

Pohnpeians protest sea cucumber harvest

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 13, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—A foreign investment permit issued to a Chinese company, Young Sun International Trading Company, to harvest sea cucumbers in Pohnpei has sparked cries of outrage from some of the people of Pohnpei. Last Wednesday a small group of about 100 protestors marched on the Pohnpei Government

complex carrying signs, and voicing their opposition to the plan to harvest and export sea cucumbers from Pohnpei's waters led by the Isonahnken of Nett, Salvador Iriarte.

According the Pohnpei's Chief of Staff, Joe Saimon, Young Sun's export proposal for the sea cucumber harvest was selected by a five member committee that included a College of Micronesia-FSM marine scientist. They have a permit for a year. Pohnpei's Office of Fisheries

and Aquaculture (OFA) says that during that year Young Sun can harvest for a maximum total of 14 days but only up to 12% (67 tons) of the population of the types of sea cucumbers that have been authorized for harvest and export. OFA says they have not authorized harvest of the types of sea cucumbers that Pohnpeians eat. The company can use as many as 3500 people to harvest the sea cucumbers each of whom must be registered and will have strict daily quotas.

Wescott Panuelo who organized Wednesday's protest had hoped that many more people would participate in the march but word about the event went out mainly on Facebook and many people who said they would have liked to have participated in it didn't hear about it until it was over. When the protesters arrived at the government building, Governor Peterson was not on the premises.

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WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION IN PHOTOS
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FSM's Jasmine Mendiola wins top art prize in "Tuna Day" competition

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 2, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—Today, on World Tuna Day, the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) Secretariat announced that the FSM's own Jasmine Mendiola had won the top prize for her poem entitled Teach Your Children.. Her poem was selected from entries received from citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.

be World Tuna Day, a special day for all who are involved in tuna fishing and tuna conservation and management to celebrate the wonders of tuna with communities around the world. Since 2012, PNA has run the World Tuna Day Art and Talent Quest to profile the unique relationship local people have with tuna and its diverse artistic and cultural heritage.

The contest requested entries of poetry or short stories, pictures of artwork, short films or filmed music, dance or drama performances on the themes of Pacific Tuna in the wild, tuna and local cultures and lifestyles, Pacific ways of fishing for Tuna, or islanders working together to conserve and manage tuna.

In 2011, PNA Ministers declared May 2 to

See "Tuna Poem" on page 6



Bill Jaynes

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Pohnpei files Human Trafficking and Criminal Exploitation charges against four

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 12, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—What started as an investigation in a larceny case has expanded to Pohnpei State's first prosecution for Human Trafficking crimes. Two males and two females were arrested. Three of the individuals are Pohnpeian and one is a foreigner. Three of the accused were denied bail and one was released under strict conditions due to a medical problem. The three who were denied bail are currently in jail awaiting trial.

A prosecutor at the Pohnpei State Attorney General's office says that the State filed two separate Human Trafficking and Criminal Exploitation sets of charges that resulted in the arrests. The State filed the charges in February.

In order to protect the privacy of the victims, Pohnpei's Criminal Code provides that the names of the victims and the victims' families never be disclosed including by the defendant(s).

Nothing in Chapter 8A of Pohnpei's Criminal Code, the law against Human Trafficking and Criminal Exploitation precludes the release of the names of the accused. Still, those names have not been released to the public.

To further protect the victims and to save them from the potential humiliation of having to testify publicly in court, the prosecutor's office has been taking the testimony of the four alleged victims who have so far come forward on video.

There are several forms of Human Trafficking and Criminal Exploitation, all of them involving the subjugation of a human being to servitude of any kind by coercion. Contrary to popular believe, the crime does not always involve exploitation through forced prostitution but in this case prostitution is involved. Victims of Human Trafficking are not criminally liable "for any commercial sex act or illegal sexually-explicit performance committed as a direct result of, or incident or related to, being trafficked."

The law allows for 10 years imprisonment and/or a \$10,000 fine but it also allows for harsher sentences if there were more than two victims. The law also provides for financial remuneration by a convicted person to his or her victims. It also allows victims to file civil actions against their captors.

A trial date has not yet been set. The Court still has several pre-trial motions on which to rule.

Police are still investigating whether or not more people were involved

Ayuda Foundation sends large book donations to FSM

Ayuda Foundation

HAGÁTÑA (April 2016): Early this month, Ayuda Foundation coordinated and organized (2) large book donations to FSM organizations in need. The books were donated by Guam Department of Education and St. John's Catholic School. GDOE donated (3) 40 ft. containers full of textbooks and St. John's donated (1) 20 ft. container of library books/textbooks. The GDOE donation is on route thanks to Ayuda Foundations' partner, Matson Navigation, Inc. to the Catholic Mission School and Prison Library in Pohnpei and the Akoyikoyi School in Weno, Chuuk. The private school's donations are being shipped out thanks to the United States Coast Guard's Community Relations program to the Awak Elementary School in U Municipality of Pohnpei. GDOE surveyed all donations that were donated without cost. Ayuda Foundation would like to thank the dedicated volunteers who loaded the books and their partners, Pacific Island Movers and Pacific Trucking who provided ground transportation.

All contents of the shipments have been provided to the end users without charge. No monies were involved in any of the activities.





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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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China hands over a new garbage truck to the people of Madolenihmw

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 9, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—This morning in Pohnlangas, Madolenihmw, Ambassador Li Jie, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China handed over a new garbage truck and other supplies to the Nanmwariki of Madolenihmw for use by the government of Madolenihmw.

Ambassador Li said that Mayor Petrick Ringleen did extraordinary work by researching the types of garbage trucks that would be appropriate for their use and that during his research he found that the best type of vehicle was made in China.

It is a small vehicle that is suitable to the roads in Pohnpei. Of the main island municipalities, Madolenihmw is the farthest from Dekehtik which is where the landfill is located, a one way trip of approximately 40 kilometers. The compacted storage capacity of the truck needed to be large enough to avoid having to travel to Dekehtik too often but small enough to be able to negotiate the small roads as well.

The total cost of the PRC provided project was \$21,000 and included several garbage storage containers, and also some solar lights.

