

January 5, 2015

Vol. 15 Issue No. 3

# The KASELEHLIE PRESS

This bi-weekly publication is only \$1.00

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## Clanks, bangs, whistles, pops, and screams—Pohnpei ushers in 2015



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# Kitti Executive requests audit of municipality and learns of deficiencies

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Pohnpei’s Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) conducted an audit of the Kitti Municipal Government for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013. The audit was initiated based on a request by the Luhkenmoanlap, the elected executive officer of the Kitti Municipal Government, Mr. Tony Sarapio.

It found that the Municipality’s expenditures exceeded its available revenues; that there were significant deficiencies in the cash receipts activities that resulted in misuse of collections; and that its disbursement were not in compliance with the municipality Financial Management Act.

The Municipality project a total revenue of over \$1 million for FY 2012 and 2013 but the OPA analysis showed that the actual revenues collected for the same period amount to over \$100,000 less than projections. Those revenue projections included unverified and unaudited amounts of supposedly unused funds carried over from prior year’s budgets. As a result the Municipality’s expenditures exceeded available revenues by a total amount of approximately \$35,000 over the course of the two fiscal years.

OPA recommended that the Municipality

should stop including prior year carryover funds in budgets unless the amounts can be verified and supported. Budget amounts also should be based on attainable revenues based on historical data or reliable analysis.

Due in part to a lack of knowledge in good management and proper accounting controls and also to a lack of budget to properly segregate duties for cash handling and processing there were significant deficiencies in control activities over cash receipts. The audit says that about \$6,835 of collections during the two years were not deposited to the Municipality’s bank account. It also found \$3,811 worth of unrecorded receipts that were deposited though they weren’t recorded.

The audit says that deposits were not made on a timely basis and that there were problems with receipting. Bank reconciliations were also not performed on a regular basis so that un-deposited collections were not detected. The lack of reconciliations caused the Municipality to overdraw its bank account resulting in \$820 in bank charges for insufficiency of funds.

OPA recommended the Luhkenmoanlap to take immediate actions to strengthen the management controls over cash receipts to reduce the risk of unintentional

errors or abuse, misuse, and theft.

OPA also found that disbursements were not in compliance with the Municipality’s FMA which proper support for expenditures to be on file.

OPA found that 54 disbursements were missing from the files. Eight disbursements were not approved by the allottee. Seven disbursements were not supported with required documents such as receipts. A \$2,068 travel expense of an official was not supported by a Travel Authorization.

OPA further questioned a total amount of \$3,895 that was used to pay for a

casket and a pig for a funeral. “If this is a legitimate related party transaction, then it should be supplemented with appropriate justification.

Luhkenmoanlap Sarapio personally requested the audit and thanked the auditor for pointing out specific items that need correction. He said that the Kitti Municipality would be implementing and ensuring that all transactions in future will be properly handled.

Under the terms of the audit the Municipality must make monthly reports to OPA demonstrating that corrective action is ongoing and that they will be completely corrected within six months.

## Speaker Halbert announces huge website containing FSM code

### Congress will also be printing the 3000 page document in hard cover

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM**—In a December 23, 2014 letter to FSM President Manny Mori, and Acting Chief Justice Ready E. Johnny, FSM Congress Speaker Dohsis Halbert announced that the FSM code is now available online at [www.fsm-ca2014.org](http://www.fsm-ca2014.org).

Speaker Halbert said that Congress had been engaged to update the FSM Code in order to make the FSM’s law more accessible to practitioners and to the public.

“The website reflects a codification of the FSM public laws up to the end of the 17th Congress, and is made available for public use at no charge,” the letter said. “The website is very simple, but took some time to complete because of its size.”

He said that it contains 270 web pages and around 250 Acrobat PDF file, and also has over 500 links.

Speaker Halbert also announced that Congress is in the process of printing hard copies of the code that will be available for sale shortly. He did not announce how much the sale price would be but said that it would be approximately 3000 pages in length and would be published in a hard bound cover. All inquiries for the purchase of the code should be directed to the Administrator of Congress, Suda Rayel.

“I hope this will represent a step forward in making our laws more transparent and available for reference,” he concluded.

The legal authority for the new code was provided in Public Law 18-96.

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Managing Editor

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# Auditor says FSM needs to recover more than half a million dollars from Pohnpei State

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—A recent audit conducted by FSM’s Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) says that Pohnpei needs to reimburse \$521,708 to the National Treasury that was inappropriately disbursed to the State.

The audit was called for by Pohnpei State’s representatives at the FSM Congress.

The audit provides a copy of a letter that Secretary of the FSM Department of Finance and Administration, Kensley K. Ikosia sent to Pohnpei’s Governor John Ehsa requiring the reimbursement. In the alternative Ikosia suggested that, “the FSM Treasury has the alternative of offsetting the

amount that needs to be recovered using the funds held on behalf of Pohnpei State Government.”

The letter was dated October 6. As of November 17, 2014, Ikosia had not received a response to the letter.

On July 24, 2013, Congress passed a Congressional Act 18-11 containing an appropriation of \$1.68 million to assist the States of Pohnpei and Yap in retiring debt and covering budget shortfalls. Of that amount \$1.13 million was for Pohnpei State. \$130,000 of that money was to be used to fund Micronesian Legal Services Corporation and \$895,000 was to be used to cover the principal amount owed by Pohnpei employers to Social Security Administration. The Act did not

specifically list the purpose or the amount of the remaining money which was \$105,000 other than the fact that it was under that that it was part of the money to be used to help Pohnpei State to retire debt and cover budget shortfalls.

On August 15, 2013, President Mori transmitted the Congressional Act which he had signed to become Public Law No. 18-11. He had line item vetoed lines 10-12, the line having to do with an appropriation to cover the principal amount owed by Pohnpei employers to the Social Security Administration in the amount of \$895,000. He vetoed those lines for a variety of reasons including that the Act would set a dangerous precedent compelling the National government to pay off future social security taxes owed by delinquent employers.

When Governor Ehsa wrote to ask for the release of the funds he indicated that Public

Law 18-11 approved and authorized the \$895,000. The Director of SBOC was not so sure that assertion was correct and sought clarification from the FSM Department of Justice. In her response to the audit she wrote that she first discussed the matter with an Assistant Attorney General by telephone. She wrote that the attorney told her that the line item veto had not reduce the overall apportionment for Pohnpei State but that because of the veto the money could not be used to retire private business owner Social Security debt.

By email she sought a written legal opinion from the Department of Justice. When it came, it appeared to affirm what she had been told by the DOJ staff attorney but apparently that was not the case and ONPA says that the \$895,000 allotment of funds “appeared illegal”.

See “Pohnpei Audit” on page 5

# Audit says FSM PMU overspent its legal budget in 2014

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—At the request of the Congress Standing Committee on Transportation and Communications the Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) conducted an audit to determine the legality and use of “un-appropriated but used funding” by the FSM’s Program Management Unit (PMU). It found that the Office of SBOC’s allotment of PMU’s Fiscal Year 2013 carry-over funds to supplement PMU’s Fiscal Year 2014 budget did not comply with the FPA (Fiscal Procedures Agreement) and FSM Budget Law.

PMU’s operation budget for FY 2014 was funded by the Compact Infrastructure Sector Grant. In May 2013 however, the PMU through the Department of TC&I requested that the FY-2014 operational budget of \$1,250,909 be funded by domestic revenue because the Compact Sector Grant would not be available before the beginning of FY 2014. FSM Congress initially appropriated \$312,727, or 25 percent of the total

requested budget which was only enough for the first quarter budget.

PMU made a supplemental budget request of \$938,181 in order to cover the second, third and fourth quarters of FY 2014. Congress did not act on that request.

PMU had unobligated funds from the prior fiscal year and sent a letter to the Office of SBOC asking them to request approval for the extension of the availability of the previous year’s unused Compact Infrastructure Grant. OIA granted the request.

Based on the OIA approval, SBOC extended the expiry of the compact infrastructure sector grant from September 2013 to June 2014 for PMU’s operational budget but did so without a required appropriation from the FSM Congress.

