

World champion kick boxer and boxer intends to train motivated winners in the FSM

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

January 11, 2017

Pohnpei—For a couple of weeks now, members of the Pohnpei Boxing Club have had the distinct honor of being trained by World Champion boxer and kickboxer, Andrea Galbiati. During his fighting career Galbiati earned seven championship belts: five titles in his native Italy, one European title and culminating in 2009 as a world champion full contact and kickboxer with the WFC (World Fighting Championship).

He says that for the last 10 years he has been training boxers and kickboxers from several gyms in the New York area, including the world famous Gleason's Gym in Brooklyn, Muhammed Ali's favorite place to train when he was in New York. Over 130 world champions have trained at Gleason's including Mike Tyson.



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13 arrested in Sekere New Year's Day roadblock assault against Police Commissioner, family and friends

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

January 11, 2018

Pohnpei—In the pre-dawn hours of the first day of 2018, Pohnpei's Police Commissioner Jordan Ardos and family members and friends were driving home to Kitti from their New Year's Eve celebrations when they were set upon by a band of 13 intoxicated individuals who had blocked the road at the bridge by Sekere Elementary School. According to a family member, there were four adults and two young boys aged four and seven in the flatbed truck they were traveling in.

Members of the gang stabbed Ardos several times in the back. He was also beaten with a concrete block and rocks wielded by the

drunken and violent hoard. He was admitted to the hospital for his injuries. Mary Kerman and Alpino Kerman Junior also suffered lacerations, bruises and scratches but were treated and released.

Police arrested and detained 13 individuals in connection with the brutal attack. They were Lloyd Zarred, Marvin Loyola, Martin Loyola, Lorna Zarred, Ashly Zarred, Bronson Syne, Heinrick Zarred, Darcy Rapai, Kennsner Nennis, Kesuhs Sercy, Pelson Syne, Daisy Elpet and Nelly Liwy.

Each of the defendants have been charged with seven separate criminal charges: Criminal Conspiracy, Felonious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault and

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New Year's Eve road incident results in the death of a man in Madolenihmw—criminal charges filed

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

January 4, 2018

Madolenihmw, Pohnpei—Pohnpei State has filed criminal charges against Osipa (Dave) Rodriguez and Mirjane David for the death of Kelson Alten after he was struck on the road in Lehndiadi, Madolenihmw in the early morning hours the New Year.

The criminal information the Attorney General's office filed was short on particular details of the incident and didn't go into the specifics of how Alten came to be sleeping in the road in Madolenihmw on that night. It merely charged Mirjane David with careless driving because she was alleged to have been driving on the wrong side of the road that night when her car struck Alten. They have also charged her with homicide by vehicle.

There was no mention of any alcohol in David's system unlike Rodriguez who is alleged to also have run over Alten while driving on the wrong side of the road behind David. The State initially charged Rodriguez with causing bodily injury or death while driving under the influence of alcohol. They also charged him with careless driving for driving on the wrong side of the road and also for the act of driving under the influence of alcohol.

When Alten later died from the injuries he suffered, the State added the charge of homicide by vehicle to the charges filed against Rodriguez.

There has been speculation that David was attempting to flee in her vehicle from Rodriguez who was chasing her in his own vehicle when the terrible tragedy took place but that speculation was not included in the filing of the criminal charges.

The defendants are presumed to be innocent unless proven otherwise in a court of law.

Caroline Islands Air to take over Yap-Palau Route

Joyce McClure | Pacific Island Times

January 4, 2018

COLONIA, Yap — United Airlines' decision to suspend flights between Yap and Palau as of January 7, has left a gaping hole in regional transportation, which now may be addressed.

Thursday afternoon, a delegation from FSM and Yap took off from Yap International Airport in the Harbin Y-12 airplane that was donated to Caroline Islands Air (CIA) by China. CIA is the FSM government-subsidized airline. The group was headed to Palau to meet with their counterparts to review and sign an agreement for the small aircraft to take over the route.

The delegation included Mr. Vincent Figir, former Governor of Yap State; the Honorable Bruno Tharngan, Chairman of the Council of Pilung; His Excellency Peter M. Christian, President of the FSM; the Honorable Tony Ganngiyan, Governor of Yap State; the Honorable Joses Gallen, Secretary of the FSM Department of Justice; the Honorable Lukner Weilbacher, Secretary of the FSM Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure; and Mr. Alex Tretnoff, CEO of Caroline Islands Air and recently certified pilot for the Harbin Y-12.

If approved by both parties, the flights will begin on Tuesday, January 9, 2018. The proposal sets forth a schedule of two flights per week between Yap and Palau on Tuesdays and Fridays with a return flight early the following morning. According to Tretnoff, if the flight is overbooked, the 17-seat plane will return to pick up the remaining passengers.

The final schedule is still being worked out and will depend on discussions between CIA and the other airlines serving Palau. It is CIA's intent, Tretnoff said, to ensure the most convenient connections to the other airlines that serve Manila, Guam and other linked locations. But as the smaller airline, CIA must match their schedule to the other airlines' departures and arrivals. Working out the schedule will take time but it

will be established with the best interests of the passengers in mind.

CIA has been given an office next to the main terminal at Yap International Airport and blueprints for a hangar have been finalized. Qualified pilots are being interviewed for two open positions. When hired, they will be certified by Tretnoff.

Tretnoff also said that the FSM is continuing to explore other options for servicing the route including obtaining a larger plane for CIA that will have greater capacity. Air Nauru and Air Niugini, both of which fly within FSM, and other commercial airlines are also being looked into to possibly take over the route in the future.

In addition to passengers, there are many businesses that rely on the route to transport goods between the two countries as well as on to Manila. Tretnoff said CIA intends to provide extra flights, if needed, to ensure that those needs are met. With tourism businesses, government employees, commercial enterprises, children attending school in Palau, Filipinos and other non-American foreigners who live and work in Yap and families left high and dry by United when it abruptly announced the suspension of service between Yap and Palau, he gave assurances that CIA and the FSM and Yap State governments are committed to insuring that the route is maintained for the benefit of all. Confirmation of the terms of the final agreement will be forthcoming when it is signed by all parties.



