

“Vocal Trash” spreads environmental message in Micronesia with high energy performances

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

August 11, 2018

FSM—Sponsored by the US Embassy to the FSM, the unique band “Vocal Trash” blew through three states of Micronesia in a whirlwind tour spreading their environmental message where ever they went.

“Vocal Trash” is based in Ft. Worth, Texas. “Vocal Trash has been entertaining the globe with a message of peace, love and saving our planet,” their Facebook page says. “Our mission is to unite the world through song and dance. We are environmental activists, that have dedicated our lives to inspiring others to find hope and joy, while saving our planet. Everything on our stage we have rescued from a landfill- from tool box guitars to a milk urn bass... up cycling at its finest. We have been on our Let Peace Begin Tour that has included over 5 countries and all 50 states. We have so much to share with the world, and we’re truly excited and blessed to get to do what we love every day.”

The band’s high energy performance, even in the blazing heat and high humidity of Kosrae, Chuuk, and Pohnpei was infectious. Led by Kelsey Rae and Steve Linder, the band includes Grug Dugan, Anthony Silva, and Pablo Barragan. They were all consummate performers inspiring audience participation throughout their performances.



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Luen Thai and Pohnpei settle court actions and agree to fish farming project

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

August 13, 2018

Pohnpei—Governor Marcelo Peterson and LianCheng Overseas Fishery FSM Corporation, Luen Thai Fishing Venture represented by Deng Lu today signed settlement agreements on the long standing civil actions between the State and Luen Thai. They also signed an agreement for Luen Thai to lease



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Nauru Airlines



Four Patta men sentenced to nine years in jail for Trafficking in Children

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

August 9, 2018

Weno, Chuuk—On August 8, FSM Supreme Court Chief Justice Dennis Yamase sentenced four men for the crime of Trafficking Children. The men faced the possibility of a total of 30 years and/or a fine of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$50,000. While the sentence was slightly more than half of what they could have received it is still the strongest sentence the FSM has handed down for the crime.

He sentenced Onsoni Sino, Kachura Angken, Taisiro Loves, and Lucky Shiro to serve 15 years in the Chuuk State Jail. He suspended all but nine of the years. He also required each of the men to pay \$1000 in restitution to the victim at the rate of \$50 per month beginning on October 1, 2018. The amount is payable to the State Justice Ombudsman no later than the first day of each month until the amount of restitution is satisfied.

The court advised each of the men their right to appeal the sentence and also of the right of a person who is unable to pay the cost of an appeal to apply for leave to appeal "in forma pauperis".

The men had been convicted of Trafficking in Children after prosecutors proved that each of them had sex in Patta, Chuuk with a young girl of 14 or 15 at the time.

Prosecutors proved to the court that the young victim's claim that in September of 2015 Sino had sex with her in exchange for marijuana were true. The criminal information on the case said that on that day, the victim had been sent by her mother to buy disposable diapers. Sino followed the victim and urged the victim to allow Sino's daughter to buy the diapers for her so that she could go to his house with him. After the act, witnesses saw the two leaving Sino's house.

Kachura Angken was convicted based on evidence presented by the prosecutors along with the victim's testimony that in October 2015 he solicited a minor to have sex with him in his taro patch for the sum of \$15.

Tasiro Loves was convicted on testimony of the victim, other evidence placed before the Court, and arguments of counsel. In 2015, Loves lured the victim to a home belonging to another person on Patta and induced the minor to have sexual intercourse with him for \$2.00.

Lucky Shiro was convicted of having had sex with the victim for a promised sum of two dollars that he apparently didn't have the cash to pay after the act was completed.

Yamase ordered the men to report to the Chuuk State Jail to begin serving their sentences by noon on August 16, 2018.

Two Nukuoro employees accused of stealing nearly \$18,000 from the people of the municipality

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

August 16, 2018

Pohnpei—Pohnpei has filed criminal charges against two Nukuoro employees related to theft of nearly \$18,000. The charges came after a Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor review of the municipality revealed financial irregularities that were then handed over to the Compliance Investigation Division, which after investigation referred the matter to the Pohnpei Office of the Attorney General.

The charges were filed at the Pohnpei State Supreme Court on the evening of July 27. Itaia R. Fred and Blumina Leopold were charged with the crimes. Their arraignment is scheduled on August 17. Both are presumed innocent unless otherwise proved in court. At press time they had not yet entered their pleas.

Both of the defendants are charged with grand larceny, theft by failure to make required disposition of funds received, cheating, misconduct in public office, and compounding a crime.

According to the filed charges, Fred is the chief representative of the Mayor for the municipal government of Nukuoro. Blumina Leopold is the Assistant Treasurer for the Nukuoro government.

The charges against Itaia, who has already been convicted of felony charges on a plea bargain for a financial crime involving the Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture where he currently works, is accused of stealing over \$14,000 from the people of Nukuoro over a three year period.

Editor's note: Just before print deadline, Fred and Leopold pled "not guilty" to all charges. The trial will resume on September 14.

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Bill Jaynes
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World traveler, scientist, author, lecturer, and renaissance man visits Pohnpei

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

August 11, 2018

FSM—Sometimes you meet a person whose accomplishments are so numerous and astounding that it's hard to wrap your mind around all that they have done. Dr. Orhan Kural of Turkey is that kind of man but because of his personality, I didn't know the extent of it until I looked at his website (www.orhankural.org).

He came into my life when he walked through my office door carrying a backpack and dragging a suitcase on Friday. He introduced himself and then proceeded to pull publication after publication from his suitcase and backpack, a small sample of books he had published. He told me that he is a world traveler and had been told by someone on his journeys to look me up.

His business card lists as a Lecturer of Istanbul Aydin University, Honorary Consul of Republic of Benin, Vice Honorary Consul of Vanuatu, President of Turkish Travelers Club of Turkey, and the President of the Association of Yellow Crescent. All of those titles are just a hint of what Dr. Kural is about.

