacho administration and the 29th Legislature to correct the errors of the past?



If you have something to say or an opinion you want to see expressed in print, please feel free to send us an email at: gftunion.com. Include a daytime contact number and name when sending in your comments, questions or ideas. Call our offices for more information at: 735-4390

More than sixty-three years ago, a quiet island on the edge of the Pacific endured the loss of freedom. Thousands suffered to bring back to us the liberty that we so often take for granted. Even when we have political freedom and liberty, however, we can remain in bondage. There are many ways that we can find ourselves as individuals, and as a community, enslaved without recognizing it for what it is.

On Guam, we embrace freedom and are called by the memories of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to stand guard against those who would enslave us.

There are many forms of enslavement. We can be trapped by addictions to drugs, alcohol, gambling; caught up in unhealthy relationships, unforgiveness, popularity, ambition, destructive ideas, or countless other things, including government largesse.

If anything is controlling us, we are in bondage to that thing. To ensure that we stay out of bondage we must understand the process of enslavement. Bondage begins with a desire for something that seems innocent and harmless; it may be something that even seems right.

We begin by ignoring the warnings of our conscience and believe the indulgence is helping meet a need. After a while, we become comfortable and accustomed to the way things are and expect more of the same because our conscience becomes dull and unresponsiveness to rightness.

Recognizing the reality of our condition, however is the first step to making things right.

Although we may hate the issue that keeps us in bondage,

Although we may hate the issue that keeps us in bondage, and dread confessing its power in our daily lives, we must admit what it is that dominates our lives and commit to positive change. If we are not willing to admit there is a problem, then we won't find freedom.

and dread confessing its power in our daily lives, we must admit what it is that dominates our lives and commit to positive change. If we are not willing to admit there is a problem, then we won't find freedom.

A number of problems cause a person to become enslaved: insecurity, fear of failure, greed, regret, and anger, among others. Governments can also be trapped in slavery - slave to the mentality that nothing can change; to the idea that we can continue to borrow against the future generations to sate our need for instant gratification today. We, as citizens, enable this slavery mentality by letting our elected leaders get away with such indulgences. We actually encourage enslavement by continually voting for those who have not shown the strength of character to face the tough questions. Be sure to identify the issue, activity, person or attitude that is keeping you captive so you won't step back into bondage. Choose to be free. We, as a community, must make a choice to turn from our destructive ways and do what is right and proper for our island and our community.

We must deliberately take the hard steps to embrace the God-given freedom and power that is rightfully ours as a part of the greatest nation in history. We have spent too long enslaved to poor government management one-sided tax give-aways to those who would further enslave an entire island with under-employment for more greed, more profits and little returned to the people of Guam.

Its time to break free and live free, the way it is meant to be.

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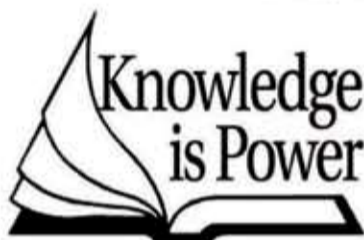
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in our own backyard

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To mark World Own Backyard," is Day Against Child Labor on June 12, the AFT introduces a new classroom resource on the topic the hidden problem of child farm workers in America, which affects as many as 500,000 children.

"The notion that oppressive child labor occurs legally within the United States shocks us as educators, and will likely shock students as well," says AFT executive vice president Antonia

BY THE NUMBERS...

500,000

children working in American fields today

70

average hours they work per week

8

the age many start to work in the fields



Cortese, who also co-chairs the Child Labor Coalition. "This topic is important for us to address in the classroom and can serve as an effective tool for teaching students about the human impact of public policy and how they can change it."

Cortese spoke at a Capitol Hill briefing on June 12 to inform lawmakers about the problem of child farm workers in the United States and introduce the union's new resource.

The briefing also included a former child farm worker, the director of the International Labor Organization, the president of the National Consumers League and Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-Calif.). Rep. Roybal-Allard has introduced the Children's Act for Responsible Employment of 2007 (CARE Act), which would substantially increase protections for young farm workers for the first time since the enactment of the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1938.