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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Asia-Pacific Conservation Trust Fund Network (APNET) launches

Micronesia and the Micronesia Conservation Trust recently made history by becoming a founding member of a new, international consortium of Conservation Trusts. On December 6, 2017, in Jakarta, Indonesia, the executive leadership of six environmental and conservation funds officially launched the Asia-Pacific Conservation Trust Fund Network (APNET). The six founding organizations include:

- Arannayk Foundation (Bangladesh)
- Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation
- Forest Foundation Philippines
- Foundation for the Philippine Environment
- Yayasan KEHATI (Indonesia)
- Micronesia Conservation Trust

The Executive Directors of the Phoenix Islands Project Area Trust and the Tasmania Land Conservancy were not able to attend the meeting but will be signing the document electronically and will be considered founding members along with the six funds present at the meeting in December.

Participants at the Jakarta meeting finalized the name of the network and revised its vision, mission and purpose. These are:

Vision

APNET's vision is that Conservation Trust Funds make the greatest possible contribution to a vibrant and healthy natural environment and sustainable communities in the Asia Pacific region.

Mission

APNET's mission is to provide a common platform to promote and facilitate partnerships and collaboration among the members and the wider community of organizations working to achieve a vibrant and healthy environment and sustainable communities in the Asia-Pacific region.

Purpose

The Purpose of APNET is to

- Facilitate partnerships and collaboration among members and with similar organizations and networks
- Facilitate capacity building, knowledge sharing, and use of best practices
- Generate and mobilize resources to support APNET's efforts
- Communicate the work of APNET and its members to stakeholders

Work began on the establishment of the network In November 2014, when

representatives from nine conservation trust funds and environmental funds from the Asia-Pacific region, including the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), gathered in Sydney, Australia to discuss the formation of a Network, modeled on RedLAC in Latin America/Caribbean and CAFE in Africa to promote collaboration and knowledge sharing among the funds of the Asia-Pacific region. Representatives from six conservation trust funds, including MCT, formed a Core Team to develop the foundations of the Network. Members of the Network share a commitment to advocating for a healthy natural environment and sustainable communities, and recognize the Network as a valuable resource for knowledge sharing, capacity building and collaboration to support Network organizations and their partners to achieve biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation goals and targets in the Asia-Pacific region. Members also recognize multiple threats to the environment, biodiversity and climate, so the Network is founded with a shared commitment to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the UN Convention on Climate Change. Members firmly believe that, together, they have greater influence on effecting conservation and climate financing and can bring efficient and practical resources to those vulnerable communities who need it most. MCT is confident that membership in this network will improve its ability to provide resources and support to its partners in Micronesia and support their important work in biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihoods.



New life in Sweden for refugees stuck in FSM

RNZ Pacific

December 29, 2017

POHNPEI, FSM — Four Nepalese refugees who were stuck on Micronesian islands for nearly three years have found a new life in Sweden.

The men left the Federated States of Micronesia in September after being detained at wharves on Yap and Pohnpei as authorities determined their status and tried to find them a home.

The men were among a boatload of Indian and Nepalese men who arrived near starving on Yap in November 2014 and were the only ones given refugee status in 2016.

The group of four spent another year

on a ramshackle boat at the wharf in neighboring Pohnpei in conditions which raised the concern of locals.

Pohnpei resident Mark Dvorak had followed their plight and says 2018 will be no doubt be happier for them.

"Whatever it was, got it triggered and they got status and the ability to transfer to Sweden. They were excited, they were well-dressed. Yes they looked excited and happy and somewhat relieved for sure," he said.

Mr. Dvorak said the men are learning Swedish and receiving training in their new home.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE KASELEHLIE PRESS WILL BE RELEASED ON: January 29, 2018

Deadline for submission of articles or advertisements for this issue is the end of working hours on:

Wednesday JANUARY 24, 2018

US Coast Guard and Port Authority officials working toward lifting Seaport Security Advisory

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

January 11, 2018

Pohnpei—Captain Lee Boone, Commanding Officer of the US Coast Guard's "Activities Far East", and Lt. Commander Kevin Beaudoin, International Port Security Liaison Officer joined Pohnpei Port Authority officials this afternoon in a walk-through of Pohnpei's Sea Port.

The seaports of the FSM have been under a US Coast Guard issued Seaport Security Advisory since September of last year. The advisory essentially means that the ports don't meet basic international security standards. It also means extra work for vessels that use the ports in the FSM which can mean greater shipping expense and delayed ships. Additionally, any vessel that uses an FSM port and then goes to a US seaport will have to meet more stringent security measures when they arrive at the US seaport because of the advisory.

The walk through this afternoon and subsequent meeting with Port Officials was to see what progress had been made on recommendations that the US Coast Guard had previously made. During their visit to the FSM they will be conducting similar walk-throughs and meetings at the FSM's other seaports.

As Port Security Liaison Officer, Lt. Commander Beaudoin has been working closely with the FSM's port managers and personnel to try to get the security concerns handled. He has met with varying degrees of success. So far, Pohnpei's port has made the most progress and has been carefully working toward shoring up facilities and meeting the recommendations. According to the walk through today, the work is still not quite done but excellent progress has been made.

This visit to the FSM was not the formal inspection that would be required in order to lift the Port Security Advisory. It was conducted to see if current progress was sufficient to warrant scheduling a formal inspection.



Rock star Sammy Hagar makes quick refueling stop in Pohnpei

The original "Red Rocker", Sammy Hagar of Montrose, Van Halen, Chickenfoot, The Circle, and several other bands along with solo projects made a one hour refueling stop in Pohnpei on January 8, much to the excitement of airport employees, some of whom know exactly who the rock star is. Hagar's family members were also aboard the plane.

Jun Sablan of United was particularly excited to meet the rock star. Sablan has sung for rock bands for several years and knows exactly who Hagar is. He said that he asked Hagar how Eddie, and Alex were. "You know Van Halen?" he asked, as if shocked and wanted to know what his favorite song was. He seemed even more surprised when Sablan told him his favorite was "I Can't Drive 55", Hagar's 1984 hit as a solo artist. "I like you guys," he said. "Let's get a picture."



