

# Sea Cucumber TRO remains in force until Young Sun motion to dismiss can be heard



By **Bill Jaynes**  
*The Kaselehlie Press*

December 5, 2019

**Pohnpei**—On November 27, the attorney for Young Sun International Trading Company filed a motion at the FSM Supreme Court to dissolve the temporary

restraining order (TRO) that bars his client from continuing with planned sea cucumber harvests in Pohnpei.

The court issued the TRO on November 19 in response to a civil action filed by seven people under the age of 18 claiming status as defendants under the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child.

The law suit was filed on the afternoon of November 18, the day that a harvest of sea cucumbers began in Madolenihmw. The TRO, as the name implies, put a temporary stop to any and all harvests of sea cucumbers in Pohnpei. (See November 25 issue of *The Kaselehlie Press*).

In its November 27 motion, Young Sun asked for a hearing on the matter of the TRO saying that for a variety of reasons it should immediately be lifted.

Unaware that all of the attorneys for all of the parties would be off island, the court set the hearing for December 2. The Court granted Young Sun's motion for enlargement of time since their attorney was off island without yet setting a date for the future. It ruled that the TRO it had previously ordered would stay in place for all of the reasons listed in its November 19 ruling until it has had an opportunity to hear from all of the parties on the motion for a preliminary injunction. That may not be until after January 10 when the current

acting Pohnpei Attorney General returns from leave.

Young Sun says in its motion that the Rules and Regulations governing the harvest of sea cucumbers has been in place since 2015 as the law requires and that they have done nothing outside of those regulations. It also says that it was never served with papers or notification of hearing on the TRO despite having a known place of business in Pohnpei. They say that while the State attorney may have agreed to the TRO during the hearing, Young Sun was not notified and did not agree. They are asking the court to set aside the TRO for the technical reason of lack of service of injunction paperwork and eventual dismissal of the case on its merits. They also claim a lack of standing for the young Plaintiffs claiming that the application of Convention of the Rights of the Child in the case are "woefully inapplicable" so the plaintiffs lack standing in the matter.

See "Sea Cucumber" on page 5

**In this EDITION  
of the KPress:**

**Pohnpei holds first ever  
Disability Awareness  
Talent Show**

Page 2

**Sailor who killed 2 and  
himself at Pearl Harbor  
identified**

Page 6

**International Day of  
Persons with Disabilities  
outreach awareness  
event held at NMHS**

Page 8

## Janet Semes Panuelo sues David W. Panuelo, Patricia Edwin, and FSM Government

By **Bill Jaynes**  
*The Kaselehlie Press*

December 3, 2019

**FSM**—This morning, Janet Semes Panuelo filed a complaint at the FSM Supreme Court for damages related to public assertions that Patricia Edwin is the "First Lady" of the FSM though Semes Panuelo has been married to President David Panuelo since 1989.

Defendants in the civil action are the FSM Government, the FSM Public Information Office, the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, the FSM Congress, David Panuelo, and Patricia Edwin.

The suit claims that the government defendants "knew" that "defendant Patricia Edwin is not the legal spouse of" David Panuelo but took no action. They instead allegedly tacitly continued to acknowledge Edwin as the First Lady on many occasions, including at the joint inaugural ceremony which aired live on the Internet.

In a bit of a contradictory statement in the civil action, Semes Panuelo accuses President Panuelo of the crime of bigamy for being "legally married" to two women at the same time. It quotes the definition of being "legally married" under the Pohnpei State penal code is "an existing relationship of husband and wife which is recognized by custom and/or law." It does not accuse Edwin of the same crime though it claims "upon information and

See "Panuelo Complaint" on page 5

# New Japanese Ambassador to the FSM hosts introductory reception in Pohnpei

By *Bill Jaynes*  
*The Kaselehlie Press*  
and *The Embassy of Japan to the FSM*

November 21, 2019

**FSM**—On November 21st, Japanese Ambassador to the FSM Sobashima and his wife hosted their introductory reception at their official residence in Pohnpei. Over 100 guests were present including representatives from the FSM National Government, State Governments, diplomatic missions, international organizations, and the Japanese community.

In his address, Ambassador Sobashima outlined the historic and current relations between Japan and the FSM, and noted with satisfaction that President David Panuelo has already visited Japan twice to attend the Enthronement Ceremony of the Emperor of Japan, and to pay a bilateral visit to have a fruitful meeting with Prime Minister Abe. He said that during that meeting Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to expand Japan’s cooperation with the FSM and President Panuelo said that the FSM supports Japan’s positions on several matters.

In that regard, the Ambassador said, “the Government of Japan has been engaged in various development cooperation projects in the FSM including technical cooperation through people-to-people exchanges by JICA. Exchanges organized by private and academic institutions have been also abundant between the two countries.”

“While Japan and the FSM established the diplomatic relations in 1988, their people’s exchanges date back more than 120 years ago, and there are a great number of citizens of the FSM of Japanese origin,” he said.

“The Government of Japan attaches importance to promoting the ‘Free and Open Indo-Pacific’.

The unshakably friendly relationship which has been

consolidated between Japan and the FSM, a country almost at the center of the Pacific which is linked to Japan by the sea, provides a strong basis for the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific”.

The Ambassador also shared with the gathering that Japan had bestowed on Kasio Mida, former FSM Ambassador to Japan, the Order of Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star two weeks prior, and congratulated him.

Ambassador Sobashima expressed his determination to do his best to further advance the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

Mr. Kasio Mida celebrated Ambassador Sobashima’s arrival to the FSM, as well as conveyed his gratitude for having received the Imperial Honors and said that he would continue to endeavor to strengthen the friendly ties between the FSM and Japan.

After the toasts, the guests enjoyed the conversations over the various food and desserts prepared by Mr. Waki, the official residence’s chef, with such drinks as Japanese sake and wines.

Ambassador Sobashima, his wife and Mr. Waki arrived in the FSM on October 7, 2019



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Bill Jaynes  
Managing Editor

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# Pohnpei holds first ever Disability Awareness Talent Show

*Pohnpei State Social Services*

**November 30, 2019**

**Pohnpei--**The first ever Disability Awareness talent Show hosted on Saturday the 30th of November 2019 invited people of all abilities to perform and attend.

It was the first inclusive talent show in Pohnpei, and potentially the whole FSM which led up to the International Day for Persons with Disabilities on the 3rd of December. This year's theme focused on 'the future is accessible' which interlinks with the recent amended Pohnpei state legislation. There were many outstanding performances from different municipalities, persons with different abilities and people with and without disabilities alike. It allowed a unison and inclusion of all persons. The primary talents were singers and a big congratulations to the place winners of these events.

with an amazing song and ukulele piece. The second place was a tie between Sapwaufik Youth and Archie Dakano with both wonderful vocal guitar performance and vocal piano performance respectively. Third was a beautiful piece by Azden Ritland singing a classic Christmas solo. All cash prize money was kindly sponsored by the Rotary Club Pohnpei and food was provided by Cupid's restaurant. It was a wonderful night had by all that was a great step in empowering persons with disabilities and embracing all persons in an inclusive environment.

Tyson Rousen won the first place



# FSMTC – CPUC pole use crisis short lived as the two come to quick agreement

*By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press*

**December 5, 2019**

**Weno, Chuuk**—Yesterday evening FSM Telecommunications Corporation sent a message out to all of its SMS customers announcing that due to issues beyond its control it would no longer be able to do telephone repairs or installations in Weno.

“To our valued customers in Chuuk: Due to CPUC’s (Chuuk Public Utilities Corporation) unilateral termination of FSMTC pole-use agreement and denying FSMTC access to power poles to do its work required to continue repairs and providing service to its customers, FSMTC hereby suspends all repair works and installations until such time FSMTC is allowed access to all telephone facilities that are mounted on poles through the island of Weno. We apologize for any inconveniences this may cause, but CPUC’s action is outside of the control of FSMTC,” the message said.

We immediately contacted the CEO of CPUC to ask for details on what was happening between the two corporations who said that he would send me

information on it shortly.


This morning FSMTC sent the same message to all of its SMS customers.

Unlike Pohnpei where FSMTC’s cable assets are underground, due to land issues in Chuuk, all of its cable assets are aerial utilizing power poles.

At 3:30 this afternoon CPUC wrote to us saying that the issue had been resolved and that FSMTC and CPUC had come to terms. He declined to comment on any details of the temporary disagreement.


At 7:30 this evening FSMTC sent another message to all of its SMS customers. “To our valued customers in Chuuk: FSMTC is pleased to inform all customers in Chuuk that it has reached a workable arrangement with CPUC to resume its telephone repair works and services on its power poles. FSMTC wishes to express its gratitude and thanks to CPUC management for their understanding and cooperation. Kinisou Chapur.”

All are silent on what the specific issues were but the crisis was short lived.



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**Individuals should include their entry description, name address and phone number with their entry.**

**The top two logos in each State will be submitted to the AF Project Management Unit at DECEM for selection of the winning logo.**

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## China hosts Chinese Film Festival

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China hosted a Chinese Film Festival at the Pohnpei Cinema. For several days, people could view one of three Chinese films with subtitles for no

charge. At the opening of the festival on November 30, which featured free popcorn and soft drinks for all in attendance, Ambassador Huang Zheng welcomed what was initially a small

crowd but eventually swelled to near capacity saying that he hoped that the festival would help to spark a curiosity about China's culture.

