

Fanha'aniyan Pulan CF Hamoru

JANUARY 13, 2024–JANUARY 30, 2025



*Western Pacific Regional
Fishery Management Council*

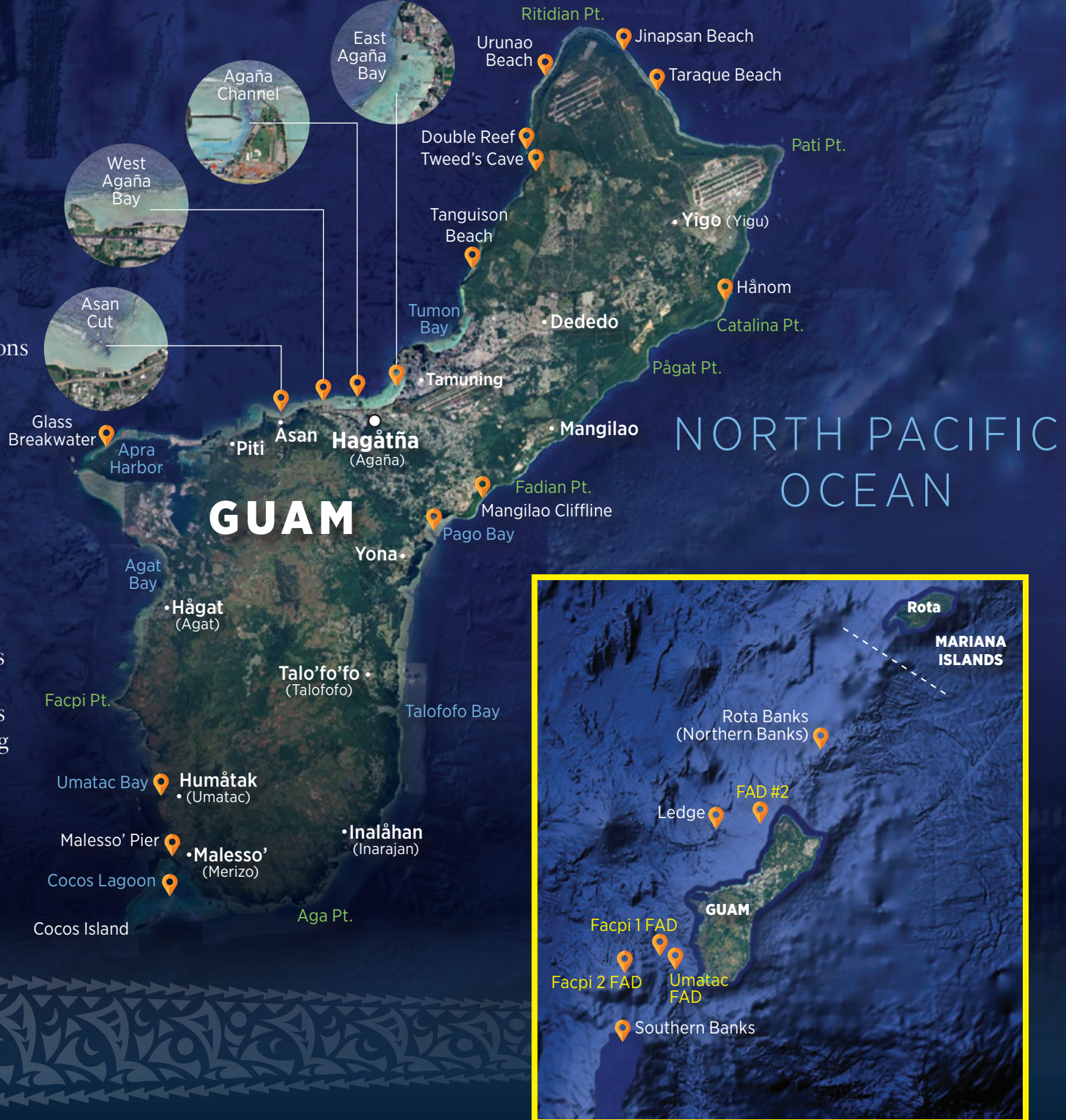
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PHILIPPINE SEA

Fishing Families

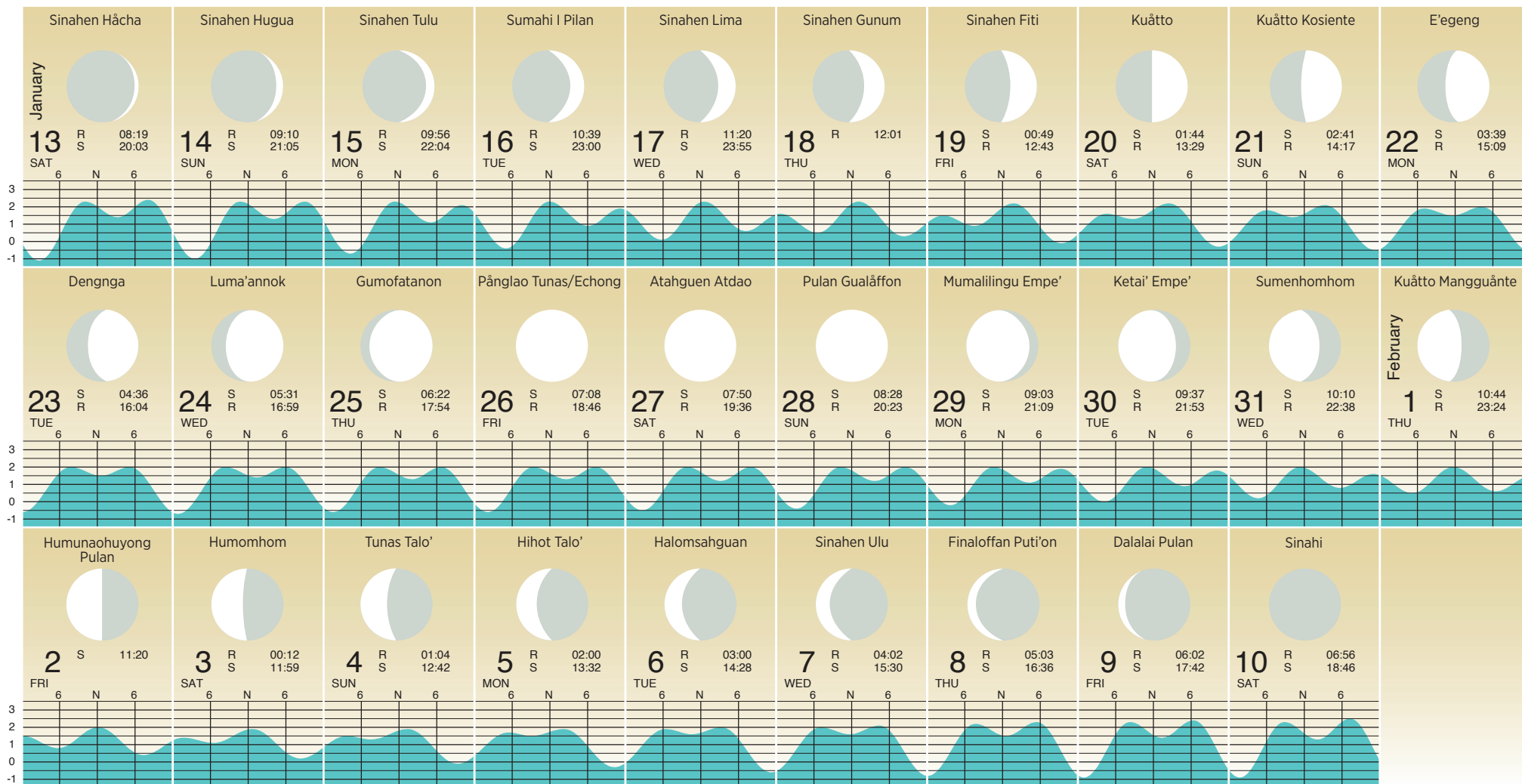
Guam's fishing families span generations and include immediate or extended family members, young and old. Some are known by their traditional family names, different from their last names, and by the areas around the island where they fish. Some fish for seasonal species, while others fish year-round. Fishing families have a strong commitment to food safety, sustainability and the perpetuation of culture. They take some, but always leave some behind for another day. Cultural hierarchy is strict, with elders expecting respect from those following and learning in their footsteps. The Council's Advisory Panel interviewed 12 of these fishing families to share their unique stories and experiences.

Satellite map showing fishing areas mentioned in the calendar. Source: Google Earth



Tumaiguini

January 13–February 10, 2024
Ineru 13–Fibreru 10, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities

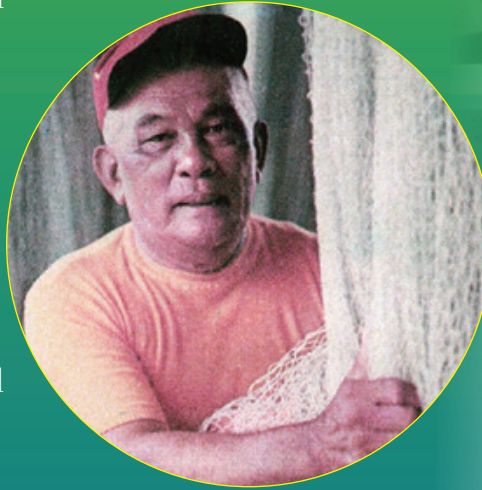


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Tenbat (Rosario) Family

From Maite Village, the Rosarios are known for fishing in East Agaña, Pago Bay and everywhere the fish are biting, using *tekken* (gill net), *chenchulu* (surround net), spears, *talaya* (throw net) and fishing boats. Jesus Camacho Rosario, aka 'Tun Tenbat,' was a traditional fisherman who relied on the ocean's resources for his living, for feeding his family and for survival. Today, this generation of the Tenbat family has continued Tun Tenbat's legacy of traditional fishing, and it will forever be perpetuated by his children, grandchildren, friends and the generations to follow.

Photos: Jesse (Tenbat) Rosario



Grandpa Tenbat was good at mending nets, but better at catching fish with them.



Jesse (Tenbat) Rosario's solo catch of a massive yellowfin tuna.

