

Mangrove Bay hosts Tahitian and Comedy contest - Yapese "fire dancer" takes top dance prize

By *Bill Jaynes*
 The Kaselehlie Press

November 25, 2016

Pohnpei—The Mangrove Bay Hotel and Bar held a unique Tahitian and Comedy competition that attracted huge attention in Pohnpei this evening. Parking was wall to wall and late comers might have found it difficult to find a parking space at all.

11 people registered for the Tahitian or Hula dance competition. Nine dancers showed up. Three registered for comedy but one backed out.

Dancers quite often danced in groups together but each individual performer was judged by the five member international panel of judges.



See "Fire dancer" on page 7

Bogus Flags and Seafarer identifications being sold in the name of the FSM

By *Bill Jaynes*
 The Kaselehlie Press

December 7, 2016

FSM—Someone whose identity remains to be determined is currently peddling fake FSM "flags of convenience" to international vessels and bogus Seafarers Identifications to seafarers who are using the identifications to illegally work on ships traveling around the world. Whoever is doing it is using the FSM's seal to make their activities appear to be legitimate. The FSM, however, does not issue flags of convenience to any international vessels, and has no contract with anyone allowing them to represent the FSM.

It appears that someone has made money from the scheme but it has apparently not been the FSM government. The FSM has not authorized the activity.

Jason Elymore, Operations Manager of the Marine Division of the FSM's Department of Transportation, Communications, and Infrastructure (TC&I), said that the FSM only issues Seafarers Identifications to FSM

citizens. He said that the FSM's vessel registry is a closed registry for vessels operating in FSM waters that have a corporate presence in the FSM.

The FSM is not the first country to have been hit by such a scam. In 2015 Samoa also fell prey to someone issuing similar fake

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East Micronesia Cable (EMC) System Project Moving Forward

Tarawa, Kiribati—On November 22, 2016, in Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati, the Honorable Willie Tokataake, Minister to the Kiribati Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport and Tourism Development (MICTTD) hosted a dinner program which included a signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Agreement between the governments of the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) formally establishing the “East Micronesia Cable” (EMC) project Steering Committee. Minister Tokataake’s counterparts are FSM Department of Transportation, Communication, & Infrastructure (DTCI) Secretary Lukner Weillbacher, and Nauru, Ministry of Telecommunications and Media (MTM) Minister Shadlog Bernicke, who had previously signed the MOA.

Each of the three participating governments in the EMC project has designated a government agency to manage project preparation and represent the country on the PSC. The designated implementing agencies from the three governments are Kiribati MICTTD, Nauru MTM, and FSM DTCI which are responsible for managing project preparation and providing representation to the EMC Steering Committee.

According to the MOA, the EMC Steering Committee is tasked with representing the three governments to pursue options for procurement of an undersea fiber optic cable system that would link Kiribati, Nauru and Kosrae State to the existing Hannon-Armstrong (HANTRU)-1 cable that connects Pohnpei to Guam. The EMC Steering Committee serves as a

joint governing body to administer the steps necessary to implement the EMC project to completion, and to undertake a joint effort to finance the EMC.

During the signing ceremony, Minister Tokataake spoke of “high expectations that our connection to the submarine cable system will allow service providers to provide more competitive prices for data and mobile service for the benefit of our citizens and this will in turn lead to economic growth.” Minister acknowledged the productive efforts and collaboration by the Steering Committee as well as the “continued assistance of our development partners...for providing technical assistance and more importantly funding support for the submarine cable project.”

Each of the three governments qualify for grant funding for the capital costs of the regional cable system. Subject to its board approval expected in May 2017, the World Bank will finance Kiribati and FSM’s participation on the regional cable. The Nauru Government is concurrently seeking financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The EMC Steering Committee has scheduled its next face-to-face Steering Committee meeting for January 15, 2017 during the Pacific Telecommunications Council (PTC) conference in Honolulu by which time the governments expect to have hired a joint project manager and independent technical advisors. Invitees to the next Steering Committee meeting will include the Steering Committees’ joint project manager, technical advisors, bank representatives, local telecommunications operators, and officials.

JAA-Pohnpei Chapter Waste Survey Activity at Nett Point

On November 11, 2016, the JAA -Pohnpei Chapter officers and several members conducted a Waste Survey activity at Nett Point. They were assisted by the COM-FSM Japanese Micronesia group of students led by Ms. Miki Fritz, Nett Municipal Government, Pohnpei EPA, JICA Volunteers, and the Palikir Community. The purpose of the waste survey was to collect information from a site that is most filled with garbage. Nett Point was identified as an area in Pohnpei to be profusely filled with garbage. Hence, the JAA-Pohnpei Chapter Officers had convened and planned for the activity prior to November 11 on October 21, 27, and November 2,2016.

Special guest of the day was Japan Ambassador to the FSM, His Excellency, Ryiochi Horie who briefly observed before fulfilling another commitment elsewhere. JICA Resident Representative Shinji Shibata and JAA-FSM President Simpson Abraham participated in the activities of the day.

At Nett Point, JAA-Pohnpei Chapter officers and members engaged in collecting trash along the roadside, segregating them, and then counting them by waste type. Among the types of waste found at Nett Point, Plastics ranked high on the list followed by foam items such as foam cups and plates. A total of 100 trash bags were collected and disposed at the Dekehtik dumpsite thereafter. Each participant was given a pair of gloves and a trash bag. One of the highlights of this activity was installing two "No Litter" signs on the roadside and on the beach. The signs were designed through collaborative efforts of JICA, OEEM, and EPA and printed by Arts

and Craft. After the segregating of waste types and counting of each waste type, JICA Volunteer Yuki Umehera and EPA officers Francisco Celestine and Alfred David conducted a demonstration on reusing plastic shopping bags to create a basket, reusing plastic bottles to create a mosquito trap, and reusing chips plastic bags to create a tote bag. The purpose of the demonstration was to create awareness of the three R's concepts: Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle. Followed by the demonstration was lunch provided by Genesis Hospital. JAA-Pohnpei Chapter would like to thank the Japan Government for its continuous support to FSM in Waste Management activities. ARIGATO:)



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The Care Micronesia Foundation NGO Center celebrates access for all

On December 7th at the Care Micronesia Foundation NGO center located at the Catholic Mission in Kolonia in the old MicSem building, a small ceremony was held to officially open the new access ramp to the building. This event helped to commemorate the FSM Congress' ratification of the Convention for the Rights of Person's with Disability. The convention, which focuses on leaving no one behind, shows FSM's commitment to making sure there is equal access for all to public facilities, businesses, and government buildings. This ramp, which was built with the assistance of a USDA-RD Community Facilities grant, allows wheelchair access to the first level of the building. Mr. Stuard Penias, Treasurer of the Board of the Care Micronesia Foundation (CMF), was present for the ceremony and spoke on behalf of the Board. Mr. Penias is also the FSM's Disability Focal Point for the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs. Also present were Mr. Nelbert Perez, Northern Pacific Program Officer for the Pacific Disability Forum, Mr. Henry Phillip, Director of the Pohnpei Consumer Organization, Mr. Patrick Blank, Executive Director of CMF,

Pohnpei State Senator Francisco Ioanis, Senator Lino Amor, Mr. Elieser Rospel of Micronesian Productions, and special guest, Mr. Linther Kihleng, who was the first person in a wheelchair to visit the building.

The building currently holds the offices of the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), the Pohnpei Chamber of Commerce, the Care Micronesia Foundation, and Micronesia Productions. It serves as an NGO center and has a conference room, equipped from an Australian DAP grant, which allows NGOs to hold meetings at little to no cost. The addition of the access ramp now allows people in wheelchairs to visit the building and attend meetings. It is one way in which NGOs and the private sector can make sure that their facilities are accessible to everyone and will be followed by other improvements to the building. The Care Micronesia Foundation encourages all NGOs, government offices, and the private sector to see how they can improve their facilities to make sure and leave no one behind and help improve the lives for everyone in the FSM.



L-R top row, Mr. Patrick Blank, Senator Francisco Ioanis, Senator Lino Amor, Mr. Elieser Rospel. Bottom row: Mr. Nelbert Perez, Mr. Henry Phillip, and Mr. Stuard Penias. In front, Mr. Linther Kihleng.

FSM votes against treaty to negotiate on the abolition of nuclear weapons

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

October 27, 2016

United Nations—According to an ICAN (International Committee to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) press release, the United Nations today adopted a landmark resolution to launch negotiations in 2017 on a treaty to outlaw nuclear weapons. The decision today did not mark the end of nuclear weapons but it did mark a potential beginning to their end.

At a meeting of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, which deals with disarmament and international security matters, 123 nations voted in favor of the resolution, with 38 against and 16 abstaining.

The Federated States of Micronesia was one of the nations that voted against the resolution as was the United States, one of the world's major nuclear powers.

With the exception of a vote on lifting sanctions against Cuba, the FSM has voted with the U.S. in United Nations votes.

FSM Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lorin

Robert said that the United States has taken full responsibility for the defense of the FSM and that it needed to support the U.S. in its defense efforts, including on this vote.

The resolution will set up a UN conference beginning in March next year, open to all member states, to negotiate a "legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination". The negotiations will continue in June and July.

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), a civil society coalition active in 100 countries, hailed the adoption of the resolution as a major step forward, marking a fundamental shift in the way that the world tackles this paramount threat.

"For seven decades, the UN has warned of the dangers of nuclear weapons, and people globally have campaigned for their abolition. Today the majority of states finally resolved to outlaw these weapons," said Beatrice Fihn, executive director of ICAN.

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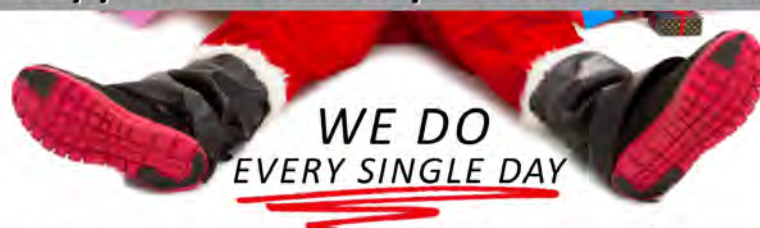
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CSP holds successful 13th Annual Marine Protected Area Cross-Site Visit at Ant Atoll



Conservation Society of Pohnpei

Annually, the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) brings together all of the communities responsible for protecting the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) around Pohnpei to do a cross-site visit to one of the MPAs so that sharing of information and best practices can take place. This year, from November 25th & 26th, the cross-site visit was held at Ant Atoll Biosphere Reserve and hosted by Mr. Willy Hawley, Rohsa Kitti, who is administrator of the Nanpei Estate. The theme for this year was: “Keirdahn epwilipen kepikipik ohng ieias en met dih en mwuhr” (Increasing the management of what God created for our lives today and for future generations)

Besides the Ant Atoll Biosphere Reserve, the MPAs represented were Woan Koapin Soamwoai (WKS) of the Nahtik MPA & Enipein Mangrove Reserve, Palikir MPA – Sokehs, Sapwitik MPA – Nett, Nanpwap MPA – Madolenihmw, Dehphek/Takaieu MPA – U, Pakin – Sokehs, and Peniou Island – Kitti.

