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Unpiloted Tropic Helicopter crashes and burns in Nanpohnmal



By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM— On January 5 a Tropic Helicopter vessel crashed and burned on property

belonging to the Frank Semens family and descendants in Nahnpothmal. The helicopter crashed behind the cook house on the property. None of the Semens were injured. According to the Pohnpei State Police, no pilot was aboard the craft when it crashed.

“It happened about an hour ago,” Maria Semens, Frank’s widow said. “It was a huge noise. We were so scared!”

I was driving by when I saw it flying in circles & out of control. Like the pilot had no idea how to fly a helicopter,” said Amanda Fermill.

“I was at my house in Nanpepper, saw the helicopter flew up and down like crazy. Next thing I know fire trucks and ambulances were rushing on main road,” Tracy Yamaguchi said.

A Pohnpei Police synopsis of their report said

that the helicopter crashed at about 2:30 in the afternoon. “Police Officers were dispatched and found that there were no casualties to the incident, and the operators of the craft abandoned the craft while it was airlift from Tropic Helicopters anchorage area,” the synopsis said. “Both operators were traumatically injured and were transported to the State Hospital for treatment.”

Captain of Detectives, Hermis Edmund said that two operators were running a test on the helicopter’s “tracking plates” at the helicopter company’s shop in what he called a “residential area” of Dolonier, Nett. His summary of the events surrounding the crash said that the helicopter malfunctioned and “airlifted with the maintenance coordinator operating as an airman. The craft lifted, stranding the mechanic on the left leg of the chopper which both operators airlifted above the ground about two meters and they abandoned the craft.”

Another detective explained to us what the synopsis meant. He said that the maintenance coordinator was in the cockpit of the helicopter and started the rotors to begin the test. Another mechanic was on the ground. Instead of sitting on the ground as the two had expected, the copter lifted into the air and

See “Helicopter” on page 6



Maria Semens



Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia

CHRISTMAS LOAN

FROM OCTOBER 1, 2014 to JANUARY 30, 2015

*Approval subject to terms and conditions of BFSM loan policy. See loan staff for more details.

BFSM Member **FDIC** EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

FSM responds to PII allegations but not yet in court

January 15, 2014

Pohnpei, FSM—On December 16, 2014, Pacific International Incorporated (PII), based in Majuro, Marshall Islands filed suit in the FSM Supreme Court against the FSM regarding the Weno road and utilities improvement project. Full coverage of their complaints and allegations are in the December 22, 2014 issue of The Kaselehlie Press.

The Kaselehlie Press received a copy of the complaint just before deadline on December 17 and wrote the article based on the public document filed at the court.

The FSM had certainly not yet had opportunity to officially respond to PII and we made note of that fact several times in the article. They still have not had opportunity to respond to the court filing. The FSM asked for an "enlargement of time" to do so. The court allowed them until no later than January 30, two days after our next deadline for publication which means that we will not be able to publish the FSM's legal response to PII's claims until February 16.

Just after deadline last evening we received an official letter from Mr. Bruce Howell, the FSM Program Management Unit's Contracting Officer via email.

In the same way that we were not able to provide notice of publication to the FSM prior to our previous publication of our article containing PII's claims, we were unable to provide PII with notice of our intent to publish the contents of Mr. Howell's response to PII's claims.

The contents of Mr. Howell's letter follows:

Dear Mr. Jaynes,

I am writing on behalf of the FSM Government to respond to some of the claims made in your article regarding the Weno Road Project on December 17th and to express the FSM viewpoint on this issue. It would have been more appropriate and appreciated if you had consulted us prior

to publishing your article. I would like to inform you of the following points regarding the termination of PII's contract.

There were a number of design defects in the construction drawings. The FSM worked with the designer to correct these and provided additional time and cost to the Contractor for his delays. These were provided in the form of written change orders which modified the contract and provided additional money and additional time for completion. These change orders were agreed to and signed by both parties.

As early as November 2012, there were concerns that PII could not complete the project on time. This was even expressed in writing in a letter from Governor Elimo in December 2012. In late February 2013 the FSM's construction manager (Stanley Setiadi Joint Venture, SSJV) presented a detailed report which indicated that there was much room for improvement in the efficiency of the contractor's work and provided suggestions to improve efficiency. In a meeting between PII, State of Chuuk and PMU a time extension was granted for six months, the scope of work was reduced and the contractor was allowed to retain the overhead and profit on the deducted work in order to assist his efforts to get caught up.