Sablan said that the Red Rocker and his family were extremely friendly.

"We don't get rock stars every day. I guess today was the day," Sablan said.

The entire incident made this editor who has followed Hagar since his early days in the 70's with Montrose and has played lead guitar for rock bands for several decades quite a bit jealous!

Sablan said that he never mentioned that he is a singer. Guess he was just a bit too star struck.



Pohnpei State Legislature selects officers and committee chairs

Pohnpei State Legislature

January 9, 2018

Pohnpei—Pohnpei law makers convened for their seventh regular session on Monday, January 9, 2018 at 10:00 in the morning. In accordance with Rule 1 of the Legislature’s Rules of Procedures which calls for the reorganization of the law making assembly, the legislature on the first day of session reorganized itself.

The officers remained the same. Senator Fernando of Kolonia Town retained the Speakership. Senator Nixon Soram of Madolenihmw and Senator McGarry Miguel of Kitti were re-elected as Vice Speaker and Floor Leader respectively.

Senator Sendilina Lekka of Nukuoro was selected as the Chair of the Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. Senator Maske Jim of Mwokilloa will serve as Vice Chair.

Senator Albino Kermen of Kitti will chair the Standing Committee on Finance. Vice Chair is Senator Salter Loyola of Nett.

Senator Shelten G. Neth of Madolenihmw will continue to chair the Standing

Committee on Health and Cultural Affairs. Senator Brian P. Etscheit of Sokehs will serve as Vice Chair.

Senator Naiten O. Phillip of Madolenihmw will chair the Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations with Senator Dahker D. Daniel of Kitti serving as the Vice Chair.

Senator Marvin Yamaguchi of Kolonia Town will Chair the Standing Committee on Land and Senator Lino M. Amor or U will serve as Vice Chair.

The Standing Committee of Public Works, Transportation and Communications will be chaired by Senator Daniel S. Isaac of Pingelap. Senator Stanley S. Etse of Madolenihmw is the Vice Chair of that committee.

Senator Aurelio P. Joab of U will chair the Standing Committee on Resources and Development with Senator Adelino Edmund of Nett serving as Vice Chair.

Pohnpei files criminal charges against former Director of OFA

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

January 5, 2018

Pohnpei—The Attorney General’s office has filed criminal charges against former Director of the Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Casiano Shoniber.

Mr. Shoniber had previously written to the Governor to say that accusations against him were unfounded and all had reasonable explanations.

Just the same, the State filed charges against him alleging in the first count of misconduct in office that he inappropriately transferred an OFA boat trailer to a person who is not an employee of OFA.

The second count of misconduct in office regards the transfer of an OFA generator in exchange for a pig worth approximately \$1500 that was then taken to Shoniber’s home. He later purchased a generator at his own expense but the charges allege that the replacement generator was not as efficient or powerful as the generator he exchanged for a pig in Oroluk.

A third charge of theft of services alleged that he directed employees of OFA, during work hours to do personal work for him such as husking coconuts for coconut meal for his own pigs and planting sakau for his personal use.

The final charge of misconduct in office alleges abuse of

authority. The State claims that he threatened to withhold pay from OFA employees who did not obey or comply with his orders even when those orders were to perform personal services for them. It claims that he also refused to approve applications for leave for OFA employees and used foul and abusive language against them and in some cases threatened bodily harm. It claims that he allowed OFA employees to operate a motor boat while under the influence of alcohol and also allowed OFA employees to fish in a Marine Protected Area and then used the catch for other than immediate personal consumption. It claims that he used staff and government vehicles for personal use during business hours. It claims that he also transferred custody of a boat that had been donated by the Japanese government to a non-OFA employee along with a motor paid for by the FSM. It claims that he used portions of \$10,000 given to OFA by the FSM Congress for a trip to the Marshall Islands and that he also used a portion of those funds to buy electronic equipment from his son’s business, which the State says is a conflict of interest.

Mr. Shoniber is off island and has not yet been arraigned. He is presumed to be innocent of all charges unless proven otherwise during a court trial.

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Milk and milk products; dairy and dairy based products; dairy substitutes; yoghurt and yoghurt based beverages; preparations made from or for making yoghurt; cheese and cheese products including cheese spreads, cottage cheese and cream cheese; cream including sour and whipped cream; eggs and egg-based foodstuffs; aerated beverages (made predominantly of milk); combined fruit and dairy products; preserved, dried, processed, canned, frozen and cooked fruits and vegetables; fruit and vegetable extracts; vegetable based meat substitutes; meat, fish, seafood, poultry and game and food products made from the foregoing; meat extracts; meat extract spreads; preserved, dried and cooked meat and seafood products; protein (foods) and protein food products; soy products including tofu, soya cream, soya yoghurt, soya bean milk, soya bean beverages and flavoured soya bean milk drinks; edible nuts and food products made from nuts; snack foods, prepared foods, semi-prepared foods, frozen foods, chilled foods, ready-to-eat meals and meal kits consisting predominantly of dairy products, vegetables, fruit, meat, nuts or seafood; soups, broths and stocks; desserts and dessert products consisting predominantly of dairy products, vegetables, fruit, meat, nuts or seafood; edible oils and fats including margarine, shortenings, butter and dairy spreads; jellies, jams, compotes; fruit and fruit based spreads including marmalade, preserves, fruit sauces and other fruit based spreadable products; dips, fillings, pastes and spreads including sandwich spreads, sweet spreads, savoury spreads and spreads consisting predominantly of dairy products, vegetables, fruit, meat, nuts or seafood; pickles; seaweed; edible gelatin; jelly crystals in International Class 29; and

