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Pohnpei Boxing Club hosts first ever boxing exhibition in the FSM during the 2015 Liberation Games



By Erick B. Divinagracia

On September 11, 2015 the sport of boxing was introduced for the first time during the 36th Pohnpei Liberation Games at the Pohnpei Fitness Center. Jennifer Chieng's exciting and historic gold medal winning effort in the sport of boxing at the 2015 Pacific Games caused an explosion of interest in the sport from the public in the FSM, and the bouts were well attended even though the facility is still being remodeled.

The Pohnpei Boxing Club held five exhibition matches. Young men hailing from the municipalities of Nett, Kolonia Town, Kitti and Sokehs fought matches of two, two minute rounds per match.

The matches were carefully organized based on weight classes and on the experience of the boxers which varied from beginner to advanced. The safety and health of the boxers were the highest concerns for the event coordinators.

The exhibition matches also followed the Amateur International Boxing Association (AIBA) Rules for Competition to ensure that the event was organized correctly and also to ensure the protection of the boxers. Furthermore, although the event was strictly an exhibition, three ringside judges were brought in to score each match based on AIBA's Scoring Rules and to declare winners in order to award a Gold or a Silver medal to each of the combatants. The judges were Jun Booth, Elina Paul and Memorina Sablan. The President of the

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Allegedly Pohnpei Court lets alleged attempted rapist go—allegedly

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

September 21, 2015

Pohnpei, FSM—Berly Jack is entering into a plea agreement after attacking a former U.S. Peace Corps volunteer, but even after violating the terms of his bail he is free.

On the day after Jack verbally agreed to the plea arrangement for charges related to an assault that would result in two years of prison time followed by three years of probation, Jack was arrested for violation of bail when he was found outside of the victim's home.

Pohnpei State Police officers found Jack outside of his alleged victim's home on the day after his trial. His bail required him to stay away from his alleged victim.

According to the victim, 15 people attended a party at her home in Kolonia on a Friday evening in late August. She said that she and her guests decided to go dancing. In preparation for that, she turned off all of the lights and prepared to go but then doubled back to go to the bathroom inside of her home. She claims that Jack followed her inside the house and locked the front door with all, or at least most of her guests outside.

He "jumped me from behind and tried to snap my neck," she wrote in an Internet message. "I fought back and screamed, but

luckily there was a girl in the bathroom who ran out and opened the front door. It was over in minutes," she wrote. But the fear will likely take a long time to diminish.

Jack has not yet officially pleaded guilty in the case. The final written terms of the plea arrangement will be presented to the Pohnpei State Supreme Court on October 2.

Jack faced five charges related to the attack that occurred in late August. He has agreed to plead guilty to the two felony counts of attempted rape and assault.

What remains unclear is why Jack was not imprisoned after violating the conditions of his bail.

The victim said that detectives called her at 10:30 on the morning after the trial and told her that they had arrested Jack. They assured her that since it was a clear case of violating the conditions of his bail, he would be incarcerated and that she should not worry for her safety.

The victim claims that the detectives were surprised to learn that Jack had been released again despite the alleged violation of his bail.

The victim has a friend who is an attorney. That attorney says that he has been looking into the hearing that resulted in Jack's release but had been unable to obtain the judge's decision that allowed Jack to go free after violating the conditions of his bail.

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Pohnpei's Liberation Day Games complete

By *Ryan Eliwise*
Pohnpei Sport Commission Office

September 21, 2015

On September 11, 2015, Pohnpei converged on the newly installed red carpet in Dolonier, Nett to commemorate the 36th Pohnpei Liberation Day. This special day is a historic moment accepted and honored by the traditional kingdoms of the entirety of Pohnpei to respect and be thankful for the gaining back of our indigenous rights and liberty from the harsh administration of Japan Armed Forces during World War II.

The day was filled with joy and excitement through the facilitation of different athletic events. There was a bustle of business activities on all borders of the field. Also, there were loud tunes and amusing actions constantly coming in from everywhere gesturing joy and happiness. Merchants and entertainers of every type wanted to make sure they had a good location to generate money. Businesses were selling their products at very reasonable prices as spectators enjoyed emptying their pockets on the low-priced foodstuffs.

The day started out with a short formal program which was followed by the athletic events. There were eleven local municipalities happily competing in these different events. Some of them participated in all them while others participated in just a few.

Awards were given in the form of medals

and trophies which made it easier to tally the number of gold, silver and bronze that each respective municipality had garnered.

The table below should simply provide facts and clear information on the overall metal tally for the municipalities that participated in this year's Liberation Day games.



A special thank you to Darlene Apis aka Dar Pingelap for her contribution.



Municipality	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
KITTI	50	41	27	118
NETT	39	42	29	110
MADOLENIHMW	7	3	8	18
KOLONIA	5	8	8	21
MWOKILLOA	5	2	1	8
U	1	7	9	17
KAPINGAMARANGI	1	0	1	2
SAPWUAHFIK	0	1	2	3
SOKEHS	0	1	1	2
NUKUORO	0	0	1	1
PINGELAP	0	0	0	0



Chuuk proposes to tax its citizens living abroad

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

September 21, 2015

Chuuk, FSM—A bill submitted by request from the Chuuk State Executive Branch to the Chuuk House of Representatives seeks to charge Chuuk's emigrants an annual Change of Residence Tax in the amount of \$100 each. Under the bill, failure to pay the tax could result in seizure of assets held within Chuuk state, loss of voting rights and other potential penalties.

The proposed bill says that the "outmigration of Chuuk State residents has caused serious social, economic and political problems for the State. There is a serious shortage of skill(ed) manpower. A high percentage of properties are left abandoned or underutilized(,) diminishing their contribution to the State's economy and tax base. The migrant residents are paying taxes to their current countries of residencies despite continuing to enjoy the privileges and protection of Chuuk State residency in that their properties in Chuuk continue to enjoy the privilege of Chuuk State laws; their family responsibilities for the education and health of their loved ones are taken care of by the State; they are enjoying the recognition and benefit of being Chuuk State residents without contribution to the civic affairs of the State. Therefore, based on all of those reasons,

a Chuuk State Change of Residency tax of \$100 per 'resident' per year is now assessed and levied on every Chuuk State resident currently residing outside of the State.

The bill attempts to define who would be subject to the tax but the language of the definition seems to be pointed most directly at those citizens of Chuuk who have chosen to live in the United States and who also continue to hold a passport and vote in Chuuk elections. The bill's language, if it were passed in its current form could also be applied to citizens of Chuuk who are currently living in any other FSM State, or even to college students who have been awarded scholarships to study abroad.

"For the purpose of this Act, a Chuuk State 'resident' is subject to the tax hereunder if :

- a) He or she has reached the age of 18 or older; and
- b) He or she was born in Chuuk State, or has one or other parents who are permanent residents of Chuuk State by continuing to do items #d or #e below; and
- c) He or she lives outside of Chuuk for at least 150 consecutive days a calendar year; and either
- d) He or she has maintained his or her FSM citizenship in terms of passport ownership and voting participation in the last Chuuk State election or a Chuuk State municipal election; or

e) He or she continues to maintain substantial residency relationship with Chuuk State such as home ownership in Chuuk State, and or immediate family members such as sons or daughters or spouse continue residing in Chuuk State and attending public schools, holding Chuuk State government or other employment, using Chuuk State goods for business abroad, or enjoying their residency benefits and privileges."