Senator Shelten Neth presented an oftentimes humorous speech of “thanksgiving” to the people of China for their generous donation that would

contribute to the health and environment of Madolenihmw.

Neth said that the Chinese Embassy had provided funds for the Madolenihmw Constitution Day and that most people who attended didn’t know it.

He also used the opportunity to ask for more assistance. He said that if the Ambassador returned to China and told the people there that he had been to a basketball or a volleyball game that had been rained out they would think he was crazy. But those kinds of games are often rained out in Madolenihmw because they have no indoor facility. He hoped that China would be able to assist with a multi-purpose community center.

Neth also said that because of the distance to the hospital some people die while being transported in cars to the Pohnpei State Hospital. He hoped that China would be able to assist with an ambulance.

Ambassador Li said that he would keep the requests in mind and that China would consider helping within the bounds of its capabilities.

Wasa Lapalap Isipahu, Nanmwariki en Wein Madolenihmw also addressed the small crowd after which a small ribbon cutting ceremony was held.

Madolenihmw personnel demonstrated the trash compacting capability of the new garbage truck before the ceremony was concluded.



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Sapwalap Elementary School gets \$40,000 solar project



Photo courtesy of the College of Micronesia - FSM

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 7, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—The children of the Sapwalap Elementary School are the beneficiaries of a new 15 kilowatt photovoltaic system (solar power). This morning the Rotary Club of Pohnpei, Rotary International and representatives of the Yaminote West Rotary Clubs of District 2750 handed the \$40,000 system over to the school. Mahi International was a partner in the project as well and provided about 20 hours of health, sanitation, and hygiene education to the students along with hundreds of bars of soap and other items.

John Schroer explained that the project really wasn't necessarily about the solar panel project but was about health and hygiene.

When new classrooms were built at the school under the Compact of Free Association with the United States they also provided a large water catchment system. Unfortunately, that catchment system was below the level of the bathrooms so the water from the tank had to be pumped to the bathrooms with an electric pump. Most often there was not enough money to pay for cash power to run the pump and the restrooms remained dry.

Principal Anson Abram told the audience that the school was using an average of 100 kW of power per day, well beyond what their budget could support. He said that they are now using roughly half that amount.

The system is grid linked, meaning that there are no batteries. The power the system generates that the school does not use goes

back into PUC's power grid.

Governor Marcelo Peterson thanked the Rotary Clubs and Mahi International for the special project and along with Iso Nahnken John Adolph and Pohnpei Rotary Club President Melner Isaac, cut the ceremonial ribbon signifying the turnover of the project.

The Yaminote West Rotary Clubs of District 2750 in Tokyo raised \$20,000 for the project and Rotary International matched that amount based on a request from the Rotary Club of Pohnpei.

Mr. Otomo Takashi, and Mr. Taneichi from the Rotary Club of Tokyo Setegaya traveled to Pohnpei to attend the ceremony.



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...Tuna Poem

Continued from front page

Mendiola's poem brilliantly touched on every single one of the topics in a heart touching way. She won the top prize of \$3000 for her work.

Mendiola has long been what some might call an over-achiever. She was Salutatorian of her Elementary School class at Pohnpei Seventh Day Adventist School, Valedictorian of PICS High School, and twice, Valedictorian at the College of Micronesia where she studied Marine Sciences. After several prestigious internships she was selected as the Assistant Director of the Marine and Environmental Research Institute of the Pacific (MERIP) in Pohnpei.

She says that she has had a conservation mindset since she was in High School when she worked as a volunteer with the Conservation Society of Pohnpei.

She certainly comes by it honestly. Her uncle was the great Dakio Paul, who many consider to be the father of FSM Marine Protected areas. In the 1990's, after facing government resistance, Paul declared Black Coral (Kehpara) to be closed to

fishing, grabbed a shotgun and for three years patrolled the area in a small boat powered by a 15 horsepower motor, firing warning blasts when fishermen encroached on the waters. Before long, fishermen noticed an increase of fish in the area and the surrounding reefs and that changed everything.

"Even at 3:00 in the morning, if he saw even a flashlight he would go out and chase them away," Mendiola said.

Mendiola spent her summers and many of her weekends at Kehpara with her aunt and uncle. It's where she gained an interest in marine biology. "I'd go snorkeling and see things I hadn't seen before. I'd describe them to my uncle and he would tell me about them," she said.

Her poem touchingly describes the conservation lessons taught by elders and passed down from generation to generation—lessons that she says must continue to be passed down.

She said that she didn't think that she won the prize "because of skillful writing or anything else. I think it was because it had a purpose, a message to tell the world, or at least to those who read it."

She admits that when she heard about the contest she was interested in submitting

something but that everyday life got in the way. She finally sat down to start writing on the night before the submission was due but lost what she had written and wrote it on the final day. She said that a song by Te Vaka that features an English language narrative in the middle of the song about the value of saving creatures even if that effort doesn't make any money inspired her deeply.

"I knew this was my chance to try to make some impact, maybe to at least get people to think about conservation and change their perspective on it, and hopefully become a small 'call to action' thing. So when I decided on the theme, I knew my entry would be one with a purpose," she said.

"I hope that the poem will remind us of the value of our natural resources and how they have been a part of us, especially as islanders, and how they should remain a part of us and our children, and our children's children, and so on," she wrote. "Many of our natural resources will be lost if they are not well-managed, so it's crucial that we remember that prevention is always better than recovery. Also, I pray the poem is strong enough to remind us the importance of what we teach our children, from skills, to values, to morals, all of it. What we teach them when they're young will most likely stick with them when

they're older. I personally know that from experience, from my father (Francisco Weilbacher Mendiola) and my mother (Emirose Anson Elanzo). The best way to teach someone is to teach by example, not just by word."

She says that more than anything she has been humbled that her message has been so well accepted by so many and that it seems to be having an impact.

PNA announced that runners-up prizes (\$500 each) for the contest were awarded to Tiarite Kwong of Kiribati for the artwork "Pacific ways of fishing" depicting traditional Kiribati fishing methods for tuna and Schneider Yasi of Papua New Guinea for the literary poem "Marrow in Your Bones" which touches on themes of tuna in local cultures, conservation and health.

