

More than 200 delegates represent the FSM at 12th Festival of Pacific Arts

By *Stephanie Jano Edward*
Pohnpei and FSM Media representative

May 25, 2016

Guam—The 12th Festival of Pacific Arts (FestPac) officially opened on May 22, 2016 at the Paseo Stadium in Agana, Guam. Each delegation from the 27 participating countries entered the stadium one by one to perform a short traditional number and present gifts to Governor Calvo and the people of Guam in front of a packed stadium.

The FSM delegation entered by state, from east to west, with Kosrae leading the delegation, followed by Pohnpei, then Chuuk, and ending with Yap. Representatives from Pollap, Siis, and Ettal, outer islands of Chuuk were also part of the delegation. After FSM's entrance, Chuuk and Yap gave short performances on behalf of the delegation. Senator Mihkel, 9th Pohnpei State Legislature, presented the traditional gifts to FSM President, His Excellency Peter M. Christian who then presented the gifts to Governor Calvo and Lt. Governor Tenorio. Floor Leader McGarry Mihkel, 9th Pohnpei Legislature, said that the FSM delegation showed great unity and displayed the essence of "one voice, one heart of one nation" to the other Pacific islands.

To open the ceremony, Mr. Tim Ohno parachuted down into the middle of the stadium with the Guam flag, to the thunderous cheers and applause of all the spectators. After the parade of the countries, First Lady Calvo gave the welcoming remarks as the Honorary Chairwoman of the 12th FestPac. Following the welcoming, Ms. Leituala Kuniniselani Toelupe Tago-Elisara, Deputy Director of Gender, Culture and Youth Social Development Division for the Pacific Community (formerly known as the Secretariat of the Pacific Community), gave her remarks on the FestPac. Governor Calvo gave the keynote address, followed by a Cultural Performance by the youth of Guam called "the Creation". Lt. Governor Tenorio gave the closing remarks, after which the Governor declared the opening of the 12th FestPac. The packed crowd was treated to a fireworks show accompanied by music from the Mt. Carmel Phoenix Stage Band.

See "FESTPAC" on page 15



PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE JANO EDWARD, LULULEEN SANTOS, AND DENNIS POLL

More photos on pages
15 & 16



IN this EDITION:

FSM Tuna loining plant could employ 1000

Page 5

United Arab Emirates supplies 600 KW solar farm to Pohnpei Utilities Corporation

Page 8

Pohnpei to host 1st Micronesians Athletics Championships

Page 10

FSM moves swiftly on Fisheries Observer assault case

Page 13

IN THIS ISSUE

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Kolonia Town celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Kolonia Town Charter beginning with a march from the Spanish Wall ball field to the Town Hall. Numerous dignitaries celebrated the event.



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Japan's popular couple Ambassador and Mrs. Sakai depart FSM

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 26, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—Japan's extraordinarily popular Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia Masaki Sakai and his equally popular wife, Nobuko left Pohnpei today for Tokyo where Ambassador Sakai will return to work in the fisheries ministry.

In honor of the couple the Pohnpei Port Authority created a large banner wishing them well on their departure and the

ARFF Strikers (fire trucks) gave tribute with jets of water arching over the taxiing plane carrying them.

During his two years in the FSM, Ambassador Sakai constantly extolled the kizuna, the Japanese word for "bonds of friendship" between Japan and the FSM.

As plenipotentiary representative of Japan's government, Ambassador Sakai and his excellent staff members coordinated dozens of Japanese aid projects throughout the FSM from donations of heavy equipment, recycling

equipment, waste management projects, right through to the new multi-purpose gymnasium that sees nearly constant use in Sekere, Pohnpei.

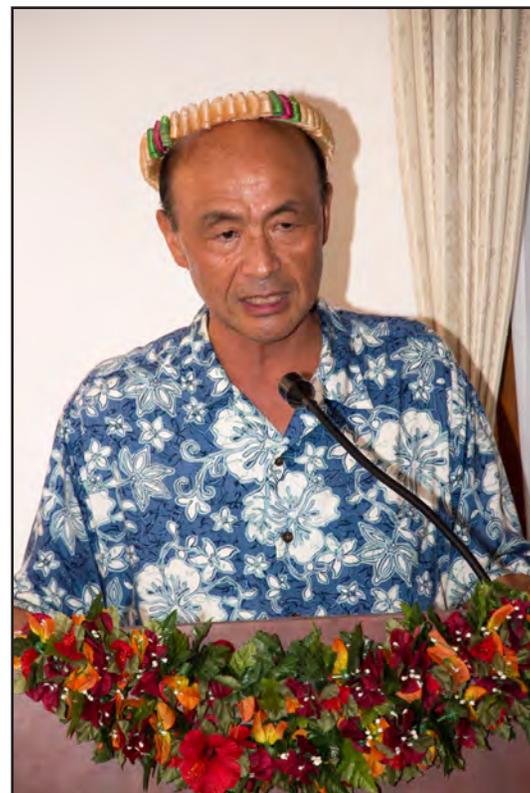
Deputy Chief of Mission Shingo Higashimoto said that it was stirring to see the number of people who came to see the Sakais off at the airport.

On Thursday May 19, Ambassador and Mrs. Sakai held a farewell reception at their official residence in Nanpohnmal. He invited a small group of friends and dignitaries. Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Lorin Robert wished them well and thanked the Ambassador for the obvious bonds of friendship as displayed, not only in the many aid projects but in all of the relationships the Sakais had with the people of the FSM.

Ambassador Sakai is an avid sportsman and last week the badminton club in Sekere, Sokehs also held a farewell party in his honor.

Ambassador Sakai's successor Mr. Horie will arrive on June 10 to fill some mighty big shoes.



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Ms. Yirwor takes top boat prize at Pohnpei Fishing Club's Annual Tournament

By Steve Finnen
The Kaselehlie Press

May 21, 2016
Pohnpei, FSM—Alex and Mary Tretnoff's Ms. Yirwor took the top boat Miss Yirwor had a commanding win with four marlin.

There were prizes for the top five point fish boats and individual prizes for 5 species, lady and junior angler.

Here are the results.