The bill says that in June of each year each of Chuuk's 40 municipalities would be required to submit an official list of people from that Municipality who resided outside of Chuuk State during the previous six months. The Chuuk State Election Commission would also be required after each election to submit a complete list of names of all Chuuk State residents living outside the State who requested to vote in that election. Copies of the lists would be provided to the Governor and the Chuuk State Legislature.

The Chuuk Tax and Revenue Office would be required to verify whether the people on the lists are "residents" according to the above definition for purposes of the proposed tax. Chuuk Tax and Revenue would then be required to send out a tax bill to each verified individual through the best means possible, either through mail, personal delivery or Internet messaging. A

taxpayer would have until September 1 of the fiscal tax year to remit their payment.

If a person does not pay the tax by September 1 they will be considered delinquent. No interest or penalties will accrue and the taxpayer could "redeem" their delinquent status in subsequent tax years. However, any taxpayer who has accumulated a total tax delinquency of \$300 "will lose his or her right residency privilege of having his vital state records available to him or her, specifically including state hospital records and live birth or death certificates, state driver's license and so on as may be provided by law," the bill says.

"Any taxpayer with a \$500 or more tax delinquency will lose his or her residency privilege of voting in any state election and will entitle the State to seize any of his or her personal property with equivalent value to sell and realize the delinquent tax," it says.

The bill does not provide the definition of the word "family" as it applies in the bill when it says, "Any tax payer family with a total delinquent tax of \$5,000 or more, will entitle the State to seize a family real or personal property of approximate value and foreclose on the property through established legal procedures."

2015 Typhoon Predictions for the FSM

Prepared by Chip Guard, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service Forecast Office Guam

This is the coordinated National Weather Service and Pacific ENSO Applications Climate (PEAC) Center assessment for tropical storm and typhoon activity for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) for the last half of 2015 and the first half of 2016. This assessment is based on independent Pacific-wide typhoon predictions, a statistical typhoon study, the current and predicted states of the El Niño—Southern Oscillation (ENSO) climate pattern and the historical tropical cyclone activity associated with past ENSO states. It is prepared for the FSM Government, and is prepared from the latest predictions of the PEAC and the US Climate Prediction Center (CPC). These predictions could change a little over the next few months, but major changes are not expected.

Background: For Micronesia, there is a relatively predictable relationship between tropical cyclone activity and the state of ENSO. In the tropics, tropical cyclones generally want to move from southeast to northwest. Thus, if a tropical storm or typhoon develops southeast of an island(s), it will often track toward the island(s) to the west or northwest. If a tropical storm or typhoon develops west or north of an island, it will usually move in a direction away from the island. When an El Niño occurs, tropical storms and typhoons begin to develop earlier in the year and farther to the east toward eastern Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or

even east of the date line. They tend to move toward the west-northwest or northwest, sometimes toward some of the islands of the FSM. When a La Niña event occurs, the storms tend to develop later in the year and northwest of or near the Mariana Islands or Yap State. In this case, they move west before significantly intensifying. During El Niño events, the chance of islands in Micronesia getting hit by a tropical storm or typhoon more than triples when compared to the chance during non-El Niño periods. During an ENSO-neutral state, a state that can have some flavor of a weak El Niño or a weak La Niña, the chance of one of the islands getting a destructive hit by a tropical storm or a typhoon is greater than during La Niña, but not quite as possible as during El Niño.

Options: Currently, we are in a strong El Niño and have been in this state since June or July. The US Climate Prediction Center (CPC) placed US interests under an El Niño Watch in the late summer of 2014, and finally placed US interests in an El Niño Advisory in April 2015, meaning that an El Niño event has been in progress since then. The event was just declared a strong El Niño this month by the CPC. So what do we anticipate for the future? There are now only two likely options: remain in a strong El Niño until the end of the year or strengthening into a very strong El Niño by November or December. Each of these choices will likely produce a strong drought over the FSM regardless of whether it shifts to La Niña or ENSO-neutral conditions during the last half of 2016. What is the most

likely outcome? Both of the El Niño options increase FSM's chances of experiencing some typhoon activity for the remainder of 2015, although during an El Niño, Yap's and Chuuk's greatest threats come in the spring, as was the case with Typhoons Maysak (Yap State and Chuuk State) and Noul (Yap State), and Tropical Storm Haishen (Chuuk State). Most of our computer models are in agreement that we will remain in a strong El Niño state, at least into November or December. Ocean conditions pointing to an El Niño haven't been as strong as they are now since 1997, our last very strong event. This suggests that some of the typhoons that could develop and threaten the FSM during the remainder of 2015 into January 2016 could be strong but they aren't expected to reach super typhoon intensity.

Outlook: So what does this El Niño situation mean for the FSM? Our best estimate is that we will remain in the El Niño state until February or March. Most El Niño events reach a peak in December, and then fall back to ENSO-neutral or go all the way to La Niña by the second half of the following year. Based on this, we expect the following:

Yap and Chuuk States could experience one to two more tropical storms or typhoons during the early fall. Kosrae and Pohnpei States could also experience one to two more tropical storms or typhoons, but over the course of the entire fall. Because the typhoons will develop east of the islands, they have some time to strengthen and could be strong typhoons when they pass to the north of most of the islands. In the very strong El Niño of 1997, the western North

Pacific saw 11 super typhoons. Even so, these super typhoons did not directly hit the FSM.

Chuuk and Yap States have already been hit by destructive typhoons in March and April (Maysak), and Pohnpei and Kosrae States have felt the effects of several developing tropical cyclones, such as Bavi, Maysak, and Dolphin. Late in September through November, FSM islands could feel the effects of a major typhoon. One or two additional threats, but probably not direct hits, could occur during the remainder of the year as well in Pohnpei and Kosrae States. There will likely be a post-El Niño drought that could begin in November and last until May. It will begin first in Yap State and spread eastward. It will end by May in Kosrae, by June in Pohnpei and Chuuk, and by July in Yap. This will impact water resources for all of the islands. The low islands and Weno Island in Chuuk State will feel the impacts most severely.

Sea levels have fallen around a foot over the last year. They will continue to fall a few more inches by November, and bottom-out in December. Many reefs face prolonged exposure and high temperatures, and coral bleaching could be a problem. Sea levels will quickly rise through 2016, and be above normal by the fall of 2016, after which time, strong trade winds could cause inundations in near-coastal taro patches.

These predictions can change some as the typhoon season progresses, but a significant change is not likely.

Please refer to the latest Pacific ENSO Update at <http://weather.gov/PEAC>.

