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Huge events to celebrate first UN sanctioned "World Tuna Day" in Pohnpei

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 2, 2017

Pohnpei—Last year the United Nations declared May 2 of each year to be World Tuna Day across the world. This was after a first push by the Parties to the Nauru agreement introduced the idea in 2011. Since then the eight Pacific islands nations who were signatories to the Nauru Agreement have recognized a Tuna Day to various degrees but this year was the first year for the FSM to have a day of real celebration.

The Parties to the Nauru Agreement is a group of eight Pacific Island nations who together control the world's most lucrative tuna fishing grounds. In 1982, the countries agreed to act in concert together in order to return the maximum benefit of the natural resources to the islands that hold those waters. The nations are the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, and Tuvalu.

The event today began with a parade down the main street of Kolonia from the State government building to the Spanish wall where a full day of festivities and booths had been set up with a variety of activities for people to participate in.

The day has not yet been established as a National Holiday which meant that many people were at work and unable to attend but the crowd was still substantial. During his speech, Vice President Yosiwo George said that he hopes that the FSM would soon add the day to the list of national holidays since tuna is the FSM's most valuable natural resource.

The event was coordinated by the National Oceanic Resources Management Authority. Dozens of
See "World Tuna Day" on page 6



PNA CEO Ludwig Kumoro



NORMA Deputy Director greets Vice President George



Lien Mwoakilloa perform their award winning dance

FSM citizens take top prize in PNA World Tuna Day contest

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 2, 2017

Pohnpei—This morning the winners of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) World Tuna Day Art and Talent Quest were officially announced. The top two prizes winners for the contest are from Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. The contest was open to contestants from all of the PNA countries.

Last year's top prize winner was Jasmine Mendiola who is also from Pohnpei, FSM. She now serves as Tuna Ambassador for the PNA.

While PNA nations have celebrated tuna day for several years, the United Nations only last year declared May 2nd to be World Tuna Day throughout the world and the announcements were timed to coincide with that day.

Lien Mwoakilloa won a community prize of \$1000 USD for their video entry of their Winehk (bird school) dance depicting tuna fishing and consumption in Pohnpei. "The judges were impressed with the women's display of joy and fishing

See "FSM top prize" on page 10

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Vice President George has meetings in Guam

While transiting in Guam from his working visit to Japan, the Honorable Yosiwo P. George, Vice President of the FSM, had the opportunity to meet with Mrs. Sam Mabini, Ph.D., from the Guam Department of Labor to discuss vocational training and opportunities for our citizens through the apprentice programs at the Guam American Job Center, the Trade Academy, Apprentices Program offered by the Guam Community College. According to Mabini, there was grant award funding the labor department received in the amount of \$2.2M for the Reemployment and System Integration National Dislocated Worker Grant. Currently, the grant has been used for system integration through "HireGuam" at www.hireguam to centralize availability of jobs and a pool of technical skilled workers as a one stop source to link education and training to public and private partners. Mrs. Mabini is interested in working with the FSM to be part of this partnership. She plans to brief Freely Associated State leaders during the Micronesia Island Forum (MIF) in May, which is scheduled to be held in Guam.

Vice President George also attended a dinner hosted by former Guam Governor Joseph Ada at the Guam Reef Hotel. The purpose of the meeting was not only to

advance the friendly relationship they have since 1963 but also opportunity not only to look back in history and reflect on memories and events but also an opportunity to further discuss how Guam and FSM can strengthen cooperation in technical training and education and enhancing human resources to fill the current gap of foreign workers in Guam. Former Governor Ada shared with Vice President George a photo of their baseball team while attending the College of Guam from 1963 to 1964 and a yearbook with photos of their classmates.

While in Guam, Vice President George had the opportunity to meet with FSM students attending the University of Guam (UOG) to discuss educational issues such Pell Grant, work-study issue under the current Compact of Free Association, and scholarship available in the FSM. During this meeting students also raised the dual citizenship issue and increase of tuition fees at the UOG. All these of these issues were noted and shared with the FSM Department of Education.

Vice President George was accompanied by Special Assistant to Vice President Mr. Herman Semes Jr., and FSM Consulate Office Foreign Service Officer, Mr. Johnny Silbanuz.



Vice President Yosiwo P. George on a working visit to Japan

The Honorable Yosiwo P. George, Vice President of the FSM, paid an official working visit to Japan from April 11 to 15, 2017. The purpose of this trip was to explore vocational opportunities in Japan and to meet with colleges, key officials, and organizations to discuss these opportunities.

The trip provided Vice President George the opportunity to thank the people and government of Japan for its economic assistance over the years – which has played an important part in the economic development of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). The trip also provided opportunities to look further into strengthening cooperation in the fields of goodwill exchanges, education and capacity building of the country's human resources.

While in Tokyo, the Vice President held a meeting with the Chairman and other members of the Japan-FSM Parliamentary Friendship League, where friendly exchanges on important issues concerning the FSM and Japan were discussed. Both sides committed to working together for the mutual benefit of the two countries, acknowledged the development taking place in bilateral relations, and encouraged more interactions at all levels to further

strengthen the existing relations between the peoples and government of the two countries taking into consideration the upcoming 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations in 2018. Vice President also held a meeting with the Association for Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC) and a visit to the Pacific Island Center (PIC).

The program of the visit also included Konan City in Aichi Prefecture, Aichi Konan Community College, and Hakuho College in Nara Prefecture. In his interactions with officials and representatives of Konan City, Konan Community College and Hakuho College, the Vice President reiterated his desire to further nurture the good relations, and hoped to identify and promote educational as well as capacity building opportunities for students of the FSM.

The delegation of the Vice President consisted of the Second Lady Mrs. Antelise George, Special Assistant to Vice President Mr. Herman Semes Jr., FSM Department of Education Post-Secondary Administrator Ms. Joyleen Sienes, accompanied by Ambassador Fritz and First Secretary Suenaga from the FSM Embassy in Tokyo. The delegation arrived in Tokyo and departed from Osaka.



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Bill Jaynes
 Managing Editor

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Akillino Harris Susaia presents credentials at the White House as the FSM Ambassador to the U.S.A.

Another page in the history of the diplomatic relations between the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States was turned on 24 April 2017 when President Donald J. Trump accepted the credentials of Mr. Akillino H. Susaia as Ambassador of the FSM to the United States in a ceremony held at the Oval Office of the White House. The two men exchanged pleasantries, after which Ambassador Susaia presented his formal statement, a copy of which is provided hereunder at length:

Mr. President,

It is with high sense of duty that I convey at the outset President Peter M. Christian's warm greetings and best wishes of fine health and continued prosperity to you, your family and the American people. The rest of the leadership of the Federated States of Micronesia joins him in expressing our collective sincere appreciation for the continued friendship and assistance that the American people and leaders have extended to the people of Micronesia over the years through the instruments of the Compact of Free Association. It is our collective desire to deepen the affinities between the peoples of our two countries and to continue our

existing cooperative efforts in promoting the rewards of Democracy around the globe.