On the first day, site updates were given by the Community Conservation Officers (CCO) from each of the groups on their annual work plans from the previous cross-site visit held at Lenger Island. Each site reported their success and challenges in 2016 except the Palikir community since the Palikir Pass MPA is new this year and this is their first time to participate in cross-site visit.

For the Dehphek/Takaieu MPA, they reported that poaching still exist at night. CCOs have been successful in securing a boat and outboard motor for surveillance and monitoring work. They have also continued sponge and coral farming with MERIP.

For the WKS (Nahtik) MPA, they have delineated their watershed boundary, started a water quality project with EPA to clean rivers and streams, signed an MOU between WKS and Kitti Municipal Government for co-management of reserves, held spatial planning consultations to extend the Nahtik MPA, completed a community fisheries assessment, and started the construction of a guard house to provide better surveillance of their protected areas. They noted their challenges of inactive MPA surveillance due to boat and motor problems, and their aquaculture projects still not started.

The Nanwap (Madolenihmw) MPA has an active community surveillance program with a boat and motor and 2 kayaks for monitoring, and they are doing a fisheries assessment in their community. Their challenges are that their management plan is still pending with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), they are receiving no government assistance for their efforts in protecting/monitoring their MPA, and they have pending cases with Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) that have not been completed.

The Sapwitik (Nett) MPA has seen the bumphead parrotfish population bouncing back in and around their MPA, they have completed their fisheries management plan and secured a boat and motor for surveillance and monitoring. As a bonus, the Nett District Government supports their surveillance. The challenges they are facing are that they have the smallest MPA community with only 5 CCOs and they need to revive their aquaculture projects with MERIP.

The Pakin MPA has completed their pearl farm management project with Small Grants Program where community members have

been trained in pearl management and clam shell ornaments; they are implementing their fisheries management plan and have installed inshore fish aggregating devices (FAD), and they have installed their communication system (cell phone).

Their challenges are communication between the Pakin Community Association (PCA) and community members due to distance; 2 of their boats are not working and they need an upgrade on their solar system.

The Ant Biosphere Reserve has ongoing surveillance with 5 active rangers. They have their solar system in place and ongoing grants with MCT. As a bonus, they have seen an uptick in tourism. Their challenges are 4 pending cases with DFW; no support from government, and the Biosphere Reserve has not been legally recognized with Pohnpei State Government.

On the second day the partner agencies gave presentations. Key partner agencies presented their roles in coastal resource management to enhance awareness and build stronger partnership with the MPA communities. The Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture (OFA) – is currently piloting aquaculture projects at 2 areas. The first is Nett Point (in partnership with COM) – where they have a nursery for mangrove crab, rabbit fish and clams. The second is the APSCO area testing fish pond and crab pond. All these nurseries, if successful, will be distributed to interested fisherman around the island to help reduce fishing pressure and open alternative sources of income generating. OFA also supports MPA communities and offers basic maintenance assistance.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) – is currently operating with 8 deputized police

officers, tasked with managing and patrolling all marine sanctuaries with a lack of resources. DFW can provide basic surveillance trainings to CCOs. Currently they are working with municipal police in monitoring and patrolling the Pohnpei watershed forest reserve along with all conservation laws.

The FSM Office of Environment and Emergency Management (OEEM) – is implementing the GEF5 Ridge to Reef project. Key components for the Ridge to Reef (R2R) project are to complete the Protected Area (PA) action plan for 2017. The R2R project is willing to provide financial support to the MPA network action plan for 2017.

Usually, in the past cross-site visits, CCOs breaks out by respective MPAs to draft annual work plans or action plans. Due to time constraints, the group agreed to do a plenary on issues and ways forward collectively. As a result, three key areas were highlighted for all MPAs to focus

on. The group then tasked the MPA Executive Committee to endorse the key areas of focus and develop a schedule to visit each MPA to review and obtain community inputs. The three focus areas are communications, resource management and acquisition, and development of management plans for those MPAs that are without current plans.

The MPA Executive Committee set their outreach schedule to start with Dehphek and Takaieu communities on December 14th and from there will continue to go around the island to assist with each MPA's work and development. CSP would like to thank the Government Canada for supporting this initiative through a Canada Fund for Local Initiatives grant.

Promoting better governance, accountability and transparency for Pohnpei State

PASAI

The Pohnpei State Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) in partnership with the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) hosted a five day workshop in Pohnpei from 21 – 25 November 2016 for Members of the Legislature, Audit Entities, Public Auditors of Federated State of Micronesia, Chief Executives of Local Government, and other stakeholders including media and civil society organizations, in Pohnpei. The workshop is in line with one of PASAI’s strategic priorities, “to advocate on behalf of its members to strengthen governance, transparency and accountability.”

Legislative committees play an important role in the scrutiny of audit reports and providing oversight over the use and management of public resources. The workshop was opened by the Vice Speaker of the Pohnpei State, the Honorable Nixom Soram, “who extended a warm welcome to members of the legislature, the Pohnpei State Public Auditor, Iso Ihlen Joseph, his staff, and the PASAI delegation for holding such a valuable workshop for its members”. Vice Speaker, Hon Nixom Soram in his opening address commented, “as legislators our role is to ensure monies are expended correctly, once they are expended, we must ensure they are accurately accounted for, if not, we turn to the auditors. That is why we need the help of auditors”. Members of Legislative Committees who attended the first two days also commented, “the workshop was informative and extremely useful for their roles as oversight committees, and as members of the legislature”.

The first two days of the workshop was the programme for members of the Legislature and was attended by 17 members. The topics covered included an overview about the role of PASAI, the status of accountability and transparency in the Pacific, the value and benefits of Supreme Audit Institutions or Offices of Public Auditors, public

accountability framework of the Pohnpei State, its budget process, fraud awareness and the audit findings of OPA.

The final three days were for the second group comprising of Cabinet Members, staff of audit entities including finance and administration staff, the Public Auditor of Kosrae State and his staff, which started their session on Wednesday and attended by 27 participants. The Governor of Pohnpei State, the Honorable Marcelo K Peterson, welcomed the second group, and in his opening remarks, extended his gratitude to the Chair of PASAI, also the Public Auditor of Pohnpei, for selecting Pohnpei to host this workshop. He ended his opening remarks with a wise old saying, “in order to establish trust, it is first important that you be trustworthy. This means you should be forthright with all your dealings”.

This workshop is the fourth Public Accounts Committee workshop PASAI has held in the Pacific, and it is the first time it has extended to a five day programme to include audit entities, government officers, local government and other stakeholders.

The workshop was facilitated from PASAI by Mr Eroni Vatuloka, PASAI Advocate, and Ms Aolele Su’a Aloese, Director of Advocacy, Engagement and Financing, and from the Pohnpei Office of the Public

Auditor, by Mrs Sophia H Pretrick, Investigative Advisor, Mrs Analin Co Estur, Audit Manager and Ms Christina Elnei, Budget Officer, Pohnpei State Governor’s Office.

PASAI would like to acknowledge the support of the Pohnpei State Office of the Public Auditor, for making this workshop a great success. We would also like to acknowledge the financial support of the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).



Donations for Basketball

Dr. Merlynn Abello-Alfonso donated 19 jerseys, warm up pants and 100 T-Shirts for PICS High School basketball teams. The uniforms will be used in the upcoming FSM High School Christmas Tournament hosted by the College of Micronesia FSM. The purpose of the tournament is to provide socialization among student athletes and to keep them busy with basketball without drugs.



Improving Island Life

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LYON

...Bogus Identification

Continued from front page

documents on their behalf. Samoa's Attorney General did not respond to our request for information on those incidents.

Ships carrying a flag of convenience, in essence, become a part of the nation of the flag they carry, subject to the rules and regulations of that nation and not that of the owners' nations. They can use the flag to get around regulations in their home countries. For instance, some European nations would not allow crew members from Syria. A flag of convenience from a country that does not restrict crew composition would allow a ship owner to skirt a regulation that exists in their own country.

The flags have been abused by unscrupulous ship owners and by countries with lax monitoring of the vessels they flag. International organizations have been working for a long time to require countries that provide open ship registries to share liability for the ships they register that "behave badly", but it hasn't happened yet.

Two years ago, the Ping Da 7, a huge refrigerated vessel flagged by Kiribati slammed into the reef in Pohnpei. The owner simply walked away and Kiribati had no responsibility. It is still sitting on the reef and still contains thousands of pounds of ammonia refrigerant.

In 2010, the Deepwater Horizon offshore oil rig exploded spilling millions of gallons of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico. The oil platform was flagged by the Marshall Islands which means that it was supposed to be responsible for safety inspections, but RMI was not held responsible for the terrible accident.

A Seafarer's Identification and Record book is a seafarer's identity document issued for the purpose of providing the holder with identity papers for travel to or from an assigned vessel. It also provides the holder with a continuous record of his/her sea service and contains the Special Qualification Certificates, which specify the particular category or rating which the holder is qualified to serve. The Seafarer's ID is not a passport but in some cases can be used in lieu of a passport or in combination with a passport when a seafarer is joining an outward bound vessel. In many countries, visa requirements are waived for holders of a Seafarer's ID when entering a country.

The bogus Seafarer IDs being illegally issued by someone on behalf of the FSM is causing a bit of a foreign relations stir.

Whoever is issuing the bogus documents made a mistake when they decided to collect money for the fake Seafarer's Identifications



FSM Seal as seen on MISR promotional materials

they seem to be printing themselves. They didn't even get the color right. The Seafarer's identifications that the FSM issues to its citizens that look like passports are black. The bogus Seafarer's identifications that have been provided to seafarers from around the world are the color of blue that matches FSM passports.

The FSM's Seafarer Identification book stock is housed at TC&I. That stock is all accounted for.

"People are traveling around the world with those fake Seafarer Identifications," said Leo Lekopwe, a consultant for the Marine Division of TC&I. "It's a big problem."

"When I came back to work I learned that several ships with 'FSM flags' had been detained in 'foreign ports' because they were flying an FSM flag", Lekopwe said. "But the FSM Department of Justice is looking into it," he assured us.

The FSM Department of Justice had no comment other than to say that the matter is under review.

FSM, unlike Palau and the Marshall Islands, one of the world's largest ship registries with approximately \$6.5 million in registration fees returned to the RMI government last year, doesn't have a law that allows for "flags of convenience". No one, not even the FSM government itself has been authorized by law to provide flags to vessels from other countries. Our laws simply don't allow for it.

Further, whoever is collecting fees for the fake documents has apparently not submitted a single dime of that ill gotten money to the FSM coffers.

Local attorney Martin Jano said that he met with a man he identified only as "Professor Sharma" or "Captain Sharma," who he was introduced to by FSM Secretary for TC&I, Lukner Weilbacher. He said that he was asked if he could help Sharma to obtain a foreign investment permit to issue ship registries. Having handled the intricacies of foreign investment permits many times, Jano agreed to represent "Professor Sharma" and began the process of applying to set up the company.

