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# World Food Day and International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction celebrated in the FSM



By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 13, 2014

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Carrying a theme of caring for senior citizens, World Food Day and International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction was celebrated in the FSM. During Pohnpei’s celebration at the Spanish Wall Park, Andrew Yatilman, Director of the FSM’s Office of Environment and Emergency Management said that this is the first year that all four states in the FSM were participating with their own celebrations.

Children from the Early Childhood Education program from all over Pohnpei entertained with song and dance and shared their young knowledge on the issues of Food Security and Disaster Risk Reduction.

As has become traditional in Pohnpei, farmers and crafters also held a special market where people could buy their products.

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Governor solicits Legislature’s help to solve Pohnpei’s power crisis

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Nathan Fry takes video where very few have ever been

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Japanese Soprano Nao Masaoka gives her first solo concerts in Pohnpei

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Third FSM National Women’s Council held in Pohnpei

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New post office opens in Kosrae

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# Governor solicits Legislature's help to solve Pohnpei's power crisis

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 21, 2014

**Pohnpei, FSM**—In a series of letters to Speaker Fernando Scaliem of the 8th Pohnpei Legislature, Governor John Ehsa encouraged the legislature to join him in trying to do something about Pohnpei's power shortages and high per kilowatt hour prices.

In September, many Pohnpei Utilities Corporation customers were shocked to learn that the per kilowatt hour price had increased from the August price of 50.38 cents to 60.83 cents. PUC offered little to no explanation other than a sign that hung in the office saying that the fuel cost had increased to 46.83 cents per kilowatt hour.

Last week PUC lowered the price to 56.11 cents.

Governor Ehsa's letter to Speaker Scaliem included a copy of an internal circular from FSM Petroleum Corporation. The circular showed that the wholesale price it charged PUC for a gallon of diesel has steadily decreased each month from May's price of \$4.05 to the current price of \$3.89. During that same period of time, PUC's per kilowatt hour rate has varied. In May PUC charged its customers 55.25 cents. They lowered the price to 54.42 cents in June. In July they increased the price to 55.74 cents. In August the price was down

to 50.38. One month later PUC increased the price to 60.83.

"Electricity price increases are not directly related to the price of fuel that we sell to PUC," the FSMPC circular concluded. "Vital will continue to keep fuel prices to its main customer, PUC, as low as possible. The Company expects a continued stable, low wholesale price to the state utility through the fourth Quarter of 2014. Whether or not PUC is able to pass along these fuel price savings to rate payers is dependent on their generation efficiency, hydro power, and solar generation."

In Governor Ehsa's October 2 letter he reminded Speaker Scaliem that on September 9, 2012, the Legislature nullified his declaration of emergency regarding Pohnpei's power crisis.

"Since then the problem has not improved," he wrote. "There are still unexpected and frequent power outages around Pohnpei, and we are still under power rationing and the cost of electricity (per kilowatt) continues to increase, almost on a monthly basis."

The Governor lambasted the efforts of the PUC Board and Management saying that they had "completely failed" to restore the utility's power generation capacity, despite what he called their "alleged violations and non-compliance with certain provisions of Title 34 of the Pohnpei Code in their desperate

and idiosyncratic ways to resolve the power generation crisis."

"Mr. Speaker, as leaders, we must do something. I request that we take the matter into our own hands and work together to find an amicable solution once and for all to the PUC problem for the benefit of all power users in Pohnpei," the Governor urged.

When the letter went unanswered by October 13, the Governor wrote another letter itemizing some of what he called the "major problems" of PUC that he believes "require joint action by the Legislature" and his office.

He outlined four points that he wants to visit regarding PUC's activities:

1. "PUC has totally and continuously (continuously) ignored the requirements of 2-101 of Chapter 2 of 34 PC has (as) amended by not complying with the established procedures on electricity rate increases.
2. "PUC has continued to lie to the general public that its electricity rates increases is (are) due to the increase in the cost of fuel.
3. "Contrary to the requirement of 1-101 (2) of 8L-09-12, PUC treats its employees differently from the public. Employees of PUC are given certain amount(s) of cash power and water free of charge. This has been in effect since 2003; and
4. "Non-payment of PUC's ADB (Asian Development Bank) loans in spite of repeated requests may unnecessarily cause cash flow problem(s) for the State in the near future."

During an interview in his office this morning, Governor Ehsa said that PUC doesn't report to him anymore.

He said that during his travels he had been looking into possible sources for generators. When he was in Guam he found used generators from the U.S. Navy that might

have worked. He asked the PUC board and management to come and evaluate them which they did. PUC not only found the generators to be too small but they were also used and rejected them.

This was before the FSM Congress had appropriated \$2 million for the purchase of generators for Pohnpei, and also before it had ratified a World Bank technical assistance grant for the same amount of money.

Ehsa said that before that amount of money became available, he contacted several companies asking for bids for generators. By his estimation EIG (Energy Infrastructure Global) provided the best delivered and installed price for four 2.5 megawatt generators at \$900,000 per generator.

He called the proposal a "no-brainer" since, as he understands it, PUC has said it needs 10 megawatts of power generating capacity and since EIG is a "local company".

He said that he made the recommendation to PUC but the utility rejected it.

The legislature scheduled a public hearing regarding PUC specifically regarding the pricing structure. The meeting was scheduled at 1:30 on Thursday, October 23, a day after this newspaper's deadline.

In the Governor's first letter he wrote that the Board Chairman and some other members of the Board reported a major alleged violation of the PUC law by the management. He said that he intends to deal with that matter separately with the Board.

Governor Ehsa has also asked the Supreme Court to decide whether or not PUC had to write to enter into an agreement for FSM Petroleum Company to provide power generation services to the utility.

He said today that he feels that FSMPC has no business in the power generation business but should instead be providing fuel discounts.