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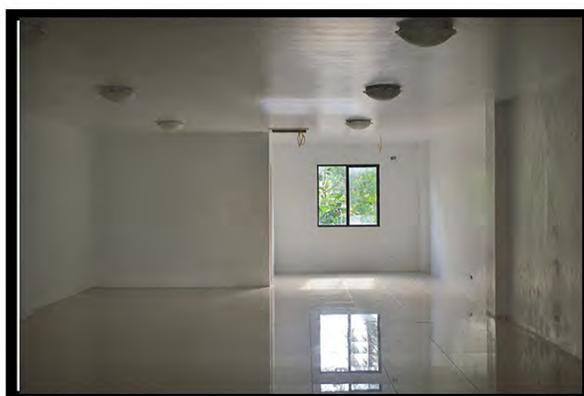
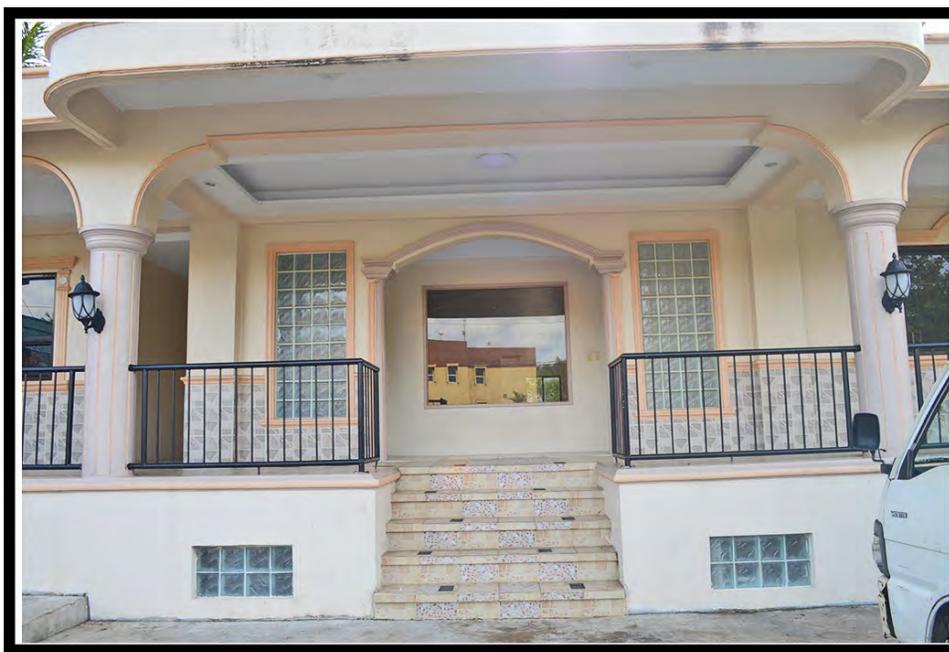
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... Boxing

Continued from front page

Pohnpei Boxing Club, Kenneth Welles also took part in the exhibition as the referee for all five matches.

The first bout was a welterweight match between Mark Abello Martinez of Nett vs. Harvin Bartolome of Nett. Both men did well in the first round, feeling each other out with sharp jabs and straight punches. Harvin Bartolome ended with a good flurry at the end of the first round. In the second round, Bartolome was able to let his hands go and put together crisp three punch combinations. Those combinations caused the Referee to give a couple of standing eight counts to Martinez to be certain that he could continue. Martinez showed a lot of heart and was able to continue until the end. Ultimately the judges awarded the victory to Bartolome.

The second bout was a light heavyweight match between Nathaniel Nanpei of Kitti vs. John Joseph of Kolonia Town. Given the size difference from the first match, both men's pace was slower and more deliberate as they picked their shots at each other. Nanpei, with his height and reach advantage over Joseph was able to land more and cleaner blows than Joseph which factored into his victory. Both men admitted that they will need to improve their cardio-vascular health much more before they participate in another match.

The third bout picked up the pace of the event. It was a light welterweight match between Kenneth Edmund from Nett vs. JT Edmund from Nett. Both men played a good game of human chess as they tried to counterpunch off each other's mistakes, but Kenneth's superior technique and defense allowed him to avoid and block more shots

from JT and set him up for landing cleaner power punches that got the crowd excited. It got him the win.

The fourth bout and co-main event was another light welterweight match between 2015 Pacific Games boxer, Royce Rott of Kolonia Town and Marvin Bartolome of Nett. The two boxers didn't disappoint and started their first round at a fast pace and ended up in a couple of wild flurries and exchanges that had the crowd yelling for more action. The second round was a repeat of the first with even more exchanges. Bartolome acted as the aggressor and Rott countered the exchanges. The fight could have gone either way but the Judges awarded the victory to Bartolome for showing more aggression.

Finally, the highly anticipated main event middleweight match between 2015 Pacific Games boxer, Angelo Rodriquez of Nett and Endy Diopulos of Sokehs began. There was no "feeling out" process in this match and Rodriquez quickly asserted stiff jabs and a straight punch that backed Diopulos into the ropes with a split second opening. Diopulos countered with a straight right hand that landed cleanly on the chin of Rodriquez, knocking him down flat on his back. The crowd roared at the power of the counter punch from Diopulos and for a few seconds everyone wondered if Rodriquez would be able to recover or if he was knocked out. However, Rodriquez was amazingly able to get back on his feet and after a standing eight count said that he was ready to continue. Rodriquez came out of his corner, guns blazing seeking a knock down of his own. Diopulos and Rodriquez exchanged heavy shots with Rodriquez trying to impose his will and athleticism after clearing out the cobwebs from the knockdown. The entire crowd that filled the gym was in a frenzy, yelling and screaming to see these two warriors go another round.

Rodriquez and Diopulos didn't disappoint and both came out of the second round seeking to land hard shots. The match had become a full fledged competition with both boxers holding nothing back on their power punches and trying to impose their will to get a definite win in the Judges' and crowd's eyes. Rodriquez, who was much calmer by the second round was back into boxing mode and was picking his shots and landing sharp jabs to set up his uppercut and left hooks between Diopulos' guard. The two got into more exchanges. Diopulos became winded while Rodriquez picked up steam to finish strong.



It became apparent that there was something wrong with Diopulos. The referee stopped the match. Diopulos had re-torn his left rotor cuff and couldn't continue. Although it was a disappointing end for both boxers, the crowd loudly let the two combatants know that they appreciated the great show.

The exhibition by the Pohnpei Boxing Club was a great success as it packed the Pohnpei Fitness Center and gave an entertaining and professionally run event. The organization is already preparing for a second "show" which will be a full three round, three minute competition this December. That will officially be the first boxing competition event governed by the

rules of AIBA and will be called the "The Pounding on the Rock!". It will feature some of the boxers from the exhibition and most likely will be headlined by a rematch between Rodriquez and Diopulos.

That event will be also be highly organized and will require all boxers to pass medical exams and to make the weight for their scheduled fights.

Pohnpei Boxing Club wants to thank all the men that participated in this historic boxing exhibition match and all of the people that came to support the event and we look forward to putting on more exciting shows.



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NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

Pursuant to the orders of the FSM Supreme Court entered on December 24, 2013 and July 1, 2015, public notice is hereby given that the parcel described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

Parcel no. 025-A-158, land known as Dolonier, situated in Nett Municipality, Pohnpei State with an approximate area of 5,749 square meters, as shown on the certificate of title issued January 20, 1981, determination of heirship made on October 29, 2001, and deed registered on July 24, 2013, and as described on cadastral plat no. 025-A-12 filed in the Pohnpei State Land Registry, together with all buildings, fixtures and other improvements thereon commonly known as the C-Star Apartelle.