"In Our Own Backyard" is accompanied by a classroom poster and a DVD. It is structured to facilitate a public policy approach to studying child labor. Students can learn about the current state of the problem, explore how it developed, assess alternatives for addressing it and ultimately recommend solutions.

In the process, they will analyze numerous primary resources including video clips, photographs, legal documents, migrant youth essays, timelines, media articles, case studies and statistics.

These resources will help students consider the appropriate roles of government, citizens and businesses in protecting America's children.



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The percentage of island residents estimated to be without dental insurance

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GFT Restaurant Guide

McDonald's

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King's Restaurants are the most recognized name in full-service family restaurants on Guam, providing good food and great service for over 30 years. We offer a casual dining atmosphere and moderately price meals. Open 24 hours at two convenient locations:
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637-5464

Pacific Trading Company

Agana Shopping Center, for more info call 475-8801. GFT Members receive a 15% Discount. This is a must try in Hagatna! They have a fantastic selection of dining choices with a varied menu that includes local favorites and fusion dishes...as well as the best burgers in town!

You can put your restaurant or cafe in GFT NEWS all year long for less than you think...!

Call Ambrosia Mae at
735-4390
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KING'S

\$5.99

BREAKFAST SPECIALS

AVAILABLE 24 HOURS



EGGS BENEDICT

Two large Poached Eggs and a slice of Ham on a English Muffin, topped with Hollandaise Sauce with Hash Browns.

BANGUS & EGGS (NOT SHOWN)

Marinated Milk Fish served with two Eggs (anystyle) and a choice of steamed Rice, Pancakes or Hash Browns.

COUNTRY BROWNS

Diced Potatoes topped with Diced Chamorru Sausage, Country Gravy and two Eggs (anystyle), with a choice of Toast or Muffin.



CHORIZO BREAKFAST BOWL

Our famous homemade Chorizo Grilled with Onions & Diced Potatoes topped with one Egg (anystyle).



SPECIALTY FRIED RICE

Chorizo Fried Rice

Chamorru Fried Rice



- 0 CALORIES
- 0 CARBS
- 0 FAT


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It is incorrect to think of liberty as synonymous with unrestrained action. Liberty does not and cannot include any action, regardless of sponsorship, which lessens the liberty of a single human being. To argue contrarily is to claim that liberty can be composed of liberty negations, patently absurd. Unrestraint carried to the point of impairing the liberty of others is the exercise of license, not liberty. To minimize the exercise of license is to maximize the area of liberty. Ideally, government would restrain license, not indulge in it; make it difficult, not easy; disgraceful, not popular. A government that does otherwise is licentious, not liberal.


-- Leonard E. Read, The Freeman

achieve
delicious
harmony

new
asian salad



Contains nuts. Participation and duration may vary.
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i'm lovin' it



mindgames

The aim is to fill in numerals from 1 to 9 so that every horizontal and vertical line and every large 3-by-3 square contains only one instance of each number.

		8		5				1
					4			
	5	4			7	3		
	7							6
3			2	9	1			4
5								9
		3	5			1	8	
			4					
7				1		5		

6/17 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

				6	2		4	
2	9						3	5
				5				
6		4					2	
			3	2	1			
	3						5	1
				3				
8	5						9	4
	2		1	8				

6/24 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

								8
		3	2				6	
6		2	5					
	8			2		3	9	
1				3				4
	2	7		8			1	
					6	4		1
		9			1	7		
4								

7/1 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

	6			9				
					7	9		
					8	2		
				6		1	4	
8		4		5		3		9
	9	3		4				
		8	4					
		2	9					
				2				3

