

Cannabis testing exemption now law with 14 other bills

FLOWER: Cannabis plants are shown being grown on private property on Guam in May 2021. *Post file photo*

By John O'Connor
john@postguam.com

Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero has appended her signature onto a testing exemption for cannabis products, enacting the measure into law on Monday.

Bill 260-37, now Public Law 37-116,

authorizes the delivery, distribution or selling of cannabis to consumers or other cannabis businesses while there is no cannabis testing facility on Guam that is ISO 17024 accredited or certified by the Americans for Safe Access Patient Focused Certification Program.

Sen. William Parkinson introduced

the measure back in March amid a local cannabis industry struggling to even get on its feet. That's because under prior requirements, no cannabis or cannabis products could be sold on Guam without first testing for potency and safety, and a laboratory is yet to be established despite efforts to do so.

"With the enactment of this law, cannabis businesses will no longer be required to test cannabis in a cannabis testing facility until either (1) a licensed testing facility opens or (2) two years after the

.....
CANNABIS continued on page 7

Following audit, oversight on GHS/OCD set for end of month

By John O'Connor
john@postguam.com

An oversight hearing on Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense, originally set for July 17, will now take place on July 31 due to a scheduling conflict, according to Isaiah Aguon, chief of staff for Sen. Dwayne San Nicolas, head of the legislative committee on emergency response.

The oversight hearing comes after the Office of Public Accountability released an audit detailing grant funding issues at GHS/OCD. OPA

.....
OVERSIGHT continued on page 7



GHS/OCD: Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense is seen in Agaña Heights on Jan. 9. *Frank San Nicolas/The Guam Daily Post*

Guam Democrats set to back Harris

By John O'Connor
john@postguam.com

With President Joe Biden having dropped out of the presidential race and endorsing Vice President Kamala Harris to be the Democrat Party's presidential nominee, Guam's delegation to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago is now promising to pledge all of its 12 votes to Harris.

"We believe that Vice President Harris will carry forward an agenda that will continue to fight for the rights of minorities, women's reproductive freedom, support for small businesses, gender equality, civil rights and justice reform, and

.....
HARRIS continued on page 7





Companion Animal Welfare Workshop

Come learn how to best care for the dogs who care so much about you! This free community workshop will feature expertise on dog grooming, health, and wellness from visiting veterinarians, an animal scientist, a local groomer, and Guam's animal shelter.

The Threat of Parasites in Our Pets

Canine Nutrition

It's Raining Cats and Dogs:

Environmental, Public Health, and Economic Impacts of Guam's Stray Animal Problem and How to "Fix" It

Basic Home Grooming

Dr. Pin-Chen Liu
Assistant Professor
College of Veterinary Medicine
National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan

Dr. Jeng-Hung "Leo" Liu
Assistant Professor of Animal Sciences
University of Guam

Alison Hadley
Executive Director
Guam Animals in Need (GAIN)

Poochanee Patipenung
Owner
Happy Pooch

Time

Date

Location

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 23

Sinajana Mayor's Office
117A Chalan Guma Yu'us

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24*

Yigo Research & Education Center
Chalan Estudia off Wusstig Rd.

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 25

University of Guam
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Bota kandidatu sila gi un (1) partidu ha'. Yanggen man bota hao gi todu i dos banda gi balota, ti u ma kuente i enteru na balota. Na' bula i ubalao <input type="radio"/> gi fi'on i kandidatu sila na' inayek-ma. Yanggen para un fuge' halom i kandidatu, na' bula i ubalao <input type="radio"/> ya un fuge' i na'an i kandidatu gi fi'on i ubalao. Yanggen lachi hao, fangpao nurebo na balota.	
DEMOCRAT	
Guam Legislature / Lihelaturan Guahan Mark no more than three (3) ovals. Mungge ma malla mas ki kine (3) na ubalao.	Mayor District of Hagåtña Mahor Distrition Hagåtña Mark one (1) oval only. Malla ansu (1) na ubalao.
1. PARKINSON, William Mark Incumbent - PUGUPU J.	Write-in
2. PEREZ, Sabrina E. Incumbent - FAMILIAN GULO, CACESA	Nonvoting Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives Diligidon Kongresu para i Gime' Representante
3. QUINATA, Roy Anthony Benavente Incumbent	Mark one (1) oval only. Malla ansu (1) na ubalao.
4. SAN NICOLAS, Dwayne Thomas Diaz Incumbent - MR. GOODMAN	1. SAN NICOLAS, Michael Franklin Quiques Representable Guam
5. CRIBOSTOMO, David Walter VETERAN - 4 THE MAN'AKO'	2. SHELTON, Amanda L. CARABAOICHELOUZMAN
6. SAN AGUSTIN, Joe Shimizu Incumbent - Joe Shimizu San Agustin	3. CRUZ, Ginger
7. BARNETT, Daniel Christopher Incumbent - MALAFUWIKILU	Write-in
8. TERLAJE, Thomas M. Incumbent - Attorney	
9. DUENAS, David Ralph "DAVE" OTING	
10. MUNA BARNES, Tina Roal Incumbent - PANGGONDACHE	
11. SANTOS, Angela Theresa Ann Marie ROOTED 4 THE PEOPLE	
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1. MATANANE, Sabrina Sales ERI	1. SAN AGUSTIN, Joytha Limlaco Joyr Gento
2. BROWN, Joanne M. Incumbent - Solas	2. GUMATAOTAO, Michael Thomas Cruz FAMILIAN DHOIC
3. LUJAN, Jesse Anderson Incumbent - JESS THE BUZZ	Write-in
4. PAYNE, William Bill Marfalan	Nonvoting Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives Diligidon Kongresu para i Gime' Representante
5. BLAS, Frank Flores, Jr. Incumbent - DERO JEJE CABELA	Mark one (1) oval only. Malla ansu (1) na ubalao.
6. BORJA, Vincent A.V.	1. MOYLAN, James C. Incumbent - Camacho Jessi Pragon Jim
7. GUMATAOTAO, Eulogio Shawn Shawn	Write-in
8. TAITAGUE, Telo Teresa Incumbent - TAITAGUE TELO	
9. FISHER, Thomas Joseph Incumbent - ATTORNEY THOMAS FISHER	
10. GAZA, Victor A. CASIMIRUGOLLO	
11. DUENAS, Christopher M. Incumbent - CHRIS	
12. MENDOLA, Bistra Ivanova Bistra For Guam	
13. ADA, Violette Anthony Boria TONY ADA - DASORODIG	
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GRADUATES: Hundreds of graduating students attend the University of Guam Faḥmnåkan 2024 Commencement Ceremony on May 19 at the UOG Calvo Field House in Mangilao. David Castro/The Guam Daily Post

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Saturday 'Sea of Green' outreach seeking future university students

By **Jolene Toves**
jolene@postguam.com

The University of Guam's "Sea of Green" outreach event at Guam Premiere Outlets in Tamuning on Saturday not only helped prospective students navigate educational opportunities for their future but also helped to break barriers some had in setting sail for college.

Evander DeGuzman, the interim head of Student Life at UOG, was excited about the outreach event. He said he was there trying to entice people to give college a go, telling The Guam Daily Post that in approaching individuals during the event, some were hesitant to take the leap.

"Not everyone wants to go, but just know that college is always an opportunity. You can start early or as late as you want, and there's no age limit on when to start college. ... We are providing resources for people to know if they are interested in attending college," he said.

UOG offers a wide range of college studies, from the School of Business and Administration to the School of Education and the School of Natural and Applied Sciences, DeGuzman said. UOG can help navigate those educational journeys, whether it be in the pursuit of an undergraduate or graduate degree, he added.

"We have everything here that we can lay out for you to help support your

“We have everything here that we can lay out for you to help support your journey of pursuing a higher education.”

– Evander DeGuzman, interim head of Student Life, University of Guam

journey of pursuing a higher education," he said.

The Sea of Green event showcased programs designed to help high schoolers get a head start earning college credit, like the Trio Program.

"High school is always going to be a time where people start to plan out what they want to do, and we always want to promote that college is an option. People can either go to college, go into the military, or they can go straight into the workforce. But we want to emphasize if you plan early for college, and you try to narrow (down) what you want to do for your career, we can prep you for that. And of course, with a college degree it enhances better opportunity and can also increase your pay salary," DeGuzman said.

"One of the barriers that we encounter is just communication or trying to go to the location that we are at to learn more about us. That's the purpose

of us doing this outreach here in the community. We want to go beyond our campus to make sure we clarify certain things such as the affordability to go to college," DeGuzman said.

He said the university helps guide students through the application process and helps with applying for scholarships and grants to make college more affordable.

"It's almost like we are giving you training wheels on a bike and then getting those training wheels off as soon as you graduate high school. You know how to enroll and get into planning for your own classes. But again, it's about clearing the message for anyone who is confused or unsure about what's available for them out there," he said.

The event on Saturday drew interest from people of all ages, DeGuzman said.

"Not just from the youngsters, but even manåmko' because we do have a program that waives senior citizen tuition. ... That is also an inquiry we've had for people above the age of 55. ... We even have students coming from off-island for vacation interested in what we have to offer," he shared.

According to DeGuzman, the tuition rates for both local and off-island students are affordable.

The current tuition rate at UOG according to their website, is \$221 per credit for residents and \$442 per credit for nonresidents.

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'We look forward to his case eventually being dismissed,' says Akoma attorney

By Shane Tenorio Healy
shane@postguam.com

Dr. Ugochukwu Akoma's misdemeanor charges of criminal sexual conduct will eventually be dismissed, according to Akoma's attorney Joaquin "Jay" Arriola Jr.

Last week in the Superior Court of Guam, Akoma was set to go to trial for a second time on charges related to an alleged sexual assault of a female patient in October 2021 after a motion to dismiss the charges was denied by Judge Alberto Tolentino.

However, despite Akoma needing to go to trial by Tuesday because of his assertion of his right to a speedy trial, the Office of the Attorney General filed several notices, which resulted in a brief pause in the proceedings.

The AG's office seeks to appeal two of Tolentino's decisions on motions to dismiss the charges with prejudice filed by Akoma, which Tolentino denied in April, and a motion for a mistrial, which was granted in April. Additionally, the OAG issued a notice seeking to disqualify Tolentino because of his familial relationship with Attorney General Douglas Moylan.

According to Post files, Tolentino is married to Moylan's ex-wife.

While other issues had been raised last week in court, including the uncertainty of who would be prosecuting at trial and whether the victim would be able to travel to Guam from Hawaii, Akoma's attorney, Joaquin "Jay" Arriola Jr., shared with The Guam Daily Post he feels the case will eventually be dismissed "one way or another."

Opposed

Arriola further explained that with



Ugochukwu Akoma



Joaquin "Jay" Arriola Jr.

the notices, a brief hold will be placed on Akoma's second trial and that there is cause for dismissal because of the speedy trial clock.

As for the notices to appeal the decisions made on the motion for a mistrial and dismissal, Arriola called them "frivolous."

"First of all, these orders are not appealable orders. If a defendant wins a motion for a mistrial because they messed up, the resolution is you dismiss the case, or you start again. ... The judge ruled we start again. ... Second of all, it's too late. They had 30 days to appeal. It is now July and that order was issued in April," Arriola told the Post.

Regarding the motion to dismiss with prejudice, Arriola stated it was his motion that was denied, meaning the prosecution "won."

"My motion was denied, they won. Have you ever heard of the government appealing a motion they won? So they want the court to say, 'OK, we will dismiss it with prejudice.' Is that what they want?" Arriola questioned.

Then for the motion to disqualify, despite the OAG briefing, Tolentino had previously been disqualified in cases due to his familial relationship with Moylan. Post files show Tolentino has remained on cases, in particular,



COURTS: The Guam Judicial Center entrance in Hagåtña is seen on Tuesday.
Frank San Nicolas/The Guam Daily Post

a corruption case for Guam Regional Transit Authority employees, despite calls for his recusal.

"I am hopeful ... the judge will issue a very similar decision that this is unwarranted and there's no bias, and that, more importantly, the two of them agreed that this was not an issue," Arriola said.

Victim

Following the events unfolding in court, the alleged victim in Akoma's case wrote a letter to the 37th Guam Legislature expressing her intent to drop the charges against Akoma because of a "lack of faith" in the AG's office.

In light of the victim's request, Arriola stated it is further evidence of the prosecution being unprepared.

"These actions by the Attor-

ney General ... is all a display of the incompetence of that office. They are unprepared to handle a simple misdemeanor case such as this with all their resources and all their broad authorities and prosecutorial discretion. It's gotten to where their victim can't trust them to prosecute a case," Arriola said. "The government can't seem to get its act together and just prosecute a simple misdemeanor case."

Although confident the case will be dismissed, Arriola said Akoma continues to maintain his innocence.

"My client is innocent until proven guilty. And even with this dismissal that's about to come about at some point or another, he continues to maintain his innocence," said Arriola, who has been defending Akoma for almost three years.

GPD: Fatal crash in Barrigada Saturday involved hit-and-run

By Shane Tenorio Healy
shane@postguam.com

An investigation into a fatal traffic accident on July 20 has revealed that a driver ejected from his car after hitting a pole was hit in the road by another vehicle before leaving the scene.

On Tuesday, the Guam Police Department issued a press release revealing more details of a July 20 traffic crash on Route 10 in Barrigada by Ching Bros. Enterprises.

The crash, which was reported at 3:55 a.m. July 20, according to police, stemmed from the driver of a four-

door sedan traveling north on Route 10 in Barrigada on the outer lane before losing control of the vehicle, running off the road and colliding with a concrete pole.

"The vehicle continued traveling north and collided with a concrete fence. The operator was ejected, landing on the northbound outer lane," the GPD release stated.

The investigation conducted by GPD's Highway Patrol Division further found the driver of the sedan, a male, was lying on the roadway of the outer northbound lane but was hit by a car that fled the scene.

"An unidentified vehicle was trav-

eling north on Route 10 by Ching Brothers, struck the pedestrian and fled the scene," according to GPD.

As the investigation remains open and ongoing, police are seeking the community's assistance with the investigation.

"If you have any information or may have been in the area and witnessed the crash, to contact police dispatch at 671-475-8615 through 8617."

Dededo crash

More details were also revealed for another serious traffic crash that occurred on July 20 in Dededo, hours before the crash in Barrigada.