Boats and Points:

MISS YIRWOR	Total	807.2
DOLPHIN	Total	199.8
MISS ENPEIN	Total	166.4
BRIANNA	Total	154
HAPPY TUNA	Total	65.8

Species:

MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	BARRACUDA	16.7
BLUE FIN	OREED	M	BARRACUDA	11.7
HAPPY HOOKERS II	KRISTI ATKINSON	F	BARRACUDA	10.5
SPLASH	JOHNNY HEDSON	M	GT	13.6
MISS ENPEIN	IOAKIM MIKEL	M	MAHI MAHI	26.2
HAPPY TUNA	STEVE FINNEN	M	MAHI MAHI	24.6
HAPPY TUNA	DANE NIGHSWANDER	JR	MAHI MAHI	22.7
MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	MARLIN	257.8
MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	MARLIN	130
MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	MARLIN	123.4
DOLPHIN	JUNIOR SPENCER	JR	SKIP JACK	18.7
MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	SKIP JACK	17.2
MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	SKIP JACK	16.5
BRIANNA	GERALD ZAKIOS	M	WAHOO	20.5
POAWOAWOA	WELBER DAVID	M	WAHOO	19.6
SPLASH	OKEAN	M	WAHOO	16.3
BRIANNA	GERALD ZAKIOS	M	YELLOWFIN	35.9
BRIANNA	RUBENI MARIO	M	YELLOWFIN	34.3
BRIANNA	MARSON	M	YELLOWFIN	32.3

Anglers:

MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	MARLIN	257.8
MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	MARLIN	130.0
MISS YIRWOR	MARY TRETNOFF	F	MARLIN	123.4
DOLPHIN	JUNIOR SPENCER	JR	YELLOWFIN	25.7
HAPPY TUNA	DANE NIGHSWANDER	JR	MAHI MAHI	18.5
DOLPHIN	JUIOR SPENCER	JR	SKIP JACK	16

Competition was fierce for a lot of the prizes.

The awards ceremony was held at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, May 21 at Mangrove Bay featuring a barbecue for the fishermen and women and their families.

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A big thanks goes out to Mangrove Bay for hosting the whole tournament. The staff did a great job.

Also a big thanks to Bill, Francisco, Tina, Praise and all of Kumer's guys who helped out.



Photos by Darsy Augustine



Tuna loining plant could employ 1000 but would require government concessions

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 20, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—An ambitious plan to setup a fish loining plant in Pohnpei during the FSM National Fisheries summit. If the plan gets off the ground it could employ as many as a thousand people after the plant reaches full capacity.

A spokesperson for Frabelle Fishing Corporation unveiled the plan for a company they would call FSM Seafood Incorporated. It would be a cooperative venture among, Frabelle, which was established in 1964 in the Philippines; Caroline Fisheries Corporation (CFC), a local Pohnpei purse seiner company established in 1990, partnered with the Pohnpei State Government; and Silla Company, Limited, a Korean fishing company established in 1967 that operates in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and in the Atlantic Ocean.

They hope to supply frozen cooked loins to canneries associated with the proponents and to Spain, EU, US, and other markets. They currently have no plans to establish a cannery here.

The initial capital outlay for the company is proposed to be \$20 million.

The plan is ambitious for a variety of reasons not the least of which is the available work force in Pohnpei. Marko Kamber of CFC says that the new entity would likely have to build housing for workers from other FSM states.

Land is another issue. The venture has identified the Misko Beach property as one potential site. They would require two hectares of land as well as wharf sites.

Kamber said that the Government of the FSM needs to help facilitate trade issues for the proposed project to be successful in the long term.

One of those issues is a European Union requirement that FSM's National Oceanic Resources Management Authority (NORMA) be a "competent authority". That's not a qualitative term. It's a legal term that the FSM has had a hard time meeting.

"A competent authority is any person or organization that has the legally delegated or invested authority, capacity, or power to perform a designated function. Similarly, once an authority is delegated to perform a certain act, only the competent authority is entitled to take accounts therefrom and no one else," several Internet definitions say.

FSM's NORMA does not currently have that type of authority. It's a legal hurdle that the FSM government has been working on for several years, so far without success.

The proposal says that for the first year or more of operation the plant would operate on a single shift that would require approximately 500 workers. When it expands to two shifts in the second year it would require approximately 1000 workers. They are hoping to process as much as 60 metric tons of tuna per day which they said would require 2500 days

of fishing under the Vessel Day Scheme.

The spokesperson for Frabelle said that the plant would need steam to cook the fish. They decided that the best way to provide that steam was by a biomass boiler. Eyebrows throughout the room went up when he said they planned to burn imported coal fired boiler with excess capacity to generate excess power that could then be sold to Pohnpei Utilities Corporation (PUC) at a reasonable rate.

The burning of coal would certainly set PUC back on their "zero emissions" goal for power generation.

The presenter from Frabelle pointed out the economic benefits to the FSM. He said that the processing facility would create a large number of jobs in the FSM. It would generate government revenue and would push up local revenue due to port calls that bring revenue to the FSM. He claimed that the local economy would receive an "indirect push" by having more spending by vessels locally for supplies. The presentation claimed that more employment will increase spending by local community.

He said that the joint venture project faces several challenges in investing in the FSM.

"FSM is currently experiencing trade barrier with EU in the absence of a Competent Authority (CA).

We need to establish better trade relations in order to be able to market loins to countries such as US, Japan, EU. Other island countries already have free trade access with EU through Economic Partnership Agreements. We have to compete with other processing countries with lower operational costs, lower minimum wages, free market trade access, etc. Most equipment and materials will have to be imported from other countries." the presentation said.

The presentation listed several points on which it would need government support:

See "Tuna Loining plant" on page 10



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Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run members leave message of peace in Pohnpei

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 27, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—Last week four representatives of the Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run visited Pohnpei.

Their website says that “The Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run is a global relay that seeks to promote international friendship and understanding. Since its inception in 1987 the Run has traversed over 100 nations and touched the lives of millions of people. The Peace Run does not seek to raise money or highlight any political cause, but simply strives to create goodwill among peoples of all nations.

“By passing the torch from one person to the next, the relay offers people from many nations the opportunity to express their hopes and dreams for a better, brighter future. People from all walks of life hold the symbolic torch to wish for a peaceful world. Passing the torch from one person to the next unites us together in our common aspiration to offer something positive to our world – together we can make a difference!”

While in Pohnpei, the team visited several elementary schools and community groups.

The Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run is organized by an international network of volunteers inspired by Sri

Chinmoy’s vision of a more peaceful world. Coordinators in each country partner locally with schools, community groups, sporting organizations, city and state government departments to bring the run to the community as a service encouraging international friendship and understanding. The Peace Run relay teams in each participating country are made up of runners from all walks of life, who have dedicated their time and energy to bring the Run to communities around the globe.

Last Saturday, the MAD Moms exercise support group that commit to themselves to walk or run a Mile A Day (MAD) organized an early morning walk in honor of the visit and to support the message that the team brought with them. They met at 5:30 in the morning at the Spanish Wall Ballfield and with a police escort walked to the PICS track where many walked more in support of each other and of the message of peace.