The movie at the opening was an action movie featuring sword play and political intrigue.

Two more movies played at varying times during the week, one of them a mystery and suspense movie and the other a love story.



## Pohnpei R&D selects Douglas Kusto as Protected Area Network Coordinator for the State



Mr. Kusto was one of the first Micronesia Challenge Young Champions (MCYC) under the Micronesia Challenge Internship Program and served as a Grants Officer with the Micronesia Conservation Trust from 2008-2014. Mr. Kusto was first introduced to the conservation world in 2004 while he was working with the Kaselehlie Press as a Staff Reporter and was invited to the first MPA Cross Site Visit held at Black Coral (Kehpara) Island. From that day forward, he began to notice the dramatic decrease in Pohnpei's fisheries resources and has been working to protect them ever since.

Mr. Kusto can be contacted via email at: [sihpwawak@gmail.com](mailto:sihpwawak@gmail.com) or by calling 320-7457.

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

December 3, 2019

Pohnpei—Pohnpei State this week announced that it had appointed Douglas Kusto as the State Protected Area Network Coordinator. The announcement came in a letter from Saimon Lihpai, Chief of the Pohnpei State Department of Resources and Development (R&D) Division of Natural Resource Management.

The announcement says that Kusto will be based at R&D and is assigned to work with all stakeholder and partner agencies on all aspects of the PAN for the state and in conjunction with the National PAN Network. PAN Coordinator Positions are also being funded in Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap through a grant to the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) from the Adaptation Fund (AF).

The announcement says that Mr. Kusto comes to R&D having worked with the Conservation Society of Pohnpei for 4 years as the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Network Coordinator under CSP's Marine Program. His role at CSP included the coordination of the MPA Executive Committee Council, Coordination of the Pohnpei state MPA Annual Cross Site Visits and coordination of MPA communities and activities for CSP and in conjunction with state partners and stakeholders.

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## ...Sea Cucumber

*Continued from front page*

Young Sun says that it will also be seeking damages in counterclaims against the seven young plaintiffs in the case. "Costs of wrongfully stopping the harvest and then the potential liability for attorney's fees and costs may take years for the parents of the minors to pay off in years to come. When the Defendant Young Sun files an Answer, it has plans to countersue the Plaintiffs for damages and seek indemnity from Pohnpei Government. This countersuit will further articulate the current balance of harm."

The attorney for Young Sun argues the affirmative defenses of res judicata and collateral estoppel, two legal terms that essentially prevent a plaintiff who loses a previous case from filing another case later and trying again. Young Sun is essentially arguing that the matter of sea cucumber harvest has already been litigated and therefore can't be litigated again. However, for those defenses to apply, not only do the plaintiffs in a new case have to be the same as a previous case on the same (or similar) issues but the court has to have made a ruling on the merits of the previously litigated case. The court never ruled on the merits of the previous case filed by the Mwoalen Wahu because they

dropped the case before the court made any ruling on the merits of their case.

In the FSM, the issuance of TROs is governed by Rule 65 (b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The courts issue TROs in cases where the party that makes the motion will likely suffer immediate and irreparable injury, loss, or damage.

For example, if a claimant has filed a civil action to keep someone from demolishing a building with historical value, the claimant can make a motion for a TRO to keep the defendant from demolishing the building before the court can decide on the merits

of the case. The court can issue a TRO to keep the building from being demolished and can do so without notice to defendants only if the plaintiffs' attorney certifies in writing any efforts made to give notice and the reasons why it should not be required. The court will not issue a TRO when the harm the movant would come to could be resolved by money. In our example case, the historical building could not be replaced by a court awarded payment.

In the sea cucumber case, Young Sun argues that the TRO should be immediately set aside since the plaintiffs only served notice of hearing to the Attorney General and not to Young Sun. They claim that decision was a conscious choice since they could have served the notice at the Young Sun office rather than attempting to serve it to the attorney who currently is only representing Young Sun on its counterclaim against the Conservation Society of Pohnpei.

The court earlier ruled that it can issue a TRO even if the moving party is not more likely than not to prevail, as long as the movant's position appears sufficiently sound to raise serious, non-frivolous issues. Young Sun argued in its motion to dismiss the TRO that they are following Pohnpei law and that there is no likelihood that the plaintiffs will succeed on the merits. It argues that the Pohnpei State government is exercising its constitutionally mandated responsibility to plan for conservation of natural resources while also promoting an economic development plan for Pohnpei. The executive branch is also upholding the laws of the state and Young Sun argues that the law allows for the sea cucumber harvest and all defendants are acting legally and in good faith.

Young Sun claims that the plaintiff would not suffer irreparable damage because there are 26 species of sea cucumbers in Pohnpei's waters and Young Sun is being allowed to arrange for the harvest of only six of them. Those six do not include the four species that Pohnpeians eat. It adds that the State has also seeded Pohnpei's water with 8000 sea cucumber hatchlings. They claim that because of these factors there will be no damage to Pohnpei's marine environment and therefore the plaintiffs will not be damaged.

When the court issued the TRO that is still in place pending a hearing on motions to dismiss it, it required the plaintiffs to post a \$2000 bond. Young Sun argues that amount is only a fraction of what Young Sun is losing every day that the TRO is in place. They are asking the court to increase the bond amount to \$100,000.

While it has not yet filed a counter claim against the plaintiffs, the motion to dismiss the TRO asks the court to hold the plaintiffs personally responsible for damages for loss of business and attorney's fees at \$100 an hour and costs incurred and expected in the future.

## ...Panuelo Complaint

*Continued from front page*

belief" that she is also currently married to another man.

Semes Panuelo claims that the FSM Public Information Office continues to inappropriately uphold Edwin as the First Lady in its press releases even after Semes Panuelo's attorney requested that retractions be made to those references. It also claims that the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs represented Edwin

as the First Lady of the FSM to foreign governments where credentials had to be established.

Semes Panuelo claims damages from Edwin for tortious interference with a marriage contract for her relationship with David Panuelo before and after he was President even though she allegedly knew that he was married. Semes Panuelo also claims money damages from Edwin for intentional infliction of emotional distress when she held the Bible during the President's swearing in ceremony, "in front of the entire country" thereby exposing "Plaintiff to unprecedented level of unbearable humiliation before the members of her immediate family,

relatives in Pohnpei and throughout the rest of Micronesia, her friends and acquaintances in Pohnpei, FSM and outside of Micronesia."

In addition to Semes Panuelo's claims for damages from all of the defendants for civil conspiracy, she reasserted the same claims she made against Edwin as applicable to the other defendants for alleged complicity in those claims. She claims damages as well for slander.

No defendant has yet had opportunity to file any response to the claims made by Janet Semes Panuelo and her claims have yet to be considered by the FSM Supreme Court.

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# Sailor who killed two and himself at Pearl Harbor identified

AUDREY McAVOY and CALEB JONES  
Associated Press

**HONOLULU (AP)** — A Navy sailor shot three civilians, killing two of them, before taking his own life at Pearl Harbor just days before thousands were scheduled to gather at the storied military base to mark the 78th anniversary of the Japanese bombing that launched the U.S. into World War II.

Rear Adm. Robert Chadwick, the commander of Navy Region Hawaii, said the service would evaluate whether security should be upgraded before the annual ceremony. About a dozen survivors of the 1941 bombing were expected to attend, along with dignitaries and service members.

The shooter was identified Thursday as 22-year-old G. Romero, according to a military official who spoke on condition of anonymity to provide details that had not been made public.

Chadwick said he didn't know the motive behind Wednesday's shooting at the naval shipyard within the base. The third victim was hospitalized.

It wasn't known if the sailor and the three male civilians had any type of relationship, or what the motive was for the shooting, Chadwick said.

"We have no indication yet whether they were targeted or if it was a random shooting," Chadwick said.

The sailor was assigned to the fast attack submarine USS Columbia, which is at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for maintenance.

He was identified as a 22-year-old enlisted sailor, according to a military official speaking on condition of anonymity to provide details that hadn't been made public.

It wasn't immediately known what type of weapon was used or how many shots were fired. Chadwick said that was part of the investigation. Personal weapons are not allowed on base.

Names of the victims will not be released until next of kin have been notified.

"Our thoughts are with the families of the victims and everyone involved. I can say that we are mobilizing support services for naval shipyard personnel as well as everyone else who may be affected by this tragic event," Chadwick said.

The base went into lockdown at about 2:30 p.m. when the first active shooter reports were received. The base reopened a few hours later. Witnesses were still being interviewed hours after the shooting.

The shipyard repairs, maintains and modernizes the ships and submarines of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, which is headquartered at Pearl Harbor. The base is the home port for 10 destroyers and 15 submarines. It also hosts Air Force units.

Hawaii Gov. David Ige said the White House has offered assistance from federal agencies and that the state is also ready to help if needed.

"I join in solidarity with the people of Hawaii as we express our heartbreak over this tragedy and concern for those affected by the shooting," Ige said in a statement.