In early July 2013, SSJV wrote to PII asking them to take action to mitigate delays and improve production in order to complete the project by the November 25, 2013 deadline. PH's construction schedule was reflecting a completion date of January 2014.

In August 2013, the PMU Contracting Officer wrote to PII asking them to provide additional equipment, and manpower needed to get the project on schedule again and asked for a production improvement plan.

In September 2013 the PMU issued a Notice to Cure letter asking PII to submit a plan that could increase production needed to get the project completed. PII's response failed to provide an adequate plan to reach the needed production goals. Instead, PII made claims

against previously negotiated and executed change orders, attempted to justify claims for additional money and time extensions and presented a construction schedule showing a project completion date in May 2014.

In October the PMU wrote a Show Cause letter to PII, asking them why they should not be terminated for default since it could not provide a schedule and completion plan to complete by the November 25, 2013 contract completion date. At the same time the PMU extended an offer to settle all outstanding claims but it was rejected.

During a meeting in Chuuk on November 6, 2013, the PMU gave PII an opportunity to present its position or make a counter offer to the PMU's settlement offer included with the Show Cause letter.

Finally, after more than four months with no improvement in performance, the PMU felt it necessary to terminate the contract with PII in accordance with the provisions of the contract and pursue completion of the work with another contractor.

In May 2014, PII submitted a certified claim for damages which was rejected by the PMU. This claim attempts to justify the additional time extensions. The contractor is required by the contract to notify the Government within 10 days of from the beginning of each delay for review and decision. The claim was presented a year or more after the events described. Had the contractor presented these justifications when the claims occurred, the PMU would have been able to respond.

The contractor's default has resulted in significant impact to the FSM and Chuuk State Governments including:

- Additional costs to maintain sewage lift stations, material storage facilities, security and staging area lease as well as the

cost of deterioration of stored cement.

- Additional wear and tear on the unfinished portion of the road.
- Defective work which the Government must pay the next contractor to repair.
- Loss of tax revenue to the Chuuk: State Government.
- Loss of jobs of PU local employees.
- Additional money to retain a scheduling specialist on the CM team to assist the contractor to schedule his resources more efficiently. While the scheduling improved, the contractor did not provide the additional resources needed implement it. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Bruce Howell
Contracting Officer
FSM PMU

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Statement by Chairman Figir, APPF 23, Quito, Ecuador



At press time delegates from the FSM Congress were in Quito, Ecuador for the 23rd annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum. The APPF is an organization of parliaments in the Asia-Pacific region: US, Russia, China, Japan, Ecuador, Chile, Mexico, Laos, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand, FSM, and others. FSM was the only Pacific island country in attendance at the conference.

Chairman Isaac Figir of Yap addressed the body. Below is the complete transcript of his address:

I would first like to thank our host, the National Assembly of Ecuador and Madame President Rivadeneira for the excellent arrangement for our delegation.

I am also inspired by Madame President Rivadeneira's remarks at the opening to bring up a few matters relating to regional cooperation.

But first climate change. The FSM in 2014 has striven to put its commitment into legislative action. In December 2013 the Congress of the FSM enacted a climate change law making commitment to climate change action legal and binding upon the government of the FSM. For that law, Micronesia was recognized by GLOBE Legislation Report as one of the 8 countries in which climate law has developed the most. The FSM Congress also received a GLOBE Award for its climate change law in June 2014 in Mexico.

WE are looking for cooperation to advance to cause of climate change in the Pacific by legislative action. We take note of the call at the recent LIMA COP for all countries to do what they can to tackle climate change, and we intend to be in Paris for the next COP.

We also look for cooperation in other areas.

In reaction to the use of chemical weapons in the Middle East, in 2013 the FSM Congress also recently enacted domestic legislation banning chemical weapons, not that we have any, but we wanted to contribute to the universality of laws condemning the use of such weapons.

We also enacted laws criminalizing human trafficking. As we speak our Department of Justice is working with 7 countries to prosecute a case of human trafficking involving transport of people from South Asia by sea (presumably toward Australia). Due to the lack of seaworthiness of their vessel they had to land in the FSM. We are vigorously investigating and prosecuting human trafficking violations.

The FSM is also actively working with other Pacific Island nations to increase the price of fishing licenses across the Pacific to provide a fairer share of the natural resources of the Pacific. We do this so that we become less dependent on foreign assistance: we want fair share, not charity.