PNA also announced that due to the high quality of entries this year, Special Mention prizes of \$400 each were also awarded to two entries from Solomon Islands - portrait artist Brian Feni for his painting "Tuna and local cultures" and James Tuita for his poem "Pacific Tuna in the Wild".

Look for PNA news including future contests and award winning entries at www.pnatuna.com.

Teach Your Children

The ocean was flickering
From the light of the sun
As a father headed to sea
On a boat with his son.
"Let's go fishing!"
He yelled and sat on his seat
Excited to join his dad
To bring home some food to eat.

They went out and far
And even further more
Searching for those birds
To direct to their score.
They spotted a school
And soon began to troll
With only a handline
Islanders used no pole.

Suddenly, the boy's line,
Caught a big bite
So he pulled and pulled
With all his might.
There was a big struggle
With the strength of the fish
But he kept up with the fight
"I've got this, I've got this!"

His face lit up
With such great joy
As his dad picked up the fish
And yelled "Tuna! Good job boy!"
He wanted to troll some more
Oh how he couldn't wait!
He quickly set up his line
Along with his lure and bait.

His father shouted, "Look there!
Do you see the dolphin?
It means we're in luck, son
For some real good yellowfin!"
Stoked even more
He could not stay calm
Readily gripping
His line in his palm.

And again he felt
Another big bite
So he pulled and pulled
With all his might.
What a day for this lad
Indeed the best yet!
But then his father spoke
Of something he'd not forget.

He said, "I'm sorry son
But we have to let it go."
What was the reason?
He just didn't know.
"But why?" he asked
"We've only caught two
We need more fish
For the rest of the family too."

His father smiled and said,
"No, this one is too small
A fish this size is young
So you can't take it at all.
I know you don't want to
But we must let it go
To give it another chance
Another chance to grow. "

The boy hung his head
He didn't understand
Why they'd catch a fish
Then release it again.
The father went on
To show and explain
The importance of fish
And how they're sustained.

"Fish must mature
In order to reproduce,
And produce more fish
And abundance won't reduce.
If we take any and take all
Over time, they will be gone.
And none will be left
For future generations to live on.



So it is up to us
To take responsibility
Of what we have today
And pass it on with certainty.
So you teach others
As I have taught you today
The importance of conservation
In this very way.

I will teach my children
And my children's children too
That conservation starts here,
It starts with me and you.
Even a single drop
Can start a big ripple
And in time its effects
Will become multiple.

So teach your children
And your children's children too
What you have learned today
A lesson from me to you."
Twenty years have passed
The little boy had grown
Into a fine young man
With a family of his own.

Then on one fateful day
Out fishing with his son and daughter
They caught very few fish
Which reminded him of his father.
The fish were smaller and fewer

Than in his father's prime,
This made him realize the changes
That occurred in such a short time.

So he picked up the fish and said
"See here kids what we have landed
Is what happens to things
When we take them for granted."
So that day he told his children
"Teach your children too
That conservation starts here
It starts with me and you.

Even if it's minor
Even if it's small
An effort to make a difference
Is better than nothing at all."
So go out and tell your family
And tell your friends too
Tell the world that
"Conservation, starts with me and you."

Lead by example
And soon others will follow
To conserve our natural heritage
For the people of tomorrow.
So YOU teach your children
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First day of Pohnpei Fishing Club's 23rd Annual Fishing Tournament complete

By *Bill Jaynes*
 The Kaselehlie Press

May 10, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—At press time the 23rd Annual Fishing Tournament of the Pohnpei Fishing Club was only half over. The first day of the tournament took place on May with the boat Miss Yirwor leading the pack with two marlins and a sailfish. The boat Brianna was in second place at the end of the first day of competition.

The second day of the tournament will be held on May 14, the day after this newspaper goes to press.

In addition to the opportunity to compete for top prizes in the tournament the registration fee of \$50 earns each boat a case of Budweiser at the end of the day upon turn in the e-pirb safety device.

The awards ceremony for the tournament will be on May 21 at Mangrove Bay Bar

The sponsors for this year's annual tournament are: Ambros, Inc./Budweiser, Ace Hardware, Ace Office Supply, Best Buy, Bank of the

FSM, Blue Nile, Cupid's Bar and Grille, Etscheit Enterprises, LP Gas, Luen Thai Fishing Venture, Ltd., Lyon Associates, MRAG, Napa Auto Parts, National Fishing Corporation, Ocean View, Panuelo Gas, Petrocorp, Pohnpei Surf Club, FSM Telecommunications Corporation, and the Bank of Guam



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WILL BE RELEASED ON: May 30, 2016

Deadline for submission of articles or advertisements for this issue is the end of working hours on: Wednesday May 25, 2016

TUNE IN TO POHNPEI'S #1 RADIO

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Guam Fire Department trains emergency medical responders and firefighters

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 5, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—16 officers from Pohnpei's Department of Public Safety and three hospital ambulance drivers graduated from a course conducted by the Guam Fire Department that qualifies them to provide emergency medical response in the field.

The training covered airway management and professional rescue, CPR, patient assessment, medical emergencies, trauma, special patient population, and EMS rescue. The course is also the foundation that can lead to certification as an Emergency Medical Technician.

The officers are now also qualified to man the 911 emergency system that will be set up at the Department of Public Safety communication room in the near future.

US Compact Capacity funds were used to provide the training. It was part of a four week training. Each week a different instructor came to Pohnpei to teach about their various areas of expertise. The officers had the opportunity to learn about trauma and special patient population from Chief Joey San Nicholas of Guam Fire Department, Assistant Fire Chief Darren Burrier, and Joe Sablan, a firefighter also from the Guam Fire Department.

At the graduation, Assistant Fire Chief Darren Burrier said that the trainees had performed extremely well. One student had a score of 100% and all others made 95% or above.

Three weeks ago five officers from DPS and one from the Pohnpei Port Authority attended and completed one week of instruction on fire truck operation and maintenance. Lt. Dean Aquon from Guam Fire Department and Mr. Tony Quiambao - Mechanic Guam Fire Department taught that course.