He filed applications, purchased a local post office box on behalf of his client and rented office space. Meanwhile someone also set up a website for a company called "Micronesia

International Ship Registry" or, alternatively "Micronesia International Ship and Business Registry" on the .FM domain. The website offered a variety of services including corporate registration, international ship registry, and Seafarer's Identifications.

Jano says that the FSM Department of Justice notified him that they must take down the website and close the post office box and their office space since the company did not have authorization to pursue a ship or a business registry.

He says that though they had paid for a full year of rent for the office space, the yet to be established company complied. He claimed that no one ever even set foot in the office before they were told they had to shut it down. "We lost money before we could even get started," he said when he called our office in response to our inquiries about the company's activities.

After the website on the .FM domain was taken down, someone created a new website at www.misrbc.com, a site that will not load in the FSM but will load elsewhere. As recently as today, that site was still available in the United States and was still offering ship registry, seafarer identifications, and corporate registrations along with a host of other services. The website claims that, "Micronesia International Ship & Business Company Registry is administering maritime and offshore company registry for government of the Federated States of Micronesia."

Currently, Micronesia Registrations Advisors has the only contract with the FSM to provide corporate registration services for captive insurance and other types of registrations. CEO Stephen Baker said that MRA was approached about the idea of providing ship registration for the FSM but felt that something wasn't quite right about it and declined.

According to a brochure prominently featuring the seal of the FSM, Micronesia International Ship Registry had a booth in Dubai at the International Shippers & Services Association's convention from October 31 through November 2 to promote services that the FSM Department of Justice had already told them to stop offering. The brochure listed the J&T Building in Kolonia Pohnpei as its address. It also listed two Pohnpei cell phone numbers as contacts. We dialed both numbers. One of them has been disconnected. The other went to the personal phone of Renwick Weilbacher who said that



the company must have made a mistake in listing his phone number.

With the brochure was a business card for a Captain Inder Jit Singh also featuring the FSM seal. The card said that Singh is the Director for Maritime Security. It says that the FSM flag is the "Flag of Responsibility and Prosperity." It doesn't mention that FSM doesn't have an open registry and that the activities they were promoting were completely illegal in the FSM.

Several "LinkedIn" pages continue to offer the services that MISRBC says that it can provide. The .com website itself doesn't use the seal of the FSM Government but several of the company's LinkedIn pages do. Encircling the seal is the name of the non-existent company. Another of the yet to be established company's LinkedIn pages contains a photo of a Seafarer's Identification book that viewers seem to be led to believe was issued by the FSM. It is blue in color instead of the black booklet that the FSM issues to its citizens.

One of the MISRBC or MISR LinkedIn pages says that Padmanabhan Krishnan is the Director (Admin) of MISBR. The still operating MISRBC website lists him as the "Regional Maritime Administrative Manager (for maritime administration & Safety Management)".

Early this week, Mr. Jano said that he was shocked to learn that someone was issuing fake documents and said he had previously written Professor Sharma instructing him that he should cease and dismantle any operations of the proposed company because the permit had not yet been approved. He assured us that "Professor Sharma" was taking steps to stop promotions for FSM ship registry and Seafarer's IDs but that it would take time. He said that he expects that everything would be taken down by January.

He also said that DOJ does not have an attorney that specializes in maritime law so they consulted an attorney in Fiji who is an expert. That attorney analyzed Title 19 of the FSM code and concluded that it did not bar an open registry.

Nonetheless, Jano said that Professor Sharma has fully cooperated with the Department of Justice and has provided the department with a full accounting of his activities.

...Fire Dancer

Continued from front page

In the Tahitian competition Oscarson (Ozky) Ikalap won the top prize with his stunning fire dance. Molisi Joli won second place, and Mayboleen Santiago took the third spot.

In the comedy competition, Scott Shanahan won for his gritty and sometimes just on the edge of mean, comedy performance. Alona Tate took the second prize.

Due to a prior commitment with the Australian Embassy we were not able to photograph all of the competitors. But Tony Cantero said the event was so successful that Mangrove Bay Bar will be having another competition next month.

A few days after the competition we contacted the most unique performer of the evening, Ozky Ikalap to find out how it was that a young man who had grown up in Yap had acquired the skill of fire dancing. Fire dancing is not a Yapese traditional dance. It is Polynesian.

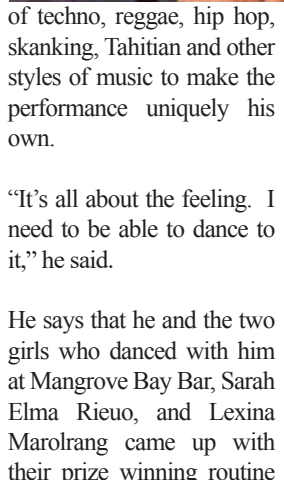
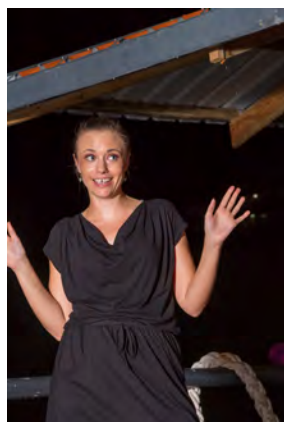
Before coming to Pohnpei to study liberal arts at the College of Micronesia FSM, he'd only been out of Yap when he was selected as one of the Close Up students to visit the United States while he was in High School.

We organized a special photo shoot on the causeway and spent a lot of time together trying to get it planned and organized. During a lunch at Oceanview, the young man who will be 23 by the time this newspaper is published told me that when he was 12 or 13 years old, his uncle Ray came back from the University of Hawaii having acquired the fire dancing skill while he was there. He started a small Polynesian dance group. Ozky was the youngest in the group and though he practiced with them he wasn't able to perform publicly with the group until he was 14. During that performance he burned himself but he didn't give it up. He said that he never burned himself again and learned to work with the fire instead of against it.

He's mastered that technique. When we did a photo shoot on the causeway, the wind was whipping over the water and blowing the fire toward him. He never flinched. Instead, he seemed to have a quiet communication with the fire.

"People ask me why I do fire dancing. They say, 'I would never want to do something like that'. Okay, that's what I want to do." he said with a sly grin.

Though the art of fire dancing is Polynesian, Ozky has made it his own. He says that his performances are different than the strict Tahitian style. He performs to combinations



of techno, reggae, hip hop, skanking, Tahitian and other styles of music to make the performance uniquely his own.

"It's all about the feeling. I need to be able to dance to it," he said.

He says that he and the two girls who danced with him at Mangrove Bay Bar, Sarah Elma Rieuo, and Lexina Marolrang came up with their prize winning routine in the week before the competition at Mangrove Bay.

Ozky's performance is stunning. Most fire dancers long ago abandoned the use of gasoline as the fuel for their torches in favor of white gas or other fuels. But none of those fuels are available in the FSM so he has simply made do. He said one of his proudest moments was when his uncle told him after seeing him perform at the Yap Games, that he had taken "this thing" (fire dancing) to a whole new level.

But fire dancing isn't all that Ozky is about. He is a good student and says that he carries a 3.5 average. He has participated in just about any sport one could imagine, "except for golf. I've never played golf," he said. His muscular body shows that he is a weightlifter and once competed in the sport. FSM's famous weight lifter, Manuel Minginfel was his coach.

He's an extremely outgoing and friendly young man who says that he has fallen in love with Pohnpei and intends to stay after he finishes his last semester in the spring at COM-FSM.

Like many of the students at COM who come from islands other than Pohnpei, he has just barely enough money to scrape by after his Pell Grant pays the college and dorm bills. He hopes that people will hire him to perform at parties and events. Anyone wanting to contact him can do so at the COM-FSM men's dorm. He doesn't have the money to travel home for the Christmas break.

Tony Cantero, Manager of Mangrove Bay Bar says that they have hired Ozky to perform once a month. His first performance there will be on December 23.





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Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia

Notice of Inactive Bank Accounts

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As required by FSM law, the Bank wishes to inform these customers that accounts will be closed and the funds will be transferred to the FSM Secretary of Finance in January 2017. If your account appears on this list, you can avoid having your funds turned over to the Secretary of Finance by making a deposit or withdrawal to the account before December 31, 2016.

Marine Park Center	P. O. Box 215	Tofol	KOS
Ersina V George	P. O. Box 884	Tofol	KOS
Tulpe A Lowary	P. O. Box 205	Tofol	KOS
Shrue Nuarma G Phillip	P. O. Box 637	Tofol	KOS
Minnie G Charley	P. O. Box 393	Tofol	KOS
Luen Thai Fishing Venture, Ltd. Kosrae	P. O. Box 357	Tofol	KOS
Simion Herwin	PMB 345 Rt-16-STE 102	Dededo	GU
Isamu Kamibeppu	C/O Kerio Walliby	Weno	CHK
Stanner Stanley	P. O. Box 787	Weno	CHK
Percy Pitoli	P.O. Box 985	Weno	CHK
Norsiana Akira	P.O. Box LO	Weno	CHK
Ettal Women'S Handicraft	P.O. Box GE	Weno	CHK
Doris J. Killion	P.O. Box 186	Weno	CHK
Namiko Pili	C/O P.O. Box 400	Weno	CHK
Holy Family Church	P.O. Box 337	Weno	CHK
Ernist Sana	C/O P.O. Box 400	Weno	CHK
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Miura Chuweiluk	P.O. Box 813	Weno	CHK
Junior Siren	P.O. Box 1121	Weno	CHK
Justina Salle	P.O. Box 307	Weno	CHK
JS Sak	P.O. Box 461	Weno	CHK
UNUNO VILLAGE ACCOUNT	P.O. BOX 201	Weno	CHK
Joakim Peter	P.O. Box 771	Weno	CHK
St. Cecilia School	Weno Tunnuk Village	Weno	CHK
Ruo Municipality	Ruo Island	Ruo	CHK
Patrick Mangar	Tenfar, Gagil	Colonia	YAP
Queen of Heaven Church Falalop Maligach	Falalop, Ulithi	Colonia	YAP
James Moon	Riy, Rumung	Colonia	YAP
Canisus Marafel	Maa, Tomil	Colonia	YAP
Lorenzon Haleyaliram	Eauripik Island	Colonia	YAP
Kaday Women'S Association	Kaday, Weloy	Colonia	YAP
Josephine Willior	Muyub, Gagil	Colonia	YAP
Yoshiaki Shioda	Wachalob, Maap	Colonia	YAP
Merlyne Lamoimal	C/O Donoch Weloy	Colonia	YAP
Cyril U Rebeuluch	Kanif, D.Binaw	Colonia	YAP
Masako Akinaga	P.O. Box 101	Kolonia	PNI
Jonah H. Paul	P.O. Box 1301	Kolonia	PNI
Lorraine Obed	P.O.Box PS-24	Kolonia	PNI
Ioanis Panuelo	P.O. Box 1256	Kolonia	PNI
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Esther Diopulos	P.O. Box 622	Kolonia	PNI
Damian Henrik	C/O Nett Municipal Gov't	Nett	PNI
Norman H Okamura	3467 Maunaloa Avenue	Honolulu	HI
Pohnpei Ocean Cruise	P.O. Box 1975	Kolonia	PNI

Kosraean:

In fwal nuke pusren Masap lun FSM, Bank FSM inge akkalemye nusin Customers nukewa ,ma e akkalemyeyuk lung inge la account lowos ma akkalemyeyuk inge e tufwa kauli a money ka an ac tuhfeh itukyan nusin Secretary lun Finance ke FSM National Government ke January 2017. In oralla account se lom an tia putatyan nuke oakwuk ku oiya se inge, kom enenu in tuku nu Bank FSM oralla sie deposit ku withdrawal nuke account san meet liki December 31, 2016.