Mass shootings and gun violence are rare in Hawaii. In 1999, a Xerox service technician fatally shot seven coworkers. In 2006, a man fatally shot his taxi driver and a couple taking photos of the city lights from a lookout point in the hills above Honolulu.

Hawaii had the lowest gun death rate among the states in 2017, according to the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. The islands have strict firearms laws, including a ban on assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines.

The shipyard is across the harbor from the wreckage of USS Arizona, which sank in the Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese attack. It's also across from the visitors center, which will host Saturday's ceremony. More than 2,300 Americans were killed in the bombing.

The shipyard has played a key role in naval history, most notably during World War II. Shipyard workers were given just days to repair the USS Yorktown, an aircraft carrier severely damaged during the Battle of the Coral Sea in 1942, because the Navy needed to quickly send the ship to Midway to meet Japanese forces there.



Some 1,400 shipyard workers labored around the clock for almost 72 hours to patch the carrier together. The planes the Yorktown delivered to Midway sank one of the four aircraft carriers Japan sent to the battle and helped destroy two others. The Battle of Midway turned the tide of the war in the United States' favor.

Associated Press writers Lolita C. Baldor in Washington, Jennifer Sinco Kelleher in Honolulu and Mark Thiessen and Rachel D'Oro in Anchorage, Alaska, contributed to this report.

## Workshop on Advocacy Strategy for Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) Independence



Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor

**Pohnpei, FSM-** On November 18-21, 2019, a Workshop on Advocacy Strategy for Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) Independence was held in Pohnpei, FSM. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Freddy Ndjemba, Manager of Capacity Development of International Organization of Supreme Audit Institution (INTOSAI). It was attended by participants from SAI Papua New Guinea, SAI Republic of Marshall Island, SAI Pohnpei, SAI Yap, SAI Kosrae and Office of the National Public Auditor Office.

The workshop is part of INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI) program called Strategy, Performance Measurement and Reporting program (SPMR) which aimed at supporting SAIs to better plan, monitor and manage their performance throughout an entire strategic management cycle, through the implementation of a sound strategic and operational planning process, as well as the establishment of an effective monitoring and reporting framework.

The program's rationale is that SAIs should develop and maintain a strategic planning and management process that enables them to achieve strategic outcomes and deliver value and benefits to the citizens. The program's global objective is to have strategically managed SAIs leading to higher performance.

The highlight of the workshop is the presentation of each SAI on how are they are going to frame the issue on how to develop advocacy strategy for greater independence. The Strategic and Management Operational Plan (SMOP) developed by each SAI will help support the advocacy for SAI Independence.

Overall, the workshop hosted by Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor and Office of the National Public Auditor was a success. The workshop was full of brainstorming, inspiration from different challenges and strategies that each SAI was experiencing and most of all laughter and crazy stories from participants. When asked about their learning and experienced from the workshop, everyone shared that they learned from each other; through the workshop they were able to think new approach on how to implement their strategy and how to constantly change and update their strategy. As Mr. Freddy emphasized during workshop, "level up SAI ambition on what you can achieve based on the resources available on your organization" and always remember that "Accountability is the price we paid for Independence".

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# International Day of Persons with Disabilities outreach awareness event held at NMHS

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

December 3, 2019

*Kitti, Pohnpei*—This afternoon Pohnpei Social Services hosted a well-attended International Day of Persons with Disabilities Outreach Awareness program on the grounds of Nanpei Memorial High School with the theme of “The Future is Accessible”.

The event coincides with the recent amendment of the legislations for Chapter 8 of the Pohnpei State code which primarily focuses on accessibility and the Director of Health and Social Affairs’ and other stakeholders roles to ensure that Pohnpei State is accessible for people with disabilities. There is to be a task force whose members will work together to ensure the implementation and regulations for accessibility.

Participants were treated to vocal performances from the top winners of Saturday night’s Persons with Disabilities talent show who received their cash and gift certificate prizes for their wins during that talent show.

But the event wasn’t just about entertainment, as excellent as that was. It was an educational event designed to educate the participants and to raise awareness for people with disabilities and the inclusion of all people no matter what their abilities as human and valued members of society.

Organizers asked questions of the audience on the various types of disabilities and how members of the community could support people who live with disabilities. They presented gift certificates as prizes to each person who responded to the questions with the goal of attentive participation and understanding.

Australian Volunteer International Nikisha Smith, who volunteers for PNI Social Services asked for volunteers from the audience to help her demonstrate something of how it must feel for a person who suffers from autism or in a separate demonstration, from an intellectual disability.

Four volunteers stood for the demonstration on autism. At her instruction, one volunteer insistently used his finger to poke another volunteer in the arm. Another volunteer was to pull on his shirt sleeve while the last volunteer jumped up and down in front of him. She then asked the whole audience to clap and instructed them on the rhythm of it. While all of that was going on, she read a story to the volunteer who was being distracted. When she finished,



she asked him questions about the story he had just heard. The volunteer was unable to answer because he had been so distracted by the other signals he had been receiving. Smith told the crowd that people with autism are overwhelmed by overstimulation in their environments and so appear to shut down.

In another demonstration Smith read the same story to another volunteer, this time in Spanish. After she read the story she asks the volunteer the same questions. The volunteer could not answer because she does not understand Spanish. Smith explained that this is similar to what people with intellectual disabilities experience.

After the program, audience members went to the NMHS cafeteria where, in addition to food there were several stations where many enthusiastically participated in other activities that would help them to understand how it might be to live with a disability.

In December of 2016, the FSM ratified the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disability which aims to achieve empowerment and inclusion for persons with disabilities around the world.



# COM-FSM's President's Message to the Community

Dear Colleagues and Fellow Members of the COM-FSM Community,

Season's Greetings! During this special time of the year let us be reminded of the many things for which we are grateful. We should be especially grateful to the FSM Congress for demonstrating continued support for the college.

Our community has made much progress during the past year, including completion of the college's Mid-Term Report due for submission to ACCJC in March 2020, and implementation of the college's first baccalaureate degree in Elementary Education. The graduates from this program will go a long way in meeting the critical education and teacher needs of the nation.

The FY2021 budget was approved at the recent Board of Regents meeting in Guam. The budget reflects the needs, goals and objectives articulated in the integrated educational master plan and supports ongoing fulfillment of the college's mission. Continued financial support for the FY2021 budget by the FSM Congress, especially the provision of \$2.8 million decremented by JEMCO will be critical to our ability to achieve the integrated educational master plan and to continue to meet ACCJC Standards, and USDE requirements. Such financial support from our nation's leaders will support our accreditation related commitment to continuous quality improvement and to student success.

In the November President's Message to the Community, I promised to update you on the outcome of the Kaua'i Community College Chancellor search. I want to inform you that I have been selected as the Chancellor of Kaua'i Community College. The tentative start date will be around February 1, 2020.

It is an honor to be selected by peers and colleagues in such a way. It also reflects well on COM-FSM and its reputation in the region. In many ways, this is a testimonial to the good work that we have all accomplished together over the past eight years.

Our collective efforts have not gone unnoticed. Indeed, throughout the region we are now often seen as a model of best practices in many areas of higher education. It is a light that shines brightly on all of us who have shared in this journey. My appreciation for all of your work, dedication, and accomplishment on behalf of the students we serve is without measure.

We now prepare for the college's 70th Commencement ceremony on Friday, December 20th at 9:00AM. As an institution of higher education, no event in the college is as important as commencement. For our students it is a time to recognize and celebrate their academic accomplishments. For the families of our students, commencement provides yet another point of pride. For all of us and for our faculty most especially, commencement is an opportunity to acknowledge our work and success in educating the young men and women who represent the future hopes, dreams and aspirations of the FSM.

I am proud of the students, faculty, staff, and administration of COM-FSM and look forward to being among you at this important ceremony on this important day, as I fulfill my last official ceremonial responsibility as your president & CEO.

Thank you for all of your work, effort and dedication this year in service to the students we serve. Each of us plays an important role in the fulfillment of the mission of COM-FSM. Please accept my wishes for a holiday season filled with joy, and a happy and healthy New Year.

It is a privilege for me to serve you as your president.

