



President's Corner

"Sometimes it's not that complicated...Our families deserve better..."

Page 8



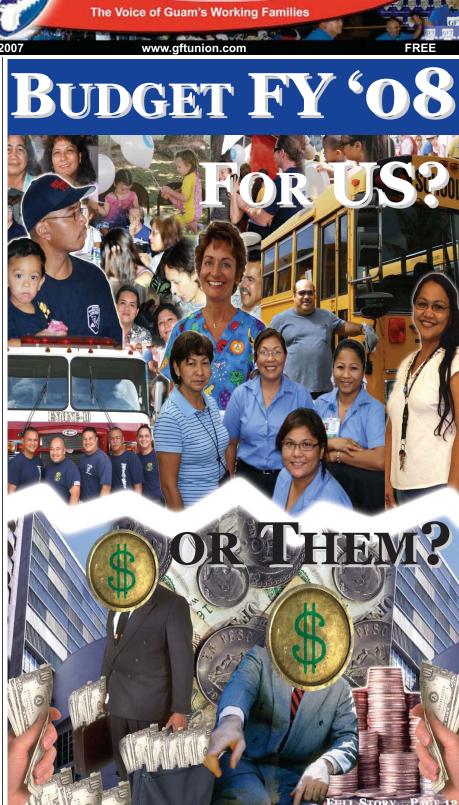
Letters to GFT

"We sincerely appreciate GFT stepping forward to assure the quality of the program this year..."

Page 14

Tune in to KPRG 89.3FM

TUESDAYS
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Working Family
Radio Show
with
Matt Rector





"It is today we must create the world of the future."

september '07

		Ele	anor Roosevelt			ptombro
sunday damenggo	monday lunes	tuesday måttes	wednesday metkoles	thursday juebes	friday betnes	saturday såbalu
						Cañada Barrigada Fiesta
2 Labor Day Picnic: Ypao Beach Park 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	3 Labor Day Holiday	4 12 – 1 p.m. 89.3 KPRG Working Family Radio	5	6	7 Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM	8 Hagåtña Fiesta
9 Grandparents Day	GPSS Head Start Assess- ment and Screening (No Classes)	11 12 – 1 p.m. 89.3 KPRG Working Family Radio Executive Counci Meeting 5:30-6:30 PM		13	Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 - 6:15 PM GPSS First Quarter Progress Report Due	15
16 Stepfamily Day	Constitution/ Citizenship Day GPSS Head Start Assessment and Screening (No Classes)	18 12 – 1 p.m. 89.3 KPRG Working Family Radio	19	20	Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM	Z2 Talofofo Fiesta
23	24 GPSS head Start Assessment and Screening (No Classes) Southern High School Parent- Teacher Conference	25 12 - 1 p.m. 89.3 KPRG Working Family Radio Executive Counci Meeting 5:30-6:30 PM		27	Organizing Committee Meeting 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM	29 Mangilao Fiesta
30						

briefs

GFT SAVES DEED. PRO-**TECTS CBA AND ENSURES QUALITY EDUCATION**

Fully qualified Teachers were going to be replaced with unqualified subs, which would have turned the Award winning after school educational DEED program into a babysitting service. Fortunately, President Recsat down with Superintendent Reyes and worked out a deferred compensation plan where teachers will receive their pay up to step 4 until the additional money is appropriated to pay the difference needed for teachers to receive their full pay. This means that come budget time everyone, teachers, parents and administrators need to lobby our legislature together so that our kids can continue to benefit from this excellent program.

LABOR DAY PICNIC, SUN-DAY SEPT. 2 YPAO BEACH Don't forget to mark your cal-

endar for this year's Labor Day Picnic. GFT will be making by your worksite to talk to poten-

Coke Floats and giving away balloons to kids and as always we could use volunteers to help give away free stuff. It will be a lot of fun for all. If you would like to volunteer please send an email Gerri@gftunion.com.

DINAÑA '08 KICKING INTO HIGH GEAR

GFT's Dinaña '08 organizing campaign has started taking off! In the last week over 30 teachers. Police officers, port workers and school aides became union brothers and sisters. Members in every shop are excited this years campaign and are actively helping their fellow works to enjoy the power and protection of union membership. Not to mention the killer GFT MP3 player. Who will be the first earn one? If you need an organizing package just come by the GFT



tial members.

GUAM NEEDS A RAISE

In the last 15 years price of gas, power, water, healthcare, food and more have doubled or tripled, but the majority of Public Servants pay has remained stagnant. Not only is this a hardship on the 10,000+ families but it has had dire effects on our economy. As Guam's largest employer, GovGuam sets the standard for employment and wages for our island. With our legislature constantly chipping away at public workers wages. benefits and rights so too have private sector employers. When workers have less money, they spend less which leads to businesses suffering until our entire island is suffering so that off island corporations can have a cheap labor force, not pay their fair share of taxes and maximize their profits at our families expense. This has got end now. Our families deserve better.

SAY A PRAYER FOR OUR **BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN NEED**

Paul (PJ) Borja - PJ (Long time friend of GFT and Photographer extraordinaire) has just been admitted back into UCSD Medical

center hospital after a relapse with potentially a second brain tumor.

Arthur R. C. Mergist - Union Brother and GPSS teacher Art. is battling colon cancer and because Guam doesn't have radiation therapy he has to go to Hawaii for treatment.

Maria Blas - Our Union sister from DPHSS is currently off island for medical treatment and has exhausted all of her sick leave.

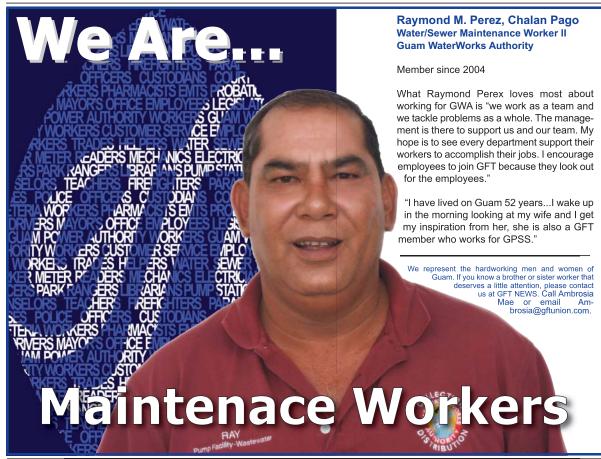
Celestial Delos Reyes - GPSS school nurse and union sister is undergoing cancer treatment at St. Lukes.