"On July 20, 2024, at about 12:08 a.m. patrol officers from the Dededo precinct responded to a reported serious crash that occurred on Route 26 by Ahau Lane, Dededo. Upon arrival, Guam Fire Depart-

ment personnel were at (the) location attending to the lone operator requiring the Jaws of Life to be extracted. The man was immediately transported thereafter to Guam Regional Medical City," a police department release also issued on Tuesday stated.

GPD's Highway Patrol Division launched an investigation and learned that the driver of a Toyota truck was traveling south on Route 26 when he lost control of the car, ran off the road and collided with a concrete power pole at the intersection of Ahua Lane and Route 26.

"A follow-up with Guam Regional Medical City was conducted. Investigators learned that the operator had passed. The investigation is ongoing and the cause of death has yet to be determined by the medical examiner," police stated.

CANNABIS continued from page 1

date of enactment," the governor stated in her enactment message.

"There are benefits and safeguards to laboratory testing, but I also recognize the apprehension of investing in an expensive laboratory testing facility without knowing the value of the market. Bill 260-37 finds a balance through labeling and reassurances from cannabis cultivators to ensure safety, in order to give an opportunity for these businesses to open and create a market. Once a market is established, investors will have data points to justify investing in a laboratory testing facility," the governor added.

The exemption doesn't just apply to cannabis plants but to all products, such as edibles, Parkinson confirmed with The Guam Daily Post. That's because "cannabis" as defined in Guam law is rather broad. It includes all parts of the cannabis plant, its seeds, resin extracted from the plant, and "every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of the plant, its seeds or resin, including cannabis or marijuana concentrate."

Marking and labeling requirements are also included in the recently enacted law. Cannabis flowers or buds need to be marked with a label

indicating the amount, strain, batch number and date of harvest, as well as the name and address of the licensed cultivation company and manufacturing company, as applicable.

The law also requires a disclaimer on products stating that the cannabis packaged within has not been tested for contaminants and that cannabis can be addictive, can impair an individual's ability to drive or operate heavy machinery, that cannabis smoke contains carcinogens and can lead to increased risk of cancer and other diseases, and to keep it unreachable to children.

Cannabis cultivators can only deliver, distribute or sell cannabis flowers or buds, absent a testing facility, by attesting under penalty of perjury that their flowers or buds meet the contaminant regulations found in Section 9802 (F)(2) of the Cannabis Testing Facility Standards and Testing Protocols.

As the governor stated, the testing exemption will only last as long as there isn't a testing facility or until two years after enactment. But it also doesn't start right away, with the effective date being 90 days after enactment.

In addition to Bill 260, a measure aiming to prevent discrimination in employment over cannabis use also

became law Monday, although this happened without the governor's signature. Leon Guerrero allowed the measure, Bill 6-37, to lapse into law but held concerns about certain vagueness in the language.

Overall, however, Bill 260 and Bill 6 were just two of more than a dozen recently passed measures that became law Monday. Some lapsed, but most were signed. These include measures deferring property tax increases and creating harsher penalties for major drug crimes.

Bills now law

Bill 190-37, now P.L. 37-109 (lapsed): creates the Marianas Cyber Security Working Group.

Bill 155-37, now P.L. 37-110: related to the attendance of witnesses, the "Uniform Act to Secure the Attendance of Witnesses From Without A State In Criminal Proceedings."

Bill 246-37, now P.L. 37-111 (lapsed): amends rules for the Chamorro Land Trust Commission.

Bill 273-37, now P.L. 37-112: requires the Guam Waterworks Authority to create a customer assistance program.

Bill 239-37, now P.L. 37-113: raises the sentencing parameters for major drug possession of methamphetamine and fentanyl.

Bill 288-37, now P.L. 37-114: authorizes the Chamorro Land Trust Commission

to seek funding through U.S. Department of Agriculture programs.

Bill 243-37, now P.L. 37-115: eliminates the statute of limitations for financial and property exploitation of the elderly or individuals with disabilities.

Bill 260-37, now P.L. 37-116: creates an exemption for cannabis lab testing requirements pending the establishment of a testing laboratory.

Bill 265-37, now P.L. 37-117: defers any increase in property tax assessments for owners of certain zoned properties used for residential purposes resulting from an upcoming islandwide property revaluation.

Bill 261-37, now P.L. 37-118: relative to creating greater inclusion in government of Guam sick leave policy.

Bill 6-37, now P.L. 37-119 (lapsed): related to ending discrimination in employment for using cannabis.

Bill 294-37, now P.L. 37-120: establishes June 12 as Women Veterans Recognition Day.

Bill 14-37, now P.L. 37-121: related to codifying a procedure for public meetings during public emergencies.

Bill 39-37, now P.L. 37-122 (lapsed): expanding the castle doctrine law.

Bill 296-37, now P.L. 37-123: appropriates more than \$2.4 million for merit bonuses owed to current and former government employees.

OVERSIGHT continued from page 1

officials, including Public Auditor Benjamin Cruz, met with lawmakers to discuss the audit during a hearing in June.

The audit stated that GHS/OCD owed \$8.4 million to the general fund, despite claiming to be 100% federally funded, due to federal grant restrictions. It also made note of \$34.7 million in questioned costs that the Federal Emergency Management Agency may have GHS/OCD repay.

The oversight hearing agenda includes topics such as GHS/OCD funding and budget, FEMA grant restrictions and noncompliance and financial impacts to the general fund, among others.

When asked why San Nicolas was holding the oversight hearing and what the senator expected to learn, Aguon said there are "two sides to every story," that San Nicolas is about being fair, and that the hearing is being called to better understand the OPA audit.

"He wants to ensure that the findings of the audit report does not affect the general fund in any way, shape or form. Sen. San Nicolas also wants to know what specific actions are being taken to ensure that future expenditures are reimbursed in a timely manner. Additionally, he wants to know the steps taken to ensure GHS/OCD is in compliance with guidelines of federal grants. Generally, this oversight hearing aims to understand how the leadership of GHS/OCD

is correcting the mistakes of past administrations, implementing the recommendations from past audit reports, and its enforcement of any corrective action plan in response to OPA's findings highlighted in the most recent audit report," Aguon stated.

"Sen. San Nicolas wants to support GHS/OCD to get over this bump in the road," he added.

The OPA recommended that GHS/OCD work with the Legislature to determine whether to appropriate or authorize local funding directly to the agencies and to immediately address previously identified issues to mitigate the complete loss of their federal funding.

The management's response to the OPA audit concurred with the recom-

mendations and proposed a corrective action plan.

Cruz said during the hearing in June that he was satisfied with the work GHS/OCD went through with the action plan.

The audit on GHS/OCD was released after the governor had vetoed a measure that would grant the OPA a continuous funding source, an action that Cruz said underscored the intent and need for such a measure.

Bill 227-37 would have given the OPA a continuing budget equal to at least 0.25% of general fund revenues available for appropriation. Lawmakers attempted to override the governor's veto this past session but fell one vote shy of the ten needed to pass an override.

HARRIS continued from page 1

investing in communities to strengthen the middle class. We are proud that as a fellow Asian American, her values align with our broader Asian-Pacific culture," a release from the delegation stated.

Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero serves as chair of the Guam delegations.

She stated in the release that she was proud to announce that Democrats on Guam stood united in supporting Harris as the party's presidential nominee.

"She possesses the strength and capability to unite our nation and, ultimately, defeat (former President) Donald Trump in November," the

governor stated.

Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio said Guam is the first delegation to endorse Harris.

"Today, our Democratic delegation has demonstrated leadership by uniting behind Kamala Harris to safeguard our democracy and the rights and freedoms Americans have fought for," Tenorio said.

The Democratic National Convention will begin on Aug. 19.

Biden announced that he was dropping out of the presidential race amid concerns about his fitness for office following a poor showing during his debate with Trump in June. Shortly after the announcement, he endorsed Harris to be the presidential nominee for the Democrat Party.



HARRIS: Vice President Kamala Harris speaks on the South Lawn of the White House on Monday in Washington, D.C. Andrew Harnik/Getty Images/Tribune News Service

The imperiled Great Lakes take the national stage

OPINION

By Joel Brammeier
Chicago Tribune

This past winter, Great Lakers noticed something conspicuous by its absence — ice. Ice coverage on the lakes was the lowest in 50 years. Lake scientists told us that 2024 was one year of a long-term trend of less ice connected to the impacts of the climate crisis on our lakes.

According to research by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the University of Michigan, average temperatures in the region have risen 2.3 degrees Fahrenheit since 1951. Summer lake surface temperatures have been increasing faster than the surrounding air temperatures, with Lake Superior rising by 4.5 degrees.

Fast-forward to this already-sweltering summer when both major U.S. political parties are hosting presidential nominating conventions in Great Lakes cities: first, the Republican National Committee convention in Milwaukee, followed by the Democratic National Committee's nominating event in Chicago, set for Aug. 19 to 22.

Candidates and campaigns will have a clear opportunity to stake out solutions and remedies for the threats to our region's most precious natural resource — the Great Lakes. The lakes hold about 22% of the world's fresh surface water. As North America gets hotter and dryer, protecting our source of drinking water is paramount.

While tens of millions of Americans rely on the Great Lakes for their drinking water, a healthy Lake Erie, Lake Superior, Lake Ontario, Lake Huron and Lake Michigan are also economic engines. They generate billions of dollars in the fishing, recreation and tourism industries. If it were its own country, the Great Lakes region would have a gross domestic product of \$6 trillion — making it the third biggest



SAILBOAT: A sailboat passes a Chicago water intake crib in Lake Michigan on July 10.
Brian Cassella/Chicago Tribune/Tribune News Service

economy in the world.

Aside from being home to one of Earth's globally unique natural resources, the Great Lakes region contains critical manufacturing centers, six of the nation's top corn-producing states and thriving urban treasures such as Chicago and Milwaukee. The region is large, diverse and reflective of a wide range of American experiences, and 113 members of the U.S. House of Representatives hail from the eight Great Lakes states. The Great Lakes face a host of environmental challenges — threats that climate change is already making worse.

From 1951 through 2017, the amount of precipitation in the heaviest storms increased by 35% in the Great Lakes region. These deluges overwhelm crumbling stormwater and sewage infrastructure already at a tipping point. Water levels in the lakes rose at an astonishing rate from 2014 to 2020. Erratic and extreme water level changes, combined with heavier rainfall, put coastal properties and communities at risk.

Lake Erie is so fouled from agriculture pollution that toxic summer algal blooms mean daily warnings for people and pets to stay away from the water. Adding insult to injury, Ohio residents pay extra for safe drinking water due to treatment costs. The poison algae problem has spread to all five Great Lakes. Warmer water turbo-charges these blooms and causes them to appear earlier and grow bigger.

Voracious ecosystem- and economy-destroying invasive carp are massing in the Illinois River, threatening to invade Lake Michigan. Invasive species can thrive in water made hotter by our warming atmosphere, while native cold-water species can get pushed out.

Plastic pollution isn't caused by climate change, but the production of single-use plastic depends on fossil fuels. Our Great Lakes suffer from a plastic pollution scourge like the oceans but with scant attention in comparison. More than 85% of shoreline debris over the last two decades was either partially or totally

composed of plastic. And plastic particles don't go away; they just break down into smaller pieces called micro- or even nano-plastic. Plastics are now found in our Great Lakes, our drinking water, our food and our bodies.

We remain underprepared for these challenges ahead, even as the Great Lakes region is viewed by some as a climate refuge — both for people and for businesses that rely on water access.

States, cities and organizations are working every day to solve these problems. But the Great Lakes cross state, tribal and international lines, so the federal government has a huge role to play. Two decades ago, the region came together to seed what eventually became known as the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which is paying for the ongoing cleanup of some of the worst contaminated sites in the region. Our question today: What new commitments will the next administration advance to support this vital part of the country?

Whether replacing failing infrastructure, reducing sources of plastic pollution, stopping invasive species or reckoning honestly with agriculture, federal priorities can be the difference between clean lakes and healthy people, and festering problems that damage human health, our economy and the environment.

In 2025 and beyond, the more than 30 million Americans who rely on Great Lakes water every day need federal leadership and action to help us keep the Great Lakes healthy and economically thriving.

Joel Brammeier is CEO of the Alliance for the Great Lakes, a nonpartisan nonprofit working across the region to protect the fresh, clean and natural waters of the Great Lakes.



ONLINE READER

POLL

Which party are you likely to vote for in the primary?

- A. Republican
- B. Democrat
- C. Undecided



CAST IT
BE HEARD
SCAN & VOTE





FINO' I HA'ANI

Arekla

Palåbra gi Fino' CHamoru

To set in order, to adjust, to fix

Palåbra gi Fino' Engles

Arekla i na'yan gi i lamasas.

Sinangan gi Fino' CHamoru

Set the table.

Sinangan gi Fino' Engles



The political future of the pro-life movement



View from the Gallery

By Tim Rohr

The National Republican Party and the Trump campaign are reportedly abandoning their previous pro-life platforms and many pro-lifers are feeling betrayed. But not me, and here's why.

For nearly half a century pro-lifers had a single focus: overturn Roe v Wade. And that focus gave energy and clarity to everything pro-lifers did, from marches on the Capital to praying on sidewalks.

The efforts and focus of pro-life forces for those nearly fifty years

were well-placed. The only recourse to Roe, a decision that led to an estimated one million abortions every year for fifty years, could only be a different decision by the same court. And that could only happen with a change in the composition of the court.

Such a change depended on a president who would appoint pro-life justices and a pro-life senate to confirm those appointments. So, in the face of Roe, the only power pro-lifers had, other than to keep the issue in the public eye, was to keep the political pressure turned up on electing pro-life presidents and members of the Senate.

It took fifty years, but finally, all the stars aligned after Donald Trump was elected president and three seats opened up on the Supreme Court bench. Fortunately, for pro-lifers, there was a Republican majority in the Senate to confirm those appointments, but even so, the confirmation hearings were heated, vicious, personal and partisan.

The pro-aborts knew what was coming. Candidate Trump had promised to appoint justices who would overturn Roe if he had the opportunity to do so, and he had the opportunity upon the deaths of Justices Antonin Scalia and Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the retirement of Anthony Kennedy.

Two years after the appointment of the third justice, Amy Coney Barrett, the Court voted 6-3 in Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization, finding that there was no constitu-

tional right to an abortion and Roe was overturned.