To say that he is a world traveler is to understate the matter in the extreme. During his current trip he visited the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and of course, the Federated States of Micronesia. After departing from the FSM he traveled to Tuvalu, and Nauru. They were the last four countries he needed to have visited in order to have visited all 193 countries recognized by the United Nations.

The number of countries a traveler has visited is one way to talk about how extensively one has traveled but another, better way is by region. The Nomad Mania site divides the world up into 1281 regions, the idea being that, for instance, spending a day in New York city does not

mean that a traveler has actually visited the United States. Before Dr. Kural's current trip he was ranked as the 41st most traveled person, having visited 764 of the 1281 regions. That ranking is likely to go up after this journey during which he will also visit Saipan which, as a US Territory is not one of the 193 UN countries.

If travelling was all that Dr. Kural did it would be astounding enough but he also lectures on environmental issues around the world as he travels. To date he has given over 6000 seminars and lectures. And in this, Dr. Kural is somewhat of an anomaly. While he is a vegetarian, non-smoker, non-drinker, and staunch environmentalist who speaks of witnessing the effects of climate change in Kiribati and other places, he holds a Doctorate in coal engineering and has written four major textbooks on the use of coal for energy production.

Exploring that topic a bit further, Dr. Kural said that many nations including India and Turkey have no choice but to power their industrial revolutions with coal. It's use won't be going away anytime soon but the point of his studies is to find the least environmentally intrusive way of using it. Using technical language that we didn't quite understand he talked about techniques that can be and are being used, some of which he developed, to nearly eliminate pollutants from coal's use leaving carbon dioxide as the only emission. That, of course, is still very problematic since it is CO2 emissions that has driven climate change and is troubling to him.

During all of this time Dr. Kural has also written many other books, 17 of them on travel and the environment. He carries



with him on his travels a small book of 48 pages entitled "Let's Save Our Planet Together...Do Something for Earth". Originally written in Turkish it has been translated into 15 languages and he hands them out wherever he travels.

Dr. Kural is also a photographer. His work has been displayed at 57 photo exhibits around the world.

Dr. Kural arrived in Pohnpei on the Nauru Airlines flight on August 10, and after visiting the national capitol complex and seeing some of the sights, left Pohnpei on the early morning August 12 flight.

His website is an interesting read and is well worth looking at. He is a remarkable man and it was a pleasure to have met him.

PNA earns \$470M in 2017, all major tuna stocks healthy

NORMA

MENEN, NAURU—At the 13th Annual PNA Ministerial meeting from August 1-2, PNA Ministers noted the continued success of the PNA purse seine Vessel Day Scheme (VDS). The PNA controls the fishing grounds in which about half of the world's tuna is caught and the VDS has helped to increase PNA member fishery earnings from \$60M before its implementation to \$470M in 2017. The VDS has also contributed to sustainable management as all major western and central Pacific Ocean tuna stocks were found to be healthy in 2017.

PNA Ministers adopted several key measures designed to strengthen the economic and environmental performance of the region's tuna fisheries, including the endorsement of a PNA Electronic Monitoring (e-monitoring) Program. This will build on a sub-regional E-Monitoring initiative spearheaded by the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, and Solomon Islands. E-Monitoring leverages advanced technology including video cameras to fill critical science and compliance monitoring data gaps in the region's tuna fisheries. "This is a very positive step for PNA to take leadership in the development of the

E-monitoring program for not just the PNA but also the region given more than half of the longline effort occurs in the high seas which has a poor record of monitoring and compliance. The installation of camera's would improve validation of the catch and improve monitoring particularly of species of special interest" says Eugene Pangelinan, Executive Director of FSM's fisheries agency.

The prohibition on high seas bunkering was also adopted by the PNA Ministers. In this respect, all purse seine vessels licensed to fish in PNA waters will be prohibited from bunkering

Chuuk FSM Senator introduces resolution on Chuuk secession

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

August 2, 2018

Palikir, Pohnpei—During the Fifth Special Session of the 20th FSM Congress, Chuuk's Senator Robson Romolow introduced a resolution (C.R. 20-119) regarding the upcoming referendum for his State to secede from the FSM.

The resolution did not reach the floor of Congress for consideration during the short fifth special session but is still open for consideration in a future session.

Romolow's proposed resolution says that "there are many unanswered questions with regards to the financial future and financial stability for Chuuk should it secede from the Federation."

It says that "the governments of the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States have both expressed that an independent Chuuk nation will not be eligible for any funds from the Compact Trust Fund or otherwise."

Finally it says that the "leadership and constituents from the Northwest Region of Chuuk have also expressed their concern regarding the potential referendum."

The proposed resolution asks the 20th Congress of the FSM to request the Governor of the State of Chuuk to reconsider moving forward with the referendum related to Chuuk's secession from the Federated States of Micronesia.

(re-fueling) in the high seas starting January 1, 2020 as this activity increases the risk of illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. Lastly, Kiribati joined the PNA longline VDS, joining the seven PNA members and Tokelau in the initiative, which was launched in 2014. Tokelau also joined the FSM Arrangement widening the operational area of the domestic fleets of PNA members.

Palau will host the next PNA Ministerial in 2019.

College of Micronesia Trial Counselor's 2018 Graduation

FSM Supreme Court

On July 31, 2018, nine (9) students of the College of Micronesia Trial Counselor's program received their certificates of completion, before a gathering of special guests, family members, and supporters. The ceremony was held at the FSM Supreme Court in Palikir.

The certificate program provides training opportunities for current, as well as aspiring and upcoming trial counselors, to improve their skills and competency, and to prepare them to be effective decision makers in their respective courts. The program also provides for networking and sharing among trial counselors, and those interested in entering the legal field. Graduates have also gone on to further their legal studies in China, Vanuatu, and the United States.