- There is no minimum bid amount.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "October 30, 2015 Land Auction" by personal delivery to Rendy Abraham at the front entrance area of the FSM Supreme Court courthouse in Palikir, Pohnpei on Friday, October 30, 2015 between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 30, 2015.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, e-mail address or other valid contact information for the bidder.
- All bid submissions must clearly state the bid amount and must include a deposit of 5 % of the total bid amount by cashier's check. If the bid submission does not include the 5 % deposit, the bid is immediately disqualified.
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- The parcel and improvements thereon are offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to their condition whatsoever.
- Questions concerning this auction may be directed to Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel, email: 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

66 years of The People's Republic of China



By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

September 23, 2015

Pohnpei, FSM—The Chinese Embassy in the FSM hosted a gala celebration for the 66th anniversary of its founding at Cupid's Bar and Grille in Pohnpei this evening. Members of the FSM Congress including Speaker Wesley Simina were present along with members of President Christian's Cabinet and all of the members of the Diplomatic Corps.

China's Ambassador LI Jie presented his remarks while his wife, LI Jinmei stood supportively by. "My wife and I feel greatly honored to have you join us tonight to the celebration of the 66th Anniversary of the founding of the of the People's Republic of China and the traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival," Ambassador Li began. He thanked the people in the audience who had made "unremitting efforts and contributions to the promotion of the friendly relationship between China and FSM."

He reminded the audience that October 1, 2015 marks the 66th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and that the nation has made great strides since that time. "We have completed the historic transition from a highly centralized planned economy to a vibrant market oriented economy, and from a closed or semi-closed society to one that is fully open to the outside world," he said. "Now China is the second largest economy and the largest trading economy in the world. It has become an important player in the international system and an important force for world peace and common development."

He reminded the listeners that China is still a developing country with the largest population in the world. "About 70 million people in China are still living below poverty line. Poverty elimination is still a tough task facing us. In many parts of China, shortage of water is a serious problem. I do see a prospect in the future that the high quality water in FSM will have a good price and market in China," he said.

This year is the 26th year of diplomatic relations between FSM and China. "Even though China is still a developing country, it has been providing aid to the best of its ability to FSM. During the past years, the Chinese government has spared no effort to support and assist FSM by implementing a number of aid projects," Ambassador Li said.

He spoke of China's difficulties while also talking about environmental challenges. "China has a large population with very limited resources. It has to feed 20% of the world's population with 7.9% of the world's farmland and 6.5% of the world's fresh water. Meeting those people's needs for survival and development is a great challenge. We clearly know that development is still the top priority for the country. In the process of our development we have to be very modest in drawing positive experiences of other countries. FSM has very precious experience to offer to China, in particular the great importance FSM attaches to environmental protection."

"The Chinese tourists to FSM are always astonished to find the blue sky, clean water, fresh air and vigorous mangroves. This is something in their dreams and they wish to stay here as long as possible. To me, the beauty and attraction of this country is not only from natural endowment, but also from a careful protection, utilization and management of the environment, from cautious planning and from years of education. The mentality and concept of environmental protection is deep in the heart of the FSM people which has really set a good example for China," he said.

Ambassador Li offered a toast "to the better relationship between China and FSM", and to the health and happiness of everyone present including many Chinese nationals who were present at the commemoration.

FSM's Acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ricky Cantero next addressed the crowd. "Looking back, we could say that the People's Republic of China has travelled the right path since its founding day in 1949," he said. "With the strong desire and concerted national efforts, fueled by the wisdom of the Chinese people, China has transformed itself into a modern country of immense economic prosperity, amplified with respected international strength and influence. It has become a key player in the global environment."

"...as a friend and as a development partner, the FSM affirms its congratulations. As friend and as a fellow developing country, the FSM joins its celebrations," he said.

"The Chinese government has surely left a visible footprint here in the FSM, which is viewed as tangible



evidence to the commitment for the partnership that exists between our two countries."

Cantero announced the "biggest economic and technical cooperation agreement (the FSM has ever) received from the Chinese government. He said that the mutual endorsement of a grant of \$10 million USD was held on Friday, September

18, and "in many ways represents a tangible testimony to the cooperative partnership that exists between the two countries," and for which the FSM is very grateful.

He proposed a toast to the continued strengthening of the FSM-China relationship through mutual partnership and sincere friendship.

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OLM Gymnasium

October 17, 2015 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm



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- Yukata Photoshoot
- Games
- Origami



Song & Dance

- Hana Ha Saku (Song for Tsunami affected areas)
- Pohnpei Sohran (Japanese Fishermen's Dance) by Kolonia Elementary School Jr. High Students.
- Keyboard Harmonica Performance
- Dance by Pohnpei Youth Council
- Bon Festival Dance (Participants Welcome)

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KIZUNA between Japan & Federated States of Micronesia

絆 KIZUNA
(Strong Bond)



A message from Japanese Ambassador Masaki SAKAI

After the East Japan Great Earthquake, Japanese people realized that it was necessary to develop KIZUNA to face up to great difficulty such as a natural disaster. KIZUNA is a key word to further promote our friendship

There are many Japanese words which are used in the FSM, such as “sashimi”, “bento”, “jidousha”, “sensei”, and “shoyu”. These Japanese words had their origin in Japanese Administration Period between 1914 and 1945 when students studied Japanese language in schools.

With this historical relationship as a backdrop, we are very much looking forward to working closely together to strengthen KIZUNA with the FSM people.



Ambassador of Japan to the FSM, H.E. Masaki Sakai and Mrs. Nobuko Sakai at their residence in Nanpohnmal

Activities of JICA Volunteers in Micronesia

Tokyo Olympics – Spirit of “Omotenashi” (Hospitality)



School Accreditation—why bother?

By Neen Hunt
U.S. Peace Corps

September 21, 2015

Pohnpei, FSM—In the Federation States of Micronesia, a new word has been added to conversations involving educational leaders, school administrators, principals, teachers, parents, students, and community members. “Accreditation!” It is being talked about, worked on and studied. Why are so many people discussing accreditation? What does it mean? What are they doing about it? What importance does accreditation have for the FSM?

The FSM has had a compact with the United States since 1983 initially, and then the Compact as it was amended from 2002 to 2023 in order to provide considerable financial support to the educational system. The financial considerations of the Compact are scheduled to end in 2023. Before this happens, the educational leadership wants to be certain that the schools are operating at standards of excellence--- that principals are strong and inspiring leaders; that teachers provide the kind of instruction that will continuously increase student learning and achievement; that students are striving to increase their knowledge and skills; and that the schools are operating with facilities and equipment that create an environment to support teaching and learning activities.

The accreditation process provides

members of every constituency (parents, educators, community leaders, students) an opportunity to reflect sincerely and carefully on the state of the educational program—its strengths and weaknesses—and to discuss, plan, problem solve, take action and engage in change to improve every aspect of the educational process. Each school community is being assisted and guided in the accreditation process by a Peace Corps Response Volunteer—an educator with at least 15 years of experience in the field. They are training principals, observing classes, assessing facilities, engaging parents and supporting all participants in their work to meet the expectations of 6 standards: Leadership, Teacher Performance, Data Management, National Standards and Benchmarks, Facilities and Campus, and the School- Improvement Plan (SIP). The SIP is a document that will report the assessments, conclusions, goals and action plans generated from collaborative discussions representing all of the stakeholders in educational reform. This document will be submitted to the State Board of Education and the Secretary of Education on December 15, 2015. It will be followed by a second stage of reflection, discussion and planning from January to April 15, 2016, resulting in a second document, the School Self Study, to be reviewed by all stakeholders.