Dobbs did not outlaw abortion. The reversal of Roe simply gave the decision back to the states where even pro-aborts like Justice Ginsburg believed it belonged all along.

At this point, pro-lifers should have changed their focus from the national stage to the local stage and used the same focus and energy to effect the legislation that the Dobbs decision afforded. And some did - as evidenced by the flurry of anti-abortion legislation in some states.

Meanwhile, though, it appears national pro-life organizations, accustomed to fighting on the national stage for fifty years, suddenly didn't know what to do with themselves and turned their attention to a whole slew of other agenda items.

To name a few: opposition to the public funding of abortion, opposition to the public funding of Planned Parenthood, opposition to the sale of fetal tissue and fetal body parts, opposition to federal subsidies for healthcare which includes abortion coverage, and support for a human life amendment to the Constitution.

All of these are good and none of them are new. But what's new is the lack of singular focus that opposition to Roe had provided, and what is left is a list of 27 agenda items national pro-life organizations want the GOP and the Trump campaign to commit to with the same singularity of focus as if Roe was still the law of the land.

And that's not going to happen.

While Trump has often expressed his belief that unborn life is sacred, he wasn't coming at it with the religious crusader fervor of most pro-life Christians.

From what I can tell, Trump simply believed that Roe was a bad law and that its imposition on the American people for 50 years was tyranny. Trump's remedy was to get rid of a bad law and return the decision to the states and to the people who live in those states. Indeed, he never promised to do more than that.

One disgruntled pro-life columnist, lamenting the removal of the 27 agenda items from the GOP platform, wrote: "This comprehensive list has been replaced by a generic statement: 'We proudly stand for families and life,' and an ambiguous reference to the Fourteenth Amendment, which, under current jurisprudence, does not recognize the legal personhood of the unborn."

My recommendation is for these national pro-lifers to get out of "D.C.," get home, and get to work. Like never before, the door is open to legislatively protect human life in all its stages: "from conception to natural death." And we don't need a party or a president to do it.

Tim Rohr has resided in Guam since 1987. He has raised a family of 11 children, owned several businesses, and most recently been active in local issues via his blog, JungleWatch.info, letters to local publications and occasional public appearances.

Biden's effort for housing price relief: Easy to conceive but hard to deliver

OPINION

By Bruce Yandle

Tribune News Service

Calling for price controls to bring down inflation is like having a baby—easy to conceive but hard to deliver.

In an ironic but understandable turn of events, given that it is "crazy season" when desperate politicians try almost anything to get elected, Joe Biden has announced a White House effort to impose IRS-administered controls on rents charged by landlords in major markets across the United States.

Let's face it, the idea of just outlawing price increases to limit inflation has superficial appeal. But the Biden proposal should be dismissed for what it is, a clumsy election-year attempt to attract some more votes by appearing to quench inflationary fires that ironically Biden himself ignited.

The Biden proposal intends to limit rent increases to no more than 5% per year and applies to landlords nationwide with 50 or more rental units in their portfolios. One can expect to see lots of portfolios with 49 properties. Those who fail to comply will lose valuable income tax depreciation write-offs. But, of course, the mischief comes in managing the price control nightmare that follows.

During the failed Nixon/Ford/Carter wage-price control efforts of 1974-1978, I was a senior economist on the staff of the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability. There were hundreds of analysts involved in managing the controls. Of course, an escape mechanism had to be provided for situations where economic shocks would raise costs that somehow had to be covered. Aggrieved parties could appeal to the secretary of treasury.

A much-discussed appeal involved Girl Scouts of America who faced rising costs for their cookies.

They won. But did it make sense to have the U.S. Treasury Secretary dealing with Girl Scout cookie prices, or now, to have the President of the United States telling landlords how to price their services?

There is no doubt about it. Rising housing prices are a real issue. As noted in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' most recent June 2024 Consumer Price Index report: "The index for all items less food and energy rose 3.4% over the past 12 months. The shelter index increased 5.4% over the last year, accounting for over two-thirds of the total 12-month increase in the all items less food and energy index."

Interestingly, though, just a few days prior to Biden's rent-relief announcement, Secretary of Treasury Janet Yellen in congressional testimony never mentioned greedy landlords but indicated that rising housing costs are the result of efforts by the Federal Reserve (Fed) to reduce inflation by way of higher interest rates. After all, the Fed

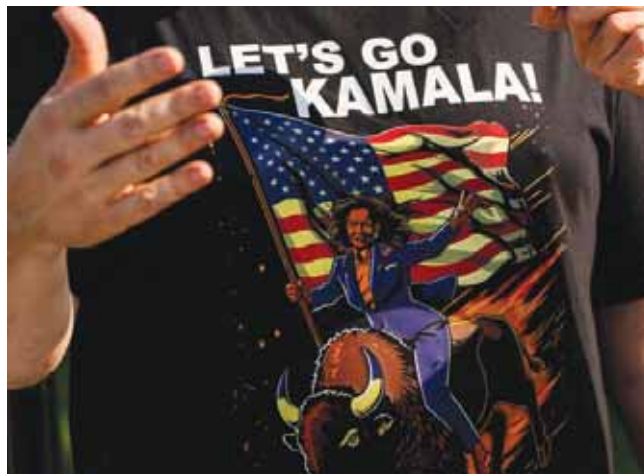
tightens, mortgage rates rise, and housing becomes more expensive.

Yellen stated: "Elevated prices and the high interest rates designed to fight them have made housing prices rise over the past few months." She had earlier announced administrative changes designed to facilitate improved access to housing finance.

It can be argued strongly that the inflation spiral that delivered higher-priced housing resulted from Biden's 2021 decision to send \$1.9 trillion of newly printed dollars to U.S. citizens to ease their unhappy COVID encounters. Very quickly, the new dollars started chasing a limited supply of goods and services. Inflation increased, and the Fed responded. Calling for price controls to remedy the situation will likely bring less housing and more mischief than improved well-being.

Bruce Yandle is a distinguished adjunct fellow with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, dean emeritus of the Clemson University College of Business & Behavioral Science, and a former executive director of the Federal Trade Commission.

SUPPORT:
Supporters of President Biden left balloons at the White House to thank the president for his service on Sunday. Astrid Riecken/For The Washington Post



TRIBBY:
Tony Tribby wears a T-shirt in support of Vice President Harris outside of the White House on Sunday. Deme-trius Freeman/The Washington Post

How deeply political DC reacted when Biden dropped out of presidential race

By Joe Heim, Hau Chu, Emma Uber and Jada Yuan
The Washington Post

Everyone in Washington, it seemed, heard the news almost simultaneously, alerted by beeps and buzzes on their phones soon after President Biden posted his statement on X, formerly Twitter, that he was abandoning his reelection bid. Even though many expected he might step aside, the sudden Sunday afternoon announcement jolted the capital like an earthquake, reshaping the political landscape and the November election in an instant.

In the District, where politics has always been king, Biden's decision reverberated across the city's coffee shops and bars, street corners and playgrounds, and outside of the Capitol and the White House.

Biden was especially popular in D.C., winning 92% of the District's 2020 general election vote. In the 24 hours following his post, as the reality sunk in that his more than 50-year political career was ending, everyone, it seemed, had thoughts.

Felix Brown, 21, was at Blue Bottle Coffee in Georgetown on Sunday when he noticed the people sitting a few feet away murmuring excitedly. He overheard some of their conversation and turned to the strangers to ask, "Is it true? Did Biden drop out?"

Could feel the buzz

As word spread rapidly around the coffee shop, Brown, a Democrat, said customers began to smile at one another. "I could feel the buzz around me," he said.

Sheamari Whitaker, 21, a summer intern for a Senate committee, said on Monday that when she first heard the news, she thought it wasn't real. Biden has been president or vice president for more than half of her life.

"I was not surprised, but a little

surprised," Whitaker said, echoing a response many others gave about learning of the president's decision. "We're so deep into the election process so we really weren't sure how this was going to go."

As a consensus opinion has emerged that Vice President Harris will likely be the Democratic nominee for president, Whitaker, a rising senior at Howard University, Harris's alma mater, said she's excited but also a little wary.

Concerned about her safety

"I'm nervous because of how things went with Hillary Clinton. Not only is Kamala a woman, she's a Black woman," Whitaker said. "I'm very concerned about her safety."

Dorothy Devore, 81, was on her way to work Monday morning as a cashier at a Senate cafeteria, a job she's held for more than 30 years. The District resident has seen her share of political surprises over the years, but Biden's decision still came as a shock. She's fond of the president, she said, but worried about him recently. "Every time I see him on TV he just didn't look right," she said.

Walking on Pennsylvania Avenue a few blocks from the Library of Congress shortly after the news broke Sunday, Robert Argento, 35, said he was glad Biden made the decision to drop out.

"It was 'will they or won't they?' for such a long time," Argento said. "It was a relief that we could move on from this very stressful conversation."

This being Washington, more than a few people declined to comment on the president's decision.

"Because of my job, I probably can't talk about that," was one version of an answer given by numerous people asked for their opinion about Biden leaving the race. Young Hill staffers were especially eager to avoid the wrath of their bosses by uttering anything without permission.

Spontaneous rally

Biden was at his Rehoboth Beach, Del. home recovering from COVID when he made his announcement, but more than a hundred people gathered outside the White House early Sunday evening. Some were tourists whose trips coincided with the news. But dozens, including former Biden officials and staffers, congregated at Lafayette Square for a spontaneous rally to honor his accomplishments.

Anne Filipic, who had various roles in the Obama and Biden administrations, said she wanted to show her "gratitude and appreciation" to Biden.

The 42-year-old arrived about 7 p.m. from her Mount Pleasant home with her husband and three kids. A sign on their stroller said: "My future is brighter because of you!" and "Great president, true patriot!"

Filipic, the CEO of Share Our Strength, a D.C. nonprofit fighting hunger and poverty, was eager to "rally behind Vice President Harris" and wanted her kids to be part of the moment, she said.

Former Obama staffers Kyle Lierman, 37, and Amanda Brown-Lierman, 38, had been on vacation three hours away in Deep Creek, Md., and immediately jumped in a car with their three kids to head to D.C. when they heard.

'Proud of him'

"I'm proud of him," said Lierman. "I think a lot of us were waiting for him to make this decision and waiting to take his lead."

Not everyone outside the White House cheered for the president. Independent Michael Wille, 37, a catering sales manager for a sandwich shop in D.C., had a homemade sign reading, "Bye, Joe!" He'd come out as soon as he heard the news.

Wille said he isn't supporting Trump and said he'd only come out to tell people not to believe anything politicians say. He said he'd like Biden to resign and for a third-party candi-

date to run, but with Harris likely in the race, he said, "I think it's great for Trump. He'll probably win."

Elsewhere in D.C., the news left some people feeling uncertain.

"Things are so chaotic," said Grace Koh, 51, as she walked her dog Coco past Eastern Market late Sunday afternoon. "I think that's the way we all feel about politics right now, right? These are not easy times."

'How difficult it must have been'

Koh said she isn't sure who she'll vote for in November but said she felt sad for Biden. "I've thought about how he's feeling and how difficult it must have been to make that decision."

Out for a walk in his Capitol Hill neighborhood Sunday afternoon, Bill Nash, 81, a registered independent, said he too felt empathy for the president. "He is an honorable, dedicated public servant and for him to face the consequences we all face of getting old is very difficult. And it's sad," said Nash.

Marquise Lewis, 29, stepped out for a smoke break from his job as a chef at a restaurant on Pennsylvania Avenue SE. He learned of Biden's decision in the kitchen during a busy afternoon so he was just starting to think about the consequences.

"If you're physically incapable, I'd say focus on your health. Winning the election and then having health issues isn't going to help anyone," he said.

Lewis said he wasn't the biggest fan of Biden or Trump but he's willing to give Harris a chance to make her case. Traditional politics isn't winning him over.

"We just need new blood," he said. "Someone not D or R, just someone doing the best for the American people."

Gebre Hiwot, 61, of D.C., said Biden made the right decision to leave the race. "What he did for the country was great," he said. "Now it is time for him to step aside."

Harris won't preside over Netanyahu's speech to Congress

By Liz Goodwin
and Yasmeen Abutaleb
The Washington Post

Vice President Harris has declined to preside over the Senate chamber when Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addresses a joint meeting of Congress on Wednesday afternoon, according to two people familiar with her plans who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations.

Netanyahu, who has clashed with President Biden over his handling of the war in Gaza, is expected to meet with Harris at another point during his visit, however, according to a U.S. official. He will also probably meet with Biden during his time in Washington.

As Harris seeks the presidential nomination after Biden's departure from the campaign, all eyes will be on how she navigates the inflammatory and divisive issue of Israel's war in Gaza after the Oct. 7 attack on the country by Hamas. Harris's team informed the Senate she would not preside over the Netanyahu speech even before Biden announced he was no longer running for reelection. A Harris spokesperson did not respond to a request for comment.

Deeply divided

Democrats are deeply divided over the war, and dozens of liberal lawmakers are expected to boycott Netanyahu's speech, saying they fear he is using them as a prop to bolster his shaky political standing at home. Republicans have banded together in support of Netanyahu, attacking Democrats for any criticism of the prime minister, and House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) threatened to have anyone arrested who disrupts the event.

Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) also declined to preside over the joint session, according to her spokesman. Sen. Ben Cardin (D-Md.), chair of the Foreign Relations Committee, will perform the ceremonial role, according to a person familiar with his plans. Cardin, who is Jewish, is retiring at the end of the year.

The scramble over who would preside over the Senate underscores the awkwardness of the speech for Democrats, who voted in large numbers this spring to send billions of dollars in additional military support to Israel but who have also agonized over Netanyahu's tactics and the humanitarian catastrophe that has unfolded across the strip.

White House officials have in



HARRIS: Vice President Harris, as president of the Senate, presides over the upper chamber at some ceremonial events such as the State of the Union speech.

Jabin Botsford/The Washington Post

private tried to distance themselves from Netanyahu's visit, telling people they were not involved in the invitation, according to two people who have spoken to senior officials directly. Before he dropped out, Biden was expected to travel to Texas on the day of Netanyahu's address to Congress and miss the speech.