During the ceremony, the opening prayer was given by Reverend Taylor Elidok, and opening remarks were made by Karen Simion, Vice President of Instructional Affairs, who gave an overview of the program. The keynote address was delivered by Jackson Smith, who was one of the graduates, and is the Chief Justice of the Sokehs Municipal Court. Chief Justice Smith addressed the graduates by emphasizing the importance of a legal

education, and the need to work toward a common good.

The certificates were presented to the graduates by Karen Simion and Associate Justice of the FSM Supreme Court, Beaulen Carl-Worswick. The closing remarks were given by Daniel Rescue Jr., General Counsel of the FSM Supreme Court. Mr. Rescue discussed the special partnership between the College of Micronesia and the FSM Supreme Court through the administration of the Trial Counselor's program, a relationship that has been in existence for nearly twenty (20) years.

Special guests also in attendance were: Joseph Habuchmai, COM Vice President for Administration, Maria Dison, Dean of Academic Programs, Dr. Denise Oen, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Delihna Ehmes, Professor for Social Sciences Division, Joseph Felix Jr., Instructional Coordinator for the National Campus, Eusepio Hadley, Associate Justice of the Sokehs Municipal Court, and Dickson Martin, Temporary Justice for the Kolonia Town Court.

The following are the 2018 graduates of the College of Micronesia Trial Counselor's program: Hiteharu Augustine, Floriano Bonapart, Tamara Tara Booth, Mayleen David, Semenster Hadley, Stevick Joseph, Helen Paul,



Front row: Daniel Rescue Jr. (General Counsel of the FSM Supreme Court), Emeliana Musrasrik-Carl (Director of Court Administration), Delihna Ehmes (Professor for the Social Sciences Division), Beaulen Carl-Worswick (Associate Justice of the FSM Supreme Court), Karen Simion (Vice President of Instructional Affairs), and Joseph Habuchmai (Vice President of Administration).

Back row: Semenster Hadley, Tamara Tara-Booth, Floriano Bonapart, Mayleen David, Hellen Paul, Hiteharu Augustine, Jackson Smith, Stevick Joseph, and Joseph Felix Jr. (Instructional Coordinator for the National Campus). Missing, Michael Reyes.

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...Luen Thai

Continued from front page

land on Pohnpei Port Authority property, as well as an agreement to begin a tuna farming pilot project in Pohnpei waters.

Governor Peterson called the moment an important event for Pohnpei Economic Development.

Luen Thai currently employs approximately 100 people in Pohnpei. Deng says that the new agreements will pave the way for at least 100 more jobs that don't currently exist in Pohnpei.

The Governor and Deng said that the pilot program for tuna farming would be in waters near the APSCO dock in Sokehs. The Mackerel Tuna (*Euthynus affinis*) that would be raised there, if the project is successful, would be exported as fresh high grade sashimi quality. Deng said that the current market value for sashimi grade Mackerel Tuna in the Japanese market is at just over \$16 per pound varying with exchange rates.

The settlement documents and Lease Agreement were accompanied by a memo to Governor Peterson from

Pohnpei Attorney General Dana Smith who explained each element of the agreements.

He said that the documents memorialize the agreement that Luan Thai Fishing Venture would pay Pohnpei State \$35,000 for the December 27, 2007 grounding of the Gow Rong 23 vessel. "The vessel was a total loss and is no longer in existence. The parties agreed that the reef area that was damaged by grounding has regenerated and this is little or no evidence of damage to the reef where the grounding took place. Payment for this settlement will be made by offset of lease rent payments," Smith's memo said.

Luen Thai agreed to accept the settlement offer of Pohnpei State "for damages resulting when former Governor John Ehsa and the Pohnpei State Government interfered with the operations of Luen Thai at the PFC dock area. This action was originally filed by Miju Mulsan in the Pohnpei Supreme Court. The original Miju Mulsan claim has been dismissed in the FSM Supreme Court," Smith's memo said. Luen Thai had originally asked for \$121,833.35 for damages. They ultimately accepted Pohnpei State's settlement offer of \$85,000 for damages. Again, payment will be made by offset on

lease rent payments.

"LianCheng Overseas Fishery (FSM) Company, Luen Thai Fishing Venture, Ltd., the State of Pohnpei, OFA and Governor Marcelo Peterson agree to release, waive and discharge any claims which they have against each other in all of the pending law suits, some of which involve Miju Mulsan and agree to assist one another in defending any of the claims which remain brought by Miju Mulsan," Smith's memo said.

"The outstanding litigation not resolved by the settlement agreements and the lease agreement is the case brought against Pohnpei State Government challenging the enforcement of the Pohnpei transshipment tax and the payment of \$115,861.30 under protest by Luen Thai," Smith's memo said. "This action is stayed until December 31, 2018 to enable the Legislature to consider repeal of 29 PC 1-139."

The 25 year lease agreement is for land that Luen Thai currently occupies. The agreed upon base rent for that property is \$156,000 per year. Smith provided an analysis of annual income from current holdover lease agreements on a per square meter basis. Luen Thai had been

paying \$19.23 per square meter per year. The agreement signed today will have them paying \$30.00 per square meter per year. The closest to that figure is Taiyo Micronesia Corporation who is paying \$18.00 per square meter per year. The lowest two figures on the list were the land where the US Embassy is located at 44 cents per square meter per year based on their advance payment of \$800,000 for a 110 year lease, and PPA land for Pohnpei Transfer and Storage at 75 cents per square meter per year.

In order for the lease to be fully enacted, the Legislature will need to make some corrections to current law, the wording of which used some incorrect square meter calculations and figures from a faulty survey.

Luen Thai has also expressed interest in the EDA and Taiyo properties at the dock area as well, if the Legislature makes them available. If they do become available, the annual lease rate for those properties would be \$50,000 for both buildings, or \$28.23 per square meter per year.