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Managing Editor

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## Officials unveil new airport welcome sign celebrating shark protection Governor Ehsa and Micronesia Leaders Call for Swift Passage of National Shark Sanctuary

On October 20, 2014, Pohnpei Governor John Ehsa, Chief of Staff Falcam on behalf of FSM President Emanuel Mori, and other state leaders attended a ceremony at Pohnpei International Airport unveiling a new welcome sign which celebrates the state's shark protections. With the passage of Chuuk's law in May, all four states now fully protect sharks in their waters. A draft bill is currently being reviewed by the FSM National Government which would create a shark sanctuary in FSM's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

In 2011 at the Micronesia Chief Executive Summit, the Presidents and Governors of Micronesia, committed to create the Micronesia Shark Sanctuary. The administration and its NGO and private partners have been working with members of the FSM National Congress to have this draft legislation passed to fulfill its regional commitment and to secure the nations ocean resources for future generations.

"We are immensely proud of our shark protections here in Pohnpei State and this new sign will share with visitors and citizens alike that Pohnpei is committed to passing on our natural resources to our next generations," said Governor Ehsa. "We look forward to the day when sharks are protected throughout FSM's EEZ."

The sign features an iconic Pohnpei image—Sokehs Rock—as well as images of sharks found in our waters. It reads, "Welcome to Pohnpei where sharks are

protected."

The unveiling comes on the heels of a recent resolution by Pohnpei's traditional leaders who called on the Congress to pass legislation for the creation of a shark sanctuary in FSM's national waters. More than 8,000 Micronesian students have signed a petition in support of an FSM shark sanctuary. The signers come from all four states of FSM, Palau, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the

Marshall Islands, and Guam.

"I'm delighted to see Pohnpei taking the lead in this effort," said Willy Kostka, Executive Director of the Micronesia Conservation Trust. "Sharks are critical to the health of our oceans, and when FSM passes our national shark sanctuary we will have joined Palau, Guam, CNMI, and Marshall Islands to create the largest shark sanctuary in the world."

Approximately 100 million sharks are killed each year and the latest science finds that nearly 30% of known shark species fully assessed by scientists are threatened with extinction. Sharks are currently unprotected in FSM's EEZ with the exception of oceanic whitetip sharks and silky sharks, which are protected by regional agreements under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).



## COM Land Grant sponsors Black-Lip Pearl Oyster Half Pearl Seeding training program in Pohnpei, FSM and Majuro, RMI

College of Micronesia Land Grant Program (COMLG) conducted an Aquaculture training program for 3 College of Marshall Islands Land Grant Aquaculture Program staff at the COMLG Nett Point Aquaculture facility in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) from August 27-30, 2014. The three staff, Tabwi Aini, Harry Langrine and John Zedkia were trained under COMLG Master Technicians, Mr. Belenko Halverson and Clayton Maluwelgiye and supervised by COMLG Aquaculture Program Director and Chief Scientist, Dr. Manoj R. Nair.

The three Marshallese candidates were taught hands -on Black -Lip Pearl Oyster Half Pearl seeding of oysters, post seeding handling and care at the COMLG Aquaculture facility in Nett Point in Pohnpei, FSM. In addition the candidates also had an opportunity to witness and participate in Sandfish (*Holothuria scabra*) Sea Cucumber nursery and grow-out experiments being done at the Nett Point facility and in the community.

The COMLG team, Dr. Manoj R. Nair, Mr. Belenko Halverson and Clayton Maluwelgiye travelled to Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and conducted an onsite training from September 28-October 3, 2014 for 11 candidates from 7 Atolls of RMI namely, Majuro, Likiep, Ebon, Aur, Maleolap, Nandrik and Ailinglaplap. The candidates were taught the basics of pearl farming and had hands -on half pearl seeding of oysters, post seeding handling and care at the CMI Land Grant aquaculture facility at CMI Arrak Campus in Majuro RMI.

The COMLG team would do a return visit to RMI after 6 months to assess the training program by harvesting the half pearls seeded by each trainee and give recommendations based on the results.

The COMLG wishes to thank Dr. Hilda Heine, Chairman Board of Regents College of Micronesia Land Grant Program for taking active interest in the training

program. Thanks are also due to Dr. Singeru Singeo, Executive Director of College of Micronesia Land Grant Program for funding support and valuable inputs for the training program. The trainers also would like to acknowledge Mr. Carl Hacker, President, of College of the Marshall Islands and Mr. Biama Samson, Dean, College of Marshall

Islands Land Grant Program for all the necessary help rendered for the smooth running of the training program in RMI. The COMLG wish to thank Mr. Eltera Hermius for graciously agreeing to attend and chair the closing ceremony at CMI Arrak Campus in Majuro and distributing the certificates of completion to the trainees.



## Vice-President Alik returns from official visit to China

*FSM Information Services*

*October 21, 2014*

*(FSM Embassy, Beijing)* Vice-President Alik L. Alik has returned from his Official Visit to the People's Republic of China at the invitation from China's Vice-President Li Yuanchao. Vice-President Alik led a five-member delegation to China from 13-18 October 2014. The visit was scheduled to coincide with this year's 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between FSM and China on September 11, 1989.

The visit consisted of a welcoming ceremony held in the morning of October 14, 2014 at the Great Hall of the People, followed by official talks with Vice President Li Yuanchao. In the afternoon, Vice-President Alik also met with China's top legislature, Chairman Zhang Dejiang, who is the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

The meetings with leading officials in Beijing reaffirmed both sides' satisfaction with the state of relations these past twenty-five years and has reassured that both sides want to work together to further enhance the relationship beyond and into the future. Both sides agree to work together to strengthen bilateral, regional,

and multilateral ties. Furthermore, the meetings encouraged more business cooperation through tourism, trade, and investments. Recurring themes during both high level meetings suggest that both FSM and China desire to further explore and to expand cooperation in the areas of tourism, agriculture, and fisheries. The FSM has indicated its desires to open its shores to interested and serious investors from China.

Vice-President Alik expressed desire to cooperate beyond the bilateral relationship. He encouraged the strengthening of ties at the regional and international fronts. China welcomes and also desires to enhance cooperation at all levels. Vice-President Alik expressed FSM's appreciation for all the assistance China has provided to the FSM and reiterated FSM's strong unequivocal support and adherence to the "One China Policy", a primary pillar to the FSM-China relationship.

Vice-President Alik's visit to Guangzhou gave him the opportunity to visit agricultural and fisheries related sites where he witnessed technologies in agriculture and fisheries that can be replicated in the FSM. The province is eager to take the lead in cooperating with the FSM on key areas given their geographical proximity to the FSM.

