



FROM CAPITOL HILL ACROSS THE AGENCIES

"TO ADVANCE OUR PEOPLE'S QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH STABLE, COMPASSIONATE GOVERNANCE"



HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF +OSCAR M. BABAUTA

This week, we honored the life and legacy of the Honorable +Oscar M. Babauta, Special Assistant to the Administration, whose decades of dedicated public service helped shape the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Through his leadership as Speaker of the House, Secretary of the Department of Public Lands, and in numerous other key roles, +OB made a lasting impact on our islands and the lives of the people he served.

His unwavering commitment to the Commonwealth will be remembered for generations to come. Surrounded by loved ones, +OB was laid to rest on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

A Message from the Family

To Governor Arnold Palacios, Lt. Governor David Apatang, and Esteemed Government Agencies,

On behalf of the family of +Oscar Manglona Babauta, we wish to express our deepest gratitude for the overwhelming support and kindness extended to us during the recent passing of our beloved. The thoughtful prayers and heartfelt condolences we received from the administration provided us with solace and strength, reminding us of the enduring support that surrounds us.

We feel incredibly fortunate to be part of a community where leaders and agencies are so deeply committed to the well-being of their people. Your solidarity and compassion have been a testament to the values we hold dear, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

With heartfelt appreciation, the family of +Oscar Manglona Babauta



GOVERNOR'S BROADBAND BOOTCAMP IS MAKING SIGNIFICANT STRIDES TOWARDS A DIGITAL FUTURE

The Governor's Broadband Bootcamp on Saipan is making significant strides in workforce development as the first cohort undergoes intensive training in fiber optic network deployment. Participants recently engaged in a hands-on session on fusion splicing, gaining critical technical skills for the industry. The bootcamp is equipping its inaugural group with the expertise needed to drive broadband expansion in the CNMI.



WOMEN LEADERS CHAMPION EMPOWERMENT AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AT CNMI WOMEN'S SUMMIT

Closing out Women's Month in March 2025, the 11th Annual CNMI Women's Summit brought together leaders from the public and private sectors to focus on empowerment, health, and economic resilience. The event featured discussions on topics such as environmental stewardship, community health, and economic development. First Lady Wella Foundation President Becky P. Cruz highlighted the growing impact of women in all industries, celebrating their contributions to personal and professional success.





FROM CAPITOL HILL ACROSS THE AGENCIES

"TO ADVANCE OUR PEOPLE'S QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH STABLE, COMPASSIONATE GOVERNANCE"



ROTA CELEBRATES CULTURE AND HISTORY WITH UNVEILING OF TAGA STATUE

Governor Arnold I. Palacios, Rota Mayor Aubry Hocog, and Office of Grants Management unveiled the new Taga Statue at the Nieves Latte Quarry on Friday. Funded by the OGM-SC's special account, the statue is part of a \$68,000 project that includes seven sculptures placed at key tourist sites across Rota. Mayor Hocog emphasized the importance of these sculptures in preserving and sharing Rota's rich history and cultural narrative, while expressing gratitude for the support from local leaders, businesses, and volunteers. The unveiling event also featured other sculptures, including representations of the Totot bird, Sambar deer, and coconut crab, all aimed at amplifying the island's unique heritage.

DPW ENHANCES ROUTE 36 KALABERA ROAD TO BOOST ACCESS AND BEAUTY OF MARPI'S TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is diligently advancing the Route 36 Kalabera Road improvements, aiming to complete this phase of the project soon. The upgrades are focused on enhancing access to Saipan's key tourist attractions in Marpi while also beautifying the area. These efforts are set to improve the overall visitor experience, providing a safer and more picturesque route. DPW thanks the community for their patience during this ongoing renovation and encourages everyone to explore the newly improved route once it's complete.



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 31st, 2025
 Child Neglect Awareness Proclamation
 Dan Dan Middle School
 10AM

Autism Awareness Proclamation
 Hibiscus Hall, Crowne Plaza
 2PM

April 1st, 2025
 Oral Cancer Awareness Proclamation
 Governor's Conference Room
 10AM

April 2nd, 2025
 Sexual Assault Awareness Proclamation
 Royal Taga Ballroom, World Resort
 10AM

Environmental Awareness Month Proclamation
 Carolinian Utt, Garapan
 2PM



GOVERNOR PALACIOS LAUNCHES CARES PROGRAM TO SUPPORT SOLAR ENERGY IN ROTA

Governor Arnold I. Palacios launched the Commonwealth Assistance for Renewable Energy or CARES Program last week, with Rota resident Rosa Uddin selected as the first recipient of a residential solar grant. The pilot project, Rota 100-Direct Assistance, aims to reduce energy costs for residents while promoting renewable energy solutions on the island. Funded by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, the program will provide grants for solar installations to 20 households. Governor Palacios and local officials emphasized the program's role in easing the financial burden on families and supporting Rota's transition to 100% renewable energy.