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 2017, ika pwe ese wor mwokutukutun uttut (withdrawal) ika isonanong (deposit) lon me mwen December 31, 2016 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 2017, 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, 2016.

Pohnpeian:

E kosonndier sang ni ruwes en kosonned en FSM me FSM Bank udahn pahn pakairkiheng aramas oh pwihn en aramas me sansalehr powe, me epwelpen amwail tungol de sapwellimomwail nekinek nan Bank en FSM pahn katoktokidi nan sounpwong en January pahr 2017. Mwoni koaros me patpato nan nekinek pwukat pahn kesepwillang FSM Secretary en Finance. Ma mwaromwi iang sansal powe ah komwi kak pwaredo de ketido oh kapidohi de kasauwada omwi tungol de sapwellimomwi nekinek sang nan FSM Bank mwohn December 31, 2016 ma komw sohte kupwuriki omwi tungol de sapwellimomwi nekinek en kepideklang FSM Secretary en Finance.

President Christian joins world leaders to push forward with climate action at COP22

FSM Public Information Office

Unfazed by the challenges of the multilateral negotiations, FSM President Peter M. Christian called on the world leaders at the UN Climate Change Conference in Marrakech, Morocco to maintain the momentum by “fighting the battles and climbing the mountains” to overcome such challenges in the continuing war to “save the planet and her people”. In the presence of His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, President Christian highlighted recent successes initiated and co-sponsored by FSM and Morocco which included the phase-down and phase-outs of HFCs in the Kigali Treaty which would result in the reduction of .5 (half a percent) degrees of global warming and the elimination of about 70-80 tons of greenhouse toxic chemical being emitted into our atmosphere. Such successes must be celebrated but also followed by continued work to maintain and accelerate the momentum.

President Christian and a relatively small delegation attended the COP 22 from

November 7-18, 2016 in Marrakech, Morocco. The President’s delegation joined the rest of the FSM’s technical team headed by Director Andrew Yatilman of the Office of Environment & Emergency Management at the height of the negotiations. Upon arrival President Christian was welcomed with a courtesy meeting with Morocco’s Minister of National Education and Vocational Training Mr. RachidBelmokhtar Benabdellah.

At the High Level Segment of the Conference, President Christian addressed the plenary session of world leaders and joined them in expressing their unwavering commitment to upholding and continuing the progress made thus far in addressing the effects of Climate Change. Mindful of the fact that a new administration will be inaugurated soon in the United States, President Christian euphemistically stated, “Our work in progress must continue even against new odds and speculations that certain recent events in America may not aid our efforts on Climate Change. We must have faith that our cause is too JUST to

be waylaid.” The atmosphere in the room was undoubtedly one of solidarity and strength as these sentiments were echoed throughout the plenary session.

It should be noted that work on issues relating to the COP22 is targeted to be completed by 2018. From the technical perspective, the FSM delegation felt more work could have been done on the substantive issues such as finance, loss and damage and the detailed mechanics of the Paris Agreement. With the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement, it is important that COP22 sends a positive signal to the international community that

work is progressing. The delicate balance of all issues achieved in Paris must be preserved especially, the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This is the key to delivering enhanced action under the Paris Agreement.

Such are the challenges of a multilateral process tackling the real and present issues of Climate Change. The FSM delegation recognizes these challenges. On what lies ahead, FSM President Christian with determination and confidence stated that: “We know the way ahead. It is what it is. The climbing won’t be easy, but not impossible. Let us continue to climb... One mountain at a time.”



More than 70 Heads of State gathered in Marrakech, Morocco for the Climate Change Conference. Source. Unfccc.int.



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US-Pacific fisheries treaty signed in Nadi

By Giff Johnson

December 3, 2016

Nadi, Fiji — Pacific island fisheries officials and the United States government signed a six-year extension to a nearly 30-year-old fisheries treaty, confirming American-flagged purse seiners access to lucrative Pacific fishing grounds.

The signing ends seven years of often troubled negotiations that almost broke down early in 2016 when the U.S. government formally notified Pacific Island governments of its intention to withdraw from the treaty when negotiators could not agree on new financial terms.

At Saturday's signing at the Novotel Hotel in Nadi, U.S. Ambassador to Fiji Judith Cefkin said U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry had signed the paperwork to rescind the notice of withdrawal, confirming that today's signing ceremony for the treaty extension could happen.

The treaty gives the U.S. purse seine fishing fleet access to the region and provides both an industry payment of \$45 million per year and U.S. government fisheries aid of \$21 million annually to all 17 members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency who signed the agreement. The western and central Pacific tuna fishery is valued at over US\$5 billion annually.

The new treaty offers "a more solid and sustainable basis for cooperation," said Cefkin. It provides increased benefit for Pacific island nations and "more certainty for the U.S. fleet," she said.

The agreement was hammered out earlier this year after 18 formal negotiation rounds over seven years, and the formal signing Saturday took place on the eve of the annual meeting of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission that starts in Nadi on Monday.

"At times it didn't feel like we'd be able to reach agreement," said James Movick Director General of the Forum Fisheries Agency. The successful conclusion of the agreement is "a testament to the long history of the treaty and the friendship with the United States."

Both Movick and Cefkin said the treaty extension recognizes changes in the western Pacific fishery and the changing nature of the relationship with the U.S. The extension is to run from January 2017 through 2022

FSM National Statement on Blue Boats

Nadi, Fiji - Madam Chair, IUU is a matter of grave concern to the FSM. None of us should condone it nor should we turn our basic fundamental rights under international law to fight IUU in all forms.

My statement today is specifically on the increasingly challenging issue of illegal and in many cases unregulated vessels, otherwise known as "blue boats." Chair, as you know, we have raised this issue in previous sessions and in other fora's and we will continue to raise it as something that requires serious attention and action, particularly since it is not only a challenge for the FSM but for the wider WCPO.

In broad terms, IUU fishing in the Pacific undermines the authority and right of coastal states to regulate marine resources, resulting in the loss of national revenue and employment opportunities and steals from the tables of our people living in our remote islands who depend on the oceans to sustain their lives and provide a source of nutrition. As many members present

today can attest, IUU fishing causes hazards to the natural marine environment, threatening our vital fish stocks, which are at the heart of our discussions here in the WCPFC and threatens our islands economic and social developments. In compliance terms, these types of IUU activities devalue our fisheries and provide an unfair disadvantage to those who strive to abide by WCPFC conservation and management measures, regional regulations and national laws while others plunder and take at their will without respecting national laws.

Putting this issue into perspective, in the past two years the FSM has arrested a total of 9 illegal blue fishing boats, with approximately 135 illegal fishermen. The various violations of FSM law include: illegal entry into the country, human smuggling, obstruction and illegal fishing among others. The issue in and of itself has transcended fisheries and prompted the FSM Administration to categorize the deterrence of IUU fishing as a matter



In Nadi, US-Pacific Islands fisheries treaty signed today 12/3 extending US access for 6 years.

Signing for the FSM is NORMA Executive Director Eugene Pangelinan. Next to him is Kiribati representative Sonia Schutz. Photo: Giff Johnson



Group photo after signing US Treaty 12/3/16. Photo credit: Jemima Garrett.

of national priority. Unsurprisingly, the costs to the FSM in these instances are very high. On fuel alone, FSM spent just for this year, \$200,000 US dollars. That does not include salaries of maritime wing officers, legal costs of prosecution and cost of detention of over 100 persons for several months. None of these vessels were registered to fish in our waters; none of them had transponders; none of them were detectable on VMS; none of them were meant for the open oceans and surely none of them intended to use gears nor seek authorizations.

It should be noted that illegal vessels in some of our areas were under the jurisdiction of their flag states. The Law of the Sea Convention imposes flag state responsibility. To demonstrate, article 94 of the UNCLOS states that every state shall effectively exercise its jurisdiction and control in administrative, technical and social matters over ships flying its flag. Obviously, this responsibility is not being exercised here. Several times, the

FSM has met with officials from the flag state of these blue boats but that state has not demonstrated concrete measures to address IUU issues caused by its fishing vessels.

Madam Chair, the FSM seeks the Commission's assistance in responding to this enormous challenge. The impacts of IUU are not localized, but are felt across the region. And as such, collaboration is key towards combatting the detrimental effects of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in particular these unacknowledged, uninvited and unwelcome blue boats. We further call on flag states to take swift action to demonstrate their basic fundamental responsibility under international law to combat IUU in all its forms. Anything less would tantamount to promoting IUU and a clear lack of will to effectively discharge their responsibility in this WCPO region.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

PNA representatives brief island media on key fisheries issues

The Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA)

Nadi, Fiji 3 December 2016: Parties to the Nauru Agreement representatives briefed media from the Pacific region during a workshop that is being held in conjunction with the upcoming Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission annual meeting in Nadi, Fiji.

PNA CEO Ludwig Kumoru, PNA Commercial Manager Maurice Brownjohn, and Federated States of Micronesia fisheries Executive Director Eugene Pangelinan spoke Thursday and Friday on a range of fishery issues to journalists from eight nations.

The 3rd Pacific Editors Dialogue hosted by the Forum Fisheries Agency with the support of the Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PacMAS), Pew Charitable Trusts, WWF, Australia, Japan and New Zealand started earlier this week in Nadi in preparation for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission annual meeting 5-9 December. The workshop is being led by veteran Pacific journalist Jemima Garrett.

Journalists asked the fisheries officials about everything from the so-called Blue Boats of Vietnam and illegal fishing to the fishing treaty with the United States and challenges to improving monitoring of the longline industry.

Mr. Kumoru said it is difficult to place observers on longline vessels fishing on the high seas because some stay out for months at a time. Fisheries managers are pushing for video monitors on longline vessels. Several PNA members are currently "looking at how to install and use video on vessels," he said.

Asked about the number of longline vessels in operation in the western Pacific, Mr. Kumoru said simply, "Nobody knows. Some say as many as 5,000 vessels. This is what we are trying to find out."

He also said the Blue Boats coming out of Vietnam are doing "big damage" to local fisheries in many islands including Papua New Guinea, Palau and Federated States of Micronesia. "Even when the vessels are confiscated and fishermen sent home, they come back again and again," he said.

Mr. Pangelinan pointed out that Vietnam does not provide any regulation or control over these boats that have been arrested in FSM waters.

Because the world depends on tuna caught in the western and central Pacific, mainly in PNA waters, the PNA and Forum Fisheries Agency have "a huge international obligation to manage the fishery well," said Mr. Pangelinan. "We will not be bystanders as other nations take the resource out of the region." He said participation by the islands in the tuna fishery is about "creating wealth" for the islands that translates into jobs and economic opportunities.