Flour and preparations made from cereals including plain and self-raising flour, cornflour, pea flour, rice flour, barley flour, oat flour, millet flour and soya flour; grain meal; grains including pearl barley, groats, maize meal and oat meal; oats and preparations made from oats; baked goods and baking ingredients consisting predominantly of cocoa, rice, tapioca, sago, flour, cereals, grains, confectionery, sugar, honey, treacle, mustard, vinegar and/or sauces (condiments); baking mixes and pre-mixes including batter, cake, muffin, scone, crepe, pancake, pudding, cookie and pastry mixes; snack foods, prepared foods, semi-prepared foods, frozen foods, chilled foods and health foods consisting predominantly of cocoa, rice, tapioca, sago, flour, cereals, grains, confectionery, sugar, honey, treacle, mustard, vinegar and/or sauces (condiments); bread; pre-baked, parbaked and semi-baked bread and bread mixes; chilled and shelf stable bread; bread rolls; crispbread; flat bread; tortillas; bread wraps; Lebanese and pita bread; ciabatta and focaccia bread and rolls; garlic bread; herb bread; cheese bread; bread sticks; fruit loaves; chapatti; bread crumbs; frozen dough; pastry dough; ready-to-bake dough products; pizza dough; pizza bases; pizza pie crusts; cake doughs; frozen and unbaked pastry and pastry filled products including pies, tarts, pastries and sausage rolls; pie fillings consisting predominantly of cocoa, rice, tapioca, sago, flour, cereals, grains, confectionery, sugar, honey, treacle, mustard, vinegar and/or sauces (condiments); pasta and pasta products; rice; tapioca and sago; pizza; jaffles; tacos; pappadums; quiches; sandwiches; crackers; chips including corn chips; popcorn; biscuits; gingerbread; cakes; sponge cakes; muffins; scones; flans and flan cases; tarts and tart cases; cheesecakes; puddings; slices (confectionery); crumpets; waffles; pancakes; pikelets; doughnuts; flapjacks; croissants; bagels; hot cakes; meringues; brandy snaps; brandy baskets; shortbreads; turnovers; yeast including dried yeast; baking-powder and baking soda; cream of tartar; gluten; starch; dextrose; maltose; thickening and binding agents for foods; confectionery; sweets; confections containing coated nuts; desserts and canned desserts consisting predominantly of cocoa, rice, tapioca, sago, flour, cereals, grains, confectionery, sugar, honey, treacle, mustard, vinegar and/or sauces (condiments); icings including white icing and icing sugar; marzipan; fondant; edible ices; dessert toppings; maple syrup; honey; treacle; custard; custard powder; frozen yoghurt; vinegar, sauces (condiments) including cooking sauces, table sauces, oriental sauces, shelf stable sauces, ketchup, tomato sauce, barbecue sauce, tartare sauce, simmer sauces, sauces for pasta and rice, sauces for pizzas; stir fry sauces and marinades; glazes; relishes; salsa; chutney; salad oils and dressings; gravy and gravy mixes; mustard; mayonnaise; yeast extract spreads; spreads containing chocolate or nuts; ice; salt; pepper; spices; dried and preserved herbs (seasonings); flavourings (other than essential oils) for adding to food and/or beverages; curry powder and curry sauces; coffee, coffee extracts, tea, cocoa and artificial coffee; preparations made from or flavoured with coffee or its substitutes; chocolate, chocolate substitutes and preparations made from or flavoured with cocoa, chocolate or chocolate substitutes; chocolate flavoured beverages and powders in International Class 30; and

Beers; non-alcoholic beverages; mineral and aerated waters; drinking water; soft drinks; energy drinks (not for medical purposes); sports drinks (not for medical purposes); smoothies; fruit and vegetable beverages; syrups; cordials; preparations for making beverages in International Class 32.

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...Assault

Continued from front page

Battery, Disorderly Conduct, Appearance in Public While Under the Influence of Alcohol, and Disturbance of the Peace.

The defendants were jailed pending arraignment and a bail hearing. Initially the presiding Justice denied bail saying that her principal concern was to keep peace and harmony in the Sekere area.

The next day Senator Rensper Liwy delivered a signed and sworn affidavit. The affidavit said he "personally along with family members of the defendants approached the victims and their family which included Senator Alpino Kermin at the Pohnpei State Hospital on January 2, 2018 where we presented our traditional apology." He swore that "Senator Alpino Kermin and the victims including the victims family accepted our apology."

He said in his affidavit that he personally visited the defendants at Pohnpei State jail and informed them that a meeting would be held at Sekere Village involving the Governor, Sokehs Municipal Government, the Chief of Police, the traditional leaders, the youth association and family of the victims. He said that he informed them that if they were released on bail the defendants would also need to attend the meeting to discuss what happened and ensure that there will be no more problems while the case is ongoing.

He vowed to personally ensure that the defendants would keep the peace and attend court on each occasion until the case is disposed of.

Apparently the affidavit was sufficient to convince the presiding Justice that peace and harmony would be preserved in the Sekere community and so reversed her earlier decision. She released all 13 defendants on their own recognizance.

The community meeting in Sekere did take place but the Attorney General advised the Governor that it would be inappropriate for State representatives to attend a meeting with defendants of a criminal action. Governor Peterson instead sent a representative from the Department of Social Affairs.

According to several Facebook posts from community members, the meeting went a long way toward reconciliation, at least among community members. But an immediate family member of the victims said today that no traditional apology had been made or accepted by her family. That matter is currently under investigation.

...Kick boxer

Continued from front page

Galbiati says that during the last 10 years, he has trained fighters who have competed all over the world, including at the largest US venues including in Las Vegas and at what once was the principal headline fight venue in the world, Madison Square Gardens. He is currently training 10 professional fighters.

He is currently in Pohnpei to identify serious boxing contenders in the right age range in order to build a small FSM team to train on a concerted basis to win Gold at the Pacific Games in 2019

as a first step. Gold medal winners at the Pacific Games can qualify for the Olympic Games in 2020 in Tokyo and that's where he wants to see talented and well trained FSM boxers.

"I'm all about winning," he said. "I only want boxers who want to win... none of this, 'If I win I get to go to the Olympics, if I don't, I'll get (get an invitation and get) to go anyway', stuff. I want serious winners," he exclaimed.