The use of the carry over funds allowed PMU to fund its operations during the second and third quarters of its operation. To cover the budget shortfall for the first quarter of FY-2014, PMU requested a

supplemental budget request in the amount of \$315,000. Congress approved that request.

Along with the previously funded budget request from PMU Congress appropriated \$627,727 of the \$824,610 that PMU actually spent. ONPA says that PMU overspent its legal budget by \$196,883.

The audit found that the Office of SBOC and the PMU did not follow the applicable provisions of the FPA and the FSM Budget Law. It recommended that the Director of SBOC and the Manager of the PMU should observe the requirement of the FPA and the applicable FSM budget law at all times prior to issuing advice of allotment and spending of Compact funds.

“Prior to the audit, it was not clear to us especially to the budget staff that issuance of the allotment for PMU’s FY 2013 carry-over funds, which was sourced from the infrastructure sector grants, would be conditioned only on the passage of a new appropriation law as you have pointed out in the audit,” SBOC’s Director wrote in her

audit response. “Instead, the understanding was that once the grant managers for the carry-over funds had approved the extension of the expired grand award for PMU’s operations, this would enable our office to issue the allotment. It had been the practice of the budget office over the years that as long as the terms of a grant are approved by the grant manager, SBOC can issue an allotment. In this case, the approval sought for PMU was to allow extension of an already approved grant award which had been approved earlier by an appropriation law. We were under the notion that issuance of the allotment for PMU would still be covered under our budget procedures. We now know this is a misreading of our budget procedures on our part and we will work toward correct this.”

“At the time we received the advice of allotment for the FY 2013 carry over funds,” wrote the Contracting Officer of the PMU, “neither our legal counsel or administrative staff took note of the lack of appropriation. Having never had the opportunity of using carry over funds, I was not aware of the proper procedure.”



Photo by Patrick Maloney

Several weeks ago, FSM law enforcement officials arrested and detained this Vietnamese vessel in FSM waters for illegal fishing activities. The Kaselehlie Press has been unable to learn details on the arrest but unconfirmed sources say that the fishers may have been fishing the FSM EEZ without a license.

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## Marshall Islands AG lands a record fine

*The Marshall Islands Journal*

Genesis Island Enterprises paid a record fine of \$400,000 and was banned from doing business with the RMI government for 10 years in a landmark plea agreement approved by Chief Justice Carl Ingram on Friday.

Friday's sentencing hearing in the High Court followed the conviction of former Genesis Island Enterprises manager Arianne (Arjay) Demayo in October after he pled guilty to 13 counts of bribery. The conviction centers on more than a year of Genesis bribery of RMI government workers to win contracts for hospital medicines and supplies.

Ingram approved the plea agreement between Genesis and the RMI Attorney General's Office, which resulted in the payment of \$400,000 in restitution to the people of the Marshall Islands, as well as a 10 year prohibition on doing business with any government body.

The AG's office said the fine was about three times the amount that Genesis was liable to pay to the government. Lead attorney on the case, Assistant Attorney General Johnathan Kawakami, delivered the check to the Ministry of Finance shortly after the plea hearing on Friday. It was received by Finance Accounting Officer Patrick Langrine and Acting Secretary of Finance Clarence Samuel. "Having disposed of the two most serious bribery cases involving Genesis, others involved in bribery scheme will be dealt with accordingly with the aim to have them completed at the earliest possible opportunity," the AG's office said in a release Tuesday. Government lawyers involved in the case included Kawakami, Yolanda Lodge, Falai Taafaki, and Eric Iban. Genesis Island Enterprises was represented by Attorney Witten Philippo.

## Four Pacific nations slapped with ACP sanctions

*PACNEWS*

*Dec. 15, 2014*

**BRUSSELS, Belgium** — Four Pacific Island Nations have defaulted on their annual contribution to the Brussels based African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Secretariat.

Marshall Islands and Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) are entering their second year of default in payment while Nauru and Palau have not paid their annual contribution for more than three years.

The other countries have not paid include Dominica, Sao Tome E Principe, Antigua and Barbuda, Centrafrique and Grenada.

As a result, these countries will not be members of the Bureau of the Council of Ministers or the Bureau of the Committee of Ambassadors. They will not be eligible for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers or chairmanship of the Committee of Ambassadors or any of its organs.

The countries will not benefit from the financial assistance accorded to member states or participation by their representatives in meetings organized by the Secretariat. They will not take the floor during any meetings of ACP and receive any ACP documents.

In addition, nationals from these countries will no longer be hired by the ACP secretariat.

A vocal Pacific diplomat told PACNEWS the issue doesn't look good for the region especially when there are only eight Pacific ACP states in Brussels and London working collectively to promote their views into the big emerging cohesive group.

"The issue has been discussed between Pacific Ambassadors in Brussels we have asked our coordinator Papua New Guinea to try and raise this issue with their own capitals. Its not easy because they are not present in Brussels. They do not see the immediate benefits of not being in Brussels and putting money to support the work of ACP group.

"At some point in time between now and 2020 we have to make some major political decisions. Once the Pacific Leaders meet next year in PNG, they will have to make some major decisions on countries that have defaulted or owe money to the Secretariat. There will come a time when they will be asked to leave the group because they not been fulfilling their obligation and duties provided for in the Cotonou convention," the diplomat said.

The financial contribution for each member states paid to the ACP Secretariat annually is based on the GDP of a country, size and population.

For the ACP Secretariat 2015 budget, a contribution of €6,100,000 will be made from the European Development Fund (EDF).

The ACP Group member states will pay their contributions totaling to €7,209,971 (about \$7.6 million) in accordance with Article 6a of the financial regulations, which stipulates that 50 percent be paid by 31 March and the balance paid by 30 September of the same budget year at the latest.

The ACP Secretariat 2015 budget passed last week was €15,339,171 (about \$19.1 million), represents an increase of 0.39 percent over the preceding year's budget estimate of €15,339,842. It is also a decrease of 7 percent in the member states' contribution.

A total of 94 people work at the ACP Secretariat in Brussels with only two representatives from the Pacific.

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## Request for Proposal – Accounting Services

On January 16, 2014, the FSM Supreme Court issued its findings of fact and conclusions of law that determined FSM Telecommunication Corporation had established in the shareholder's suit (FSM Telecomm Corp v. Helgenberger, CA #2010-035), there were sufficient factual and legal grounds under Pohnpei state corporate law to liquidate the business and assets of a Pohnpei corporation called Island Cable TV Pohnpei, Inc. (ICTV) and that the court would therefore appoint a liquidating receiver to begin this process. On June 17, 2014, the court held the hearing required by the Pohnpei statute, 37 Pon. C. 1-197(2). As a result of the hearing, the court, on June 20, 2014, appointed a Liquidating Receiver of ICTV, effective July 1, 2014. The powers of the Liquidating Receiver include: to review all financial transactions of ICTV during the past years, to conduct audits, to approve or disapprove financial disbursements, and to take general control of ICTV.

ICTV seek expressions of interest from qualified Accountant(s) with demonstrable experience in financial operations, including competency in installing accounting systems that meet GAAP standards, prepare and analyze financial statements, asset appraisal, and implementation of a computerized accounting and billing management system. The services of an Accountant will be engaged to fulfill the requirements of the court order appointing the Liquidating Receiver of ICTV.

Services to be acquired include: install an accounting system designed to enhance transparency and accountability in the management of ICTV that meet GAAP standards; provide training and support for staff to implement the accounting system; prepare and analyze financial statements for review by external auditors; produce an asset appraisal report; and install and implement a computerized accounting and billing management system for ICTV.

The accounting services will be conducted at the ICTV PAMI Office and the TV Station site in Kolonia and require a close working relationship with ICTV staff and the Liquidating Receiver for information and access to records. Office space, internet, computer, desk, and access to printing and general office amenities will be provided by ICTV.

The main component of the services is an exit presentation to the Liquidating Receiver on each of the services expected in the scope of work; that the closure of the services have been successfully delivered to enable a well established and functioning accounting system for ICTV; and auditable financial statements and an asset appraisal report are produced.

The Accountant with whom ICTV will be engaging to provide the accounting services in this request would need to meet the following requirements: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university major in Accounting, Business or related fields, Certified Public Accountant preferred; Demonstrated three years ability in managing accounting and finance operations; Three years of direct accounting, finance or audit responsibilities; and Strong presentation skills, with the ability to communicate complex information and make recommendations to management.