During his lifetime, Sri Chinmoy was internationally recognised for his numerous initiatives that have united people from many cultures and walks of life to work for a more fulfilling world. As an athlete, philosopher, artist and poet, Sri Chinmoy dedicated his life to advancing the ideals of world peace and oneness

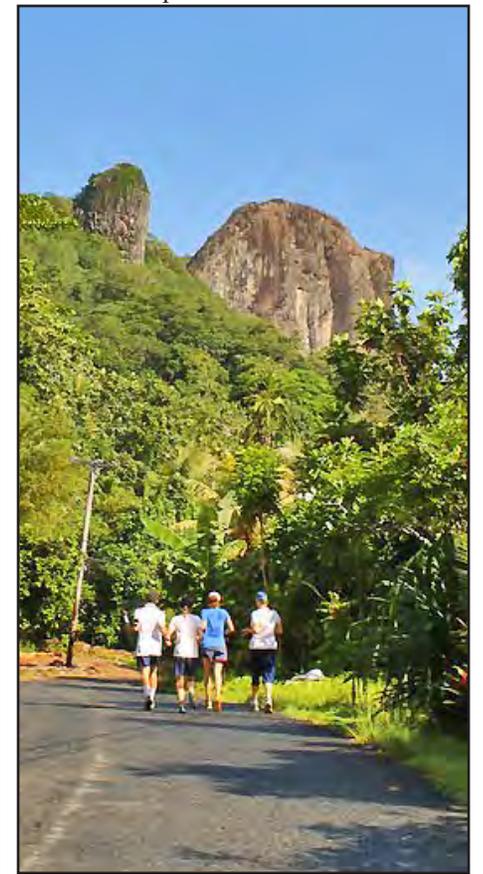
In 1987 he founded the Oneness-Home Peace Run as a way to bring

people together in a global yet grassroots event. Since its inception the Run has traversed over 140 nations and touched the lives of millions of people. Known between 2005 and 2013 as the World Harmony Run, the Peace Run does not seek to raise money or highlight any political cause, rather, the Peace Run provides an opportunity for people to give expression to their own hopes and dreams for a more peaceful and harmonious world.

People from all walks of life hold the symbolic torch to wish for a better, brighter future. Passing the torch from one person to the next unites us in our common aspiration to offer something positive to our world – together we can make a difference!

In July 2005 Sri Chinmoy commented "World harmony, world peace: these are not mere dictionary words. These are realities, divine realities and supreme realities."

“May the flames of peace-torch
Kindle and awaken
Each and every world-citizen.”



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With little fanfare FSM makes "top 10 list" of ethical traveling destinations

By **Bill Jaynes** from a CNN news report
The Kaselehlie Press

May 26, 2016

Federated States of Micronesia—Non-profit group Ethical Traveler—a project of the Earth Island Institute released its annual list of the 10 most forward-thinking countries in the developing world. For the first time ever, the Federated States of Micronesia made the list.

FSM is in the fourth position but the list is organized alphabetically.

The report is not at all new. It was released in January of this year but most FSM citizens likely know nothing about it. No tourism entity in the FSM made any widely spread public announcements about the accomplishment.

Helping travelers who've resolved to avoid spending their tourism cash in countries with poor human rights, the California-based group reviews each country for its performance in the areas of human rights, social welfare, animal welfare and environmental protection according to a CNN article on the report.

The countries also need to have plenty of appeal as a travel destination.

Ethical Traveler's information sources include Freedom House, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, Reporters Without Borders, UNICEF, LGBT resources and the World Bank.

Besides the Federated States of Micronesia, this year's report includes four other countries listed for the first time in the top 10—Grenada, Mongolia, Panama, and Tuvalu.

"By spending travel dollars in forward-thinking countries, explorers can reward the good guys—and encourage humane practices worldwide," says Ethical Traveler's report.

"There are seven island nations on the 2016 list, marking a continuing trend in the winners' circle," says the report.

"Climate change affects islands dramatically, so island nations tend to put extra effort toward effective environmental policies."

Mongolia's inclusion is also significant, as it's the first developing mainland Asian country to ever appear on the list.

"While we acknowledge that no country is perfect, we honor those that strive to build a

better, more sustainable society," says Ethical Traveler co-founder and travel author Jeff Greenwald.

"Their neighbors can learn and benefit from their example -- and so can we."

The 2016 winners, in alphabetical order, are:

1. Cape Verde
2. Dominica
3. Grenada
4. Micronesia (Federated States)
5. Mongolia
6. Panama
7. Samoa
8. Tonga
9. Tuvalu
10. Uruguay

The CNN coverage of the report gave a thumbnail sketch of the reasons for inclusion on the report. For FSM their thumbnail sketch said, "Many of the Ethical Destinations are advocates of a strong strategy to tackle climate change, including Micronesia... Human Trafficking is still a problem, but it has been able to stay at a Tier 2 ranking on the U.S. ... Trafficking in Persons report."

FSM's laws against the crime of Human Trafficking are still fairly new but once the laws were passed, FSM began to prosecute offenders. Each FSM State has had at least one set of criminal charges filed against alleged perpetrators of the crime of human enslavement, and there have already been convictions, the first ever in the FSM.

Island Nations figure strongly in the list but Palau was excluded this year

"There are seven island nations on the 2016 list, marking a continuing trend in the winners' circle," says the report.

Five countries from the 2015 list were removed this year: Lithuania, Chile, Mauritius, Palau and Vanuatu.

"Palau, another small Pacific island that has been a fixture on our list, was omitted this year. In order to reclaim their long-held spot they must show clear and verified progress in the fight to end human trafficking, for both domestic labor and sex purposes."

As for Vanuatu, terrible destruction from Cyclone Pam in March 2015 devastated the country's infrastructure and tourism industry.

"We fully support Vanuatu's citizens in their rebuilding efforts but do not believe their infrastructure can handle an influx of tourists at this time," says the report.

"Like Latvia in 2014, Lithuania is no longer considered a 'developing country,' having earned the IMF status of 'mature economy' and making it ineligible for our list," says the report.

As for Chile's removal from the list, it "failed to amend its archaic law barring abortions under any circumstances, causing many women to terminate their pregnancies via the dangerous black-market and underscoring a disregard for women's reproductive rights."

"Because of this, they are not in line with our Human Rights requirements."

Session underway for 2017 national budget and pending issues

Congress Information

PALIKIR, POHNPEI. May 18, 2016 – The Fourth Regular Session of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia convened on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 to begin its deliberations on the 2017 budget for the FSM National Government.

A quorum of eight Members convened the Fourth Regular Session on Wednesday morning witnessed by President Peter M. Christian, Vice President Yosiwo P. George and members of the President's Cabinet along with various heads of the national government offices and agencies. With the May session being the beginning of budget deliberations, FSM's own Ambassadors from the overseas missions were also witness to the mornings session and were individually recognized and welcomed by the acting Floor Leader Senator David W. Panuelo,

1. Ambassador Jane J. Chigiyal from the Mission at the UN;
2. Ambassador John Fritz from the Embassy in Japan;
3. Ambassador Carlson Apis from the Embassy in China;
4. Deputy Chief of Mission Wilson Waguk from the Embassy in Fiji, and
5. Consul General Kandhi Elieisar of the Hawaii Consulate Office.