7/8 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

9	4	6	1	2	5	8	3	7
3	7	2	9	8	6	4	5	1
1	5	8	4	7	3	6	9	2
6	9	3	8	4	1	7	2	5
8	1	4	7	5	2	3	6	9
5	2	7	3	6	9	1	4	8
4	3	9	5	1	8	2	7	6
2	8	5	6	3	7	9	1	4
7	6	1	2	9	4	5	8	3
Previous Puzzle Answer								
7	4	1	3	5	2	9	6	8
5	6	9	8	4	1	7	3	2
2	3	8	9	7	6	4	5	1
3	2	7	4	8	9	5	1	6
1	9	5	6	3	7	8	2	4
4	8	6	1	2	5	3	9	7
6	7	2	5	9	8	1	4	3
8	5	3	2	1	4	6	7	9
9	1	4	7	6	3	2	8	5
Previous Puzzle Answer								
4	2	3	1	8	9	7	5	6
8	5	1	2	7	6	3	9	4
7	6	9	4	3	5	2	1	8
9	3	2	6	4	8	5	7	1
5	7	8	3	2	1	4	6	9
6	1	4	5	9	7	8	2	3
1	4	6	7	5	3	9	8	2
2	9	7	8	1	4	6	3	5
3	8	5	9	6	2	1	4	7
Previous Puzzle Answer								
7	6	2	3	1	8	5	4	9
8	1	5	4	7	9	6	3	2
9	4	3	5	6	2	1	8	7
5	2	1	7	4	6	8	9	3
3	8	6	2	9	1	7	5	4
4	7	9	8	3	5	2	1	6
1	5	4	9	2	7	3	6	8
6	3	7	1	8	4	9	2	5
2	9	8	6	5	3	4	7	1

kids sudokru

	6				3
	3			2	
		1			
			1		
	4			5	
6				4	

			6		5
	6			1	
4				1	
	2				4
1				5	
5	2				

	6				3
	3			2	
		1			
				1	
	4			5	
6				4	

Instructions

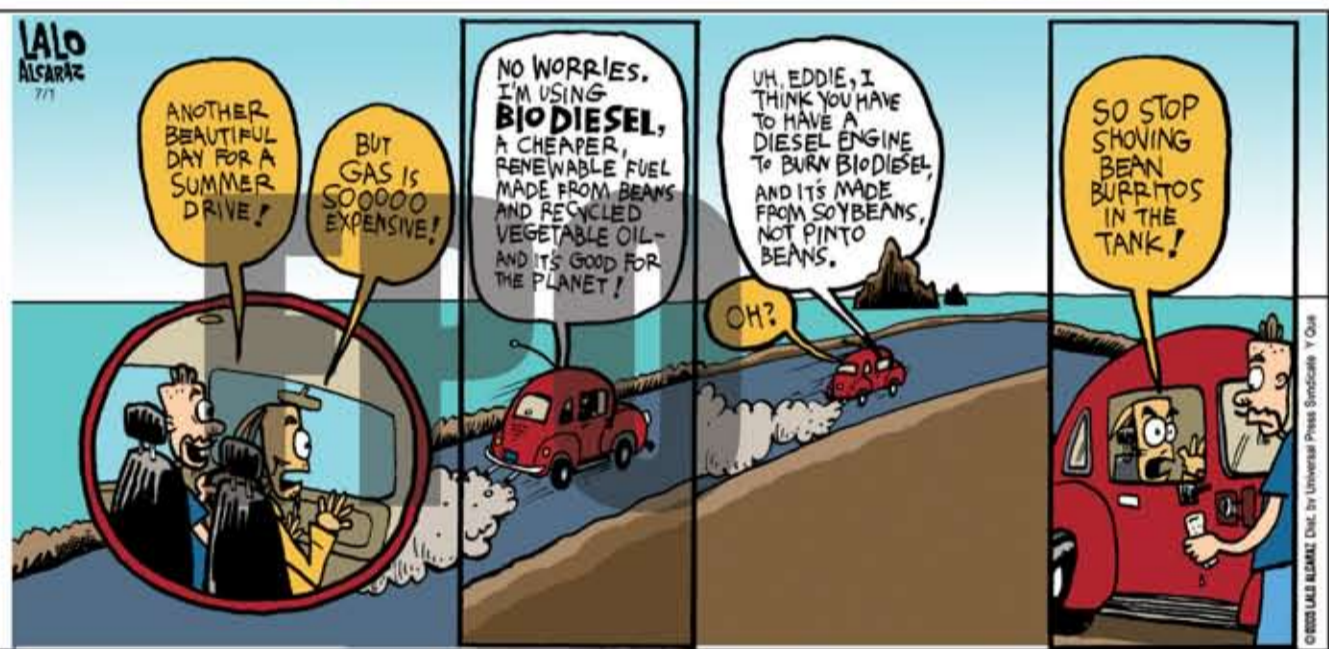
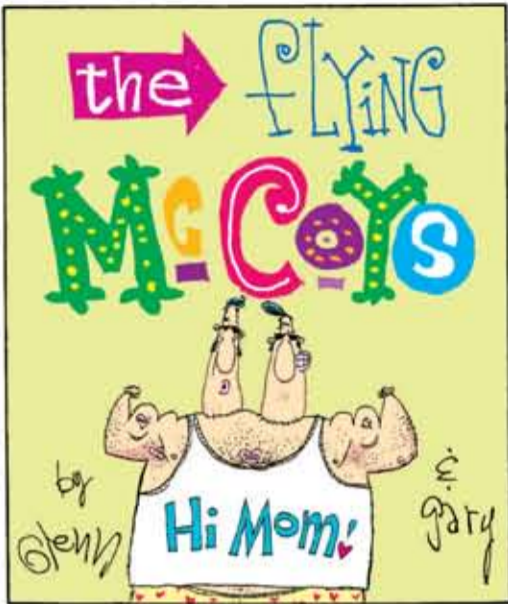
Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 6. Every row and column and every group of 6 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number only once.