The Vice-President also made a visit to Hong Kong, where he met the FSM Honorary Consul, Dr. Tan Siu Lin in Hong Kong. Dr. Dan is also the Chairman of Luen Thai International Group Limited. The issues raised during the meeting are in the areas of fisheries, dry docking and other cooperation for mutual interests.

Vice-President Alik's official visit marks his fifth visit to the People's Republic of China as the Nation's Vice President. His meetings with Vice President Li and Chairman Zhang were productive and both meetings reached consensus. Staffing Vice President Alik in the official talks and meetings were Deputy Chief of Mission Jackson T. Soram, Deputy Assistant Secretary Carson M. Mongkeya, First Secretary KS Vincent Sivas, Mr. Madison Nena, and Mr. Tatchuo Sigrah.

## MRA's clean-up campaign for airport causeway

The Micronesia Registration Advisors, Inc. (MRA) in partnership with volunteers from the local community launched its clean-up campaign of the Causeway leading to the Pohnpei International Airport, on October 11, 2014. There were more than 20 volunteers who turned out for the clean-up. The clean-up was focused on picking up trash including plastics, bottles, dead branches and other unsightly items, from both sides of the road and the water. Volunteers also trimmed and removed dead branches, palm fronds and other eyesores. Seventeen (17) large trash bags were collected and dumped at the dump site.

The campaign will be undertaken once a month preferably on the last Saturday. Clean-up will start as early as 8 in the morning and concludes before noon. Unfortunately, it started raining and we had to stop the clean-up before we covered the entire causeway.

The campaign will last for one (1) year, after which we will evaluate the need to continue it beyond the 12 months. Hopefully, people will become responsible by throwing their own trash away, and not depend on others to clean up after them. We are all responsible for keeping this beautiful island we call home clean, environmentally friendly and welcoming.

Volunteers were provided with tee-shirts with the MRA logo for clean-ups. Drinking water and large trash bags were also provided by MRA.



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## IOM receives \$750,000 from the U.S Government

*Embassy of the  
United States of America Kolonia*

The U.S. Government has awarded the International Organization for Migration (IOM) \$750,000 to fund for 24 months its program "Combatting Trafficking in Persons in Micronesia through the Establishment of Protection Framework for Victims of Trafficking". Serving the Marshall Island, Palau, and the FSM, this program will enhance victim protection and train investigators and prosecutors of trafficking in persons (TIP) cases. Further, IOM will conduct awareness training for sectors of society in the three countries. They will also establish a national referral system for the protection of victims of trafficking through partnerships with national and state authorities.

The 2014 TIP Report for the three Freely Associate States recommended increasing and improving efforts to investigate, prosecute, and punish traffickers; identifying, referring, and providing victims with protective services; and raising awareness of the trafficking issue. IOM's project comes as a direct response.

The U.S. Government is a strong advocate for ending Trafficking in Persons. As U.S. Secretary of State John F. Kerry said. "We each have a responsibility to make this horrific and all-too-common crime a lot less common. And our work with victims is the key that will open the door to real change—not just on behalf of the more than 44,000 survivors who have been identified in the past year, but also for the more than 20 million victims of trafficking who have not."

As part of its efforts, the U.S. Government provides an annual TIP report to assist governments around the world with identifying and helping people to avoid becoming victims of trafficking. The TIP report places countries into one of four tiers

as defined by The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000. Placement within each tier is based more on the extent of government action to combat trafficking in persons than on the size of the problem within the country. In 2014, the Federated States of Micronesia was designated a Tier 2 TIP country.

The definition for each of the tier levels is provided below:

- Tier 1 - Countries whose governments fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.
- Tier 2 - Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.
- Tier 2 Watch List - Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards, and for which:

a) the absolute number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing;

b) there is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year, including increased investigations, prosecution, and convictions of trafficking crimes, increased assistance to victims, and decreasing evidence of complicity in severe forms of trafficking by government officials; or

c) the determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take additional steps over the next year.

- Tier 3- Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so.

## Micronesia Conservation Trust enters formal partnership with Japan's APIC

Micronesia Conservation Trust

On Saturday, October 18th, Mr. William Kostka, Executive Director of the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), visited Tokyo to execute a formal partnership with Japan's Association for Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC). Attending the signing ceremony where Ambassador Peter Sato, President of APIC, Ambassador Shoji Sato, Executive Director of APIC, Mr. Junya Nakano, Director of Climate Change Division, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Megumi Araki, Director of APIC, Ms. Ikuko Matsumoto of the Asian Development Bank, and Ms. Kana Nagayama, also of APIC.

The signing ceremony comes on the heels of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity Convention of the Parties (CBD-COP12) recently held in Pyeongyang, South Korea, where APIC and MCT, represented by Mr. Kostka, had featured prominently for co-hosting several high-level events with the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA), as well as with Governments and international organizations who support islands and sustainable development in islands. In July of 2014, MCT received a \$10,000 grant from APIC to print the Micronesia Challenge Business Plan/Sustainable Finance Plan and to help promote the Micronesia Challenge at major regional and international events. This support has allowed MCT to feature the Micronesia Challenge at the Pacific Islands Forum in Palau, UN Small Island Developing States Conference in Samoa and at the UN CBD-COP in South Korea. Also contributing to the development of the booklets and the Micronesia Challenge Initiative ([www.micronesiachallenge.org](http://www.micronesiachallenge.org)) are the Australian Government, The Nature Conservancy, Conservation International, the Global Environment Facility, United Nations Environment Programme, US Federal Agencies, US Private Foundations, the German Government and several other donors and technical partners. The Micronesia Challenge Initiative is a commitment by the Governments of Palau, FSM, Marshall Islands, Guam and CNMI to put under effective conservation 30% of Micronesia's nearshore marine resources and 20% of its terrestrial resources by 2020. The parties to the Micronesia Challenge also aim to raise an endowment of \$56M, of

which \$18M has been secured and is currently being managed by the Micronesia Conservation Trust.

This MoU between APIC and MCT establishes a working relationship which describes the two organizations' desire and willingness to work together to secure financial and technical resources in Japan to support improved resources management and sustainable development efforts, inter alia, in the field of environment conservation, within the jurisdictions of Micronesia. This entails Partners' communicating, and leveraging overlapping resources with roles and responsibilities of each organization, with the overarching goal to achieve specific environmental conservation and sustainable development outcomes.