If you would like to donate sick leave or send a message of support to any of our brothers and sisters in need email Gerri@aftunion.com.

RECALLS SHOW THE IM-PORTANCE OF THE PUBLIC **STRUCTURE**

Recent recalls of toys that could hurt our children, poisonous pet food, and toxic toothpaste show how important our public structure is to our families' safety. When corporations are allowed to outsource to the cheapest bidder, they do not police them-

... BRIEFS, continued on page 4



"The Voice of Guam's Working Families" Volume 3, No. 9 September/Septembre 2007 GFT NEWS

t briefs

BRIEFS, continued from page 3... selves resulting in putting dangerous products on the market. Maybe someone should have asked the CEO of Mattel. "What's more important, maximizing profits by exploiting foreign workers or children's safety?" What would Jesus do? **NEW HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI DOCUMENTARY "WHITE**

FLASH, BLACK RAIN"

Three years ago a group of GFT members traveled to Hiroshima to meet with members of the Hiroshima Teachers Union and tour the atomic bomb museum thanks to our good friends at Continental Airlines. One of the friends that we made on this trip, Jasmine Nakai sent news of a new documentary film by Steven Okazaki on Hiroshima and Nagasaki is now which is now on HBO. Click here for the schedule. GFT members can also check out a special Hiroshima display and an excellent animated dvd called Paper crane from the GFT office

AFTER BRIDGE COLLAPSE, A NEW FOCUS ON INFRA-**STRUCTURE**

Infrastructure investment was a hot topic this month at the annual meeting in Boston of the National Conference of State Legislatures. In his opening remarks on Aug. 6, Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick referred to the Aug. 1 bridge collapse in Minnesota, as well as the flooding of New Orleans and other disasters, to make the case for dramatic improvements in our crumbling nation's roads. bridges and other essential public structures. The renewed focus on infrastructure maintenance is a positive development, but it's unfortunate that it required a national tragedy to bring it to the forefront, says Steve Porter, director of AFT's public employees division. The division represents approximately 100,000 federal, state, and local government employees, including more than 2,000 state-employed civil engineers and bridge inspectors. "Our job now is to learn from this tragedy, so that this never, ever happens again," says Porter, who attended the NCSL meeting. "We owe it to the victims and their families, and we owe it to the rescue workers, who risked their

own lives to save others ' **BILL FEATURES SUPPORTS** FOR MATH, SCIENCE TEACH-**ERS**

New AFT-backed supports for math and science teachers were part of a broad bill, approved by Congress earlier this month, which aims to boost U.S. global economic competitiveness in these high-demand areas. The final legislation, which awaits President Bush's signature, combines five separate bills that seek to strengthen training, research and education in math and science. The AFT fought for and won language in the final bill that authorizes federal funding for voluntary summer institutes to help elementary and secondary math and science teachers expand their content knowledge. The bill also authorizes federal support for another AFT-backed proposal: part-time master's degree programs in math and science that would allow teachers to gain advanced degrees over two to three years. An estimated 25.000 new teachers will stand to benefit from the professional development, summer training, graduate education assistance and scholarships included in the House-Senate compromise, which won overwhelming approval in both chambers. The bill also increases support for the National Science Foundation's Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program and the Math and Science Partnerships Program.

LAW STUDENT UNION SUM-**MER BUILDING NEXT GEN OF LABOR LAWYERS**

The next generation of labor lawyers spent this summer learning firsthand what it's like to work on the front lines in an organizing campaign and the problems workers face when they try to form a union. Nine law students spent 10 weeks as Law Student Union Summer interns working with labor lawyers across the country. During the program, which ended Aug. 3, students were involved in community outreach, member mobilization, corporate research, legislative campaigns and general litigation, canvassing, planimplementing and solidarity-building activities and participating in meetings and home visits.





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Matt Rector **GFT President** mrector@gftunion.com

Executive Editor Tim Fedenko

Publisher

Director

Writers

Special Thanks

GFT Vice President tfedenko@gftunion.com

> Ambrosia Mae ambrosia@gftunion.com

V.C. Perolina Peter C. Mayer, Ph D

Jim and Doris Flores Brooks

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ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
Working hard bring its rewards this September. At least that is what Rams find once they get off their lazy duffs and get down to the task at hand. The urge is to lie back and enjoy it but Saturn has other plans for you. The job beckons and you cannot ignore it or refuse it. But what seems onerous now pays off big dividends later. Rest on your laurels during in the late fall.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
Don't be surprised if fun becomes one more life lesson. (Oh yippee.) They say genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration so take that as your cue to sweat out a fabulous creation with a few inspiring souls. Thankfully, Bulls are practical to a fault so everything you do now is valuable gist for the future party season. It is never too early.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
Your domestic agenda is in for a review this September. And not a moment too soon. Twins need to rein in the vast array of home related projects and begin to tackle them one by one. Before you know it, you will have the home that you have always dreamed of, but never felt you deserved. Well that may still be true....

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Even though routine is the hob goblins of little minds, structure and routine can play a major role in how you interact and express yourself this September. Practice your public speaking, do your research and prepare to dazzle the immediate crowd. Crabs must not retreat into their shells. There is too much at stake to remain quiet and plotting.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)
Lions often don't know the meaning of delayed gratification. Maybe that is good but the cosmos thinks otherwise. Cheap Saturn is well placed for you this September. Not only can you come to terms with your reckless spending and lack of interest in your finances, you may even make some giant steps towards solvency. Okay, we'll happily accept a few baby steps now.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)
Saturn moves into your own sign this September. Lucky you.
Virgins not only manage to make a serious and impactful first
impression, they can also carefully analyze, spec out and
launch some meaningful long term projects that are almost
guaranteed to pay off. Yes things may appear closer than
they really are in the mirror but perseverance increases your

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)
If you find that you are a bit more intuitive, give your sixth sense free rein when Saturn moves into Virgo. Not only can you make better decisions, you can also disarm potential rivals and overcome roadblocks to your success - in whatever form it takes. Libras have a trick or two up their sleeves this September. Hmm is that really where they are??