I would like to express my own gratitude to you for accepting my credentials as the highest diplomatic representative of the Federated States of Micronesia to the United States of America. To me personally, this is a rare honor and distinct privilege – apart from being a tall challenge that must be pursued to my utmost energy. I wish to seize the opportunity of the presentation of my credentials to assure you of my commitment to do everything in my power to further strengthen our mutually beneficial partnership under the Compact of Free Association treaty.

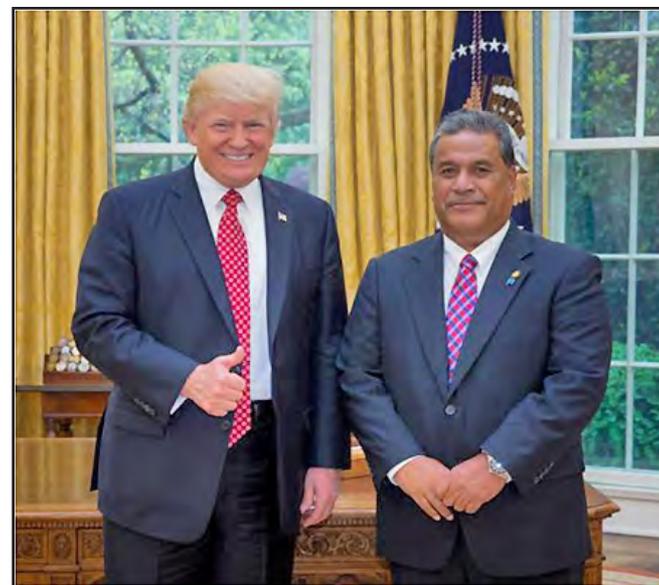
While I have given my assurances that I will do my best, I am equally certain that I will need help to succeed in carrying out my mission. Your counsel and the cooperation of your representatives would be most welcome.

Mr. President,

"I look forward to working with you to advance our shared agenda and deepen the friendship between our countries."
President Donald J. Trump

Our two countries have been enjoying a mutually beneficial partnership. The Compact of Free Association, as amended, which is due for review over certain provisions in about seven years from now, has been the main framework for cooperation both bilaterally and multilaterally. For instance, the Compact of Free Association enables the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States to work closely on a number of key issues in the international arena. In this connection, I am proud to say that our cooperation at the United Nations remains solid, as has been since we became a Member State of that World Organization.

We in the Federated States of Micronesia are not only proud of but also grateful for



the opportunities granted to our citizens to serve in the United States Armed Forces. Around the globe, including in various zones of high-voltage danger, Micronesian young men and women stand side by side with their American comrades in combatting terrorism and helping to safeguard the institutions of democracy. Our desire to contribute to world peace and our shared bilateral defense and security cooperation are manifested in the number of our able-bodied citizens signing up and

See, "Susaia" on page 7

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Record number of boats sign up for NFC and TMC sponsored \$10,000 tournament

Pohnpei Fishing Club

April 29, 2017

Pohnpei—In conjunction with the first ever international “World Tuna Day”, FSM’s National Fisheries Commission and Taiyo Micronesia Corporation sponsored a fishing tournament offering \$10,000 worth of prizes. The purse attracted 37 boats, a record for any previous Pohnpei Fishing Club (PFC) tournaments.

It was also the first tournament to award separate prizes for two classes of boats—small boats with 40 horsepower or less, and big boats above 40 horsepower. Prizes were evenly divided between the two classes of boats. The smaller boats couldn’t range as far and as fast as the higher powered boats. However, it was Ioanis Mikel who won the top prize of \$1000 for his 154.3 pound marlin aboard Miss Enpein, a boat with only a 15 horsepower engine.

The remaining top combined prizes for “biggest fish” went to people fishing aboard “big boats”.

Mary Tretnoff won \$800 for her 112.4 pound marlin.

Westcott Panuelo landed two large yellowfin tuna at 108.9 and 100.3 pounds earning him the third and fourth prizes for a total prize purse of \$1000.

Ryan Hawley also caught a large yellow fin at 96.6 pounds. His catch earned him \$300.

The remaining prizes were for largest of each species for each class of boat engine size.

For the smaller boat engine sizes, Wilfred Edmund landed the largest Yellowfin Tuna. At 28.7 pounds, his catch earned him \$200. The second largest yellowfin was 10.8 pounds, caught by Arnold Henry, earning him \$100.

Snyder Biza caught the only wahoo in the small boat category which gave him the top prize of \$200 for his catch.

For Barracuda, Kojack Sienes earned \$200 for his 17.6 pound catch, and junior angler Dave Spencer took second place for \$100 with his 10.1 pound barracuda. He also won top prize as a junior angler in the category for a 13.4 pound barracuda.

Wilfred Edmund caught a 14.1 pound skipjack tuna for the \$200 prize. Okai Johnson landed the second largest skipjack at 11.9



pounds for the second place \$100 prize.

The only top prize that Westcott Panuelo won was for the largest Yellowfin Tuna in the “big boat” category. His 88.4 pound yellowfin earned him yet another \$200, making him the largest cash winner of the tournament for a total of \$1200. He also had the honor of having his daughter place the winner’s lei around his neck, along with big hugs. Mark Johnny won the \$100 second prize for largest Yellowfin Tuna. His was 80.9 pounds.

Senator Ferny Perman won \$200 for his 26.9 pound Wahoo. Konrad



Englerberger won \$100 for his 15.4 pound wahoo. He also won another \$100 for his 15.4 pound Barracuda, edged out by first place female angler Melinda Sultan, who won \$200 for her 15.9 pound barracuda.

Opel Hallens caught the only Skipjack Tuna in the large boat category and won \$200 for his 18.5 pound fish.

The \$200 first prize for “lady angler” went to Arleen David for her 67.9 pound Yellowfin Tuna. The second prize of \$100 went to Mary Tretnoff for her 9.5 pound Barracuda.

Junior anglers were prominent at this tournament. Lochlon Andrews won the \$200 first prize for “Junior Angler” with his 21.6 pound Wahoo.

Dane Nighswander continues to build his college fund. The prolific junior angler won the \$100 second place prize for his 11.7 pound Barracuda.

No Mahi Mahi were caught during the epic National Fisheries Commission and Taiyo Micronesia Corporation tournament.

The club also has a rule of one prize per fish which meant that a fish that qualified for a prize in the top 1 to 5 category could not be the biggest fish in a species category.

The weather held up well for the tourney, and the awards ceremony took place at Mangrove Bay. All the winners were announced and received their prizes. As an added bonus, each boat that entered and came to the weigh in received a \$50.00 cash prize. There were a lot of happy fishermen, even if they had a bad fishing day.

Many thanks to Taiyo Micronesia and NFC for sponsoring this tournament. It was a lot of fun for all the participants.

Many thanks also to Bill, Tina, Cel, all of Kumer’s guys, and everyone who helped out.

The Club supports the Pohnpei Public Library, and Uta was there selling pulled pork sandwiches and hot dogs.

NFC Director Peter Sitan said that the National Fisheries Corporation and Taiyo Micronesia corporation hopes to sponsor an even bigger tournament next year.