Mr. Brownjohn briefed the media representatives on PNA's business initiatives, including Marine Stewardship Council-certified sustainably caught skipjack from PNA waters that is gaining large-scale orders from retailers in Europe and Australia. This tuna commands a higher price from buyers because it is caught "free-school" without the aid of fish aggregating devices (FADs) and is then subject to a rigorous chain of custody monitoring process from fishing vessel to retailer.

PNA to Tuna Commission: Enforce high seas fishing measures

Majuro, Marshall Islands 25 November 2016: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission needs to focus on controlling fishing on the high seas when the multi-national body meets for its annual meeting in Fiji next month, said the head of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement fisheries bloc.

"The Tuna Commission (WCPFC) needs to be concerned with non-compliance with fishing rules on the high seas," said Ludwig Kumoru, PNA CEO, on the eve of the WCPFC annual meeting December 5-9 in Nadi.

A main concern of the island resource owners is the current state of largely uncontrolled longline fishing on the high seas, said Kumoru. "We need the WCPFC to focus on its core mandate, which is regulating fishing on the high seas," he said. "Currently there is virtually no control on longline fishing, most of which takes place on the high seas."

See "High Seas" Enforcement on page 17

Auto Renewal of Mobile Plans Will Be Discontinued

FSM Telecom would like to inform its valued customers that effective December 1st, 2016, auto renewal of mobile plans will be discontinued. If you have subscribed to any of the 3G mobile plans below, please note that your plan will no longer renew automatically upon expiration. If you wish to continue using the plan, you have to re-subscribe to it. Pay-as-you-go rates will apply if you are not subscribed to any plan. Please call your local FSM Telecom office if you have any questions regarding this announcement.

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MY PLATFORM:

LAW REFORM FOR SOCIOECONOMIC CHANGE

We're in denial, our kids have no jobs. They're abusing sakau and alcohol, and migrating en masse to the United States to look for opportunities. This is why I want to directly engage as a lawmaker in the FSM Congress to change this.

What has the FSM Government done to improve socioeconomic conditions since 1986? The records show that the FSM Congress has never appropriated funding to establish our own programs to look after our human capital, especially the children, youth, women, senior citizens, and people with disability. The funding has gone into infrastructure but we've neglected to invest in our human capital. If we keep the status quo, we will have roads and buildings but with a very marginalized and dependent society. How can we achieve economic self-reliance by 2023?

WE NEED CHANGE, and as a member of Congress, I intend to spearhead law reform in the following areas:

CAPACITY BUILDING

1. Transparency and Accountability - I believe that for a democracy to truly realize its potential, everyone must be able to fully engage as part of their civic duty. In order for this to be achieved, the government must be transparent so that the citizens are well informed, and can hold the government accountable for decisions and policies taken on behalf of the people. Therefore, my first effort in Congress would be the introduction of the "Right to Information" bill, a new legislation that would subject all government departments, offices and agencies to provide information in the fastest manner possible to the general public so that when an interested member of the public calls in for information, that information is made readily available so that we can build the capacity of our general public to ask the right questions and demand the right answers. How Congress spends money is right on the top of the list.

2. Education - The welfare of our school children is paramount to any nation building effort. We need to create by law the FSM School Lunch Program, to apply across the nation, from Yap to Kosrae. This is the responsibility of the national government. Why are our students at primary education forced to walk home for lunch while students at public high schools and COM-FSM are provided free lunch and free transportation? Quality education starts at primary level, and it's hard to learn on an empty stomach. Where is the money going to come from? We can reform the public corporation laws (FSM Development Bank, FSM Telecom and FSM Petrocorp) to subsidize this program, along with partial funding from fishing access fees.

ECONOMIC SELF RELIANCE

3. The 2023 Plan/FSM Trust Fund - Foreign Investment is important but Tourism is key. In order to attract tourists, we must have cheaper flights into FSM. President Christian has initiated this with the inception of Air Nauru and Air Niugini flights. Our tourists are in Asia so we should also bring in discount airlines from Asia, like CEBU Pacific and others. I will support a bill to fund a task force under the direct supervision of the President to go all out and market FSM. Taxes realized from tourism should go into the FSM Trust Fund. And for foreign investment, I will work closely with the state legislators to amend state foreign investment laws to make them more attractive for long-

term foreign investment. If we increase tourism arrivals, the investors will follow. Palau is a prime example.

4. Income generation for local farmers and fishermen - I plan to work with the like minded senators to establish a FISHERIES and AGRICULTURE SUBSIDY to be funded through a further amendment of the tax revenue distribution law so that the additional 20% is redirected from the FSM Trust Fund into a nationwide subsidy law for fisheries and agriculture producers. This will reduce prices of local products at the local markets and encourage the "let's go local" campaign against NCDs (#1 health challenge). As a result, we would not only see a reduction in NCD rates nationwide, but the purchasing power will strengthen the capacity of local producers to increase production volumes for potential export to Guam, RMI, Palau, and elsewhere. An amendment needs to be made to the National Food Safety Act to curb the import of processed foods.

STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIP WITH STATE GOVERNMENTS

5. Congress has a critical role in ensuring that the national and state governments do not lose sight of what is important---nation building. Whenever the FSM Government ratifies an international treaty or enters into an agreement with another country or a development partner, the state governments must be apprised of these engagements, and Congress should appropriate adequate funding to build state capacities so that they can take on the implementation obligations under these agreements. I will make sure that Congress continuously appropriates funding for the state governments to initiate the bottom-up approach to nation building efforts---states first.

6. GENDER EQUALITY - As an advocate for gender equality, I have made it my lifelong goal to work on gender equality issues. As a member of Congress, I will initiate and support legislation and policies that promote a gender-based approach to basic development, across the country. The Millenium Development Goals (MDG) reported that although employment levels for women in FSM doubled between 1994-2000, that increase was only in the agriculture sector, and even now, only 1 in 4 workers is a woman. Literacy rates remain higher for men than women. One in three women have experienced violence in their lifetime. The situation needs to improve. I want to take on the lead role in Congress to work closely with the state legislatures in reforming our laws to encourage women's productive participation in the formal work force, amongst others.

SOCIAL SECURITY

7. SOCIAL SECURITY LAW should be reformed to be more family friendly. For example, the limitation against a surviving spouse to be employed or remarry places real hardship on mothers, since it's usually the father who works and when he dies, a mother, especially a young mother with highly employable skills, cannot seek gainful employment without losing her benefits. This is bad policy as it is an impediment to a woman's productive participation in the workforce. Many citizens are unhappy with the current law so a substantive review needs to be done to make social security what it should be---a sense of security.

There are many more issues but these are the ones I intend to focus on for the initial years I am in Congress, if the voters in ED#3 agree to put me in there.



TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client, AMAZON TECHNOLOGIES, INC., a business organized and existing under the laws of the United States and with a principle place of business at 410 Terry Ave N, ATTN: Trademarks, Seattle, Washington 98109, USA, is owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:

AMAZON PRIME

Which is used in connection with Computer software for streaming, broadcasting, transmitting, distributing, reproducing, organizing and sharing music, audio, video, games and other data; computer software for use in authoring, downloading, transmitting, receiving, editing, extracting, encoding, decoding, playing, viewing, storing and organizing text, data, images, and audio and video files; computer software to enable users to view or listen to audio, video, text and multimedia content; computer software for creating and providing user access to searchable databases of information and data; search engine software; computer software for wireless content delivery; computer software for accessing online information; computer software for online shopping; computer software for facilitating payments and online transactions; computer software that provides retail and ordering services for a wide variety of consumer goods; computer software for use in disseminating advertising for others; computer software for disseminating information regarding consumer product discounts; computer software for use in sharing information about products, services, and deals; computer software for use in barcode scanning and price comparison; computer software for scheduling shipping and deliveries; computer software for electronic storage of data; computer software for storing, organizing, editing and sharing photos; computer software for image and speech recognition; computer software for home automation; computer software for purchasing, accessing and viewing movies, TV shows, videos, music, and multimedia content; game software; internet browser software; downloadable music files; downloadable movies, TV shows, and videos; downloadable digital media; downloadable digital audio files featuring music, news, and voice and spoken word recordings on a variety of topics; downloadable books, e-books and audiobooks; magnetically encoded gift cards, in International Class 9;

Paper gift cards, printed gift certificates, non-magnetically encoded prepaid purchase cards; printed publications; paper, in International Class 16;

Customer loyalty program services featuring rewards in the form of discounted shipping services, early access to retail discounts and offers, access to books and other publications, access to audiobooks, discounted online storage of photos and music, and discounted music, video and game streaming; retail services, namely, administration of a program enabling participants to obtain discounts on shipping services, early access to retail discounts and offers, access to books and other publications, access to audiobooks, discounted online storage of photos and music, and discounted music, video and game streaming; retail store services and online retail store services; retail store and online retail store services featuring a wide array of consumer goods; online retail store services featuring audio and video recordings, spoken word recordings, electronic books and computer games; online retail store services in the field

of groceries, fresh and prepared foods, drug store and general merchandise; retail grocery stores; wholesale distributorship featuring fresh foods and groceries; subscription-based services featuring books, audiobooks, music, movies, TV shows, videos and games; advertising, in International Class 35;

Video-on-demand transmission; Internet protocol television (IPTV) transmission services; streaming of audio and video material on the Internet; streaming of data; streaming of music, movies, TV shows and games; broadcasting services; audio and video broadcasting services; subscription-based audio and video broadcasting via a global computer network; Internet broadcasting services; Internet radio broadcasting services; electronic data transmission; electronic transmission and streaming of digital media content for others via global and local computer networks; transmission of webcasts; transmission of digital files; electronic transmission of digital photo files; providing access to digital music websites on the Internet; providing access to online directories, databases, websites, blogs and reference materials; transmission of news; delivery of messages by electronic transmission; electronic mail and messaging services; podcasting services; providing online chat lines; providing internet chatrooms, forums and electronic bulletin boards, in International Class 38;

Transport services; providing a website featuring information in the field of transportation; shipping, delivery, distribution and storage of goods; freight transportation by means of truck, train and air; goods warehousing; packaging of articles for transport; merchandise packaging for others; rental of storage containers; mailbox rental; locating and arranging for reservations for storage space for others; courier services; messenger services; expedited shipping services; providing online services which afford customers the ability to select a distribution point for goods purchased on the Internet; membership-based shipping programs; administration of a discount program enabling participants to obtain discounts on shipping services; travel arrangement for others; travel booking agencies; providing a web site featuring travel information and commentary, in International Class 39;