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)
There are few things that you can learn from friends this September. And not only where the best bars are located. Surround yourself with good company. Be open to suggestion on all levels and take a few snippets of advice. Scorps think that they know all the answers but Saturn begins to ask you a few new questions. Uhhh.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)
Do you feel that your professional path is blocked? Do you feel stagnated and bored? As Saturn enters Virgo, Archers must face themselves in the mirror and see what they need to do to break their professional log jam. Maybe a change of focus is in order or maybe it is a complete change of job. The answers come to you in the next few months. Play the lottery......???

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)
Travel appears to be more trouble than it is worth but it is simply not true. Rather than sit at home, delegate the details to someone who is an expert. Caps who venture out and explore the world will benefit more than they expect. New ideas, new perspectives and new people all contribute to a better rounded you. Or is it all that great exotic food?

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)
Aquarians become more practical than usual in their love life.
Not only do they crave lust and chemistry (who doesn't?),
they also hope for a bit of money with their honey. Your big
dreams don't come cheap and neither should you. Saturn
sez, focus your gaze on the big prize and do your best to attract the cream of the crop before you curdle.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)
Fish are usually incurable romantics but September brings you down to earth in any relationship that needs to be stabilized. Not a moment too soon! If you have needs that are not being met, you now find successful ways of getting what you want. If you are searching for a catch, check out some new ponds. A certain toad could turn out to be royalty. Then





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against the euro and the British pound, it actually has strengthened in some countries -- or at least held its own.

The places where that has happened are prime vacation choices for Americans, and they include the following:

ARGENTINA: The sophisticated South American country is still licking its wounds from its shocking economic crash in the winter of 2001-'02, which means that Americans still can partake in lavish steak dinners for \$7 to \$8. Some airlines and large chain hotels have responded to the influx of wealthy tourists by hiking airfares to Argentina and room rates, and the economy is gradually clawing its way back to health, but for the most part, incredible bargains are still to be found on the ground in Buenos Aires. A happy side note is that now Americans who enjoy Argentina's luxuries don't feel quite like vultures swooping in on a corpse, as some travelers did in recent times.

COSTA RICA: Much closer to home and therefore easier and

Ithough the U.S. dollar most spectacular countries in our region, rich with rainforests, rainbow-colored wild birds and some of the best surf in the world. Two years ago, a U.S. dollar could buy only around 487 colon, but today, our dollar fetches nearly 530, increasing our purchasing power in a jewel of a destination that is safe, pristine and well set up for international tourism.

MEXICO: Our exchange with our southern neighbor fluctuates along the same cycle, between 10 and 11 pesos to our dollar. That means that our money hasn't sunk appreciably in value in the past two years. Too many Americans define Mexico in terms of the desperate people who come here to work or by the dusty towns along our shared border. But in fact. Mexico is remarkably diverse. attracting tourists with evidence of one of the world's oldest and richest cultures. The two coasts have superb beaches, the center has countless colonial towns renowned for their cuisine and nearly every seaside area is dotted with highrise resort getaways. It always has amazed me that people are willing to fly halfway around the world to some countries but completely ignore the wonders of tropical Mexico, whose people are friendly, sophisticated and welcoming to tourism.

SOUTH AFRICA: Our dollar bought 6.6 rand two years ago, but now fetches 7.1. That makes a stay in a simple thatched bungalow



deep inside world-famous Kruger National Park \$75 a night versus \$82 in 2005. (Remember that our autumn is prime game-viewing time in South Africa.) When booking a trip to South Africa, travelers must steer clear of the major corporaterun hotels, which charge U.S.-level prices, and find family-run B and Bs and guest houses to preserve the bargains. Everyday purchases have not seen their prices inflated.

ELSEWHERE: In two years, the Jamaican dollar drooped from 62 per U.S. dollar to 69, meaning our buck buys more. The Caribbean charms of Jamaica are obvious.

Even Japan, famous for its high expense, is a little more favorable to us now, having tweaked from 111 yen for a dollar to 118.

Every little bit helps.

Some nations have "tied" their currency to the dollar, which means that the government has rigged things so that their money will always be worth more or less the same relative to the U.S. dollar. The greenback might be soggy in many other places, but thanks to that system, it has held its own in these places, making them the same value they always were.

For example, go to Hong Kong or Ecuador and you'll discover that despite the dollar's plunge in the past few years, you'll find the same value that was always there. The same is true for the East Caribbean dollar, the tender for eight islands including St. Lucia, Antiqua, Anguilla, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



Volume 3. No. 9 September/Septembre 2007 GFT NEWS "The Voice of Guam's Working Families"



president's corner



yins & outs

IN: Everyone paying their fair share of taxes OUT: Big, rich corporations getting huge tax breaks

IN: Strengthening our Public Structure so that all of our families can live a better life

OUT: Liars and profiteers that would enrich themselves at our families' expense

IN: GPD officers enjoying union protection

OUT: That Guam's police officers are the lowest paid in the nation

IN: Workers from every sector organizing unions with GFT (call 735-4390)

OUT: Corporations attempting to convince their workers that they care more about them than the democratic unions controlled by the workers themselves

IN: Labor Day

OUT: That people forget that Labor creates all wealth

IN: The Merit system OUT: Nepotism

IN: Peace OUT: War

IN: Family Discounts at Tarza Water Park

OUT: Not taking your kids

IN: Protecting Guam's environment (we only have one island!)