"Safeguards have been built into the lease agreement to protect the security interests of the Pohnpei Port Authority," Smith's memo says.

Donation gives helping hand to Yap Youth Organization

By Joyce McClure

Colonia, Yap- During the 2018 Micro Games, among the hundreds of volunteers who pitched in and provided support was a group from Mormon Helping Hands, the community service organization of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In addition to a group from the church's two local Yap branches located in Colonia and Thol that helped clear out desks, chairs and other furniture from the schoolrooms at Yap High School before it was turned into the athletes village, a team of media and technical experts arrived from Japan, Korea, Guam and Pohnpei to make sure fans from around the region and the world could cheer on their favorite athletes from afar.

The all-volunteer group brought equipment along with their expertise and worked with local volunteers to set up live streaming of the Games. They also took photos of the competitions that were posted online and shot videos that are now being edited and will be uploaded to YouTube. Then, when the two-week-long quadrennial event came to a close, they left three new laptops with an offer to donate them to a worthy organization in Yap.



OurYAP (Our Youth are Promising), a nonprofit dedicated to promoting "the well-being and development of Yaps' Youth for the benefit of all people of the state," was the recipient. Supported by the Yap State Department of Youth Services, OurYAP encourages Youth Networking and the dissemination of "ideas among youth clubs, develop[s] youth plans, ideas and coordinate[s] youth programs and activities within their respective communities."

LDS District President, Jim Hachigeiresh, presented the laptops to OurYAP representatives Michelle Chugen and Joshua Libyan in the presence of John G. Mangefel, Yap State Department of Youth Services.

"OurYAP did a great job during the Micro Games as volunteers," said Hachigeiresh. "We know that OurYAP will put the laptops to good use. Helping Hands is always willing to help in any way we can," he added. "We are always available for anyone in need no matter what the need is."

With this donation, the young members of OurYAP can now realize their own mission of service, as well.

John G. Mangefel, Yap State Department of Youth Services; Joshua Libyan and Michelle Chugen, Our YAP; Jim Hachigeiresh, District President, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
PHOTO CREDIT: Joyce McClure

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Announcement:

A US Canvasback Eye Team will be in Pohnpei this week and next week, 13-24 August.

Also, the FSM Ophthalmologist will be in Chuuk in September and if people want to get screened or seek eye care services, they should call the Chuuk Department of Health Services at 330-2210/2444/2420 or Public Health at 330-2577.

Announcement:

The Pohnpei Catholic School will be having its first PTA Meeting on August 23 at 4pm, Gonzaga Hall

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"Perfection is not attainable, but if we can chase perfection we can catch excellence." —Vince Lombardi



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...Vocal Trash

Continued from front page

Banging on water bottles, trash cans, and even the stage floor; playing a guitar whose body was a Dewalt power tool case, break dancing, and even tap dancing every song, every message encouraged their audiences to actively work to preserve the earth. They likely had more impact on the problem of littering in one hour and a half performance than KPress has had in over 16 years of editorials.

They were hard not to love though no one seemed to try wherever they went.

On July 31 they landed in Kosrae and spent the next four days there meeting with the Governor, doing live radio interviews, touring the island, and of course, playing their unique style of music.

The band's next stop was in Chuuk, where they arrived on August 4 and had a day off on Sunday during which they had lunch and snorkeled at the beautiful Blue Lagoon Resort. On the next day they paid a courtesy call to Governor Johnson Elimo, after which they had a community engagement with the Young Women's Empowerment Group. That evening they performed their first concert at the Chuuk High School Gymnasium. On the next day they had a community engagement

with the Chuuk Youth Council and in the evening gave a concert for VIPs and Community Leaders at the Truk Stop Hotel.

After they arrived in Pohnpei on August 8 they gave a recorded interview at the Pohnpei State Radio Station. On the next day they paid a courtesy call on Governor Marcelo Peterson, followed by outreach visits to Our Lady of Mercy High School and Calvary Christian Academy. They ended their day with story hour at the Pohnpei Public Library. Friday began with an outreach visit to Pohnpei Catholic School. The evening culminated with a concert at PICS Track and Field.

Approximately 500 people attended that high energy concert, the biggest crowd they attracted during the Micronesia tour, at least for those who had specifically come to see them perform. Some local Pohnpei musicians also had the experience of performing in front of the large crowd as they performed during a break in the "Vocal Trash" set. "The Remix", "Pohnpei Rhythm", and Rohperdo James Primo's performance stood up well to the professionalism of the seasoned musicians of "Vocal Trash".

Very early on the next morning, the band got up bright and early, arriving at the PICS Track and Field at 5:00 in the morning for the Third Annual US Embassy's Color Run. Vocal Trash provided music at the field before and after the run. More than 800 people registered and turned up for the run or walk through the streets of Kolonia. The Color Run was to



commemorate International Youth Day with the theme "Safe Spaces for Youth".

Ambassador Riley delivered opening remarks highlighting the success of Ms. Sylvia Elias and Ms. Kimberly Graham in receiving a small grant from the U.S. Department of State Young Pacific Leaders Program; they recently conducted a youth mentoring workshop in Chuuk, FSM.

"Be the positive person in life that creates a safe space for the youth" said U.S. Naval Academy Midshipman Hitoshi Phillip Oue from Pohnpei, who was the guest speaker for the event.

The members of "Vocal Trash" did get a chance to visit some of Pohnpei's sites when they visited Nan Madol and Kepirohi Falls on their last day on the island.

While they were here, the members of "Vocal Trash" also filmed a short video at the Dekehtik Landfill encouraging people to consider whether what they dump can be used



before they throw it away, and demonstrated by drumming on available items there. Of course, "Vocal Trash" has never witnessed a Pohnpei New Year celebration with hordes of people beating on recycled instruments and even dragging sheets of tin down the street.