Warm regards,

Joe  
Joseph M Daisy, EdD  
President & CEO



## 70

# Commencement Exercises

**Friday, December 20, 2019, at 9:00 AM**  
**Main Gym, FSM-China Friendship Sports Center**  
**Palikir, Pohnpei, Federated State of Micronesia**

**“If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.”**  
**-Milton Berle**

**Suzanne L. Gallen**  
 Commencement Speaker  
 North Pacific Programme Coordinator, UNDP-Pohnpei  
 Member (Pohnpei State), COM-FSM Board of Regents

<b>National Campus</b> P.O. Box 159 Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone: (691)320-2480 Fax: (691)320-2479 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:national@comfsm.fm">national@comfsm.fm</a>	<b>Chuuk Campus</b> P.O. Box 879 Chuuk, FM 96942 Phone: (691)330-2689 Fax: (691)330-2740 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:chuuk@comfsm.fm">chuuk@comfsm.fm</a>	<b>FSM-FMI</b> P.O. Box 1056 Colonia Yap, FM 96943 Phone: (691)350-5244 Fax: (691)350-5245 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:fmi@comfsm.fm">fmi@comfsm.fm</a>	<b>Kosrae Campus</b> P.O. Box 37 Tofol Kosrae, FM 96944 Phone: (691)370-3191 Fax: (691)370-3193 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:kosrae@comfsm.fm">kosrae@comfsm.fm</a>	<b>Pohnpei Campus</b> P.O. Box 614 Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone: (691)320-3795 Fax: (691)320-3799 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:pohnpei@comfsm.fm">pohnpei@comfsm.fm</a>	<b>Yap Campus</b> P.O. Box 286 Colonia Yap, FM 96943 Phone: (691)350-2296/5149 Fax: (691)350-5150 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:yap@comfsm.fm">yap@comfsm.fm</a>
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# NOTICE OF INACTIVE ACCOUNTS

Please take notice that as of June 30, 2019, the following SAVINGS and CHECKING ACCOUNTS on deposit with Bank of Guam<sup>®</sup> are inactive and the accountholders listed below must immediately contact their respective Bank of Guam<sup>®</sup> Branch, otherwise, the funds contained in these accounts will be transferred to the Secretary of Finance during the month of January 2020, pursuant to 29 FSMC §106 (16) and 29 FSMC §602 and under the procedures set forth in 17 FSMC §102. Please take note that after January 2020, all inquiries pertaining to the accounts below must be directed to the Secretary of Finance.

## CHUUK BRANCH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

REMEDIOS E ACOSTA  
PO BOX 663 - CHUUK FM 96942

HEROLYN AIZAWA  
PO BOX 1315 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

RCHOK ALIK or JACINTA A KILLION  
PO BOX 934 - CHUUK FM 96942

MARIANO ANDERSON  
PO BOX 425 - CHUUK FM 96942

SEREMEA ARNOLD  
PO BOX 118 - CHUUK FM 96942

JUSTINA BERNARD or ERSINA MARTIN  
PO BOX 434 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

CATHEDRAL PARISH  
PO BOX 250 - CHUUK FM 96942

MAYLEEN CHRISTIAN  
PO BOX 9216 - TAMUNING GU 96931

CHUUK AIDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
PO BOX 400 - CHUUK FM 96942

FILOMINA EDGAR  
MWAN WENO - CHUUK FSM 96942

YUNIANA ALBERT EDMOND  
PO BOX 774 - CHUUK FM 96942

KATARINA ELIAS  
PO BOX 85 - CHUUK FM 96942-0085

EPEL ELYMORE  
PO BOX 782 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

KANESO ENIES  
TOL ISLAND - TRUK FSM 96942

DASLEEN ESECHU  
PO BOX 695 - CHUUK FM 96942

LORNIS EURAN or ESLEEN PIALIUG  
PO BOX 1512 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

MARIA FRANCIS  
PO BOX 731 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

YOSKO HARPER  
PO BOX 411 - WENO CHUUK FM 96942

KRISTINA HERMAN  
PO BOX 1676 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

MARIA IKELAP  
PO BOX 303 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

BERNI IMMY  
PO BOX 1561 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

ILARIA IUSTINO or KAPURILLA MAILO  
PO BOX 1087 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

JOSEPH IWO  
FEFAN ISLAND - TRUK STATE, FSM 96942

JNR MARKET  
PO BOX 1660 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

ALSHINA JOHNNY  
PO BOX 902 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

ROBSON JOSE  
PO BOX 1311 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

NEONSIO JOY  
PO BOX JD - CHUUK FM 96942

TRIPLE JS KAMINANGA  
PO BOX 114 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

TRIVORYNE KANIKI  
PO BOX 426 - CHUUK FM 96942

ATELINA KETTE or TAKRI HAM  
PO BOX 718 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

JONI KEWLANI  
PO BOX 305 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

RAJESH KUMAR  
PO BOX 305 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

ARLENE LICAYAN  
PO BOX 208 - WENO CHUUK FM 96942

LORETTA LIPPWE or PATRINO MARTINEZ  
PO BOX 651 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

LURUTES LUDWIG  
PO BOX 1601 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

SOTERA S LUKAS  
PO BOX 251 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

MARK MAILO (x2 accounts)  
PO BOX 85 - CHUUK FM 96942

TENSINE MAILO ift Neisan Farata  
PO BOX 154 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

JACK MANNY  
PO BOX 1414 - CHUUK FM 96942

KERESEN MARAR  
MOCH ISLAND - CHUUK STATE 96942

AMANTO MARSOLO  
PO BOX 673 - CHUUK FM 96942-0673

MECHITIV VILLAGE  
WENO, CHUUK STATE 96942

AIRA R MIJARES  
PO BOX 369 - CHUUK FM 96942

MOEN ASSOCIATION  
PO BOX 909 - TRUK FM 96942

TRACY MONY  
PMB 6 - 275G FARENHOLT AVENUE  
TAMUNING, GU 96913

KORETY NESET  
PO BOX 143 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

ANDEN NIFINI  
PO BOX 177 - CHUUK FM 96942

SIAKO A NOKET  
PO BOX 1445 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

HERLIEP NOWELL or CAROLINE NOWELL  
PO BOX 109 - CHUUK FM 96942

MIKE OLODEY  
PO BOX 1512 - CHUUK FM 96942

JOANITA PANGELINAN  
ift Joachim Pangelinan Castro  
PO BOX 37 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

TRICIA PATRICIO  
PO BOX 623 - CHUUK FM 96942

DETOR H PHARMIN or DAMIAN PRESS  
1739 FLINT DR - FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28304-6044

SACHKO POUTIU  
MOEN ISLANDS - TRUK, FSM 96942

SIANA PRESS  
PO BOX 1386 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

MARY RAWEPI  
PO BOX 639 - CHUUK FM 96942

MARINO RICKY or JUDY RICKY  
PO BOX 27 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

CHINEINA RUDOLF  
MOEN, TRUK FSM 96942

S.M. FAMILY TRUST FUND c/o Milika M Mori  
PO BOX 404 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

ST CECILIA ENDOWMENT FUND  
ST CECILIA ENDOWMENT FUND 96942

PAULIS SALMATAW  
PO BOX 539 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

FABIAN SAM  
PO BOX 430 - TRUK FM 96942

ROBERT SAMUEL  
PO BOX 1481 - CHUUK FM 96942

SELEDOHNA SAMUEL or NORIANA SALTER  
PO BOX 201 - CHUUK FM 96942

DAVID SATAK  
PO BOX 746 - CHUUK FM 96942

EMMANUEL SEADY  
PO BOX 695 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

IMMACULATA SHEA  
PO BOX 1482 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

NICER SIMION  
PO BOX 580 - CHUUK FM 96942

YOMITA TAKEUO  
PO BOX 1111 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

KETES TATIUS  
PO BOX 1372 - CHUUK FM 96942-1372

JERRY TOM  
PO BOX 382 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

RIVELY WALTER JR  
PO BOX 461 - CHUUK FM 96942

NIFOUS WENGU or CHISAKO MUDY  
PO BOX 875 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

SACHUO WILLIAM or TAKAKO WILLIAM  
PO BOX 588 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

## CHUUK BRANCH CHECKING ACCOUNTS

MARY K CHOLYMA  
PO BOX 123 - CHUUK FM 96942-0123

DIOCESE OF THE CAROLINE ISLANDS  
PO BOX 120 - CHUUK FM 96942-0120

FOUNUKUMWAR APARTMENT  
PO BOX 92 - CHUUK FM 96942

RIOICHY K KRISTY  
PO BOX 942 - CHUUK FM 96942-0942

KS & FAMILY REAL ESTATE  
WENO NANTAKU - WENO, CHUUK FM 96942

PATTIV CATHOLIC MISSION  
PO BOX 939 - CHUUK FM 96942

## POHNPEI BRANCH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

IOANIDA ACTOUKA or RUMFREY ROPI  
PO BOX 2443 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

LILLY ANN ACTOUKA  
PO BOX 2443 - POHNPEI FM 96941

KETSSEN AMARAICH  
PO BOX 186 - POHNPEI FM 96941

ANSENY AMYDA  
PO BOX 2346 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

ANDREA HILLYER LAW OFFICE in Trust for  
PALAU ROCK ISLAND AIR INC  
PO BOX D - KOLONIA POHNPEI FM 96941

KAPILLY CAPELLE JR  
PO BOX 1414 - KOLONIA POHNPEI FM 96941

LUCY DANIEL  
PO BOX 552 - POHNPEI FM 96941

AMINIS L DAVID JR  
PO BOX 276 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941-0276

ARUWO DAVID or TAYLOR DAVID  
PO BOX 2011 - POHNPEI FM 96941

MAXMINA DEFANG and IROSI DEFANG  
PO BOX 878 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

JAIME DELA CRUZ  
PO BOX 1671 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

DOLOKEI/LEWETIK YOUTH ORGANIZATION  
PO BOX 2184 - POHNPEI FM 96941

PERTIN DOSES or KESUSA BARNABAS  
PO BOX 1395 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

BERNELL W EDWARD or BERSINA EDWARD  
PO BOX 115 - POHNPEI FM 96941

STEPHANIE EDWARD  
PO BOX 177 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

