

Labor focuses on jobs for grads

By Lannie Walker
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The Guam Department of Labor is encouraging recent high school graduates to visit the American Job Center in Anigua to get a jump-start on finding employment.

Graduates can visit the center, get help building a resume and talk to a case manager about career interests.

A summer jobs program for high school students, Passport to Careers, was discontinued in 2017, said Malorie Cruz, a projects coordinator with the Guam Department of Labor.

She said GDOL implemented the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act in 2017, which mandated that the department use 70% of funds for out-of-school use instead of in-school use.

"That's why we don't have summer youth programs anymore," Cruz said. "We do, however, still cater to high school grads as one of our top priorities for our clients

“We ... still cater to high school grads as one of our top priorities for our clients that come into the American Job Center.”

- Malorie Cruz, projects coordinator, Guam Department of Labor

that come into the American Job Center.”

She said the department has posted signs to welcome graduates.

The department also offers a year-round work experience program in which employers from different industries act as sponsors to offer training for those entering the workforce.

In an effort to create jobs by developing a workforce, GDOL launched a preapprenticeship program in 2018 funded by a \$1

million federal grant.

Cruz said the Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association, the University of Guam School of Nursing and the Guam Contractors Association are partners in the program.

She added that Guam Community College and the GCA Trades Academy offer alternatives for those not interested in a four-year college degree, but who are looking to gain valuable skills. She said both institutions offer boot camps that can be completed in three months to two years. GDOL has funding to subsidize up to 100% of the cost of these programs for eligible job seekers.

GDOL has also increased its social media presence and can be found on Facebook and Instagram.

"It's a way for us to be more accessible for everyone, especially for high school grads and college grads," Cruz said.

Cruz said graduates and others looking for employment can also visit hireguam.com to register and search job openings.

New board to reapprove Hagåtña master plan

By Lannie Walker
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The new Hagåtña Revitalization and Redevelopment Authority board of commissioners will hold its first meeting Tuesday afternoon in the ITC building in Tamuning, HRRR Executive Director Lasia Casil said.

The board will be chaired by Maria Eugenia Leon Guerrero. Patricia Ada will serve as the vice chairperson. Hagåtña Mayor John Cruz will serve on the board along with Nick Keswani, Greg Perez, Rita Franquez, Carlos Madrid, Jake Calvo and Roque Alcantara.

The agenda for the meeting includes discussion on the HRRR budget and an all-day workshop for commissioners to go over "every aspect" of the Hagåtña master plan.

A budget request of approximately \$900,000 to fund the authority is awaiting legislative approval, Casil said.

Casil said a portion of the funds will be used to lease office space in Hagåtña, hire three new staffers and purchase office equipment and furniture.

She said the board will be tasked with "reapproving" the Hagåtña master plan.

"The governor has asked the board to go thoroughly through the master plan - to take a couple of months to reapprove it," Casil said.

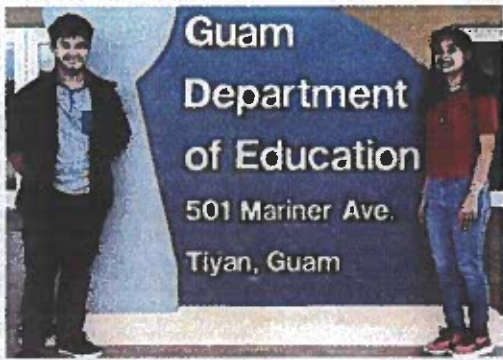
The master plan was approved by the HRRR board last year, under then-Gov. Eddie Calvo's administration.

Casil said some misinformation on the plan exists.

"Some people don't have the current information and we want to make sure everyone has the current information," she said, adding, in part, "It's meant to be flexible. It's important that it is not too rigid. It's a framework for the next 20 years."

The plan includes building centralized offices to accommodate about 1,500 government of Guam employees. The plan has been in the works for more than 20 years and is expected to cost \$20 million.

2 Okkodo students to attend Naval Academy STEM program



NAVAL ACADEMY'S Bazyll Garcia, left, and Carissa Lazaga from Okkodo High School were selected to attend the U.S. Naval Academy Summer STEM program. The students are part of the Guam Department of Education College Pathway Project, a GDOE press release states. They were awarded a full-tuition scholarship of \$550, as well as a travel scholarship to attend the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics program from June 17 to 21 at Naval Academy campus in Annapolis, Md. The program is designed to encourage ninth- to 11th-grade students to pursue a course of study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. For one week, campers will create, build and explore in world-class lab facilities and experience real-life application and learning at one of the top undergraduate engineering programs in the country. Garcia and Lazaga will be working with students from all over the country as they test their problem-solving, creativity and collaboration skills. Both students are incoming juniors. Photo courtesy of the Guam Department of Education

GUAM BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTOMETRY

Regular Board Meeting

On Tuesday,

June 25, 2019 at 8:30 AM

at the Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room at the Terlaje Professional Building, 2nd Floor Suite 209 Hagåtña, Guam

For more information please contact the Board office at 735-7405 thru 12. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call the ADA coordinator at 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801. Executive meeting may be called if necessary.