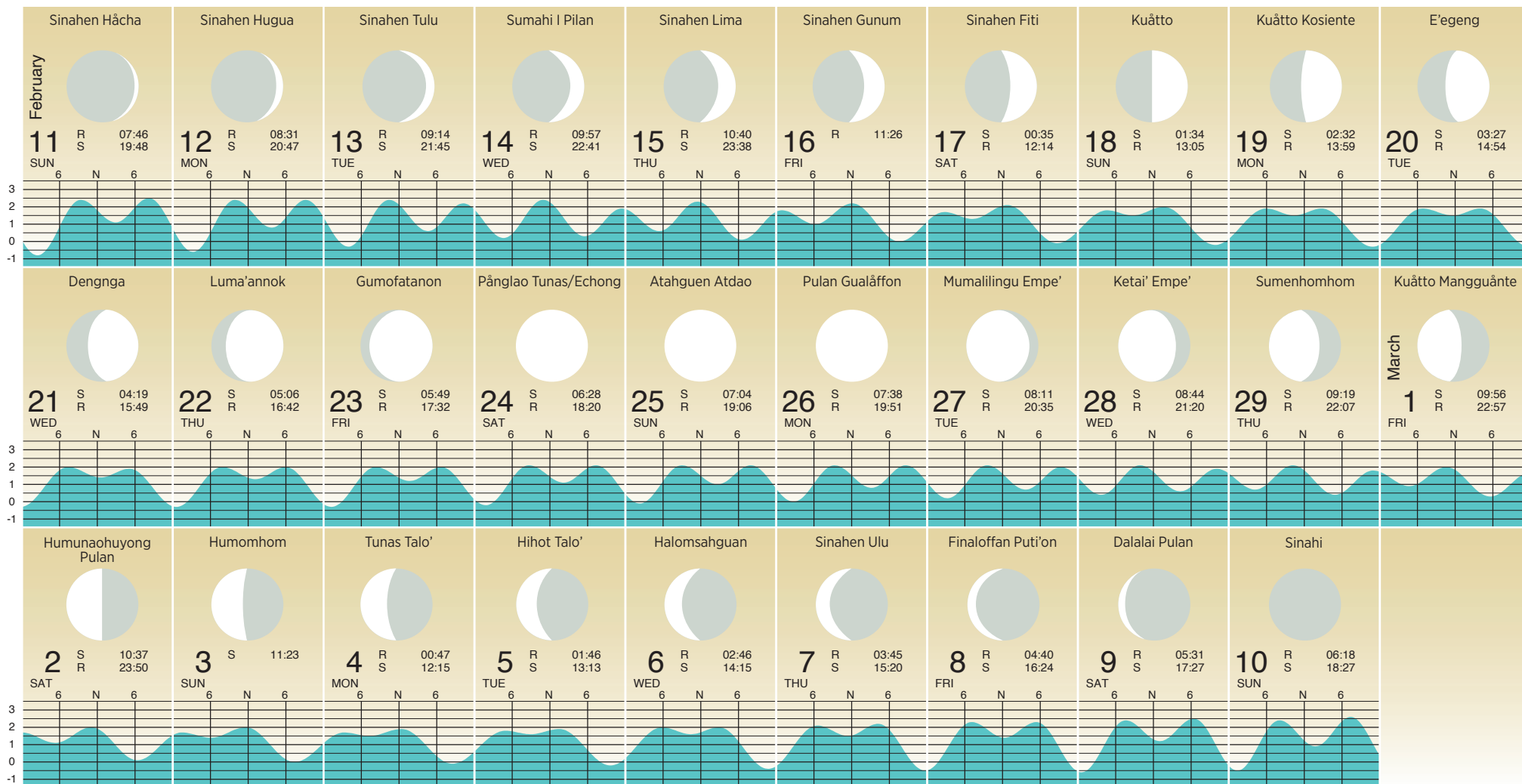


Passing on the tradition! Teaching the next generation to love the thrill of the catch and the joy of fishing from an early age.



Ma'imo'

February 11–March 10, 2024
Fibreru 11–Måtso 10, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Matthew Orot and his goddaughter Haley on her first fishing trip.



Left to right: Manny Dueñas and sons Michael and Matthew with wide smiles after catching a rare 350-pound monster black marlin.



Above: Brothers Matthew (left) and Michael bring home an excellent haul on their boat *Last Minute*.



Left: Uncle Roy (right) with Michael (left) and Matthew after a great day on the water catching yellowfin tuna.

Uncle Roy deep-bottom fishing before it was popular in Guam.



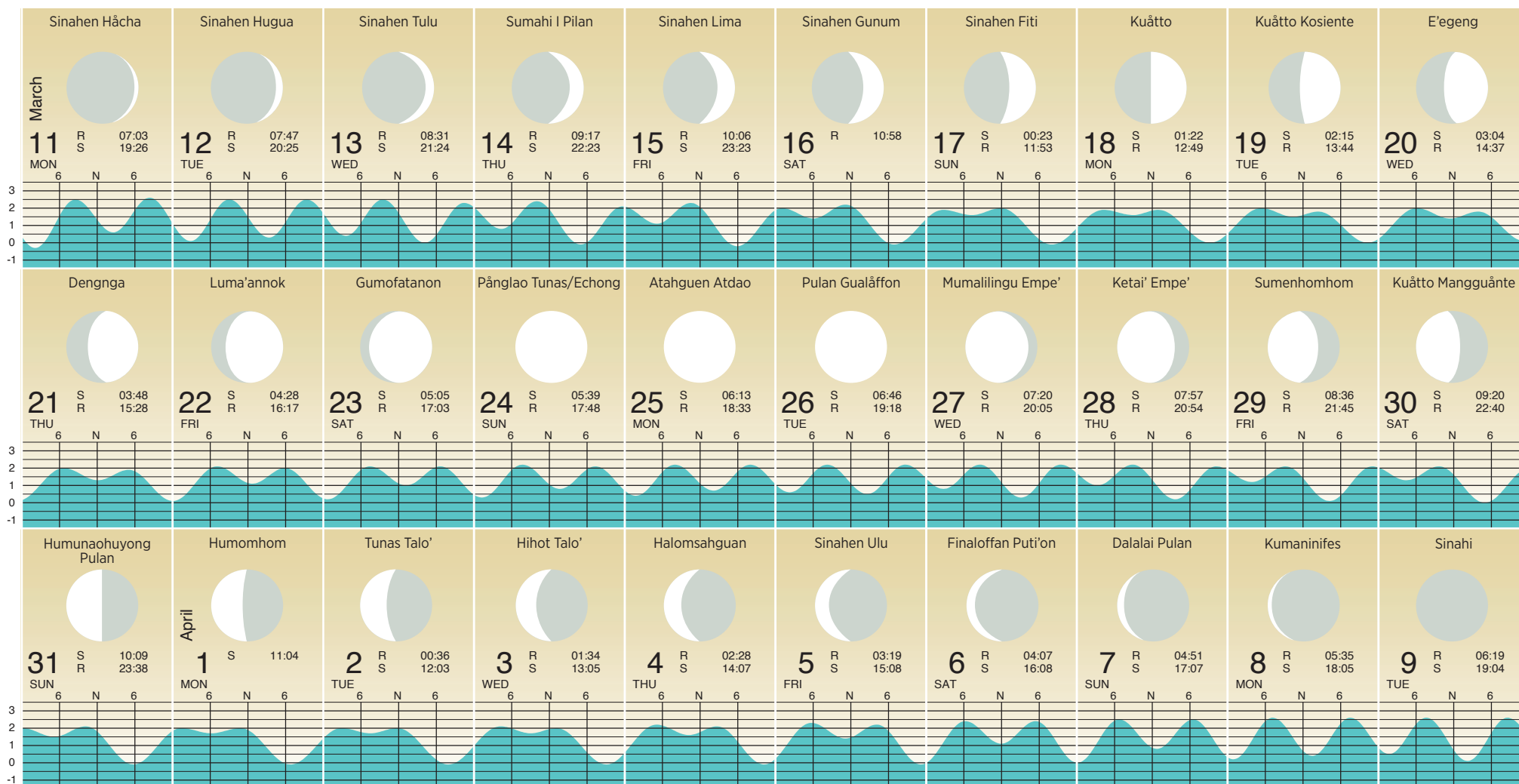
Lamban (Dueñas) Family

For many years, the Dueñas family has had farms and raised animals. Over time, they saw a connection to the sea, naturally leading into fishing. The family uses many different gears and techniques including spears, *talaya*, *chenchulu*, shallow- and deep-bottom fishing and trolling. From Uncle Roy Dueñas to Council member Manny Dueñas, and now brothers Michael and Matthew, fishing and boating continues.

Umatalaf

March 11–April 9, 2024

Måtso 11–Abrit 9, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Left to right: Manuel Castro, Anselmo Manibusan and Jesus Castro, c. 1961, with a nice marlin—brave men who taught the next generation how to fish.



Spearfishing is in the family blood. Left to right: James Borja, and Patrick, Edward and John Castro with their *atuhong* (bumphead parrotfish) and *tangison* (humphead wrasse) in 1993.



Jesus Borja (far left) and sons James and Ken with a large grouper.



Above: Pierce Castro with a large *tangison* caught spearfishing. Catches like this are not seen often. A part of the Jinapsan Boys clan, Castro has demonstrated his underwater fishing skills over the years.

Left: Left to right: Colin Perez, Christina Harris and Shaun Perez started fishing at an early age.