He said that Jennifer Chieng approached him at another gym in New York where he trains fighters and asked him to train her. It was the first time he'd heard of the FSM. He coached her to a Golden Gloves victory in 2015 after only one year of training. That same year she won a gold medal at the Pacific Games.

Later he met Erick Divinigracia, President of the Pohnpei Boxing Club when he accompanied Chieng to an Olympics qualifying match in China. Galbiati and Divinigracia started talking about the possibility of collaborating to build a small boxing team in the FSM.

They met again in Rio de Janeiro for the Olympics where Chieng lost her match by a narrow decision against a taller competitor with longer reach and several years more experience.

Galbiati's current trip to Pohnpei was sponsored by Adidas. He plans to be in Pohnpei at least three times a year to continue to groom fighters for a possible Pacific Games bid. Both Divinigracia

and Galbiati said that they have both identified potential candidates but don't want yet to name names.

Galbiati said that with ongoing training in Pohnpei and then some intensive training in New York there are some currently raw fighters who stand a good chance of becoming champions.

"Although there are many amateur coaches that come to the FSM to help train certain athletes for competitions, there are none that are World Champions or Continental Champions that have the many accolades that Andrea has," Divinigracia wrote in an email. "With his assistance it is very feasible to train a boxer now who could qualify for the 2020 Olympics. It wouldn't take much assistance from the FSM to do so. They would only need

travel costs for Andrea to travel to the FSM a couple of times a year where his accommodations and expenses will already be covered by staying with a host family. Then there would be the cost of sending one or two boxers to New York for a month once or twice a year to train with Andrea where he is willing to host the boxers at no costs, which is a pretty good trade off."

Galbiati said that he will take care of accommodations, gym fees and other expenses except for travel for FSM boxers who are selected to intensively train with him in New York.

Galbiati doesn't charge to train his fighters except for those who go pro and then it is a matter of

a standard percentage of fight purses. He said that he doesn't do it to be a nice guy. "90 percent of it for me is to win. I like to train winners," he said.

"People don't remember me because I'm a nice guy", he said. "People remember me because I have seven belts."

They also remember him because he trains winners and he hopes to train winners from the FSM.

Both Galbiati and Divinigracia reiterated that donations for training winners are constantly needed. "Everyone wants to help when it's time for the games," Giabata said, "but what about during the time it takes to train?"





COMET 2018

College of Micronesia-FSM Entrance Test

Pohnpei			
Date	Time	School	Test Venue
January 26, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	CCA	CCA Library
February 2, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	OICHS	OICHS
February 2, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	SDA	SDA
February 5, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	OLMCHS	OLMCHS
February 5, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	PICS	COMFSM
February 6, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	PICS	COMFSM
February 7, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	PICS	COMFSM
February 8, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	NMHS	COMFSM
February 9, 2018	8:30am - 12:00pm	MHS	COMFSM
February 10, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	PSC	PSC

Chuuk			
Date	Time	School	Test Venue
January 31, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	Faichuk HS	Faichuk HS
January 31, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	SNHS-Fefan	SNHS-Fefan
February 1, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	BHS	BHS
February 1, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	SCA	SCA
February 1, 2018	1:30pm - 5:00pm	PLHA	PLHA
February 2, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	SNHS-Tonoas	SNHS-Tonoas
February 2, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	Nukuno Christian HS	Nukuno Christian HS
February 3, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	CSC	CSC
February 5, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	CHS	CHS
February 6, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	Xavier High School	Xavier High School

Yap			
Date	Time	School	Test Venue
February 7, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	YCHS	YCHS
February 7, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	FCA	FCA
February 7, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	Yap SDA	FCA
February 8, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	YHS	YHS
February 9, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	Yap Campus	Yap Campus
February 9, 2018	Depends on plane	OIHS (Ulithi)	OIHS

Kosrae			
Date	Time	School	Test Venue
January 30, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	Kosrae High School (KHS)	Kosrae High School (KHS)
January 31, 2018	8:30am - 12:30pm	KSC	KSC



Dr. LJ Rayphand
Class of 2001

Alumni Success

Dr. LJ Rayphand from the village of Inaka on the Island of Udot, Chuuk State, is an alumnus of the College's class of 2001.

Dr. Rayphand first earned from the College an AA in Elementary Education in 1999, then Third-Year Teaching Certification in Teacher Preparation in 2000, and finally a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education through the College's partnership with the University of Guam. After leaving the College he earned another bachelor's degree in Communication Science and Disorder from San Diego State University in 2003. He went on to earn a Master's degree in Educational Technology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UH Manoa), where he also earned his doctorate in Educational Technology in 2014.

He currently serves as the Dean of Outreach Education at the Caroline College and Pastoral Institute in Chuuk, where he coordinates the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education for Oceania; a partnership program with Chaminade University of Honolulu. Dr. Rayphand previously served as a Graduate Assistant at UH Manoa at the Center on Disabilities Studies (2010-2012), and at the

Center of Pacific Island Studies (2008-2010).

Dr. Rayphand also held several positions at the College where he served as an Education and Cultural Specialist at Chuuk Campus from 2007-2008. At the National Campus he was the Coordinator and Professor for the Media Studies Program from 2006 to 2007, an Educational Specialist for the Student Support Services Program (SSSP) from 2005 to 2006, a Peer Educator with the Peer Counseling Program from 1999 to 2000, and a Resident Assistant for the Male Residence Hall from 1998 through 1999.

He is the holder of several certifications from UH Manoa, as well a recipient of several scholarships including the East-West Center Graduate Fellowship. He currently serves as a member of the Chuuk Board of Education, and is affiliated with several other community-based organizations in Chuuk.

The College is proud to have been part of Dr. LJ Rayphand's success as a student, and is even more pleased to see him giving back as a professional to the community of which he came. As we celebrate twenty-five years of student success, we recognize Dr. Rayphand for his achievements and being a part of that success.



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Madolenihmw holds its 10th inauguration at St. Augustine Church

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

January 9, 2018

Madolenihmw—The Madolenihmw Municipal government held its 10th inauguration at St. Augustine Church.