We are actively enforcing our fisheries laws by arresting and prosecuting illegal fishers, while ever mindful of human rights and the rights of the accused

As a small country we are very aware of the security problems in the Pacific. Each time somebody in North Asia sneezes our noses itch. We watch with concern the tensions in the region, whether they have to do with control over islands, exclusive economic zones, tensions between North and South, or unexplained disappearances. We did not sleep well in

2014. We hope that in this forum such as this the different parliaments will find a way to get to know each other and somehow contribute to a renewed peaceful environment in the Asia Pacific region.

We take this opportunity to offer our condolences to our brothers and sisters from Malaysia and Indonesia who were so affected by airline tragedies in 2014.

We note that the President of the Australian Senate participated in the march in Paris in homage to the victims of the terrorist attacks in Paris. I believe the entire Pacific is there in spirit with him.

Something Madame Rivadeneira said struck me. Micronesia may not have much in term of trade potential but we do have ideas that we would love to share and cooperate with others to enact, especially in climate change, protection of natural resources and culture. We welcome regional cooperation and are willing to contribute what little we can.

In retrospect, 2014 was a challenging year but it was also a time of action for us, especially in climate change. We hope to do more in 2015.

Thank you.

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or advertisements for this issue is the
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Wednesday, January 28, 2014**

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FSM registered Captive Insurance company celebrated

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

January 12, 2015
Pohnpei, FSM--Micronesia Registration Advisors co-hosted a reception at the Cliff Rainbow restaurant for several visitors from Japan including the Chief Executive Officer of Mutual Service Aid Guarantee Insurance Corporation (MAI). The event, which was attended by FSM President Manny Mori was to celebrate the establishment of MAI as a captive insurance company that was registered in the FSM last year.



FSM Chief of Staff Leo Falcam, Jr. spoke at the event as did Yasuyuki Fujishima CEO of MAI, Ambassador Sakai, the Ambassador of Japan to the FSM, and Steve Baker, CEO of MRA. Chief Falcam announced that though the paperwork had not quite been completed at the time of the reception, the FSM had selected Yasuyuki Fujishima to be one of the FSM's honorary consul's in Japan.



Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lorin Robert and Senator Peter Christian also represented the FSM government at the event.

Woman abducted from her home in Nett - police requesting information

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

January 13, 2015
Pohnpei, FSM—No arrests have yet been made for the alleged abduction of a young Filipino woman from her home in the early morning hours of January 8. Pohnpei State Police say they are actively pursuing a number of leads.

Detective Captain Hermis Edmund said that he wants to assure the Filipino community that Pohnpei State Police are taking extra precautions to ensure that Filipinos will not be targeted as future victims of crime. He also said that police have gathered a significant amount of evidence in the case, some of which will require highly technical evaluation that will have to be performed off island, but he is confident that the evidence will help Police to identify and arrest the perpetrators.

He said that at approximately 10:30 on the morning of January 8, Mark Anthony Figueras filed a missing persons report. The report said that his wife, Melissa Castillo Abalos had been missing from their home at the Adams' family compound in Nett since around 5:00 that morning.

Uniformed police officers were dispatched to the residence where they interviewed neighbors. There was no sign of the 33 year old woman.

At approximately 2:40 that afternoon, Police received a report that a female individual had

been found on the property surrounding the Bank of Guam. The police report said that the woman's hands were tied. Contrary to rampant rumors since that time, the woman was fully clothed and ambulatory though she appeared to be severely traumatized.

Police Detectives Alfred Damarlane and Bronson Martin transported Abalos to the hospital where attending physicians conducted medical examinations. Captain Edmund said that some of the physical evidence they have obtained came from that examination.

She was released from the hospital on the following day.

According to Captain Edmund, Abalos told officers that two men abducted her from her front porch in the early morning hours that day. The laptop computer that she used on most mornings was also taken.

Captain Edmund said that the computer has not been recovered.

The Ramp and Mida Law Firm offered its assistance to the family on a pro bono basis to "make sure that Melissa gets the right care and treatment," Attorney Erick Divinagracia wrote in an email. "Due to this matter being an ongoing investigation, the family is asking for the public to respect their privacy through this traumatic event and our thankful to the public for their concerns."

Meanwhile, the Pohnpei State Police Department is asking that anyone who has any information about the abduction to contact the Police Detectives at 320-3774.