The annual tournament for the Pohnpei Fishing Club is set for May 10 and 13, very close on the heels of the club’s largest tournament ever.

Dozens gather in the pre-dawn hours for ANZAC Day commemoration

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

April 25, 2017

Pohnpei—In the pre-dawn hours dozens of people gathered together at the Kangaroo Court, the Royal Australian Navy housing complex, to commemorate ANZAC Day.

The 25th of April, ANZAC Day, is one of Australia's and New Zealand's most important national commemorative events marking the anniversary of the first major military action involving Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. Around the world and in every city and town in Australia and New Zealand, commemoration services are held at dawn, the time of the original landing by the ANZAC's on the beaches of Gallipoli, Turkey in 1915. It is a day when all Australians and New Zealanders reflect on the sacrifices of so many.

Chief Petty Officer Johnny O'Keefe served as the Master of Ceremonies. Lt. Commander Luke Andrews gave the call to commemoration drawing attention to the hardships that service personnel endured as a result of conflict in the First World War, not just during the Gallipoli campaign, but on other battlefields as well. He described the fifteen values enshrined above the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier, and said that those values should not be lost in the defense of basic freedoms.

The Youth for Change choir performed and excellent rendition of "Abide With Me".

Australia's Charge d'Affaires, Eliza Woolcock spoke next. "Australians and New Zealanders had fought in battle before April 1915 but as part of another nation's forces. We commemorate this as ANZAC Day because it is the anniversary of the first time they fought under the flags of their own countries," she said.

"This is a day of remembrance for the fallen, and of the returned. The words 'we will remember them', and 'lest we forget', are always part of these services... While all wars are tragedies, we must not diminish the sacrifices of those who gave everything, who put their own lives at risk to protect others from the atrocity of further war. Harry Emerson Fosdick says, 'the tragedy of war is that it uses man's best, to do man's worst.'

"We do not glorify war, but we are

grateful for the willingness of service men and women to put their lives at risk for the good of others; to work together to protect values, and people, not only of their time, but also for future generations unknown to them," she said.

After he speech, representatives of several nations participated in the laying of wreaths at the ANZAC shrine.

LCDR Andrews' daughter Charlize read the Ode to the Fallen after which the Last Post was sounded as national flags were lowered to half-mast by Lachlan Andrews and Brayden O'Keefe with the assistance of their fathers.

The gathered crowd participated in one minute of silence after which Reveille was sounded while the national flags were raised to mast head.

The national anthems of New Zealand and Australia were played.

After the solemn ceremony, a traditional, hearty "Gun Fire Breakfast" was served on the compound.



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...World Tuna Day

Continued from front page

corporate and government donors provided substantial financial support (please see the thank you announcement in this issue for a complete list.) In conjunction with the World Tuna Day festivities, Taiyo Micronesia Corporation and the National Fisheries Corporation sponsored a “World

Tuna Day Fishing Tournament”. It was the largest ever fishing tournament the Pohnpei Fishing Club had ever had as anglers lined up for a potential share of the \$10,000 in cash prizes that were up for grabs. That tournament is thoroughly covered in this issue as well.

Set up in tents in the Spanish Wall Park were several food vendors, activities for children run by various organizations, photo booths and a variety of other activities

and vendors. ECE, and the Pohnpei Department of Education had a booth, as did NFC, Luen Thai, NORMA, Vital, FSM Telecommunication Corporation, Conservation Society of Pohnpei, MCC, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, and the International Organization for Migration among others.

During the formal portion of the day’s festivities, Matthew Chigiya Deputy Director of NORMA read President Christian’s proclamation declaring May 2, to be World Tuna Day in the FSM.

Vice President George spoke of the importance of tuna to the FSM.

Ludwig Kumoru, PNA CEO also spoke of the importance of tuna to the PNA nations and presented some eye opening statistics. “In 2015, the total global tuna catch was around 4.8 million tons. This was worth some \$14 billion USD—delivered market value. The total tuna catch from the Western Central Pacific, mainly from waters of the PNA was 2.7 million tons, just more than half the world’s catch at 56%, worth \$8.4 billion USD—delivered market value,” he said. “Catch from FSM waters was 133,195 tons in 2015, about 3 percent of the global catch and worth approximately \$420 million USD—delivered market value.

“What the PNA as a whole is getting for allowing fishing in its waters is currently about \$500 million per year, FSM about \$60 million of that. This is a lot of money, but yet only a fraction of the value of our tuna. The \$500 million and \$60 million is, however, a big increase from seven years ago when the whole of PNA was receiving only \$60 million and FSM less than \$20 million. PNA will continue to look at ways of increasing the returns back to our countries,” he said.

The PNA, as a bloc established the vessel day scheme that has helped to revolutionize the economic returns to the PNA member nations on the whole and individually. That scheme has applied only to purse seiners, but PNA has for quite some time, been discussing the potential of also applying that scheme to long lining vessels and continues to work on that possibility.

“The importance of tuna, be it scientific, social, economic, or political cannot be emphasized enough...with the oceans is the political and economic blood line that connects, binds, and breathes economic life to our countries, especially PNA, and that is tuna,” he concluded.

After his speech, Richard and Raychel Narruhn, winners of the PNA Art and Talent contest (see article in this issue) taught the audience a song that NORMA had commissioned for the event entitled,

“Keido”, a catchy tune that is easy to remember for Pohnpeian speakers. They also performed their award winning song for the audience.

Lien Mwoakillio also won the community prize in the PNA Art and Talent contest. Some of the ladies of that group performed the award winning dance on the stage during the Festival.

A raffle was also held throughout the event with T-shirts and other prizes going to the winners.

During the day, several contests were held with several levels of cash prizes available to the winners.

For T-Shirt design the winners were Trisden Elias, David Segal, and Jermis Noket in that order.

A very popular contest was the Island Food Community of Pohnpei Tuna Recipe contest with tastings available. In the category of “Cuisine”, the winners were Thomas Inatio with an elegant Poached Tuna Belly dish. Second was Elna Julios for a Fish Piaia. In the category of “Preserved Snack” the winners were Thomas Inatio for his homemade sandwich. Second was Okai Johnson for “dried salt fish”. In the category of “Main Dish”, April Naranja won top prize for “Pineapple Tuna”. Second place was Thomas Inatio who won at least one prize in each category for his “Pohnpei Pepper Steak”. In third place was Jemara Booth for “Jem’s Tuna”. For “Appetizers”, Mark Johnny won for Tuna Poke followed by Thomas Inatio for “Kokoda”. In the category of “School Lunch”, Emihner Johnson won for Tuna Pele followed by Thomas Inatio for “Fish Tropical”.

CSP also coordinated some contests. The winners for their drawing contest were Grace Aldis, T-Sean John, Nora Amor, Jay Two Eliou, and Jeanay Darra in that order. For their High School competition were PICS High School, Madolenihmw High School, Calvary Christian Academy, and Our Lady of Mercy Christian High School in that order. The winners for the urohs or local skirt contest from first to last were Saioleen Santos, Mary Olpet, Alrynne Ardos, Jessical Wolphagen, and Ashlany Panuel.