Deacon Fred Martin gave opening prayer followed by welcoming remarks from Senator Shelten Neth, the Chairman of the Madolenihmw delegation at the Pohnpei State Legislature.

Municipal Government administered the oath office for the members of the council. The Chief Justice of the Pohnpei Supreme Court administered the oath of office for Mayor Pretrick Ringlen who was elected to serve another term.

The Inaugural Committee wants to recognize the import support of the following donors to the event.

Hon. David w. Panuelo, Hon. Dion G. Neth, Menentiensapw, Micronesia Petroleum Corporation, Amcres, Ace Hardware, St. Augustine Church, and the Wapar Church.

The Chief Justice of the Madolenihmw



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BONUS PUZZLE!!

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BNEDL

○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

IDOVA

○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

SEHEYC

○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

ARACEM

○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

Ans:

○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---

○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---



WHEN MEDUSA WAS BITTEN ON THE NECK, SHE HAD A ---
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Nett holds its inauguration events and organizes the council



By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

January 9, 2018
Nett, Pohnpei—Nett held its inaugural events on the grounds of the Nett Municipal Government this morning. Nelson Iriarte was elected to serve as the “mayor” of Nett.



The event included the organization of the Ninth Nett District Legislature. Salter Lohn was selected as Speaker, Inosencio Ponapart is the Vice Speaker. The Chairman of the JGR Committee is Ricky Rodriguez with Albino Hadley serving as the Vice Chair of the committee. Hadley will also serve as Vice Chair of the HESA Committee under Nelson Damarlane. Leon Panuelo, Jr. is the Chairman of the Finance Committee with Maioriko Wendolin serving as Vice Chair who also will serve as the Chair of R&D Committee. Clemen Pelep will serve as Vice Chair of that committee.

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50th Anniversary Celebration of Yap Day Announced

Colonia, Yap. The blowing of the conch shell and the ceremonial transport of a wheel of Stone Money by a group of the island's locally-attired men will kick off the 50th Anniversary of Yap Day on February 28, 2017 to March 1, 2018 at the Makiy site in Gagil Municipality. On March 2, 2017, the Yap Day celebration will relocate to the Yap Living History Museum in Colonia for more indigenous activities. The by-Yapese-for-Yapese event will be a three-day celebration featuring special guests, local food and customs, arts and handicrafts, skill demonstrations, traditional dances, canoe rides, games and prizes and much more. The final schedule of events will be announced at a later date. For more information contact: Arnold Yokbay Ken 691-350-2151 or yokbayken@gmail.com or Francis Itimai at 691-350-2168.



Forestry group to survey trees in 13 RMI atolls

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (NRC) will kick off the New Year by beginning an inventory of forests in the Marshall Islands. Conducted in partnership with the US Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program and the Micronesia Conservation Trust, the monitoring will collect critical data on the status and trends of RMI's forests.

The information is expected to help RMI with food security and resource priorities. The survey begins in February following a two-week training session scheduled for late January in Majuro and Arno. Following the training, a crew of foresters from the NRC, the US Forest Service, and Alaska, Guam, Pohnpei, and Yap will board a 15-meter sailboat named "Cest' le Vent" and begin collecting forest inventory data.

The team expects to visit 85 forest inventory plots on 13 atolls and islands — Jaluit, Aur, Majuro, Kwajalein, Ailuk, Maloelap, Mili, Ailinglaplap, Arno, Likiep, Mejit, Rongelap, and Wotje. The two-month inventory will revisit existing plots established in 2008, to observe change across the landscape, and establish new plots to expand the collectable information and meet monitoring goals.

The monitoring will use the FIA protocol, which has been expanded to help meet NRC's terrestrial monitoring priorities, including addressing food security, climate research, and inventorying coconut and pandanus resources. This inventory project also will meet the Micronesia Challenge's terrestrial monitoring goals. During the inventory, the crew will collect data on forest disturbances, tree and vegetation growth, live and dead trees, vegetation, invasive species, and damage caused by insects and diseases. This data is collected every ten years to provide insights into past trends and future potential for the forests of RMI and can be used by policymakers, resource managers, and the general public.

Contacts for more information about the program include State Forester at NRC Lajkit Rufus (lrufus@hawaii.edu), FIA Project Coordinator with the US Forest Service Ashley Lehman (adlehman@fs.fed.us), and Micronesia Challenge representative Roseo Marquez (sgo@ourmicronesia.org).

MCT participation in this project was supported by a "Landscape Scale Restoration" grant from the USDA Forest Service State & Private Forestry Program.

Congress delays January session for committee work

January 09, 2018

PALIKIR, POHNPEI – Speaker Wesley W. Simina has delayed the January Session or the Third Regular Session of the 20th Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia from January 10th to convene instead on the 29th.

Speaker Simina's letter to President Peter M. Christian explained that the slight delay is to "accommodate the hearing schedules of the committees, and other parliamentary obligations of the Congress." It is also hoped that the delay would allow the Department of Finance to "reconcile the national accounts and allow for a more accurate picture" for the finances of the Nation.

The session to be convened on the 29th will be for the 20-day duration of a regular session unless extended or shortened by resolution.

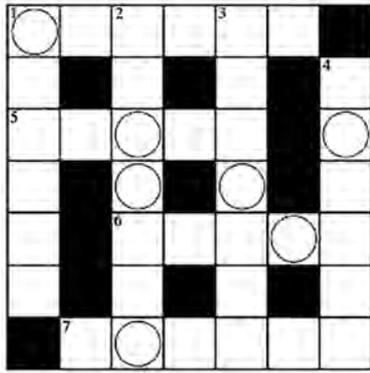
Regular Sessions of the Congress of the FSM, as amended by Public Law 13-59, are to be held three times a year: on the 10th of January, 11th of May and 12th of September unless a different date is set by the Presiding Officer with consensus of three-fourths of the members. The duration of a Regular Session is 20 days unless extended or shortened by Resolution. The sessions of the Congress are open to all interested members of the general public.