Services will be on a short term consultancy contract for a period of up to 120 working days at an agreed daily rate. Billing for services conducted will be submitted on a monthly basis.

Submission of CV detailing relevant experience against the requirements specified by this request for expression of interest; a financial proposal and plan that includes professional fees; and application should be addressed to the Liquidating Receiver and sent to: ICTV@EMAIL.COM by close of business February 6, 2015.

# Officials from the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China visited the FSM

*FSM Information Services*

*December 31, 2014*

**Palikir, Pohnpei (Department of Foreign Affairs):** A delegation comprising four members from the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China visited FSM from 22-25 December 2014. The delegation was headed by Mr. Fang Qiuchen, Deputy Director General of the Department of American and Oceanian Affairs. The delegation's visit to the FSM was at the request of President Mori during the Second China-Pacific Island Countries Economic Development and Cooperation Forum in Guangzhou, China of November 2013. The purpose of their visit was to discuss the possibility of establishing a Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade between FSM and China to promote and enhance economic and trade relations.

On the morning of 23 December 2014, the delegation paid a courtesy visit to H.E. President Manny Mori. The delegation explained that the visit is an indication of China's positive response to the President's request for more periodic meetings to discuss development cooperation between the two countries. The President thanked the delegation for their positive response and encouraged them to work closely with the relevant FSM Departments to formalize the creation of the Joint Commission soonest.

Following the courtesy call, the delegation had a joint meeting with the Department of Foreign Affairs as head of the FSM side and other members including Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure, Department of Resources and Development, Department of Finance and Administration and the Office of Statistics, Budget and Economic Management, Overseas Development, and Compact Management (SBOC). The two sides held discussions on establishing the China-FSM Joint Economic and Trade Commission and mechanism and agreed on the content of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which will be signed when the first Commission Meeting convenes on March of 2015. The MOU will include the guiding principles, contents, leading agencies, composition of members, level and the meetings of the Commission. The MOU will take effect as of the date of its signature and shall remain valid for ten years.

In attendance during the courtesy call were Secretary of Foreign Affairs, T.H. Lorin Robert, Secretary of Resources and Development, T.H. Marion Henry, Secretary of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure, T.H. Francis Itimai, Secretary of Finance and Administration, T.H. Kensley Ikosia and Director of SBOC, Ms. Evelyn Adolph among others.

## ...Pohnpei Audit

*Continued from page 3*

There seems to be some controversy about whether the Advice of Allotment amounting to \$1 million with Pohnpei State Governor as the allottee was transmitted to FSM Finance before or after DOJ issued the written legal opinion though ONPA indicates that it was prepared before. In her response, the Director of SBOC wrote that the actual allotment was issued and posted in the Financial Management system on October 9, 2013, the day after the legal opinion was issued.

ONPA concluded that the legal opinion did not answer the most crucial question that was asked by the Director about whether the \$1 million could be used by Pohnpei State to pay for debt and to cover budget shortfall. "Notwithstanding this", the audit said, "it is also our opinion that the Director of the Office of SBOC is ultimately responsible for the decision to allot the \$1 million."

It recommended that the "Director of SBOC should ensure that clear and specific interpretation of the law is obtained prior to issuing and allotment especially where a Presidential veto was involved; and exercise due care when preparing and issuing advice of allotment."

It recommended that the "Secretary of DOJ should provide specific and direct answers in their legal opinions to specific questions and issues raised by other departments and offices within the government."

In her audit response, the DOJ Secretary quoted from a meeting in the President's conference room that she must have recorded during which the Director of SBOC told her that she hadn't "really read the legal opinion very carefully."

"Regardless, your suggestion of caution in preparing our AG Opinions is noted and well taken. There is always room for improvement, and we will read your final audit report with that thought in mind," the letter concluded.

On December 2, 2013 the Office of SBOC de-allotted the \$1 million but was able to de-allot only the \$373,292 that had not yet been disbursed. The audit shows that Pohnpei State spent \$317,882 as transfers to municipal governments, and \$308,826 and payment of contractual and other services for a total of \$626,608. Of that amount, \$105,000 was legally allotted. The audit says that Pohnpei State now owes the FSM National Treasury \$521,708.

Early in 2014, President Mori allowed a Congress Act amending Public Law 18-11 to become Public Law 18-44 without his signature. PL 18-44 changed the allottees and the specific purposes for the \$1.13 million PL 18-11 had mandated. It appropriated the same amount of money and kept the \$130,000 appropriation for Micronesian Legal Services which has already been legally disbursed. The allottees for the remaining \$1 million will be each of Pohnpei State's Election Districts, and the "At Large" in the amount of \$250,000 each for the purposes of Pohnpei State roads improvement. None of the road improvement money will be released until Congress is officially advised that fund that were "improperly disbursed as a result of the line item veto which was reflected in Public Law 18-11 are collected."

By press time we were not able to determine if a repayment plan had been established. Representatives of Pohnpei's Department of Treasury and Administration did not return our numerous phone calls. The FSM's Department of Finance and Administration's telephone went unanswered during business hours.

## Tuna Headline!!!

As 2014 draws to an end, Skipjack Tuna prices on the Bangkok Tuna market have stayed at a low of US\$1,150 per metric tonne and US\$1,180 per metric tonne, tuna insiders report.

However, pressure from traders could see the prices being bumped to \$1,250/t for December. They expect prices to reach US\$1,200 this month (December).

As the prices fluctuate and are influenced by the canners - the Parties to Nauru Agreement will have the opportunity to play their cards when issuing fishing days under the Vessel Day Scheme next year. Send us your tips to marketintel@pnatuna.com.

### Tuna industry woes another WCPFC failure

We may have not heard the end of the disastrous Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) meeting in Apia early this month, but some important stakeholders continue to join a long list of tuna advocates who are concerned with the outcomes.

The Pacific Island Tuna Industry Association (PITIA) executive meeting in Brisbane lately noted with grave concern and disappointment the failure, yet again, of the 11th annual session of WCPFC to make any substantive progress in considering pressing issues relating to Pacific tuna fisheries management. "Despite the efforts of FFA and PNA secretariats and members, discussions of key issues for tropical tuna and albacore were stalled by the Distant Water Fishing Nations countries resulting in no progress being made," PITIA's

secretariat said.

"PITIA believes that the faith in WCPFC as a functional RFMO is now eroded to the extent that there is no longer confidence in Commission processes to effectively manage the Pacific tuna fisheries. It is also clear that the interests of Small Island Developing States as reflected in the convention simply receive lip service and are not sufficiently taken into account."

PITIA concluded its members needed to manage the fisheries themselves through avenues such as the agreements of the PNA and the recently forged agreement on Southern Albacore longline fishing.

### Palau updated on tuna stocks

Palau has received its latest updates on tuna stocks as it prepared to attend the WCPFC meeting in Apia.

Nanette Malsol, Director, from the Bureau of Ocean and Fishery Management presented the summary of the stocks during a Palau Ocean Summit in October.

Ms. Malsol presented the estimated percentage of reproduction biomass of tuna species left in Palau waters. The report showed that skipjack tuna is at a healthy level for reproduction. Whilst yellowfin tuna was also in a similar state it needs a certain amount of attention to keep stock healthy.

However, other tuna species like bigeye and bluefin are now at low and critical levels of reproduction and presents a grave outlook for the species.

Management of sharks are is important for Palau with its diving tourism, and Palau has led in shark conservation efforts.

### Good news for Wewak fishing in Papua New Guinea

The South Seas Tuna Company in Wewak, East Sepik has been eyeing a production output of 10,000 metric tons of frozen loins for the full year, company President Mike McCulley revealed. However, he said SSTC will only ship close to 8,500 metric tons of frozen loins this year: "2014 was a challenging year. We (SSTC) were closed for the first 10 weeks of the year because we had to install a new floor in our cold storage. We also lost a week of production in September because we could not get enough time at the wharf to unload the fish. This of course negatively impacted our results."

Production was limited due to the amount of unloading time they had at the wharf, said McCulley: "We lost a week of production due to lack of unloading time. We see this becoming a very critical issue."