The local skirts were auctioned off at the end of the celebration raising \$850 which went to six ECE schools as had been previously agreed.

Organizers were extremely pleased with the success of the event and are now asking themselves how they can possibly top it next year. They say they don’t yet know but they are going to try.



Raychel and Richard Narruhn, winners of the PNA World Tuna Day Art and Talent Quest

Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report and Audit for the Trust Fund for the FSM

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 14, 2017)

– The Trust Fund Committee of the Trust Fund for the People of the Federated States of Micronesia (the Fund) approved the Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) Annual Report on April 1st. The FY16 Audited Financial Statements were completed by the independent auditor, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, on March 27th and presented to the Committee on April 12th. Both reports were released to the respective governments.

The Fund’s restricted fiduciary net position value increased 17.5% to \$466,938,730 for FY16 from

\$397,313,588 for FY15. The increase was primarily due to contributions from the United States government (\$28,288,800) and gross investment income from investments (\$42,148,280). There was a net investment gain of \$41,519,302.

The Fund had a weighted annual rate of return of 9.71%, following a loss of 2.59% for FY15 and three consecutive growth years: 9.1% for FY14, 14.4% for FY13, and 15.9% for FY12. Overall, on a performance basis, net of fees, the Fund has had a 4.96% return since inception, below the benchmark of 5.40%.

Total investment and administrative expenses decreased to 0.81% of restricted

fiduciary net position in FY16 from 0.88% in FY15. Investment expenses increased in dollar value but decreased to 0.77% of restricted fiduciary net position from 0.81% in FY15. Administrative expenses decreased in dollar value and as a percent of restricted fiduciary net position to 0.04% from 0.07%.

The FY16 audit performed by Baker Tilly was completed on time and according to U.S Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. There were no audit findings.

The Trust Fund for the People of the Federated States of Micronesia was established by the Compact of Free Association, as Amended, as codified in the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (U.S. Public Law 108-188, December 17, 2003). The Trust Fund’s purpose is to contribute to the economic advancement and long-term budgetary self-reliance of the FSM by providing a source of revenue for the government and the people of the Federated States of Micronesia when certain grants under the Amended Compact of Free Association expire in 2023.

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FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs Receives 75 ICT kits from JICA

JICA has donated the 1st batch of 75 Immuno-Chromatographic Test (ICT) kits and additional consumable medical supplies to support the Pacific Program to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (PacELF) in the Federated States of Micronesia. On April 13th, 2017, staff from National Environmental Health and Food Safety Unit and Immunization Program along with JICA staff received and inspected the ICT Filariasis Rapid Assessment kit and ensured its proper storage. These kits will be delivered and utilized in certain states in the FSM along with its neighboring islands based upon needs assessment survey conducted in previous years. The 2nd batch of 75 ICT kits is expected to arrive in Pohnpei on or around the month of September, 2017.

Technical Cooperation Project, JICA has been donating ICT kits to the FSM in support of ending the spread of this infection. JICA recognizes the health sector as a priority issue in the FSM and will continue to provide support and cooperation in this area. According to Mr. Shinji SHIBATA, Resident Representative of JICA Micronesia Office, "We hope these kits will contribute to the complete elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis in the FSM."



L-R Mr. Roland Irons from Dept. of Health, Mr. Shinji SHIBATA, JICA Resident Rep, and Mr. Noriaki Murao, JICA Senior Volunteer

In 1999, under the umbrella of the global Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) elimination program, PacELF was launched by World Health Organization (WHO) to eliminate LF in the Pacific by the year 2020. Since 2001, under Japan's

...Susaia

Continued from page 3

serving in the United States military.

From the destruction and wretchedness of the Second World War, it was almost inevitable that the United States became our prime tutor in the arts of modern governance and the promises and practices of democratic life. We are grateful to the United States for graduating us from the tutorship into a unique partnership that continues, in a new setting or context, to facilitate maximum cooperation in handful areas of joint ventures.

Indeed, the United States has an indelible legacy in our islands. We have come to admire the American know-how and bold drive for excellence. Although we were slow to embracing it, we are now fully committed to the proposition that self-government and the development of the private sector must go hand in hand - and be scrupulously and jealously maintained if Democracy must be kept alive for the cross-sections of our society to enjoy.

Mr. President,

While we have accepted the self-evident principle that the private sector shall be the primary engine of development for our society, we should periodically run the reality check in our Compact partnership as the premier framework for my country's development. Just as important, we must be honest to ourselves - in admitting that

the basic infrastructures in the Federated States of Micronesia need upgrading. It is our hope that we are not mistaken in looking to the American ingenuity and proven record of entrepreneurship for guidance and

support in the development and advancement of our public infrastructures upon which we pin high hopes.

Prior to leaving the Federated States of Micronesia to come to America to take up my assignment, the leaders of my country missed not a beat to remind me about the historic affinities that we have with the American people and to seek help in improving our mutually beneficial relationship. Inevitably, in the course of our exchanges as friends, there will be, as there have been, discrepancies in views and understandings.

But we have been friends. For its part, the Federated States of Micronesia has stood with the United States, even when others preferred taking leave. We must not lose sight of this fact as we summon the courage and foresight to rise to the challenges that may stand from time to time in our relationship. It is not in the American spirit, nor in the Micronesian blood, to retreat when there is a great moral task to be done.

Thank you again for the confidence you have expressed through your acceptance of my credentials. I am prepared to do my part in advancing the shared goals and values of our two countries. With the help and generosity of the United States, I know I cannot fail but succeed.

Pohnpei Port Authority is soliciting proposals from any Individual or Businesses who are interested in leasing one-unit concessioner space inside the airport secured departure terminal. The size is 223.93 square feet.

All interested individual/parties interested in leasing this concession space area should submit their interest proposals starting on May 03, 2017 and closing on May 24, 2017 no later than 5:00pm.

Pohnpei Port Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received in connection with the above subject advertisement.

Additional information regarding this proposal can always be obtained from the Pohnpei Port Authority Marketing Division at Dekehtik, Pohnpei State, Federated State of Micronesia or by contacting phone no: (691)-320-1793/2682, email 1485sano1957@gmail.com or by contacting us on our website: www.ppa.fm.

POHNPEI PORT AUTHORITY
200 Airport Road
P.O. Box 1150, Kolonia, Pohnpei
Federated States of Micronesia 96941
Telephone: +691 320 2793
Fax: +691 320 2832
Website: www.ppa.fm



ANNOUNCEMENT:

Pohnpei Port Authority is soliciting to the general public that Pohnpei Port Authority is soliciting bid proposals for leasing 1 unit building located at the east side of Pohnpei international airport terminal building formerly used by Penta Oceania Construction Company.

- 1. Building size is 20' X 90' or 1,800 square feet.

All interest individual/companies may submit their interest proposal to the attention of Pohnpei Port Authority's General Manager Mr. Nelperson Etse email address netse@mail.fm with the following requirements.

- 1. Purpose usage of the facility.
2. Term of the lease.