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Alumni Success

Dr. Padwick and Mrs. Suzanne Lowe Gallen were both students of the college who have become active members of the college community.



Dr. Padwick and Mrs. Suzanne Gallen at the colleges' 25th Anniversary Celebrations.

Mrs. Suzanne Gallen entered the college's Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) in Fall of 1997. After receiving several scholarships, including the first Pohnpei Rotary Scholarship, she transferred to the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she studied Political Science, English, Psychology and Women's Studies. Adding to her academic accolades are various qualifications in Diplomacy and Development Studies, all of which could have easily landed her anywhere in the world, but she chose to come back to Pohnpei to try to make a difference in her community.

Suzanne currently works as the Senior

Program Manager at the Australian Embassy in Pohnpei, where, amongst a long list of duties, she manages and implements development assistance programs in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. Prior to joining the Aussies, she was the Chief of Statistics, Compliance and Technical Projects at the FSM National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA). She also served as the Assistant Director for Compact Management at the FSM Office of Statistics, Budget & Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance & Compact Management (SBOC). Her early career was with the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, where she was the Deputy Assistant Secretary for American Affairs. Her work experience also includes paralegal duties with the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline and the Family Law Center, both in Honolulu, Hawaii. She also was employed as an Enumerator for the US Census Bureau surveying FSM citizens in Hawaii.

Dr. Padwick Gallen entered the college when it was still the Community College of Micronesia (CCM). During his time there, the college moved campuses and established itself as the College of Micronesia-FSM, where he received an Associates of Arts in Liberal Arts in 1993. He then went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 1998 from the University of Hawaii-Hilo. After being awarded a full scholarship to attend the Fiji School of Medicine, Padwick graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor in Medicine and Bachelor in Surgery. He later returned to the Fiji School of Medicine to attain a Post-graduate Diploma in General Surgery in 2011, a Post-graduate Diploma in Ophthalmology in 2012, and a Masters of Medicine in Ophthalmology in 2015.



Dr. and Mrs. Gallen with children Padrake and Gabriella.

Dr. Gallen is currently the resident Ophthalmologist for the Pohnpei State Department of Health Services (DHS). Prior to his current role, he served as a General Practitioner for DHS. In a keynote speech he gave at the opening of the college's 25th Anniversary celebrations, Dr. Gallen shared his work experience and insight on what it means to be successful:

"Success can be defined in so many ways. In my line of work success is restoring vision. Restoring vision brings hope to those who have lost their ability to see."

Like his wife, the good doctor is also a member of several community and regional organizations such as the Conservation Society of Pohnpei and the Pacific Eye Care Society. As the country's first and currently only Ophthalmologist, Dr. Gallen participates in medical outreach visits to neighboring islands, bringing specialized medical services to communities.

Dr. and Mrs. Gallen both credit the college for opening the door to their successes academically and professionally. In Dr. Gallen's words: "I would not be where I am today had I not attended the College of

Micronesia-FSM." Their success allows them to give back to their community and to the college. Dr. and Mrs. Gallen are recognized on the college's 25th Anniversary Donors' Wall as contributors to the Endowment Fund.

Despite their busy professional careers, the time they enjoy the most is with what they call the greatest of successes—their two beautiful children, Gabriella and Padrake.

The college is proud to have been a part of the successes of Dr. Padwick Gallen and Suzanne Gallen. Growing from students to productive members of the community, they are examples of what the college strives for in delivering its mission. "Vision brings hope" and the college will continue to bring that vision to students to turn their hopes into their successes.



Share your story by emailing us at alumnisuccess@comfsm.fm
We want hear about your achievements!



Fall 2018 Registration

Event	Date
New Students Orientation	August 9-10, 2018
Fall 2018 Regular Registration	August 15-17, 2018
<i>First Day of Instruction</i>	<i>August 20, 2018</i>

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FSM Supreme Court hosts Activity Preparation and Refresher Training of Trainers Workshop in Chuuk

FSM Supreme Court

The National Supreme Court of FSM and the Pacific Judicial Strengthening Initiative hosted the Activity Preparation and Refresher Training-of-Trainers Workshop from 31 July-2 August, 2018, at the Kurassa Hotel Conference Room, Chuuk.

The workshop was attended by 16 participants, from the FSM Supreme Court, Chuuk State Supreme Court, Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Chuuk Women's Council, Chuuk Youth Council, Pacific Youth Council, Department of Public Safety, Chuuk State Chamber of Commerce, and Pacific Resources for Education and Learning. The faculty included trainers from FSM and Australia.

Participants of the workshop received training to develop their confidence in leading, designing, delivering, monitoring and evaluating ongoing judicial and court development activities. The practical and

interactive workshop also focussed on developing adult learning skills to help the FSM Supreme Court to implement its newly developed Access to Justice Plan and associated training in each State. Participants also took the opportunity to showcase traditional and cultural practices and the paying of respect in engagement activities.

Mr. Xavier Maras, Administrative Officer from Department of Public Safety, noted that: "I learned to be a champion for access to justice through the Pacific Judicial Strengthening Initiative training."

The workshop is one of the many workshops held by the Pacific Judicial Strengthening Initiative within the Pacific. The Initiative is funded by New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade which has supported promoting the rule of law across the Pacific over recent years. Ms. Gina Nowell, Secretary Court Reporter FSM Supreme Court, Chuuk, added that: "We have learned ways to identify and help others in need to better access justice in Chuuk."