Rarely presides over congressional proceedings

As vice president, Harris is also president of the Senate, and casts the deciding vote on legislation or nominations in cases where the vote is tied. She rarely presides over congressional proceedings, however, except in special cases such as a joint session.

Harris has at times been the highest-ranking member of the Biden administration to question the way Israel has prosecuted its war against

Hamas and to speak out about the scale of civilian casualties, sparking some fears in Israel that she could take a tougher tack than Biden on the war effort if she were to win in 2024.

"As Israel defends itself, it matters how," Harris said in December. "Too many innocent Palestinians have been killed. Frankly, the scale of civilian suffering and the images and videos coming from Gaza are devastating."

More than 39,000 Palestinians have been killed during Israel's assault, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, after Hamas's Oct. 7 attack in Israel that killed about 1,200 people and left hundreds taken hostage. Biden, a staunch defender of Israel, has clashed with Netanyahu over his insistence that Israel allow more humanitarian aid into Gaza and over a temporary pause on the delivery of certain weapons.

Russia sentences Russian American journalist to 6.5 years

By Robyn Dixon
The Washington Post

A court in Russia convicted Russian American journalist Alsu Kurmasheva of reporting false information about the country's military and sentenced her to 6½ years in prison on Friday — the same day Wall Street Journal correspondent Evan Gershkovich was sentenced to 16 years on espionage charges, marking a new level of persecution of foreign press by the Kremlin.

Kurmasheva, 47, an editor with U.S. government-financed Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, was convicted in a closed trial on Friday in Kazan, nearly 500 miles east of Moscow, the same day as Gershkovich's conviction in Yekaterinburg, a city in the Urals. News of Kurmasheva's conviction, however, emerged only Monday.

Kurmasheva was convicted under Russia's wartime fake-news law, which bans the broadcasting or posting of any information about the war

in Ukraine other than official propaganda. The law, adopted after Russia's February 2022 invasion, effectively bars reporting on Russian atrocities in Ukraine, military setbacks, heavy military casualties, or criticism of the war.

Gershkovich, a U.S. citizen who was accredited as a journalist by Russia's Foreign Ministry, was convicted Friday of spying in a closed trial described by American officials and his employers as a sham. He, the Wall Street Journal and the State Department strenuously denied the charges.

Potential prisoner exchange

Russian officials have said that talks are underway with Washington about a potential prisoner exchange involving Gershkovich, but Moscow has stated repeatedly that a trade would be possible only after the conclusion of the trial. The unusually swift verdict in his case suggested potential developments in a trade. It was unclear whether Kurmasheva, too, has been the subject of such discussions.

Kurmasheva, who holds American

and Russian passports, is a Prague-based editor with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. She was detained in June 2023 after a trip home to Russia to visit her ailing mother. Both of her passports were confiscated.

Kurmasheva and her employer have denied any wrongdoing. After her detention in Kazan, she was charged with failing to register as a foreign agent, a charge often leveled at independent journalists, activists, writers, politicians and others as part of President Vladimir Putin's sweeping crackdown on dissent, which accelerated after his invasion of Ukraine.

In October, Russian prosecutors added charges of disseminating fake news about the Ukraine war. Because Kurmasheva's trial was closed, no information was available about the actions for which she was prosecuted or the nature of the evidence, if any, against her.

Unlike Gershkovich, Kurmasheva has not been declared by the State Department to be wrongfully detained,

for reasons that remain unclear. As with Gershkovich, the State Department has declared former marine and corporate security executive Paul Whelan to be wrongfully detained after he was convicted in 2020 of spying and sentenced to 16 years.

Putin hinted in February that he would be willing to swap Gershkovich for Vadim Krasikov, a Russian convicted of murder in Germany for assassinating former Chechen rebel commander Zelimkhan Khangoshvili in Berlin's main park.

Doing all he could

After Gershkovich's conviction, President Biden released a statement that he was doing all he could to secure the safe release of Gershkovich, Whelan and "all Americans wrongfully detained and held hostage abroad."

The State Department prioritizes Americans it has declared to have been wrongfully detained, which could reduce Kurmasheva's chances of being included in exchange talks.

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
For The Guam Daily Post

Guests and fish.

Ben Franklin famously said that both stink after three days, which could be correct. You love having visitors. You also love when they go home, and who could blame you? Your space is your space and, well, that's it. Still, there are times when, for many reasons, you buck up and launder the guest room sheets again. As in the new book, "Mr. Churchill in the White House" by Robert Schmuhl, doing so might divert all-out war.

The year 1941 was an eventful one for Franklin Roosevelt. In January that year, he was inaugurated for a third term in office. In March, he helped out with the British war effort; in June, his personal secretary and "close companion" Missy LeHand suffered a stroke and his presidential library broke ground. Roosevelt's mother died in September and Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japan in December. Then, at the end of the year, Winston Churchill arrived in Washington and stayed more than two weeks longer than planned.

It wasn't the last time Churchill visited the Roosevelts, but that first stay set the tone and rankled Mrs. Roosevelt mightily. Churchill dared to choose his own room in the White House, and he proceeded to treat the residence as his own home. Servants and the President both learned that the British statesman wasn't afraid to walk around in the nude; the White House butler also learned not to bother Churchill before

mid-morning, and that total quiet was mandatory in the hallways.

And yet, though the visits sometimes took on a bit of a vacationy tone, serious work was done while Churchill took up residence in America's home. Schmuhl writes at length about how the White House became, in a way, like a second office for Churchill, with the consent (implied or otherwise) of FDR (but probably not Eleanor Roosevelt), and how the efforts and "chummy" friendship of both men on this side of the pond led to "cooperation, and ... common cause" and affected what happened overseas and in the world.

So you say you've read every book on World War II that you could get your hands on and you want more. "Mr. Churchill in the White House" will satisfy you and it offers a nice bonus: you can eagerly share this WWII book with those who aren't war buffs.

Indeed, author Robert Schmuhl tells this hidden-in-plain-sight story with the kind of charm and humor you don't expect in a book on the War. There are anecdotes in here that ardent war historians will vacuum up and information that will make biography lovers happy, but readers who like a bit of dirty linen with their books will be gleeful at what Schmuhl shares, too. Trust this and speaking of politics: you'll absolutely want to know about the exchange between Nixon and Churchill, and how it portended the future...

This is a story to enjoy on a rainy day or if it's too hot to go outside. Indeed, "Mr. Churchill in the White House" is a book worth fishing for.

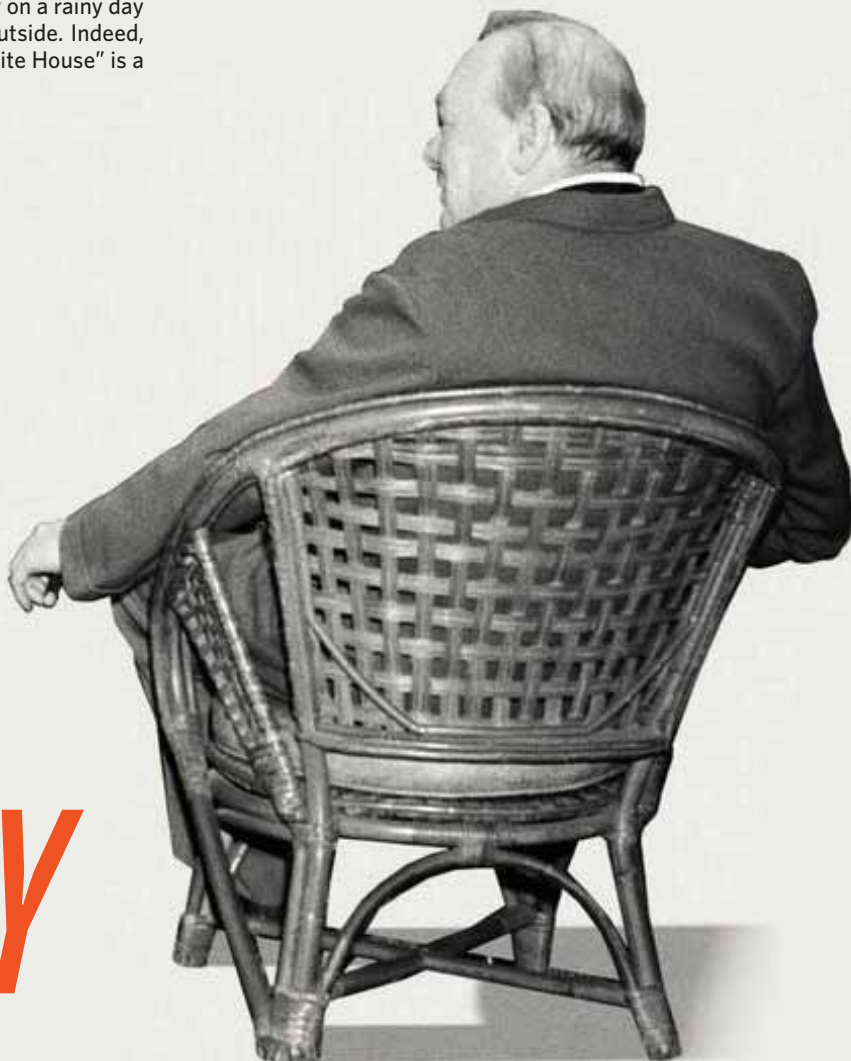
MR. CHURCHILL IN THE WHITE HOUSE

THE
UNTOLD
STORY
OF A
PRIME
MINISTER
AND TWO
PRESIDENTS

ROBERT SCHMUHL

OVERSTAYED VISITOR?: "Mr. Churchill in the White House: The Untold Story of a Prime Minister and Two Presidents," by Robert Schmuhl.
c.2024, Liveright; 382 pages, \$32.

THE PRIME MINISTER WHO CAME TO STAY



Food safety tips for chicken:

DON'T WASH IT, CLEAN YOUR HANDS AND MORE

By Ann Maloney
The Washington Post

When we talk about safely preparing food at home, we often stress the importance of washing and cleaning as we go. With raw poultry, however, experts make an exception: They say never wash your chicken.

That's because chicken can be contaminated with pathogens, including salmonella, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says causes more foodborne illnesses than any other bacteria. The CDC also notes that each year about 1 million Americans get sick from eating contaminated poultry.

The risk is at its greatest when raw chicken is prepared for cooking, especially when people choose to wash it, says Meredith Carothers, food safety specialist for the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service. But that's not the only time you should be careful. Here are some essential food safety recommendations for handling chicken.

Don't wash chicken

Rinsing chicken is among the leading causes of cross-contamination, according to the USDA. Splashing water can spread bacteria by sending contaminated droplets onto sponges, sinks, faucets, counters and tools. While the USDA has long recommended home cooks not wash raw poultry, many continue the practice.

"We realized that we are losing an entire population when we say do not wash your chicken," Carothers says. "This is a practice that likely won't change for lots of people. This is how they learned how to cook from their mothers, their grandparents. It's seen as necessary by a large group of people." So Carothers says the USDA now offers recommendations for how to protect yourself if washing your chicken feels essential.

If you insist on rinsing your chicken, use as little water as possible to reduce splashing, she says. Immediately clean the sink and the surrounding area with hot, soapy water and then sanitize with a bleach solution or a commercial sanitizer (see below). Wash your hands thoroughly, scrubbing with soap for at least 20 seconds.

Sanitizing the sink is essential because so much food prep happens there, including handling produce and washing other dishes and utensils, says Hillary Ayers, a family and consumer sciences agent with the University of Florida Institute of Food



CHICKEN TIPS:
Monitor the temperature of chicken as you cook it to know when it's done. Stacy Zarin Goldberg/For The Washington Post

and Agricultural Sciences Extension Orange County.

Keep in mind that rinsing or soaking chicken does not destroy bacteria. Only cooking to the proper temperature (see below) will kill the pathogens that can cause salmonella-related illness, Carothers says.

Keep chicken cold

Store poultry in a refrigerator set to 40 degrees or below. Chilling or freezing drastically slows pathogen production.

Carothers recommends cooking or freezing chicken within two days of buying it, as grocery store refrigerators are colder and therefore more effective at delaying the proliferation of bacteria.

If the chicken is frozen, slowly thaw it in the refrigerator, preferably covered and placed on a plate or tray to catch any potential leaks. A low shelf in the back of the refrigerator is best.

Never thaw chicken on the counter. If you're in a hurry, defrost it by placing it in airtight packaging and completely submerging it in cold water, changing the water every 30 minutes. It also can be thawed in a microwave. If chicken is thawed in the refrigerator, it can be kept refrigerated for another two days or even refrozen. Chicken thawed in the microwave or in cold water should be cooked immediately.

Wash your hands often after handling chicken

Each time you touch raw chicken, immediately wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with hot, soapy water. Even the most fastidious cooks can contaminate their kitchens by touching common items, such as a phone, cookbook, magazine, soap

pump, spice or flour containers, knobs and faucets.

To cut down on hand-washing and avoid cross-contamination, first gather, measure and prep any ingredients you plan to use on the chicken. Once the chicken is cooking, wash down the kitchen and then start working on the sides or salads, Ayers says. This way the raw chicken and other foods are never sharing tools, countertops, cutting boards or sinks.

Clean the kitchen after prepping chicken

If your dishwasher has a sanitize setting and your tools are dishwasher-safe, you can clean them this way.

If that's not an option, use hot, soapy water to clean tools or surfaces, rinse them thoroughly with clean water and pat them dry with a clean towel or allow them to air dry. Then, to sanitize, make a solution of 1 tablespoon of liquid chlorine bleach with 1 gallon of water, according to the USDA. For plastic or wood cutting boards, pour the solution onto them and let stand for several minutes. For utensils, dunk them in the solution. Then, rinse and dry. You can also use commercial sanitizers, but check the label to be sure they are safe to use with cooking tools and kitchen surfaces.

Carothers advises against using vinegar or lemon juice as sanitizers (or for rinsing chicken). Both combat only some of the bacteria that may be present.

To wipe counters and tools, Ayers urges using either paper towels that can immediately be tossed or using clean cloth towels and immediately putting them in the washing machine to be washed with hot soap and detergent.

For additional peace of mind, boil a kettle of water and pour it over the sink and sponges. It's not essential, but it is beneficial, Ayers says.

Cook chicken to the right temperature

Undercooked chicken can also cause food poisoning. Never rely on the color of the meat or juices. Temperature is your ally here. To get an accurate reading, insert an instant-read thermometer into the thickest part of the meat, avoiding the bone, fat or gristle. The USDA recommends cooking chicken to at least 165 degrees to kill harmful bacteria and prevent foodborne illness.