All proposals shall be accepted from May 03, 2017 to May 26, 2017 no later than 5:00pam on 05/26, 2017.

Pohnpei Port Authority reserves the right to reject any proposal received in connection with the above solicitation.

For more information please feel free and contact the PPA Marketing Division Mr. Luciano Abraham email address 1485sano1957@gmail.com, website: www.ppa.fm or by contacting our phone number 691-320-2793/2682.

Opening of the

20th CONGRESS

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA



Thursday ~ May 11th, 2017 @ 10am
Congress Chamber
FSM Government Complex | Palikir, Pohnpei



RE-ANNOUNCEMENT New Deadline of May 19, 2017



REQUEST FOR 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 Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) Officer based in Pohnpei, FSM.

General Scope of Work.

- Coordinate Catch Documentation Scheme in the FSM, including but not limited to catch certification, mass balance reconciliation and traceability, monitoring of tuna transshipment and related port activities.
- Coordinate with industry agents on status of catch documentation for certification purposes and ensuring documents are in an acceptable filing system and transactions recorded in spreadsheet/database.
- Assist with the development and implementation of CDS policy and standard recommendations and a Competent Authority (CA) addressing Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- Assist with further development of the relevant software systems to meet FSM NORMA's CDS needs
- Establish and implement operating procedures for management of CA-IUU and CDS in the FSM
- Attend and assist with ongoing trainings and workshops related to CDS in the FSM
- Provide relevant MCS support needed to ensure compliance
- Collaborate and coordinate with National Food Safety Program on CA implementation
- Minimum Qualifications and Short-listing Criteria
- Bachelors degree from a recognized institution in Marine Science, Fisheries Management, Economics, Project Management, Public Administration, International Relations or other relevant degree
- Minimum of four (4) years relevant experience
- Competency in the use of typical computer applications, particularly MS Office,

Excel and databases

- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Experience in project management
- Available to work outside conventional office hours
- Additional Desirable Qualifications
- Familiarity with seaport activities
- Highly dependable and motivated self starter who can work with minimal supervision
- Strong leadership and problem-solving skills with personal integrity and professionalism
- Ability to learn quickly, organized and detail-oriented
- Team oriented with excellent interpersonal skills
- Remuneration
- Salary is based on Local Market Payscale from \$16,000 to \$20,000 annually depend on qualifications.
- This will be a 2-year full-time position under contract with FSM NORMA subject to renewal based on performance.

Application

Submit electronic and/or hard copies of the following by : MAY 19, 2017

- a) Letter of Interest;
- b) CV or resumé;
- c) Copy of relevant Degrees/Certificates; and
- d) three (3) reference letters to NORMA

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, P.O Box PS-122, Pohnpei, FM 96941, Office Telephone: 691-320-2700/5181 Email okean.ehmes@norma.fm. Copy to moria.joseph@norma.fm.



65th Commencement Exercises

"There is more beyond the reef"

Thursday May 11, 2017

FSM-China Friendship Sports Center

Palikir, Pohnpei

Commencement Speaker

Yolanda Joab Mori

Senior Program
Assistant - CADRE,
International
Organization for
Migration, and COM-
FSM Alumna, fall 2010

Alumni are invited to march and participate in the exercises. Alumni wishing to participate will have to provide their own caps and gowns. Please RSVP at email address rsvp@comfsm.fm.

You are cordially invited

National Campus

P.O. Box 159

Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941

Phone: (691)320-2480

Fax: (691)320-2479

E-Mail: national@comfsm.fm

Chuuk Campus

P.O. Box 879

Chuuk, FM 96942

Phone: (691)330-2689

Fax: (691)330-2740

E-Mail: chuuk@comfsm.fm

FSM-FMI

P.O. Box 1056

Colonia Yap, FM 96943

Phone: (691)350-5244

Fax: (691)350-5245

E-Mail: fmi@comfsm.fm

Kosrae Campus

P.O. Box 37

Tofol Kosrae, FM 96944

Phone: (691)370-3191

Fax: (691)370-3193

E-Mail: kosrae@comfsm.fm

Pohnpei Campus

P.O. Box 614

Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941

Phone: (691)320-3795

Fax: (691)320-3799

E-Mail: pohnpei@comfsm.fm

Yap Campus

P.O. Box 286

Colonia Yap, FM 96943

Phone: (691)350-2296/5149

Fax: (691)350-5150

E-Mail: yap@comfsm.fm

**Registration for Summer 2017 begins Thursday
May 25, 2017. Summer Session begins May 29, 2017.**

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...FSM top prize

Continued from front page

traditions,” the PNA Facebook page says.

Madolenihmw brother and sister duet, Richard and Raychel Narruhn took the top prize of \$3000 USD for their original song “We Call Out to the World”. It was not only the first time in the competition’s five year history that a musician had won the contest but also the first time that the contest was won by family members.

“Everything we do is not for us. It is for the glory of Jesus Christ our Savior,” Richard said.

Raychel said that she has been singing with her older brother since they were children. They sing church songs and what they called “life” songs that they write together. They always work on their songs together.

They said they wrote the winning song in less than an hour, but that’s because they have been writing songs together for several years. “A lot! We’ve written a lot of songs together, you know sometimes just about the way we are feeling at the time,” Richard said.

“Our dad has been a fisherman his whole life. He works for NORMA (National Oceanic Resource Management Authority) and he’s very familiar with ocean fish,” Richard said. “But actually, we don’t really know much about fish or oceans but our Dad gave us the knowledge of fish and oceans, and things like that. He gave us ideas for our song and then we wrote it.”

“What I like about the song is that it is a callout to all the nations to work together as one. It’s main focus is that we couldn’t have done anything without your help, and you won’t have done any better without our help,” Richard said. “We have to protect what we have. We have to prevent it from becoming extinct.”

Both Richard and Raychel are students. After graduation from the prestigious Xavier High School in Chuuk, Raychel enrolled at the College of Micronesia FSM. With a smile, Richard said that he graduated from a little bit better High School, Madolenihmw High School. He said he is now studying for the ministry with Every Home for Christ where both Richard and Raychel attend church.

We asked them if they were surprised that they won the contest. “We were expecting to win,” Richard said confidently. “I mean, would a runner spend his time knowing that he will lose? If we lose, well okay, but we were expecting to win.”

Those words were probably easier to say since they had had a night to think about it since we notified them that they had won the prize. At that time, they seemed to be in shock.

Emihner Johnson of Lien Mwoakilloa received the word yesterday afternoon.

Her first response was, “Why not \$3000! Cause we’re aiming to win,” she said with an infectious laugh. “Oh, the group will be so excited. I’m not going to tell them until tomorrow.”

“We went to Ahnd (pronounced “ant”, it is an atoll island 20 miles from Pohnpei’s main island) and video taped it. She said that traditional leader Rosa Willy Hawley donated the women’s ride to Ahnd even though the usual fee for the boat to take passengers to Ahnd is \$750. He told them that the ladies are his origin group and so charged them nothing for their project.

“The project was special for us because we want to advertise and explain our life style,” she said.