Front Row left to right: Ms. Jayleen Irons - Intern, FSM Supreme Court; Ms. Richella Dois - Intern, FSM Supreme Court; Ms. Joanne Nakamura - Assistant Chief Clerk of Court, Chuuk State Supreme Court; Ms. Achipen Martinez - Legal Assistant, Department of Justice; Ms. Lucille Sain - Pacific Youth Board Member & PREL; Ms. Atrina Mori Soichy - Secretary to Justice, FSM Supreme Court; Ms. Emeliena J. Musrasrik- Carl - Director of Court Administration, FSM Supreme Court; Ms. Gina Nowell - Secretary Court Reporter - FSM Supreme Court; Mr. Lorenz Metzner - Team Leader, PJSI

Back Row left to right: Mr. Daniel Rescue Jr - General Counsel, FSM Supreme Court; Mr. J.K. Kaminaga - Prosecutor, Office of the Attorney General-Chuuk State; Ms. Masiko Ann Sipenuk - Chief Clerk of Court, Chuuk State Supreme Court; Mr. Samuel Bisalen - Chief of Operation - Department of Public Safety, Chuuk; Mr. Isauo Kuena - Director of Court Administration - Chuuk State Supreme Court; Mr. Xavier Maras - Administrative Officer, Department of Public Safety, Chuuk; Mr. Christopher Estaquio - Executive Director, Chuuk Chamber of Commerce

Not shown: Ms. Sherry-Jane Edmond - Prosecutor, Office of the Attorney General, Chuuk State; and Mr. Mori-M Mori - President, Chuuk Youth Council

Fahrenheit Tugboat

YapStateGov News Release

On Monday, July 30, 2018, a tugboat entered the harbor off Colonia; it was identified as the "Mtug OCEAN SUPPORT", a vessel owned by Fahrenheit Co. Ltd. that was intended to tug along the MV Forever Lucky and cargo meant for the 2018 Micronesian Games. Upon arrival, the vessel was denied by immigration and quarantine authorities, citing lack of an entry permit.

The tugboat has been quarantined at the eastern end of the port, with its 16 Philippine nationals charged with immigration violations. The FSM National Police has signed an affidavit in support of the injunction served to the vessel's captain and Fahrenheit's representatives. It appeared that the National Police officer who signed the affidavit was not familiar with the content of the affidavit.

On Wednesday, August 1, the Governor communicated to the FSM President of the issue, requesting assistance in providing clearance for the vessel. The letter also thanked the FSM National Government for contributing to the successful hosting of the 2018 MicroGames in Yap.

In the letter, Governor shared that while an entry permit was issued for the

Forever Lucky on June 9, one was never issued for her tugboat. The Forever Lucky was eventually released by the Philippine authorities, but was too late to arrive in Yap for the Games. As for the tugboat, state authorities did submit the necessary documents requesting for an entry permit from FSM Immigration & Labor on July 9, with a follow-up communication on July 23. But an entry permit was never issued, or any denial of an entry permit communicated. These communications were forwarded to the Secretary of Justice on August 2, 2018 in response to the Secretary's e-mail that there was no communication to his Immigration staff regarding the tugboat. In response to this e-mail, the Secretary stated that he would verify this with his staff and respond as soon as possible; but to date, the State has not received any further response. The tugboat left the Philippines late and arrived late on July 30 due to inclement weather, bringing freezer container cargo and other donated goods meant for the MicroGames.

According to the Yap State Department of Resources & Development, Fahrenheit was issued a Foreign Investment Permit in May of this year; allegations of illegal business were false. It was also shared that while the Forever Lucky was detained in the Philippines on allegations of human trafficking, human smuggling and

illegal documentation, ultimately there were no formal or informal warrant or complaint against Fahrenheit and the Forever Lucky by Philippine authorities, as falsely reported by some members of the press.

Currently, the tugboat's crew are not permitted by FSM Immigration to disembark the vessel. Additionally, the shipping agent and state officials are not allowed to board the vessel. The Governor in his letter urged the President to assist in the matter for "humanitarian reasons as well as our future urge for foreign investment".

"We request that the owner and crew of the vessels must not be penalized for going out of their way to assist with the Micro Games despite the given extenuating circumstances," read the letter. "We know that it is not their intention to violate any national or state laws but perhaps due to miscommunication between the State and National Government relevant offices."

The letter further stated that the State will continue to collaborate with the FSM National Government on the clearance of the vessel and its cargo in accordance with FSM laws and regulations, "as we did before the games".

The Yap State Government has not been

part of any media releases being published lately in various media platforms, as it continues to identify with the National Government certain oversights that may have directly or indirectly contributed to the overall misunderstanding. The State Government is in the process of affording appropriate actions toward the release of unverified information and claims that are promoting falsified and compromising information to the general public.

Further information and clarifications may be requested from the Governor's key staff on the matter: Director of Resources & Development James G. Lukan and Director of Youth & Civic Affairs Francis Itimai, at email addresses itimaifrancis@yahoo.com and jameslukan@yahoo.com, respectively. R&D and DY&CA may also be contacted at +(691)350-2182 or +(691)350-2168.



Tugboat OCEAN SUPPORT tethered at Port of Colonia

Micronesian students awarded K12 scholarships

Habele

Colonia, Yap- Eighteen students from across Micronesia will enroll in respected private schools this fall with the help of Habele tuition scholarships. Attendance at these schools dramatically increases the likelihood that these children - residents of some of the most remote communities on earth - will complete a K-12 education.

Since 2006, Habele has partnered directly with families, schools, and local stakeholders to ensure that bright, hardworking students have access to the best education possible. These tuition scholarships are funded entirely by individuals with a deep commitment to children in underserved Micronesian communities.

The students, whose families come from isolated islands and atolls throughout Yap and Chuuk States, have been awarded tuition assistance covering 75 percent of the cost of their 2018-19 enrollment.

They will be attending top-ranked, independent K-12 schools on the islands of Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei. Most will live with relatives or sponsors for the length of the school year.

The far-flung islands of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) are renowned for their natural beauty, as well as their strategic location in the crossroads of the Pacific. Extreme isolation and limited natural resources remain a struggle for the nation, despite decades of direct financial aid from the United States government. These huge sums have failed to translate into broad educational access or measurable education success for most Micronesian students. In this void, Habele continues to demonstrate the real impact that comes through targeted investment with local buy-in.