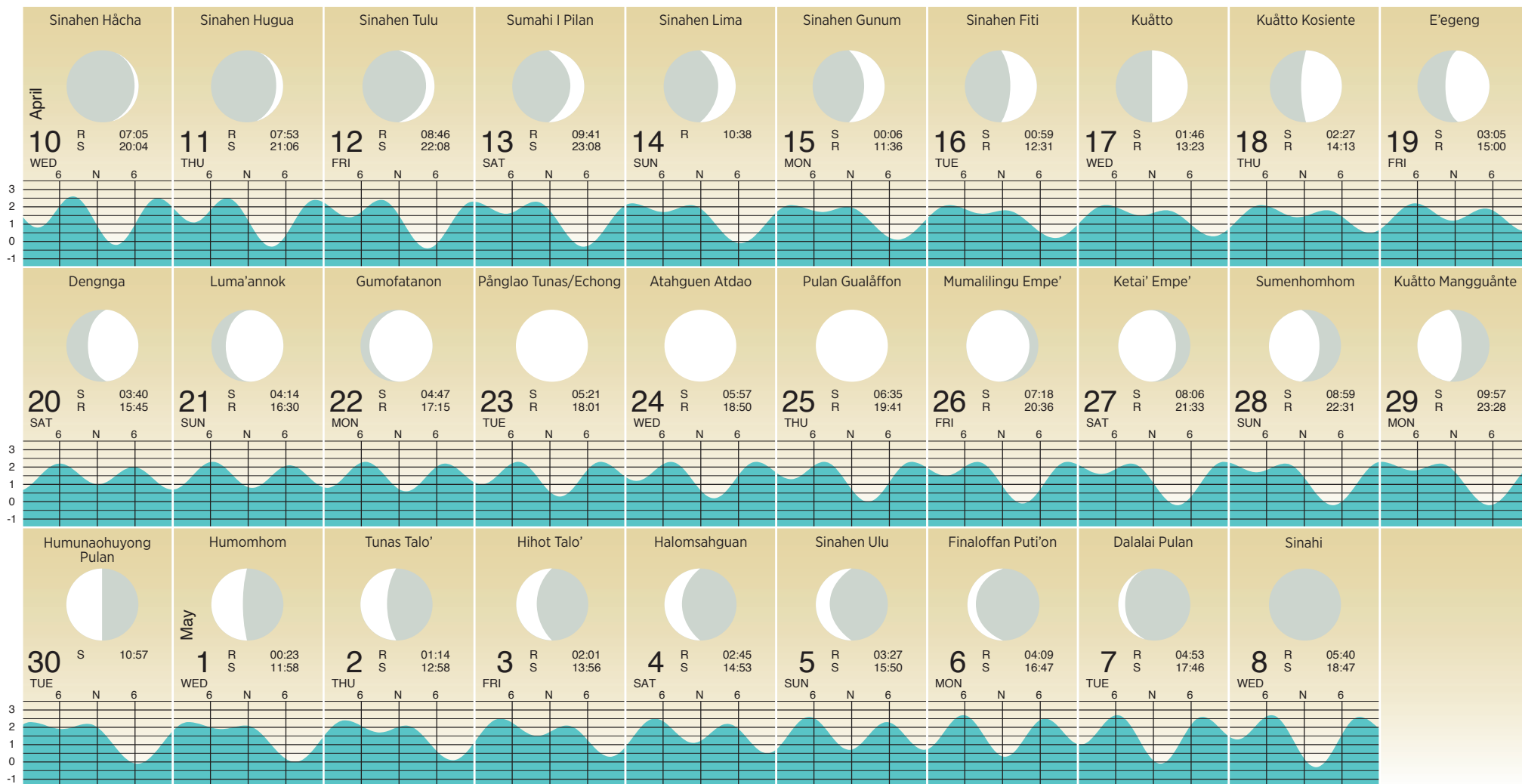
Jinapsan Boys

The Jinapsan Boys, guided by the expertise of their fathers and uncles and influenced by each other, share a passion for the ocean that surrounds them. These dedicated fishermen have honed their skills in various fishing techniques, mastering hook and line, *talaya*, and spearfishing, along with pelagic- and deep-bottom fishing. They continue to fish today, sharing their knowledge and experience with the next generation.

Lumuho'

April 10–May 8, 2024

Abrit 10–Mâyü 8, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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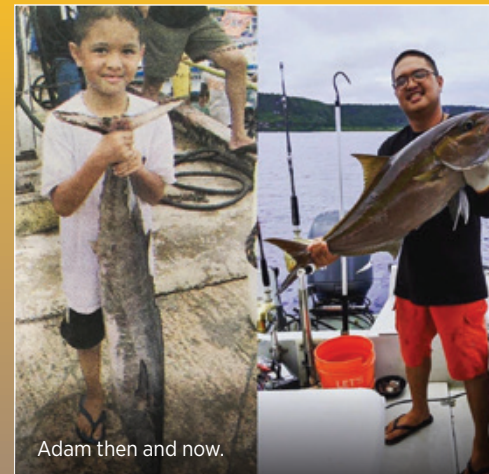


Left to right: Amber, Abigail, Dominick and Adam San Gil love to fish together as a family.

San Gil Family

Family fishing has been a San Gil tradition for many years, encompassing various forms and styles. On any given day, a San Gil will be out with a *talaya*, *tekken*, *chenchulu*, trolling, bottomfishing and even spearfishing. From the youngest grand-niece and nephew to the oldest Che'lu, it is a pastime enjoyed by all. Even displaced San Gils continue their love for fishing on the mainland, catching salmon and bass. Adam San Gil, captain of the *Amber Marie*, started fishing at 2 years old. Now in his mid-20s, he is well-known in the local fishing community and often teaches youth the skills and tenacity fishing requires. Darrin San Gil Pangelinan leads the *chenchulu* charge. Every weekend he and the familia, in groups of 10–20, can be found where the tide is good and the catch is bountiful. The San Gil slogan #grewup2fish means 'fishing the waters like our fathers.'

Photos: Dominick San Gil



Adam then and now.



After fishing, the San Gil family, young and old, gather around the catch to enjoy their success.



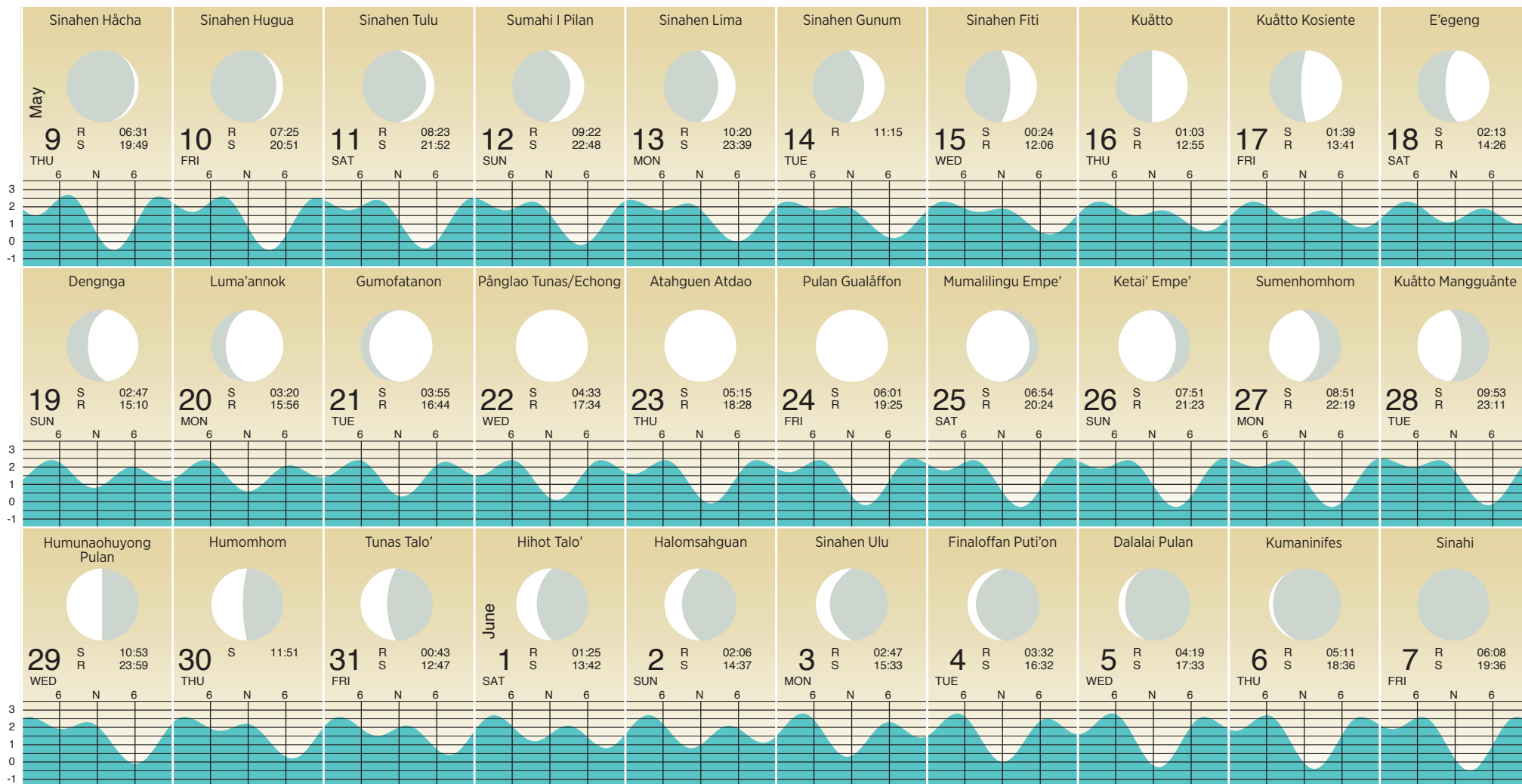
The next generation of San Gil fishers. Whether they go off to school or work, when they are in Guam, fishing is their shared activity.



Chenchulu and *tekken* fishing is a family affair, including immediate family and cousins.

Makmāmao

May 9–June 7, 2024
Māyu 9–Huniu 7, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



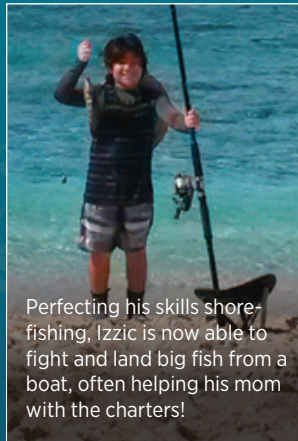
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Marlin on the docks! A 'welcome home from college' summer 2023 catch for Audrey's son Izzic.



Audrey's father, Franklin Toves, was an accomplished hunter and fisher.



Perfecting his skills shore-fishing, Izzic is now able to fight and land big fish from a boat, often helping his mom with the charters!



Bat at the ready to knock out a marlin before bringing the large fish safely on board. Audrey learned early that bringing a 'green' marlin on board can be dangerous.



Proper handling of fish is important to ensure it is safe to eat. And you can't get any fresher than fish filleted and eaten while still on the boat!