Runners Up Prizes of \$500 were awarded to Darryl Megiarni from Papua New Guinea for his poem “How Many?” and Lloyd Newton from Solomon Islands for his painting “How people see tuna”.

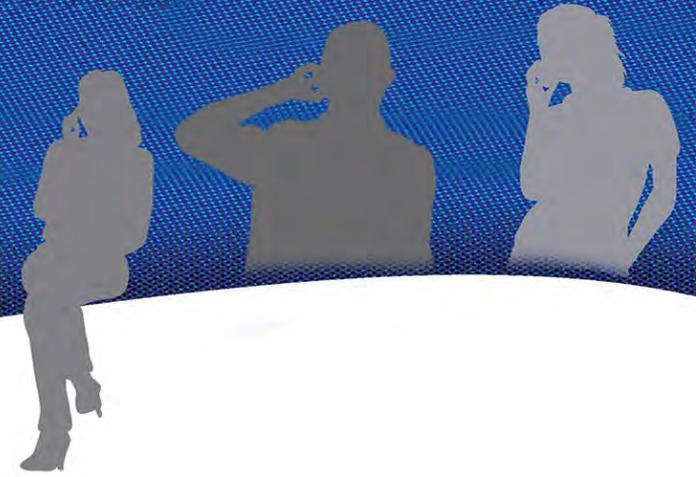
FSM NORMA would like to thank the following major sponsors, in-kind donors and partners for their wonderful assistance in making this year’s World Tuna Day event a success

World Bank/Pacific Regional
Oceanscape Program
FSM National Government
FSM National Offshore Fisheries
Association
Parties to the Nauru Agreement
FSM Vital Petrocorp
Secretariat of the Pacific Community
FSM Telecommunications
Pohnpei Port Authority
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
Kolonia Town Government
Pohnpei State Government, including the Pohnpei
Departments of Education, Health Services &
Public Safety
ECE Centers (students, parents, faculty and staff)
of Wenik, Sapwalap, Wone, Pehleng and ESDM
Micronesia Conservation Trust
Micronesian Conservation Coalition
Conservation Society of Pohnpei



Island Food Community of Pohnpei
IOM-Micronesia
Micronesia Resource & Research Institute
Mr. & Mrs. Ricky Carl
Ms. Yuko Nakasone
Ms. Megumi Oda
Kings Media Zone
Mr. Richard & Miss Raychel Narruhn
Etscheit’s Enterprises
Forum Fisheries Agency
Kaselehlie Press
V6AH Radio
Paradise Radio FM
LP Gas
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All the hard-working volunteers
And all the people who joined us
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PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM
40th Anniversary 1971-2011

TEAM LEADER INFORMATION SERVICES

About the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat:

The Pacific Islands Forum was founded in August 1971 and currently comprises 16 independent and self-governing states in the Pacific. Forum Leaders meet annually to develop collective responses to regional issues.

The Forum's administrative arm is the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, based in Suva, Fiji. It acts as the Secretariat for Forum-related events, implements decisions by the Leaders, facilitates the delivery of development assistance to member states, and undertakes the political and legal mandates of Forum meetings. The Forum Secretariat is also mandated to coordinate the implementation of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism.

The Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer

About the Opportunity:

An exciting opportunity exists for a Team Leader Information Services to join the Secretariat. This job exists to lead and manage the Information Services Section which includes Information Communication and Technology (ICT) and Library Services and to provide these information services to the Forum Secretariat, Members, and other CROP agencies. Responsibilities will include (but not limited to):

- Provision of IT Infrastructure;
- Provision of IT & Telecommunications Support;
- Information Management;
- Technical Services Management;
- Information Technology Integration;
- Information Technology Planning;
- External Provider contract management;
- Team Performance and Leadership; and
- Team Financial Performance.

Applicants should have a first degree in Information Technology and at least five years' experience in an Information Technology Leadership role and also leading a range of IT areas like; Users and user equipment, Systems, Network, Security and applications. Candidates should also have experience at a senior level in Information Technology Management with excellent leadership skills and experience in leading and managing a team.

About the Benefits:

The appointment carries a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The starting salary will be in the range of SDR34,537 to SDR38,854 per annum. At the 1 April 2017 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD96,769 to FJD108,865. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free.

To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of one of the following Forum member countries*. Applicants must be willing to travel periodically via economy class.

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply through our website: www.forumsec.org where an information package containing the job description and remuneration details is also available. Candidates must include in either their application or Curriculum Vitae the full contact details of three referees.

Deadline for applications is at 5pm (Fiji time), 19 May 2017.

* Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Endorsement of the Weloy Forest Stewardship Plan

The Weloy municipal chief, James Manguon, along with his council men (traditional village's chiefs) convened in Ramaan, Okaw in Yap on April 13, 2017 to sign and endorse their Forest Stewardship Plan. This is the first Forest Stewardship Plan developed in Yap State counting towards the Micronesia Challenge terrestrial measure goal. This planning document will serve as initial guidance for the Weloy municipality in their efforts towards their natural resource and community management actions. This will be a living document that the community will update in 2020. Within the initial 3 years, the community targets to implement activities to achieve 2 goals identified in the plan: (1) Conservation and effective management of natural and other significant resources within the Weloy Forest Stewardship focus area.



(2) Foster good stewardship awareness and education campaign for Weloy.

This community effort was made possible with the financial assistance provided by Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), USDA-Forest Services, and technical assistance by the local partners, Yap Community Action Program, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Yap State Division of Agriculture, Micronesia Challenge Regional Coordinator and Yap Institute of Natural Science.

Congress to convene new 20th Body

PALIKIR, POHNPEI – May 05, 2017.

The Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia will convene on May 11, 2017, in Palikir to seat the recently elected two-year representatives of the states to the Nation's twentieth congressional body.

According to the recent elections in March 2017, the following elected two-year Senators will be seated to represent their states in the 20th Congress. Representing the municipalities and regions in the State of Chuuk are:

1. Florencio Singkoro Harper, to represent Congressional Election District (ED)-One, comprised of the Mortlocks Islands;
2. Victor Gouland, for Congressional ED-Two, comprised of Weno and Northern Namoneas;
3. Derensio S. Konman, to represent Congressional ED-Three made up of the Tonoas, Uman, Fefan, Parem and Tsis of;
4. Tiwiter Aritos, for Congressional ED-Four or also known as the Faichuuk Region; and
5. Robson Romolow, as representative of Congressional ED-Five also known as the Halls and Western Islands, and Namonuito.

Two year representatives from the State of Pohnpei are:

1. Ferny S. Perman, for Congressional ED-One comprised of Kolonia,

Sokehs, Sapwuahfik, Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi;

2. Dion G. Neth, for Congressional ED-Two made up of Madolenihmw and Kitti; and

3. Esmond B. Moses, for Congressional ED-Three comprised of U, Nett, Mwoakilloa and Pingelap.

Paliknoa K. Welly from the State of Kosrae and Isaac V. Figir of the State of Yap are the two-year representatives of their respective states to the new congressional body.