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U.S. makes available \$109 million for FSM FY2015

In October and November, the FSM received notification from the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, that Fiscal Year 2015 Compact Sector Grant Awards totaling \$58,106,384 for the FSM States and COM-FSM had been obligated. The Awards are as follows:

Annual Sector Grants	\$52,331,216
Education	\$24,395,576
Health	\$20,111,540
Capacity Building	\$ 2,381,286
Environment	\$ 1,520,544
Private Sector Development	\$ 1,988,599
Reporting and Accountability	\$ 1,200,471
FSM Single Audit	\$ 500,000
Disaster Assistance Emergency Fund	\$ 233,200

Infrastructure Grants	\$ 805,000
CPUC Generator	\$ 470,000
Kosrae IMF	\$ 100,000
Pohnpei Schools Design	\$ 235,000

Carry-Over Grants:	\$ 5,071,968
Education	\$ 2,712,764
Health	\$ 1,592,164
Capacity Building	\$ 492,550
Environment	\$ 102,490
Private Sector Development	\$ 172,000

This amount is in addition to the FY14 obligations for the Supplementary Education Grant which totals \$11,121,580 and the Chuuk Measles Outbreak Grant of \$356,233, both to be used during FY15.

The Carry-over Grant awards for FY15 include such exciting projects as rehabilitation of the Chuuk Gymnasium for use by the High School, assisting Kosrae's efforts to develop appropriate Electronic Waste Disposal Systems, developing Community Sports Programs to reduce Non-Communicable Diseases in Pohnpei, and creating a Tourism Survey and Data Collection System in Yap.

An additional \$24 million was added to the Infrastructure fund, which has a balance of \$126 million.

The U. S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs also makes an annual payment to the FSM's Compact Trust Fund. This year the payment amount was \$26,976,960 bringing the current value of the trust fund to over \$400 Million.

US provides \$5.3 million in Compact grant assistance payments in December

In December, the FSM Department of Finance received Compact Grant Assistance payments from the United States Government totaling \$5.3 Million. These payments were for Compact Sector Grants, Carry-Over Sector Grants, and Supplementary Education Grants:

Education	\$ 1,844,885
Health	\$ 1,802,614
Supplementary Education Grant	\$ 994,975
Public Sector Capacity Building	\$ 181,355
Infrastructure	\$ 141,964
Private Sector Development	\$ 131,305
Environment	\$ 122,047
Enhanced Reporting and Accountability	\$ 96,463
Total Amount	\$ 5,315,608

This amount is provided to the States of the FSM as follows:
Chuuk \$ 2,454,644
Kosrae \$ 687,000
Pohnpei \$ 1,450,127
Yap \$ 723,837

U.S. Department of State Partnership to Launch the 2015 Fish 2.0 Seafood Business Competition in the Pacific

The U.S. Department of State is proud to announce today a new partnership with Fish 2.0 and the International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdeA) to launch the 2015 Fish 2.0 Seafood Business Competition, a competition that connects investors with businesses in fisheries, aquaculture, and seafood supply chains, which will have a special focus on the Pacific Islands in 2015.

The U.S. Department of State's partnership with Fish 2.0 will foster the growth of businesses and investment in the Pacific Islands, facilitate diaspora mentoring connections, and support the development of sustainable fisheries, technologies, and supply chains to protect the global ocean. Workshops in Pohnpei, Micronesia in February and in Nadi, Fiji in March will provide hands on training and support for businesses and investors.

The U.S. Department of State's support to Fish 2.0 builds on ongoing initiatives and new commitments announced at the June 2014 Our Ocean Conference, and reinforces the Department's commitment to working with diaspora communities to power development through the IdeA partnership.

For more information about this partnership, please email partnerships@state.gov or visit <http://www.fish20.org/events/pacific>

January session postponed to accommodate state activities

Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia

PALIKIR, POHNPEI. January 5, 2015

- Speaker Dohsis Halbert has postponed convening of the Sixth Regular Session of the 18th Congress from January 10th to convene instead on the 23rd of January 2015 in consideration of government activities in the states of Kosrae and Yap.

The Regular Sessions of Congress are in accordance with Public Law 13-59 which went into effect calendar year 2005, states that the Congress would meet in three regular sessions a year: January 10th, May 11th, and September 12th. It further states that the duration of the sessions would be for a period of 20 days unless extended or shortened by resolution.