AUGUSTINE ESHA  
PO BOX 692 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

TIMAKIO ESHA  
PO BOX 692 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

TIMAKIO ESHA  
PO BOX 692 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

J EPERIAM or LEHNORA ABRAHAM  
PO BOX 1698 - POHNPEI FM 96941

MELOTY ETSE  
PO BOX 1624 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

RENIO PENSIS ETSE  
PO BOX 1624 - POHNPEI FM 96941

CHRISTINA FERTINANT  
PO BOX 415 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

MERIANDA GILMETE ift Auki Gilmete  
PO BOX 551 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

KONDIOS GORNELIUS  
PO BOX 1595 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

KERPET HEBEL JR  
PO BOX 2367 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

DICKSON A HENRY  
PO BOX 986 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

CLARA IOANIS or LIVINGSTON PRENS  
PO BOX 599 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

YONE F IRONS  
PO BOX 160 - TRUK FM 96942

PAULINE JANO  
PO BOX K2483 - POHNPEI FM 96941

JAPAN AUTO & MACHINERY FSM  
PO BOX 1297 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

MELSON JOHN  
PO BOX 545 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

MERSIPAH JOHN  
PO BOX 1344 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

PERSON JOHN  
PO BOX 2263 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

LEHDAU LAKAPW  
PO BOX 1484 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

ESDANIS LIGOR or YASKO LIGOHR  
PO BOX 382 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

MARY LUPAI ift William Brian Schultz Jr  
PO BOX 855 - POHNPEI FM 96941

BENIAMIN LOUIS  
PALIKIR POHNPEI 96941

SELERITA LUIS  
PO BOX 599 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

VICTORIA FELIZA G LUNA  
PO BOX 1907 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

MINSER MALAKAI  
PO BOX 133 - POHNPEI FM 96941

PEDRA MAURICIO  
PO BOX 1089 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

KEMBO K MIDA JR  
PO BOX 1480 - POHNPEI FM 96941-1480

LIVINE MIKEHL ift Silveria Mikehl  
PO BOX 271 - POHNPEI FM 96941

RESIO S MOSES  
PO BOX 141 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

STEPHEN ORBON  
PO BOX 11 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

PALIKIR GOD  
PO BOX 246 - POHNPEI FM 96941

NANNETTE PANUELO ift Lionel Apis  
PO BOX 171 - POHNPEI FM 96941

PARAU CHURCH CONSTRUCTION PROJECT  
GENERAL DELIVERY - POHNPEI FM 96941

SEAL MOSES or BENSON MOSES  
PO BOX 159 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

KADALINA PIDELIS  
PO BOX 12 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

DELA REA M REOLITO  
PO BOX 339 - POHNPEI FM 96941

ELIAS RETTIN or LIHPER RETTIN  
13622 N17 DR - PHOENIX, AZ 85027

ALBERT RODRIQUEZ  
PO BOX 1415 - POHNPEI FM 96941

MERLEEN ROUTE  
PO BOX - KOLONIA PNI 96941

SENOLEEN ROUTE  
PO BOX 1872 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

KERNEY SALONS  
PO BOX 494 - POHNPEI FM 96941

AISEK SANA or ELIZABETH CORNELIUS  
PO BOX 1595 - POHNPEI FM 96941

BLANCA SANTOS or TR PEPSIANA SANTOS  
PO BOX 396 - POHNPEI FM 96941

AMANDA MAE SANTOS  
PO BOX 2368 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

R-CHOK SHOTARO  
PO BOX 1048 - WENO, CHUUK FM 96944

JUDY N SOHL  
PO BOX 523 - POHNPEI FM 96941-0523

DALIA RACHEAL SOLOMON  
PO BOX 1435 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

ST PAUL FUND RAISING ACCT  
PO BOX 292 - KOLONIA POHNPEI 96941

MICHAEL TIHPEN  
PO BOX 2061 - POHNPEI FM 96941

WAABESE OHANA CLUB  
PO BOX 159 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

GLORINA IOANIS WELSEN or ETWIS EMELOS  
PO BOX 2335 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

DORIPUA WELSON  
PO BOX 520 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

## POHNPEI BRANCH CHECKING ACCOUNTS

XIA BAI  
PO BOX 1836 - KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941

TERRENCE P BEVEN  
22 FARRER ST - BRADDON, CANBERRA AU 02612

DANPEI DEVELOPMENT INC  
PO BOX K2782 - POHNPEI FM 96941

ROBERT N DONAHUE  
PO BOX 9 - POHNPEI FM 96941

WAYNE HARDEN  
PO BOX 1659 - POHNPEI FM 96941-1659

IOAKIM K JOSEPH  
PO BOX 1315 - POHNPEI FM 96941-1315

KAPINGAMARANGI NUKUORO COOPERATIVE  
PO BOX 2443 - POHNPEI FM 96941-2443

ALYSSA G LAMOND  
PO BOX 98 TFOFL, KOSRAE FM 96944-0098

MATTHEW J MANN  
119 WOODCUTTERS RD TOLMANS HIL070  
TASMANIA AU

SUSAN D NEM SINGH  
PO BOX 1002 - POHNPEI FM 96941-1002

NIPPONMARU MICRONESIA CORPORATION  
PO BOX R - POHNPEI FM 96941

## KOSRAE BRANCH CHECKING ACCOUNTS

ORISI K MATATOLU  
PO BOX 637 - KOSRAE FM 96944-0308

ITCHIKO N SKILLING  
PO BOX 283 - TFOFL, KOSRAE FM 96944-0283

## YAP BRANCH CHECKING ACCOUNTS

DANIEL YEG GILSOWUTH  
PO BOX 1383 - YAP FM 96943-1383

VICTOR NABEYAN  
PO BOX 690 - YAP FM 96943-0690

VADIVELU PILLAY dba CONSTRUCTION  
EQUIPMENT HIRE LAUTOKA LTD  
PO BOX 2270 - LAUTOKA FIJI ISLANDS



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# People & Government of Samoa: The FSM extends its love, sympathies, prayers, & solidarity in your time of crisis

## FSM Information Services

**WENO, Chuuk**—Following a joint leadership discussion between His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Honorable Wesley W. Simina, Speaker of the 21st FSM Congress, et al., on November 30th, 2019, the 21st Congress of the FSM passed on 2nd reading Congressional Bill 21-107, which authorizes \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) of humanitarian relief to the Independent State of Samoa. The purpose of the relief is to assist Samoa in light of the recent Measles outbreak. Measles is a highly infectious and deadly disease that has a propensity towards affecting society's most vulnerable citizens (i.e. young children and the elderly).

To the knowledge of the FSM National Government, as of November 30th, 2019 the total number of Measles infections in Samoa was approximately 3,000. Samoa's total population is approximately 197,000 individuals, and so the number of infections is both high in absolute terms as well as a proportion of

the population.

"Prime Minister," President Panuelo began in a December 2nd letter to His Excellency Tuilaepa Aiono Sailele Malielegoai, Prime Minister of Samoa. "I want you to know that the people and Government of the [FSM] express our utmost condolences and sympathies for the recent fatalities stemming from this Measles outbreak. We stand with you in solidarity. It is important for Members of the Pacific Islands Forum to be one together."

The FSM and Samoa share, in addition to a profound friendship as fellow islanders, blood-ties through historical connections and contemporaneous marriages. "Hearing about children dying just absolutely breaks my heart," President Panuelo said.

Measles is orders of magnitudes more likely to strike in individuals who haven't received the MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) vaccine. While children aged between six months to four years old are a priority for this vaccine, ideally every single citizen and resident will have their vaccines up to date.

"To our own people, citizens of

the FSM," President Panuelo said, "Get yourselves and your family vaccinated. I can't emphasize this enough. It's not just your own family at risk if you don't get the right vaccinations—it's the entire country at risk."

"Vaccines work through the herd protection method," the President continued. "If a village has 100 people, and all 100 are vaccinated, the village as a whole is at much less risk of anyone getting Measles than if the village has 100 people and only 80 are vaccinated."

To find out more about how you and your family can protect yourselves and your community from Measles, call

your local public hospital or the FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs.

1. FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs: +691-320-2872
2. Chuuk State Public Hospital: +691-330-7936 (Immunization Program: +691-330-3945)
3. Kosrae State Public Hospital: +691-370-3012 (Immunization Program: +691-370-2125)
4. Pohnpei State Public Hospital: +691-320-2213/3805 (Immunization Program: +691-320-3144)
5. Yap State Public Hospital: +691-350-2115 (Immunization Program: +691-350-2115)

## NMCB-5's Detail Pohnpei celebrate with Pehleng Elementary School Students at the opening ceremony

Story by Builder 3rd Class Christian Carlson

**POHNPEI, Federated States of Micronesia** -- The students of Pehleng Elementary School welcomed U.S. Navy Seabees deployed with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5's Detail Pohnpei with an opening ceremony for the renovations at their school, Nov. 7.

U.S. Navy Seabees are renovating four of the buildings on the Pehleng Elementary campus to provide the students a clean and safe environment to continue their education and strengthen the community's relationship with the U.S. Navy Seabees, the U.S. Navy, and the U.S. Pehleng Elementary School has over 270 students from kindergarten through fifth grade.