"Habele invests directly in students," says Matt Coleman, Executive Director of Habele. "We take a lot of pride in watching them thrive academically, then graduate equipped to pursue higher education and give back to their communities."

In addition to the funding tuition scholarships, Habele provisions public school libraries across the FSM, supports traditional skills instructional programs, and

facilitates the only high-school robotics league in the Western and Central Pacific.

Established by former Peace Corps volunteers, Habele is a US-based nonprofit, advancing educational access and accomplishment in Micronesian communities.



Outer Islands Students graduating from Yap Catholic High School

Letter to the Editor

Dear Chuukese:

I write this letter because of the vagueness and woefully inadequate response from Sabino Asor, the principal strategist of the Chuuk secession movement, to former Speaker Jack Fritz's statement. Mr. Asor claimed that the establishment of the Chuuk State Political Status Commission is not unconstitutional because it was established by the Chuuk state legislature like any state institutions in Chuuk such as the Board of Education. He was wrong to compare the establishment of the political status to the creation of the Board of Education. First, the establishment of the political status commission violated Section 3 of Article XIII of the FSM constitution. The FSM constitution is the supreme law in this country, and that an act of the Government in conflict with this (FSM) Constitution is invalid to the extent of conflict (Section, Article II, FSM Constitution). The establishment of the Chuuk political status commission by the Chuuk state legislature is an act of a government in the FSM that contradicted Section 3 of Article XIII of the FSM constitution, and therefore, the creation of the CSPSC is unconstitutionally ab initio.

Second, in establishing the Board of Education the Chuuk State Legislature acted within the legal parameters of its constitutional power granted to the states by the FSM national constitution.

(See Sections 1 and 2 of Article VIII of the FSM Constitution and Edward v. Pohnpei, 3 FSM Intrm 350, 357, Pohnpei: 1988). In comparing the unconstitutionality of establishment of CSPSC to the unquestionably constitutionally created state Board of Education is tantamount to comparing oranges to breadfruits. In other words, this comparison is bizarre.

In his most recent posting on Facebook, Mr. Asor sets out the proposed timeline for Chuuk separation from the plebiscite to withdrawal of Chuuk from the FSM to complete independence. On his proposed timeline of events, Sabino Asor allotted a segment of that timeline to negotiation with the United States and FSM regarding the division of the Compact Trust Fund. What is there for Chuuk State Political Status Commission to negotiate? In the first place, and unlike the other three states, Chuuk failed to pay its contribution to the initial capitalization of the FSM Trust Fund. Second, the US Ambassador Riley, the highest US government representative in the FSM and personal representative of the US president, has said that if Chuuk secedes then it would not be eligible to receive any fund from the FSM Trust Fund. Mr. Asor has contradicted Ambassador Riley's statement. Who should we believe, Ambassador Riley, the highest ranking US diplomat in the FSM who represent the US president with full authority to speak for the US government or Sabino Asor a member of the Chuuk State Political Status Commission? I do not need to tell you who you should believe and trust, but I can warn to watch out of a false political prophet with tons of arrogance of power.

Mr. Asor also included a segment on his timeline of events for negotiation with the FSM for boundary. I presume Mr. Asor wants to negotiate Chuuk boundaries with Yap state in the west and Pohnpei state in the east. The current boundary among the states in the FSM is set by laws that apply the principle of equidistance (See FSM Constitution, section 2, Article I). I wonder what Mr. Asor had in mind. Does he want to expand Chuuk boundary westward into the outer islands of Yap and eastward into Pohnpei

Thank you very much and I remain

*Sincerely yours,
John R. Haglegam*



U.S EMBASSY INVITES THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO A SEALED BID AUCTION

**Bid Date: Monday & Tuesday,
August 27 & 28, 2018**

Pick up date: Wednesday, August 29, 2018

Location:

Pohnpei Peace Corps Office

ITEMS FOR BID:

- Vehicle
- Furniture
- Misc. office equipment (IT equipment & general equipment)

LOCATION: Pohnpei Peace Corps Office

VIEWING STARTS: 9:00AM- 5:00PM
Monday, August 27 2018

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT SEALED BID:
9:00AM- 3:30PM
Tuesday, August 28 2018

OPENING OF BIDS: Winning bidders will be notified by Phone starting on Wednesday, August 29 2018. Items must be picked up as soon as possible.

SEALED BID SALE WILL BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

--Property sold on an "as-is-where-is basis" for cash payment without refund or warranty by Peace Corps/US Government

--The purchaser shall pay any customs duties, local taxes, or other charges imposed by the Government of Pohnpei or the FSM.

--Successful bidder must pay the full bid amount in cash, or Cashier's check payable to USDO.

--All fully purchased items must be removed from Peace Corps premises immediately following payment

--US Embassy and/or Peace Corps reserves the right to reject any or all bids

-No "ghost bids" allowed

-Bidder should be at least 18 years of age to be eligible to participate in the auction.

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Announcement:



TITLE: Grants Officer
CLOSING DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Under supervision of the Conservation Program Manager (CPM) the Grants Officer (GO) is responsible for conducting: project development, and monitoring and evaluation of projects. The GO is also responsible for providing technical and financial capacity-building services to MCT grantees. The work involves direct contact, including through site visits, with grantee organizations and project implementers in all four states of the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, CNMI, Palau and the Marshall Islands. Further, the GO will assist in MCT's Knowledge Management (KM) and communication work areas. This involves: maintaining MCT's project database; assisting in developing, maintaining and updating MCT's KM and communication policies and procedures; and maintaining the MCT website, including content creation and basic updating, with appropriate IT assistance if required.