The Accreditation process will renew again in the school year 2016-17. If a school is not

accredited by June 2017, it will be closed. However, with the dedication and hard work of principals, teachers and parents in each of the schools—and their sincere commitment to improve the educational experience for all students and to increase student achievement levels—every school surely should be accredited and remain open to serve their communities. When a school scores well on the accreditation process, it will in effect receive a “seal of approval”, documented by different kinds of evidences and data, that it has or is making steady strides to have capable leadership, qualified and effective teachers, a physical plant that is safe and inviting to students and parents, and a relevant and rigorous curriculum that will prepare the children in the FSM for the challenges in their future as citizens, professionals, workers, and parents—and for the personal and career opportunities in a global world that will be increasingly connected.

In short, the Accreditation process is about the future of the FSM. The results of this process may determine if today’s youth will possess the skills required to someday lead this country. It may determine if young people in the FSM will have the motivation to pursue higher education. It may

be ready to cope with the demands of an every changing and complicated world. Accreditation is about the children in the FSM and how prepared they will be to shape their lives and make decisions that will bring success, pride, satisfaction and reward to themselves, their families, their communities and their country.

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The Micronesia Challenge: Sustainable coral reefs and fisheries

While island societies can do little to control carbon emissions from developed nations, they can manage their local resources to enhance the ecosystem services that coastal habitats, including reefs, provide for people. In this spirit, the political leaders of five nations in Micronesia initiated the Micronesia Challenge (MC) in 2006 as a commitment to 'effectively conserve' at least 30% of their marine resources and 20% of their terrestrial resources by 2020. With regard to coral reefs, the MC was established due to growing concerns of stressors such as climate change, unsustainable harvest of fisheries, and land-based pollution.

The tough thing about studying fishes, coral reefs and other marine ecosystems is that they are constantly moving and changing in response to natural variation, episodic disturbances, and human stressors. So how can scientists help managers measure the effectiveness of marine conservation efforts? This is the question new research in Micronesia is helping to answer led by the University of Guam Marine Laboratory (UOGML).

The new paper published in the academic journal PLOS ONE describes a way to measure coral-reef ecosystem conditions, and predict the relative influence of key threats to coral reefs.

"Perhaps the greatest challenge for the team of scientists from Yap to the Marshall Islands was establishing a 'scorecard' indicative of the fish, corals, and benthic substrates that all depend upon each other," said Dr. Peter Houk (UOGML), the lead author of the study. "This was accomplished by using individual condition metrics, similar to our blood pressure and cholesterol, which combine to determine our health." Armed with this approach, the researchers evaluated the current health of 78 reefs across 8 islands in Micronesia.

The results were a bit daunting since it showed that only 42 percent of the major reef habitats across Micronesia exceeded the thresholds established for the Micronesia Challenge. "Understanding current health was a key component of this research, but we also needed to evaluate why reefs in some localities were not as healthy as others. More specifically, we needed to understand if coral-reef status was due to natural environments or human stressors because we can only manage human stressors," said Trina Leberer from

The Nature Conservancy and co-author of the study.

For several islands with low human populations, such as Rota in the Mariana Islands and Namdrik Atoll in the Marshall Islands, wave energy alone was the best predictor of coral-reef condition, and so reefs were considered to be more-or-less in a natural state, and healthy. However, for the majority of islands with larger human populations, fishing pressure acting alone on the outer reefs, or in combination with pollution in some lagoons, was the best predictor of more than 50 percent of the reefs examined.

"These results highlighted the ecological roles that healthy fisheries contribute to overall ecosystem function. When examined deeper, we found that the absence of predators and large herbivores on reefs was the strongest factor leading to the dominance of algae cover. Both have key functional roles that are threatened," Houk said. Also interesting was the finding that the majority of marine protected areas across Micronesia are not currently living up to their full potential. This could be due to poor placement and natural factors, but was more likely a consequence of insufficient enforcement given that the fewer successful MPA's were associated with dedicated community-based enforcement.

managing fisheries from many approaches, not just no-take marine protected areas," suggested Eugene Joseph, executive director of the Conservation Society of Pohnpei and co-author. "Networks of scientists, community members, and the fishing community have begun coming together in Pohnpei and have together decided on new legislation that limits the harvesting and sizes of key predators and large herbivores. This legislation recently passed and is now a law. Enforcement and compliance is now the remaining issue we're dealing with, and outreach to communities is a big part of that. Such practices of limiting our catches of certain species and size classes were common practices of traditional cultures."

The results of the current study have pinpointed reefs that are not doing well, evaluated which stressors are most likely responsible, and finished by determining what aspects of the fish communities are most threatened. This represents a key step towards promoting healthy reefs and ecosystem services such as fisheries that they provide. Next steps include completing the assessment in Palau in coordination with the Palau International Coral Reef Research Center, and exploring interest in the possibility of conducting this type of assessment for Guam.

"Fishing is and will always be a cornerstone for societies and livelihoods in Micronesia. This requires that we have dedicated science-to-management frameworks in place to efficiently evaluate management, and help adapt policies when necessary," concluded Houk. Specific details about progress in each jurisdiction can be found in the freely-available online report.

The authors thank the Micronesia Conservation Trust, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coral Reef Conservation Program, and the David and Lucille Packard Foundation for supporting the collective efforts.

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0130823>

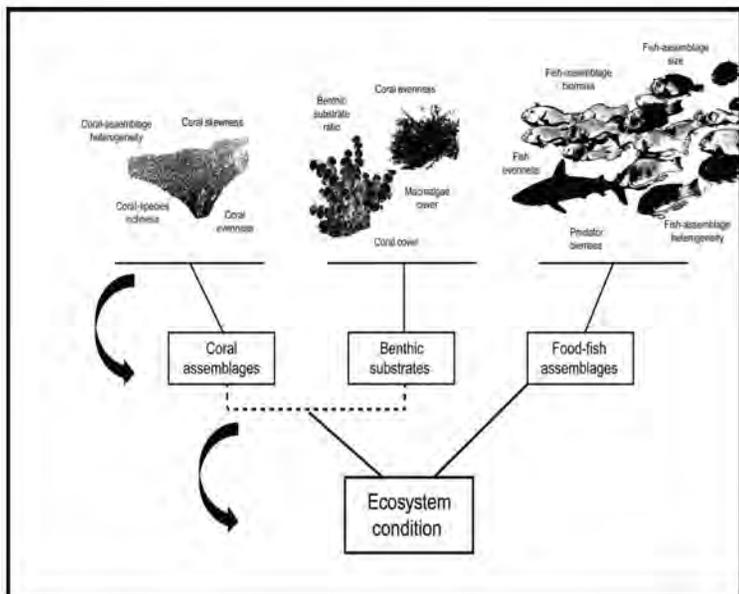


Figure shows the process by which individual measures of coral and fish communities were combined to assess overall ecosystem condition.

"We have to start thinking outside the box and



Striking a balance between harvesting large herbivores and predators and allowing for their functional roles in the ecosystem is a major challenge facing reefs in Micronesia.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HENRY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN RE: Petition of)
JUDY ANN WISENER)
)
)
For the Adoption of)
J.C.B.,) **CIVIL ACTION FILE**
a minor child.) **NO. 15-AD-0023-WC**
SEX: M DOB: 03/18/14)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER, ONLY NAMED AS "SEMEON," AND ANY OTHERS HAVING AN INTEREST AND/OR CLAIMING TO BE THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF J.C.B.