The opening ceremony consisted of an introduction of the U.S. Navy Seabees by Lt. j.g. Brian Wood, NMCB-5's Detail Pohnpei officer in charge, followed by games, chalk drawings, and photos in the courtyard outside the main schoolhouse with the students.

"This and all of our projects are an opportunity to be here in Micronesia, to interact with the community, and to remind everybody what Seabees are capable of and what we love to do," said Wood. "We love to build and interact with students and teachers and provide, for any community that we're a part of, the benefits of our productive work. I

think the best thing we bring to this and any other country we're in is good, honest work that's meaningful to the people of the community around us."

The renovations to the schoolhouse will include three buildings on the campus. Two of the buildings are restroom facilities in need of repairs to the roof and toilets. The project will also include renovations to the main schoolhouse consisting of new flooring, ceiling repairs, replacement of partition walls between classrooms, and a new guardrail. Robert Riley, U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia visited the school, toured the construction site, and spoke about the U.S. Navy Seabees' future involvement in Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

"What [the Seabees] are doing here is fantastic," said Riley. "It's really just exactly what they need, and this just helps to further strengthen our close partnership with the Federated States of Micronesia, and I look forward to a very long, close relationship with the FSM. I think if anything it's getting even tighter." NMCB-5 is deployed across the Indo-Pacific region conducting high-quality construction to support U.S. and partner nations to strengthen partnerships, deter aggression, and enable expeditionary logistics and naval power projection. The battalion stands ready to support Humanitarian Aid/Disaster Relief and Major Combat Operations throughout the region.

### Embassy of the United States of America

**Vacancy Announcement:** VA2020.004  
**POSITION TITLE:** Security Guard  
**OPENING PERIOD:** December 9 to December 20  
**SERIES/GRADE:** LE-0710/03  
**SALARY:** USD \$8,482



#### FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION AND JOB DESCRIPTION VISIT:

- [fm.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/](http://fm.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/)

#### CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE:

- [KoloniahumanResourceRequests@state.gov](mailto:KoloniahumanResourceRequests@state.gov)

**DUTIES:** The incumbent provides security services to safeguard U.S. Government personnel, facilities and property. The employee provides access control and screens all visitors and vehicles entering U.S. Government facilities. The incumbent will also provide fixed post security and conduct roving patrols on Mission Chancery and residential compounds.

**EDUCATION:** Completion of secondary education is required.

**EXPERIENCE:** 1 years of previous experience in security related field, such as security company, law enforcement agency or military services is required.

**SKILLS:** The ability to carry out various security functions to include establishing layers of security, and implementing perimeter security, carrying out access control, screening procedures and utilizing barriers, hard-line doors, X-ray machines and walk-through metal detectors for visiting pedestrians

**LANGUAGE:** Level 2 (Limited knowledge) Speaking/Reading/Writing English is required. (This will be tested.)

Selected applicant under consideration will be required to pass medical and security certifications.

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO):** The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

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# New Micronesia Challenge Young Champion Internships awarded by Micronesia Challenge Regional Office

The Micronesia Challenge Regional Office and Micronesia Conservation Trust are pleased to announce this year's cohort of 2019-2020 Micronesia Challenge (MC) Young Champions! This year's internship program supports five interns, each representing one of the five MC island jurisdictions of Republic of Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam. This brings the total number of interns to 43! Since the first MC Young Champion in 2009 ten years ago, this Internship Program continues to allow college students and recent college graduates based in the islands of the Micronesia to be mentored by influential grassroots conservation leaders. The MCYC Program is an opportunity for interns to engage and learn about conservation in a professional setting while contributing to efforts to preserve natural resources within their home island. Community members, non-profit organizations and government agencies that contribute to the Micronesia Challenge, a globally recognized initiative, provides a unique mentorship for the interns to be part of a local yet global experience.

During their 8-month internship, the MC Young Champions will focus on achieving the goals and outcomes outlined in the Micronesia Challenge Communications Plan, designing outreach materials and participating in outreach events and delivering presentations. This year, select MC Young Champions will have the opportunity to communicate the successes of the Micronesia Challenge in their home islands and at various high-level events in 2020, a significant year for conservation in Micronesia and throughout the world. MC Young Champion's will be equipped with the tools to produce short films that highlight each jurisdiction's effort's regarding marine and terrestrial conservation and its socio-economic implications to people's livelihoods. Through the platform of the Micronesia Challenge, select films will be viewed by a global audience, whereby interns can proudly demonstrate the conservation efforts of large ocean states of Micronesia and set an excellent example to the future generations of their islands.

The 2019-2020 Micronesia Challenge Young Champions are:

Shuri Chibana from the Republic of Palau will be interning at the Micronesia Challenge Regional Office.

Berlando Hadley from Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia will be interning at the Conservation Society of Pohnpei.

David Aiseia from the Republic of Marshall Islands will be interning at the Marshall Islands Marine Resource Authority.

William Naden II from Guam will be interning at the University of Guam Sea Grant Program.

Pheona David from the Northern Mariana Islands will be interning at the Office of Planning and Development, CNMI Office of the Governor.

## Shuri Chibana - Palau



My name is Shuri Chibana, I'm 18 years old, and I aspire to be part of the changes and solutions my island of Palau is making. I recently graduated from

Palau High School last Spring of 2019 and I'm currently enrolled in the Liberal Arts program at Palau Community College. It is such an honor to have been selected to be Palau's Micronesia Challenge Young Champion 2020, I am very excited to experience and learn new things through this internship. I truly believe that this opportunity will allow me to help create the voice and movement that the youth of Micronesia need in order to draw our own conclusions of the quality of life we want to live.

Being raised in Palau, I've witnessed many distresses caused by climate change, significant disasters that changed and ended many lives. At the age of 18 years old, I've witnessed my island of Palau and many around it survive devastating typhoons, droughts, floods, tsunamis, rising sea levels, and dengue outbreaks. This makes me scared of what the future has in store if this is our reality because these events don't only change the lives of the earth's current inhabitants, but they dictate the quality of lives the next generation will have to survive. As a child of Micronesia, I find myself accountable to create the ability, voice, and impact it will take for my generation to draw our own conclusions of the quality of life we want to live. I believe this internship would truly allow me to be part of the solution to our problems.

Famous environmental activist and photographer Anel Adams said, "It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment." In response, I thought of how grateful I am to have been raised in a community that recognizes and respects the importance of its environment that provides for its people. I grew up watching my island of Palau make unapologetic resolutions that in many ways would affect the island financially. From becoming the World's first Shark Sanctuary, being the first country to ban sunscreen, and its strenuous attempts to ban all commercial fishing, many had witnessed this little island make big adjustments for the sake of its environment. With courage, Palau has acknowledged and acted accordingly to what many countries of more influence and power would not admit; that the economy is heavily reliant on its environment.

## Pheona David - CNMI William Naden II - Guam



From a young age, I have always been exposed to the different ecosystems throughout our islands. From swimming with

fish around some of the liveliest coral reefs to swinging on vines through the island's thickest jungles. At the time, everything seemed so easy; without any care in the world and just living life as if nothing will change. However, as I continue to grow physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, the way in which I view the world is different now. I see the damage done by our thoughtless actions and worry more about what the future holds not only for myself, but for the generations who may never experience those very same things. From seeing the vibrant colors of corals along the reef to smelling the crisp, clean air as they swing across a creek to even simply feel the fine grain of sand sit comfortably between their toes. With our current climate, that may all change. That is why I am dedicating my time to the protection and conservation of our environment, including neighboring islands as well. I have made a promise to myself that I will take every chance possible and never waste an opportunity to learn and to share that knowledge with others.

Right now, I am currently finishing up my studies in Natural Resource Management (NRM) and will soon work towards a higher education in the field of environmental science. In addition to protecting our environment, it is just as important to conserve our culture too. In the past two years, I have dedicated time to 500 Sails, a nonprofit organization working towards educating the islands about traditional sailing using the Chamorro canoe. As Pacific Islanders, or other native groups around the world, we are tied to the land in which we inhabit and must make the best decisions possible in terms of sustainability so that others, in a few years time, may also enjoy them as well. Moreover, it is an honor to have been selected to become the CNMI's Micronesia Challenge Young Champion 2020. I am looking forward to working with various agencies as well as educating and outreaching to others the importance of the conservation of our natural resources.



Håfa adai! My name is William Naden II. I am intellectually curious with a restless desire to learn from leaders in conservation. Currently I am a Research Assistant and Project Coordinator for the Tåsi Guides Project at the University of Guam Sea Grant. Through this project, I have designed a mobile outreach trailer to be stationed on our island's beaches and run by a team of young conservationists. This initiative aims at introducing Guam's community to the natural resources of our island. By carrying out fun and entertaining experiments with current generations at our beaches, we hope to manifest a desire for outdoor science and native knowledge. Bringing our island's lessons out of the classroom for people to immediately appreciate has yet to be done in this manner and I look forward to influencing all generations with my team.