"Japan and Micronesia have always had a special relationship, which have produced some tangible outcomes in our region", said Mr. Kostka. "This newly established partnership between APIC and MCT will ensure that this rich and consequential relationship continues". Some of APIC's other contributions to Micronesia include the establishment of a scholarship program which supports the costs of a Xavier High School graduate to Sophia University in Japan.

Peter Y. Sato, president of APIC, emphasized the conclusion of the MoU as a meaningful step forward in enhancing the collaboration between Japan and Micronesia in coping with many issues of the global warming agenda. "Japan as an island country surrounded by the ocean has long been committed to preserve natural resources to sustain her quality of life. To us, Japanese, fisheries in Micronesia contributes a great deal to our fishing industry. In these respects, we fully share the significance of the Micronesia Challenge, which is so universally supported by many people and nations in the world. It is in our great interest indeed to support MCT and Micronesia's leaders in ensuring that these resources are sustainably used and managed for the benefit of the people of Micronesia and Japan.", he remarked. He also referred to the progress also being made in education as the first Xavier student had started her study under the Ushiba Scholarship program at Sophia University this autumn.



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**Pohnpei schools celebrate World  
Development Information Day with  
materials on renewable energy**



5th grade teacher Mr. Cory Kustin, explains the materials to his class at Ohmine Elementary School in Kolonia. (Photo by Darsy Augustine)

Pohnpei State schools celebrated "World Development Information Day" on October 22nd by disseminating materials on renewable energy and energy efficiency that were published under an FSM educational campaign through North-REP.

Each elementary school and high school handed out flyers and brochures in local language to students that explained what they can do to save energy, explanations on energy efficient appliances, and on how to produce their own energy. The teachers disseminated the materials along with a message on what "World Development Information Day" is about and how the information in the materials can help their state to develop greater awareness of the challenges of development and promote better efforts for cooperation.

According to the United Nations, the General Assembly, in 1972, instituted World Development Information Day to draw the attention of world public opinion to development problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them. The Assembly decided that the date for the Day should coincide in principle with United Nations Day, 24 October, which is an FSM holiday. The Assembly felt that improving the dissemination of information and the mobilization of public opinion, particularly among young people, would lead to greater awareness of the problems of development, thus, promoting efforts in the sphere of international cooperation for development.

Currently FSM's energy mix is 95% fossil fuels (diesel power generation) and 5% renewable energy (solar and hydro) with a target of 30% to be supplied by renewable energy by 2020. The majority of funding for renewable energy projects in the FSM comes from external donor funding sources, not from the FSM's local revenues. For FSM to meet its goals, government, the private sector and communities will need to focus on using more energy efficient appliances and increasing the penetration of renewable energy where feasible.

The materials disseminated on World Development Information Day were created to educate the public on renewable energy and energy efficiency measures that can help the FSM to become "energy wise". Students were asked to take home the information and share it with their parents.

Similar campaigns are running in the other 3 FSM states, also with materials created in local languages.

The North Pacific ACP Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Project (North-REP) is a unique project aimed at developing the energy sectors of the FSM, RMI and Palau. These three SPC member countries have pooled the combined 15.49 million euros from the 10th European Development Fund 10 resources and entrusted SPC to implement the project. This highlights a special partnership between the European Union, SPC and the countries. It also highlights the collaboration and vision in working together for the betterment of livelihoods in the north Pacific region.



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## Genesis employee sentenced to five years in Majuro

*Marshall Islands Journal*

*October 17, 2014*

**Majuro, RMI**—A former Genesis worker was sentenced to serve five years in Majuro Jail after pleading guilty to 26 counts related to bribing Ministry of Health workers to win hospital contracts for his company.

When the 52 charges were filed early this year, Ariane Jay Demayo initially pleaded not guilty. This week, he changed his plea as part of an agreement with the Attorney General's office. He agreed to plead guilty to 13 counts of "bribery in official matters" and 13 counts of "criminal conspiracy." A total of 26 charges of "theft by deception" and "securing execution of documents by deception" were dismissed by the AG's office, which was represented in the case by Assistant Attorney Jonathan Kawakami. Demayo was represented by Chief Public Defender Russell Kun.

Demayo was charged along with the Pohnpei-based owner of Genesis Island Enterprise RMI. The AG's case has proceeded against Demayo, who formerly managed Genesis' pharmaceutical operation in Majuro, located

across the street from Majuro hospital.

The Chief Justice sentenced Demayo to seven years in jail, with five to serve and two on probation. He started serving his sentence Monday this week and is eligible for release from Majuro Jail on October 12, 2019.

Ingram in his decision reported that Demayo spoke at the sentencing hearing, apologizing to the government for his conduct. He spoke about his personal agony and family shame, and said it is his hope that this will make him a better person.

The Chief Justice said he was giving the jail sentence to discourage the defendant from ever committing bribery and conspiracy again and to discourage other residents of the Republic from committing bribery and conspiracy.

Currently, two RMI government workers are facing criminal charges related to bribery for contracts at Majuro hospital that involved Demayo. They are Francis Silk and Waylon Muller.

## JICA follow-up cooperation is ready for COM-FMI in Yap

On October 07, 2014, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the College of Micronesia (COM-FSM) and the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs held the signing of Minutes of Discussions on the Follow-up Cooperation on Fisheries Training Project. The Minutes were signed by JICA Team Leader, Mr. Kenji Kaneko, Acting President of COM-FSM, Ms. Karen Simion, and Secretary of Foreign Affairs, the Honorable Lorin Robert.

The objective of the Follow-up Cooperation is to activate the Fisheries & Maritime Institute (FMI) by the rehabilitation of machinery and equipment which was provided through JICA's technical cooperation project entitled "Fisheries Training Project in the Federated States of Micronesia". This project was implemented between 2000 and 2006 for the purpose of enhancing the training system on fishing, navigation and maritime engineering at FMI. Tools and equipment such as radar simulator, a

training boat "Hokuto", fishing gear and many other items were provided along with a number of JICA experts who were dispatched to FMI for technical advices.