McCulley said next year the company expects adequate unloading time to meet an increased targeted output of approximately 13,500 metric tons.

The majority of South Seas' product is sold in the EU market.

### Tuvalu announces new community projects

Whilst other nations are happy the PNA Vessel Day Scheme revenue is increasing, the small island of Tuvalu sees that returns

will increase and benefits will be realised by community members. The Tuvaluans have taken their proceeds from the PNA's VDS and dubbed it Community Vessel Day Scheme (CVDS) as the funds are aimed at increasing development on the outer islands of Tuvalu.

Secretary of Natural Resources Kakee Kaitu said, Tuvalu expects to receive US\$15 million next year when it sells 1876 fishing days under the new minimum benchmark of US\$8000 per fishing day. From the 1876 days, 20 days will be given to Kaupule (the council of chiefs) of each island for the development of their fisheries sector.

"If you multiply US\$8000 by 20 days, each island community will get \$160,000 in a year," Mr Kaitu said. "A cabinet paper detailing the CVDS had been submitted for endorsement and had received positive feedback."

### Light at end of tunnel

Despite 2014 ending with bleak fortunes at WCPFC level, interest from a range of stakeholders and demand for tuna remains solid. PNA reports the upside of the WCPFC failure is increased emphasis on its PNA management measures and national development policies as the primary vehicle for change. Other sectors of the industry, like albacore tuna are likely to follow suit. It will be interesting times as 2015 begins to see how all these initiatives play out.

Tuna Market Intelligence wishes everyone a happy festive season and a prosperous New Year.

## Election Commissioner certifies November 4th 2014 election results

YSEC/Media Division

**COLONIA, Yap**— The State Election Commissioner, Laura Ngaden on Friday, December 26, 2014 certified the result of the General Election held in Yap State on November 4, 2014 for the Gubernatorial and the Senatorial posts in the State Government, Mayor and Councilmen in Rull Municipal Council and YSL. Resolution No. 8-102. The Resolution proposed an amendment to Article XIV of the Constitution of the State of Yap, by adding a new Section 12 thereto, to prohibit all forms of wagering gambling and games of chance conducted with the object of commercial gain, benefit or advantage, whether open to the general public or conducted in private.

The certification of the result followed the special election held at one of the polling places in Election District 2 on Sunday, December 21, 2014 and counted on Tuesday, December 23, 2014. Election District 2 consists of the four main islands in Ulithi Atoll—

namely Falalop, Asor, Mogmog and Fathrai and other neighboring islands.

The special election in Mogmog on Sunday did not affect the results from other election districts except the Senatorial candidates from that election district, the gubernatorial candidates and the proposed amendment to the article of the Constitution of the State of Yap.

The result in Mogmog shows that Tony Ganngiyan and running mate James Yangetmai received 79 votes while Henry Falan and Sabino Sauchomal received only 1 and Charles Chieng and Francis Itimai – 0.

In the race between the senatorial candidates in election district 2 shows that Lazarus Ulith received 65 votes in Mogmog while Jesse Raglmar-SUBOLMAR received 15.

On the proposed amendment to the State Constitution, there were only 3 people who voted Yes while 78 voted No.

Winners in gubernatorial race for the November 4, 2014 general election are Tony Ganngiyan and running mate James Yangetmai with 2,293 votes (46%) followed by Team Henry Falan with 1,825 votes (37%) and Team Charles Chieng with 645 votes (13%).

Winners in the Senatorial race from Election District 1 are:

- Clement Mulalap (Incumbent) 1,463
- John E. Mooteb (Incumbent) 836
- Stan Kensof (New) 791
- Joseph Giliko (Incumbent) 1,023
- Theodore "Ted" Rutun (Incumbent) 1,316
- Nick Figir (New & Write in) 1,116

Election District 2

- Lazarus Ulith (New) 350

Election District 3

- John Masiwemai (Incumbent) 288

Election District 4

- Jerry Fagolimul (Incumbent) 403

Election District 5

- Joseph Tiucheimal (New) 405

On the proposed Constitutional Amendment: a total of 2,284 voters in Yap State casted their vote in favor of the proposition while 2,545 voted aga inst.

The special election in Mogmog was the result of a court ruling on Civil Case No. 2014-164: Jesse Raglmar-SUBOLMAR (Plaintiff) vs. Laura Ngaden, in her official capacity as the Yap State Election Commissioner (Defendant) on December 18, 2014.

The case arises from a challenge by the losing Yap State Legislative candidate in Election District 2. The losing candidate alleged that voter irregularities occurred in Mogmog, one of the polling places in the election district. The Yap State Court holds the violations of the election law have occurred in that

See "Election" on page 11



# NOTICE OF LAND SALE

The FSM Development Bank offers the parcels described below for sale:

Parcel no. 022-T-05, locally called **Tepat**, in **Tafunsak Municipality, Kosrae State** consisting of **3,284 square meters more or less, as shown on cadastral plat no. 022-T-00;**

and

Parcel no. 009-T-24, locally called **Kiul**, in **Tafunsak Municipality, Kosrae State** consisting of **604 square meters more or less, as shown on cadastral plat no. 009-T-00.**

- There is no minimum offer amount. Offers may be submitted for one or both parcels.
- Offers shall be submitted by personal delivery to any FSM Development Bank office. Offers may also be submitted by email to Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel at: [noras@fsmdb.fm](mailto:noras@fsmdb.fm)
- The deadline for submitting offers will be 4 p.m. on Friday, January 30, 2015.
- All offers must state the full name, address, phone number, e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the offer.
- All offers must clearly state the amount offered for each parcel.
- Offers which are accepted shall be notified in writing and payment of the full amount of the offer must be paid to the FSM Development Bank with cash or check no later than ten (10) calendar days after notice is given.
- Fee simple title to the parcels shall be conveyed by the FSM Development Bank through deeds of conveyance, to persons who are eligible to hold title to land in the Federated States of Micronesia.
- The parcels are offered for sale “as-is” with no guarantees or warranties as to their condition whatsoever.
- FSM Development Bank reserves its right to reject any and all offers.

Questions concerning this sale may be directed to Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel, email: [noras@fsmdb.fm](mailto:noras@fsmdb.fm), FSM Development Bank, PO Box M, Pohnpei, FM 96941, phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-6533, website: [www.fsmdb.fm](http://www.fsmdb.fm)

## Missing skiff from Chuuk located at Namonuito Atoll

U.S. Coast Guard/ MV,

Dec. 29, 2014  
**CHUUK, FSM** — Six people, who had been missing at sea for four days, have been located at Namonuito Atoll which lies more than 70 miles west of their intended destination in the Hall Islands.



The six people departed Chuuk Atoll bound for the Hall Islands in an 18-foot skiff on Dec. 23. They had been expected to arrive at Nomwin Atoll in the Hall Islands that afternoon, but they never did.

U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Sub-Center Guam was notified that the six people were overdue on Dec. 26 when the center was asked to assist the Federated States of Micronesia and Chuuk State authorities with their search for the missing skiff.

The motor vessel Andrea Palladio, an Automated Mutual-Assistance Vessel Rescue volunteer participant, searched on December 27th without success. A U.S. Navy P-8 Poseidon long-range aircraft was dispatched from Kadena Air Base, Japan and a U.S. Coast Guard C-130 was dispatched from Hawaii to assist with the search on Dec. 28, however the skiff was located and the search was cancelled.

The six people have been reported to be in good health and are safe.

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# 2014 Year in Review



# 2014 Year in Review



# First family tradition: the gift of giving on Christmas day



First Lady with the young patient

On behalf of President Manny Mori and First Lady Emma Nelson-Mori, it has been a holiday tradition to deliver food to the Pohnpei State Jailhouse in Nett while gifts are given to patients at Genesis Hospital and Pohnpei State Hospital on Christmas day.

This year marks the 7th year of visiting patients and their families on Christmas day at both hospitals but since there were no patients at Genesis Hospital this Christmas, gifts were only distributed amongst patients at the state hospital.

Knowing how patients would like to be home during the holidays to celebrate Christmas, the First Lady freed up her time on Christmas day to visit patients at all wards and greeted them with gifts and cake. In relation to the President's birthday that falls on December 25th, delivering food and gift giving to the jailhouse and hospital has been a tradition of the First Family over the years.