OUT: That we don't have a public recycling program

IN: Doing the right thing, because it's the right thing. OUT: Doing the wrong thing, because it's profitable.

Sometimes it's not that complicated. Three questions, thirty answers.

Q. What would happen if every Public Servant got a 50%?

- A. 1. 6,000 families would suddenly earn above the poverty line.
- 2. An additional \$500 Million + would circulate through our economy.
- 3. Local Businesses would boom from all of the extra money.
- 4. Thousands of Guam's sons and Daughters that left island in order to provide a decent life for their families would come back home.
- 5. Thousands of Parents would have more time to spend with their children.
- 6. Wages would go up for Private Sector Workers because private companies have to compete
- 7. More local families would become home owners.
- 8. GPSS would be able to retain and recruit fully qualified teachers
- 9. GMHA would be able to retain and recruit fully qualified Nurses and allied health care professionals.
- 10. Crime rates would decrease.
- 11. Graduation rates would increase.
- 12. Domestic violence would decrease.
- 13. Less people would smoke.
- 14. Working families would be happier.
- 15. People would be healthier.
- 16. Drug abuse would decrease.

Q. What would happen if Guam had universal healthcare?

- A. 1. The vast majority of people on Guam would be healthier.
- People would be wealthier.
- 3. Businesses would be more profitable.
- 4. Guam would attract more business investors.
- 5. GovGuam would save money.
- 6. More diverse and higher quality medical treatment would become available.
- 7. Bankruptcy rates would decline radically.
- 8. Children would do better in school.
- 9. Guam would be able to attract and retain more high quality professionals (teachers, doctors, nurses, engineers etc).
- 10. People wouldn't have to beg on the side of the road as much.
- 11. Guam would be a better place to live.
- 12. GMHA would become the quality, world class treatment facility that our families deserve.
- 13. Small businesses would have a lower employee turn over.

Q. What would happen if our elected leaders truly cared about us and our families?

A. There would be no need to ask questions 1 and 2 because they would be reality.

No more excuses. No more "fair and balanced" lies. Our families deserve better.

UNITED WE STAND



Matt Rector President GFT, Guam's Local Union AFT Local 1581, AFL-CIO

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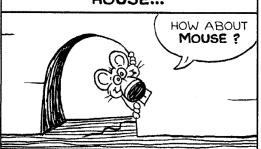


Hey Kids! Get out your crayons and color in this page for a fun!





GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR HOUSE...



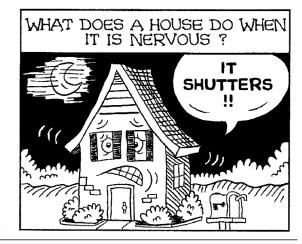
PUP IS IMAGINING YOUR DREAM HOUSE. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE ?



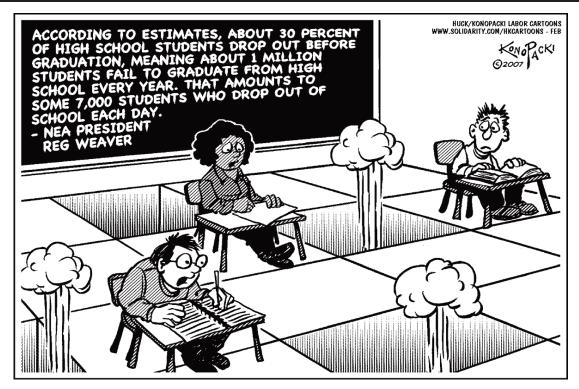
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IT WOULD BE FUNNY BUT...





BUDGET TALKS

By V.C. Perolina

THE Legislature

has begun deliberating the substitute version of Bill 143, which pegs the budget for fiscal year 2008 at \$489 million, \$15 proposed by the administration.

The substitute bill, crafted by acting Speaker Eddie B. Calvo's finance committee, deleted the \$50.5 million revenue enhancement package proposed by the administration in the original Bill

The administration's original proposal sought to expand the government of Guam's revenue base by raising real property tax by a hundred percent and repealing the receipt tax exemptions

cluding alcohol and tobacco, fuel, telecommunications, wholesale and retail, banking and insurance. tem, for example, would get \$183.4 The initiative also involved a moratorium on the Guam Economic Development and Commerce Authority's qualifying certificate programs.

The Guam Federation of Teachers during a public hearing of Bill 143 supported the administration's proposal for the elimination million below the amount of corporate tax waivers, saying that businesses must "start paying their fair share of taxes for the privilege of doing business on our island." Collection from additional taxes, according to GFT, would help improve education and healthcare services for the island and its hardworking families.

Calvo's finance committee, however, opted to give in to pressure from the business sector, which pooled efforts to lobby against the administration's proposed tax policy.

Democratic Sen. Judith Guthertz of Mangilao said the manner in which the budget is

> being discussed reflects a picture of a Guam community divided by socioeconomic classes.

"We have a class society where only a certain class enjoys benefits. And we have a class that cannot afford the rising cost of housing and power bills. and the quality of life is deteriorating," Guthertz

The deletion of the new revenue-generating plans is likely to take its toll on services are at risk of

granted to various industries, in- budget allocations for individual departments and agencies.

The Guam Public School Sysmillion, which is \$12 million less than the level proposed in the original bill. But even the \$199.4 million budget proposed by the governor was way below the \$274.8 million requested by GPSS.

"This not only hurts every educational professional in GPSS and robs our children of a shot at a decent education but it destroys our island and economy," according to GFT. "The rich and powerful put their children in private school, live in gated communities and actively avoid paying their fair share of taxes then turn around and complain that they can't get an educated work force. Our children deserve better, our island deserves better and we need to remind our elected officials of that."

Equally shortchanged is the area of public health, which under the amended bill will see budget reductions for the Department of Public Health and Social Services and the Guam Memorial Hospital. The original budget proposal appropriated \$49.4 million for DPHSS. The proposed allocation for the department has decreased \$47.3 million under the amended budget measure. The proposed subsidy for GMH has been adjusted from \$14.8 million to \$11 million.