The acting Floor Leader also recognized the presence of the diplomatic missions to the FSM:

1. Ambassador Dorian Rosen of the Embassy of the United States of America;
2. Ambassador Masaki Sakai of the Embassy of Japan; and
3. Ambassador Li Jie of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.

Along with the diplomatic communities, officials from the state and municipal governments also joined the mornings' session, notably: Chief Justice Aliksa B. Alikso of the state of Kosrae;

Mayor Jose San Nicholas of the Kolonia Town

Government and the Kolonia Town Speaker Jack Harris.

Following the formalities of session openings, Speaker Wesley W. Simina shared that aside from the Yap Delegation scheduled to arrive later during the day, the missing Members were excused to attend to personal health. The same was extended to the absent Chief Clerk Liwiana Ramon Ioanis with her duties to be taken up by Assistant Chief Clerk Jessicalynn Reyes.

On a more upbeat note, Speaker Simina shared with Members the new initiatives his office has undertaken to enable more accessibility to Congress and its official proceedings through an upgraded and user friendly Congress website along with live-stream of the Fourth Regular Sessions through the same upgraded website: www.c fsm. fm

While the first three days of the session was focused on the opening proceedings and hearing schedules for the national budget for the departments and offices, Congress nevertheless touched on two issues of current concern to the Body. The first was an issue raised by Chairman Isaac V. Figir of recently created Special Committee on Climate Change who questioned why the recently signed Paris Agreement was not among the first issues transmitted for attention during the Fourth Regular Session.

The Paris Agreement is a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting the global warming to well below 2°C. Figir urged the submission of the summary analysis and legal details of the Agreement to Congress for its review and action.

The other issue addressed on the floor was the veto of Congressional Act No. 19-77, a measure proposed to restore the cap on

See "Congress" on page 13



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United Arab Emirates supplies 600 KW solar farm to Pohnpei Utilities Corporation

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 14, 2015

Pohnlangas, Pohnpei, FSM—A solar power plant in Pohnlangas, Madolenihmw, funded by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) through its Pacific Partnership Program was officially handed over to Pohnpei Utilities Corporation (PUC) today. The 600 kilowatt solar farm in Pohnlangas takes PUC one step closer to its goal of 100 percent renewable energy for power generation with diesel generators serving only as back up.

PUC Board Chairman Trewayne Esiel said during his speech that the solar power plant will mean a reduction of CO2 emissions of approximately two million pounds.



PUC has vision to be a “zero CO2 emission cooperative utility”, Esiel said.

“PUC already has in place a 170 KW and 200 KW solar grid connected at the College of Micronesia and Nett Elementary School respectively. We have a 170KW hydro plant (funded by the European Union) and now with our newly built 600KW Solar Farm Project that fits into PUC’s future plans”, Esiel said during his speech at the handover event. The addition of the Pohnlangas plant means that PUC has 1.14 MW of renewable energy power feeding into its grid when the renewable energy sources are able to generate power.



The United Arab Emirates provided \$2.2 million dollars for the building of the new plant. Pohnlangas generously provided 100 acres of land to provide the space for the newly dedicated project and for future renewable energy projects that may include wind powered turbines at no cost to PUC for 50 years under an MOU with

Pohnpei State.

PUC provided \$30,000 for the project.

The FSM Congress approved the UAE grant in April of 2015. The contractor, Vergnet SA and PUC signed a contract for the project in October of that year. Construction began in December of 2015 and the plant was formally completed by March of this year.

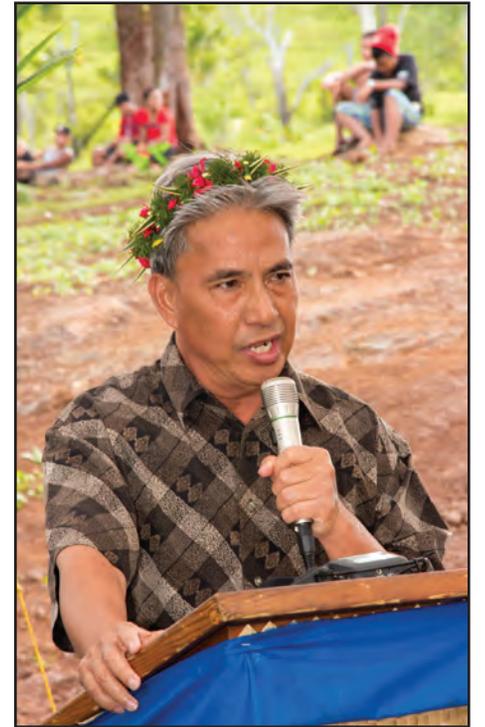
It was formally commissioned today.

PUC has set a five year goal to be a 100 percent renewable energy provided power source with diesel generators only to be used as backup. They want to have a 10 MW solar farm in place as well as a 10 MW hydro plant (water powered), and a 5 MW biomass plant. Esiel’s speech didn’t address how the biomass plant would address PUC’s “zero CO2 emissions goal”.

Istvan Ponsot, Vergnet’s Head of Business Development for the Pacific Region attended the ceremony and spoke to attendees about Vergnet’s role in delivering renewable solar solutions for the island.

MASDAR, Abu Dhabi’s renewable energy company was appointed by the UAE to execute its renewable energy projects. The addition of the Pohnlangas photovoltaic (solar power) plant brings the total of UAE funded renewable energy project in the Pacific region to 6.5 MW across 11 Pacific Island nations.

Governor Marcelo Peterson addressed the crowd, thanking the government of the UAE for their generous contribution to Pohnpei’s future.



Madolenihmw Iso Nahnken John Adolph also addressed the crowd and challenged FSM Secretary of Resources and Development, who represented FSM’s President Peter Christian at the ceremony, to include PUC’s infrastructure goals in future funding requests from the U.S. Compact of Free Association.

The inauguration of the 600kW solar photovoltaic plant marks the successful completion of Cycle 2 of US\$50 million UAE-Pacific Partnership Fund.

Dignitaries participated in the ribbon cutting, after which a tour was provided. A group of dancers from Madolenihmw entertained the crowd after the ribbon cutting and while food was brought in for all of the participants.

The Ramp & Mida Law Firm welcomes its newest attorney: David C. Angyal. Mr. Angyal graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in 2010 and is licensed to practice law in the State of Oregon. He moved to Pohnpei in 2010 and worked as a staff attorney for the Pohnpei State Supreme Court/Court of Land Tenure for two years, one year as the legal advisor to the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, and just completed his last employment with the FSM Department of Justice in the litigation division. Mr. Angyal also teaches in the COM Trial Counselor program. He joins Attorneys Fred Ramp, Kembo Mida, Jr., and Erick Divinagracia.