While some recipe developers suggest cooking chicken breasts to a lower temperature and holding them there for a certain amount of time to ensure the pathogens are killed, Carothers says 165 degrees is a better bet for safety.

Dark meat – legs and thighs – is more forgiving (and cheaper). It can remain tender and juicy even when cooked to higher temperatures, but don't take it past 195 to 200 degrees.

Refrigerate cooked chicken

Perishable foods should not be left at room temperature for more than two hours, one hour if the ambient temperature is more than 90 degrees. Bacteria thrive between 40 and 140 degrees, so the more time the food remains at warmer temperatures, the more likely it is to cause foodborne illness. For large whole chickens or turkey, Carothers recommends cutting the bird into pieces or slicing meat before refrigerating it to ensure that all of the meat quickly cools.



CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES

On July 23, \$1 was worth:

Keep posted and get more data and details online. Log on to see real time market data with our stock market tool at postguam.com/stock_market.

58.3850 PHP	157.0300 JPY	1,387.890 KRW	32.8660 TWD	7.2737 CNY	1.5055 AUD	0.9182 EUR
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BOH announces major promotion and appointment

Bank of Hawai'i Chairman and CEO Peter S. Ho announced that Vice Chair and Chief Banking Officer James C. Polk has been promoted to President of Bank of Hawai'i Corporation and its primary operating subsidiary Bank of Hawai'i (together, the "Company"), and Vice Chair Matthew K.M. Emerson has been appointed Chief Retail Banking Officer.

As president of the Company, Polk will continue to oversee commercial banking, merchant services, cash management, and wealth management. In addition, as part of Polk's expanded role, he will oversee retail banking, putting him in charge of all the bank's revenue-generating businesses. Polk will continue to report directly to Ho.

"Throughout his 25-year career with Bank of Hawai'i, Jim has demonstrated a deep understanding of our business and an impressive commitment to serving our customers and community. I appreciate Jim's exceptional leadership, vision and expertise, which will certainly guide our company toward continued growth and success," said Peter S. Ho, who will continue to serve as chairman and CEO of the Company.

Polk, who has over 35 years of experience



James C. Polk

in the financial services industry, joined Bank of Hawai'i in 1999. A decade later, he joined the bank's Executive Committee (fka Managing Committee) and has taken on a variety of leadership roles over the years, including overseeing commercial banking, consumer banking, retail lending & deposit products, and the bank's West Pacific Region. In 2016, Polk was promoted to vice chair, and in 2021 to chief banking officer.

Polk currently serves as a board member for the Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) and After-School All-Stars Hawaii. He is also the executive sponsor of one of



Matthew K.M. Emerson

the bank's employee resource groups, Nā 'Ōiwi Aloha, which strives to create opportunities for Native Hawaiians and allies to engage in dialogue and culture.

Polk earned his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Michigan and is a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, as well as a graduate of the Pacific Coast Banking School at the University of Washington.

As Bank of Hawai'i's newly appointed chief retail banking officer, Vice Chair Matthew K.M. Emerson will be responsible for the bank's consumer banking products, branch banking and contact

center, and will report to James Polk.

Emerson joined the Bank of Hawai'i in 2010 as vice president and internet banking manager in the online and mobile banking department. Since then, he has held various leadership roles across the bank, including in e-commerce and digital channels product management, investment services, retail lending, consumer deposits and digital banking. He has been a member of the bank's Executive Committee since 2018 and was promoted to vice chair in 2022. Most recently, Emerson served as chief strategy officer.

"Matt has consistently provided solid leadership, expertise and guidance in each of his positions, and has a proven track record for growing the businesses under his purview," said Peter S. Ho, chairman and CEO of Bank of Hawai'i. "Bringing together our retail businesses under Matt demonstrates the bank's commitment to putting the consumer at the heart of everything we do."

A graduate of 'Iolani School, Emerson earned his bachelor's degree in economics and mathematical methods in the social sciences from Northwestern University and his Master in Business Administration degree in finance and marketing from the Kellogg School of Management. He serves as a board member for Kapiolani Health Foundation, is a trustee of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i, and is a member of the 'Iolani School Board of Governors.

(Daily Post Staff)

Why Delta was hit so hard by the global IT outage

By Kelly Yamanouchi

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Atlanta-based Delta Air Lines was among those around the world hit by a tech outage on Friday affecting many Microsoft users.

But even after other airlines and companies recovered within about 24 hours or so, Delta's operations went into a full-blown meltdown, with more than 5,000 flight cancellations over the last few days and hundreds more Monday, according to FlightAware.com.

On Sunday, Delta CEO Ed Bastian apologized in a letter to customers and gave an explanation of why his airline has been more severely affected than other companies and has struggled to recover.

Not restored full functionality

He also explained that the airline still has not restored full functionality to its operation.

Bastian wrote that Delta has "a significant number of applications that use (the Microsoft Windows operating) system, and in particular, one of our crew tracking-related tools



CANCELED FLIGHTS: As of July 22, Atlanta-based Delta canceled more than 5,000 Delta and Delta Connection flights since the initial global technology outage on July 19. John Spink/The Atlanta Journal-Constitution/Tribune News Service

was affected and unable to effectively process the unprecedented number of changes triggered by the system shutdown."

"Our teams have been working around the clock to recover and restore full functionality," Bastian wrote Sunday.

Often when an airline's operations are disrupted by severe weather, the worst of the impacts are generally confined to one region or country. But here, Delta is encountering problems

that have clipped the wings of its entire network.

Delta has struggled to get enough crew members to staff its flights, leading in many cases to delay after delay before a flight is ultimately canceled.

In some cases, the airline may get one or two crew members to the gate for a flight, only to have them wait hours for additional crew members and "time out," or reach the limit for hours on duty.

Problem snowballs

When that happens and the flight is canceled, Delta loses the use of those crews, while the aircraft and crews don't make it to the next city for their other flights for the day, and the problem snowballs — across hundreds of flights around the country and the world.

Under different circumstances, Southwest Airlines in December 2022 had a meltdown of its operations that started amid severe winter weather during the busy Christmas holiday travel period and worsened as days wore on due to problems with its crew scheduling software.

Passenger Shakim Tilley, who was

at the airport for about 12 hours Friday with his wife and children through multiple delays before his flight was canceled, said Delta told passengers the delays were because they didn't have the flight attendants needed to operate the flight.

"They kept delaying us because they said we didn't have a flight crew," Tilley said.

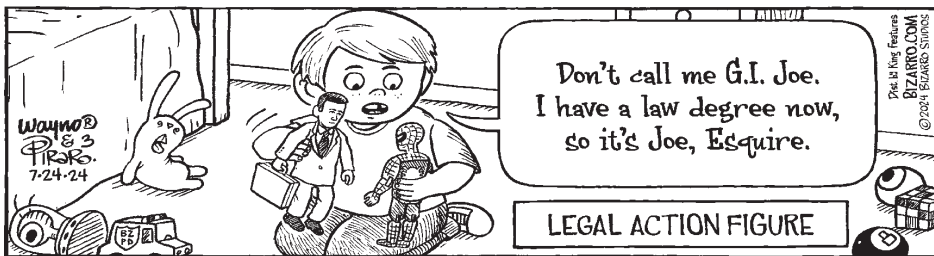
"I was trying to recruit flight attendants," said Tilley's wife Tiffany.

"The pilot sat on the airplane for 10 hours. He timed out," Shakim Tilley said. "Finally we got our flight crew," but because the pilot had timed out, "then they canceled the flight."

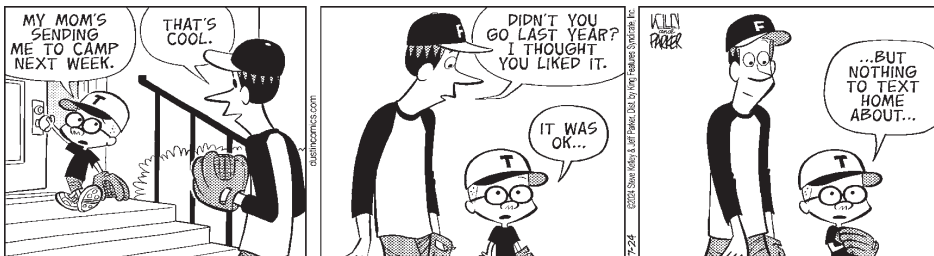
While some companies that have to shut down operations for several hours can resume operations relatively smoothly afterward while catching up on a backlog of work, it can be much more complex for airlines.

Flight schedules, crew schedules and passengers' connecting itineraries amount to an intricate and carefully-timed choreographed ballet of interconnected operations, and a disruption can leave all of the pieces of out of place.

Bizarro



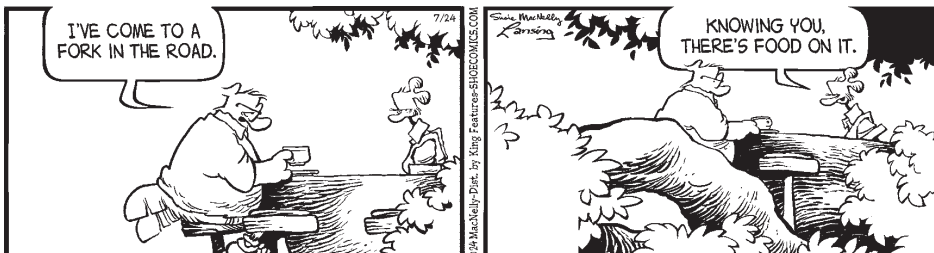
Dustin



Zits



Shoe



King Classic Sudoku

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Difficulty: ★★★

7/24

Answer
to previous
Sudoku
puzzle.

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

Difficulty: ★★

7/23

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Overturn

5 Quilt fill

9 Star in

11 Turkey

12 Make

13 Garden

14 Tennis

15 Red hue

17 Red hue

19 Shrewd

20 Girder

21 Piano part

22 Distrustful

24 Track

26 Bulls and

29 Marlin's

30 Red hue

32 Red hue

34 Gadot of

35 Fighting

36 Safari

38 Trumpet

40 Hot, in

a way

41 Casual

tops

DOWN

1 Currency

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2 Soda buys

3 Out-

fielder's

cry

4 Signing

need

5 Fabric

worker

6 Threat

phrase

7 To a great

extent

8 Mean

10 Tenant

11 Symbol of

grace

16 Jazz

legend

18 Dissolve

21 "South

Park"

23 Wild

parties

24 John or

Paul

37 Smash

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Yesterday's answer

11 Symbol of

25 Hearing

impaired

16 Jazz

27 Car

legend

28 Posture

18 Dissolve

29 Strike

21 "South

Park"

30 Ooze

31 African

lilies

33 Painter

Cassatt

24 John or

Paul

37 Smash

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
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ROYAL STARS

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Pisces.

Happy Birthday
for Wednesday, July 24, 2024:

You are charismatic, invigorating and intense. You love exciting challenges and hate routine. This is a fun-loving year for you! Give yourself permission to socialize and enjoy life. Let your guard down and loosen up a bit! Old friends might reappear to rekindle relationships.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:
5-Dynamic; 4-Positive;
3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★ This is the perfect day for behind-the-scenes research, or to study history or look for solutions to old problems or answers to questions. You won't mind digging deep for this information. Don't second-guess yourself today, because it's easy to give in to feelings of inadequacy. Relax. Tonight: Isolation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Someone older or more experienced than you might make you feel like chopped liver today, because somehow, your interaction with them is diminishing for you. This is a fleeting thing! It's gone by tomorrow. Don't give it any fuel, and don't believe it. Tonight: Avoid negativity.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★ This is not a good day to ask for permission or approval from authority figures — parents, bosses, teachers, VIPs or the police. If you do, their answer will likely be, "Talk to the hand." Wait for another day. In fact, steer clear of authority figures to make life easier today. Tonight: It's tough

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Rules and regulations might restrict you in some way today. Someone will hold you responsible or criticize you for not following the right way of doing something. Likewise, political correctness and religious rules also might squelch you in some way. (Just for today.) Tonight: Restrictions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★ You might be disappointed in your fair share of something, perhaps an inheritance or the way something is now being divided. You expected a different outcome. (Or should we say income?) Let this go, because these restrictions are temporary. Relax. Tonight: Financial obstacles.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★ Relations with others are strained today, perhaps because someone is critical of you, or perhaps because you're critical of them. You might feel they are stingy. That's because it's easy to look around you and be critical of almost everything today. Tonight: Challenging relationships.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★ In your job today or with any task that you choose to do, you might find the work to be hard, a bit of a slog. Just keep persevering, because there is nothing you can do except change your attitude, which, of course, is easier said than done. Remember: This feeling is just for today. Tonight: Work.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★ Children might be an increased responsibility today. Or perhaps social responsibilities, sports events or something to do with the arts and the entertainment world are overwhelming for you. You might feel that you're not up for the task. This isn't true; it's just how you

feel today. Tonight: Cope as best you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★ This is a tough day for you, because optimism and outdoor activity are survival issues for you. And today, it's tough to be optimistic. This is because the Moon is lined up with stern Saturn, which makes people depressed. Dealings with parents and older relatives might discourage you. Tonight: Relax.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★ Don't fall into worry mode today. It's counterproductive. Remember the saying: "Worry is like a rocking chair. It gives you something to do but gets you nowhere." Nevertheless, negative thinking is here today, so be aware of this. Tomorrow will be a better day! Tonight: Stay positive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Today you might feel a financial squeeze play. Perhaps you don't have enough money to buy what you want, or do what you want, or cover frills like bread and milk. (Yes, it's that kinda day.) Wait until tomorrow, because you'll be surprised at how much better you feel! Tonight: Check your assets.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★ Today the Moon is lined up with stern Saturn in your sign, which will make you feel discouraged or depressed. But this is a temporary illusion. It's a brief dark cloud on your horizon. By tomorrow, you will feel completely different! In fact, tomorrow is a lovely, romantic day! Tonight: Be strong.

BORN TODAY

Singer, actress Jennifer Lopez (1969),
actress Rose Byrne (1979),
actress Elisabeth Moss (1982)

IN LOVING MEMORY

Joshua Joseph

CHARGUALAF TAITAGUE

August 16, 1975 - July 6, 2024

Of Inalåhan, he was called to eternal life at the age of 48.