Another item amended by Our people are hurting the finance committee is the \$250million bond borrowing authority requested by the administration for full settlement of the cost of living allowance awarded by the Superior Court to 4,000 retirees and for payment of income taxes recritical agencies, whose funds owed from previous years.

The amended Bill 143 rebeing jeopardized due to duces the bond borrowing level to budget cuts. Alongside \$90 million whose proceeds would the decrease in revenue be distributed as follows: \$37 millevel were reductions in lion for compliance with the Every





Child is Entitled to An Adequate Public Education Act; \$20 million for capital improvement projects at the University's of Guam; \$20 million for COLA payment; \$20 million for income tax refunds; \$3 own Bill 168, which proposes to million for closure of Ordot Dump;

lated to the disability services; and \$1 million to fund the Department of Revenue and the Taxation's property assessment.

But Democratic senators are not pleased with the new bill, which they say sets GPSS for failure by promising it more money that it can actually receive.

By making appropriation out of a proposed bond that has yet to be floated, "we're giving them false hopes," according to Sen. Tina Muna Barnes, a Democrat from Mangilao.

The minority senators the finance committee's ver-

sion of the borrowing scheme, which they dismiss as a "piece-

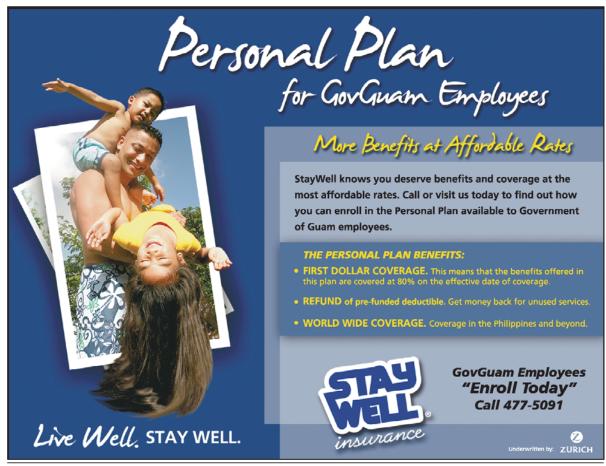
The Democrats push for their authorize the governor to float \$6 million for compliance with bonds amounting to \$250 million

permanent injunction re- payable in 30 years at an annual interest of 7.5 percent, is more consistent with the administration's debt refinancing initiative which was amended by Calvo's commit-

> "Bill 168 will create more impact. It will not only eliminate our debts but will also bring cold cash to our people and will spur the economy," said Sen. David Shimizu, a Democrat from Inara-

> "Bill 143 will do little to address our obligations, which can be taken care of by the \$250-bond borrowing that we have proposed," Democratic Sen. Rory Respicio of Agana Heights said.

Sen. Ben Pangelinan said Bill are not inclined to support 143 would condone "business as usual" for the government with a structurally imbalanced budget. "We continue to spend everything meal" approach to deficit elimina- that we can take without reducing the cost of government. We continue to support inefficiency and fund an expensive government," he said.





House, Senate VOTE TO BROADEN KIDS' HEALTHCARE **C**OVERAGE

In a victory for America's children, the U.S. Senate resoundingly joined the House on Aug. 2 in voting to expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The federalstate partnership insures children whose parents work but Peter C. Mayer, Ph. D can't afford health insurance.

Both political parties mustered support to expand the program-by \$50 billion in the House and \$35 billion in the Senate-compared with President Bush's suggestion to increase it by \$5 billion, which actually would reduce the number of children covered because of rising healthcare costs. The Senate passed its bill by a thumping 68-31 majority, compared with a narrower margin for the House bill.

"Children have won a crucial victory today," said AFT president Edward J. McElroy in a statement, adding that proper healthcare for all students helps reduce their absences from school and increase their academic success.

The AFT is part of a coalition, the Campaign for Children's Health Care, whose 50-plus member organizations have been pushing for years to expand SCHIP from the 6.1 million children it now enrolls to the additional 9 million children who still don't have health insurance. AFT members joined in a rally last March on Capitol Hill where both Republican and Democratic members of Congress spoke in favor of expanding the 10-year-old program. The coalition also sponsored a petition drive and town hall meetings to help make children's healthcare a top national priority.

"Evidence and common sense tell us that healthy children are better learners," said AFT executive vice president Antonia

In 2004 AFT convention delegates passed a resolution supporting the more ambitious House approach to SCHIP. The resolution calls for covering up to 99 percent of all American children, in part by expanding SCHIP. It opposes Bush's plans to starve the program. Both the House and Senate versions of the SCHIP legislation would be paid for by big tax increases on tobacco.

The SCHIP program expires on Sept. 30. Negotiators from each chamber of Congress will meet to work out a compromise bill, which then will go to President Bush for his signature. The president has threatened to veto it.

- AFT Healthcare News

Letter to GFT

Matt,

We have a first grader grandson enrolled in DEED at Agana Heights. The program last year under Ms. Iglesias and Ms. Tainatongo was great; Clayton received his after-hour instruction from Mrs. Gumataotao. We sincerely appreciate GFT stepping forward to assure the quality of the program this year. Thank you for the help.

Sincerely, Jim and Doris Flores Brooks

THE H2 WORKER PROGRAM LOWERS OUR WAGES

The following is an excerpt of a letter sent to Maria Connely, director DOL

The recommendation is to eliminate the use of nonresident alien labor in all fields except construction and, for construction labor, use the California prevailing wage as the adverse effect wage.

Unavoidably, the use of nonresident alien labor will result in human rights abuse, fraudulent wage determination and fraudulent terms of certification. The rights abuse results from corruption in recruiting in the workers home country, lack of education on in seeking protection under U. S. law and threat of deportation by employers. The abuse may be mitigated by the existence of citizen colleagues and frequent inspections of workplaces and barracks. Frequent inspections will be deemed prohibitively expensive unless the number of workplaces and barracks are limited.

The error and fraud in wage determination and certification requirements can be prevented in the construction industry, since the certification requirements are known and well defined and the adverse effect wage rate can be well defined.