Several years ago, officers from the DPS participated in an intensive EMT course. Unfortunately, the administrator at that time never implemented an ambulance program and that training lapsed.

Acting DPS Director Cerley Araceley said that he is anxious to get the emergency medical response program started.



COM-FSM Fundraising Dinner raises more than \$60,000.00 for its Endowment Fund

Kolonia, Pohnpei (May 2, 2016) –The College successfully hosted its Fundraising Dinner which raised a total of \$63,570.00 in donations and pledges. Held on the rainy night of April 29, 2016, the events master of ceremony, Post Master General Ginger Mida, offered welcoming remarks as did COM-FSM Board of Regents Chairman, Dr. Tulensru Waguk. COM-FSM President Dr. Joseph Daisy shared recent successes and progress of the College.

Held at the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries grounds in Kolonia Pohnpei, nearly 200 people attended the Fundraiser event. Present during the event were COM-FSM Board of Regents Chairman, Dr. Tulensru Waguk, Regent Kasio Mida, and former FSM President Manny Mori. Also present during the event were Government Officials, delegates from various institutions and dignitaries from China, Japan, United States, and Australia. Former President Mori is now the Executive Director for the COM-FSM Institutional Advancement Office and is responsible for organizing the fundraising dinner, which has been announced to be an annual event.

All proceeds of this fundraising event will go to the College's Endowment

Fund. Established in 1993, the COM-FSM Endowment Fund was started by the College for the purpose of generating income for the support of the future of the College.

COM-FSM wishes to extend its thanks and appreciation to all those who bought tickets and to the following donors:

- Bank of Guam
- National Fisheries Corporation
- FSM Development Bank
- Bank of the FSM
- Embassy of the People's Republic of China
- United Airlines
- Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
- Australian Embassy
- Petro Corp.
- Mr. & Mrs. Kasio Mida
- Mr. & Mrs. Manny Mori
- Dr. Joseph M. Daisy

Special thanks to the Organizing Committee; Pohnpei Campus staff, FSM Post Office Staff, COM-FSM IT and Publications Office, Office of Institutional Advancement, and Mrs. Emma Mori.



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Information focus for FSM Coastal, Offshore fisheries summit

NORMA

Pohnpei, FSM-- The latest updates on the current state and future direction of Fisheries in the Federated States of Micronesia will be shared in a national fisheries summit from 17-20th May led by its Oceanic and Coastal Fisheries arms, NORMA and Department of Resources and Development.

Co-convener for the national meeting of official stakeholders Executive Director of NORMA, Eugene Pangelinan says the summit will help generate awareness of FSM's strengths in the purse seine fishery of the region and how fisheries management tools can play a vital role in securing more economic returns; either in revenues or on-shore investments from those who seek to fish in our EEZ. He says providing relevant information to networks and stakeholders is an important part of that goal.

"Ensuring key partners are able to make the best decisions when it comes to FSM enjoying the economic benefits of sustainable Fisheries development relies on a "whole of government approach," says Pangelinan. "We've seen how important the role of key stakeholders in government are to moving us in the right direction by aligning our policies, laws activities and programs towards supporting economic goals. Timely, clear and transparent processes and information sharing is key to success and we want to ensure this approach is fostered at the state and national level including our legislative branch where it's equally most important."

Support for this National Fisheries Seminar is from a World Bank Pacific Regional Oceanscape (PROP) Project. FSM, along with the Marshall Islands, the Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu, is well into the initial phase of the PROP project worth USD33m.

"The PROP goal of fishing for a sustainable and equitable future for the Pacific also aligns to the Future of Fisheries Roadmap endorsed by our President and other Pacific Leaders in Port Moresby last year," says Pangelinan.

The Roadmap outlines seven clear goals for Offshore and Coastal fisheries for the next ten years, as well as strategic indicators for progress to be facilitated through the Forum Fisheries Agency and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

NORMA's hosting of the national fisheries summit will cover a one-day Coastal themed workshop explaining how the coastal fisheries component of the PROP will work, followed by three days of offshore, tuna-themed policy talks around the Oceanic fishery in the FSM.

"Much of the work we need to achieve

for ensuring we deliver under the PROP project and Future of Fisheries Roadmap depends on strong partnerships and links to many other stakeholders across the government. We are keen to grow that holistic understanding that a sustainable futures for fisheries is everyone's business," says Pangelinan. "We are looking at a regional fisheries industry contributing an estimated USD550m to Gross Domestic Product, and access fees of over USD350m annually. At the national level, FSM earns an estimated USD50m annually. This offers great opportunities for creating economic benefits such as employment and other economic activities at the state level. So growing these benefits in sustainable ways is critical."

Forum Fisheries Director General James Movick and other technical officials in the FFA will be supporting the National Fisheries Seminar.—NORMA Release.



Congress Fourth Yap Upward Bound Students visit Congress Regular Session

PALIKIR, POHNPEI. May 6, 2016 – The Fourth Regular Session of the Nineteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia is scheduled to convene in Palikir on May 11 to begin the review process for the National Government budget for fiscal year 2017.

Speaker Wesley W. Simina's letter to the President indicated that in addition to its work on the FY-2017 budget, the Body would deliberate on "matters of importance and urgency to the nation" and requested understanding and cooperation to ensure the session is a productive one.

May sessions are traditionally referred to as Budget Sessions since its primary focus is the national government budget; Congress therefore calls in the national departments and agencies to explain their proposed budgets.

The Fourth Regular Session of the 17th Congress is scheduled for 20 days to end on May 26th unless extended or shortened through Congressional Resolution.

As usual, the sessions of Congress convene at 10am in the Congress Chambers in Palikir and are always open to the interested public.

PALIKIR, POHNPEI. April 26, 2016 – During the Yap Upward Bound 2016 College Visit in Pohnpei, the program scheduled a tour of the National Government compound where it once again visited the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia.

The program has for the past years afforded its students not only the opportunity to learn about college life first hand, but also the opportunity to tour the National Government compound and meet with officials and staff to learn their roles and responsibilities to the Nation. In addition to its learning opportunity, the government tour allows students the opportunity to display their leadership skills and to exercise their oral presentations and thought processes.