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Police: Distraught man's bag held pellet gun

A man who appeared to be emotionally distraught while walking into a bank with a rifle bag has been admitted to the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center for further evaluation, according to police.

Guam Police Department spokesman Sgt. Paul Tapao said police responded to a call that the man had walked into a Pentagon Federal Credit Union branch in Hagåtña. Officers from the Hagåtña Precinct

Command responded and found the man walking along Father Duenas Drive with the bag, Tapao stated. The responding officers approached the man and managed to retrieve the bag, which held a pellet rifle.

Tapao said the man was combative and refused to comply when officers attempted to pat him down to ensure there were no additional weapons. After several attempts and the "continued combative gestures" to the responding officers, an officer

deployed an electronic control device, or Taser.

In a video, police officers are repeatedly yelling at the man, "Get away from there." Police retrieved the bag and the man faced the officers in an aggressive stance, saying "I know who you are.... What the hell!" He walks away, seemingly ignoring police officers' commands. After the Taser was used, the man fell and police handcuffed him.

(Daily Post Staff)



BAG: This screenshot was taken from a video that shows police officers who responded to a call that a man with a rifle bag had walked into the Pentagon Federal Credit Union branch in Hagåtña on Thursday. Photo screenshot of reader contributed video

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Navy base.

It was a beautiful day, she said. Her friend, Marie, waded over to an opening between two rocks that led from the cove to the open ocean. Ernst waded over with her toddler daughter Madison in her arms, and a co-worker's teenage daughter, who was carrying her 4-year-old son.

"I felt a sudden and strong rush of water that started pulling Madison

from my arms. I leaned forward to bring her in closer to my chest and suddenly found myself outside of the cove in water that was too deep for me to touch the bottom," she said.

Ernst realized they were being sucked out toward the open ocean and warned the teen carrying her son to get away from the opening between the rocks.

As she looked to the shore, a group of bystanders stood on the cove's shore, but none was willing to help.

Losing strength and realizing this could be the end of her and her daughter's lives, Ernst fought to stay calm and used every ounce of energy to stay afloat. As the water pulled her under, she gasped one last time and prayed.

"Oh Lord! Please, please, please." ... At that moment, a man reached out his arms toward us ... and pulled us back into the cove," Ernst recalled. "There is no doubt, we would not have lasted much longer."

Once back to safety, Ernst asked the

hero for his name.

"The thing is ... I can't swim"

"You put your life in danger to save ours," she said.

"You know ma'am, the thing is ... I can't swim," Chisolm replied.

"Not only did he step up when no one else would, but he was in no position to take on the task," stated Ernst, who works for the FBI on Guam. "He did it anyway and I am forever grateful to him for his true courage, strength and selflessness."

Nina'en Pas yan Inagofli'e exhibit opens

NEW EXHIBIT: A ribbon-cutting ceremony for *Nina'en Pas yan Inagofli'e*, or *A Legacy of Peace and Friendship*, was held at the Senator Antonio M. Palomo Guam Museum and Chamorro Educational Facility in Hagåtña on Thursday evening. The exhibit commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Liberation of Guam, and features more than 100 photographs from the Navy Art Collection and from private collections. Norman M. Taruc/
The Guam Daily Post



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have called for "a pause on military construction" following reports of potentially significant archeological finds at four locations on Northwest Field at Andersen Air Force Base.

"I've been off island," the governor said on Thursday following a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Guam Police Department's new central precinct in Sinajana.

Sen. Therese Terlajie has issued two press releases this past week calling for the pause.

The governor said she was on her way Thursday afternoon to speak with Terlajie about the issue.

After the meeting, Terlajie issued this statement: "It is a disadvantage to Guam to ignore the concerns that the SHPO has raised regarding the frequency of the new discoveries

and to start from scratch to educate someone new about the history and nuances of these projects and the potential harm to these sites."

No statements

The governor has invited senators to Adelup on Friday morning for a breakfast meeting to discuss the growing controversy over buildup construction amidst the new findings.

"I need to find out exactly what it is that they're talking about," the governor said. "I know that the construction has been halted, because that's the process."

That, however, has not been confirmed by Marine Corps Activity Guam or Joint Region Marianas.

Each day since Monday, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas spokeswoman Catherine Cruz Norton and Marine spokesman Lt. Brett Lazaroff have replied to

requests for comment by saying that a statement is being prepared. There were no press releases issued as of Thursday evening.

Outspoken critic fired

On Tuesday, there were 18 groups, mostly CHamoru activists, who sent a letter to the governor asking her to meet with them over what they called the "continued desecration of sacred ancestral sites and native habitats."

The next day, it was confirmed that a strong opponent of the buildup, State Historic Preservation Officer Lynda Aguon, had been fired.

"I don't have any details," said the governor when asked about her termination. "I just found out yesterday on my way back ... so I don't have any reaction to it right now."

The governor said she would be meeting with her staff "to figure out what the issue was, what was the

concern, and so forth."

"No," said the governor when asked if she had any hint of Aguon's termination before it happened.

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