Entertainment services; publication of printed matter; book, audiobook, newspaper, magazine and web magazine publishing; publishing of electronic publications; providing non-downloadable electronic publications; lending and rental of books, audiobooks and other publications; digital imaging services; providing non-downloadable videos, films, movies and television shows via a video-on-demand service; film and video rental services; film, movie, TV show and video production and distribution; creating and developing concepts for movies and television programs; audio and video recording services; providing online radio programming; digital audio, video and multimedia publishing services; providing non-downloadable prerecorded music and audio; providing online information and commentary in the field of music and audio; presenting live musical concerts and performances; music production services; music publishing services; providing online video games; providing online non-downloadable game software; publishing of game software; production of video and computer game software; rental of video games; entertainment services, namely,

live performances by video game players; entertainment services, namely, providing online videos featuring games being played by others; entertainment services, namely, providing virtual environments in which users can interact for recreational, leisure or entertainment purposes; entertainment services, namely, providing on-line virtual goods for use in virtual environments created for entertainment purposes; providing an online website portal for consumers to play on-line computer games and electronic games and share game enhancements and game strategies; arranging and conducting competitions and tournaments for video game players; organizing video gaming leagues; providing enhancements within online video games, namely enhanced levels of game play; publishing of reviews; providing a web site featuring the ratings, reviews and recommendations of users in the fields of entertainment and education; providing ratings and reviews of television, movies, videos, music, screenplays, scripts, books and video game content; entertainment information; providing online news, information and commentary in the field of entertainment; blogs featuring information about entertainment; entertainment services, namely, profiling of musicians, artists and bands; providing a subscription based website featuring non-downloadable music, radio, movies, TV shows, videos and information about music, albums, artists and songs; arranging of contests and sweepstakes; hosting online sweepstakes and contests for others, in International Class 41;

Leasing and rental of computers and computer software; computer time-sharing services; computer co-location services, namely, providing facilities for the location of computer servers with the equipment of others; rental of computing and data storage facilities of variable capacity to third parties; computer diagnostic services; technical support services, namely, troubleshooting in the nature of diagnosing computer hardware and software problems; application service provider (ASP), namely, hosting computer software applications for others; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for streaming, broadcasting, transmitting, distributing, reproducing, organizing and sharing music, audio, video, games and other data; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for use in authoring, downloading, transmitting, receiving, editing, extracting, encoding, decoding, playing, viewing, storing and organizing text, data, images, and audio and video files; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software to enable users to view or listen to audio, video, text and multimedia content; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for creating and providing user access to searchable databases of information and data; providing temporary use of non-downloadable search engine software; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for wireless content delivery; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for accessing online information; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for online shopping; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for facilitating payments and online transactions; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software that provides retail and ordering services for a wide variety of consumer goods; providing temporary use of non-downloadable

computer software for use in disseminating advertising for others; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for disseminating information regarding consumer product discounts; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for use in sharing information about products, services, and deals; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for use in barcode scanning and price comparison; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for scheduling shipping and deliveries; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for electronic storage of data; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for storing, organizing, editing and sharing photos; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for image and speech recognition; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for home automation; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software for purchasing, accessing and viewing movies, TV shows, videos, music, and multimedia content; electronic data storage; data backup and recovery services; file sharing services, namely, providing a website featuring technology enabling users to upload and download electronic files; hosting of digital content on the Internet; hosting, building and maintaining web sites; cloud hosting provider services; providing search engines; computer services, namely, creating computer network-based indexes of information, websites and resources; computer services, namely, hosting on-line web facilities for others for organizing and conducting online meetings, gatherings, and interactive discussions; computer services, namely, uploading music and photos to the Internet for others; computer services, namely, creating an on-line community for registered users to participate in discussions, get feedback from their peers, form virtual communities, and engage in social networking services; creating an on-line community for connecting video players, teams and leagues and organizing game and sports activities; providing a website featuring technology that creates personalized movie, TV show, video and music channels for listening, viewing, and sharing, in International Class 42.

Further, take notice that AMAZON TECHNOLOGIES, INC., a business organized and existing under the laws of the United States and with a principle place of business at 410 Terry Ave N, ATTN: Trademarks, Seattle, Washington 98109, USA, attaches singular importance to its above referenced trademark and will immediately take the strongest legal actions to protect its intellectual property rights against any person(s) or business(es) found to be infringing those rights. Note that any infringing or unauthorized use of this mark will be met with civil and criminal action including injunctions, orders to seize, audits, full damages and costs.

Any inquiry regarding said trademark may be referred to the attorneys for AMAZON TECHNOLOGIES, INC. as follows:

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NOTICE OF INACTIVE ACCOUNTS

Please take notice that as of June 30, 2016, the following SAVINGS and CHECKING ACCOUNTS on deposit with Bank of Guam[®] are inactive, and the accountholders listed below must immediately contact their respective Bank of Guam[®] Branch, otherwise, the funds contained in these accounts will be transferred to the Secretary of Finance during the month of January 2017, 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 2017, all inquiries pertaining to the accounts below must be directed to the Secretary of Finance.

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...High Seas Enforcement

Continued from page 11

He said a ban on transshipment of tuna at sea and requiring fishing boats to offload in port — a proposed requirement for longline vessels — has been discussed repeatedly at the WCPFC without action. “This would go a long way to controlling fishing on the high seas,” Mr. Kumoru said. He added that this would help establish data on the number of longliners active in the region, and improve the availability of catch data needed by scientists to assess the condition of tuna stocks.

Mr. Kumoru said PNA is now implementing a vessel day scheme for longliners as has been successfully

used to manage the purse seine fishery. But enforcing rules on the high seas is critical to the long-term health of the fishery, he said.

Other key areas for the PNA during the WCPFC annual meeting include:

- Purse seine fishing control on the high seas. “We need effort control for purse seiners on the high seas,” he said. “Like PNA’s fishing day limits for purse seiners in our exclusive economic zones, we need fishing day limits for high seas fishing.”

- Establishing a harvest control measure for skipjack tuna. Mr. Kumoru said PNA supports focusing on skipjack, and then addressing harvest control measures for other species. “If we tie two or more species together, we won’t get a result,” he said.

- Management of fish aggregating devices (FADs). PNA does not support expanding the existing three-month FAD

closure within PNA zones, which Mr. Kumoru said “is already hurting PNA nations because some of their countries’ revenue is dependent on vessels fishing on FADs.” For some countries, fisheries revenue now accounts for over 50 percent of their national budgets. “If we add another month of FAD closure inside PNA zones, it will cause a disproportionate burden on the islands,” he said. “The Tuna Commission should focus on controlling FADS on the high seas,” he said, adding the PNA is looking forward to seeing the WCPFC’s previously endorsed ban on use of FADs on the high seas become operational in 2017.

- Control of capacity. There are various ways in which distant water fishing nations have attempted to prevent island countries from increasing the number of locally owned purse seiners engaged in fishing, he said. Over recent years, limits on the number of fishing boats were imposed and island countries were told they couldn’t have additional vessels.

“It’s about control of the fishery,” he said. “They don’t want us to fish.” The PNA “will never agree to capacity control over vessels,” he said, and will continue to actively engage in expanding its presence in the fishery.

- Rebuilding bigeye tuna stocks. PNA has supported conservation measures at the WCPFC in recent years for bigeye, which is over-fished. “We are looking to support a conservation measure at the WCPFC meeting to rebuild bigeye stocks,” said Mr. Kumoru.



NOTICE OF INACTIVE ACCOUNTS

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Australia continues to get out the message to eradicate domestic violence

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

November 26, 2016—Last evening Australia's Ambassador George Fraser hosted a reception at his home in Nanpohnmal for the White Ribbon campaign against Domestic Violence. He said that Australia is deeply committed to taking every step possible to eliminate Domestic Violence wherever it is to be found.

FSM's Secretary for Health and Social Affairs, Magdalena Walter also spoke and presented startling statistics from the 2014 FSM Family Health and Safety Study on the prevalence of violence against women. The study 150 page study which was funded by Australian Aid and the United Nations Population Fund Pacific Sub-Regional office presents page after page of well researched statistics that show that the problem of domestic violence in the FSM is more

wide spread than many may have imagined.

On the following day ahead of the White Ribbon against Domestic Violence campaign, the Australian Embassy held a Walk About to continue to raise awareness of the issue that so many women face around the world.

Hundreds of people showed up at Mangrove Bay Bar and participated in possibly the most grueling 5K annual fun runs in the FSM. It begins and ends with a steep and long

hill. The event was held in the evening hours after some of the days heat had

begun to dissipate. It was still a grueling and hot event.



Opinion Editorial

Moana: a view from Micronesia

By: **Emelihter Kihleng**

Pohnpei Cinemas has been packed since Disney's Moana opened on November 22 selling out more shows than the most recent Star Wars movie. I would know, as I've been to watch Moana twice, once on the Sunday morning of opening week and again this past Friday night. The film will have already made well over \$100 million by the time this goes to print. It is no surprise that Moana is another "Disney Princess" blockbuster.

Pacific Islander academics were quick to criticize the film for the ways it continues to colonize our minds with manufactured feel good storylines and characters that are often culturally appropriated, and seek only to make Disney more money at the expense of our misrepresented indigenous Pacific cultures and peoples (scholars Teresia Teaiwa, Tēvita 'Ō. Ka'ili and others have critiqued the film). They are right! Disney is a corporation that spends billions (yes, billions) of dollars on advertising alone; their main aim is to entertain and make a profit, not to be culturally sensitive. We in the Pacific are just as susceptible to Disney's seduction as everyone else, and in the case of Moana, even more so because it is supposed to represent us.

Here in Micronesia we are also allured by the "magic of Polynesia"—Polynesian dances are more popular than our own, things Hawaiian and Tahitian are often seen as more beautiful and better than our own. Why is this? we might ask. I believe Hollywood (which includes Disney) plays a role, and our understanding of Polynesia is in many ways superficial and "feel good." For many of us, Polynesia is Moana, and we view the movie without being aware of its inaccuracies because we don't share the same stories as Polynesians. For example, from what I know, there is no Maui in Micronesia, although similar deities exist. One of the things that struck my friend Karnim and I at the end of Moana was when Te Fiti reclined and became an island. Of course, we immediately thought—Kosrae! Returning to the Micronesian gaze, when I asked my 9-year-old niece what she liked about Moana; she replied "e lel pwe kasdohn Hawaii" (it's good because it's a Hawaiian movie). There you go.

Let's face it, most Pacific Islanders won't read any of the reviews of Moana including this one. Most of us will just watch the film and leave feeling good and proud to be Pacific Islanders, "validated" by Disney.

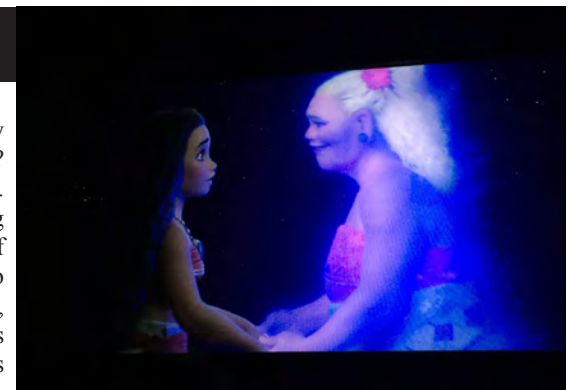
Given this, what can we take away from Moana as Pacific Islanders? For one, it is kind of feminist. Moana is an inspiring young woman: a daughter of a chief who sails out beyond the reef to save her island. She is headstrong, feisty, courageous and curious (note: these are characteristics often frowned upon in girls in most Pacific societies). Moana is a girl who knows what she wants, but she is also disobedient. She doesn't listen to her father who does not want her sailing off alone on a canoe (forget that ridiculous scrawny chicken). Pacific Island daughters everywhere can identify, but Moana is not your average obedient Pacific daughter. After all, the ocean is her friend.