Guam needs young conservationists to take a stand against the detrimental tendencies of our population on the island's environmental welfare. This challenge to preserve our island's marine and terrestrial resources is an effort I have undertaken and wish to continue in my future careers. Advocating for Guam's ecological health and that of our neighboring islands through organized commitments provides me with a vantage point to create appropriate paths to conservation. Having the privilege to gain inspiration from programs throughout Micronesia and incorporating their lessons into my mentorship of younger generations will be an honor.

## Berlando Hadley – Pohnpei, FSM



My name is Berlando Hadley and I was born on February 14, 1995. I am the second youngest of five siblings and son of Repeter Hadley and Paula Saimon Hadley. I am from below the Mountain Ridge overlooking the College of Micronesia- Federated State of Micronesia (COM-FSM) and the well-known Pwisehn Malehk volcanic hill protruding from the old Japanese rice farm in the village of Paies. Paies is the border village between Sokehs municipality and Kitti Municipality in Pohnpei State. Pohnpei is the capital state of the Federated State of

Micronesia, a young island nation of less than half century old independence.

In 2010, I graduated from Palikir Elementary School. After I graduated from Elementary School, I continued my education at Pohnpei Island Central High School. After graduating from High School, I applied to Kaplan University in the city of Chicago. In 2016, I was accepted to the University and studied Criminal Justice, with a focus on human services and behavioral sciences. I moved back to Pohnpei and pursued my career goals and education dream at the College of Micronesia. My goal is to become an environmental lawyer who will help the people of Pohnpei and fight for the rights of the Island's resources. My dream has held steadfast to conserve the biodiversity of Pohnpei. In school, I learned about the extreme challenges facing the population and environment. As a "pure" Islander, I care, along with many others, about future generations and the beautiful village that we love and choose to protect.

The Micronesian Challenge Young Champion Program interests me the most because I want to save three things if possible. Land is one of the things that has been contaminated by plastic, water because of the pollution, and lastly, the ocean because I do believe that everything that lives in the ocean is also affected by the action that is happening on the land as the water travels out into the sea. These are the reasons that interest me the most about this Micronesia Young Champions Program.

## David Aiseia – Marshall Islands



My name is David Aiseia and I'm 22 years old. I have four brothers and one adopted sister. I'm the second youngest. I was born here in Majuro and have been living here for a while. I moved to Wotje Atoll when I was eleven years old. I lived there until I graduated from Northern Islands High School (NIHS). Now I'm here at the College of the Marshall Islands (CMI). I'm the kind of person who is interested in learning about the environment and everything around it. I'm always thinking about The Marshall Islands and its people. I'd

love to study more about my home country which is Marshall Islands.

In the summer of 2019, I was accepted into the 1st Marshall Islands Nearshore Training Program, a two-month internship program funded by the National Science Foundation, through a collaboration with the University of Hawaii, at Hilo and the Marshall Islands Conservation Society. Throughout the program we traveled throughout Majuro and Amo Atoll employing field research methods to assess the health of our near-shore ecosystems, collecting data on water quality, algae cover, and coral reef composition. A critical component of the internship was producing a written report and presenting our findings through a formal presentation attended by local conservation and state organizations. Participating in this program provided an opportunity to get a better understanding of our precious resources, and the environmental hazards that threaten the health of our coral reefs and the wellbeing of the Marshallese people.

As we've been gifted our islands from our ancestors, I feel a responsibility and deep desire to share my experience with others, including community members, fellow classmates and most importantly, the younger generation who are at the forefront of environmental change. I believe that representing the Republic of the Marshall Islands as a Micronesia Challenge Young Champion would help me achieve that goal. Additionally, I would very much welcome the opportunity to participate in this unique professional development program, in hopes of advancing my storytelling, conservation, technical and leadership skills.



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Sustainable Pacific Aquaculture Development Project (RFP19/105)

Are you ready to make a **difference in the Pacific's** aquaculture sector?

Aquaculture is a sector where low supply and a strong demand provides an opportunity for Pacific region's farmers, growers, processors, exporters and small businesses to create new customers and expand current operations.

The Pacific Community (SPC) is now inviting those with an interest in exploring their field, to submit their proposals for the Sustainable Aquaculture Development Project. Through this project, SPC will provide business mentoring and training, capacity development and technology transfer in feed, seed and broodstock management to selected enterprises and partners and individuals.

#### Success Stories



Previous recipients of program support are already enjoying success in aquaculture.

Ms Katarina Baleisuva, a tilapia business woman from Fiji now operates a successful Tilapia hatchery producing all male fingerlings. She identified this area as a constraint for growth of the sector and a business opportunity. The project has enabled her to learn new skills and grow in confidence as a lead farmer. She has recently been voted as the President of the newly formed "Tilapia Fiji" Association. Ms Baleisuva hopes to inspire more women to engage in aquaculture businesses in our region.

Another successful recipient from Papua New Guinea, is a Yonki based Tilapia hatchery and farm business. The family owned business run by Mr Guna and Ms Lencie Yogomul, received technical capacity building to develop their hatchery and improve farming practices. In addition, both were trained on utilization of MYOB software to better manage their business.



Marianne Neiworo, Lencie and Guna Yogomul

**Interested in finding out more?**

Individuals and enterprises from the following countries are eligible to receive support from the project: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Wallis and Futuna.

If you are a resident of one of these countries, and interested in learning more about how SPC and the Sustainable Pacific Aquaculture Development Project can work with you, simply complete a request for proposal with details about your project.

Copies of the 'Request for Proposals' (RFP) and forms can be downloaded from the SPC website: [www.spc.int](http://www.spc.int). For any additional information or clarification on the RFPs, send an e-mail request to [procurement@spc.int](mailto:procurement@spc.int) quoting RFP in the subject line.

Completed proposals should be emailed to [procurement@spc.int](mailto:procurement@spc.int) with the heading

**"RFP 19/105 – Sustainable Pacific Aquaculture Development Project"**

Or by courier to:  
**Pacific Community (SPC)  
Procurement Unit – RFP 19/105 Private  
Mail Bag  
Suva – Fiji**

All proposals should reach SPC before 4pm Fiji Time, 14th February 2020

No submission shall be made or communication undertaken directly with SPC staff on this procurement.

Note: The Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Division (FAME) of the Pacific Community (SPC) has launched the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (NZMFAT) funded Sustainable Pacific Aquaculture Development project (PacAqua). In order to increase and improve economic and nutritional gain from aquaculture in the Pacific, aquaculture be developed on a business-like footing, be it private sector or community led.

## Rotary Club's hold biggest fundraiser of the year

The Club raised over \$11,000.00 so we want to thank all the people who attended and especially our sponsors. The sponsors are listed here and they deserve your support. United Airlines, Petrocorp/VITAL, Bonnice Mann Consulting Corp., Bank of Guam, Ace Office Supply, Ambros Inc./Shimbros, Inc./Budweiser, Pohnpei Swim Club/NOC, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, G & J Car Rental, His Excellency David Panuelo, MRAG, FSM Postmaster Ginger Mida, Sealand, Genesis, LP Gas, Blue Nile, Pohnpei Surf Club, Joe & Ichiko Vitt, K Press, Moylan's Insurance, Caroline Fisheries Corporation, Matson Shipping, Pohnpei Napa Auto Parts, Good News Press, CTSI, Ace Hardware, MRA, 7 Star Enterprises, Alex and Mary Tretnoff, Etscheit Enterprises, Andy Musrasrik, Bank of FSM (BFSM), Merip, Pohnpei Hardware/ Imelda's Shoes, Village Travel, Palm Terrace, Joy Hotel & Restaurant, FSM Development Bank, Ivory Nut House, Denise Huang, COM-FSM, FSM Telecommunications Corp., Cupid's, CITIC, Fusion Restaurant, Hideaway Restaurant, Paradise Pearls, Pohnpei Fishing Club, Image Salon. (Sponsors are listed in no particular order, they all should be number 1.) We couldn't make this a success without the help of our sponsors.

There was a huge crowd at Cupid's that



night. 26 tables of contestants fought it out. The competition was neck and neck, but one table came back for the win, with each player winning \$100.00 donated by Bank of Guam.

The winning table consisted of Aaron Nighswander, Abby Ivoriye, Cheryl Burkindine, Dave Angyal, Ty Hubbard, and Valentina Permiakova. Valentina was a double winner, also winning our 50/50 raffle which totaled \$410.00 for the final draw of the evening. The final question of the night was as follows: If its 4:00 p.m. Saturday in Hawaii what is the day and time in Pohnpei?

There were other fundraiser events also. United Airlines graciously donated two r/t tickets to anywhere in Micronesia and Asia. Raffle tickets were sold to the general public and the drawing was held that night. The lucky winners were Caroline Kocel and Eliza Sailas. Thanks United. Two happy people will be flying the friendly skies.

There were many other raffles and prizes given out. The crowd was raucous but fighting was limited and generally controlled with pepper spray. The annual quiz night is becoming known as the Pohnpei event of the year, so make sure to attend next year.

We want to thank everyone who helped out, especially all Rotary members and the friends of Rotary who assisted just for the fun, and all the staff at Cupids.

The money raised goes to support the many projects in which Rotary is involved.