He is predeceased by his:

Mother: Florentina C. Taitague Sister: Christina Ann T. Quintanilla

Paternal Grandparents: Joseph M. & Lourdes M. Taitague

Maternal Grandparents: Vicente SN & Antonia C. Chargualaf

Father-In-Law: Eladio Thomas Figueroa

Joshua will be missed and lovingly remembered in the hearts

of his: Wife: Leilani Marie Figueroa Taitague

Children, Their Spouses & Grandchildren:

Shawn Michael & Ngoc Loi Figueroa (Liliana Marie);

Angelo Christian F. Taitague; Andrew Keith A. Taitague;

Cameron Kalei F. Keone;

Brianne Marie F. Duenas & Allen Teague (Jamey, Aubrey,

Jozyah, Kameron, Brielle, Bryson);

Ave Clarise Castro

Father: Franklin M. Taitague

*Brothers, Spouses, Children & *Grandchildren:*

Rev. Father Romeo D. Convozar (Reared)

Lester C. & Esmeralda Taitague (Valessa Christina)

Franklin C. Taitague Jr. & Denise Camacho

*(Anisha C. & Jesse Cruz *Karter Dru;*

*Ethan Camacho & Anna Cruz *Amora Grayce;*

*Ry'niko Camacho & Aveah Garrido *Arya Clio; Kailie Lorre Metcalf;*

Zayen Camacho; Kaylin Faith Mantanona; Auria Hope Mantanona;

Rai Chance Taitague)

Peter David S.N. Quintanilla (Brandon Peter & Jannah Deene

*Gajo-Quintanilla *Brea Deene; Serenity Flora-Jane, Zephyr Peter)*

Nephew: Ayden Vincent Taitague Bermudes

Mother-In-Law: Suzette C. Taitano

Sisters & Brother-In-Law:

Leandra Lynne F. & Kevin Alexander

Othilia Rose T. Figueroa

He will also be missed by numerous aunts, uncles,

cousins, nieces, nephews, and godchildren.

Last Respects may be paid on Saturday,

July 27, 2024, from 9:00a.m. - 11:30a.m.

at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Inalåhan

followed by Mass of Christian

Burial at 12:00 p.m. Interment Services

will be held on a later date at

Our Lady of Peace Memorial Gardens,

Windward Hills, Yona.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Paul Steven Mendiola ALMANDRES

"Familian Lino/Rana"



November 1, 1962 - June 13, 2024

of North Hills, California (formerly of Sinajana, Guam)

was called to his eternal rest at the age of 61.

Paul now joins his parents: Pedro Aquino & Lucia Indalecio Mendiola Almandres

Brothers-in-Law: Joseph V. Gumataotao, Eric-John Pangelinan, and Frank C. Salas

Nephews: Timothy A. Garrido, Adriano A. Gumataotao, and Eric A. Garrido.

He is survived by his daughters Michelle Cherniy and Angelica P. Almandres.

His siblings: Marie A.G. Salas, Rose A. Gumataotao, Jane M. Almandres, Peter

M. Almandres, Mark M. & Joleen M. Almandres, Benny M. & Carmelita I.

Almandres, Jennifer M. Almandres, and Christine A. & George T. Manibusan.

He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles,

cousins, and friends from Guam, Stateside, and the Philippines.

Last respects for our beloved brother Paul will be held on July 26, 2024, from

10am to 12:45pm. Funeral Mass will be from 1pm to 2pm at San Fernando Mission

Cemetery & Mission Hills Catholic Mortuary, Mission Hills, California.

The Almandres Family

First Anniversary

MICHAEL ANGELO SABLAN PEREZ

November 10, 1957-July 24, 2023



We, the family of the late Michael Angelo, would like to invite

friends and family to join us in prayer

as we commemorate his 1st Anniversary into eternal life.

Rosary at 5:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 6 p.m.

at Our Lady of Lourdes in Yigo

Final day on July 24, 2024

Dinner will be served in the social hall after Mass

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase Ginen I' Familia



Our heartfelt condolences
to you and your family for the loss of
your loved one

.....

**For our free announcement listing
please provide the following
information:**

- Copy of the death certificate
- Decedent's name and age
- Village or place and date of death
 - Funeral Services
 - Individual photo
(close up face photos work best) as
a hi-resolution .JPG file

.....

THE GUAM DAILY POST


FELIX PEREZ QUAN

Of Dededo and Santa Rita, passed away Jul. 17, 2024, at age 88. Last respects Jul. 31, 2024, from 9am-11:30am at

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Yigo. Mass for Christian Burial at 12pm followed by interment at Perez Memorial Park in Yigo.


JOAQUIN PEREZ CRISOSTOMO

"Kin" of Barrigada, passed away Jul. 10, 2024, at age 90. Last respects Aug. 2, 2024, from 9am-12:30pm at San Vicente Catholic Church in Barrigada. Mass for Christian Burial at 1pm. Burial follows at Guam Memorial Park in Leyang-Barrigada.


FRANCISCO TERLAJE MUÑOZ

" Frank/Ankie/Ko' "of Agana Heights, passed away Jul. 12, 2024, at age 84. Last respects Jul. 27, 2024, from 9am-11am at the Father Duenas Boys' Chapel, Mangilao. Mass for Christian Burial at 12pm at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, Agana Hts, followed by Burial at Pigo Catholic Cemetery, Anigua.


JOSEFINA DELA CONCEPCION DIAZ

Of NCS Dededo passed away Jul. 16, 2024, at age 102. Last Respects Jul. 29, from 9am- 11:30am,

followed by Mass for Christian Burial at 12pm at Sta. Bernadita Church, Agafa Gumas. Interment Services follow at Our Lady of Peace Memorial Gardens, Windward Hills, Yona.


CAROLINE T. CABRERA

"Carol" of Yigo, passed away Jul. 18, 2024, at age 57. Last respects Aug. 17, 2024, from

9am-12pm at Guam Memorial Funeral Home Chapel in Leyang, Barrigada. Interment to follow at Guam Memorial Park.


DORIS FEGURGUR BLAS

"Mama Dee" of Ordod, passed away Jul. 15, 2024, at age 66. Last respects Jul. 27, 2024, from 9am-11:55

am, at San Juan Bautista Church in Ordod. Mass for Christian Burial at 12pm. Private Family cremation follows after.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF David Benavente Petrus

February 4, 1944 - July 14, 2024

Retired U.S. Navy and Government of Guam Department of Public Works

Of Mangilao and formerly of Piti, was called home by
our Heavenly Father at the age of 80.

Mass of Intention is being held each evening at 6 p.m. at
Assumption of Our Lady Church in Piti.

In his new life, David will be met at the gates of heaven by his Daughter: Maryann U. Petrus; Parents: Jesus Crisostomo Petrus and Maria Benavente Petrus; Brother and Spouse: Joseph B. and Rosa S. Petrus.

David's love will be missed and remembered in the hearts of his Sons/Daughters and Spouses: David B. Petrus II, Deborah P. and Karsten P. Isaacson, Nadine M. Petrus and Alex D. Jones, Katrina A. Petrus, David B. Petrus III. Grandchildren: Alan R. Petrus, Bryan R. Petrus, Ashley N. Petrus. Great-grandchildren: Brianna A. Woods, Seth L. Petrus, Anthony D. Woods. Brothers/Sisters and Spouses: Helen P. and Francisco R. Flores, Ronald Petrus and Narcissa Borja, Laurie P. Nauta, Valorie P. and Danny R. Tyquengco. A great many cousins, nieces, nephews. Special friends Lori L. Francisco, Karla C. Espejo and numerous others.

Last respects may be paid on Friday, July 26, 2024 from
9 a.m. -11:45 a.m. at Assumption of Our Lady Church in Piti.
Mass for a Christian burial will be offered at 12 noon.

Interment will follow at Guam Veterans Cemetery.





Guam Solid Waste Authority

546 N. Marine Corps Dr., Tamuning, Guam 96913

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)

Bid No: GSWA-010-24
For: Mobile Car Crusher
Bid Opening Date: Monday, August 12, 2024
Time: 10:00 a.m. ChST
Location: Guam Solid Waste Authority, 2nd Floor

Bid packages may be picked up at Guam Solid Waste Authority, 546 N. Marine Corps Dr. in Upper Tumon, 2nd Floor, beginning Wednesday, July 24, 2024 until Monday, August 12, 2024, or visit the GSWA website <http://www.guamsolidwasteauthority.com> to obtain an electronic copy of the IFB.

For more information, please contact Camaryn Aguon, Buyer I, at 671-646-2354.

This advertisement was paid for by GSWA.

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Welder/Welder Helper
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General Helper
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| Bathroom | Swimming Pool |
| Living Room | Fitness Center |

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**FURNISHED
UNIT
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Note: Mockup Unit. Furniture, Appliances, Design may vary.

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For More Information
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FOR RENT
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Kumision I Tano' Saina-ta' Guam Ancestral Lands Commission

The Guam Ancestral Lands Commission Regular Board Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 31 2024 at 2:00 pm**. This meeting is open to the public via **ZOOM**

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8706936269?pwd=dVU2MzNWMXgyVVk4RVcyc1Jjd0RoUT09>

Meeting ID: 870 693 6269

Passcode: 2022

AGENDA

Call to Order; Roll Call; Approval of Minutes: June 12, 2024; **Executive Director's Report; GEDA Progress Report; Old Business:** A. JMTorres Estate-Status Update, B. GEPA Account Reconciliation-Next payment, C. Farmers Market-Calendar Year 2023 Financial Statements, D. Land Exchange; **New Business; Public Comments; Announcements:** Next GALC Meeting; **Adjournment**

TO VIEW LIVE STREAMING

<https://www.youtube.com/@GALCYouTube>

Details and link to this meeting is also available on the GovGuam Public Notices Portal at <https://notices.guam.gov>. Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids or services, may call GALC Administration Office at 671-473-5263 or email admin@galc.guam.gov for more information.

This ad is paid for by GALC Survey, Infrastructure & Development Funds.



424 Route 8 • Maite, Guam 96910 T: 671.475.8900/01 • F: 671.475.8922

PUBLIC NOTICE

For: **Regular Board Meeting** Date: **Friday, July 26, 2024** Time: **12:30 p.m.** Place: **GGRF Conference Room**
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85413915114?pwd=wgs3HRo5fjZKb7CQWx7Ka9bH66suAs.1>

YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGdR3vXRE32TB_K9d4J73UQ

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review and Approval of Board Minutes
 - A. 6/21/2024 Regular Meeting
- III. Correspondence
 - A. None
- IV. Director's Report
- V. Third Party Administrator's Report
 - A. Contribution Report - June 2024
- VI. Standing Committee Reports
 - A. Investment Committee
 1. Mercer recommendation to place the following Funds on Watch:
 - a. AB Discovery Value Fund
 - b. AB Global Fixed Income Fund Z
 - c. Principal Global Real Estate Fund
 - B. Members and Benefits Committee
- VII. Old Business
 - A. None
- VIII. New Business
 - A. None
- IX. Open Discussion / General Public Input
- X. Announcements
- XI. Adjournment

DEFINED BENEFIT

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review and Approval of Board Minutes
 - A. 6/21/2024 Regular Meeting
- III. Correspondence
 - A. None
- IV. Director's Report
- V. Legal Counsel's Report
 - A. None
- VI. Treasurer's Report of Financial Status
- VII. Standing Committee Reports
 - A. Investment Committee
 - B. Members and Benefits Committee
 1. Approval of Retirement Benefits
 2. Disability Case No. 23-004
- VIII. Old Business
 - A. None
- IX. New Business
 - A. Trustee Standing Committee Assignments
 1. Members and Benefits Committee
 2. Investment Committee
- X. Open Discussion / General Public Input
- XI. Announcements
- XII. Adjournment

For individuals requiring special accommodations, please contact 475-8900/01.
/s/ Paula M. Blas, Director

This ad is paid with government funds by GGRF.

Guam Cancer Trust Fund Council Meeting

The Guam Cancer Trust Fund Council will hold its monthly meeting online on

Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

If interested in attending the meeting, please register at gctf@triton.uog.edu.

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR
- III. REPORT FROM GCTF PROGRAM MANAGER
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
- V. NEW BUSINESS
- VI. OPEN DISCUSSION/INFORMATION
- VII. ADJOURNMENT



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14 - CEMENT MASON WITH 1 YEAR EXP.

\$17.51 PER HR.

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07 - FIELD SUPERVISOR WITH 2 YEAR EXP.

\$26.08 PER HR.

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Benefits: Roundtrip airfare for off-island hire, food & lodging at \$80.00 per week; local transportation to/from jobsite.

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JUDICIARY OF GUAM

Guam Judicial Center
120 West O'Brien Drive Hagåtña Guam 96910
www.guamcourts.org

INVITATION FOR BID
NO.: IFB 24-08

WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES

The Judiciary of Guam is accepting bids from qualified vendors for **Waste Disposal Services** for the Judiciary of Guam.

Interested and qualified vendors may request for printed or electronic copies of the IFB package from the Procurement Office, 1st Floor, Guam Judicial Center in Hagåtña Guam, **beginning Wednesday, July 24, 2024 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Guam Standard Time**, Monday to Friday, except Government of Guam holidays.

ALL BIDS must be submitted to the Procurement Office **no later than 2:00 pm, August 16, 2024, Guam Standard Time**. ALL BIDS will be publicly opened and read aloud on that said date and time at the Administrator of the Courts Conference Room, 1st Floor, Guam Judicial Center in Hagåtña, Guam.

For any periodic updates of the IFB please visit the Judiciary's website: www.guamcourts.org. For further information or to request for copies of the IFB package, please contact the Procurement Office at (671) 300-7994/475-3212/3175/3141, or email mantonio@guamcourts.gov and/or kperez@guamcourts.gov.

/s/ DANIELLE T. ROSETE
Administrator of the Courts

This notice is paid with Government of Guam funds by the Judiciary of Guam.
"The Judiciary of Guam is an equal opportunity provider and employer."