Chinese Ambassador presents \$200,000 donation to Yap State for 2018 Micro Games

COLONIA, Yap — A state reception was held in honor of His Excellency Lie Jie, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the FSM, on January 4, 2018 in Colonia to mark the cash donation of \$200,000 from the Municipal Government of Zhongshan City, Guangdong Province China to the Government of Yap State. The donation is to be used for a new volleyball gymnasium to be erected at the Yap Sports Complex in preparation for the 2018 Micro Games. Governor Tony Ganngiyan accepted the check and signed the handover certificate with Ambassador Li. In attendance were representatives of the Yap State Leadership, the FSM National Government, the 2018 Micro Games Organizing Committee and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the FSM. After the MicroGames, the prefabricated building will be moved to the campus of Yap High School and installed for multipurpose use.



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CLUE ACROSS

1. Conundrum
5. Repeatedly
6. Facade
7. Home to Nivernais

ANSWER

AMEIGN
FNEOT
USEIG
NAREFC

CLUE DOWN

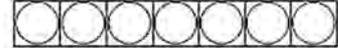
1. Unfold, mature
2. Type of number
3. Say
4. Long-_____

ANSWER

LEOVEV
EGIRTEN
MENOTIN
ELEVES

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

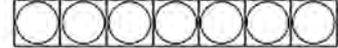
CLUE: Correspondences



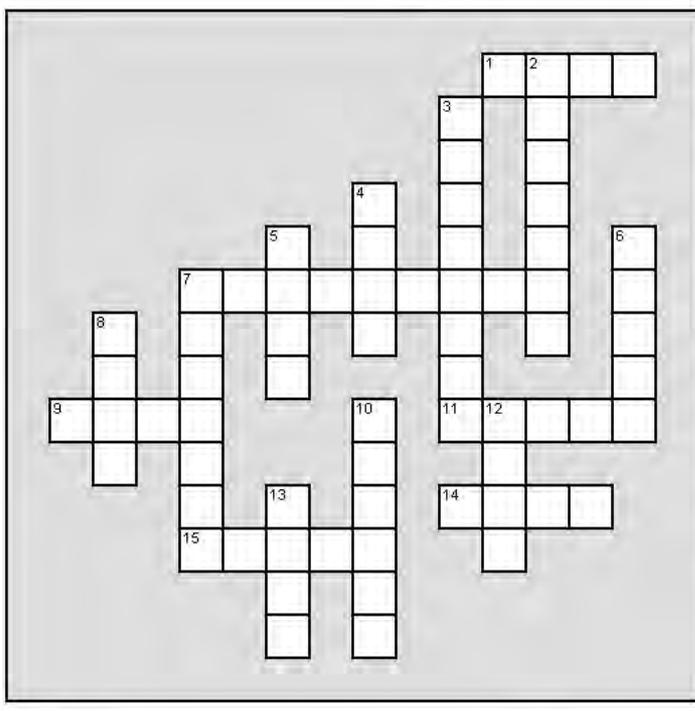
CLUE: Colonizer



CLUE: Support frame



TRIPLE BONUS
The circled letters can be unscrambled to form three different BONUS answers.



hook
upstairs
foot
offered
cook
stood
clothes
hood
roof
book
chocolate
brook
middle
shook
wool
wood

Across

- 1. sheep's hair
- 7. brown candy, powder or syrup from the cocoa bean
- 9. a body part attached to the lower leg
- 11. jiggled, vibrated, shivered
- 14. a cloth covering for the head
- 15. moved to an upright position

Down

- 2. made available, gave
- 3. in the direction of the level above
- 4. pages of words held together with a paper or hard cover
- 5. timber, logs, from a tree
- 6. a small stream of water
- 7. coverings for the body
- 8. to heat, roast, or bake food
- 10. the center part
- 12. a tool with a rod and curved end
- 13. the covering on top of a building

Moana Word Search

Find the words from the right column in the grid. Words may be forward, backward, up, down or diagonal. Good luck!



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

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Mileage 52,000km Color Light Blue



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Mileage 50,000km Color Silver



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Year 2003 AT 1,990cc PETROL
Mileage 43,000km Color Dark Blue



Ref.29180 **PRICE: \$3,180**
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Year 1999 AT 2,160cc PETROL
Mileage 39,000km Color Pearl



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HONDA HR-V
Year 2000 AT 1,590cc PETROL
Mileage 73,000km Color White



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Year 2006 AT 1,990cc PETROL
Mileage 98,000km Color Purple



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THE OPPORTUNITIES

The Forum Secretariat seeks candidates interested to join the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC) and to make a difference. If you are interested and looking for new opportunities, these positions may be what you are looking for.

Ocean Analyst & Manager

This job exists to manage the work of the OPOC with a view to securing its long-term sustainability in a manner responsive to the needs of the OPOC, regional partners and sector-related interests. The competencies required of the successful candidate is outlined under Level D of the Forum Secretariat's Capability Framework.

The salary will be in the range of SDR 39,868 to SDR44,852 per annum. This is currently equivalent to FJD115,492 to FJD129,930.

Ocean Communication Officer

The role of this job is to facilitate the effective advocacy, coordination and stakeholder engagement of the OPOC with diverse stakeholders in the Pacific, and support day-to-day communications of the OPOC. The competencies required of the successful candidate is outlined under Level C of the Forum Secretariat's Capability Framework.

The salary will be in the range of SDR 28,666 to SDR32,250 per annum. This is currently equivalent to FJD83,042 to FJD93,424.

Ocean Management Officer

The officer is to support the work of the Oceans Analyst & Manager (OAM) and Pacific Ocean Commissioner, support regional monitoring and evaluation of international and regional reporting obligations and provide support to day-to-day operations of the Office. The competencies required of the successful candidate is outlined under Level C of the Forum Secretariat's Capability Framework.

The salary will be in the range of SDR 25,408 to SDR28,584 per annum. This is currently equivalent to FJD73,603 to FJD82,804.

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Deadline for applications is at 5pm (Fiji time), 26 January 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.



Mr. Patrick Carl of the Pohnpei State Emergency Assistance Office, Mr. Patrick Blank, Executive Director of CMF, and FSCO staff.