According to its mission statement, Upward Bound program is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

A better description of Upward Bound is that it provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in

their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves: high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

The visit to Congress was headed by Yap Upward Bound program director Serphin Illesiuyalo along with chaperon Constance Lubueq and they were joined by Joyleen Sienes of the National Department of Education along with the following students:

1. Briannatrish Yowtamag
2. Francesca Ruwetam
3. Anthony Biyou
4. Devon Mirey
5. Matthew Ruweday
6. Julian Thingag
7. Kathlene Peckalibe
8. Leila Rrog
9. Zane Mtin
10. Selina Manna
11. Leona Samantha Giltamag
12. Debbie Betneg

13. Jacinta Laan
14. RayGlenn Fanoway
15. Hilary Sohlth

The Congress portion of the tour concluded with the students provided explanations of and pamphlets on the structure of the National Government, especially the composition of the FSM Congress. The Office of the Speaker completed the Congress portion of the government tour by providing light refreshments for the Yap Upward Bound students.



...Sea Cucumbers

Continued from front page

During the demonstration, Chief of Staff Joseph Saimon said that the government supports the rights of people to voice their concern but that gatherings of the type that were going on in the courtyard were by law required to be announced. He said the State Government knew nothing about it.

Another protest march is planned for this afternoon from the Nett Municipal government to the facility in Nett where the sea cucumbers would be harvested. Panuelo says he won't rest until they put a stop to the harvest.

There is high emotion for members of both sides of the issue. Sea Cucumbers serve a vital role in the marine ecosystem and their presence serves to keep the sea water clean and therefore reefs healthy.

The government needs to establish money making opportunities for its people and for its own operations especially in light of the declining annual contributions from the Compact of Free Association with the United States.

Protesters want to completely ban any sea cucumber harvest in the wild while supporters say that the study conducted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and Pohnpei's Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture showed a level of harvest that would be sustainable.

Protesters say that the plan isn't actually a plan and is flawed, and if not flawed then, according to experts to whom they say they showed the plan, at least insufficient to serve as an implementation plan for a sea cucumber harvest. Further they claim that a very recent survey shows sea cucumber populations to be down.

Chief of Staff Saimon says that OFA and the Legislature held public hearings and submitted legislation to the NGOs for comment and that not one of them ever did. "Now that it's a law they want to call in the traditional leaders and emotionalize the issue. But if they can do that where is the rule of law in Pohnpei?"

"The NGOs have no problems with the laws and regulations governing the sustainable harvest of sea-cucumbers," wrote Willy Kostka of the Micronesia Conservation Trust. "However, the law calls for the establishment of a Sustainable Sea-Cucumber Management Plan prior to any harvest activities taking place. As far as we are concerned, that document does not exist and this is our problem with the harvest moving forward as planned - the document they have is simply a recommendation of what can and should be done to sustainably



manage and harvest sea-cucumbers which was provided to them by SPC. We have provided that so called 'management plan' to scientists at the University of Hawaii, University of Guam and the College of Micronesia - FSM and they've all come back to say that the "plan" is insufficient."

"...We feel that Pohnpei State in its current financial and human resources capacity, does not have the ability to manage 3,500 people out on the reefs collecting sea-cucumbers for 6 days - the state has 8 conservation officers and 1 boat. There are 11 marine protected areas and a few additional trochus sanctuaries that they say will be closed to the harvest. How is it going to be possible for 8 conservation officers to manage 11+ protected areas and 3,500 on the reefs for over a six day period? They say that they will deputize more state employees so that they can help enforce the protected areas and manage the activities of 3,500 people on the reefs. When we asked about the details about this, they do not have one on paper. We are asking the state to think harder about this and to put a comprehensive plan that identifies in writing all the right pieces before this harvest takes place," Kostka wrote.

OFA says that they do have an enforcement plan that has now been set down in writing and was developed by multiple agencies.

Kostka says that there has not been one single example of a sustainable harvest in our region, not in Palau, Chuuk, Yap, Kosrae or the Marshalls.

Chief Saimon says that they are aware of what caused the failures in those other areas and have built in safeguards against them.

Part of the difficulty that opponents of the plan are having is that their questions have just never been answered. Kostka, Ricky Carl of The Nature Conservancy, and Eugene Joseph of the Conservation of Society of Pohnpei jointly wrote a lengthy letter to the governor several weeks ago but have yet to receive a reply to it.

Kostka wrote that the letter contained several questions, two of which were quite straightforward:

"1. In the company's application to OFA, they marked that they

are a domestic company (the choices are domestic, regional and international). We have asked who their local partner is and why this company marked that they are domestic and have yet to receive an answer for this; and, "2. In their bid proposal, they stated that they are so confident in the ability to carry out the project that they had mobilized over \$100,000 worth of assets to Pohnpei. Who mobilizes this amount of equipment prior to being awarded a bid? Especially when there was one other bidder?"

"We had several other questions we posed to the state (in a letter to the Governor) that were not responded to and we are still waiting on their response in writing so we know how best to support the state develop a comprehensive sea-cucumber management and harvest plan," Kostka concluded.

Some of the protesters carried signs saying "No foreign intervention in Pohnpei". A bystander who is extremely active in the conservation community said that sign probably most

accurately described what likely bothered a good number of the protesters most.

That bystander also said they could not agree with a total ban on sea cucumber harvests because there are ways to handle it sustainably.

While it is true that the harvests in the region have been abysmally managed, Vanuatu has had a sustainable sea cucumber harvest for many years. Vanuatu only last year put in place what they called a "proper fishery management plan" according to the Vanuatu Daily Post.

"It is clear we need to work to provide sustainable jobs for the people of Pohnpei," wrote Simon Ellis Executive Director of MERIP, an NGO whose goal is to develop sustainable and economically advantageous aquaculture. "The proposed sea cucumber fishery will provide only short term work and gains for a few people and when it is over the marine environment will be left impacted. This fishery is not sustainable in the long-term, is not good for the environment, and is not good for the people of Pohnpei."