If we look at Moana in terms of the twenty-first century, she is the girl that finishes school and flies off in an airplane to receive a higher education. She studies hard, graduates with honors, and returns to her island with high hopes of saving her people from corruption, global warming and heart disease. In order to be so accomplished, however, Moana needed strong female support in the form of her powerful grandmother. Her relationship with Gramma Tala is one of the most moving parts of the film, and it is this relationship

that gives her strength and allows her to fulfill her destiny.

Will young girls who watch Moana want to be like her? Most definitely! At least when they watch this film they will see a brown girl who looks a lot more like them than the other Disney princesses whose main objective in life is finding a prince. Unlike Cinderella, Ariel and Aurora, Moana is chasing her dreams. If young Micronesian girls can take away one thing from this movie let it be that they can do anything, all they need is their grandmas and the stars to guide them.

One last thing, we must acknowledge Mau Pailug of Satawal, Yap, who shared his wayfinding knowledge with the Hawaiians. Disney should cut a check for his family because without him Disney's Maui would be lost at sea. Kalahngan lap!



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Did you know that the FSM Petroleum Corporation has twice reduced its prices for the petroleum products it sold to the Gas Stations?

The first reduction was 15 cents and the subsequent one was equally in similar amount translating to a 30 cents overall reduction. In doing such a generous approach, the FSM Petroleum Corporation respectfully challenged management of the pump stations to pass on the same rate reduction to the customers which is the general public or all of us. This is the advantage of our five governments in the nation owning the corporation. I thank you PetroCorp for such an act living up to your resolute obligation. This corporation has a role in making sure that the price of its services is not burdensome to the people as I pointed out in my previous letter to you as published in the newspaper. It is an obligation for all our public corporations' long unforgotten purpose to undertake to benefit the people they serve. The plea of our FSM Corporation to the pump stations is to reduce their prices by the

same amount it sold to them was an unprecedented or unheard tradition of business dealings. The challenge made by our corporation to the managements of the pump stations to reduce their prices at the same amount is presumably a strong indication that the pump stations are making tremendous profits. Otherwise such challenge would not be a feasible business practice imposed externally. The prices of a gallon of gasoline at the pump stations then were \$3.95 to \$4.00 inclusive of their markups.

Taking into consideration the above reductions, are these the prices you are actually paying when filling cars at the pump stations?

In and around Pohnpei at this point and the time of this writing, there are lights of varied colors plinking and shining from houses and businesses alike thus filling within each one of us the spirit of Christmas. We are approaching the season of giving where schools, offices and families exchange gifts and so as the businesses getting together to celebrate the birthday of anniversary of

Jesus Christ our savior. It is also a time when the businesses traditionally offered discounted rates, some at a minimal and others at a larger extent. It is time to give the 30 cents cost-reduction to your customers as token of your gratefulness for their relentless purchases taking place on a daily basis. But the utmost importance of all in the name of humanity caring for one another, be as considerate and generous as much as possible at this time of giving, as you may know the prices of some of the imported commodities form petroleum products, groceries, housing materials, pharmaceuticals and you name it are extremely too excessive. I can tell you, there are markups as high as 300 percent.

I have written a number of letters on important goods including petroleum products as I think I am quite aware of what is going on. No one seems to care about these immoral occurrences. Nevertheless, I am thankful enough though, for there are certain commodities in which their rates have dropped reasonably if we were to compare their prices to the past years. There is fairly space for improvement

and I mean it can further slash working together and helping each other for the good of all humanities young and old, poor and rich, this is piously the name of the game. For these prices reductions, I must thank the business community of Pohnpei and most especially the ones that initiated the discounts leading the others to ultimately follow-suit in the reduction of the rates we have at hand today keep up the good work.

As I have mentioned again and again, I am not pointing finger or rather the kind of person who wants to offend or hurt the feelings of another human being. I am one those who doesn't want to be offended or hurt. I personally wish to bring up these issues for us to collectively think about and hopefully a better outcome will shine at the end of the day. Let us continue to work together helping one another for the good of all of us but not just a certain group.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ausen T. Lambert*



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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

USAID DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE SPECIALIST (GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE)



The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID/Pacific Islands) has an immediate need for a USAID Development Assistance Specialist. The Specialist serves as the primary staff for the USAID/Pacific Island sub office in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) which covers the following countries: FSM, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and Palau. The Specialist performs a variety of research, analyses, reporting, coordination, monitoring, outreach and administrative functions in support of USAID's Pacific Islands Regional Office located at the U.S. Embassy in Suva, Fiji. The Specialist supports and closely advises the Regional Coordinator for the Pacific (RCP) and USAID/Philippines technical and support offices to help achieve the following objectives in the Pacific: to support the U.S. Government's (USG) broader foreign policy objectives in the region; to address regional and country priorities; to complement other donor efforts; and to report on the latest news/developments/ perspective from the field and advise on how the portfolio can be adjusted accordingly. The Specialist's work relies heavily on his/her knowledge of the Pacific Islands' foreign affairs community, development programs, including government agencies, the legislatures, donors, private sector and local and international non-governmental sectors including faith based communities, with a particular focus on the countries covered by the FSM sub-office. S/He must be able to engage in outreach activities and public diplomacy to represent USAID's portfolio. S/He will serve as a key coordinator to develop relationships with stakeholders and especially understand their nuanced development outlooks and perspectives to build productive relationships and opportunities for development engagement. The Specialist must develop relationships, which include, but not limited to government, bilateral and multilateral donors, academic institutions, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other key stakeholders in the Pacific Islands, especially in FSM, RMI and Palau. The Specialist supports the technical dialogue, coordination and engagement with the three (3) U.S. Embassies in the Northern Pacific. S/He also manages a myriad of administrative, management, coordination and dialogue functions and responsibilities in support of the RCP and promotes the effectiveness and efficiency of the USAID Pacific Islands Office. The Specialist also has responsibility for providing technical support in: 1) managing, designing, implementing and evaluating approaches to achieve climate resilience to the predicted impacts of climate change, especially on priority sectors that are important to economic growth; and 2) liaising with disaster authorities of all of the above countries, on an on-going basis to ensure familiarity with each country's disaster threats, disaster preparedness and mitigation programs underway, the organizational structure of each country's disaster agencies, status of assessments and requests for assistance during disaster relief situations. In addition, the Specialist supports the design and implementation of programs/projects/activities to promote improved planning, and, leads the design of climate solutions towards increased capacity to adapt to predicted impacts of climate change, particularly in the areas of climate finance and policy, and other areas related to water and other natural resources management. The Specialist manages and/or coordinates centrally and/or regionally-funded programs/projects/activities related to climate change, and provides technical support to other environment activities as required – such as water and sanitation, biodiversity conservation, and natural resources management.

To be a competitive candidate, the applicant must meet the minimum requirement of each of the Evaluation Criteria enumerated below:

* Education (10%) A Master's Degree in international studies, development, economics, environment or a similar related degree is required.

* Work Experience (25%) A minimum of five to seven years of progressively responsible, professional-level experience in the development field is required. Three years of this should have been in development assistance or related work with the USG, host-government organizations, other donor agencies, or the private sector. Experience should include project design, program planning and implementation, performance monitoring, and/or the analysis and interpretation of large amounts of complex program/project/activity information.

* Job Knowledge (25%) The Specialist must have a demonstrated knowledge of viable approaches for identifying vulnerabilities of priority sectors that are important to the economic growth of all of the above countries and in addressing policy, institutional, financial, socio-cultural, and other constraints towards implementing activities that will reduce the vulnerabilities of those priority sectors from the negative impacts of climate change; demonstrated expertise in designing activities that effectively apply science and technology to the collection, analysis, and dissemination of climate data to inform planning and decision-making and in utilizing climate data to identify vulnerabilities to climate change, develop hydrology models, or other science-based climate-related research; and, a demonstrated ability to work and collaborate with a range of partners in the Global Climate Change (GCC) sector, in order to achieve specific development objectives. Knowledge and understanding of the economic, political, social, and cultural characteristics of all of the above countries; and decision making, their economic development problems, resources and resource constraints, and development prospects and priorities, is required. Knowledge of all of the above countries' disaster response policies and capabilities. The Specialist must have a good knowledge, or the potential to quickly acquire such knowledge, of USG legislation, policy, and practice relating to development assistance; USAID programming policies, regulations, procedures, and documentation; and, of the objectives, methodology, and status of assigned activities. Knowledge and understanding of the organization and respective roles of local governmental institutions and the host governments, in order to enhance effective communication, and to develop consensus on program/project/

activity implementation is required. An in-depth knowledge of federal, provincial, and local institutions, policy directions, objectives, and priorities relating to USAID activities; and, a sound knowledge of the political, economic, social, and cultural characteristics and developments in the region.

* Skills and Abilities (20%) The demonstrated ability to plan, organize, manage, and evaluate programs/projects/activities is required. The candidate must have good verbal communication skills, tact, and diplomacy in order to establish and develop sustainable working relations and a high level of trust with officials and counterparts. Writing skills are required to prepare regular and ad hoc reports, project documentation, and briefing papers. Analytical ability is required in order to interpret public policies, and to assist in the development of revised policies, as required; and, to develop and monitor the performance of budgets, and the development of periodic work plans. Skill in program/project programming, policies, and plans, and in developing strategies for implementation, is desired. The ability to work independently with minimal supervision. The ability to work effectively in a team environment, and to achieve consensus on policy, program/project/activity, and administrative matters is required. Good computer skills are required, in order to manage activity goals and achievements, both technical and financial.

* Communication Skills (20%) The candidate must have an excellent command of English in oral and written form. Writing skills are required to prepare regular and ad hoc reports, project documentation, and briefing papers.

Based on the successful candidate's salary history, an annual salary within the range of \$ 25,304.00 to \$ 40,484.00 and other monetary allowances are offered.

Notes:

- Substitution of work experience for the education requirement is not permitted.
- USAID reserves the right to reject any and all applicants.
- Only short-listed candidates will be notified.
- This position will be filled subject to the availability of funds.

Application letter and comprehensive resume must be received no later than December 23, 2016 via email at aidmnlhr@usaid.gov through mail at Human Resources Office, 1286 US Embassy Place Kolonia, Phonpei, FM 96941

Speaker Wesley W. Simina Holiday Season and New Year Message

It is that time of year again. The days are a little shorter, the temperature a little cooler, the winds much breezier. In our part of the world that is actually a relief, making our islands even more pleasant and comfortable.