The Care Micronesia Foundation (CMF) received a donation of emergency water boxes from the Ayuda Foundation based in Guam in December 2017. CMF partnered with the Pohnpei State Emergency Assistance Office to coordinate the dissemination of the water to the outer island municipal governments to be pre-positioned for times of disaster. In addition to the municipal offices, some of the water went to local issue, like the CUYA “Stop Underage Drinking” parade that went around the island on 12/23, an Upward Bound Christmas program at the Pohnpei State hospital where they donated items to the inpatients, to the MMG inauguration event, and the Pohnpei firefighters took a pallet to keep with them for emergencies. Other partners in the donation were Matson, who donated the shipping of the container, and Mr. Billy Edward of FSCO, who unloaded and stored the container until it could be handed out.

PII takes aim on arbitration in FSM dispute

GIFF JOHNSON

Pacific International Inc. has asked a Federated States of Micronesia judge to hold off a trial in its case against the FSM government expected in 2018 to allow for binding arbitration proceedings.

PII attorneys Thomas Tarpley in Guam and Marstella Jack in Pohnpei filed a motion with the FSM Supreme Court last week to enforce an arbitration agreement for the multi-million dollar dispute over a large-scale road paving and water system construction project in Chuuk. Based on a court order earlier in December, PII and the FSM government are preparing for trial with a February 23 pre-trial hearing scheduled.

The dispute centers on a road paving and water system installation construction project that, when it was launched in 2009, was the Federated States of Micronesia’s biggest ever U.S. Compact of Free Association-funded building project. It was estimated initially at \$25 million, but costs increased as the project unfolded, in significant part because designs provided to PII did not match conditions on the ground in Weno, Chuuk’s main island. The FSM government terminated PII in

2013 with the project nearly complete. The FSM government brought in another contractor but the project remains unfinished four years later.

On June 3, 2015, following a mediation session, PII CEO Jerry Kramer and the FSM Attorney General’s office signed a partial settlement agreement in which the FSM government, subject to FSM President Peter Christian’s approval and an appropriation by the FSM Congress, was to pay PII \$2 million, and then put the dispute into a binding arbitration process. “The claims of PII against FSM and the claims of FSM against PII will be resolved by binding arbitration,” reads a section of the 2015 agreement. Following this mediation agreement, the FSM refused to make the \$2 million payment, with FSM government attorneys saying it was unenforceable without FSM Congress approval. PII initially filed suit against the FSM government in 2014.

The FSM court rejected PII’s bid over a year ago for a partial summary judgment and to compel arbitration, putting the dispute on track for trial. But PII’s pre-New Year’s motion hopes to redirect the dispute to arbitration. PII’s attorneys cited a previous FSM Court ruling in a

FSM Congress Donates \$10,000 to the Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge Scholarship Program

The Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia recently approved a grant of \$10,000 to the Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge (BRMC) Scholarship Program. This donation leverages another \$10,000 from an anonymous donor who has been supporting conservation initiatives in Micronesia for the past two decades. These funds will go into an endowment which will be able to support two graduate students per year for up to \$30,000 each. Today, this endowment is at approximately \$400,000 and the goal is to raise at least \$1.2M to sustain this program. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation have provided \$220,000 in grants to support initial scholarships for the next three to four years to allow the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), The Nature Conservancy and other partners to continue to raise funds to meet the endowment goal of \$1.2M.

The first two recipients of the Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge scholarships are Nicole Yamase of Pohnpei, FSM, and Elizabeth (Becky) Ada Furey of the CNMI. Both young ladies have maintained an exceptional academic standing of over 3.5GPA at their respective universities. Nicole Yamase has completed 4.5 years as a Ph.D. Candidate in the Marine Biology Graduate Program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Becky Furey recently completed 18 of 36 semester hours to earn a Masters Degree in Environmental Policy & Management from the American Public University.

construction dispute involving EM Chen & Associates, which supports its position for arbitration. The earlier ruling said the FSM Court “has the authority to compel arbitration by the parties,” which it said, “complements judicial proceedings by allowing the parties to freely contract to resolve their disputes in other forums, with the confidence that such agreements will be enforced by the court.” The earlier FSM Court judgment went on to specifics, saying that if there is “clear language of a contract (that) evidences the intent of the parties to submit disputes to arbitration, the court will hold them to their agreement and specifically enforce the arbitration provisions in the contract.” Attorneys Tarpley and Jack pointed out to the court in their motion for PII that although the FSM government said the \$2 million mediation payment was unenforceable without FSM Congress approval, it has not argued that the arbitration agreement was invalid or unenforceable in the over three years the

Two new candidates who have been selected to receive support from the BRMC scholarship program are Bradford Mori of Chuuk and Bertha Reyuw of Yap. Brad and Bertha are both working on their Masters Degrees at the Sophia University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies in Japan and have successfully completed their first semester. This program is a partnership between Sophia University in Japan, the Japan Association for the Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC) and MCT.

The BRMC program requires that all scholarship recipients secure a host institution that is committed to keeping them on staff and/or hiring them after they graduate. Nicole Yamase is hosted by the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP), Becky Furey by the Micronesian Islands Nature Alliance (MINA) in CNMI, Bradford Mori at the Chuuk EPA, and Bertha Reyuw with the Kadai Community & Cultural Development Organization in Yap. The BRMC scholarship program supports their costs to travel home during their semester breaks to work with their host institutions. This will help ensure we bring these emerging leaders back home to lead work in their organizations and in their respective islands.

For more on the program, please contact Betty Sigrah at capacity@ourmicronesia.org.

matter has been before the FSM Court.

“International commercial disputes may best be resolved by private individuals, selected by the parties, who are knowledgeable in the trade and industry in which the commercial enterprises operate,” said the FSM Court in its judgment in the earlier EM Chen & Associates case. “This is certainly correct,” said PII’s motion to the FSM Supreme Court, “as these claims can be resolved by construction industry expert arbiters under the Construction Industry Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, to the benefit of both parties.”

In the meantime, during December PII workers demobilized all of the construction equipment that PII had left at its base camp in Weno, shipping it back to Majuro.



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