The University Of Guam Solicits Applications To Establish A List Of Eligibles For The Following Position (Tenure/Non-Tenure Track Appointment, Full/Part-Time, Subject to the availability of funds):

#099-24 ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
(WASTEWATER SCIENTIST)

Contact the Human Resources Office at (671)735-2350 for additional information regarding requirements, qualifications and application deadline, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. View the Human Resources Office website at <http://www.uog.edu/hro> for detailed information on the job announcement. For further information please email Dr. Myeong-Ho Yeo, Search Committee Chair at yeom@triton.uog.edu.

The University of Guam is a U.S. accredited institution and an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For assistance, please contact the Director, EEO and Title IX/ADA Coordinator at (671)735-2244; (671)735-2243 (TTY).

/s/ELAINE M. FACULO-GOGUE
Acting Chief Human Resources Officer

THIS AD IS PAID FOR BY UNIVERSITY OF GUAM FUNDS



The University Of Guam Solicits Applications To Establish A List Of Eligibles For The Following Position (Tenure/Non-Tenure Track Appointment, Full/Part-Time, Subject to the availability of funds):

#100-24 ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
(METEOROLOGIST)

Contact the Human Resources Office at (671)735-2350 for additional information regarding requirements, qualifications and application deadline, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. View the Human Resources Office website at <http://www.uog.edu/hro> for detailed information on the job announcement. For further information please email Dr. Nathan C. Habana, Search Committee Chair at nchabana@triton.uog.edu.

The University of Guam is a U.S. accredited institution and an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For assistance, please contact the Director, EEO and Title IX/ADA Coordinator at (671)735-2244; (671)735-2243 (TTY).

/s/JOSEPH B. GUMATAOTAO
Chief Human Resources Officer

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MARIE ELIZABETH TAITANO SANCHEZ
Decedent.

PROBATE CASE NO. PR0108-24

NOTICE OF HEARING

THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE
NOT REQUIRED TO APPEAR IN COURT
UNLESS YOU DESIRE.

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ricardo T. Guerrero has filed a Petition for Probate and for Appointment of Administrator and Letters of Administration.
2. A hearing on the petition will be heard on **Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 11:40 a.m.**
3. To attend or to participate in the hearing, you may appear in person at the Guam Judicial Center, appear remotely at <https://guamcourts.org.zoom.us> and enter Meeting ID: 86443872213 and Passcode: JEMI; or call into the courtroom at 671-300-6703 at the designated hearing time. For connectivity issues, you may contact Jannette Samson at (671)475-0141 or email jsamson@guamcourts.gov.

DATED: 05 JULY 2024

JANICE M. CAMACHO-PEREZ
Clerk of Court, Superior Court of Guam
By: /s/ Alice B. Mendoza
Courtroom/Chamber Clerk



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Facsimile: (671) 637-9660

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF
JOSE CONCEPCION SALAS and
JULIANA GUERRERO SALAS,
Decedents.

PROBATE CASE NO. PR0214-23

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT
REQUIRED TO APPEAR IN COURT UNLESS YOU DESIRE.

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Anna Salas Carriaga has filed a First and Final Report of Administrator and Petition for Allowance of Attorney's Fees and for Final Distribution.
2. A hearing on the petition will be heard on **Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 10:10 a.m.**
3. To attend or to participate in the hearing, you may appear in person at the Guam Judicial Center, appear remotely at <https://guamcourts.org.zoom.us> and enter Meeting ID: 86443872213 and Passcode: JEMI; or call into the courtroom at 671-300-6703 at the designated hearing time. For connectivity issues, you may contact Jannette Samson at (671)475-0141 or email jsamson@guamcourts.gov.

Dated 21st day of June, 2024.

SOPHIA SANTOS DIAZ,
Clerk of Court, Superior Court of Guam
/s/ ALICE B. MENDOZA
Chamber/Courtroom Clerk

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT FOR TEMPORARY POSITIONS

13 - CARPENTER (1 yr. exp.)
16 - CEMENT MASON (1 yr. exp.)

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or by emailing surfacesolutionspacific@gmail.com.
References required upon request.



K. ERIK SWANSON, Ph.D.
 Superintendent of Education

**GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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CARMEN T. CHARFAUROS
 Supply Management
 Administrator

INVITATION FOR BID
GDOE IFB 024-2024

SUPPLEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

SUBMISSION DATE: Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. CHST

Note: It is solely the Bidder's responsibility to review the website on a daily basis for the issuance of Amendments/Clarifications for any possible changes to the IFB.

This publication is subject to expedited procurement protest procedures pursuant to Guam Public Laws 37-6 and 37-41.

IFB packages are available for download on the GDOE website at
www.qdoe.net/District/Department/12-Office-of-Supply-Management.

*A hard copy may also be picked up at the GDOE Office of Supply Management at
501 Mariner Avenue, Suite 116
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608.

*A non-refundable fee of \$10.00 (cash only) is required upon hard copy pick-up.

This activity is administered by the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) and funded by the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

/S/CARMEN T. CHARFAUROS
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SPEAKER THERESE M. TERLAJE
Committee on Health, Land, Justice & Culture
I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING • THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024
Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room
AGENDA

8:30 AM:

- **Reappointment of Dr. Gregory J. Miller**- To serve as a Member, Chiropractic Representative, Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners, for a term of Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation Appointment).
- **Reappointment of Catherine C. San Nicolas**-To serve as a Member, Nutritionist - Clinical Dietitian Representative, Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners, for a term of Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation).
- **Appointment of Sungwook "Steve" S. Kim, MS, DPM, APM**- To serve as a Member, Podiatric Representative, Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners, for a term of Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation Appointment).
- **Appointment of Velma R. Harper, DVM**-To serve as a Member, Veterinary Medicine Representative, Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners, for a term of Three (3) Years (From Date of Confirmation) To fill the seat of Dr. Paul Pomes, whose term has expired.
- **Appointment of Rosalind S. Taitingfong, O.T.**- To serve as a Member, Occupational Therapy-Representative-Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners, Three (3) Years; From Date of Confirmation.

2:00 PM:

- **Appointment of Carissa Elaine Pangelinan**- To serve as the Director of Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center at the pleasure of the Governor

4:00 PM

- **Bill No. 86-37(COR)**-William A. Parkinson / Roy A. B. Quinata-AN ACT TO AMEND § 3222 OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 37 TO TITLE 7, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ALLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO CHANGE THE LEGAL SEX DESIGNATION ON THEIR BIRTH CERTIFICATES.

The public is invited to provide oral and written testimony on the agenda items may be submitted to senatorterlaje@gmail.com or hand delivered to the Office of Speaker Therese M. Terlaje at the Guam Congress Building. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations should contact the Office of Speaker Terlaje at (671) 472-3586 or senatorterlaje@gmail.com. All hearings broadcast on GTA TV Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117 and livestreamed on the Guam Legislature YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/GuamLegislatureMedia>. This Ad was paid with Legislature Funds.

AVAILABLE JOBS FOR ELIGIBLE U.S. WORKERS**16 - CARPENTER w/1 yr. exp.****\$18.34 PER HR.***

Construct, erect, install or repair structures and fixtures made of wood such as concrete forms or chutes for pouring concrete. Study specifications in blueprints, sketches or building plans to prepare project layout and determine dimensions and materials required. Measure and mark cutting lines on materials, using ruler, pencil, chalk and marking gauge. Shape or cut materials to specified measurements using hand tools, machines or power saws. Verifies trueness of structure, using plumb bob and level. Uses ladders and scaffolds to perform duties above ground level.

37 - CEMENT MASON w/1 yr. exp.**\$17.51 PER HR.***

Smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete such as floors, walls, sidewalks, roads or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Use and align forms and materials to manufacture precast concrete structures such as concrete wall panels, floor, roof, stair units, gutters, beams and columns. Patch voids and use saws to cut expansion joints. Color match concrete surface. Uses ladders and scaffolds to perform duties above ground level.

88 - REINFORCING METAL WORKER w/1 yr. exp.**\$16.98 PER HR.***

Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete forms in order to reinforce concrete and to manufacture precast concrete structures. Use a variety of fasteners, rod-bending and cutting machines and hand tools. Cuts and bends reinforcing bars for readiness at project site or at precast yard. Study specifications in blueprints, sketches or building plans to prepare project and layout and determine dimensions and materials required. Measure and mark cutting lines on materials using ruler, pencil, chalk, and marking gauge.

Benefits : Roundtrip airfare for off-island hire; board and lodging @ \$80.00 per week; local transportation from employer's designated lodging facility to/from jobsites; medical insurance provided.

*Special wage rate: Work to be performed on DPRI-funded projects and projects covered by Davis Bacon, Service Contracts Act, and/or Executive Order 14206 will be paid no less than the indicated wage rate but may be paid more where special rates apply. Successful applicant must be able to obtain military base access. Off-island hires must complete a health screening prior to working on Guam.

The job offer meets all EEO requirements, and initiates a temporary placement. The recruitment associated with this job offer is closely monitored by the Department of Labor. *Qualified, available and willing U.S. workers are highly encouraged to apply. Should you qualify for the job and are not hired, you may appeal with the Department of Labor who will independently review the matter.*

Apply in person at American Job Center
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 Email: office@guamcounsel.com

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE****OF**

JOSEPH PEREZ FLORES,
Deceased

SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. PR0141-22

**NOTICE OF CONTINUED
 PETITION HEARING**

THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPEAR IN COURT UNLESS YOU DESIRE.

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Doreen P. Flores has filed a **Petition for Final Distribution: First and Final Accounting**, reference to such petition is hereby made for further particulars.

2. A continued hearing on the Petition will be heard on **July 31, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.** before Judge Dana A. Gutierrez in the Superior Court of Guam.

3. To attend or participate in the hearing, you may appear in person at the courtroom of Judge Dana A. Gutierrez, 120 West O' Brien Drive, Hagatna, Guam or you may appear via Zoom by logging on to <https://guam.courts-org.zoom.us> and enter the Meeting ID: 839 7874 0380 and passcode: 189701. For technical assistance, please call (671) 475-3207 five (5) minutes prior to the designated hearing time.

Dated: June 19, 2024

JANICE M. CAMCHO-PEREZ
 Clerk Of Court/Superior Court Of Guam
 By/s/ Darlene Mae L. Gatchalian
 Deputy Clerk II

FOR PARKER VALBY,

Olympics are just the start of a race to glory

By John Romano
Tampa Bay Times

Fame is on the way. You can bet riches and records will probably follow.

Sneaker companies will be fighting to sign her, networks will be following her, and competitors likely will be chasing her.

She is a few years removed from the halls of East Lake High School in Tarpon Springs, Fla., so time is running out to plausibly claim that you followed Parker Valby back in the day. Whether it happens in the upcoming Paris Olympics or comes sometime later, eventually her story will belong to the world.

And if you aren't sold on that idea, just put a stopwatch on the past 13 months:

- Coming off her redshirt sophomore season at the University of Florida last summer, Valby was the first female track and field athlete to sign a name, image and likeness deal with Nike.

- She won the NCAA title in cross-country last fall and then won two more in indoor track (the 3,000 and 5,000-meter races) and two in outdoor track (the 5,000 and 10,000) to become the first female distance runner in NCAA history to win five national titles in one season.

- She was named the SEC's Female Athlete of the Year.

- After her first Olympic trials late last month, she was offered spots in both the 5,000 and 10,000, although she has bowed out of the shorter race.

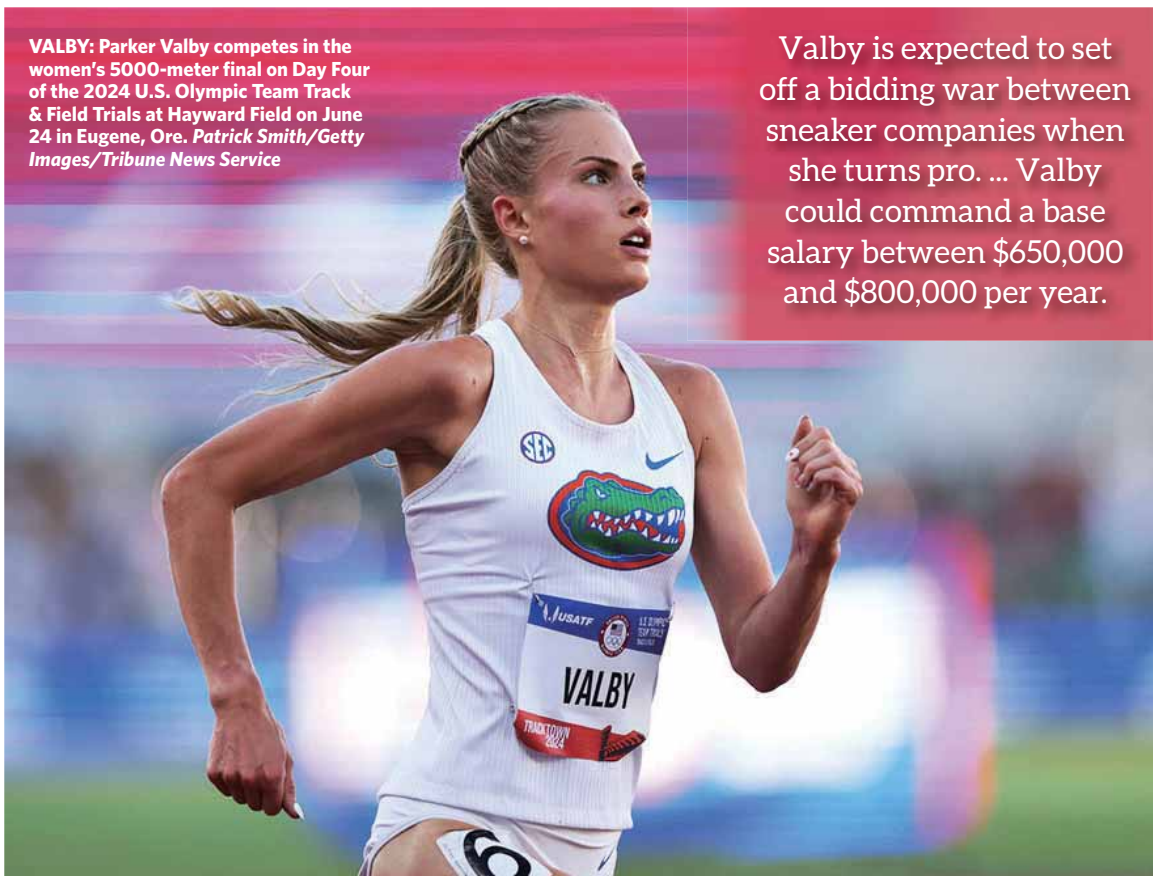
Mind you, that's all by age 21 in a discipline where athletes usually don't peak until their late 20s. The other four American qualifiers in the 5,000 and 10,000 are 26, 27, 28 and 28.