Kolonia Youth Soccer Association's 4th Annual Soccer Boot Camp



The Kolonia Youth Soccer Association is starting to take registrations for this summer's 4th annual soccer boot camp beginning May 16th at the Spanish Wall Park. Mr. Bob Paul, President of the Association, is gearing up for a big turnout. Each year, the number of boys and girls ages 8 to 16 has grown and with Pohnpei State Public Health just ending an After School Sports program that saw soccer

taught to 7th and 8th grade students at 10 elementary schools this school year, he expects the interest in soccer to start spreading around the island.

The camp will run from May 26th to August 5th. The morning session from 9am to 11am will be for kids aged 8 to 12 and the afternoon session will run from 2pm to 4pm for kids aged 13 to 16. The fee for the boot camp is \$5/month or \$10 for the full summer session. Coach Paul can be reached at 926-1984 for more information.

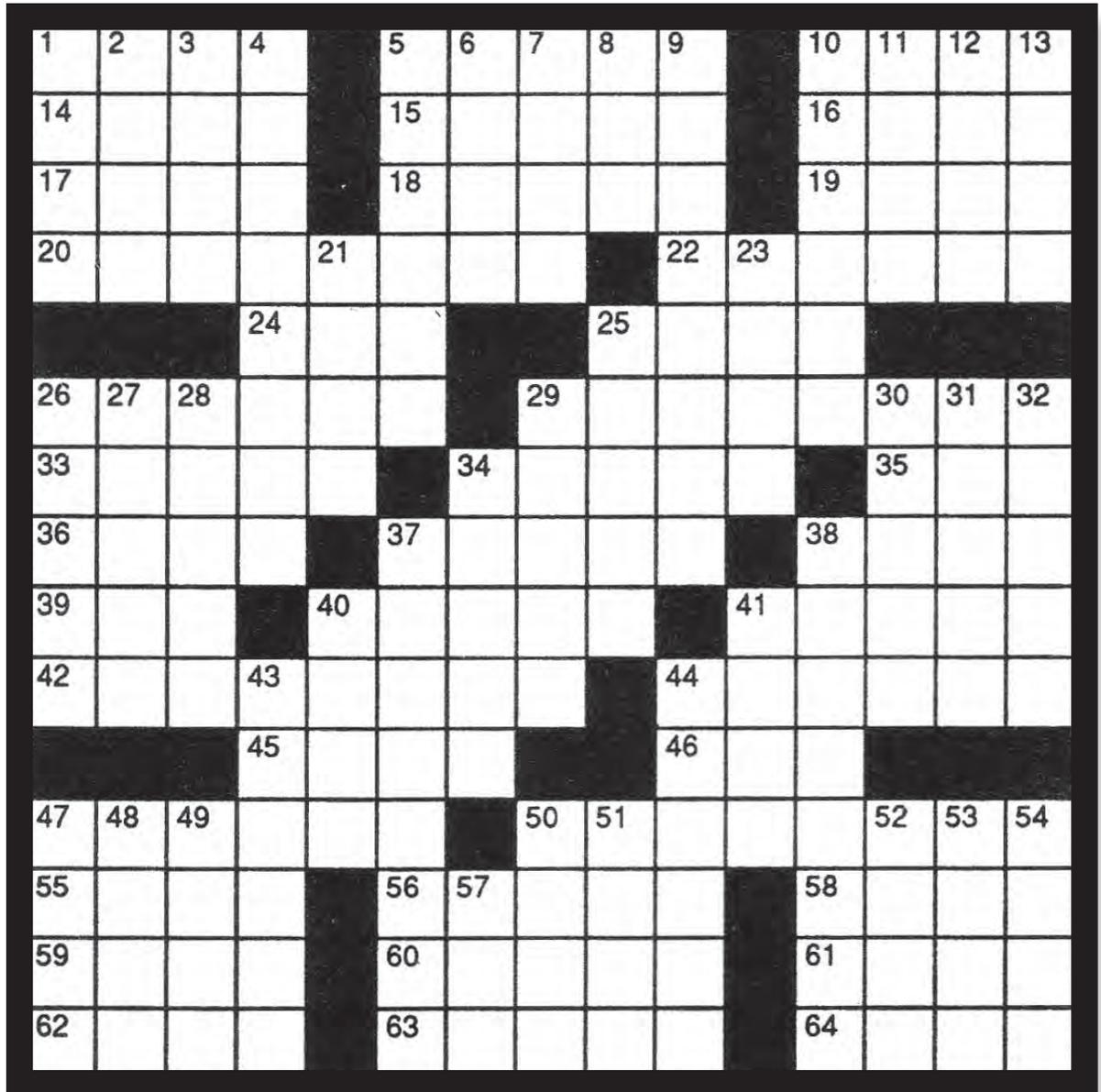
Crossword

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

DOWN

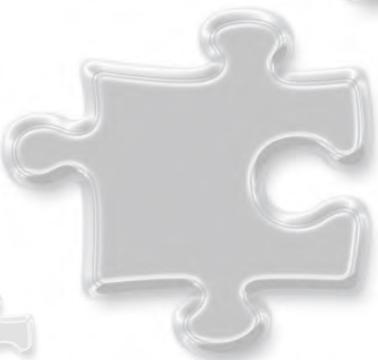
- 1. A tie
- 2. Furious anger
- 3. Tract
- 4. Gave as gift
- 5. Shouts hurrah
- 6. Mr. (Ger.)
- 7. Historical periods
- 8. Distress signal
- 9. Tennis shoes
- 10. The movies (British)
- 11. Paradise
- 12. Heavy metal
- 13. Makes lace
- 21. ___ Christian Andersen
- 23. Fail to hit
- 25. Looks for
- 26. 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



K Press Puzzle Pleasure

DOWN

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



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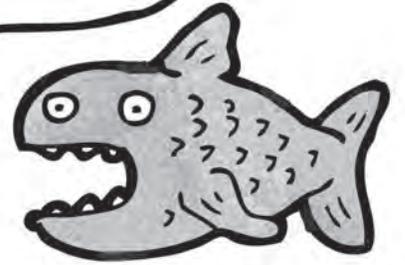
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Fish Talk



10th Tuna Data Workshop

National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) participated in the 10th annual Regional Tuna Data Workshop (TDW) in Noumea, New Caledonia from April 25-29, 2016. The workshop was held and sponsored by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), and focused on the National Tuna Data Coordinators (NTDC). It was attended by participants from SPC member countries. NORMA had two staff representing the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Mr. Derek Pelep and Mrs. Prileen Martin.