RAMP & MIDA LAW FIRM



President's Office solar 70kW



600kW solar farm at Pohlanghas Madolenihmw

PUC's Vision and Mission aligns and precedes the Paris Agreement at COP21

In August of 2015, the PUC's General Manager submitted a new vision and mission statement for the corporation to the then Board of Directors. This vision was created before the world's climate agreement was made in Paris in December 2015 and aligns with the Agreement that the world made to reduce CO2 emissions. PUC has a vision to have zero CO2 emissions by becoming 100% reliant on renewable energy for power generation. This could happen in 5 years if the following goals are met: 10 MW solar farm is in place; 10 MW hydro plants are in place; 5MW biomass is in place; 5 MW MSW (waste-to-energy) is in place; Diesel generators will be used only as emergency back-ups; Electric vehicles replace 50% of all gasoline/diesel engine vehicles; Electric ranges replace 50% of all wood stoves, LP gas stoves, and kerosene stoves; the PUC tariff is reduced by 50%, and PUC becomes profitable.

To achieve the 10 goals, major collaborative work is urgently needed between PUC, State and National governments, businesses and the general public

for there will be legal, financial and management restructuring and reforms which will also include the change of PUC structure from government ownership to all customers owning the utility. It will require a new tariff structure, more land requirements for solar farms, MSW and hydro and special environmental taxes to subsidize some of the needed projects to lower the tariff, an increase in efficient appliances used on island, and tax incentives for electric vehicles.



Handover ceremony, Pohlanghas



Nett Elementary School solar 200kW

The goals are measurable and doable technically and financially especially for PUC to pursue grants and very low rates of interest loans from all the FSM development parties and the private sectors.

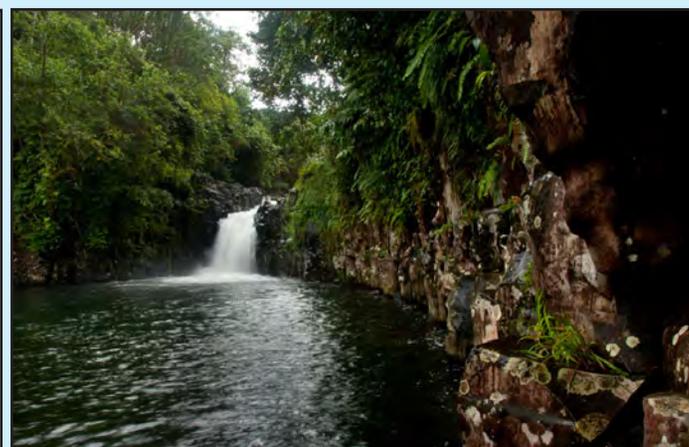
On 14 May 2016, PUC inaugurated the new 600kW solar farm at Pohlanghas Madolenihmw, that puts FSM one step closer to meeting its renewable energy goals. Special thanks goes to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Pacific Partnership project that funded this solar farm, and to former President Manny Mori and former Governor John Ehsa, who paved the way for this project to be successfully implemented in Pohnpei State. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the traditional leaders of Madolenihmw, the Madolenihmw municipal government, and the people of Madolenihmw for their support and assistance in providing for this project.



COM-FSM solar 172kW



Nanpil Hydro plant 725kW



Potential new hydro site in kitti

...Tuna loining plant

Continued from page 5

- 7 year Income Tax holiday.
- 10% Income Tax for the life of the project.
- Duty/Tax free on imports and exports.
- Assurance of sufficient Vessel Days allocated for the project which amounts to at least 2,500 vessel days per year.
- Discount on cost of fishing days based on real economic benefit of this project to the FSM Economy.
- NORMA to get Bilateral access with other PNA countries for the project fleet.
- NORMA to get regional access for the project fleet.
- Economic Partnership Agreements and Free Trade Agreements with EU, US, Japan are essential for us to be able to compete with other tuna processing countries.
- NORMA has to gain accreditation as an EU competent authority (CA).
- State and National Gov't to assist in Land Acquisition for the project.
- Government to form a Task Group to assist FSM Seafood Inc. in getting necessary approvals with the Environmental Protection Agency and other government agencies.
- To allow the use of Coal as fuel for steam and power generation.
- All policies related to our investment such as tax holidays, VDS, and others

should be consistently maintained.

"It's a big project, a very big risk and investment. We are still in very initial stages but we can move fast once protocols are in place," Kamber said.

The presentation said that under Philippine conditions it would take them 1 and a half years after plans, financing arrangements and construction mobilization is accomplished. Under PNG conditions it would take approximately three years. The FSM might take a little less time than the PNG conditions, the presenter said.

Presenting investors were not allowed into the room during potential competitors' presentation. The representative from Luen Thai who also made a presentation at the FSM fisheries summit said that a cannery would never work in the FSM because it would have to compete with well established canneries with better access to the market. He said that he thought that tuna loining might possibly work.

FSM Seafood proposal is for tuna loining.

"Everyone in the industry seems to have a negative opinion about it", Kamber said.

It remains to be seen whether or not FSM Seafood can jump all of the hurdles that are in its path.

Pohnpei to host 1st Micronesian Athletics Championships

By Jim Tobin

Pohnpei will be hosting the 2016 Micronesia region Athletics (Track and Field) Championships from June 2-4, 2016. The best Track and Field athletes from the region, including Guam, Palau, Marshalls, CNMI, Nauru and the FSM will be competing in running, jumping and throwing events. The FSM largest group of athletes will be from the host Pohnpei, with over 30 youth athletes. Yap and Chuuk will also be participating. This is the first time this competition has ever been held in the Micronesia region.

The championships start with a Technical Meeting for all coaches and technical officials at 3pm Wednesday, June 1 at the FSM National Olympic Committee conference room. A welcoming dinner for all athletes, coaches and officials will be held at Cupids Grill at 6pm on Wednesday, July 1, hosted by the Office of the President, FSM National Government. The track meet official starts on Thursday, June 02, at 3pm, at the Pohnpei Track and Field, with the main event being the 100 meter men and women preliminaries and finals. The second day, Friday, June 03, will start at 2pm, with preliminaries and finals in 400 meter, Long Jump, Shot Put and other events. The final day, Saturday, June 04 will begin at 1pm, with preliminaries and finals in 200 meters, 110 hurdles, relays and other events.

The championships will be coordinated by the Oceania Athletics Association (OAA), based out of the Gold Coast, Australia. OAA is the Oceania continental organization in charge of Track and Field in the region. FSM Athletics Association is a member of OAA. OAA supported the Micronesian Athletics Championships by providing some of the airfares, hotel accommodation and stipends to visiting athletes and coaches, and professional technical officials and equipment (photo-finish). Geoff Gardner, OAA President and Yvonne Mullins, OAA Executive Director, will arrive on Pohnpei on Friday, May 27 to supervise the championships. OAA will also be coordinating the Polynesian and Melanesian Athletics Championships later this year in Fiji and Tahiti.