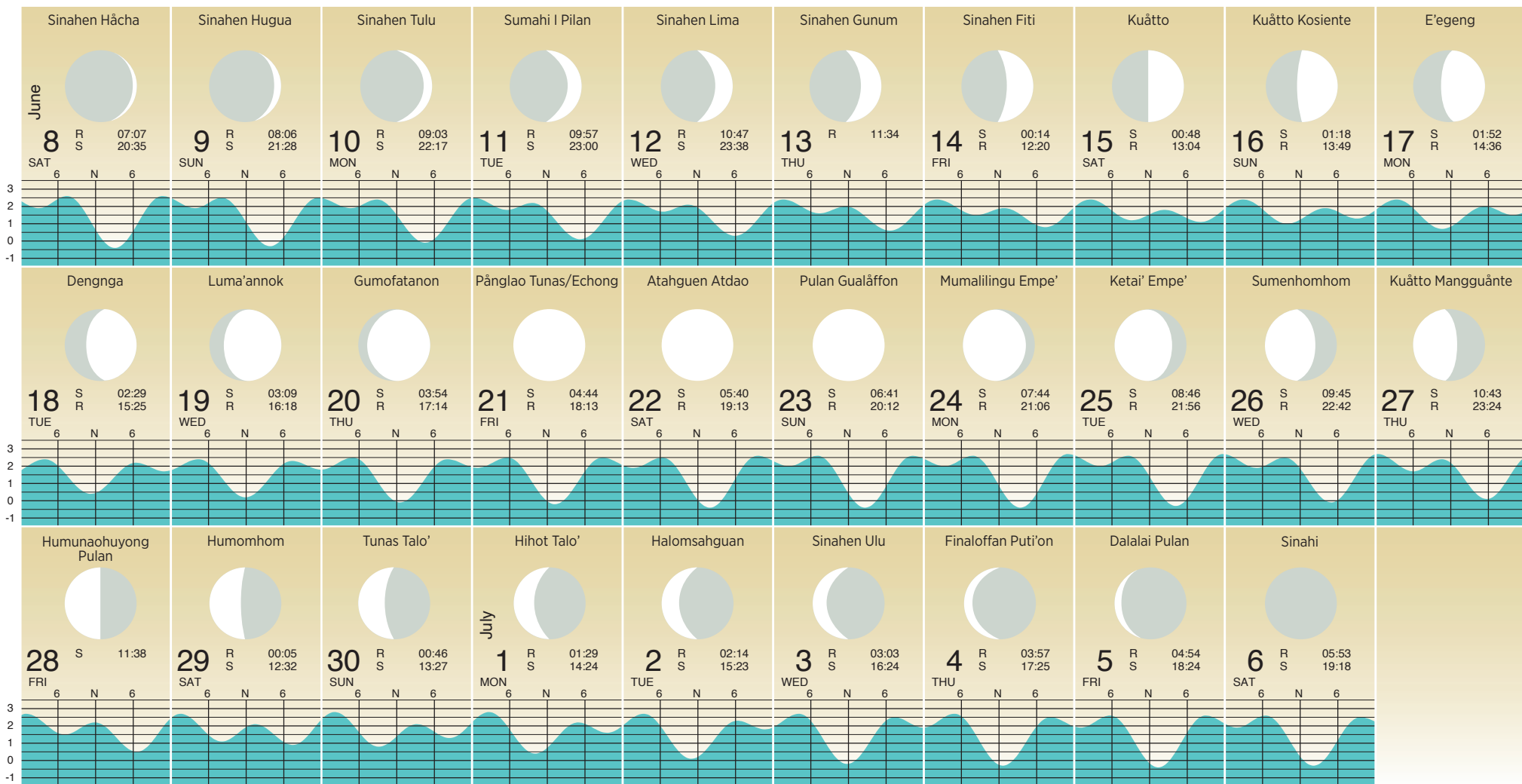
Toves Family

Audrey Toves started fishing alongside her father, Franklin Fegurgur Toves, from the age of 7, and the passion grew from there. Growing older, she fished in deeper waters with her brother Erik, spearfishing and lots of shrimping and crabbing. As an adult, Audrey was intrigued with fishing on a boat and soon purchased one, learning more and adjusting to each method and species. She says her father was the only one who encouraged her to pursue her dream of owning and operating her own fishing charter. Unfortunately, her father passed away before she purchased her boat. Audrey's wish was for her father to see how much of an impact he has had on her and how successful she has become. She is proud to teach and pass down fishing she learned from him to her son, Izzic.

Mananaf

June 8–July 6, 2024

Huniu 8–Huliu 6, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Felipe Mansapit, the man who started a Malesso' fishing family, was a common sight with his *talaya* over his shoulder.



Eric trying his luck from the Malesso' Pier for *atulai* when the seasonal fish comes in close to shore.



Mansapit family's harvest of *atulai* fills the family boat, ready to *patte'* (share) with family and friends.

Ningu/Mansapit Family

Felipe Tyquienco Mansapit, born in 1934, taught all five of his kids to fish—Tony, John, Eric, Ramon, and Faye. His legacy lives on in his grandchildren Ben and Garret. From throwing *talaya* to *chenchulu* for *atulai* (bigeye scad), the Mansapit family are well known in Malesso' Village as a family that fishes together.

Photos: Tony Mansapit



Tony and son Garret with their catch of the day, a young *botague* (mahimahi) and *tarakituyan* (juvenile giant trevally). Tony started fishing with his father at 6 years old, and was fishing on his own by the age of 14.

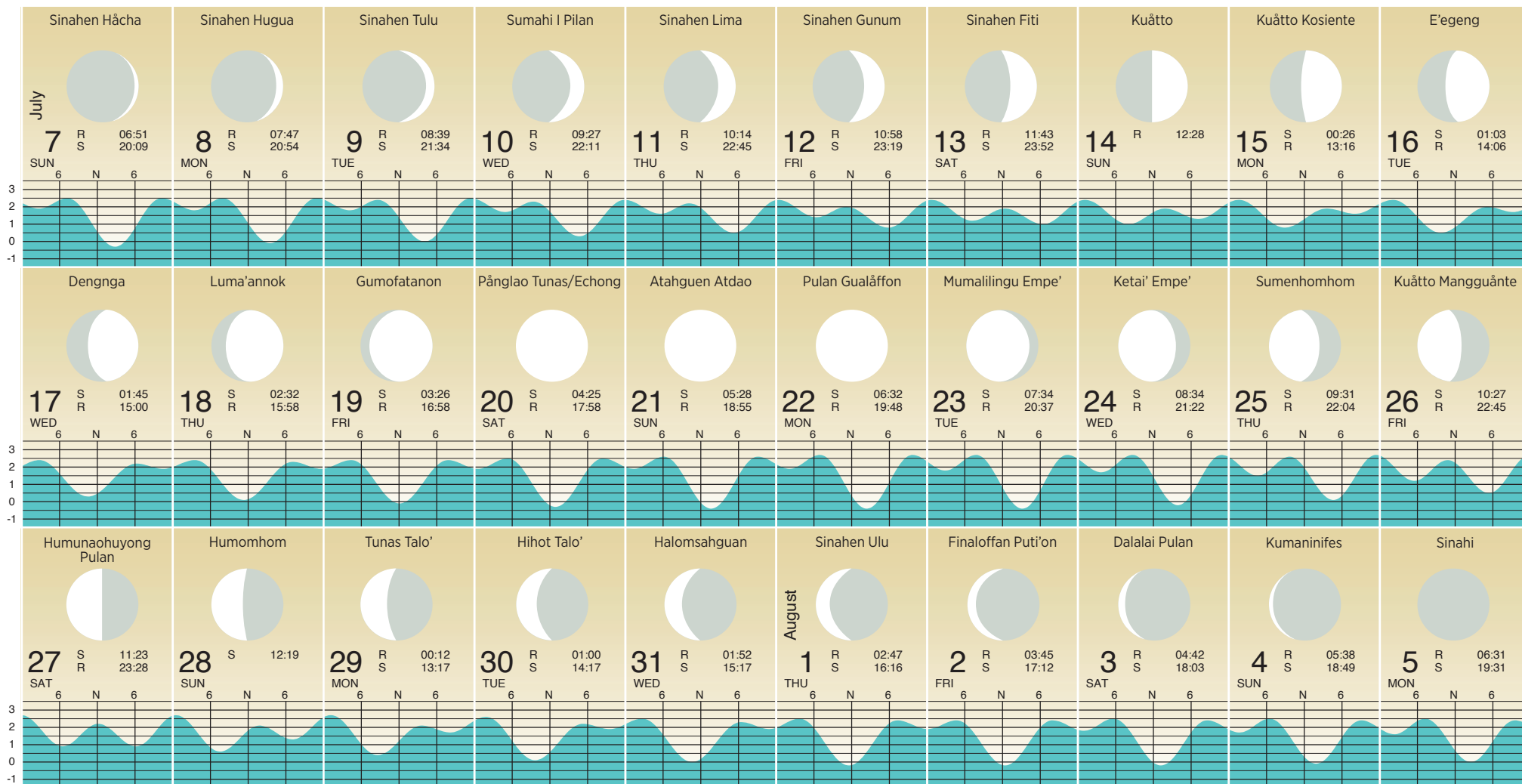


Felipe's only daughter Faye joins the guys on a jet ski as they plan the day's fishing for *atulai* inside Cocos Lagoon.

Semu

July 7-August 5, 2024

Huliu 7-Agosto 5, 2024



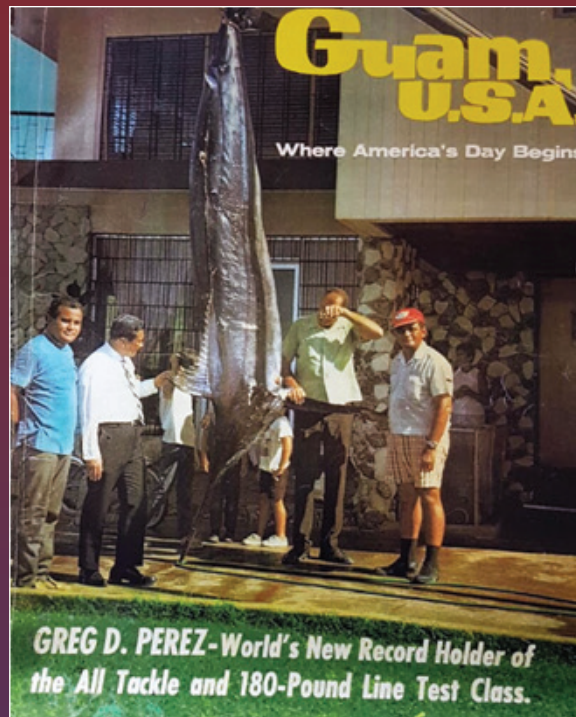
Moon-related observations and activities



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A world record marlin that held for 13 years sparked a family's love for fishing.