TDW 10 is for SPC country members to develop and improve their scientific tuna monitoring and management capacity in order to meet their data reporting requirements to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The workshop provides a platform for participants to get expert advice from fisheries specialist and scientist from SPC, the Foreign Fisheries Agency (FFA) and WCPFC. Under the guidance of the expert's participants analyze their countries fisheries data collected from vessel log sheets and observer data. The work started in the workshop is important because the reports resulting from the TDW will help country member's assess their fisheries, influence management decisions and fishing strategies and negotiations with fishing companies.

Funding was provided from the Japan Trust Fund administered through WCPFC. The FSM Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program (PROP) supported one of the two FSM participants. Many thanks to the hard working staff of SPC, FFA and WCPFC for the continuing support to Pacific Island country members.



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Pohnpeian United Airlines employee honored for service above self

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 2, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—Rickson Oliver's name has never been in The Kaselehlie Press, but in May a one page article about him appeared in Hemispheres, the inflight magazine of United Airlines with annual circulation of over 134 million copies.

There's a reason for that. Rickson Oliver, whose family lives upstairs about 50 feet away from the back window of The Kaselehlie Press, never talks about Rickson Oliver. He's always been the extraordinarily friendly, "smiley" and selfless guy I've liked since the moment I met him many years ago. But since Rickson doesn't talk about Rickson, I never knew anything about the story that appeared in Hemispheres, or any other. He's just Rickson, the guy who almost everyone likes immediately.

He's the guy I hear through the back window of my office playing guitar and leading his tight knit, loving and beautiful extended family in their evening worship.

"How's it going, Rickson?" I ask whenever I see him as he zooms by. "Oh, you know, Bill, I'm still breathing. I'm still alive," he replies and flashes his trademark, winsome smile. And he is. He's very alive and with each breath he takes he shares his life with everyone he meets.

But Rickson doesn't talk about Rickson. It took a nomination by Nary Reyes his supervisor at United Airlines where Rickson works as a customer service representative for the 2015 United 100 to get even a small portion of his story out.

United Airlines has nearly 85,000 employees. Nearly 7000 of them were nominated for the 2015 United 100 award that annually honors 100 employees who go above and beyond for fellow employees, customers, and the company. It is one of the highest honors a United Airlines employee can receive. Rickson was one of the 2015 United 100 and travelled to Chicago to receive his award. But Rickson never said a word to The Kaselehlie Press about that award because Rickson doesn't talk about Rickson.

"If you ever have the opportunity to travel to Pohnpei, Rickson would probably be one of the United customer service representatives you would remember," Reyes wrote in his United 100 nomination. "He has the kind of attitude that makes everyone around him smile and instantly be in a great mood. But he doesn't limit his greatness to his working hours. Rickson is always kind and always looking to help those in need outside of work as well," she wrote.

The article written by Julia Wislocka that appeared in Hemispheres was entitled "A Remarkable Act of Kindness" and tells the story of the kind of compassion that Rickson has always displayed but never talks about.

A Pohnpeian who had flown to the Philippines many times for medical treatment returned home for the last time after his condition was considered untreatable. Rickson decided to visit him in his home to help brighten the man's spirits. During his visit, Rickson realized that the man's home was too small to house his entire family of six, the article said.

"His home was a 25 square foot wooden house," Oliver told Hemispheres. "The space was just enough for him and his wife to sleep in. Their four kids had to live with their grandparents. I knew right then that I needed to do something for the family."

The next Sunday at church, Rickson announced a plan of action. Without letting the family members know, he mobilized church members, friends, family, and colleagues to help build the family a new home.

In one hard day Oliver and fellow volunteers built a new home almost 10 times as large, a place for the family to enjoy together, the Hemisphere's article said.

"As the sun set that day, I got a sense of satisfaction," Oliver told Hemispheres. "I was so happy to see the family all moving into their new home. He and his wife couldn't stop crying and thanking me, but it was because of the love and kindness from the community that this was possible. With just a few donated wooden boards, many helping hands, and a lot of love, we were able to give him and his family a bigger space to be together in his final days."

I asked Rickson if we could get together to talk about the article. "You know, they exaggerated a little bit," he said because Rickson doesn't talk about Rickson; he just acts.

Global Greengrants Fund supports socio-economic opportunities for communities across Micronesia

Global Greengrants Fund (GGF) believes local people know best how to address the environmental issues impacting their own lives. They support communities to protect, restore, and transform their environments for a sustainable future. Since 1993, they have made more than \$45 million in grants to local groups in 163 countries. Several grants have been approved for the Micronesia region and recently, in Pohnpei, 8 groups were awarded funding. The groups are:

- Pohnun Women's Organization in Madolenihmw - to support their water security needs
- Sapwufik - to support their water and food (taro pits) security needs
- Kousapw Palikir - to support their water security needs
- Micronesia Marine Environment Club (COM-FSM) - to conduct a rapid assessment to determine and raise awareness about the values of sea-cucumbers in Pohnpei
- U Organization of Women - to support climate change adaptation and community beautification program
- Seniapin Women's Organization - to support their water security needs
- Future Farmers of Micronesia Club (COM-FSM) - to support sustainable livelihoods with a pig processing center that will build the local economy and improve skills
- Kousapw Poahloang - to support water security and ecotourism development

Mr. Willy Kostka, Director of the Micronesian Conservation Trust is the Micronesia regional advisor for the GGF's Pacific Islands program. He is responsible for

the 7 jurisdictions in the North Pacific (FSM, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Guam and CNMI). Although the GGF covers all of the Pacific, most years, a large amount of the funding under the GGF comes to the Micronesian jurisdiction. With these funds, more than 10 projects are funded a year. The focus of these projects can be environmental, poverty alleviation, sustainable development, agroforestry, agriculture, or look to develop ecotourism, as examples.