Two examples will illustrate the fraudulent wage determination and fraudulent terms of certification.

There have been Department of Labor advertisements for an economist. Although I do not recall the hourly wage posted for what would normally be a salaried job, I remember it was ridiculously low. (Nevertheless, upon retirement, I applied. With a Berkeley Ph. D. and years of experience, I was rejected as unqualified. However, I filed a grievance that I believe stopped this foreign recruitment.) Such inappropriate wages in recruitment are inevitable unless alien recruitment is limited to defined skills. There is no way that the Department of Labor can determine appropriate wages for resident recruitment for every request to certify the need for alien labor.

There was a Department of Labor ad for a scuba-diving instructor. A requirement was certification by an obscure, if not unknown, agency, not one of the major agencies, PATI or NAUA. Such is inevitable unless alien recruitment is limited to a defined set of jobs since in no way can the Department of Labor know what the appropriate certification requirements are for all jobs.

For the construction industry, where nonresident alien labor dominates, the prevailing wages in a wage survey will remain the current statute adverse effect wage. Nonresident aliens and their wages will dominate the survey. Wages based on such a survey will be or become too low compared with the alternative careers to attract local labor into the industry, attract those in California with a Guam attachment to return, and California wages will be too enticing to keep those trained on Guam. The real adverse effect wage rate is the wage rate of California.

f you have something to say or an opinion you want to see expressed in print, please eel free to send us an email at:

gftunion.com. Include a daytime contact number and name when sending in your com-ments, questions, or ideas. Call our offices at 735-4390 for more information.

t health

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> Tel: 646-HAND (4623) 646-6491 Fax: 649-2266

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Appointments: 646-9106 Family Preactice. Pediatrics. Internal Medicine, Surgery Center, OB-GYN, Mammography

SDA Pharmacy

Appointments: 647-3856 **SDA Wellness Center**

Appointments: 647-7520~4 Wellness programs, Nutrition, Physical Therapy, NuStart Program

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ical laboratory on Guam and Saipan."Great Science, Great People' DLS is the only local, private laboratory that is accredited by ALL of the following: CLIA; College of American Pathologists (CAP), American Association of Blood Banks (AABB), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), National Glycohemoglobin Standardiza-tion Program (NGSP) Level 1.

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GFT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER 2007 Fall Schedule

Get Started today...make sure your job is secure, your career insured and the children in your charge get the best that you have to offer them!

Curriculum Development I

Instructor: Matt Rector

Dates: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday October 1, 2007 to November 21, 2006 From 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cost: \$285.00, \$75.00 Deposit Required

Managing Anti-Social Behavior Instructor: Jennifer San Nicolas

Dates: Saturdays Oct. 6 to Dec. 15 (no class on Nov. 24 and Dec.8) Time: 8 am to 11 am and 18 hours practicum Cost: \$450.00, \$75.00 Deposit Required

The School-Home Connection

Instructor: Liz Pickelsimer Dates: Saturdays Oct. 6 to Dec. 8 Time: 9 am to 1:30 pm Cost: \$450.00, \$75.00 Deposit Required

ALL CLASSES ARE FOR THREE (3) GRADUATE CREDITS

* CLASSES ARE STILL FREE THROUGH THE YAMASHITA CORP AT UOG!!! Register at the GFT office in Mangilao. For more information, phone 735-4390 and ask for Dana Fig or Gerri Guerrero.

ALL OF THE ABOVE CLASSES ARE FOR RECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RECERTIFICATION.





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wealth Realty (649-2100) - Free Co

orro Gardens (477-1361) - Special Monthly Rates

Community First Credit Union (472-8210) - Reduced Flat Fee Closing Costs

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Dental ServicesInc. (646-3741) - Special Membership Disco

Diamond Auto Parts (477-6327) - 20% Discount on All Parts

Foremost (649-9782) - \$0.25 Discount on 5 Gallon Water Refills

i-Connect (888-888) - Special Discounts

InterPacific Realty (477-1389) - Rent any of Interpacific Realty's properties and receive up to \$100.00 (Cond Apply)

Kaveh Kanes (735-1115) - Special Discounts Off Food Purcha

Mark's Sporting Goods (646-5871) - 10% discount on regular priced m

McDonald's (649-9093) - Fund Raiser Program-Discount

Mitchell Chiropractic Center (637-8901) - Complimentary Initial Cor

Moylan's Insurance (477-8613)- Discounted Home & Auto Insu MTB Outfitters (477-2453) - 10% Discount on All Accessories & Service Specials

Nuts & Grains (646-9358) - 10% Discount

O'Hana Beach Club Restaurant (646-2300) - 10% Discount Off Meals

Pacific Trading Club (475-8800) - 15% Discount Off Meals Palm Cafe (649-9000) - 10% Discount Off Meals

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Salon Paradis (477-8917) - 15% Discount on All Service

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\$103 million

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Volume 3, No. 9 September/Septembre 2007 GFT NEWS "The Voice of Guam's Working Families"





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Tarza would like to thank all the following schools for their participation in this Summer's Field Trip Program

Oceanview MS 6th-8th Grade Santa Barbara 4th Grade Trinity Christian School Benavente Middle School DL Perez ES 3rd Grade Inarajan ES 3rd-5th Grade IM Guerrero ES 3rd Grade

Maria Ulloa ES 5th Grade Carbullido ES 4th Grade Inarajan MS 6th Grade St. John's School 8th Grade Untalan MS 6-8th Grade Simon Sanchez 9th Grade

you would like your school to part pate in our Field Trip Program, give us a call today! y Olandez @ 647-1976 ext 312 Contact ~

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Naval Activities564-2480

Maite

472-2578

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Pacific Trading Company

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

> Call Ambrosia Mae at 735-4390 for more information.



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FastSigns offers special discount rates to all GFT Members. "We show our support of GFT by offering lower rates for all its members," said manager Rhaj Sharma. At FastSigns, these good folks go the extra mile for GFT Members.