While Chief of Staff Leo Falcam Jr. and Special Assistant to the President Pelsesar Petrus delivered food to the Pohnpei State Jailhouse in Nett, staff from the President's Office and the National Police accompanied the First Lady.



FSM First Lady Emma N. Mori and her assistants at Pohnpei State Hospital



Chief of Staff Leo Falcam Jr. and Special Assistant Pelsesar Petrus with staff from Pohnpei State Jailhouse.

## Marshalls child-abuse case heads to trial

*Marianas Variety* MAJURO, Marshall Islands — Three Majuro residents are slated to go to trial in February on charges of child abuse and neglect 18 months after a video posted on social media showed a group of adults helping a toddler

smoke a cigarette and drink a can of beer. Marshall Islands High Court Judge Dinsmore Tuttle has scheduled a trial on February 16 for Karaitman Ataia, Timson Jeilar and Melissa Ataia.

for January 19 and said if the defendants did not show up, they would be subject to arrest for failure to comply with the conditions of their pre-trial release and additional orders of the court. She also said that if they didn't show up, this would be treated as a waiver of their right to be present at trial, which would then proceed without them.

Dec. 29, 2014

Despite a court order to all three defendants to appear for a December 2 status conference, none of them showed up, and Chief Public Defender Russell Kun said he has had no contact with the three since October.

The three are charged with two counts each of child abuse and neglect and criminal conspiracy, and one count of sale of tobacco to minors.

There was no motion from the Attorney General's office to revoke their pre-trial release for violating conditions set by the court.

A video taken in July 2013 at a house in Majuro showed several adults helping a 21-month-old toddler smoke a cigarette and drink from a can of beer. The video shows the toddler dropping the burning cigarette onto his stomach and screaming from the burn.

However, Tuttle set a pre-trial conference

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# Japanese Embassy hosts reception in Pohnpei to honor Emperor Akihito's birthday

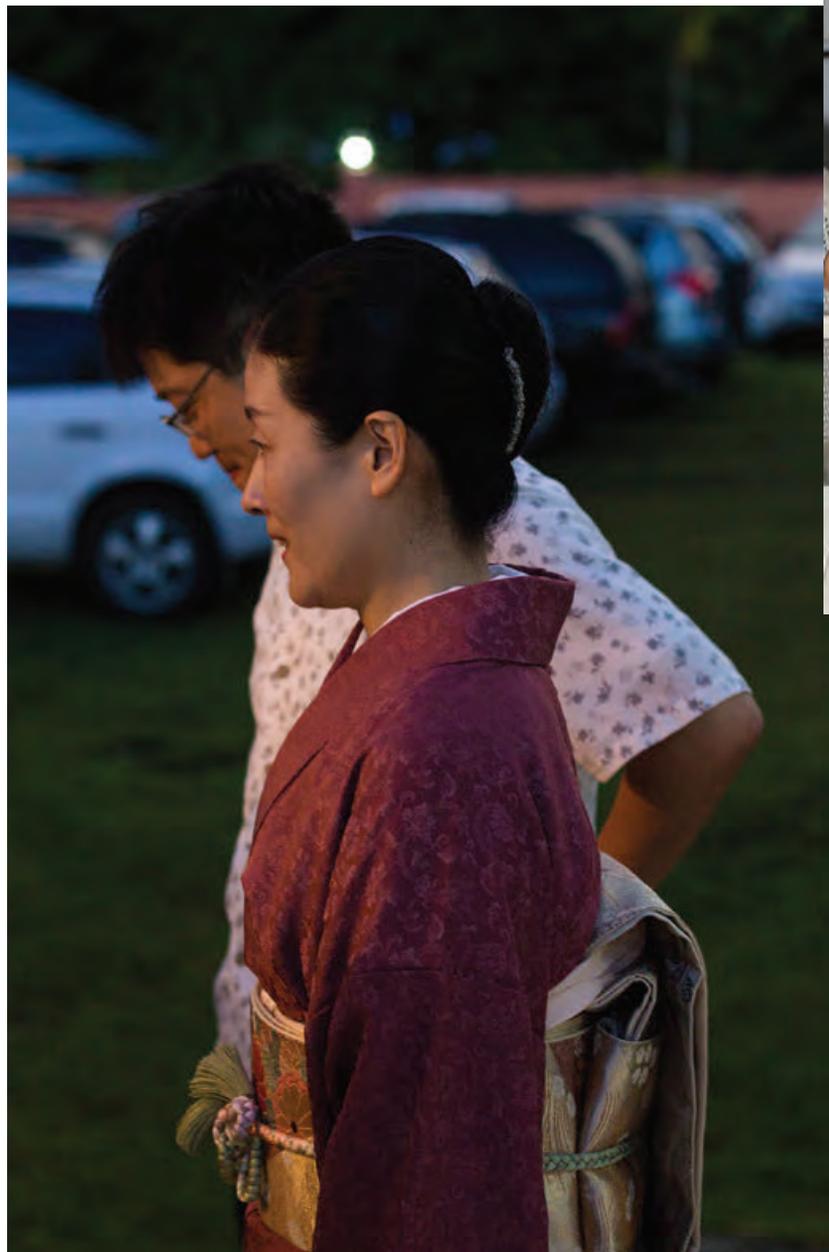
Embassy of Japan in the FSM

Dec. 10, 2014

**POHNPEI, FSM** — On December 5, 2014, the Embassy of Japan celebrated H.M. Emperor of Japan's birthday at Ambassador Sakai's residence. Officials from the FSM National Government, Pohnpei State Government, as well as various sectors were present at this significant occasion. The celebration began with a beautiful accordion performance accompanying national anthems of both countries by Ms. Noriko Lopez. Mr. Tsuneaki Sato, Second Secretary of the Embassy of Japan sang the Japanese Anthem.

Ambassador Masaki Sakai thanked everyone presented there for their sincere friendship and kindness and invited all to enjoy the delicious food and desserts prepared by his chef. Japanese sake and wine were introduced for the first time and were a great hit with the guests. The Ambassador remarked about the the great turnout at the Japan Festival which was held on October 26 of this year. "Through these human to human exchanges, precious moments are shared and enjoyed", he said of the Festival.

Mr. Samson Pretrick, Deputy Secretary of the FSM Dept. of Foreign Affairs, representing the FSM Government also gave remarks. Pretrick expressed his most sincere gratitude to Ambassador Sakai and congratulated both the FSM and Japan on the 26th Anniversary of bilateral relations. He said that though 26 years is young, FSM and Japan will continue to support each other side by side in order to tackle the challenges ahead. Deputy Secretary Pretrick thanked the Ambassador for sharing the auspicious occasion and conveyed FSM's continued commitment to further strengthening its close relations in pursuit of its shared aspirations.



H.M. Emperor Akihito is the 125th Emperor of Japan. He acceded to the throne on January 7th, 1989 upon the demise of H.M. Emperor Hirohito. H.M. Emperor turned 81 on December 23rd, 2014. To this day he is very active in His Majesty's official duties.



## ...Election

Continued from page 6

area and therefore necessitates a new election at the Mogmog polling place.

In the court findings, it appeared there were several voters—not many—who casted ballots at the Mogmog polling place in Election District 2 that did not have their names on the Election Master List.

Moreover, some registered voters who casted their ballots at the Mogmog polling place didn't sign the List. Finally, some registered voters who were authorized to vote at another polling place in the Election District, but not the Mogmog polling place, were allowed to vote at the Mogmog polling place. These registered voters had not requested a change in polling place.