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR ADOPTION has been filed by Petitioner, Judy Ann Wisener. The Petition alleges SEPE T. BURMUDEZ is the Biological Mother and UNKNOWN FATHER, ONLY NAMED AS "SEMEON", is the Biological Father of the child referenced above. A copy of the Petition may be obtained by contacting the Clerk of the Superior Court of Henry County whose office is located at One Courthouse Square, McDonough, Georgia, 30253 USA and whose phone number is 1-770-288-8022.

You are hereby put on notice that you will lose all rights to the child and will neither receive notice nor be entitled to object to the adoption of the child unless, within 90 days of the date of the Order for Service by Publication was entered (indicated below), you file: (1) A petition to legitimate the child pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 or an acknowledgment of legitimation pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-21.1; and (2) Notice of the filing of the petition to legitimate or acknowledgment of legitimation with the Superior Court of Henry County, State of Georgia and with Petitioner's attorney, Ann K. Miller, at 2330 Patrick Henry Parkway Suite 350, McDonough, Georgia, 30253, USA.

Witness the Honorable Wade Crumbley, Judge, this 21st day of September, 2015.

By:
CLERK, SUPERIOR COURT OF HENRY COUNTY, STATE OF GEORGIA

Efforts to enhance Investment facilitation and promotion in the FSM to intensify

Palikir, FSM Department of Resources and Development

September 23, 2015

In line with the recommendation from the Investment Facilitation Symposium in 2013, which was further adopted by the 6th State and National Leadership Conference (SNLC), calling for the harmonization of foreign investment regimes in the FSM in order to enhance a transparent, friendlier and welcoming investment environment in the FSM, the Division of Trade & Investment of the FSM Department of Resources and Development (FSM R&D) will conduct the second phase of the review of existing national and states investment laws and policies tentatively scheduled to take place from 21 November – December 11, 2015 with the technical assistance of Mr. Sufian Jusoh, a consultant hired through the Technical Assistance provided to the FSM by the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group. During his stay in the FSM, Mr. Jusoh will present and discuss the findings and policy recommendations arising from the national and state consultations on the current investment regime in the FSM as well as

the preliminary proposed draft amendments to the FSM foreign investment law and regulations.

It should be recalled that the national and state consultations took place from the 30th of March to the 1st of May 2015, during which staff of the Division of Trade & Investment, FSM R&D, and Mr. Sufian Jusoh, visited all the four states (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap) and met with relevant stakeholders from the private sector and governments, including Governor State of Kosrae and members of the Kosrae Legislative Branch, Governor State of Yap and members of the Yap Legislative Branch, Chuuk Commerce and Industry, Chuuk Department of Resources, Members of the Chuuk Legislative Branch, Pohnpei Office of Economic Affairs, Members of Pohnpei Legislative Branch and Chairman and staff of the committee of R&D of the FSM Congress.

Other activities undertaken thus far in line with the recommendations from the Investment Symposium in 2013, which aims to enhance transparency and predictability of the investment regime in

the FSM as well as facilitation of foreign investors, include:

- The FSM R&D website (www.fsrmrd.fm) which was enhanced and now includes information on investing in the FSM. The website is officially live online since January of 2015
- Production of the 2015 edition of the FSM Investment Guide, which was officially launched on July 2, 2015 during an event that was presided over by the Honorable Vice-President Yosiwo P. George and attended by representatives from the Private Sector, National Government and the Foreign Embassies. A copy of the guide can be downloaded from the Department's website www.fsrmrd.fm.
- Following the promulgation of timeline standards by the FSM Supreme to guide judges in disposing of cases in a timely and efficient manner and to enhance investor protection throughout the Nation, all State Courts have developed time standards based on the FSM Supreme Court model. In addition, State Court decisions are now available on the FSM Supreme Court

website. Timeline standards and court decisions are available on the FSM Supreme Court website: http://www.fsmsupremecourt.org/WebSite/fsm/rules/gco/time_standard.pdf

- FSM Supreme Court and State Courts were sensitized and educated on investment protection in the FSM during a Meeting of Chief Justices held in December 2013
- On September 17, 2014, FSM R&D met with staff from FSM Department of Justice (DOJ) to discuss copy rights legislation in the FSM. DOJ agreed to reviewing existing legislations and conduct a research on Intellectual Property Rights regime so as to assist in drafting one for the FSM
- Once the draft amendments to the Investment laws finalized and adopted, the National Government will turn its attention to establishing an Investment Promotion Agency as well as a one window shop within the FSM R&D to handle foreign investment under that national jurisdiction and gradually expand its mandate to foreign investment under the state jurisdictions.

ONPA releases a follow-up audit conducted on Customs and Tax Administration

The Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) announces the release of Audit No. 2015-06, Customs and Tax Administration Not Fully Implementing Prior Audit Findings and Recommendations. A digital copy of the report is available for public review online at www.fsmopa.fm and printed copies are available at the ONPA office in Palikir, Pohnpei.

businesses in Pohnpei were not followed-up and in Chuuk, they were followed up only when visited by a special task force.

- The accuracy of payment of import taxes was not verified by CTA and the inspection of freight containers was hap-hazard, not formalized, and seldom performed.

- CTA employees were not trained in the proper handling of potentially unethical situations including how to maintain independence with local businesses. In the absence of a CTA Code of Ethics, independence with local businesses was not specifically required.

The ONPA found that the CTA Management did not take appropriate corrective actions to address all of the findings and recommendations in Audit Report No. 2012-01. Specifically, of the five audit recommendations, one was implemented, two were partially implemented, and the other two were not implemented. The two recommendations that were not implemented are summarized below:

- Poor internal controls over the system of manual cash receipts continued to put cash at risk of loss or theft.

- The tax rolls (list of active businesses) were incomplete and as a result, compliance and tax revenue collection was diminished.

- Unpaid or unreported taxes by The Assistant Secretary for Customs and Tax

Administration should:

1. Monitor the CTA Field Offices' performance to;
 - Obtain business listing from the respective local, state and national authorities for comparison; and,
 - Update the tax rolls for new businesses, non-filers and non-payers of taxes.

2. Monitor the CTA Main Office in Palikir and the Field Offices in the States to ensure the following;

- Demand notices are regularly issued and distributed to non-filers and non-payers;
- Levies are duly processed when non-compliant businesses continue to not pay taxes owed.



First, we would like to give thanks to our Heavenly Father. I, Yasuo I. Yamada, my children and the families of the late Karmerina "Limwei" Yamada, would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and acknowledge all acts of kindness and support shown to us during the loss of our loved one. She will be forever missed, but we know that she will live in the hearts of all who grief with us during this difficult time. Words are not enough to express our sincere gratitude but may the good Lord bless you always. Warm regards, Yasuo I. Yamada and family.

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Aramas Kapw Training

LUKOP, Madolenimw – On Friday July 24th 2015 Ms. Eliza Woolcock Second Secretary & Consul and Ms. Joyce Gehr Assistant Aid Program Manager from the Embassy of Australia in Kolonia attended a graduation ceremony for the Micronesia Bound Inc. (Aramas Kapw) and Sounahleng Women in Action sewing training program at Lukop Elementary School.