For 2019-2020 we awarded \$12,000.00 in scholarships to local students towards their college education, and also distribute \$20,000.00 in scholarships provided by Vital. The Rotary Club support 9 elementary schools to enter the Scripps Spelling Bee, which is an international competition, and the winners from Pohnpei get to go to Guam for the next round. We are heavily involved in rheumatic heart disease diagnosis and prevention. We also have donated a lot of sporting goods equipment to local organizations. Other projects are ongoing, and we are always looking for new projects.

Once again thanks to our wonderful sponsors and all those who participated and helped us raise money for worthy projects.

## Attention Citizens: How you can protect your mail, & how the FSM National Government is investigating allegations of FSM Postal Services mishandling & means of systemic improvement

### FSM Information Services

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—Recently on Social Media, citizens across the Nation have been voicing their concerns regarding the handling and receipt of international parcels. Several reports have also occurred in person, over the phone, and by email. Several citizens allege that parcels may arrive torn, wet, or missing content; some suggest that parcels simply never reach the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) in the first place.

The FSM National Government, including the FSM Postal Service, would like to inform citizens that it takes your concerns seriously, and is committed to protecting both incoming and outgoing mail. It is indeed the duty of every employee of the FSM Postal Service to protect every single piece of mail—whether it's flat-rate, registered, certified, express, insured

or not insured, with tracking or without tracking, and so forth.

As of today, November 27th 2019, His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the FSM, has requested Postmaster General Ginger Porter Mida to review contemporary reporting procedures and, where necessary and able, to develop a superior means of doing so.

Social media postings are effective at telling the FSM National Government that there IS a problem, but they do not necessarily help us in SOLVING that problem in the future. As we review our standardized procedures and seek to improve upon them, citizens with concerns regarding their parcels are asked to please call the FSM Postal Service at +691-320-2614 or email the FSM Postal Service via its contact form on the website here: <https://post.gov.fm/>

contact-form/

While making a call or submitting a written report, please be as detailed as possible. The more information there is, the more likely the FSM Postal Service can act on that information.

In the meantime, there are a number of ways citizens can advocate for themselves and their mail by doing their own due diligence. These can include:

1. Ensuring your package is equipped with a tracking number—this will allow you and your family to find out where the package is;
2. Insuring your package so that it is signed upon receipt—this makes sure that there is a name attached to your package, improving transparency and accountability;

3. After 30 days from the day the mail was sent, file a missing claim in the FSM Post Office; the clerk will have you sign the claim and it will be sent to the Post Office the mail originated from—i.e., if a mail didn't arrive from Cincinnati, your signed claim will also tell Cincinnati what happened;

4. You can also file a claim online at [www.usps.gov](http://www.usps.gov) ;

The FSM National Government apologizes for any disappointment citizens may be experiencing with the FSM Postal Service. The Government looks forward to updating citizens on the outcomes of the forthcoming internal review of the FSM Postal Service's reporting procedures, and wishes all citizens and residents a very happy Thanksgiving.

## Opinion Editorial

# Human Rights Day on December 10 is important to all of us

In today's splintered world, it would be easy to think that there is nothing upon which all nations can agree and all cultures can embrace as an integral part of their communities. But International Human Rights Day, celebrated on December 10, reminds us that it wasn't so long ago that the world came together to do exactly that. On December 10, 1948, the United Nations unanimously adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), a set of rights to which all individuals are entitled. Rights such as being free from torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. Rights like the freedom of religion or belief. The freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly. The right to form and join trade unions. Under the UDHR, every human being in the world can claim these rights as their own birthright, no matter their citizenship or allegiance.

The word "universal" in the UDHR's title was a purposeful choice, showing that the UDHR was the product of consensus among a wide cross-section of global rights traditions. While we are proud that the United States' own Eleanor Roosevelt chaired the drafting committee, bringing with her the beliefs expressed in our Declaration of Independence that all persons are "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights," the drafters represented diverse national, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds and intellectual traditions. For example, René Cassin was a Jewish Basque from France who later received the Nobel Peace Prize for his work on the UDHR. Charles Malik was a Maronite Christian from Lebanon who fled the Nazis in the 1930s. China's Peng Chun Chang brought a strong Confucian influence to the committee.

The UDHR was born of the tragedy of the Second World War, which showed that governments that had no regard for the rights of their citizens similarly had no reservations about immersing the world into a terrible conflict for their own twisted aims. The founders of the United Nations knew that peace could only be achieved when human rights were respected, and set out to create a common framework that all nations could embrace – a set of universal rights that recognized the primacy of individual human dignity.

Sadly, anyone reading the news today can see that the human rights and fundamental freedoms set forth in the UDHR are not respected by all nations. Some of today's worst abusers of human rights were original adopters of the UDHR who committed themselves to defending those rights.

The Chinese government has forced more than one million Uighurs and members of other Muslim minority groups into internment camps in the Xinjiang region of China since April 2017. The allegations of forced labor, torture, and other inhumane conditions in the camps belie the Chinese government's false claims that the purpose of the camps is education. Even those living outside the camps are robbed of any semblance of individual choice and freedom thanks to an ever-present surveillance system trapping them in an open-air prison.

In Venezuela, Maduro having plundered one of the wealthiest nations on earth, has caused nearly 20 percent of the population to flee. The brutal repression of human rights continues to this day with credible reports of extrajudicial killings, torture, and suppression of the freedoms of speech, and association. Maduro's response to political opposition has been to harass, threaten and target opposition leaders with violence through legal and extrajudicial means. His incompetent abuse of power has denied Venezuelans access to the basic needs of a functional society. When Venezuelans took to the streets to protest his misrule, Maduro savagely repressed protesters and shut down the Internet to hamper their ability to voice their grievances.

In Iran, the regime's unelected Supreme Leader prioritizes encouraging regional chaos over improving the lives of the Iranian people. Truck drivers and schoolteachers whose only crime was asking to receive their paychecks have been harassed and, by some reports, arrested and tortured. The regime's long history of severe discrimination against women continues unabated, with women sentenced to as many as 23 years in prison for not wearing a hijab in public.

The Russian human rights organization Memorial now lists 315 political prisoners in Russia, up from 195 last year, and reports that 200 of them are imprisoned for exercising their freedom of religion or belief. The government increasingly restricts freedom of expression and Internet freedom, and civil society and the independent press face constant harassment, character smears, threats and violence. In the Republic of Chechnya, torture, enforced disappearances, and mass extrajudicial killings reportedly take place with total impunity.

Since the adoption of the UDHR in 1948,



there have been extraordinary accomplishments of human freedom that make the backsliding of these nations even more striking. For example, the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa in the 1970s, as well as the peace and

reconciliation stages in the 1980s and 1990s. Poland's Solidarity movement, where laborers demanded the government respect their right to live and work without fear of repression and retaliation. The countless individual stories of people standing up for their rights, from a group of indigenous women forced into sexual slavery in Guatemala brave enough to tell their stories in court to Malala Yousafzai, who survived being shot at the age of 15 by Taliban gunmen in Pakistan simply for attending school, and went on to become a resolute and inspiring voice for equality despite her injury and ongoing threats.

The UDHR's diverse group of drafters found a common purpose in the universal rights they outlined. They understood that the nations of the world had a duty to one another: to stand up for human dignity and protect the human rights to which every person is entitled. It is not only governments that have this duty. Governments are, after all, composed of individuals. Every person has a role to play in protecting and standing up for human rights.

How can we do this? We can all educate ourselves about human rights, learning about the rights guaranteed under the UDHR and about current human rights challenges around the world. We can all stand against abuse and join the call for accountability, drawing attention to states that abuse human rights and urging them to uphold their commitments to respect human rights. We can urge our governments to speak up when abuses take place elsewhere in the world. We can demand that nations uphold the tenets of the UDHR.

I can assure you that the United States and its people remain committed to human rights. We are on the frontlines, advocating for every person around the globe to enjoy their rights in the same way that Americans are so proud that we are able to do every day.

After all, these freedoms are the shared birthright of all persons, as declared by the community of nations on December 10, 1948.

## 21st Congress of the FSM confirms multiple nominations for the Panuelo-George administration's cabinet

*FSM Information Services*

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—The 21st Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), during its Third Special Session held in the FSM State of Chuuk, voted in favor of multiple Congressional Resolutions appointing nominees submitted from His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the FSM, to serve in the Panuelo-George administration's Cabinet.

The Honorable Eugene Amor was confirmed by Congress to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Finance & Administration.

The Honorable Carlson D. Apis was confirmed by Congress to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communication, & Infrastructure.

The Honorable Marion Henry was confirmed by Congress to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Resources & Development.

The Honorable Kandhi Elieisar was confirmed by Congress to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Honorable Ricky F. Cantero was confirmed by Congress to serve as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Honorable Livinson A. Taulung was confirmed by Congress to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Health & Social Affairs.

The Honorable Joses R. Gallen was confirmed by Congress to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Justice. (The Secretary of the Department of Justice is also known as the Attorney General.)

His Excellency David W. Panuelo, on behalf of the Executive Branch of the FSM National Government, extends his sincere appreciation to the Honorable Wesley W. Simina, Speaker of the 21st FSM Congress, and all of the Honorable Senators, for their support for the Panuelo-George administration's Cabinet.




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"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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