Ordering at FastSigns is easy:

- Call or email them. Or, visit their informative website at www.fastsignsguam.com
- Tell them what you need, get a quote.
- Give them an idea for the layout.
- 4. They will draw a professional design and seek your approval.
- Once the art is approved, production starts.
- Pick up your order!

"We offer free consultation. Many customers are not always sure of what exactly they need, or what may work for them....so we offer the best advice...based on our years of experience in the field." added Sharma.

"Many teachers and parents have told us that we have the lowest prices on Guam...I would not argue with that," said Sharma, laughingly. "You know, we sell volume, so we are able to offer some of the lowest rates in town. At the same time, we never compromise on quality and service. It is our friendly service that has made us a leader in what we do. Please try it, call us, email us...you will receive a fast reply," explained Sharma.

So what can you buy at Fast-Signs? Here are three great product ideas

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Show your school pride with customized stickers for your cars. Put any message and design, and make them as colorful as you like. There are no minimum quantities to order. Stickers are also great fund raising products.

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Does your school have a nice sign right at the entrance? How about a big sign, with your school name, logo, and a welcoming message...all done in your school's colors? FastSigns can produce and install these signs.

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You can also visit them at www.fastsgisnguam.com.

Their shop is located in the Hemlani Commercial Building in Tamuning, on Marine Corps Drive. This is the newly renovated building with an all glass front, across the Pizza Hut (Tamuning)



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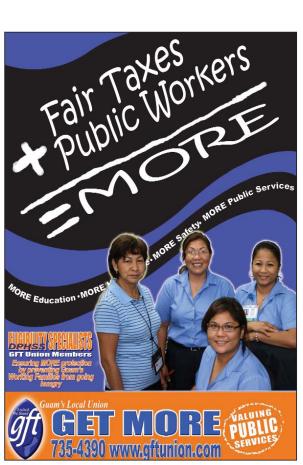
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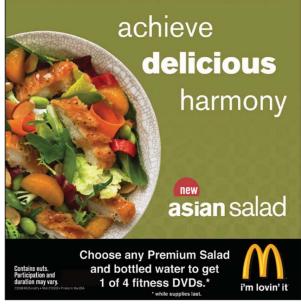


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- October 13, 2007 Shell Mangilao
- November 10, 2007 Shell Tumon
- December 8, 2007 Shell Dededo
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The Station of Choice



Volume 3, No. 9 September/Septembre 2007 GFT NEWS "The Voice of Guam's Working Families" 19



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Kids nyopns

Fill every row and every square made of 4 blocks only using the numbers 1 to 4.

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Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in any direction.

> **BEACH BALL BOAT CLOUDS KITE LIFEGUARD OCEAN PAIL** SAILING SAND **SEASHELL** SKY **STARFISH** SUN SURFBOARD SWIMMING **SWIMSUIT** WATER WAVES

Kids Word Search TVPCESGTVCARA hidden in the grid. The words may be T A O B P W Q N P D K Z D RFCEAIDWIINRU SESIIMROTLAAL DTWVLSAECUISS UNIEMUOIGEEAU OUMCHIBENVAES LSMBXTFJAN CQINZIRWYKX F B N R L Q U K W A T E R FGGFVHSIFRA BBEACHBALLVPG NLLLEHSAESRCJ

Solutions on Page 21...

2

CROSSWORD Seeing is Believing

17 18 20 32 40 41 42 43 45 46 62 88 72

Across

- 1- Move sideways, killed;
- 5- Stuff:
- 14- Charisma, atmosphere;15- Bell-shaped flower;
- 16- Wading bird;
- 17- Shower:
- 18- Destruction of a fetus;
- 20- Chinese martial art; 22- Drift, make a mistake;
- 23- Relaxation;
- 24- Italian resort:
- 26- Clasp for a door;
- 28- The past;
- 32- Explosive device; 36- Gone by;
- 37- Blandly urbane; 39- Water wheel;
- 40- Quote; 42- Bundle of cereal plants;
- 44- Went through, as the
- 45- Elicit; 47- Fish;
- 49- Besides; 50- Sequence;
- 52- Grotesque likeness;
- 54- Thick slice; 56- Chieftain, usually in Africa;
- 57- Strong woody fiber;

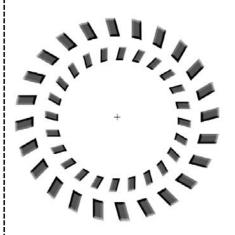
- 60- Hair goop;
- 62- Blemish: 66- Variety of amphibole;
- 69- Former coin of Spain;
- 70- Vestige;
- 71- Notion;
- 72- English public school; 73- Curt:
- 74- Son of Isaac and Re-
- bekah:
- 75- Web-footed swimming

Down

- 1- One of the Channel Islands;
- 2- Hawaiian outdoor feast; _Brockovich";
- 4- Manipulate; 5- Roman emperor:
- Curved bone;
- 7- Tropical plant;
- 8- Incense gum: 9- 21st letter of the Greek al-
- phabet; 10- Sensory nerve; 11- Type of song, to be sung
- solo: 12- Agrees tacitly;
- 13- Leg joint;
- 19- Two-wheeled carriage, golf 68- Green or black, e.g.;

- 21- Seizures;
- 25- City in Nebraska; 27- DC bigwig;
- 28- Confronts;
- 29- Pointed arch: 30- Chopper topper;
- 31- Incident;
- 33- Regions
- 34- Cheerful;
- 35- Father; 38- Large wave caused by tidal flow;
- 41- Study of human settlements:
- 43- Flaming torch; 46- Long, thin snake-like fish; 48- Wicked;
- 51- Starch used in puddings; 53- Worn away;

- 55- Contradict;
- 57- Sheet of matted cotton;
- 58- Land measure; 59- The closest one to us is
- the sun:
- 61- Covers; 63- Ballet skirt;
- 64- Gator's kin:
- 65- Cry of a goose;
- 67- Born:



Is it moving? Or not?