From 20th September to 3rd October 2014, a field study for the Follow-up Cooperation was conducted at FMI in Yap to look into details of the provided tools and equipment which are still needed at FMI for use as teaching resources for the programs offered at the Institute. Based on the findings of current situation of equipment, JICA is ready to proceed with necessary actions for procurement of equipment for renewing Radar, GPS plotter, Echo sounder of the training boat "Hokuto" and other indispensable educational items of FMI. Procurement has been scheduled by April 2015 as well as dispatching of short time JICA experts to FMI for equipment installation and operational training.

## PEPP incorporates in Micronesia

*Partnership for the Environmental Protection of the Pacific*

On September 27, 2014, Partnership for the Environmental Protection of the Pacific, or PEPP, registered in Palikir, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, as a not-for-profit corporation. PEPP's declared mission is to help the people of Pacific Island countries address crosscutting environmental issues vital to their physical well-being and sustained economic development. Pan-Pacific in vision, PEPP's board of directors is drawn from around the Pacific. The Micronesian members of the board consist of former FSM Attorney General Marstella E. Jack of Moakil and naturopathic physician Anthony J. Mix of Pohnpei. PEPP's Executive Director is Richard K. Pruett, the former U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission to Micronesia.

PEPP is organized in six divisions handling Renewable Energy; Maritime Monitoring, Control and Surveillance; Waste, Sanitation, and Water Management; Wellness; Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation; and Conservation.

PEPP has several initiatives pertaining to the FSM. The first, previewed to Pohnpei State officials and other stakeholders last year, is a project designed to replace, by the year 2030, Pohnpei's dependence on fossil fuels for the generation of electricity. PEPP's plan is to build, operate and then transfer to Pohnpei State a solar energy farm capable of meeting all of Pohnpei's normal daily electricity needs with renewable energy. PEPP hopes to replicate the project as a model for energy development in other locations across the FSM and the Pacific. PEPP is also exploring the feasibility of other ambitious initiatives designed to give Micronesians greater accessibility to affordable health care, dispose of derelict shipping vessels and broken-down automobiles, and bolster maritime and fisheries enforcement.

**More details regarding PEPP are available through its website at: [www.pacificpartnership.org](http://www.pacificpartnership.org).**

# Nathan Fry takes video where very few have ever been

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 16, 2014

**Pohnpei, FSM**—In the early evening, Nathan Fry pulled out his home built quadricopter and put it on the trunk of his car in the parking lot of the Protestant Church in Kolonia. He may as well have been ringing a bell and driving slowly down the street in a van with pictures of ice cream pasted on its side. Children and adults came running to see what was happening.

Fry, who works at the Baptist Radio station, is a gentle man and was extremely patient with the children who danced around him as he set his quadricopter on the ground. He waited patiently for them to back away before spinning up the blades and launching the spider like vessel skyward with a GoPro video camera attached to it.

Fry says that he has dabbled in videography for about four years. In 2013 he got his first DSLR (Digital single-lens reflex) camera and since then has been shooting some stunning land and waterscapes around the FSM. Though his knowledge of technology is nearly encyclopedic, and what he doesn't know he seems to be able to find out, he says that he has had no formal training.

While paying careful attention to the flight path of his "drone" as he operated the remote control, he explained that its two red and two blue lights have a purpose. The camera's lens points forward between the legs with the two red lights. Watching them he can tell which direction his camera is pointed.

Traffic slowed and pedestrians gawked as Nathan powered his machine through the sky capturing video from angles that no photographer could ever otherwise attain. He explained that each of his two batteries allows him to fly the quadricopter and power the camera for a bit less than ten minutes. He's sure to bring the copter back before that time and also has to be careful of the children who want to chase the drone. The blades spin at high revolutions and he doesn't want anyone to be injured.

He found a safe landing place and dropped the copter gently to the ground. After the blades spun down the crowd of adults who gathered to watch the copter fly started asking him questions. He didn't seem to mind and answered all of the questions patiently. He said it happens every time he flies his drone. Fry told the crowd that he built the copter from individual parts that he found on line for a total of about \$400. He said that anyone who knows how to solder can build one. He was so excited when the parts for him came in that he built his in one long night.

He said that his early videos with the drone weren't particularly good because he didn't have a stabilizer for the GoPro camera. Then it was essentially lashed directly to the frame of the copter. The video was at the mercy of whatever angle the helicopter happened to be. Now he has a system that allows the camera to remain level without regard to the pitch of the helicopter. In addition to controlling the helicopter he can also control up and down motion of the camera so that from high up he can get videos of what is below.

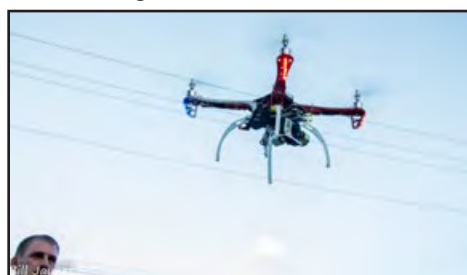
After his first flight, Fry picked up the copter and once again put it on the trunk of the car. Children and adults circled him as he pulled out his iPhone. He explained that the GoPro camera can stream data to his iPhone so that he can immediately preview the video content he has taken. The crowd was enthralled as they watched the aerial vista Fry had captured.

A spectator asked him how high the copter could fly. Fry started the machine up and demonstrated. Up, up it went until it was no more than a spec in the sky. The system relies on line of sight. He says that some much more expensive commercial copters have a GPS system that returns the copter to the place where it took off if it ever loses signal from the remote controller.

Someone suggested that he could take aerial videos of surfers and "make a fortune". Fry shook his head. He's nearly crashed the copter several times. He said that if it crashes over land he could probably fix it since he built it but if it crashes into the ocean it's all over.

Fry flies his quadricopter several times a week and posts his videos on YouTube. We shared one of his videos on our Facebook page which can be found at [www.facebook.com/KPressFSM](http://www.facebook.com/KPressFSM).

Because of his hobby, some people think that he is wealthy. He says that's far from the truth. It's just that he's really good at saving his money until he can afford to buy what he wants even if it takes a long time.



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# Japanese Soprano Nao Masaoka gives her first solo concerts in Pohnpei

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 18, 2014

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Japanese Soprano, Nao Masaoka gave her final Pohnpei performance on Saturday night October 18 at the Sokehs Pah Church. During the previous week she performed several other concerts on island, including one at the Protestant Church in Pohnpei.