Pohnpei also formed a local organizing committee chaired by Pohnpei State Lt.



Governor Reed Oliver, with Jim Tobin as the Secretary. The committee has recruited over 100 local volunteers as track officials, drivers, security, protocol, medical, and clean-up. OAA will provide a one day track and field officials training on Monday, May 30 for all the local volunteer track officials. Mike Loyola, and his Pohnpei State sport office staff, and Rendy Germinaro, and the Pohnpei Track and Field Club, have done an outstanding job preparing the Pohnpei Track and Field venue for the championships.

The local organization committee would like to thank the great support of local sponsors for the championships: Office of the FSM President, FSM National Government; Pohnpei State Government; Pohnpei Delegation, FSM Congress; FSM National Olympic Committee (FSMNOC); Palm Terrace Shopping Centre; Matson Navigation; 7 Star Inn; Ace Hardware; FSM Petro Corp (Vital); FSM Telecommunications; Bank of the FSM; FSM Development Bank; Napa Auto Parts; Ace Office Supply; Etscheit Enterprises; Caroline Fisheries; Pohnpei Cinema; Deloitte and Touche; Pohnpei Water Company; CTSI; Pohnpei Hardware; Bank of Guam; Drops of Life; CTSI; Adams Construction, Genesis; Isamu Nakasone Store (INS); LP Gas; Namiki; NIHCO; Moylan's Insurance and National Fisheries Corporation (NFC).

During the recently held 2014 Micronesian Games track and field competition, 1000s of Pohnpeians turned out to support and cheer on the athletes. We are hoping the same will be true for the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championships. Good luck to all of the athletes.

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia's National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) has received



financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for a Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) and Fisheries Economist based in Pohnpei, FSM. The VDS/Fisheries Economist services include:

General Scope of Work

- Management and implementation of all aspects of the VDS in FSM to maximize benefits to FSM while ensuring sustainability of tuna resources.
- Provide technical/economic advice and analysis as relate to fisheries operations and development including on investments, concessions and other related initiatives in the fisheries sector
- Undertake or assist with economic research activities for NORMA in collaboration also with relevant partners in the region or internationally.
- Prepare and assist with periodic reports including reports on VDS and economic aspects of the fishery and returns.
- Work closely with partners in the FSM, the Pacific region and internationally in areas related to the VDS and to ensure economic well being of the fisheries sector.
- Assist with other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Director

Qualifications

- Masters Degree in economics, business or other relevant degree.
- Minimum of two (2) years relevant experience.
- Understanding of cost benefit and financial analyses
- Fluency in written and spoken English.
- Strong analytical, prioritizing, multi-tasking and organizational skills.

Desirable Qualifications

- Background in fisheries or natural resource economics with knowledge of tuna fisheries and tuna marks
- Experience in economic and financial modeling
- Experience in data collection processes and surveys, including those involving fisheries industry
- Good communication skills.

Remuneration

- Salary will be based on the Local Labor Market Payscale and/or depending on qualifications.
- This will be a 2-year full-time position under contract with FSM NORMA subject to renewal based on performance.

Application

The FSM NORMA invites consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above mentioned services by submitting electronic and hard copies of Letter of Interest, CV, support Degrees/Certificates and 3 reference letters to NORMA no later than June 24, 2016. Selection will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011 edition). Full Terms of Reference (TOR) can be obtained from:

NORMA, FSM National Government
Attn: O'Kean Ehmes, PROP Coordinator
POBox 122, Pohnpei, FM 96941
Office Telephone: 691-320-2700/5181

Email: moria.joseph@norma.fm. Copy to okean.ehmes@norma.fm

Baseball starts in Pohnpei

The inaugural Pohnpei ("FSM") baseball league has begun competitions at the Daini Ball field in Pohnpei. Toshio Akinaga said that dozens of donors have made the competition possible and we will do a fuller story including those donors in the next issue of The Kaselehlie Press. A total of 10 teams registered to compete. There are three Junior League teams for players 17 and under, and 7 Major League teams for those 18 and older. Akinaga said that the competitions will continue for at least the next two months. He said that he is extremely grateful for all of the support the league has received.



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advertisements for this issue is the end of
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Wednesday April 8, 2016**

Federated States of Micronesia policy revamp for Fisheries aims to double 'blue gold' millions

23 May 2016

Pohnpei, FSM - A new comprehensive national Fisheries Policy for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is firmly set on accessing up to US\$85m in annual revenues from its 'blue gold' oceanic fisheries sector. That figure was flagged amidst all the numbers, data and acronyms dominating a just-ended national Fisheries seminar in FSM. Standout quotes during the seminar included a straight and clear reminder on the reason for the current renewed focus on FSM's budget-boosting Tuna resources-- "Fish is our blue gold".

As leaders from Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap think through and share their four days of talking Fisheries with the lead government officials in the sector, the new term, coined on the opening day of the seminar, will keep coming to mind as they look to opportunities at state level and their fit at national level, for investment opportunities in FSM's fisheries.

"Fish is our 'blue gold' and fisheries has become our biggest revenue generator, increasing nearly 300 percent since the introduction and implementation of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) Vessel Day Scheme (VDS)," Vice President Yosiwo P George had noted in his opening statement. He said revenue from the sale of fishing days has increased substantially, but "the overall FSM economy has not grown, as one would have expected. The challenge is therefore how can we best use our valuable days to achieve higher economic growth? What kind of fisheries and related policies do we need to put in place to maximize the overall economic benefits of our fisheries resources to support economic growth?"

Vice President George had not minced words in his keynote to the "Aligning Fisheries Policy to Support Economic Growth in the FSM" first national seminar for FSM. Highlighting the role of the Vessel Day Scheme led by FSM and the seven other Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) plus Tokelau, he and the meeting organisers are keen to see its transformational impact on the national budget grow even more returns to the national purse.

"In 2014, fisheries access revenues were \$47.5 million, which comprised 36% of the total government revenues. I am advised that, with the number of vessel days that FSM can expect into the future, straight maximization of fishing access revenues could yield USD70 million or even as high as USD85 million per year to the FSM. As we face the termination of the current Economic Assistance package under the Compact of Free Association (CFA) this income source will have significant importance to the FSM's future political economy. That is the challenge that the fisheries sector has to be conscious of; that this is a resource managed by government for the benefit of the people of the FSM."

Acknowledging that opening up FSM to potential fisheries investment partners would require updates to law and policy, the VicePresident told leaders the changes needed must be seen "as an opportunity to not only seek benefits to the states we represent but

to appreciate our shortcomings and strive for a cohesive policy that all can benefit even if it means one central fisheries development location or two. We can all still benefit, the challenge is where, how and what can we offer as individual or collective stakeholders."