Also to be seated to the 20th Congress are the At-large or four-year representatives of the states and they are:

1. Wesley W. Simina from Chuuk;
2. Alik L. Alik from Kosrae;
3. David W. Panuelo from Pohnpei; and
4. Joseph J. Urusemal Yap.

The general public is invited to witness the Opening Session of the new Twentieth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia in Palikir at 10am on Thursday - May 11, 2017. Through the services of the FSM Telecommunications Corporations and the assistances of the Pohnpei Public Broadcasting Corporation, the event will be streamed live from Palikir through the state radios.

Kitti Municipal Locally Managed Marine Area

On Tuesday, May 2nd, a short signing ceremony took place on the island of Peniou, Kitti Municipality, for the adoption and endorsement of the Kitti Municipal Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) Coastal Fisheries Management Plan. This plan will

serve as a critical step in guiding the development of the local government's coastal resources. The endorsed document contains actions that address fisheries management priorities identified through consultation conducted with the Local Government

Representatives. The plan also supports development objectives intended to maintain a more sustainable and productive coastal environment. Attendees of the official endorsement ceremony were the Soukisoahloang Nahnmwarki of Kitti (Kitti Paramount Chief) Nahnalek Kitti, Luhkenmoanlap (Mayor of Kitti) Tonio Sarapio with staff of Kitti Municipal Government, Speaker of Kitti Isokohnedi (Kitti Council) Sother Anthon, Chairman of Kitti Delegation, Pohnpei State Legislature Senator McGarry Miguel, community members from Enipein, Partnering NGO's from The Micronesian Conservation Trust, RARE Micronesia, donor representatives from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Conservation Society of Pohnpei.

The Kitti Municipal Government decided to develop this Plan two years ago as the first of its kind for Pohnpei

was delayed with some of the contents were more terrestrial based according to technical assistant consultations. CSP continued over the course of the previous year with consultations with the Kitti Municipal reps as part of its effort to move towards more sustainable fisheries based approaches for the Municipality. The Kitti Fisheries Management Plan focuses on strengthening local fishery and marine environment regulations, developing local government capacity, sharing management responsibilities creating management measures that will outline the reinforcement of management categories to supplement existing management efforts. Development of this plan will compliment several ongoing state national and regional policies and efforts. The FSM National Oceanic Resources Management Agency (NORMA) and the FSM R&D have received funding from the World Bank PROPFish to develop a national coastal fisheries management plan. The Kitti Municipal Government will be sharing their fisheries plan with officials in NORMA and FSM R&D with the intent that their plan will feed into and inform the national plan. In addition, the plan will also support the efforts of Pohnpei State to develop the States fisheries management plan.

Implementation of this plan will help the local communities, Pohnpei State and the FSM meet their effort own sustainable fisheries efforts, and consequently, will help the nation meet their regional and international commitments. FSM, as part of the Pacific Island Forum, agreed to make management of coastal fisheries as one of the top priorities for the nation and the region. Additionally, the implementation of this plan will help the FSM come closer to meeting its commitments to the UN convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals specifically SDG 14, which calls for the conservation and sustainable use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

During the event, commitments were made to provide assistance in the implementation the plan and copies will be provided for all supporting stakeholders to carry out their partake during implementation of activities. The People of Kitti and assisting partners hope that this effort can be scaled up to other Municipalities around Pohnpei and across the country/region. Copies of the plan will be made available by the Kitti Municipal Government or the Conservation Society of Pohnpei.



Pohnpei Public Library 30 year anniversary and Library Week

This year Pohnpei Public Library celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a "Library Week," from Monday, April 24 to Friday, April 28. The theme for this year's celebration was "Libraries Transform". Two Organizations took part during the week to share some of their promotional program. On April 25, Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) did a presentation on the importance of our local food. On April 27, International Organization of Migration (IOM) shared how to prepare for emergency kit for disaster. In addition, snacks and prizes were provided to participants on these events.

On Friday evening, the library held a special celebration to commemorate the anniversary and to recognize essay and art contest winners. This event began with a prayer by Wahnporon Bruce Robert. Friends of the Pohnpei Public Library (FPPL) President, Rufino Mauricio PhD, who is also the Director of FSM National Archives gave a welcoming remarks. This year, library was fortunate to have Emelilhter Kihleng, PhD, Cultural Anthropologist for the Pohnpei State Historic Preservation Program, to be the Keynote Speaker of the evening. On her speech, she shared her story throughout her childhood and how books had transformed her. She shared some books that she read and suggested everyone to read. She also shared a poem she recently wrote.

The program ended with the presentations of awards to the students who were

selected as winners for the art and essay contest. Art winners were Ariel Alosima, K-5 SDA School; Mickvay Adalfred, ECE, Saladak School; Mark Ekiek, 1st grade, Nett School; Hanika Robert, 2nd grade, Lukop School; Angie Selestine, 2nd grade, Awak School; Maythan Epina, 3rd grade, Nett School; Krysha Mallari, 3rd grade, CCA School; Marlo Pelep Joseph, 4th grade, Nett School; and Josephine Helgenberger, 4th grade, Nett School;

Essay winners were Lana Lucios, 5th grade, Nett School; Keisha Marie Daynard, 5th grade, Nett School; Remanuel Narruhn, 6th grade, Sapwalap School; Chloe Antera Donre, 6th grade, Saladak School; Francine Joseph, 7th grade, Nett School; Quincy Letisha Mae Gomez, 7th grade, Nett School; Meranda Susaia, 8th grade, Ohmine School; Al-Wis Falcam, 9th grade, OLMCHS; Anntashia Rettin, 10th grade, OLMCHS; Alliyah Roma Tecson, 11th grade, SDA; and Tyler Nanpei, 12th grade, OLMCHS.

Pohnpei Public Library wants to express



its gratitude to the following businesses, individuals and agencies for their contributions and support that made this Library Week successful one. Sponsors include Ms. Lou Ann Garvey, Mr. Jack Steiner, Governor's Office, Etscheit's Enterprises, Ace Hardware, Ace Office Supplies, Kaselehlie Diner, China Star, Movie Land, Scooby's, FSM Telecom, Bank of FSM, Joy Hotel, Pohnpei Hardware, Black Store, 4-TY Enterprises, International Organization of Migration and Island Food Community of Pohnpei.

Network of partners help fund medical treatment for 2 youth

MAHI INTERNATIONAL

Living on a little island in the middle of the Pacific where there is no specialty doctor to attend to your life-threatening condition can bring anyone to a point of defeat and hopelessness. Especially if there are budget cuts for off-island medical referral cases. Especially if your family has zero health insurance, and minimum wage is painfully at \$1.75 an hour. Defeat. Hopelessness. Such was Juntwo's case not so long ago.

For more than 10 years, Juntwo struggled with a debilitating kidney condition. With each passing year, it became more difficult for Juntwo to function normally due to the increasing, painful attacks. Eventually her condition got so severe that she was unable to attend school and she became very weak. In late 2016, the hospital diagnosed Juntwo and recommended off-island medical referral because there is no urologist in Pohnpei who can provide the life-saving surgery she needed. MAHI International learned of Juntwo's situation and wanted to help. She became MAHI International's first medical referral to the U.S.