When Masaoka was 18 years old she earned a coveted position in one of Japan's finest and most prestigious music institutes for girls. She was one of only 40 students accepted that year from a list of nearly 1000 other applicants. Though she has performed as part of an ensemble for several years, she told the audiences that the concerts in Pohnpei were her first solo concerts.

I was personally disappointed that the concerts weren't better attended. Masaoka's big voice filled up the venues with no amplification needed. Even though

she speaks very little English she made a connection with the audience that was remarkable and even included local songs in Pohnpeian.

As a musician I wondered though if her designation as a soprano is really accurate. She certainly did have a range that included very high notes. Of that there is no question, but to my ear, her voice was more resonant in the high alto range. Still, her vocal range was huge, rising sonorously up from well below the musical staff to well above it, seemingly effortlessly. I would guess her range to have been at least two and a half octaves.

During her time in Pohnpei she was able to participate as a tourist and saw several of Pohnpei's most beautiful places.

JICA Volunteer, Seiichi Naka said that the concert tour was arranged through volunteers who personally funded the tour.





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Luther Timothy	P.O. Box 197	Tofol, Kosrae
Matthew C Rott	P.O. Box 901	Tofol, Kosrae
Qumina T Livaie	P.O. Box 257	Tofol, Kosrae
Mwichen Asor	P.O. Box 461	Weno Chuuk
Kuttu Municipality	P.O. Box 1212	Weno Chuuk
Northwest Financial Services Corporation	P.O. Box 6	Weno Chuuk
Dynamic Engineering Consultants Co., Ltd	P.O. Box 189	Weno Chuuk
Wpf Marriage Encounter	General Delivery	Weno, Chuuk
Imwenipin Eot	P.O. Box 250	Weno Chuuk
Aketa Jose	General Delivery	Weno, Chuuk
Andon Inek	P.O. Box 393	Weno, Chuuk
Penia SMC Finalisi	P.O. Box 98	Weno, Chuuk
Chuuk Priest-Sister Scholarship Fund	P.O. Box 250	Weno, Chuuk
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Menas Makimi	General Delivery	Weno, Chuuk
Maketo Robert	P.O. Box 1100	Weno, Chuuk
Oscar Amram	P.O. Box 174	Weno, Chuuk
Michicho Ukuk	General Delivery	Weno, Chuuk
Kuku Sammy	General Delivery	Weno, Chuuk
Founukumwar Apartments	P.O. Box 92	Weno, Chuuk
Chuuk State Government	P.O. Box 849	Weno, Chuuk
Francis Diamond	P.O. Box 675	Weno, Chuuk
CB Radio Truk State Kaeo	P.O. Box 351	Weno, Chuuk
Fatima Beseway	P.O. Box 97	Weno, Chuuk
Mona Maianne L Kom	P.O. Box 87	Weno, Chuuk
Reikina Kusto	P.O. Box 352	Weno, Chuuk
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Palau Rock Island	P.O. Box Drawer	Kolonia, Pohnpei
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Attorney at Law Trust	P.O. Box 1480	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Maridell A LaMar	P.O. Box 55	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Pohnpei PATS Alumni	General Delivery	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Mikel Kosmas	General Delivery	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Magdaleno Marcos Roseavila	P.O. Box 09	Kolonia, Pohnpei
FSM Women Network Association	P.O. Box PS-78	Palikir, Pohnpei
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Bernard F Weilbacher	P.O. Box 815	Kolonia, Pohnpei
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**Kosraean:**

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**Chuukese:**

Sia awora ei esinesin ngeni ami kei aramas, mwicheichen aramas, ika sopai mi affat itemi assan pun faan pungun annukun FSM, masowan ami kei accounts epuene lo ngeni ach ewe FSM Finance lon January 2015, ika pwe ese wor mwokutukutun uttut (withdrawal) ika isonanong (deposit) lon me mwen December 31, 2014 Ach anean pwe kopwe chuuto rech ach sipue annisfengen won om kei account.

**Yapese:**

Tan e Motochiyal nu FSM, Bank e badag ni nge yog ko pi customer rok ney ni rayan I January 2015, maran close nag e pi account ney, man pii e salpiy riy ko FSM Secretary ko Finance. Fa'an ra be mug e account rom ko re list ney, ma rayog ni dabni pii e salpiy rom ko Secretary ko Finance faanra ngamub mu deposit fa mub mu withdraw nag e salpiy ko account rom u m'on ko December 31, 2014.

**Pohnpeian:**

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## Letters to the Editor

### US Attorney not a reliable source on Pohnpei law

I read your latest article on the LDS and birth records of Pohnpeians. First, you know that I work at MLSC and in the course of my work, five Pohnpeians have visited my office in the past two weeks alone, getting powers of attorneys signed to permit relatives in Georgia, Hawaii and Guam access to birth records in these jurisdictions because those picking them up needed permission from the record owners. This speaks volumes. There is also a new website for the Pohnpei Supreme Court. There is a provision in getting birth records online. None of them mentioned power that had been granted to the LDS. This brings into great suspicion the "authority" claimed by Mr. Wright in his letter to Mr. Finnen (which by the way did not deter my plans

to sue but the actual back-paddling by LDS – first they took down the records, then put watermark on them, etc). My plate is full with work so I do honestly gauge the work that I do which would mostly effectively benefit those that this office serves. With the back-paddling and the imposing legislation, I felt that it would best temporarily shelved for now.

Going back to the subject of this email.

Self-authentication is a term in evidence law that basically governs documents/matters used in courts/proceedings and their reliability without much work on foundation/authenticity because they are already by nature reliable. This is governed

by Rule 902 of the Pohnpei Rules of Evidence. The rules were copied from the FSM Rules of Evidence which in turn were copied from the U.S. Federal Rules of Evidence. Throughout use and technology, however, the self-authentication rules in Pohnpei and FSM have become relaxed. Mr. Wright's analysis in the letter to Finnen is confusing his world with Pohnpei world because although copied, laws like this can change with time and from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. The fact is that I can, I have (many can and many have) picked up unoriginal birth records and have applied for passports, driver's licenses and so forth and the authorities have systematically issued passports, drivers licenses and so forth. Furthermore, the concerns of self-

authentication rules have changed even in the States due to the waning Best Evidence Rule, which is an archaic principle that is finding its usefulness dying due to photocopiers and so forth (an exception to producing original). The point is Mr. Wright will not win in the courts of this country the argument that he had made on self-authenticating rules that it may only apply to his corner of the world.