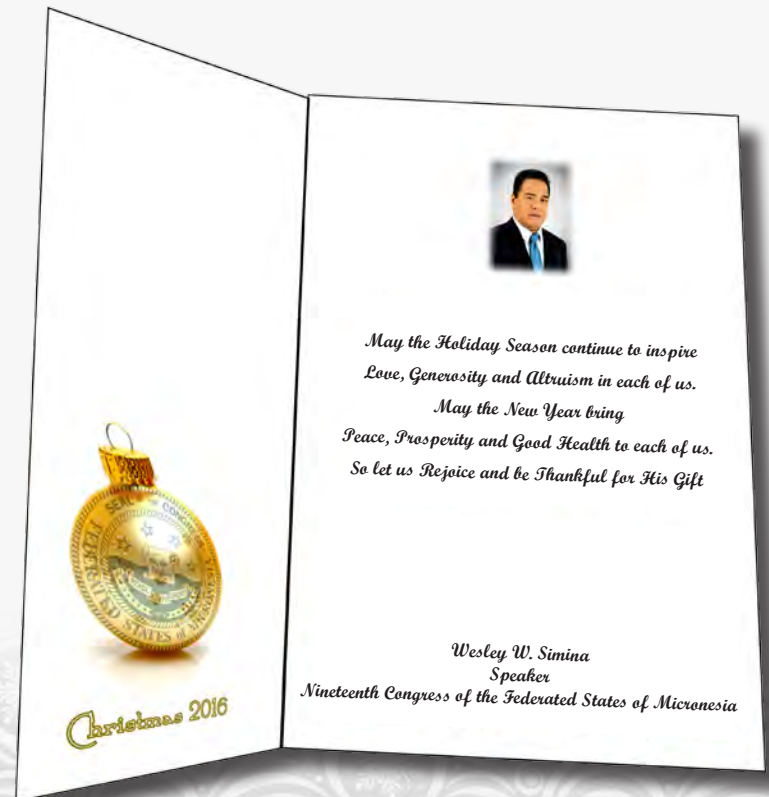
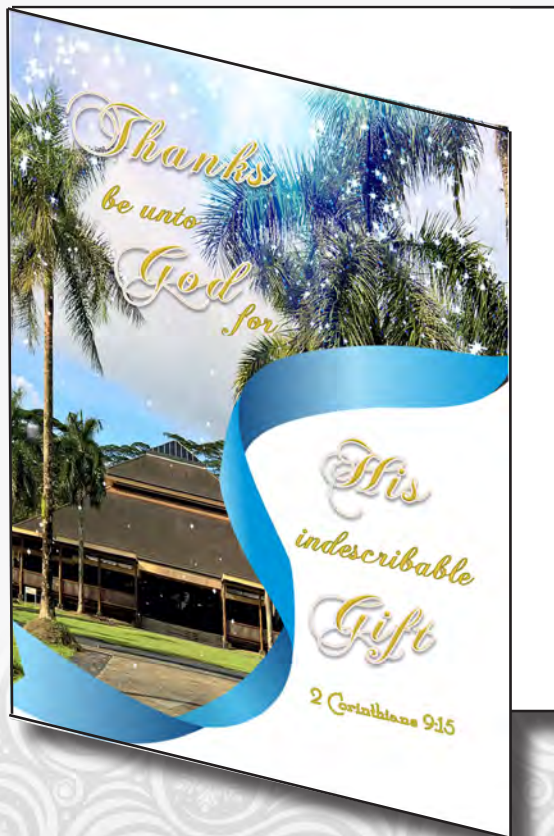
This comfort must translate into our hearts. Our hearts must exude pleasantness and generosity. This is the time when we must pull together with family and friends. It is a time when we must restore and nurture love, friendship and fellowship amongst relatives, neighbors and acquaintances. Even strangers and the undesirables deserve our attention.

At a time when nations are turning against each other and citizens scorn and shun strangers and foreigners, we, the people of the FSM, must rise above such xenophobia and hatred. This is a time when we must think of and pray for those who are in need, especially those who may not have family and friends to be with during this Holiday Season: the students, the homeless, the travelers, the prisoners, the refugees, and the strangers – to name a few.

We must think of and pray for our community and our country. The world is in a state of tremendous change and is becoming more challenging and riskier. Such global realities affect our small and wonderful Nation too. Yet, we must draw on each other for strength and comfort, and never waver in our faith that our wondrous Savior was born to save us and to sustain us in whatever awaits us.

As you enjoy this Holiday Season and usher in the New Year, we, in the FSM Congress fully appreciate, and must always be reminded of, those whose past and present acts of selflessness and dedications have made our Nation's success possible yesterday and today. For what the future holds for our Nation, we must always have faith in the benevolence of our Savior and our own hard works and dedicated efforts. Our patriotism must foreshadow our self-interests.

So on behalf of members of the 19th FSM Congress and our families, our staff and their families, we thank you, our people, and extend our best wishes to all of you during the Holiday Season and wish you success and the best in life throughout the New Year.



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WCPFC opening emphasizes tradition and the need for sustainability

FFA

Denarau, Fiji 5 December 2016: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission annual meeting opened today in Fiji with a traditional Fijian welcome ceremony and a call by the organization's chairperson to appreciate "the value of incremental progress" in the Commission's decision making process for fisheries conservation and management.

"The traditional welcome emphasized the importance of tradition in our Pacific Islands," said Ludwig Kumoru, PNA CEO, who is heading an observer delegation from the Parties to the Nauru Agreement at the WCPFC meeting this week at the Sheraton Denarau in Fiji. "All our islands respect their traditions that have guided generation after generation to be stewards of their resources for the benefit of current and future generations."

Mr. Kumoru said there is nothing more important or encompassing for all islands in the Pacific than the region's vast marine resources. "The PNA encourages all countries to take action this week during the annual meeting in the spirit of our host nation's welcome," he said.

The observation during the opening ceremony by WCPFC Executive Director Feleti Teo that "our dialogue should be reframed first and foremost around sustainability of the stocks" must be the foundation for all work of the

Commission, said Mr. Kumoru.

WCPFC Chairperson Rhea Moss-Christian called on Commission members to take "small steps" forward and "not diminish the value of incremental progress as a platform for reaching our goals."

"No one knows better than PNA members the benefit of incremental progress," said Mr. Kumoru. "This describes the development over the past 10 years of PNA's vessel day scheme (VDS) that underpins management of the skipjack tuna fishery in PNA zones.

"The PNA hopes to see progress on conservation management during this week's annual meeting," he said, highlighting the importance to the islands of decisions this week to improve management of high seas fishing through development of a harvest control strategy, extending and improving an existing Tropical Tuna Conservation Management Measure that expires at the end of 2017, and other measures.

"We support positive steps forward that support sustainable management of our tuna fishery," Mr. Kumoru said. "I want to emphasize that we as resource owners and distant water fishing nations share the responsibility of ensuring sustainability of our fishery for decades to come. As the Commission Chair, Ms. Moss-Christian, said this morning, 'we certainly don't have time to make no progress at all.'"



Eugene Pangelinan of
FSM - NORMA

Education Corner:

Richard Womack, Ed.D

Last edition we left you with a very interesting situation. The young Navarro had found the phrase “Columbus discovers America” in the textbook and he had his 5th graders change the words to “One of the First Europeans to Come to the New World”. He had his students make the changes in ink. Navarro was informed he was breaking a school rule about writing in the textbooks. The students told him they were never to write in the textbooks and “never in ink”. So we were left with the critical thinking question—should Navarro have broken the school rule? Explain.

When giving this case study question to pre-service teachers or in-service teachers the answer is almost always a No. They stress it is important to follow school rules and marking in ink is something students should not do. And furthermore they say it was not right for Navarro to insist they do so. Teachers should not break school rules after all teachers are models for student behaviors. But they also realize that saying “Columbus discovered America” was like saying “Magellan discovered Guam” or “Pedro Fernandes de Quiros discovered Pohnpei”. Micronesians correctly learn that Europeans did not discover Pacific Islands—their own ancestors—the Polynesians, Melanesians and Micronesians were the first to inhabit and therefore discovered our islands. The use of discover seems almost an insult. So the No to breaking rules becomes a No but with further explanations. It is always suggested that Navarro should have gone to Principal Francetta and explained the problem and asked permission or that Navarro could write a separate page for each of them to put in their books—as an insert. But to be sure once they think critically a simple Yes or No is not sufficient. Even if our case study took place in Trust Territory Times when U S History was taught teachers do not want to see anything as Guam was discovered or de Quiros discovered Pohnpei in any Micronesian history books. Teachers should not break rules as young Navarro did but they should correct curriculum when they find examples as Columbus discovering America and calling the native peoples Indians. Remember Columbus thought he had reached the Indies. Today’s U S textbooks do not make these errors but they did during the Trust Territory Times when Navarro was just beginning his teaching career.

Case Study: Navarro Continues

Young Navarro had survived his first day and his lesson about Columbus. And as you learned in the last case study Navarro liked the students and he was now sure what it was he would be teaching. With the religion matter settled and having looked through the 5th grade texts he saw that the eight grade science simply titled Your Environment. He hoped that the science book would not have to be changed. There were so many new things, bad things happening in the environment. He had learned in college that humans were making some mistakes, big mistakes and just as he had decided to teach his 5th graders he would need to inform the 8th grade students about these environmental problems that were now becoming obvious to the scientists. He thought about history, social science, and social studies. The term social meant people. “Whenever you have people” he thought, “You always have some people interpreting why people behave like they do.” At 22, Navarro was still confused about why people act as they do. Perhaps that is why the young man liked science and math. “You can prove things in science, there were scientific laws to follow and there was the scientific method,” he thought. “At the end of a math problem there is an answer and a correct answer if the problem was done correctly.” At the young age of 22, Navarro had learned that solving human problems was far more difficult than solving a math or science problem. Human beings—Homo sapiens—were very unpredictable.

Navarro was to teach United States history as his islands were still under the U. S. Trust Territory but he wondered why by now there was no Micronesian history book as that seemed more important to him. Soon the various Micronesian entities would be granted independence. Surely there should be someone somewhere doing that. But he was so new at this teaching that he figured he should not say anything. Besides Navarro had already broken school rules over a history matter and he thought he would leave the Micronesian history matter to experienced teachers. Nevertheless, Navarro had not liked the way the U.S. history book had shown Columbus all triumphant planting the flag of Spain. The young teacher also wondered what Columbus had said in the picture that had his crew and some native people. He guessed it was something as “I claim this land and all the land from this place to wherever or forever” and then he thought of the Native Americans pictured. They were smiling and looking happy but the young man knew that they had to be saying something, even if it were under their breaths. “Did this guy say that they owned the land to wherever and forever?” the first one says. “Yes and I wonder if the colored cloth means that these guys intend to own the water, or the air or fire too?” These thoughts made Navarro laugh to himself even though they were not really funny. The whole idea of Colonialism was so very important in the Social Studies particularly for Micronesian history. Navarro knew that land ownership by individuals did not even appear in Micronesia until the German Times at the end of the 19th century. Finally, Navarro decided he would be just fine with most of the content in U. S. History and everything else for that matter. What to teach was easy ... but how he was going to teach now occupied his mind.

He reviewed his yellow pad and his good teacher list and the two words he had used—imaginative and creative kept popping up. But these words confused him. What had he meant by not boring and not dull but imaginative and creative? He thought again and said to himself, “They made it interesting.” These thoughts lead him to the next obvious question—How did they make it interesting? The answers to this ‘How’ would help him. He was sure of that. To be continued.....

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