Then there is Precious. Like other young children at 6 years of age, she is spirited and full of life. However, she was born with a cleft lip/palate that was disabling. Because of this condition, Precious constantly suffered from sinus/ear infections and found it increasingly difficult to perform the daily functions of life like eating and speaking. It was her prayer to get "a new face." Through our partners at St. Helena Hospital, Dr. Steven Herber performed reconstructive plastic surgery on Precious' face last month. Today, Precious is recovering very quickly and will be returning home to Pohnpei this week.

Because of cases like Juntwo and Precious, MAHI International, an NGO committed to provide medical assistance and development in the FSM, has launched a new program which focuses on uninsured, pediatric patients in need of medical referral for specialty treatment. Since the budget cuts for off-island medical referral, many individuals who require referral treatment have been sent home without a solution or any hope. MAHI International

is committed to assist these qualifying children in need of specialty health care.

How it works:

MAHI International works closely with the Pohnpei State Hospital and its physicians to find qualifying patients for referral. Once we have established the need, MAHI International's network of healthcare partners in the U.S. will review pre-screened patients for potential treatment. If we find a patient and hospital match, MAHI International will begin coordinating the logistics needed; this includes flights, housing, food, and transportation for both the patient and a caregiver. We look for any and all possible ways to sponsor each case; sometimes it is covered by the sponsoring hospital, MAHI International, the patient and family, local community members and leaders, and individuals and organizations from the U.S. Once all the details have been confirmed, the patient will be sent off-island for treatment.

MAHI International has been developing a network of healthcare partners from across the U.S. including New Jersey, Colorado, Florida, California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii. Our goal is two-fold: 1) to bring specialty clinics to the FSM through medical outreach teams, and 2) to provide a medical referral program for cases that are either too urgent or complex to have procedures done in the FSM.

Today, both Juntwo and Precious have the opportunity of a new life. They are both healthy and healing well, all thanks to their supportive family, and a compassionate and generous network of partners.



Precious' transformation was made possible by Dr. Herber (pictured) and the staff at St. Helena Hospital (St. Helena, CA), North Hills Church (Claremont, CA), Pacific Union College Missions (Angwin, CA), and Precious' local family and friends. Approximate cost of surgery: \$30,000



Juntwo's surgery was made possible by Dr. Csiszar (pictured) and the rest of the team at Hanford Medical Center (Hanford, CA), Australia ambassador George Fraser, Dr. Michael Lepert, and Dr. Don Cornforth. Approximate cost of surgery: \$90,000

New JICA Volunteers dispatched to Pohnpei and Kosrae

On March 30th FSM Department of Foreign Affairs welcomed 2 new JICA Volunteers to the Federated States of Micronesia. For more than twenty-eight years, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been dispatching volunteers to the FSM, assisting priority sectors in Education, Health, Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism and other fields.

The new Senior Volunteer dispatched to Pohnpei, FSM National Olympic Committee (NOC) is Mr. Takahashi Akifumi who will be assisting with Swimming for Pohnpei and the swimmers in order to attend Japan Olympic Games in 2020. The new JOCV Mr. Noguchi Gen will be dispatched to Kosrae and is assigned to Utwe Elementary School to teach Mathematics.

Currently, 13 volunteers; 8 Senior Volunteers (SV) and 5 JOCVs (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer), are serving in the FSM including the new volunteers. Most of them will serve two years in their respective posts. The aim of the volunteer program is to develop a better life for the local people and community.



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Pasifika Renaissance Shares over 200 Narrative Videos of Pohnpei State on YouTube

Dr. Takuya Nagaoka (Executive Director, NGO Pasifika Renaissance)

Pasifika Renaissance was established in September 2014 in Japan as an NGO, with a mission to preserve and promote cultural and historical heritage in the Pacific Islands. We aim to revitalize traditional culture and empower local communities. We work in three main fields: documenting, researching, and teaching about traditional cultures and cultural heritage; providing technical assistance to relevant agencies and organizations; and promoting tourism. You can find out more at our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PasifikaRenaissance/>), where we post cultural and historical information such as historical photos and educational materials and share updates on our organization's activities.

We are currently engaged in a major project to document oral tradition in Pohnpei State. Many older Micronesians have fond childhood memories of listening to stories told by elderly relatives before bed. This practice, however, has been largely lost in Pohnpei due to the spread of new media such as videos and games and the decline of the younger generation's interest in traditional culture.

In order to document stories from knowledgeable elders and pass them down to younger generations, Pasifika Renaissance began filming those stories in 2015 sharing the videos on our YouTube channel with kind permission from the FSM Office of National Archives, Culture and Historic Preservation. This method of documenting and sharing traditional knowledge through online media is rare in the Pacific Islands. However, we believe that it has a great potential for future applications due to the relative ease of use and the Internet's global reach. Our project has been welcomed and supported by traditional chiefs, elders and other community members, who share our concern that traditional knowledge could be lost.

We are very happy to announce that we have now uploaded more than 200 narrative videos on our YouTube channel (<https://goo.gl/U5HrjL>). These stories include legends, traditional tales, historical events, customs, chants and songs from Pohnpei (9 videos), Pingelap (69), Mwoakilloa (11), Sapwuahfik (60), Nukuoro (25), and Kapingamarangi (24), as well as two island groups of Chuuk State: the Mortlock Islands (10) and Namonuito (7). Soon, we hope to add more videos from Pohnpei, where we began our work just this year in collaboration with the Division of Historic Preservation and Cultural Affairs, Pohnpei State Department of Land.

Our YouTube channel has attracted over 150,000 views. Of these views, 78.5% are from United States, where one third of FSM citizens now reside. 12% of our views come from within the FSM. Our YouTube channel has now reached 1,250 views per day, which we believe suggests a keep interest in these stories.

We would like to thank our storytellers and others who have supported this project, as well as generous donors such as the KDDI Foundation in Japan. We hope by watching these videos, people can continue to pass on these stories to their children and younger relatives.

If you would like to contribute stories or know someone who is willing to share stories with us, please contact us at pasifika.renaissance@gmail.com or by phoning the above Division (320-2652). If you have a knowledgeable elderly relative or friend staying overseas and have the ability to record his/her story via cellphone, tablet or digital camera, please let us know. Please follow us on Facebook and our YouTube channel to receive updates as this project develops.

We plan to extend this project to other states in the FSM and other Pacific regions in the near future, and hope to collaborate with researchers, government agencies, NGOs, and community members. Please get in touch, and let us know how you can help spread this "renaissance" movement!



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Deadline for submissions is July 1, 2017.

Awards will be announced no later than August 11, 2017.

All applications or queries should be sent to: Rotary Club of Pohnpei, Inc. - Scholarship Committee, PO Box 1861, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941, Fax (691) 320-5502, rotarypohnpei@gmail.com

Applications can also be viewed and downloaded at <http://vitalenergy.fm/news/2017/rotary-annual-scholarship/>