The Micronesia Bound Inc. (MBI) a Private Non Profit Organization that has been serving the youth of Pohnpei and Micronesia since 1976 and its prominent program “ARAMAS KAPW” which is Pohnpeian for “New or a changed person co-sponsored a 3 week sewing training program for women in the Village of Lukop Madolenimw Municipality. Funding for the project was provided by the Embassy of Australia which purchased 9 sewing machines and materials while the Aramas Kapw program through funding received from the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs Behavioral Health Program paid for the instructor’s salary. The Pohnpei State Department of Education also supported the project through the use of its school facility and educational awareness about women’s health and Pohnpei’s Family Protection Act which is still pending with

Pohnpei State Legislature was provided by the State Public Health Services and Public Safety.

The 14 women who received their certificates produced skirts, pillow covers, curtains and show cased their finished products during the ceremony. The cost of the items ran between \$10 to \$15 dollars for the skirts and \$3 dollars for the pillow cases and curtains. All the products were sold out that day. Participants also learned the basic parts of the sewing machine and were taught to carry out basic repairs and diagnose mechanical problems.

The Sewing project is one of two training courses that were completed this year by the Aramas Kapw program. Earlier this month a canoe building training exercise was held in Areu Village in Madolenimw Municipality. The objective of the canoe training exercise was to train and familiarize the youth in the village about the traditional way of building a canoe including the ceremonial activities and chants involved before, during and after completing a canoe.

The MBI is currently exploring additional funding sources to sustain its training courses in the fall of 2015 and spring of 2016, renovate its main office building located in Dolonier, Nett and revivie its 22 day outdoor adventure program which offers endurance-building activities some of which includes survival training, physical fitness courses, health/nutrition education, substance abuse education, preservation of traditional arts and crafts in weaving, carving, and in building canoes and community houses, first aid and CPR training, water safety techniques and community service work. Since its inception Aramas Kapw’s mission has always been to engage young Pohnpeian men and women in meaningful work, public service, basic life skills and educational activities that allow the participants to become more responsible and culturally sensitive citizens.

The Aramas Kapw Program and the graduating participants of this year’s training courses wishes to thank its founder Mr. Osaia Santos, Soundahleng Women in Action Community Group,

Australian Aid



Embassy of Australia, Director of Pohnpei State Department of Education, Director of Pohnpei State Department of Health Services, Director of Education, Pohnpei State Department of Public Safety and the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs Behavioral Health Program for the continued assistance and support.



Letter to the Editor

What’s the real price of rice?

Dear Editor:

According to your August 17, 2015 publication, Volume 15, Issue No. 19, the Micronesian Shipping Commission noted that with the exception of fuel surcharges which the carriers applied to their base rates during the peak period of the fuel price escalations, there were no increases in the basic freight rates applicable in the region in the past seven years. Meaning, these shipping companies servicing our region have not made any tariff increases for their services provided to us. This was reported during a review of the performances of vessel operating common carriers licensed to operate commercial international shipping service to and from the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. I take my hat off to you our carriers for a well heartfelt job in considering the wellbeing of the people of Micronesia by not having a rate increase in seven years.

The goods imported from abroad for commercial purposes in our region come on these licensed carriers. One of the factors that can increase the costs of these goods while landed and sold in the businesses on our soil in Pohnpei is shipping tariff. Due to the aforementioned, this is being eliminated as a factor in determining the prices of imported goods and rice in particular. We shall examine the other factors which determine the prices of imported merchandise. The cost of fuel worldwide is another important element.

The essential element, unlike the past many years, its cost has been going down. Imports and sales tax on imported goods are other factors. These two factors are imposed by the Congress of the FSM and the State Legislatures respectively. The last imports and sales tax increases were made in the late 1900s. Another factor is their costs at their points of origins. Not sure of this but the main reason why there is price hike worldwide on this singular factor is due to natural calamities. A cyclone hits the rice producing countries destroying most of their rice plantations. This is a classic example as they need to raise their prices to make up for the losses. Are we aware of any in recent years? The increase in tariffs at our port here in Pohnpei is another aspect but one that we surely have control over and this is a task empowered to our PPA to regulate. The Pohnpei Port Authority will surely be able to provide this information.

Now, let us scrutinize the price of rice and other imported goods in Pohnpei in recent months. Is this a reality? Will these prices continue to rise because these supplies are low and their demands are high? Is this how free enterprise and/or supply and demand works in a democratic society? To all the inquiries or questions mentioned above, only you can answer to each and every one of them. By the way, I am not pinpointing at anyone; I am merely raising these issues for our collective consideration and perhaps corrective measures. To my fellow Pohnpeians, let us resort to our healthy local foods. If properly prepared and cooked, the kids would love to eat our own produce.

Ni wahu,
Ausen T. Lambert

Vice President Yosiwo P. George Endorsed the Charter of the Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF) and Suva Declaration

04 September 2015 (Office of the President): At the invitation of the Prime Minister of Fiji the Honorable Josia V. Bainimarama to the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) to attend the Third Leader’s Summit for the Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF), Vice President Yosiwo P. George headed a delegation to participate in the 3rd Summit for the Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF) from 2-4 September 2015 at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva, Fiji. The theme for the Third Leader’s Summit for the PIDF was “Building Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies.” During the plenary sessions at this PIDF, presentations were given on the challenges, leadership, partnership, and innovations for climate change resilient followed by the open discussions on the Pacific Path to the upcoming 21st Conference of Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris early December this year. The two most important document outcomes of the Third PIDF were the approved Suva Declaration on the climate change, which represents the collective voices of the Pacific Island Countries on climate change, and the Charter of the PIDF.

At the last Friday, 04 September 2015, of the 3rd PIDF, Vice President George was amongst many leaders signed the Charter of PIDF, which launched the PIDF as an international organization. The PIDF Charter sets up the PIDF with respect to its purposes and functions; structure and processes; funding mechanisms; review process; dispute mechanism; and how it is to come into effect. The Charter was developed through many rigorous discussions, written submission, and workshops from all stakeholders. The FSM’s signing of the Charter signified FSM’s solidarity with the Pacific Island Countries in the PIDF. Pacific Island Countries that signed the Charter were: Fiji, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organizations (PIANGO).

The members of Vice President’s delegation were Mr. Berlino Martin, Charge d’ Affairs of the FSM Embassy in Suva, Fiji, and Special Assistant/ Advisor to the Vice President Mr. Herman Semes, Jr.

While in Suva Fiji, Vice President George submitted FSM’s proposal to phase out the hydro fluorocarbons (HFC) under the Montreal Protocol in the Suva Declaration, which was accepted by all leaders. The Pacific Leaders plan to use this Declaration to garner support at key meetings such as United Nations (UN) meeting on sustainable development, Commonwealth Heads of Government, the 21st COP at the UNFCCC.



Word Search

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- Socks Sound
- Sodium Source
- Solace South
- Solid Soviet
- Solo Sower
- Solver
- Sonata



LIBERATION DAY SWIMMING RESULTS CORRECTION

In the September 7, 2015 issue of The Kaselehlie Press we printed a press release regarding the Liberation Day Swimming competition that was provided to us. Unfortunately, it contained incorrect information. Kitti swimmers actually won the competition. Nett swimmer came in second place. U swimmers came in third, and swimmers from Kapingamarangi came in fourth place.