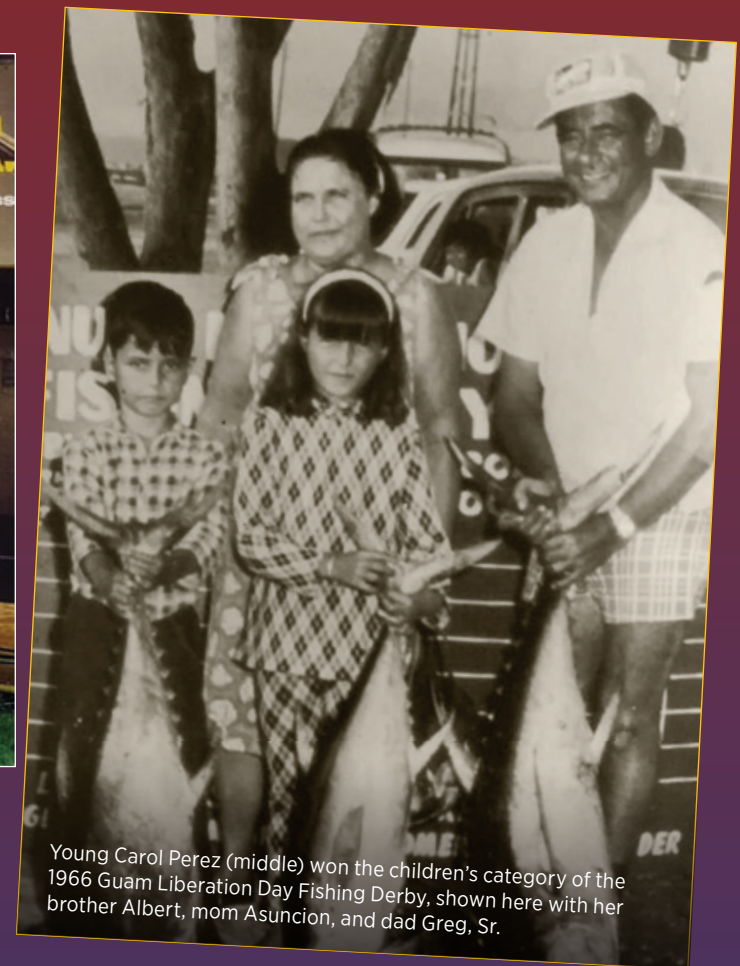


Greg Perez, Sr. (far right) with the late Governor Carlos Camacho (second from left), and friends.

Perez Family

Greg Perez, Sr. brought Guam onto the world stage with the world record 1,152-pound Pacific blue marlin he caught in 1969. Greg Sr.'s daughter, Carol, started her fishing career by joining her dad on the boat trolling for big fish. Her older brother, Greg Jr., still continues his father's legacy today by trolling Marianas waters from Guam to Saipan. The Perez clan now hosts the Greg D. Perez International Invitational Fishing Tournament in honor of their father, and started a foundation in his name to support fishing events and teach fishing methods to Guam's youth. The Agaña Boat Basin is also named after their father.

Photos: Carol Perez

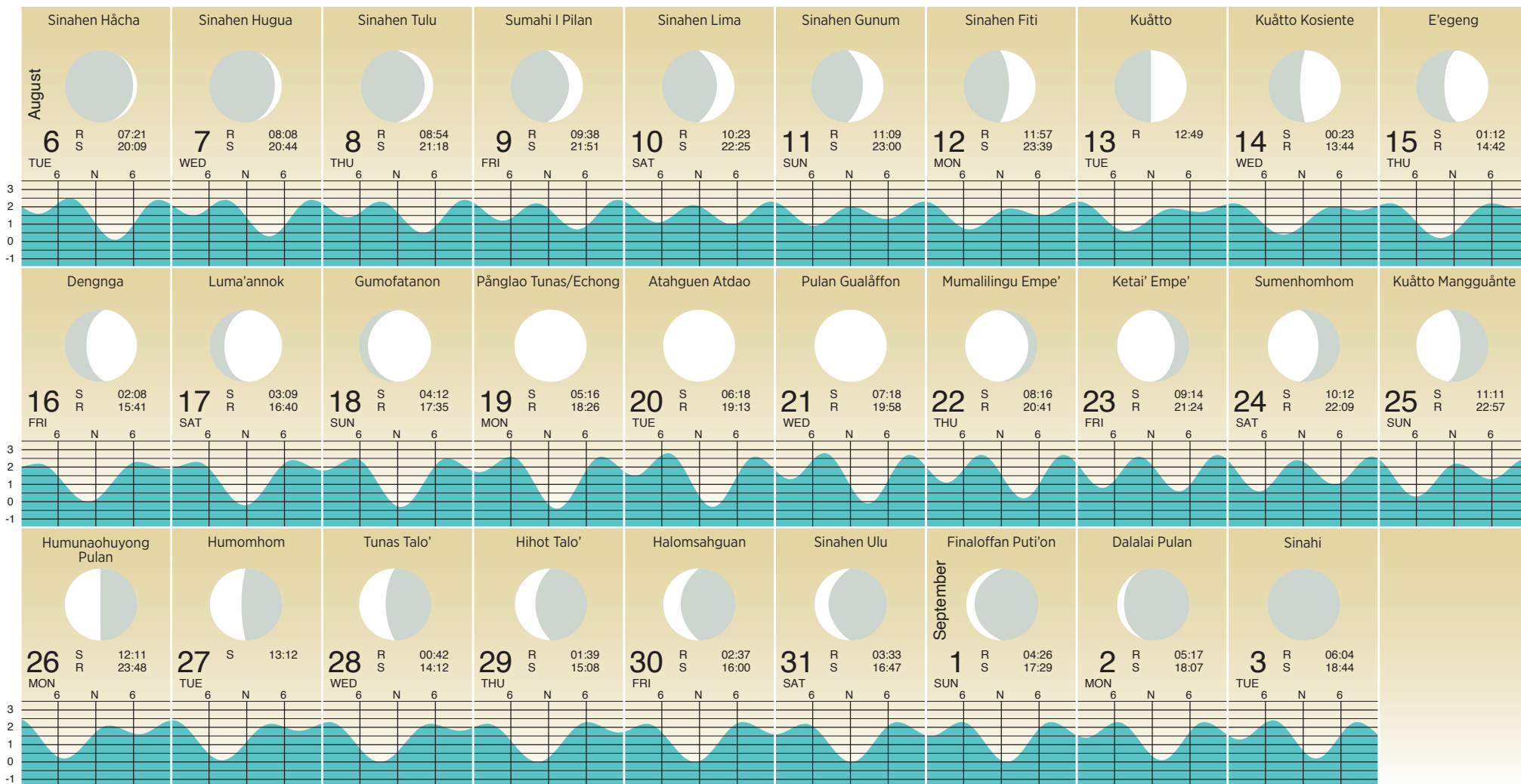


Young Carol Perez (middle) won the children's category of the 1966 Guam Liberation Day Fishing Derby, shown here with her brother Albert, mom Asuncion, and dad Greg, Sr.

Tenhos

August 6–September 3, 2024

Agosto 6–Settembre 3, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Albert (second from right) and friends proudly display their large grouper catch. Photo: Lorilee Topasna Crisostomo



Umatac Mayor Albert Topasna overseeing the *patte'* of *atulai* outside his office. Photo: Ray Topasna

In Umatac, the whole village gathers to *patte'* in the seasonal catch of *atulai*. The Topasna family carries on this tradition that has been practiced for many years. Photo: Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources



Albert's grandson Bryson (left) and great grandson Isaiah proudly showing off their catch along Umatac Bay. Photo: Lorilee Topasna Crisostomo