[answers are on the right - but don't cheat!]

4	5	6	2	1	3
2	1	3	5	4	6
5	3	4	1	6	2
6	2	1	3	5	4
3	4	5	6	2	1
1	6	2	4	3	5

5	4	2	1	6	3
1	3	6	4	5	2
6	2	1	5	3	4
4	5	3	2	1	6
2	6	5	3	4	1
3	1	4	6	2	5

6	1	5	3	4	2
2	4	3	6	5	1
4	2	6	1	3	5
3	5	1	2	6	4
1	3	4	5	2	6
5	6	2	4	1	3



¡CUANDO EL APRENDA EL INGLÉS, YO APRENDO EL INGLÉS! *



*THE MOMENT HE LEARNS ENGLISH, I'LL LEARN ENGLISH!

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Are you a victim of Family Violence, Dealing with Domestic Violence. If you are in an immediate danger and need help; if you know of a child/children being abused, please call Child Protective Services: 475-2653/2672. The Alee Shelter can help. Please call Monday - Friday, 472-6729/472-6709 or Hotline: 637-2533. All Information is kept confidential.

Catholic Social Service - Are you interested in becoming a volunteer for the telephone reassurance service program, a daily call to isolated seniors please call Catholic Social Service at 635-1415/1420.

Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers to help make the dream of home ownership a reality for low income families on Guam. If you are interested in learning about how you can become involved in Habitat for Humanity please call 475-HOME (4663) for more information.

FOR RENT

Windward Hills, 4 bedroom, 3 bath, spacious, Re-modeled \$1500 per month, call 472-2229

Maite - 2 bedroom, 2 bath; incl. refrigerator, stove, AC, Pool \$800 Call 477-5943

Maite - 2 bedroom with water & sewer. very Clean renovated. Call Lucy 477-8945

Sinajana- 3 bedroom 1 bath, House with water, heater \$800, Sec 8 ok. Call 688-7290

ITEMS FOR SALE

Brand new in a box iSqueez OSIM black Foot massager \$565.00 Call 472-3146 Sheila

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Phunkee Kraftwerks - Motorola Iden Phone; Ring Tones/Mixed CDs. Please call Sean at 898-1777 or Jesse at 898-5885

6 pc Rosewood Living Room set - \$1500 or Best Offer. Ask for Ken or Liz @734-2084.

AUTOMOTIVE

'96 Toyota Celica Sport Coupe SHOW CONDITION! MUST SEE Rob: 735-4390 or 637-6277

'97 Jeep Wrangler \$10,000 - 35 Mickey Thomson's Lifted 4" good condition Call 472-3146

MISCELLANEOUS

Avon - Buy, Sell, or Fundraiser Call Debra: 472-6640

The Pampered Chef Quality Kitchen Tools. Phone orders welcome, fundraising opportunities. 688-6080 Sheila

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