We offer our sincerest apologies to all involved in the competition.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA – POHNPEI POSITION VACANT SENIOR AID PROGRAM MANAGER

In this interesting position, the Embassy is seeking applications from suitably qualified persons to apply for the position of SENIOR AID PROGRAM MANAGER.

Australian Aid's summary objective is to help people overcome poverty by promoting regional stability and prosperity.

Short description of the position includes:

- To effectively design, implement, monitor and evaluate the Australia's aid delivery across Micronesia.
- Engage with relevant Governments, key stakeholders and counterparts to understand policy, priorities, strategic direction on development priorities to formulate and implement the development cooperation programs.
- Supervise the Assistant Aid Program Officer and contribute to the Embassy's public diplomacy strategy.

The applicants should have a solid experience in project management and implementation, with strong organizational administrative skills. High-quality communication and writing skills and sound computer skills are required. Relevant tertiary qualifications and experience in working in a multicultural environment will be highly regarded.

The successful applicant will be expected to undertake regional travel.

An attractive salary package commensurate with qualifications will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

Application packages are available at the Embassy

Contact: 320 5448

Email eliza.woolcock@dfat.gov.au

or download from <http://www.fsm.embassy.gov.au>

Application closing date is Tuesday 20 October 2015

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Let's eat more local food, healthy taro and breadfruit flour

On August 1st 2015, at Simon local grocery store, some JICA senior volunteers, (Mr. Toshiaki Sugiura, Ms.Mitsuko Mori, Mr. Kazuo Tanaka, who are working at COM-FSM CRE Services, and Ms.Yoshiko Wada working at IFCP) helped the shop demonstrate the food made with Taro flour. The purpose of the demonstration was to get more and more people to know about how to use Taro flour for cooking. Pancakes and Taiyaki (fish-shaped Japanese pancake with sweet soy beans inside) were served to the customers who came shopping at that store. Customers enjoyed eating pancakes and Taiyaki. Preserving TARO and BREADFRUIT as flour makes these nutritional local foods last longer and creates more uses for them. Local foods have more vitamins and are healthier than imported foods.



FSM FMI training equipment revived by Japan

Japan International Cooperation Agency

The FSM Fisheries & Maritime Institute received new training tools and equipments valued \$172,000 USD from the people of Japan through JICA's Follow up Cooperation on Fisheries Training Project for the purpose of enhancing the fisheries and maritime programs offered by the Institute. The handover ceremony was held at Manta Ray Bay Resort on September 11, 2015.

The objective of the Follow-up Cooperation is to activate the Fisheries & Maritime Institute (FMI) by the rehabilitation of machinery and equipments which were provided through JICA's technical cooperation project entitled "Fisheries

Training Project in the Federated States of Micronesia". This project was implemented between 2000 and 2006 for the purpose of enhancing the training system on fishing, navigation and maritime engineering at FMI. Tools and equipment such as a Navnet system which includes radar, GPS plotter, echo sounder for the training boat "Hokuto" and radiotelephone, VHF Marine radiotelephone, weather fax are a few of the donated equipments to FMI. Additionally, two short-term engineers were dispatched to Yap for installation and training of their operation and maintenance. Furthermore, a Senior Overseas Volunteer will be assigned at Marine Engineering division of FMI in October. The ceremony was witnessed by Dean of FSM FMI & Yap Campus and staff of FSM FMI, and members of JICA.



Dean Lourdes signing the inspection report

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Education Corner: Richard Womack, Ed.D

Last KPress edition Education Corner suggested that when visiting the Pohnpei airport it would be worthwhile to take some time to look at pictures of our fallen veterans and think about their sacrifices. This was a homework exercise for Veterans Day November 11th. It is also a good exercise for a field trip for any school and any grade. However, all of you can see that a visit to the Wall of Honor is a different kind of learning. It's about learning about and even feeling pride. It's about having respect for our FSM Veterans and respect and pride for being an FSM Citizen. Should a teacher be teaching about respect and pride? We think most of us would answer "yes". We say it should be part of the school's curriculum. What does this mean?

This is easy. Teachers teach curriculum and they teach curriculum based on standards and benchmarks. In general, the curriculum is everything we teach. The "curriculum" is the formal subjects such as arithmetic/mathematics, the social studies (geography, history and even economics), the sciences (life sciences and physical sciences) and the all important language arts (reading, writing, listening and speaking). We usually call the school subjects, the "formal curriculum" as it is written down in the form of curriculum standards

and approved by some education authority. In the FSM, it is the National Department of Education (NDOE) and in Pohnpei it is the the State Department of Education (PDOE) who approves the curriculum standards we use in our schools. The formal curriculum must be the guide for all teaching and learning in our schools.

However, curriculum also includes such matters as teaching and learning good citizenship; teaching and learning how to be good members of the traditional community; teaching and learning how to be healthy in Pohnpei and other topics not part of the formal curriculum. So teaching students to care for their books, keeping their educational environment (classroom and school grounds) clean, and being respectful to others are daily duties of a teacher. In one of the worst health environments on Earth teachers are especially obliged to try and change very unhealthy lifestyles habits we have adopted nowadays. This sort of teaching and learning can be called the informal curriculum and is an important part of teaching. But this informal curriculum is where the parents, the family and the community are far more important than the teachers. Here is an example.

Little Willie spends the year answering

questions such as as: Choose the healthiest food a) Karat, b) Donut, c) Rice, d) Soda, or e) Bowl Ramen. Willie usually gets above 90% on these sorts of questions. Likewise Little Willie can memorize lists and reproduce them as lists of junk foods; local/healthy foods; vitamins and minerals; carbohydrates and fats and on and on. Little Willies does this memorizing and listing very well and again gets above 90%. So when Little Willies receives an A on his report card his parents are very proud. But what if Little Willie has a donut, some rice, a bowl of ramen and a grape soda every day for breakfast? Good habits must be taught and practiced in the home, with family and in the community and reinforced in the schools.

It is so gratifying to see real changes. The work done by our friends at the Island Food Community of Pohnpei first in Mand and then all around Pohnpei can be seen. The terrific research by the late Dr. Lois Englberger on the health values of local foods is recognized world-wide. But when we began to see church groups, community groups, schools and government offices say—"Let's have some bananas instead of donuts; some water instead of soda—local rather than imported"—we began making some progress with attitude

change. You can see that Little Willie's A in health is not too important until his knowledge is reinforced and carried out at home and in his community. Good grades at school mean nothing without community support.

All of us expect teachers teaching and students to be learning good habits, attitudes, beliefs and values in our schools. Here we usually add Pohnpeian/Micronesian to each of these. At the most recent Micronesian Teacher Education Conference a traditional leader brought up Pohnpeian values. For fifteen (15) minutes teachers, administrators, and community participants added to the importance of values. With all heads nodding there was no doubt everyone there wanted Pohnpeian values in the school curriculum. Readers are probably nodding too. That is fine but do be prepared for homework in the future when you are asked to define Pohnpeian values. There is very difficult homework ahead about making decision in a changing cultural environment. Remember we cannot stop change, we can only learn to manage it. It is our children who will be making decisions. These will be wise decisions—if we guide them today.

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