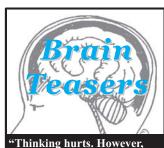
Stare at the center of this spiral and move your head in and out. Do you see it? You'll see that it rotates! For more fun, try this illusion out with a bunch of your friends!

Note: You have to move your head for it to work!

"The future is here. It's just not widely distributed yet."

-- William Gibson

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stupidities come to the world

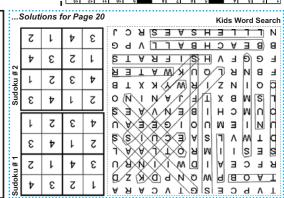
without birth pains."

Riddle me this, oh Wise One...

What has 5 (sometimes 4) hands but is normal?

Hint: You see this almost everyday.

hand, and sometimes a second nand. watch - An average person has 2 hands, + a minute hand on the watch, + an hour hand and sometimes a second band Answer: A person wearing a non digital



Volume 3, No. 9 September/Septembre 2007

- Bielaszewski

GFT NEWS "The Voice of Guam's Working Families"











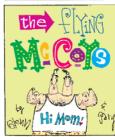
















BEFORE KIDS, I HAD THE LUXURY OF SLACKING OFF NOW AND THEN.



NOWADAYS, I HAVE LIMITED TIME TO GET PROJECTS DONE --NO MOMENT'S WASTED I THINK WORKERS
WITHOUT KIDS SHOULD
SPEND A WEEK IN
MY SHOES. THEIR
PRODUCTIVITY WOULD
IMPROVE...

By 5 pm: Finish logo. Prepare presentation. Start brochure design... ...AND THEY'D REALLY LEARN THE MEANING OF MULTIPLE DEADLINES.

...Pack snacks.
Pick up kids.
Make dinner
for four.

Any questions, I'll be at your happy hour.



TODAY GRANDMA SOPHIE MET PERFECTVILLE BY CHANCE.



SHE WAS LIKE THE GREAT-GRANDDALIGHTER-IN-LAW SOPHIE NEVER HAD. I BECAME INVISIBLE.

Are those fresh nerbs? Yes. I make home-made sauces and nerbs? Heart rubs. Things taste so much obster from scratch, on't you think?

ACTUALLY, INVISIBLE WOULD'VE BEEN A BLESSING.



Pardon My Planet











NOTICES

Project I Famagu'on-ta - Become a Treatment Foster Parent. You can be your own boss, make more money and help improve the life of a youth. Don't wait, call today! 647-5410 (ask for Bobbie or Annie)

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 a division of Catholic Social Service can help. Please call Monday – Firday, 472-6729/472-6709 or Hotline: 637-2533. All Information is kept confi-

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.

Island Girl Power: LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Performing Arts Coordinator- Works at finding instructors in Dance, theater, and music. One Performing Arts activity per month minimum. Arts & Crafts Coordinator- Works with others to have one or more art classes per month, especially during

the holidays. Health & Wellness Coordinator-Works with Prevention Partners to schedule workshops and classes one or more per month.

Career & Athletic Guest Coordina tor(s)- Works to promote various Career Choices by bringing in business owners, career guest speakers or setting up demonstrations for different types of career choices. One Career Activity per month.
After-School Activity Coordinator –

Coordinates Classes and Tutoring on weekdays for hours between 3-7pm. For more information visit our website: islandgirlpower.com or to register to volunteer call 688-4752 or email islandgirlpower@yahoo.com

FOR RENT

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

Maite 2 Br w/wtr & swr. very clean renovated Call Lucy 477-8945

Sinaiana 3br 1b. Apartment water heater \$800, Sec 8 ok, call 688-7290

FOR SALE

Dededo, 3 br/2ba, Mudular, good condition. 1 quarter acre landscaped, gret loc, appliances inc. two carport, recduced call 632-3394

Brand new in a box isqueez OSIM black Foot massager \$400.00 Call 472-3146 Sheila

Mango Trees, Guava (large) Trees Hot Pepper Plants, call Mike 828-

Phunkee Kraftwerks Motorola Iden Phone Ring Tones/Mixed CDs Please call Jesse at 868-7851 or Joyce at 687-7942

HOUSEHOLD

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

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

Shortcuts - Lawn Services Call Ray at 777-0381.

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

Interested in starting your own Fine Fashion Jewelry business? Call 472-4343 today for details!

The Pampered Chef® Quality Kitchen Tools. Phone orders welcome, fundraising Opportunities. Call Sheila at 688-6080.

Wheels Driving School Call Will Limtiaco @ 777-0099 for more info.

Canopies-sizes Available 10x10 \$85, 10x20 \$130, 20x20 \$170, 20x30 \$250, 20x40 \$320 Barr. 734-7789 Dededo 633-7789

Marianas Variety

23

GFT NEWS

Prepaid Unlimited Call

unlimited weeknights Monday to Friday

from 9 pm to 6 am

a day unlimited

Saturday and Sunday from 6 am to 6 am

Ask us about our Liberation Phone Special!

All Prepaid subscribers can enjoy Unlimited Nights & Weekends (UNW).

Just dial *52 from your handset & an SMS will be sent to you for confirmation. Press *52 again to confirm. It's that easy!

UNW Rates: 25 cents for <u>each</u> weeknight, Monday to Friday, starting from 9pm to 6 am of the following day. \$1 for <u>each</u> day for Saturday and Sunday from 6 am to 6 am of the

UNW Deductions: For Unlimited Weeknights - 25 cents is deducted every 9 pm.
For Unlimited Weekends - \$1 is deducted every 6 am. For Unlimited PTT - \$1 is deducted

Nationwide Minutes to the U.S. and Hawaii is 5 cents per minute during nights & weekends. Peak hour rates for Nationwide Minutes is 25 cents per minute and for local cellular calls is 20 cents per minute. Conditions apply.

888-888 CONNECT

Guam - Saipan Office 888.8888 | Micronesia Mall 898.8888/637.7837 | GPO 898.9999/649.8182 | Agana Shopping Center 888.5555/477.3338