Following are the results of the Rull Municipal Race:

Mayor:  
• Simeon Waathan (New)

North Rull Councilmen:  
• John Songog (Incumbent)  
• Steven Chonmon (Incumbent)  
• Felix En (Incumbent)  
• Marcellus Robon (Incumbent)

Milew Councilmen:  
• Stan Lubumad (New)  
• Jeffrey Adalbai (New)  
• Eric Gumoon (New)

Lik'aychog Councilmen:  
• Sergius Yow (Incumbent)  
• Jeffrey Wuthel (Incumbent)  
• Mark Mangarfir (New)

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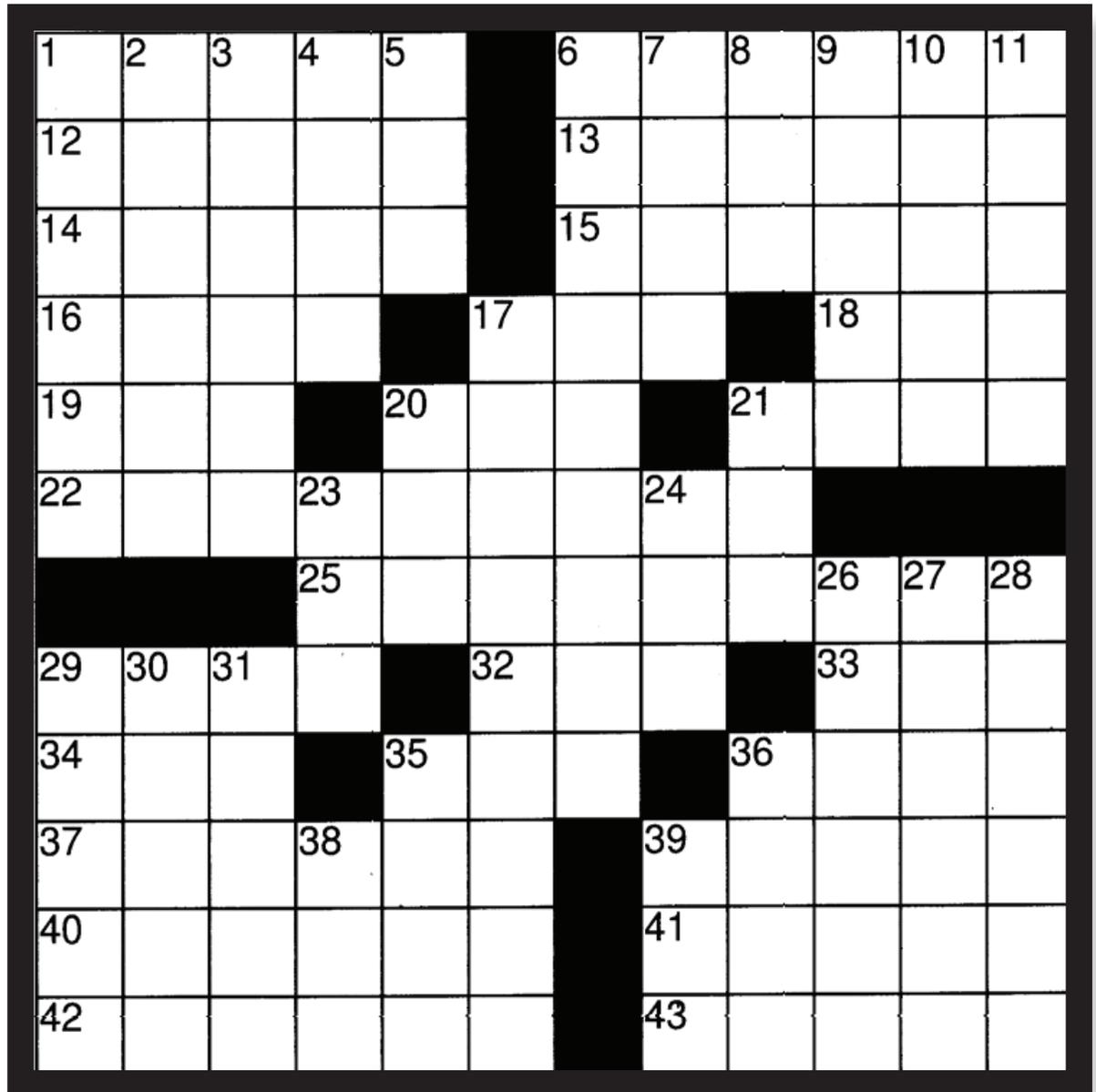
# Double Crossword - Double Word Search!

## ACROSS

1. Like some vines
6. The \_\_\_ Game
12. Lunar lander
13. Got away from
14. Perk
15. Go around
16. Bush appointee of 2002
17. Busy one
18. Generation \_\_\_
19. Toothpaste form
20. Reading spot
21. Bombard
22. Local law
25. Change
29. Seek guidance
32. Dapper fellow
33. Cry about
34. Little boy
35. I will, shortly
36. Here or there
37. Broken apart
39. Played freeze tag
40. Maneuvers
41. More than good
42. Multitudes
43. Artificial

## DOWN

1. Unhands
2. Hard worker
3. Ancient
4. Mistake
5. Thus far
6. Flower type
7. Red ender
8. Overhang
9. Maxim
10. Cold spot to not lick
11. Capable
17. Like the good Spock
20. Trial test?
21. caress
23. Creepy me
24. Knows how
26. Van Gogh work
27. Beat at the buffet
28. Record player
29. Opulent
30. Totaled
31. Type of snake
35. About
36. Tab, for one
38. Big reference, for short
39. Gladys Knight associate



## HOT...

Here's a puzzle to cool your heels with while you sit at the picnic table and munch on a HOT DOG or HAMBURGER. Each of the 34 words hidden in the puzzle below is the name of a food or beverage that is consumed hot.

O B A C O N M Y V P U O S E  
 T P S S G N I W R B I F P L  
 A P P L E P I E R F R Z C F  
 T N S P K T G O D E R S Z F  
 O T S A O R T N N V P I S A  
 P N N A U H P C E R F P T W  
 I I S B B S H N K K I G E S  
 L T M A U F A E K A C N A P  
 I A Y W R R U G R T O I G T  
 H M D Y R Y O P E Z F F H A  
 C A D Z I D V L L L F F D C  
 T L O A T M E A L M E U P O  
 C E T O O M C S R W E T S A  
 G N H C O C O A N G A S A L

- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| APPLE PIE  | PANCAKE  |
| BACON      | PEPPER   |
| BROTH      | PIZZA    |
| BURRITO    | POTATO   |
| CALZONE    | ROAST    |
| CHICKEN    | SAUSAGE  |
| CHILI      | SOUP     |
| COCOA      | STEW     |
| COFFEE     | STIR FRY |
| FRENCH FRY | STUFFING |
| GRAVY      | TACO     |
| HAMBURGER  | TAMMALE  |
| HOT DOG    | TEA      |
| LASAGNA    | TOAST    |
| OATMEAL    | TODDY    |
| OMELET     | WAFFLE   |
| ONION RING | WINGS    |