I do not recall seeing Mr. Wright's name on the roll of attorneys here so I am baffled on how KP gave credibility on his analysis of Pohnpei law.

*Salomon Saimon, Esq.*  
*Directing Attorney*  
*Law Offices of Micronesian Legal Services Corporation*

### The Weno road project: a private sector perspective

Last year, on November 7th, the National Government terminated the Weno Road Project Contractor, PII, and all work on our roads stopped. Eleven months have passed without resumption of work and according to an "fsmupdates" article dated September 24, 2014, and entitled "Update on Weno Road Project, Mr. Howell of the PMU Office states a contract has been submitted to Contractor GPPC and if all goes well a "Notice to Proceed" order should be issued by October 7th with work to start on October 17, 2014.

However, sources very close to the issue state that mobilization by GPPC has not yet started and they believe that work will not resume this year. Informed sources also say that GPPC has yet to sign and agree with the contract provided to them due to scope of work and financial matters. So now, 11 months after the PII contract was terminate, the hiring of GPPC is not a done deal and the October 17th "Notice to Proceed" date is now October 31st. Meanwhile, PII continues to be quite vocal in saying that had the contract not been terminated the road project would have been completed already.

Whatever story you choose to believe, the realities are that the immediate result of the November 2013 termination of the PII Contract resulted in 115 local Chuukese losing their jobs and the work stopped. Economic Development Projects that were funded but contingent on the progress or completion of the road project have not been able to proceed because of the road project termination.

There are private sector businesses that have secured significant loans from local banks to expand their business but cannot proceed because of the road project termination. Other businesses want to expand or improve aspects of their business but are putting off development plans while waiting for the

road project to be completed.

It is now a common sight to see broken down cars on the road with one wheel pointing one way and another wheel pointing in the opposite direction. And, the down time of vehicles and costs for repairs due to our roads are significant and impacts both the private and the public sector.

There have been instances where a bicycle rider has been injured because they could not see under the water that covers much of our roadway every time it rains, hit something and fell down. Employees walking to work have slipped and injured themselves trying to pass around water that stretches completely from one side of the road to the other side, and in some cases have missed work because of their accident.

Visitors to our island are comparing Weno to the poorest, undeveloped place they have ever visited just because of the condition of our roadway and the overall appearance of neglect this situation suggests. This impacts our tourism and visitor numbers and this impacts our economy.

There is just nothing good about this situation and while everyone in Chuuk complains about the terrible condition of our roads, time continues to pass with no relief in sight. There is no one providing encouraging news about when resumption of the road work will start, or putting an end to the increased cost of maintenance and repair to our vehicles, and when revenues to the private sector and the government will resume with the completion of the road project.

The holiday season will soon be upon us and it will be less than the usual happy occasions at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years as we all continue to struggle with bad roads and the uncertainty of when the new contractor will show up, when the

work will commence, and most importantly – when will the road this project will be completed.

The government hired the original contractor, was responsible for monitoring

the project, and terminated that contractor. It's been 11 months and there is no replacement contractor on island and no relief in sight for improvement of our roads.

*Bill Stinnett*



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## Third FSM National Women's Council held in Pohnpei

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 22, 2014

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Women from all over the FSM have been meeting at the PICS High School gymnasium since Monday, October 20 during the third FSM National Women's Conference. The conference is not scheduled to end until Friday, October 24 after which time the organizers have promised to provide a news release on the outcomes of the meetings.

The theme of the meetings is "Maintaining our Culture to Inspire Change".

From the program materials, the women received presentations on a wide variety of topics including the economy, tourism, family and child protection and safety, access to education and health, Women in Business, HIV-AIDS, women in political leadership, the advancement of gender justice in the Pacific, a presentation on CEDAW/CRC reporting obligations, the Pacific Prevention of Domestic Violence Program, senior citizens, gender and climate change, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and food security. On the afternoon that we were there, Lori Johnson-Asher, Attorney General of the State of Kosrae gave a presentation on the implementation and successes of Kosrae's landmark domestic violence law. She said that her office is prosecuting several cases under that law and that it had already won convictions of two men who are now serving maximum jail sentences.

On Thursday afternoon the women participated in a National Women's Conference market, which was originally scheduled to be held at the Spanish Wall Park but was relocated to the parking area surrounding the PICS gymnasium.

On the final day the women will decide on the formation of the FSM National Women's Council and review the draft outcomes document. An announcement will also be made regarding the venue for the next FSM Women's Conference which will be held in 2016.



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## New post office opens in Kosrae

Leaders from the National Government and Kosrae State Government along with Kosrae church leaders, municipal mayors, and its people gathered at Tofol on Friday October 10, 2014 to witness the opening ceremony of the new Post Office which took place at 10am. The ceremony began with the state anthem and the raising of the colors by the Kosrae State police officers followed by an invocation by Reverend Solomon Mongkeya.

In her opening remarks, Postmaster General, Ginger Porter Mida, thanked the ALMIGHTY FATHER in Heaven for his love and guidance for the special day and His blessings in making the work of building a new post office for the people of Kosrae. She also thanked the Kosrae State Government for providing the land property purposely for the Post Office. She thanked President Manny Mori for his support in building the postal facility and the FSM Congress for funding the project as well.

In his remarks, Governor Lyndon H. Jackson (key note speaker), he highlighted the significance of the remarkable day and the essence of postal services to the people of this federation. Celebration and congratulations are indeed in order for today's occasion not only because another useful edifice adorns our lovely hills of the capital of Tofol, but because of the prospect of improvement of the postal services to the people of this great State of Kosrae through the medium of a permanent of Post Office. "For what we truly celebrate is not this building, but what in turn this building serves as a center, and a bridge, to a world beyond our horizon", said Governor Jackson. He concluded and said "Let us continue on the service that has started long before, relish in our accomplishments but always be mindful for chance to improve what is already good".