"I don't really know if it's necessarily hit me yet," Valby said on a recent conference call. "I walk into stores in Gainesville - like this morning I was at Whole Foods - and the cashier was like, 'Bring home the gold!' I was like, 'Uh, sir, I'm not going for the gold, I'm just happy to be here.' I'm going to be lapped."

You shouldn't believe that because Valby certainly doesn't. If there is baby-faced innocence to her outward appearance, there is hard-wired resolve buried in her heart. She may not know what to do with compliments, but she's got a thirst when it comes to challenges.

Britt Taylor came to understand that pretty quickly. He was coaching cross-country at East Lake when Valby showed up as a freshman. At the time, she was a competitive swimmer and

VALBY: Parker Valby competes in the women's 5000-meter final on Day Four of the 2024 U.S. Olympic Team Track & Field Trials at Hayward Field on June 24 in Eugene, Ore. Patrick Smith/Getty Images/Tribune News Service



Valby is expected to set off a bidding war between sneaker companies when she turns pro. ... Valby could command a base salary between \$650,000 and \$800,000 per year.

lacrosse player and wanted to run cross country to keep in shape during the fall.

By the time the season had ended, Taylor was badgering her between classes to give up lacrosse and run track during the spring. Two years later, he was already talking to her parents about the possibility of Valby turning pro after college.

"We were joking around in one of her last practices her junior year and I said, 'I bet you can't win state.' She was like, 'Really, how much?' I said, 'Well, you don't have to pay me, but I'll bet you \$100 you can't do it,'" Taylor said. "So she goes out and wins state and literally the first thing she says when she crosses the finish line is, 'Where's my \$100?'"

"I knew right then that you can never tell her that she can't do something because she will do whatever it takes to prove you wrong. She is fearless that way."

While she was mostly unknown before winning the state title in record time, the college scholarship offers came flooding in afterward. Valby dealt with some foot injuries during her early days at UF, but the past year has cemented her place as the future of distance running in the United States.

And everyone seems to recognize it.

With her name, image and likeness deal with Nike expiring soon - she has a year of eligibility remaining but has already graduated cum laude with a degree in sports management - Valby is expected to set off a bidding war between sneaker companies when she turns pro. Runner's World called her the "biggest prize" in distance running this year and speculated Valby could command a base salary between \$650,000 and \$800,000 per year.

Valby's unique training methods (she does more cross-training than a lot of runners because of her previous foot injuries) and breezy persona (she has a joking fascination with cows) have made her something of a sensation even before her first taste of international racing.

Her father, Kyle Valby, recently was contacted by Robin Phillips, who heads up Maxon SpaceLab in Switzerland, a company designing equipment for Mars exploration.

"He said, 'Don't get me wrong, I'm not some creeper.' He said he could give us a tour of SpaceLab if we wanted, but mostly he said, 'We have a dairy farm here, and I know your daughter likes cows and Switzerland, so I'm offering you a chance to come visit,'" Kyle Valby said. "I literally have people I don't even know from these amazing companies that are reaching out to

say, 'We'll show you cows.' That's how crazy it's gotten."

Right now, Valby is in a strange place between expectation and accomplishment. She's an undisputed star at the collegiate level, but is still only ranked No. 35 in the world in the 10,000. That undoubtedly will change in the coming years, it's just a question of how quickly Valby gets there.

Maybe she contends in the Paris games, maybe she doesn't. The larger point is there is a finish line far beyond the next 10,000 meters, and Parker Valby is racing toward it as fast as anyone in the world.

"There's something about the past year that I don't think she understands at this point. I joked with her that it's one thing to have the weight of Gator Nation on your back, but it's another thing to have the U.S. of A.," Kyle said. "I don't think she's grasped that because she's so young. She didn't grow up watching the Olympics. She doesn't understand the pride. She's excited and so proud to represent the USA, which is really cool, but I don't think she understands the gravity of what this means."

"Don't get me wrong, by 2028 (Olympic Games) on home soil in L.A., she'll get it. But I think right now because this was such a surprise, it's more about just being happy to be there."

OLYMPIANS continued from page 24

In Paris, the competitors will find an athletic festival strained by issues that have vexed other host cities: security concerns, budget overruns and fractured public support. It also remains uncertain whether the Seine River will be clean enough for triathletes and marathon swimmers to use, given the water's E. coli levels frequently surpass the safety standards in Europe and the United States.

Tokyo's organizers wish they had it so easy.

In 2020, the pandemic led to the first Olympic Games postponement since World War II. When the event finally took place a year later, it did so under a set of rules that required daily testing, strict arrival and departure times, socially distanced dining and a locked-down athletes village.

To reduce the chances of hosting an international superspreader event, organizers also prohibited spectators from attending competitions, leaving the stands nearly empty and some of the venues so quiet you could hear athletes talking to their coaches. In perhaps the most devastating consequence of the COVID rules, the spectator ban meant the athletes' families had to stay home too.

"In Tokyo, we were all just grateful it was still being held given what was happening in the world," said Stancil, the Lake Villa native who finished fourth in 2021 and missed a medal by a fraction of a second. "There were understandably a lot of restrictions, but that only makes it more special this time around."

From the moment of their postponement in April 2020, the Tokyo Games placed unprecedented stress upon the athletes' shoulders. Some, like Shea, had already qualified for Team USA by the time the delay was announced and worried - unnecessarily, it turned out - whether their spots would still be guaranteed.

Others, such as Franklin, spent four years preparing so they would peak during the summer of 2020. The training plan for an entire Olympic cycle was upended with a single announcement.

"It was so hard to manage the changes," said Shea, who finished 11th in the 49erFX regatta with her partner Stephanie Roble in Tokyo. "There were so many things we didn't know or couldn't control. It became difficult to manage our energy."

Nearly every aspect of the Tokyo Games had to be reimagined and reconfigured for 2021. Organizers, for example, prohibited early access to training venues in the months leading up to the competition, which made a difference to BMX riders like Stancil who benefit from knowing a course's various jumps and turns.

Her only previous experience on the Tokyo track came during an Olympic test event in 2019. By the time she landed in Japan in 2021, she had not ridden on the course for nearly two

years.

Paris organizers, in contrast, opened their BMX track to Olympians this summer and Stancil, 29, spent more than two weeks there training on it. By the time she left in early July, she had ridden it hundreds of times and believed the course's big jumps played to her strengths.

"My times are getting better and better on it," she said in a telephone interview from Paris in late June. "It is a big thing to be comfortable (on the track) because charging 100% up to a jump is not a normal thing. The more you practice, the more you're able to execute speed and go over the jumps more efficiently."

During the Tokyo Games, organizers also established strict rules for the Olympic Village, creating a bubble-like environment that included daily COVID-19 testing, a tracking app and a so-called intimacy ban that frowned on "hugs and handshakes." In the dining hall, athletes were encouraged to eat alone or with their teammates at tables that had plexiglass dividers between each seat.

Organizers also dictated the competitors' arrival and departure times, prohibiting athletes from entering the village sooner than seven days before their event. Once they finished competing, the athletes had 48 hours to leave.

These regulations meant a significant number of athletes were precluded from attending the opening and closing ceremonies unless they were selected to be their country's flag bearer. Though Shea's event took place early enough in the Games to attend the opening festivities, she skipped it because she was staying in a satellite Olympic Village about an hour's drive from Tokyo.

However, she still participated in a virtual tailoring session for her Ralph Lauren ceremony gear with her teammate - yet another pandemic-driven departure from previous games. Rather than the usual in-person fitting, Roble and Shea measured themselves in a boat park and sent the numbers in.

Their sartorial efforts resulted in pants so big, that Roble could pull them up to her chest. The 5-foot-3 sailor borrowed Shea's pants and marched in the opening ceremony with Team USA.

Neither athlete participated in the closing ceremony because their regatta took place during the first week of competition, and they were required to depart the country almost immediately after.

Shea had entered the last Olympic cycle thinking she would retire after the 2020 Games and move on with her life. A disappointing finish in Tokyo and the peculiarities of competing during a pandemic - not to mention the shorter, three-year wait for the next Summer Games - persuaded her to keep sailing a bit longer.

"It just felt like we had unfinished business," she said.

Shea will, once again, miss the opening ceremony this year because her race is slated to take place in a town



SHEA: Olympic sailor Maggie Shea, of Wilmette, on Lake Michigan at the Chicago Yacht Club on July 9.

Brian Cassella/Chicago Tribune/
Tribune News Service

about three hours from Paris by train. Once the competition is over, she and Roble, both 35, plan to head to Paris and soak up the atmosphere, including joining the rest of Team USA at the closing ceremony.

Rhythmic gymnast Griskenas, who will compete in the individual all-around event Aug. 8, also intends to skip the opening ceremony in order to get more training time. However, she plans to participate in the closing festivities and enjoy the more social aspects of life in the Olympic Village without worrying about being exposed to COVID.

"I'm super excited to meet new athletes and see some old friends in the village because we don't cross paths that often," the 23-year-old said. "I want to chat with people, learn about some new sports, and maybe do some pin trading."

But of all the new opportunities Paris will afford, Griskenas is most excited about the one involving her parents. After missing the Tokyo Games because of pandemic restrictions, her mother and father will be in the stands next month when she competes on her sport's biggest stage.

It's their moment, she said, as much as her own. They're the ones who shuttled her back and forth to practice for years - a three-hour round-trip drive from their Orland Park home to her training facility in Deerfield - so she could train with the country's top rhythmic coaches.

Like many Olympic parents, they're the ones who scrimped and saved so she could chase her dreams. They're the ones who told her to go ahead and dream in the first place, she said.

"I want to give my parents the proper Olympic experience that they deserve," Griskenas said. "They've been along with me this entire journey, and it's so important to me that they get to share in this moment."

Before she set sail during the Tokyo Games, Shea also lamented her parents' absence and wished they could be there to enjoy it. After she and Roble were eliminated from the competition because of an arcane penalty that has since been eliminated from the Olym-

pic rule book, she missed them even more.

"They're as much a part of this journey as we are, so I knew I wanted them there for the good stuff," Shea said. "Until that moment (in Tokyo), I didn't realize how much I need them there for the tough stuff, too."

For the same reasons, Stancil wanted her father, Jamie, in the stands when she raced in Tokyo. He was her first coach, having introduced her to the sport when she was 4 years old as a way to help her heal from her mother's death. They traveled the world together as she rose through international ranks and won her first world title at age 9.

In addition to being her biggest cheerleader, Jamie Stancil is a former professional BMX racer and always has suggestions for improving her performance. The father and daughter typically talk between heats at big competitions, but they had to settle for Facetime and text messages after early races in Tokyo.

"It was really disappointing when they said we couldn't go," said Jamie Stancil, who will be in Paris when BMX racing begins Aug. 1. "I was glad they didn't cancel the whole thing because these athletes worked so hard. But it was tough to stay home."

Tori Franklin's mother, Tonya, also found it difficult to be more than 6,000 miles away when her daughter competed in Tokyo. She was a mom who never missed a track meet in high school, who came with snacks and juice boxes for everyone, who sat on hard, aluminum benches for more hours than she cares to remember.

But instead of flying to Japan to see the most important competition of her daughter's life, she went to a viewing party in Orlando hosted by NBC and the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee. She still raves about the hospitality at the event, but it couldn't ever compare to being in the stadium when Tori hopped, skipped and jumped her way down an Olympic track.

"It was hard to watch on TV because when she wasn't jumping, I couldn't see the things that I normally look for," Tonya Franklin said. "I like to watch her mannerisms. How is she doing on the field? Is she walking around? Is she dancing? What is the expression on her face? I wanted to know how my child was feeling, and I couldn't do that from so far away."

Tori Franklin, now 31, finished 25th in Tokyo, failing to reach the finals or meet her own expectations. She rebounded the following season and won bronze at the 2022 world championships - the first podium finish for a female triple jumper from the United States in the sport's history - with her mom cheering in the stands.

And now she thinks her mother's presence next month - along with cheering crowds - will help rewrite her Olympic story.

"I'll be able to feed off an energy that we didn't have in Tokyo," Franklin said. "It's going to make a huge difference."



OLYMPIANS: Felicia Stancil, clockwise from left, Tori Franklin, Maggie Shea and Evita Griskenas compete during the 2021 Tokyo Olympics. *Brian Cassella/Chicago Tribune/Tribune News Service*

FROM SHARING A MEAL TO HAVING THEIR FAMILIES CHEER:

SAILING: USA's Maggie Shea (left) and Stephanie Roble finish their third 49er FX skiff race of the day on July 28, 2021, off Enoshima Yacht Harbor during the Tokyo Olympics. *Brian Cassella/Chicago Tribune/Tribune News Service*

HOW PARIS OFFERS A 2ND CHANCE FOR TOKYO OLYMPIANS

By Stacy St. Clair
Chicago Tribune

Olympic triple jumper Tori Franklin hopes to ride a barge down the Seine River during the opening ceremony and venture outside the athletes' village to watch a fencing competition.

Rhythmic gymnast Evita Griskenas is excited to share a meal with athletes from other sports without plexiglass separating them.

BMX racer Felicia Stancil looks forward to competing on a familiar track as she vies for the Olympic medal she so narrowly missed three years ago.

Sailor Maggie Shea intends to explore the host city and soak up the atmosphere of what she says could be her last Summer Games.

And all of these plans, they say, will be sweeter knowing their parents will be getting their Olympic moment too.

For these four Chicago-area athletes - all of whom made their Olympic debuts during the COVID-hobbled Tokyo Games - Paris offers a second chance of sorts. It promises a fortnight filled with traditional activities that were forbidden during the pandemic, including attending other competitions, exploring the host city and celebrating with their parents.

The Summer Games are scheduled to begin July 26, with more than 200 countries participating in 329 events. The United States will be sending 592 athletes, more than 50 of whom have qualified for their second Olympics.

"I'm so excited that I'm going to get a real Olympic experience," said Franklin, a former Downers Grove South High School track star who now calls Chicago home. "I'm just going to milk all of it."

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