"We need to think about creating jobs, new business and security in investment to diversify our economic base. We also have to do this being mindful that our partners feel welcome and invest in the long term. Short-term gains are not sustainable when you ask me to put millions in a fish processing facility or any other investment of the like. We need to re-strategize and focus; changing our approach to fisheries investment," he says. "While we strive to increase our returns, we must also exercise due diligence to ensure that our partners deliver what they promise us and nothing less".

Throughout the seminar, co-conveners Director of FSM's National Oceanic Resource Management Agency, NORMA Eugene Pangelinan and Secretary for Resources and Development Hon. Marion Henry had echoed the need for a refreshed, whole of government approach across all states, and at many levels, to ensure the Oceanic breadwinner for FSM is managed within a revised, more comprehensive Fisheries policy.

"This is not the end of the process, this is just the beginning," says Pangelinan of the ongoing consultations with stakeholders across and within the states.

Enimwahn Development Association receives planning grant from the UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme

On Tuesday, May 24th, 2016, the President of the Enimwahn Development Association (EDA), Mr. Stuard Penias, signed an MOA with the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP) being implemented by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for a planning grant given under the Small Grants Programme for the project entitled "Improving the sustainability and diversity of home farming activities in Enimwahn". On behalf of the United Nations Joint Presence Office, Head of Office Ms. Evelyn Adolph welcomed the members of EDA to the office. On behalf of the National Steering Committee (NSC) which administers the SGP, Chairman Snyder Biza congratulated the EDA on receiving the \$4,100 planning grant, which will be used to hold community education and planning meetings that will lead the EDA to apply for a full SGP grant of up to \$45,000 to implement their project. Chairman Biza explained that the SGP focuses on providing funds to community based NGOs to do projects within their communities that are focused on environmental issues. The NSC was interested in EDA's project goals because they would like to see individual communities have successful projects that can be replicated in other communities.

Mr. Patterson Shed, the SGP National



"Domestic development is an increasingly important part of the investment picture of the tuna industry in FSM," he says, "when we look at Fisheries interests from distant water fishing nations wanting to do business in our EEZs, the key criteria for us will be returns to the people of FSM in capital investments, job creation, and social responsibility partnerships."

"It's a lot of work, but we are talking about a resource bringing the world to our part of the ocean. We now want to bring more value-adding, revenue-generating fisheries activity ashore, to gain more economic opportunities and spread the benefits around."

The FSM National Fisheries Seminar included a range of guest presenters including Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) Director General James Movick and FFA Economist Dr Chris Reid, Incoming PNA Executive Director Ludwig Kumoru, of the National Fisheries Authority of Papua New Guinea, International Fisheries Consultant Stan Crothers of New Zealand (also Fisheries Advisor to Tokelau), and FSM officials. Industry insights came from Peter Sitan, CEO of the FSM's National Fisheries Corporation, NFC.--ENDS/NORMA Press Release.

Coordinator was present to witness the signing of the MOA along with EDA member and soon to be Treasurer Ms. Sabrina John, and consultant on the project, Mr. Patrick Blank. EDA now has 3 months to educate their community on the issue of climate change and biodiversity and coordinate with stakeholders in Pohnpei such as the Pohnpei State Agriculture Office, COM-Land Grant, USDA-NRCS, State Forestry, and Island Food Community of Pohnpei, to plan meetings and workshops to build up interest and participation from the EDA community in Alohapw, Ipwitek, Kinakapw, Malewe, Elenieng,

Areu and Ohwa villages in Madolenihmw municipality and then finalize their application for the full SGP grant.

The SGP is a funding modality of the GEF, approved by the GEF Council on a rolling replenishment basis and implemented by UNDP on behalf of the GEF partnership. The program is hosted by the United Nations Joint Presence Office (UN JPO) located on Kaselehlie Street in Pohnpei. For more information on the SGP, please visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FSM-GEF-Small-Grants-Programme-850017088377426/> and their website at: <https://www.sgp.undp.org>.



FSM moves swiftly on Fisheries Observer assault case

NORMA Press Release

Friday 20th May, Pohnpei, FSM--A Kiribati national working on a purse seiner in the Federated States of Micronesia could face a hefty fine and up to 12 months in jail if he's found guilty on charges of assaulting the Fisheries Observer on his vessel.

Terangutu Uerem has been stood down from the crew of the Kiribati-flagged Marawa 1, after being charged in the FSM Supreme Court with an act of criminal assault against a Solomon Islands national working for the Pacific Islands Regional Observer Program, PIRFO, on May 12.

Uerem has not yet entered a plea.

FSM Chief Litigator Clayton Lawrence says the current case is a first "of this kind where it's been brought to our attention". He says for FSM, cases of this kind usually involve alcohol and altercations between crew members.

Lawrence noted the "swift, voluntary cooperation" of the Dongwon company management contacted by the Observer on May 12, following the alleged incident. He confirmed FSM prosecutors are likely to seek the maximum penalty for this offence, being a 12 month jail term and likely fine of up to USD5000.

The vessel was recalled by Dongwon to Pohnpei after the Observer made contact, arriving in port on May 15. The Observer was checked and taken to a safe location while crew members were questioned by investigators. The court heard this week that Uerem chose not to respond to the initial questions, but a number of corroborating reports from other crew members satisfied investigators that charges could be filed and he was arrested on Monday May 16 ahead of his arraignment this court appearance on Wednesday May 19.

The Marawa 1 has since returned to sea with a new PIRFO Observer.

Speaking on the significance of the case, NORMA Executive Director Eugene Pangelinan says the swift action by FSM

authorities once the Observer made contact with the vessel managing company "reflects the importance we attach to the role of all Observers and their vigilance on behalf of member states in reporting fishing activity on board vessels licensed to fish in Pacific waters." Mr. Pangelinan stated "observer safety is of paramount importance to us and we see this action by FSM as a reminder to all vessels licensed to fish in our waters and in other Pacific Island waters that we will take all measures to ensure their safety. We also thank the company for their cooperation in getting this case moving forward."

There are currently over 500 PIRFO Observers based on purse seiners within the WCPO region, with an estimated 30 in the FSM EEZ.

"Whatever the flag of a vessel, whether it is domestic or foreign, and regardless of ownership and nationalities of those involved, we acknowledge the solitary watchdog role of Fisheries Observers on vessels out at sea," says Pangelinan.

"Observers are the silent workforce at the heart of Monitoring, Compliance and Surveillance work and documentation of catches whose sole task is to record and report on volumes and methods by fishers licensed to work our Oceanic resources. They are required to work with integrity and must be supported in this role, especially since they do their jobs in environments where access to emergency support can be tested."

Welcoming the efficient handling of the investigation and action led by the Department of Justice, Pangelinan says "from NORMA's point of view, Observers and their families should know "when an Observer alert is sounded in our waters, FSM has no hesitation in applying the rule of law and taking Observer safety as the prime and important factor when providing resources to assist."