The best part of the GGF is that it has a very simple application, requires a low amount of paperwork, has easy reporting requirements and groups that successfully acquire a grant can apply for more than one grant.

Director Kostka recently had a meeting with the new grant recipients to launch the next round of funds. Representatives of the various groups met to discuss their projects and pledged to complete their projects and fulfill the reporting requirements. The GGF has been in existence since 1993 years and hopes to see more applications from community groups and NGOs in the next round of proposals which can be submitted in July 2016. All inquiries about these grants should be emailed to director@ourmicronesia.org.



Pohnpei receives donation of 200 volleyballs

Mr. Tom Ichihara presents a symbolic volleyball to Governor Marcelo Peterson. The secretariat of the sports international contribution of "Sport for Tomorrow" of Japan facilitated the donation of 200 very slightly used volleyballs that had been used for official games just a few times. They came from the Japan Volleyball Association. Mr. Goto-san of Yoshie Enterprises facilitated the shipment of the balls to Pohnpei.



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Pohnpei Police Chief attends training on violence against women

The Acting Chief of the Pohnpei State Police, Capt. Hermis Edmund is among 20 police officers from the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Cook Islands and the Republic of Marshall Islands attending a workshop on gender, violence against women and human rights.

The two-week workshop was opened today in Kolonia where Lieutenant Governor Reed Oliver spoke of the importance of addressing violence against women and assured the participants of his full support for the training.

Acting Chief of FSM National Police Johnny Santos said the workshop was vital for his officers and encouraged participants to fully engage in the training.

Also at the opening was the Australian Second Secretary and Consul to FSM, Eliza Woolcock; Pohnpei lawyer and women's legal advocate Marstella Jack and the Gender Officer for Pohnpei State, Lululeen Santos.

The Fiji Women's Crisis Centre (FWCC) has been contracted under the Australian Federal Police (AFP) Pacific Police Development Program – Regional (PPDP – R) to carry out the training. This is the first time the training has been delivered in the northern Pacific, although FWCC has facilitated two other similar training sessions in Suva, Fiji previously for officers

mainly from the southern Pacific.

Shamima Ali, FWCC Coordinator, in her opening remarks highlighted the incidence of domestic violence in the northern Pacific with national surveys pegging the figure at between 23 per cent and 48 per cent.

Ms Ali said it was imperative that major stakeholders such as police forces are equipped to work towards the elimination of violence against women. "Police are major stakeholders in this work and their involvement is vital. They are often the first responders – and often problematic," Ms Ali told the police participants.

Ms Ali spoke of the stand against violence against women that police and political leaders in the Pacific are taking.

In April, a landmark workshop with the highest-ranked officers of the Fiji Police Force took place sensitising them to gender, violence against women and human rights. Police Commissioner Brigadier-General Sitiveni Qiliho led the drive towards sensitising the police force to violence against women and gender and attended the workshop himself.

Representing the AFP at the workshop is Sergeant Leanne Lomas, the Gender Adviser for the AFP's Pacific Police Development Program - Regional.



Congressional Committees to conduct joint hearings and oversight in Yap

COLONIA, Yap (Media Division) — Two Congressional Committees will be holding joint hearings and oversight in the State of Yap on Thursday, April 28, 2016, according to a communication from the Chairman of the FSM Congress' Ways And Means Committee the Hon. Isaac V. Figir to the Hon. Tony Ganngiyon, Governor of the State of Yap.

The two FSM Congressional Committees on Ways And Means, and Transportation and Communications will be arriving in Yap early Wednesday and begin the joint hearings and oversight at 9:00 am at the Yap State Legislative Chamber on Thursday, April 28th.

Chairman Figir has requested the attendance of the State Leadership as it is very important for the Committees to hear directly from the leaders their opinions, thoughts, and suggestions relating to the important matters being considered by the FSM Congress.

The topics for discussion during the joint public hearings and oversight include:

1. C.B. No. 19-12 – Establishing a Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning.
2. C.B. No. 19-104 – Reduces the import tax on certain items conditioned that states have a sales tax on those items.
3. Oversight on FSMTC with update on fiber optic, and
4. C.B. No. 19-121 – To place the burden of providing dual citizenship on the Department of Immigration if the FSM passport holder has renewed the FSM passport at least twice.

The key witnesses are as follow:

1. Representative, Department of Justice
2. Representative, FSMTC
3. Representative, Department of Finance & Administration
4. Representative, Department of Transportation, Communications & Infrastructure
5. Representative, Immigration
6. Yap Chamber of Commerce
7. local business community
8. Governor of Yap and relevant Cabinet Directors
9. Speaker of the Yap State Legislature and relevant Committee Chairmen, and the general public

Vital Supports Master Navigators in Yap and Chuuk

Traditional Voyagers from Yap and Chuuk to sail to Festival of Pacific Arts.

The Board of Directors of Vital-FSMPC, in their recently concluded Board Meeting in Guam, approved a request by Director Peter Garamfel of Yap State to support Waa'gey, a Community Based Organization that preserves and promotes native technologies and traditional skills in Micronesia's most remote outer islands.

Waa'gey is working closely with Master Navigators and traditional canoe voyagers in the outer islands of Yap and Chuuk who are preparing to sail to Guam as part of the FSM delegation to the 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts.

A brief ceremony was held during which Vital CEO Jared Morris joined Vital Chairman of the Board Mr. Faustino Yangmog and Waa'gey Representative Larry Raigetel to hand over a symbolic check in the amount of \$16,000 to support the effort.

Raigetel, who is coordinating the FSM seafaring representatives to the Festival in Guam, expressed appreciation to the Corporation, saying that Vital-FSMPC support will assist with much needed

supplies and safety equipment. These will include essential medical supplies, communication devices, flash lights, ropes and so on.

Master navigators and their crews will embark from the outer islands of Lamotrek and Pollap toward Guam over the course of several days and both the funds and supplies will be crucial to complete a successful mission at the 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts and return to the islands of Yap and Chuuk, respectively.

Lamotrek and Pollap are remote outer islands situated between Yap Proper and the islands of Chuuk Lagoon. Five canoes will sail from Lamotrek and three canoes will sail from Pollap and converge outside the fringing reef of Guam.