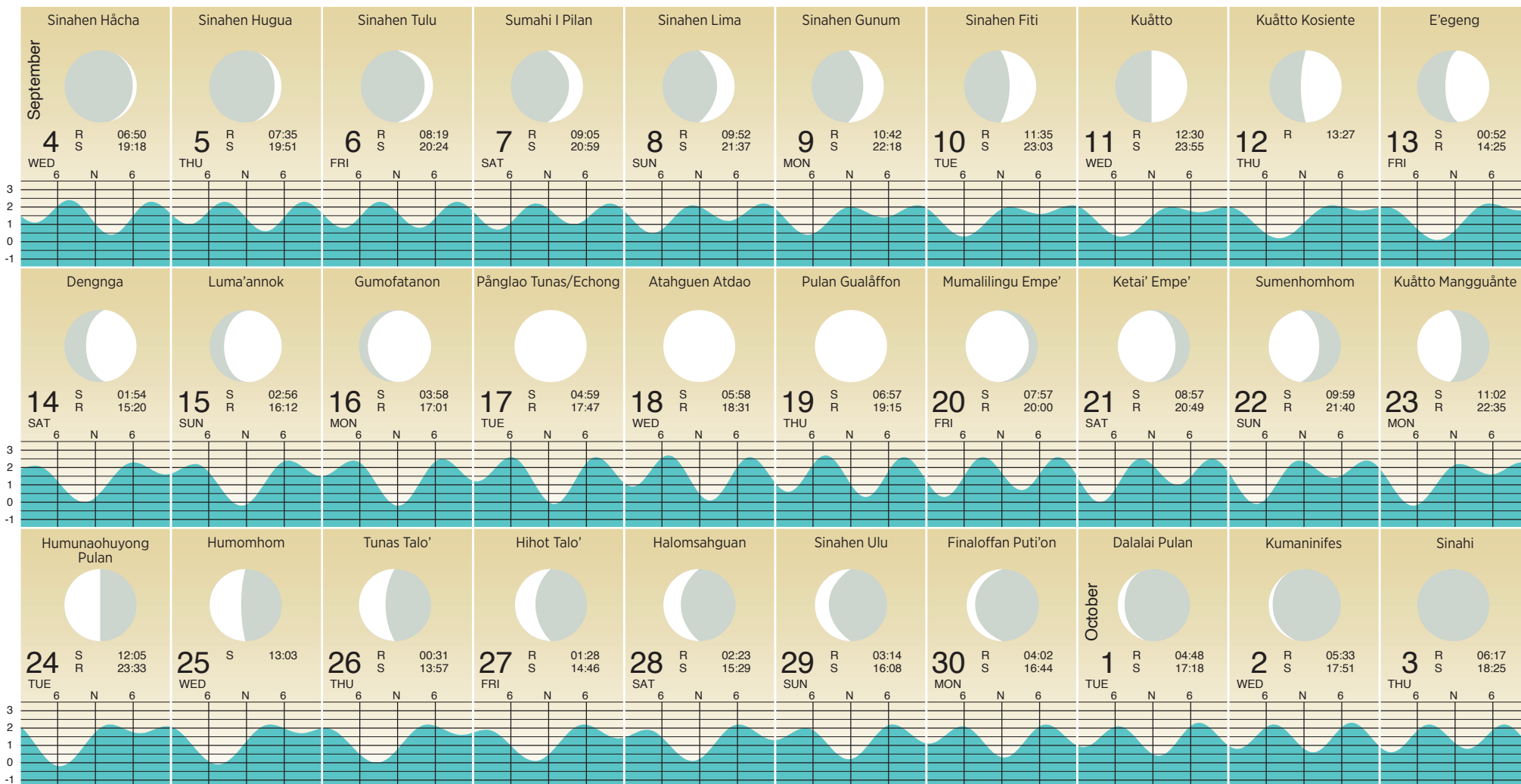
Topasna Family

As a young boy in Umatac, Albert Tainatongo Topasna learned traditional fishing methods from his father and grandfather of Malesso'. His uncle Francisco Isezaki also provided cultural knowledge on using a harpoon to catch turtles. Albert shared the fishing practices he learned from relatives, along with his self-taught techniques, with his younger brothers, Ray and Jose, and then his own sons, Albert Jr. and Glen. Observing the signs of the tide, wind, and moon, Albert organized relatives to set up large nets and small boats in Umatac Bay, Inalajan Bay, and Cocos Island Lagoon to catch seasonal fishes like *atulai* and *mañahak* (juvenile rabbitfish). Using cast nets and spearguns for reef fishes, snorkeling for *aliling* (button top sea snails), and trolling for deep sea fish, the love of fishing together as a family continues with present and future generations.

Lumåmlam

September 4–October 3, 2024

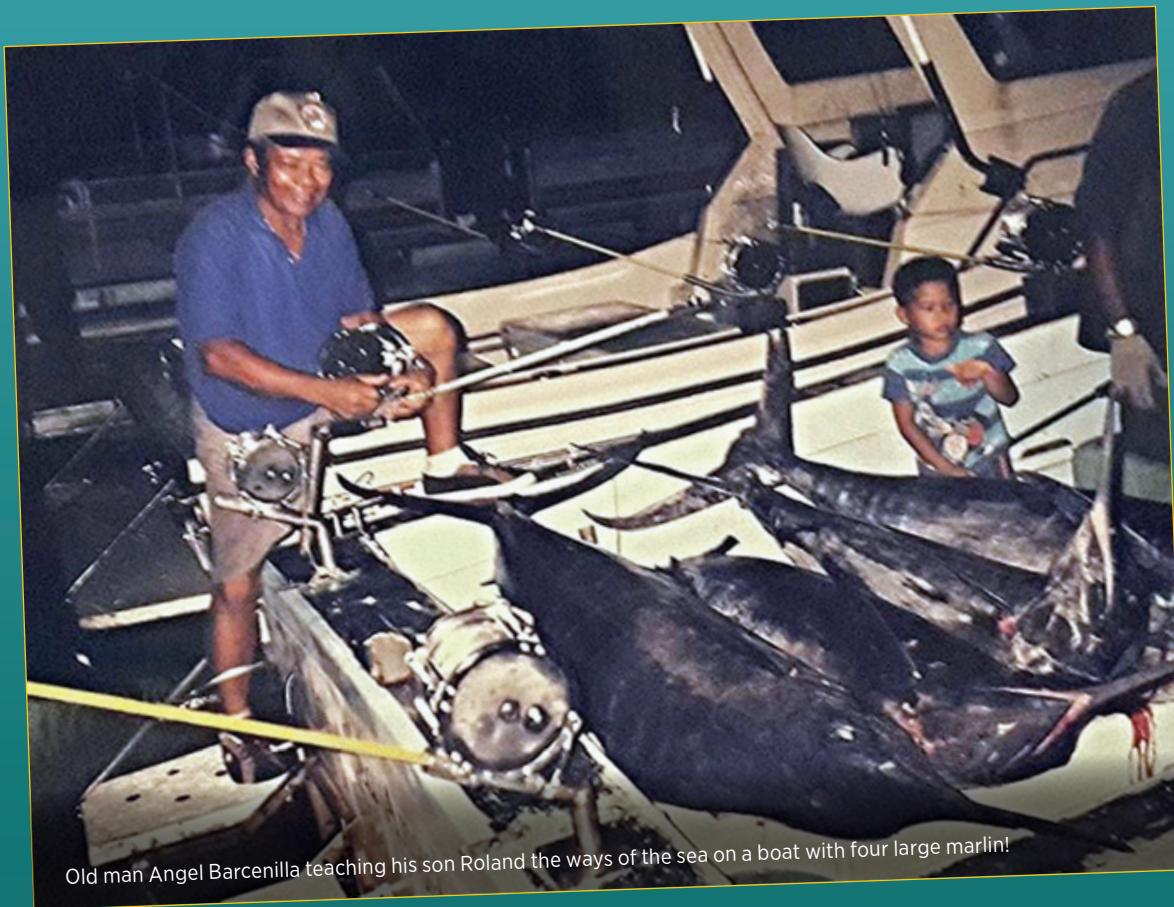
Septembre 4–Oktubri 3, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Old man Angel Barcenilla teaching his son Roland the ways of the sea on a boat with four large marlin!

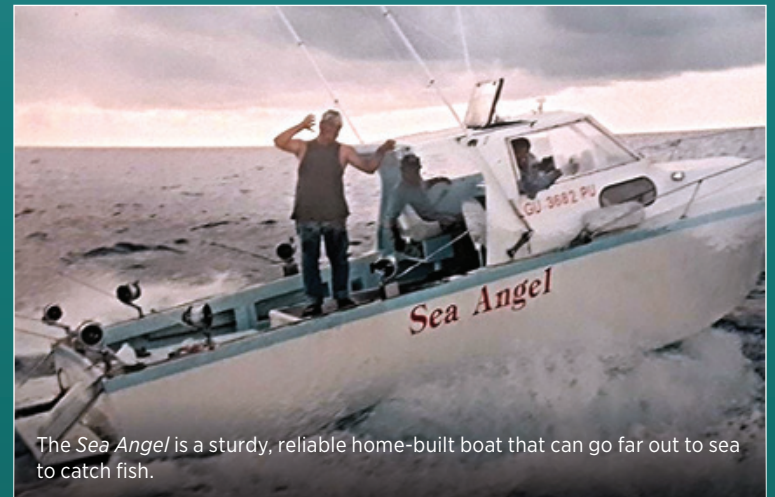
Barcenilla Family

Bringing his skills from the Philippines, Angel Barcenilla built boats for his family to go fishing in Guam. The Barcenilla family are well known in the Agat fishing scene for being hardy, tireless and successful in their efforts. Angel's legacy lives on in his sons, Roland and Romeo, and his grandson, Roland Jr., all excellent fishers. Their boat *Sea Angel*, built by the late patriarch, still plies the southern waters of Guam.

Photos: Roland Barcenilla



Roland (right) and son Roland Jr. after landing a nice sized marlin.

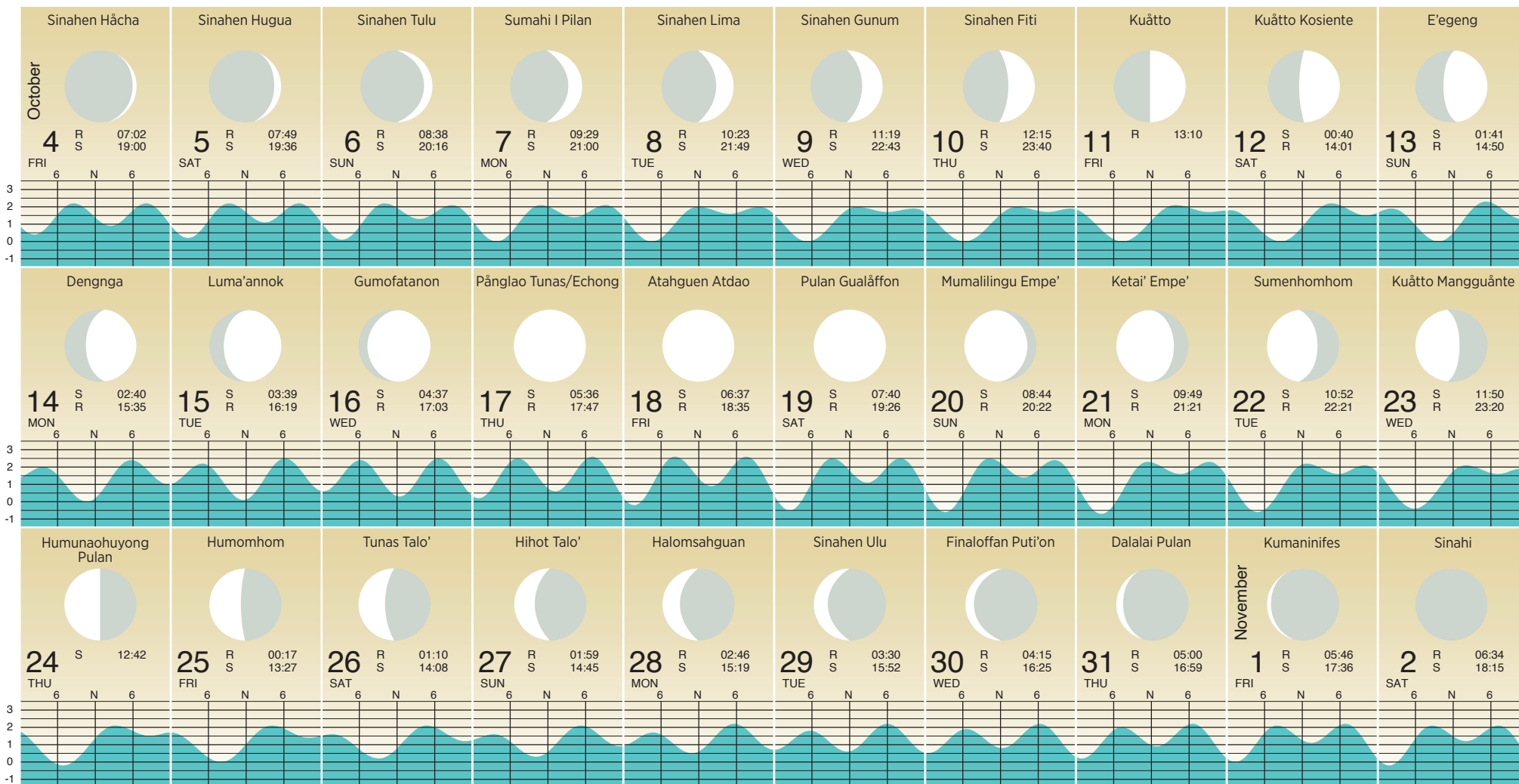


The *Sea Angel* is a sturdy, reliable home-built boat that can go far out to sea to catch fish.