INDICATIVE LIST OF SPECIFIC DUTIES (for complete list, request full TOR)

- Assist with preparations for, and conducting of, Calls for Proposals;
- Prepare and monitor grantee subcontracts, including contract documents, budgets, work plans and reporting requirements;
- Serve as the primary contact for MCT program grants as assigned by the CPM;
- Monitor the implementation of approved projects, including email and telephone communications and site visits;
- Track assigned program and project budgets and work plans;
- Complete and submit project monitoring reports and trip reports as required;
- Review, verification and filing of project/grantee progress reports, both technical and financial;
- Prepare reports and correspondences as necessary for grant award management as assigned by the CPM;
- Assist with fundraising, project development and grant-writing for Conservation Program advised sinking funds;
- Providing basic technical and content updates to the MCT website, (and other external communication channels as required) — including writing short articles, updating information on grants, etc; and
- Managing and coordinating input into MCT project data base, including data entry and assisting other staff to input and manage data.

QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor's Degree in conservation-related field (science, environmental studies, etc) or business administration is preferred;
- Strong written and spoken English;
- Ability to travel frequently;
- Computer and IT literacy, especially experience in: Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Excel Microsoft Word, Microsoft Powerpoint and Microsoft Access, database management soft wear, and basic website management;
- Experience in data entry and database management;
- Experience developing articles, short stories and other short communications for publication;
- Experience in developing, or working with, organizations Knowledge Management (KM) and communications polices and procedures (desirable);
- 1 to 3 years work experience (including volunteer and internship placements), preferably within the conservation sector with increasing levels of responsibility; and
- detail oriented, reliable, prompt, hardworking and the ability to work independently with minimal supervision.

TITLE: Livelihoods Project Manager
CLOSING DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

Reporting to the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director, the Livelihoods Project Manager (LPM) is responsible for coordinating livelihoods projects secured by the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) as part of the accomplishment of the overarching goal and associated milestones and activities for Impact Area C of the MCT Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2016-2018, Sustainable Livelihoods. The LPM will assume direct responsibility for the first of MCT's livelihoods projects, the Vital Coconuts for Life project specifically, with the broader task of contributing to MCT's determination of the nature of its ongoing participation in livelihoods development programs.

Initial focus activities – Vital Corp. Coconuts for Life Project (C4L):

The overall goal of the C4L project is to provide sustainable agricultural trade and improve the living standards of communities through local socio-political structures and institutions that utilize the modified Participant Guarantee System (PGS) Framework.

- Ensure that all C4L activities adhere to the MCT Gender, Social and Environmental Risk Management policies and associated processes.
- Liaise with the Vital C4L project team to achieve program goals.
- Review the PGS materials and provide input as appropriate to the FSM context
- Receive training on the delivery of PGS implementation activities in order lead delivery of the said training activities for farmers groups.
- Assist with any future program rollout of C4L activities as the program expands.
- Lead/facilitate the development and implementation of monitoring and evaluation plans for C4L and other related community programs, including establishment of community development priorities.
- Lead the implementation of the PGS formation, registration, and participation in the C4L trade.
- Provide Business Support Service training for host agencies, coordinators and PGS farmer groups.
- Assist the C4Life Project Team to test the PGS materials/tools in 3 pilot sites and continue to make improvements as appropriate.
- With input from the initial test in the pilot sites, improve and finalize the PGS toolkits
- Based on lessons learned from the pilot site models, begin to engage other communities around Pohnpei.
- Conduct PGS trainings for those communities who are ready to receive them.
- Carry out due diligence assessments with the PGS groups to gauge their progress towards achieving maturity index.
- Develop and propose a 1 year schedule of community outreach, engagement and training.
- In line with MCT's Strategic Plan explore potential opportunities to further expand, support and develop MCT's Sustainable Livelihoods Program.

Qualifications

Education: Advanced university degree in environmental fields, Environmental Economics, Business Administration or similar field.

Experience: At least 5 years of relevant experience in development work, which should include project management and community outreach.

Managerial skills: Excellent analytical and writing skills

Excellent teamwork and people management skills.

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Good negotiation and problem-solving skills.

Ability to work independently and manage time and priorities.

Language requirements: Fluency in English and fluency in at least one or more of the Micronesia vernacular languages preferred.

IT skills: Proficiency in standard computer software (word-processing, excel, presentations, databases and internet)

SALARY AND BENEFITS This is a professional level position. MCT offers modest assistance with relocation as Pohnpei State is the required duty station. The GO will also be eligible for MCT's other benefits including, health and life insurance and retirement plan. Salary will depend on experience and qualifications and will be negotiated upon selection. MCT offers salaries comparable to, or higher than other employers of its type in Micronesia.

TO APPLY:

- Please provide:
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- Resume
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"My family and I have stayed here 3 times during our visits to Chuuk. The staff welcome you with gleaming smiles and are always helpful and upbeat. Our take away from this hotel is the feel of its family atmosphere." - Jan 22, 2016

"So glad this place has re-opened and is where I will stay from now on in Chuuk." - Apr 6, 2016

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Launched in 2013, The Vital Group's Corporate Social Responsibility Program is dedicated to giving back to the communities that we serve. Through this program, The Vital Annual Scholarship was established, and is being administered by The Rotary Club of Pohnpei. The scholarship is designed to support FSM students in post-secondary studies within the fields of Engineering, Accounting, Finance, Business, Agriculture, Chemistry and other fields relevant to Vital's sphere of operations. Vital also contributes \$5,000 per annum in support of The Rotary Club of Pohnpei's own scholarship program.

We are very proud to award The 2nd Vital Annual Scholarship to these five exceptional scholars from the FSM:
Stewart Johnny (Agriculture) Pamela Fredrick (Computer Science) Andrew Musrasrik (Engineering)
Jamilyn Mooteb (Physics) and Rennie Glen "RG" Taiwerpal (Agriculture).



RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018-2019 VITAL SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations!



The Application Season reopens April 2019. For more information, contact: rotarypohnpei@gmail.com