# Double Crossword - Double Word Search!

**ACROSS**

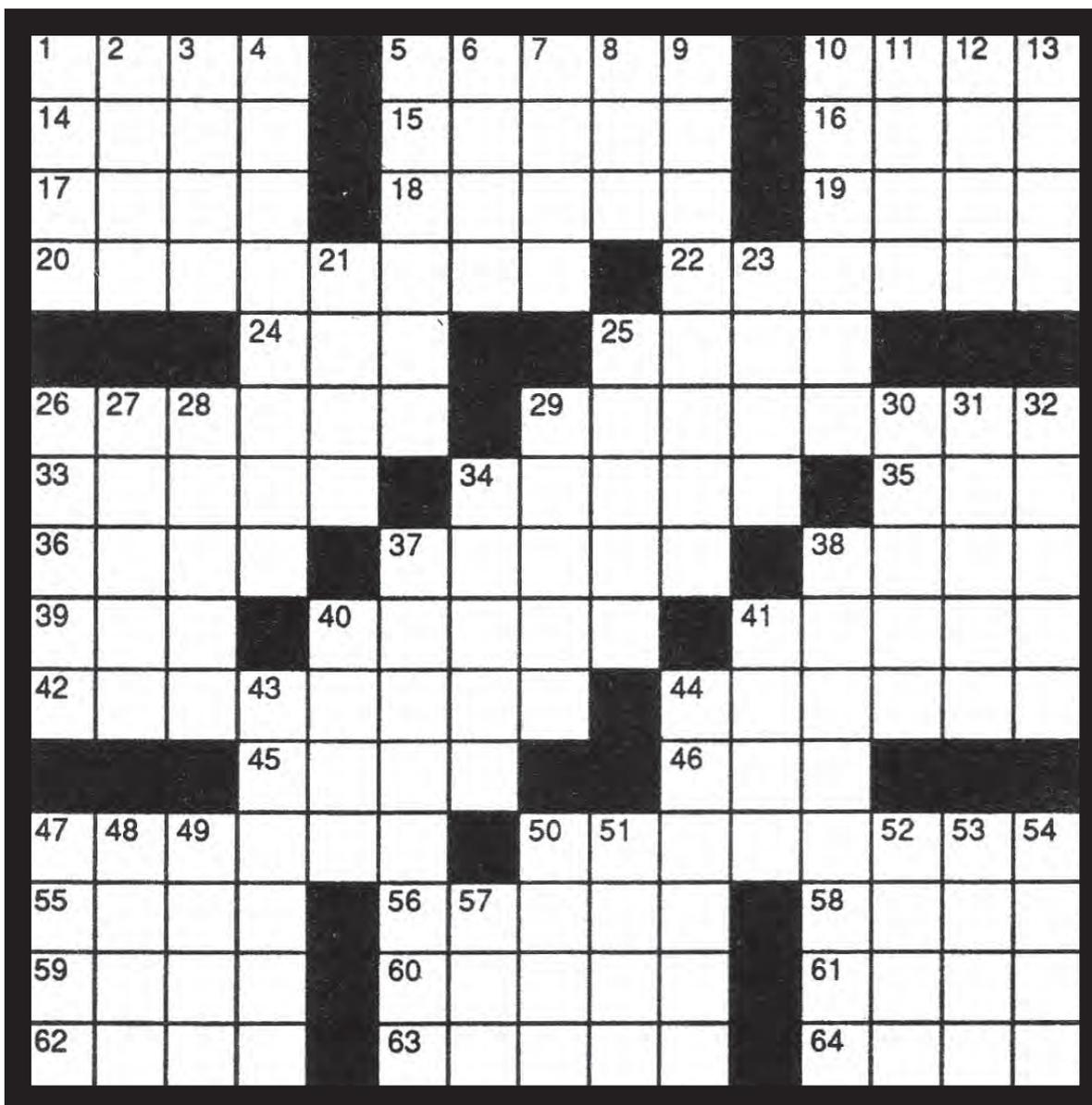
1. Dull
5. Board game
10. Breton or Highland Scot
14. Underdone
15. Wading bird
16. Notion
17. Grows old
18. Rub out
19. Tidy
20. Exposes to atmosphere
22. Revises
24. Rowing device
25. Remove from liquid's top
26. Makes a monarch
29. Moved up and down
33. Pits
34. Equals
35. \_\_\_ carte (2 wds.)
36. Among
37. Assigns position to
38. Mix with spoon
39. Increase motor speed (colloq.)
40. \_\_\_ for oneself; manages alone
41. Stockholm native
42. Small spaces for climbing
44. Steeples
45. Operatic solo
46. Fedora or derby
47. Moving masses
50. Burned surface
55. Back
56. Loathed
58. Healthy
59. Sea eagle
60. Oxlike antelope
61. Wicked
62. College head
63. Short simple song
64. Close completely

**periods**

8. Distress signal
9. Tennis shoes
10. The movies (British)
11. Paradise
12. Heavy metal
13. Makes lace
21. \_\_\_ Christian Andersen
23. Fail to hit
25. Looks for
26. Map
27. "\_\_\_ and Juliet"
28. \_\_\_ drab; camouflage color
29. Causes to go
30. Essential drink
31. Leave out
32. Challenges
34. Chinese bearlike animal
37. Enjoyed
38. Sticks for whipping
40. Shape
41. Box in exhibition
43. Become firm
44. Poorly done
47. Storage building
48. Telegram
49. "\_\_\_ Karenina"
50. Law (abbr.)
51. Penny
52. Possess
53. Writer-director Kazan
54. Small valley
57. Actress MacGraw

**DOWN**

1. A tie
2. Furious anger
3. Tract
4. Gave as gift
5. Shouts hurrah
6. Mr. (Ger.)
7. Historical

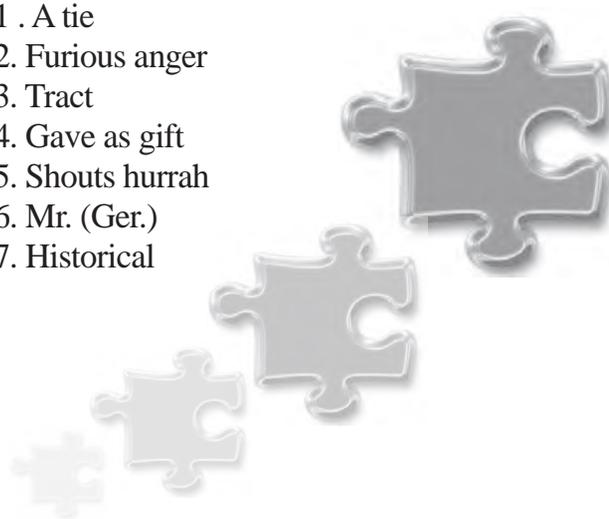


## WHAT'RE YOU SAYIN'?

Actions speak louder than words with pantomime, the art of acting with gestures. Popular since the 18th century, the art lives on, with France's Marcel Marceau as one of today's most famous pantomimists.



- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| <b>ACTION</b>       | <b>MAKEUP</b>     |
| <b>ARMS</b>         | <b>MASK</b>       |
| <b>AUDIENCE</b>     | <b>MOVEMENT</b>   |
| <b>CLOWN</b>        | <b>MUSIC</b>      |
| <b>CONVEY</b>       | <b>PANTALOON</b>  |
| <b>COSTUME</b>      | <b>PERFORM</b>    |
| <b>DANCE</b>        | <b>PLAY</b>       |
| <b>DRAMA</b>        | <b>PROP</b>       |
| <b>EMOTION</b>      | <b>ROLE</b>       |
| <b>ENJOY</b>        | <b>SHOW</b>       |
| <b>ENTERTAINING</b> | <b>SKILL</b>      |
| <b>EXPRESSION</b>   | <b>SPEECHLESS</b> |
| <b>FUNNY</b>        | <b>STAGE</b>      |
| <b>GESTURE</b>      | <b>STORY</b>      |
| <b>GRIN</b>         | <b>THEATER</b>    |
| <b>HANDS</b>        | <b>THOUGHTS</b>   |
| <b>IMITATE</b>      | <b>TRAGEDY</b>    |
| <b>LAUGH</b>        | <b>WATCH</b>      |



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 Ref.19202 <b>PRICE: \$3,010</b> TOYOTA MARK II Year 2002 AT 2,000cc PETROL Mileage 81,000km Color Silver	 Ref.19021 <b>PRICE: \$2,630</b> NISSAN SUNNY (SENTRA) Year 2003 AT 1,500cc PETROL Mileage 68,000km Color White	 Ref.19269 <b>PRICE: \$2,190</b> MAZDA DEMIO Year 2002 AT 1,320cc PETROL Mileage 88,000km Color Light Blue
 Ref.19373 <b>PRICE: \$4,670</b> MAZDA TRIBUTE Year 2001 AT 2,000cc PETROL Mileage 73,000km Color Silver	 Ref.17902 <b>PRICE: \$4,170</b> NISSAN X-TRAIL Year 2001 AT 2,000cc PETROL Mileage 91,000km Color Blue	 Ref.19230 <b>PRICE: \$4,430</b> HONDA CR-V Year 1999 MT 2,000cc PETROL Mileage 77,000km Color Silver
 Ref.18588 <b>PRICE: \$2,080</b> MITSUBISHI PAJERO MINI Year 1995 MT 660cc PETROL Mileage 98,000km Color Dark Blue	 Ref.19121 <b>PRICE: \$2,270</b> HONDA FIT (JAZZ) Year 2001 AT 1,330cc PETROL Mileage 87,000km Color Blue	 Ref.18766 <b>PRICE: \$2,320</b> TOYOTA FUNCARGO Year 2001 AT 1,300cc PETROL Mileage 53,000km Color Silver
 Ref.19159 <b>PRICE: \$2,800</b> NISSAN SERENA Year 1999 AT 2,000cc PETROL Mileage 142,000km Color White	 Ref.18921 <b>PRICE: \$2,590</b> MAZDA PREMACY Year 2003 AT 1,800cc PETROL Mileage 92,000km Color Black	 Ref.19017 <b>PRICE: \$3,080</b> TOYOTA RAUM Year 2004 AT 1,490cc PETROL Mileage 84,000km Color Light Blue