Faguålo'

October 4–November 2, 2024

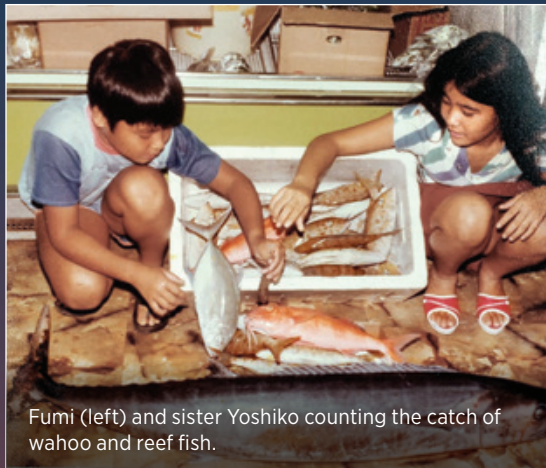
Oktubri 4–Nubembre 2, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Fumi (left) and sister Yoshiko counting the catch of wahoo and reef fish.



Takayuki and son Fumi with a large mahimahi and skipjack tuna.



Takayuki Kajiyama was a pioneer fisherman. He taught many local fishermen about the ways of catching big pelagic and bottomfish.



Takayuki with younger son Rocky with a beautiful marlin.

Kajiyama Family

Back in the day, Fumi Kajiyama's father, Takayuki, owned a boat with enough deck space to start a trolling and deep-bottomfish fishery in Guam, mostly for local markets. He had a working knowledge of Japanese fishing methods and he was generous in sharing his skills. Fumi, along with his brother Rocky and sister Yoshiko, carry on that tradition and are often found fishing at night along the Mangilao cliffline or on boats trolling or bottomfishing.

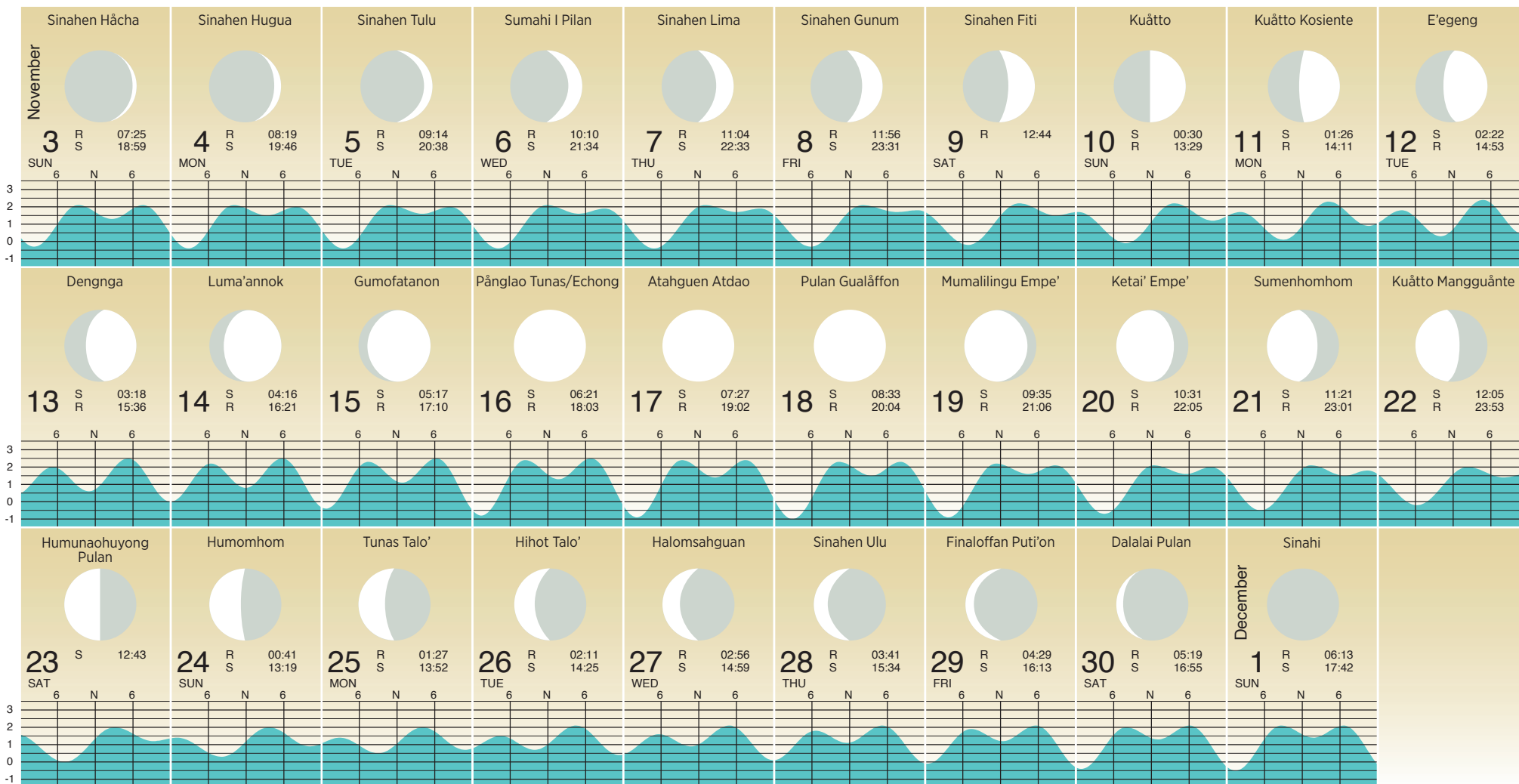
Photos: Fumi Kajiyama



Takayuki (middle) with sons Fumi (left) and Rocky, and daughter Yoshiko show their catch after a day on the water.

Sumongsong

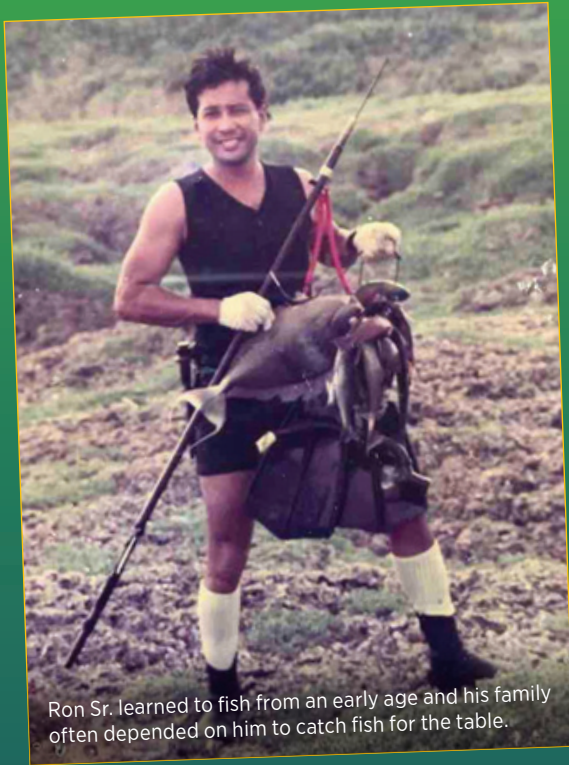
November 3–December 1, 2024
Nubembre 3–Disembre 1, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Ron Sr. learned to fish from an early age and his family often depended on him to catch fish for the table.



Ron Jr.



Ron Sr. catches enough to feed his family and share with friends.



Above: Ron Jr. learned from his father how to catch big fish, and now runs a successful fishing charter business. The family tradition of being on the water and catching fish continues.

Left: Competition amongst family members is a healthy way to learn fishing safely and catching successfully. Ron Jr. and his cousin John Carlos Feltham back in the day with a heavy handful of *gamsum* (octopus).