In his remark, Vice Speaker Paliknoa Welly of the FSM Congress commented that the new post office is properly the first post office that is rent-free, and the structure is owned by government. He thanked to Governor Jackson for the donation of the property and thanked the Postmaster General Ginger Porter Mida for her persistence in securing the needed fund from congress as well. Also, he thanked to TE Construction Company for the long hours dedicated to the completion of the project within the desired date of completion.

Signifying the value of the new Post Office, Speaker of Kosrae State Legislature, Honorable Gibson T. Siba, stated that

evolution of postal services in FSM has a long history. During the pre-independence period (known as the Eastern Caroline Islands), we first used stamps of Germany and then Japan from 1914 to 1946. Under the Trust Territory Period, we used American stamps and the US Postal Services. It was not until 1984 that the first stamp of this federation was issued. Speaker Siba further stated that during the construction of the FSM Constitution, our forefathers recognized the important of a postal system to serve the interest of the citizens of the federation. Hence, Article IX, Section 2(j) of the FSM Constitution, mandates the FSM congress to establish a national postal system.

In his closing remarks, Speaker Siba explained that he was deeply honored to take part in the opening ceremony of the new office for Kosrae Post Office. Kosrae State is indebted to the commitment of national leaders from both the executive and legislative branch who worked hard to secure the funding of the new office. He also stated that the project could not have moved forward without the collaboration of the state leadership as well. Governor Jackson, the relevant executive departments and members of the Kosrae legislature deserved credit for the project as well. Vice Speaker Welly thanked the construction company who worked hard every day for a job well done. He concluded his remark by extending his appreciations to FSM Postmaster General, Ginger Ported Mida, who worked feverishly behind the scene to make sure that the new post office is materialized and her staff for their contributions for the establishment and continuity of the postal services within and outside FSM.

The blessing prayer was delivered by Reverend Takeo Likiaksa and the benediction by Reverend Natchuo Andrew. Participating for the ribbon cutting ceremony were FSM Postmaster General Ginger Porter Mida, First lady Sepe L. Jackson, and Second Lady Minni C. Sigrah. The beautiful ceremony marked the very first post office to be built by the National Government in the FSM states. The new Post Office will provide a number of core services for the people of Kosrae and will remain the main carrier of services for citizens of Kosrae needs. FSM congress appropriated \$175,000.00 for the project. The project was contracted to TE Construction Company with the construction of the new Post Office commenced in February 2014 and was completed in September 2014.



# World Food Day

By *IFCP and COM-CES*

For World Food Day 2014, October 15th featured two local food recipe contests – freshly prepared and processed foods. This year saw an increased effort in the presentation of dishes in local food baskets, in coconut shells, bamboo and even papaya bowls decorated with flowers and local leaves. This showed great pride in the dishes the 28 participants had made and also encourages a revival in these cultural practices of weaving and carving.

Furthermore, use of local materials for serving food reduces waste of plastic wraps, Styrofoam plates and cups and plastic containers. IFCP would like to see more use of local leaves for takeout foods and in serving to reduce our impact on the environment.

Congratulations to all the contestants! And thank you to all the volunteers who helped on the day!

## FRESHLY PREPARED COOKING CONTEST WINNERS

### YAM

1ST: MARGARITA PONAPART ;  
MERLAIN ABRAHAM  
3RD : JANE STEPHEN

### BANANA

1ST : EUNICE HEDGAR; MERLAIN ABRAHAM  
3RD : JANE STEPHEN

### BREADFRUIT

1ST : EUNICE HEDGAR; REKIHNA ANDON; LANDA WALTER

### GIANT SWAMP TARO

1ST : REKIHNA ANDON  
2ND : EUNICE HEDGAR  
3RD: DOROTHY PONAPART

### PANDANUS

1ST : NESIER BEN  
2ND: INGRID STEPHEN

### SEAFOOD

1ST : EUNICE HEDGAR  
2ND : DIOPISTA STEPHEN; JANE STEPHEN

### LOCAL POULTRY

1ST : JANE STEPHEN  
2ND : MORINA SETIK  
3RD : GLORIA PONAPART

## WFD PROCESSED/ PRESERVED RECIPE CONTEST WINNERS

### YAM

1ST : GLORIA PONAPART  
2ND : DIOPISTA STEPHEN; INGRID STEPHEN; JANE STEPHEN

### BANANA

1ST: GLORIA PONAPART;  
DIOPISTA STEPHEN; MERLAIN ABRAHAM

### BREADFRUIT

1ST: EPELIANA WALTER  
2ND: KARMELY HEDGAR

### GIANT SWAMP TARO

1ST: DIOPISTA STEPHEN; INGRID STEPHEN

### PANDANUS

1ST: EUNICE HEDGAR  
2ND: DIOPISTA STEPHEN

### SEAFOOD

1ST : PRIHMIHNA PELEP  
2ND : EUNICE HEDGAR; EPELIANA WALTER



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# Tony Reyes takes Cupid's 8 ball tournament prize

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 20, 2014

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Champions of Cupid's Bar and Grille's first "Eight Ball Tournament" sponsored by "Bud Light" squared off this evening on the blue billiards table.

The tournament was limited to 20 players and began on October 13 after competitors paid a \$10 fee at registration the night before.

Tonight the tournament was down to two players who squared off for the \$300 prize for the championship which was set to begin at 7:00. The best of seven tournament this evening was between Greeno Ismael and Tony Reyes.

Greeno's father taught him to play just two years ago and actually competed against him in the tournament, but Reyes shut Dad down in the semi-finals. Reyes was nearly an hour and half late for that tournament.



*Greeno Ismael, Jr. and Greeno Ismael, Sr. waiting for Tony Reyes to show up*

At just before 7:00, Greeno Ismael and his father arrived and waited, and waited, and waited, and waited some more for Reyes to show up for the tournament.

They weren't the only people waiting. Again, Reyes showed up nearly an hour and half after the tournament was scheduled to begin and then began his warm up. Meanwhile, photographers were packing their gear up and heading out the door and hoping that Cupid's would call a forfeit.

That didn't happen and the tournament went on.

Greeno took the first game. Reyes took the second. Greeno took games three and four. The match was looking good for the young billiards player.

Game five was extremely tight, but Ismael seemed to lose his concentration. Reyes won that game along with the next two and took home the prize.