Pangelinan thanked the quick action of investigating and enforcement officials and similar speed of the vessel owners in voluntarily returning the vessel to port

once the Observer made contact.

"Going forward, we now let the law take its course—and we thank all our maritime, justice, and other parties involved in this case."



FSM Chief Litigator Clayton Lawrence--says the current case is a first "of this kind" where its been brought to the attention of his team.



FSM-NORMA's Executive Director Eugene Pangelinan- Safety of Observers respected by FSM, now "let the law take its course"

...Congress

Continued from page 7

the Entry Revolving Fund. Created by law, the revolving fund was established to allow appropriations for, and revenues from, the issuance and renewal of entry permits to be used for entry permit issuance and renewal and for training FSM citizens to assume positions in the FSM workforce currently held by noncitizen workers.

The veto was assigned to the Committee on Ways and Means to review and it reported to the Body that it found no legal impediments or any drafting errors and determined that "the veto [was] purely based on policy decision." On May 13 2016, Congress overrode the Presidents veto.

Following the override, Congress went into

recess to allow the various committees to conduct public hearings with the relevant entities of the national government on their budgetary requests for the upcoming fiscal year. All public hearings are being held at the Central Conference Facilities next to the Congress Chamber while the Congress Public Hearing Room is under construction.

Congress is scheduled to reconvene for session on Thursday May 19, 2016.

The Fourth Regular Session of the 19th Congress is scheduled for 20 days to end on May 30th 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. Through live-stream, the current sessions of Congress can be viewed through the its website at: www.cfsm.fm

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High Stakes Testing

High-stakes in poker or any other card game means the player is in the game and willing to bet a lot of money to win even bigger money. With a high stakes gambling game, a player can also lose a lot of money. Therefore, a **high-stakes test** is a test that means you can win big or lose big. High-stakes tests are not really set up for improvement. The EC has said in many columns that results from testing, assessing and evaluating should be used whenever possible for improvement. Readers are familiar with tests mentioned below and will recognize them as types of tests on which we all place such great emphasis. On many tests as these there is often no second chance.

Moreover, such tests are set up to screen or filter the test-takers. They are sometimes pass or fail and sometimes a score will rank the test-taker against the others taking the same test. For example, an employment test as for government jobs given to 100 applicants may only consider the top 10 in rank order of scores. Certainly, the National Standard Teacher Test (NSTT) is high-stakes as passing means an FSM teacher license or certification. A 'no pass' means no certification and therefore no teaching position. If our FSM teachers wish to teach in Guam or the U. S., they may run into teacher tests called the Praxis. The NSTT is similar in nature to the Praxis. The College of Micronesia Entrance Test (COMET) is high-stakes. Pass and you are in college. A 'no pass' means you will not be a college student until you can pass the COMET. Passing a General Equivalency Development Test (GED) means you are judged to be the same as a high school graduate and can enter COM-FSM (if you pass the COMET). Another high-stakes test for many Micronesians is the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). To be accepted into the U. S. military requires the high school diploma or a GED and passing the ASVAB in order to enter the U. S. armed forces. And, to be sure, these high stakes tests are in the English language. So English proficiency is the real basis for success in these win-lose situations.

Measuring Instruments

Any device that measures learning we call an "instrument." A teacher's quiz or a test is called an instrument. A portfolio of work—if used to measure learning—is called an instrument. A book report may be called an instrument if the teacher is checking to see that the student read and understood the book. A Standardized Test, as the National Standards Test for Teachers (NSTT), is an instrument. It is supposed to measure

your abilities and likelihood that you will be a good teacher. It is supposed to measure what you have learned in your teacher training courses—the teacher training curriculum.

Moreover, teachers are concerned with the terms **formative assessment** and **summative assessment** and look at measuring instruments in these terms. **Formative assessment** is part of the teaching process (and how teachers teach) because it is used at a particular point in time and helps students and teachers adjust during the learning process. This is particularly important when students are learning skills and concepts for the first time. You may look at formative assessment as something good teachers do all of the time for improvement purposes. These sorts of assessments are on-going and may not even be part of a final grade. In fact, much formative assessment may be for practice and not even part of a final grade. Key to formative assessment is student involvement. Descriptive feedback as students move along through the curriculum is an excellent teaching strategy. Descriptive feedback is not a letter grade or "Good Job" or a smiling face. Descriptive feedback provides the student with and understanding of what they are doing well and then gives specific input on how to reach the next step in the learning process.

On the other hand, **summative assessments** are those tests given at a point in time to see what the student knows and does not know. They are used to measure learning in the curriculum standards after a period of time. Examples of these are the FSM Standards Tests, end of unit or chapter tests, end of semester exams, and any tests where scores are used to summarize student grades. And while they are not on-going as are the formative assessment, they may still be used for improvement. This is why teachers want results of standardized tests as soon as possible and become upset when such test scores are not returned in a timely manner or not at all.

Finally, high stakes test are part of education and part of life. For our students and for the present ESL skills and math skills are tested. These are skills that can be improved and should be. A student can move from no-pass to pass and in one or two year's time. Much progress can be made when principals assure that teachers are designing and presenting all lessons with the practice of reading, writing, listening and speaking English consistently throughout the day.



...FESTPAC
Continued from front page

The participating countries include American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Easter Island, the FSM, Hawaii, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Nauru, New Zealand, Norfolk Island, Tong, Territory of the Wallis and Futuna Islands, Taiwan, Tokelau, New Caledonia, Republic of Fiji, Tuvalu, Pitcairn, Republic of Vanuatu, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and Guam. Each country showcases their wares in huts built by the host country in anticipation of the FestPac. Mr. George Youngstrom, vendor in the Kosrae delegation and first time FestPac attendee said, "It has been a pleasure to be able to come to FestPac as participants and to be able to sell our products." In only four days of the FestPac, they have just about run out of their locally-made banana chips, coconut oil, and lime sauce and have contacted their daughter in Kosrae to send more on the next flight out of Kosrae.

With a 200 +-member delegation, FSM boasts one of the largest delegations participating in this year's FestPac. Over the next two weeks, they will be participating with traditional dancing, navigation, singing, traditional cooking, visual art, literary arts, and are showcasing local wares in huts built for each individual state of the FSM. "I feel proud of the selected representatives in the Pohnpei delegation because I feel they represented well," said Ms. Lululeen Santos, Pohnpei delegation's point of contact.



The packed schedule begins at 8 AM every morning, with performances and programs at several different locations. The day winds down at 8 PM with musical performances by musical bands from the participating countries in the Jamz House sessions, held in the Festival Village.

"The importance of this event is that we're trying to share our culture with our Micronesian, Melanesian, Polynesian, and other participating neighboring nations, to broaden our understanding and appreciation theirs and in retrospect, have them understand and appreciate ours, as well," said Governor Marcelo K. Peterson, Pohnpei State.



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FESTPAC Guam 2016



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