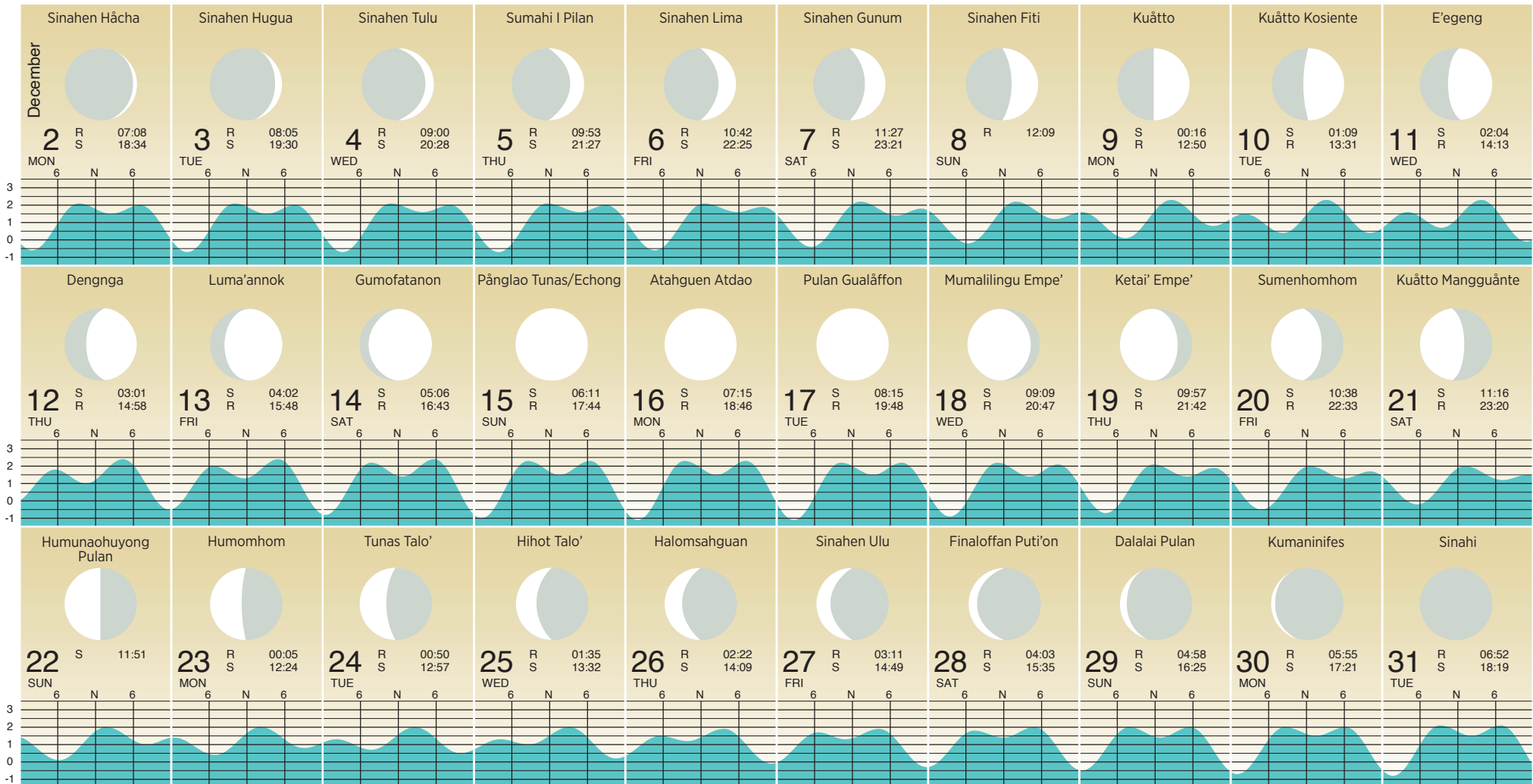
Laguaña Family

Ron Laguaña, Sr., a well-known Chamorro cultural teacher and practitioner, learned the art of respect for the ocean and what it provides from his forefathers and generations of Laguañas. Today, he is often seen in a hard spearfishing battle with his son Ron Jr., often losing the competition. But all is well as the fishing tradition puts food on the table. The Laguañas often venture out to spearfish at night or to deeper waters chasing larger fish. Ron Jr. is an accomplished fish chef and a successful charter captain.

Photos: Ron Laguaña, Sr.

Umayanggan

December 2-31, 2024
Disembre 2-31, 2024



Moon-related observations and activities



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Fishing is a family affair! Left to right: Frank with his mother Antonia, wife Mary, brother-in-law Roy Reyes, and good friend Joe Santos, and a great haul of mahimahi.



Frank's nephew Marc Artero (middle) with the next generation of Camacho/Artero fishers on the *Magnificat*.



A good boat will bring fishers to the fish. A well-maintained boat will bring fishers home. Frank (middle) teaches his nephews Eric (left) and Marc about boat and marine engine repair.



When trolling for pelagic fish is slow, deep bottom fishing is another option, especially when the catch includes *monchong* (sickle pomfret), *onaga* (flame snapper) and other tasty species.

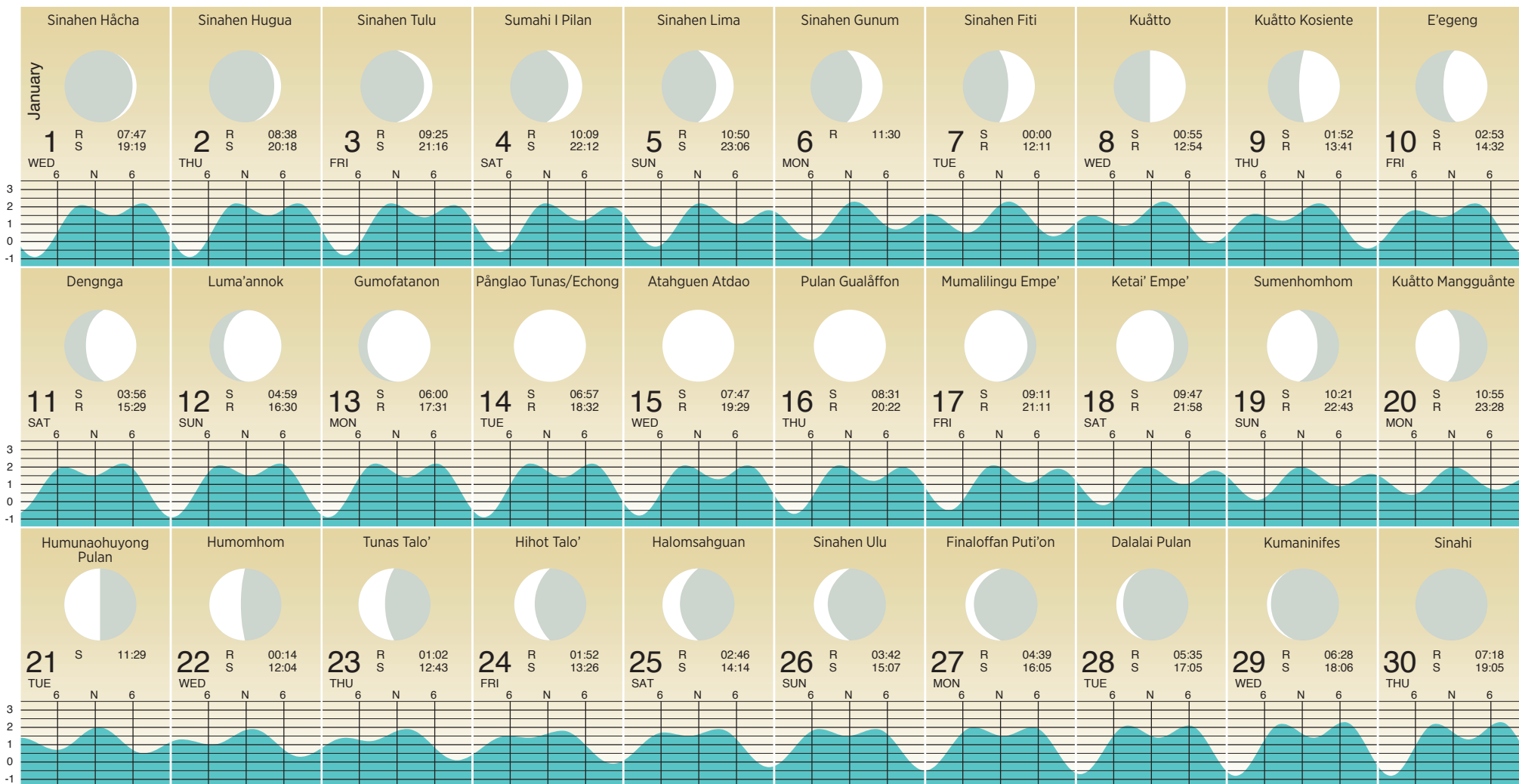
Camacho Family

Frank Camacho's character and marine expertise were shaped by fishing trophies, an accounting degree, boat racing, and the support of friends and family. From a boat he named *Boonie Dog* to the current *Magnificat*, Frank takes his family and nephews to visit Rota and Saipan derbies. His knowledge of boats and motors was nurtured by marine motor repair students like Rudy Salas, Solomon Monteverde, Paul Garcia, Macario Penaflor, Alan Sizemore, and Roy Reyes. With training in marine engine repair in Hawai'i, Japan and Hong Kong, he also shared his expertise with students from Guam Community College. Frank's fishing techniques, chart usage, and lure selection were influenced by his close friend, the late Joe Salas, with whom he began boat racing at the Malesso' Water Festival. Frank is now passing on fishing knowledge from his father using *sulo* (torch) to his nephews, Marc and Eric Artero, who are also well-known fishermen. Even the family's youngest, six-year-old Antonia, shows a keen interest in fishing, occasionally skipping school to go fishing on Frank's boat.

Umagåhaf

January 1, 2024-30, 2025

Ineru 1-30, 2025



Moon-related observations and activities



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About This Calendar

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has produced traditional lunar calendars for Guam since 2007. The intent is to enhance community involvement in fishery management.

The 2024 *Fanha'aniyan Pulan CHamoru* (Chamorro Lunar Calendar) highlights 12 fishing families that span generations, sharing their knowledge, experience, and commitment to sustainability and cultural perpetuation. The lunar months, moon phases and traditional calendar months are given in Chamorro, the native language of the indigenous people of Guam, and the moon phases are for Hagåtña. Data to discern the first day of the lunar month are used with permission from HM Nautical Almanac Office, UKHO and the Keeper of Public Records, UK. The tide charts with moon rise and set times are in Chamorro Standard Time for Hagåtña and were provided by OceanFun Publishing, NZ.

A special *Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase* to the Council's Guam Advisory Panel for interviewing the 12 fishing families—Dominick San Gil (vice chair), Dale Alvarez, James Borja, Michael Dueñas, Jason Miller, Jesse Rosario, and Michael Gawe; the 12 families for sharing their stories and photos; Brent Tibbatts, Guam Division of Aquatic & Wildlife Resources, for providing photos and helping the AP with fishing family outreach; and to Ron Laguaña for his guidance on the Chamorro lunar month names.

For an electronic version of this calendar, go to www.wpcouncil.org/educational-resources/lunar-calendars.

Send us an email at info@wpcouncil.org to let us know how you use our calendar!

About the Council

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council was established by Congress in 1976 to manage fisheries in the offshore waters surrounding Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Hawai'i and the U.S. Pacific Remote Island Areas. The fisheries in federal waters surrounding Guam are managed under the Mariana Archipelago and Pacific Pelagic Fishery Ecosystem Plans. Traditional knowledge and wide community involvement are integral parts of the ecosystem-based approach to fishery management.



Talofofo Bay *atulai* harvest by *chenchulu*. The southern villages of Guam are known for engaging the whole community in fishing, with both young and old participating. Photo: Bob Johnson

GUAM CONTACTS

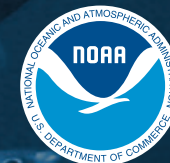
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Front cover photo: Jinapsan Beach on the north side of Guam, looking towards Ritidian Point. Photo: James Borja

Back cover background photo: Small shoal of yellowtail scad (*atule mate*). Photo: Richard Ling/Flickr