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## Opinion Editorial

# Where are the women in our government? Senator Magdalena Walter shares her experience

By Senator Magdalena Walter

December 31, 2014

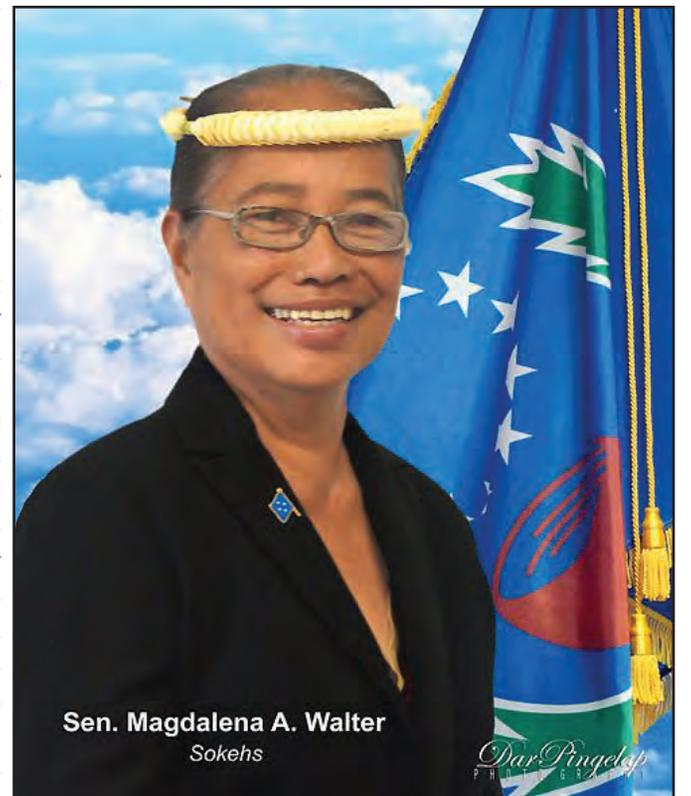
*Pohnpei, FSM* – Last October, at the third FSM Women's Conference, I was asked to share my experiences as the longest serving female senator, and until recently, the only woman in the Pohnpei State Legislator with the hope that it would inspire other women to take up leadership positions and participate in decision-making for our great nation.

At this conference, I shared the challenges of campaigning, and running for office in the past three elections for Sokehs Municipality, as well as the challenges of the actual work that is done in the Legislature. Indeed, I tungoalenki kaping mwuledek ong tohn Wein Sokehs Unsek. In this article, I would like to build on my presentation and ask this question to both the men and women of the FSM: Why are we leaving all the decision-making to the men only of this country?

This question is a very important one to ask when you consider the consequences of this for our future; for our children and our next generation. In the Pohnpei Legislature we have 21 male Senators, but currently only 2 female Senators. In the FSM National government the situation is worse: there are no female Senators; all are males. This imbalance matters a great deal to decision-making for our people. Political surveys show that male oriented decisions tend to prioritize foreign affairs, while female priorities tend to focus on the home, towards the care of our natural resources, education, and health. Both male and female perspectives are important and both are essential to the well being of our nation. But our country, our home, is currently being neglected. Our schools suffer from lagging education levels, our hospitals suffer from poor health outcomes, and our dwindling natural resources create economic insecurity that threatens the financial livelihoods for our families. We have for too long focused on the interests and advice of other countries. One way to change this is by having a more

representative government. This strategy is a proven one; countries with the highest representation of women have the best development outcomes for their people. The Pacific region has some of the lowest representations of women in government in the world. Comparatively, in the FSM, we have one of the greatest disparities in democratic representation. We are one of the few countries to have never had a woman participating in its National Congress. Of the 85 representative seats across the four state legislatures, there are only two women representatives; recently elected Senator Sendilina Lekka and myself in the State of Pohnpei.

We often overlook the fact, that the interaction between men and women in decision-making creates a better procedural outcome. It is essential to both setting the national agenda and ensuring that the legislative process itself places the proper weight on decisions. This country is our home. Collectively, both men and women need to care for families, and this partnership requires a woman's voice in the home, the hospitals, the board rooms, and on the senate floor, just as much as it needs men's. But Senator Lekka and myself cannot do it alone. This is a call to other women across the FSM States to take part in the future direction of this country, but equally, it is an appeal for our men to embrace the importance of women's presence in the decision making at all levels of government. We are all in this together. Let us begin, in this coming year, to make our government more representative. I wish everyone a blessed New Year.



Sen. Magdalena A. Walter  
Sokehs



## With just 3 staff IFCP can achieve a lot!

By Island Food Community of Pohnpei

In 2014, Island Food Community of Pohnpei delivered activities directly to 2,778 community members and 1,790 students. Indirectly, through our extensive media reach, the Go Local campaign has potentially reached every

person in Pohnpei with either radio, newspaper or online with our newsletter, facebook page and website [www.islandfood.org](http://www.islandfood.org).

Here's the stats:

Community activities: 45 activities reaching 2778 people  
 School activities: 33 activities reaching 1790 students  
 Meetings: 85 meetings with 700 people

Newspaper articles: 56  
 Radio press releases: 45  
 Newsletters: 13 to 530 subscribers  
 Facebook fans: 600  
 Website visits: 825

Thank you for the continued community support of Island Food Community of Pohnpei. We look forward to another year of supporting the community strengthen the culture, health, environment, economy and food security of the Pohnpei islands and its people.

## Yam Tributes

By Island Food Community of Pohnpei

This excerpt is taken from the Ethnobotany of Pohnpei book 2009 (Balick et al) chapter title Yams and Their Traditional Cultivation on Pohnpei.

“With the increased exposure of today’s younger Pohnpei

generation to foreign goods and values, interest in yam growing, as well as in other traditional practices and their associated knowledge, is declining rapidly. To compound the situation, many traditional leaders prefer to receive tributes of cash rather than traditional prestige crops and other locally produced goods in return for granting titles and other favors, further weakening the traditional Pohnpeian obligation to produce yams, pigs, and other agricultural crops.

Without efforts, the current ongoing loss of traditional plant knowledge is not only seriously detrimental to the future of Pohnpei’s unique culture and lifestyle, it represents an irretrievable loss to the larger world community as well.”

Table 2.2. The traditional yam tributes (*nopwei*) or feasts (*kamadipw*) on Pohnpei

Name	Month	Form of tribute	Significance
<i>Kotekehp</i>	Aug-Sept	Whole cooked tubers with freshly cut vine (only <i>Kehp Pwetepwet</i> )	Opens yam season, people allowed to eat whole yam tubers.
<i>Umwep Kehp Pwon</i>	Aug-Sept	Whole cooked tubers	Notification that people have eaten yam only in unsliced form.
<i>Idihd</i>	Aug-Sept	Yams grated and cooked with coconut milk	Afterward people can eat yam prepared in this way.
<i>Umwep Pelien Kehp</i>	Sept	Cooked divided tubers	Notification that yams have grown enough to be divided and cooked.
<i>Kamadipw en Wahu</i>	Sept-Nov	Uncooked cluster of yam tubers ( <i>kehi</i> )	Afterward people are permitted to use <i>kehi</i> at any feast.
<i>Keidisol</i>	Apr-Jul	Uncooked cluster of mainly <i>Kehp Touatoal</i>	Terminates the use of <i>kehi</i> -feast of the yam season.

## Chuuk holds Christmas parade



## Come Check Out New Arrivals

Samsung Fresh S7390



Only \$167

Special

Samsung B2710



Only \$141

Package

Nokia X980



Only \$161

Life's Good E410



Only \$110

FREE SIM Card & \$5.00 Telcard for Every Cell Purchase

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FSM TC

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# 2014 Year in Review