Speaker Halbert notified the President that in consideration of requests by Members and inauguration ceremonies set for the newly elected government administrations of the States of Kosrae and Yap, the January session will be postponed for two weeks.

The January session or the Sixth Regular Session of the 18th Congress will be the current Body's final Regular Session. Special Sessions for the current Body can be called by either by the Speaker or by the President anytime between February and May 2015.

Congress is anticipated to address during this final Regular Session any and all outstanding measures pending before the committees and the Body as a whole.

The Sixth Regular Session of the 18th Congress as postponed will convene at 10am on Friday, the 23rd of January 2015 in the Congress Chamber in Palikir.

Congress sessions are open to the interested general public.

<p>College of Micronesia-FSM Human Resources Office P.O. Box 159 Kolonias, Pohnpei, FSM 96941 Phone: 691-320-2480 Fax: 691-320-2479</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Employment Opportunity</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">EO No: 2015-030</h3>
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USDA Rural Development invests nearly \$47 million in the Western Pacific for fiscal year 2014

United States Department of Agriculture

Tiyan, Guam, January 7, 2015 – For Fiscal Year 2014, USDA Rural Development invested nearly \$47 million in various projects throughout the Western Pacific (WP). These funds were targeted towards first-time home ownership, home repair/rehabilitation, community facilities, business assistance and investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Western Pacific includes Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau.

Rural Development's investment include \$26.8 million in community facilities; over \$17.6 million in housing funds that helped to assist 102 very-low to moderate-income families become first-time homeowners; \$837,429 in loans and grants to assist 105 very-low income families with essential home repairs and renovations; over \$688,320 in support of businesses and economic development, and a \$1.0 million in a grant for a high energy cost area.

"These funds demonstrate the Obama Administration's unyielding efforts to improve the quality of life for rural residents by ensuring that rural communities benefit from quality housing and public facilities" stated Chris Kanazawa, State Director for Hawaii, American Samoa and the Western Pacific. "USDA is committed to helping the Western Pacific access the resources needed to implement strategies that will invigorate the economy, reduce poverty and enhance the quality of life in the Western Pacific for years to come."

These investments were made available through RD's single family housing direct and guaranteed loan programs; the RH 504 home repair and rehabilitation loan and grant program; Community Programs; the Business & Industry (B&I) Guaranteed loan program; the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP); and other grant programs including the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG); Value-Added Producer Grant; and the High Energy Cost Grant.

"Through its portfolio, Rural Development works with valued island partners to address the urgent needs of local residents

in rural communities," stated Gary Bloom, Area III Director for the Federated States of Micronesia. In Pohnpei (FSM), USDA awarded a \$41,250 grant to Lukop Elementary School, which was leveraged with a grant from the Australia Agency for International Development, to construct a perimeter/security fence for the school.

"This new perimeter security fencing safeguards valuable village assets including the entire grounds of Lukop Elementary School, the Early Childhood Education Center, the Village Medical Dispensary, and the Local Community Center. This investment safeguards critical community assets and ensures the delivery of basic community services while raising the standard of living for the people of Lukop," stated Bloom.

"Rural Development will continue that mission for the Western Pacific in FY 2015 -- creating economic opportunity and improving the quality of life for rural residents -- one homeowner, one small business, one rural community at a time," stated Joseph Diego, Area II Director for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of

Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure programs through a national network of state and local offices. Rural Development has an active portfolio of more than \$172 billion in loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America.

President Obama's plan for rural America has brought about historic investment and resulted in stronger rural communities. Under the President's leadership, these investments in housing, community facilities, businesses and infrastructure have empowered rural America to continue leading the way -- strengthening America's economy, small towns and rural communities. USDA's investments in rural communities support the rural way of life that stands as the backbone of our American values.

...Helicopter

Continued from front page

The detective said that the maintenance coordinator didn't actually abandon the craft but was thrown out the door as the copter took off erratically and unpiloted.

A representative of Tropic Helicopter said that the Maintenance Coordinator was injured enough that he had to be referred to the Philippines for medical treatment.

The Tropic Helicopter staff member also verified the general accuracy of the police report.

As bystanders noted, the helicopter spun in the air, dove and climbed and ultimately went down amongst a stand of betel nut trees behind the Semes' cook house. It burst into flames. It took firefighters approximately 20 minutes after their arrival to put out the flames. No one was injured at the crash site.

As one bystander remarked, "It could have been much worse."

spun wildly. The mechanic on the ground was caught by the left pontoon of the helicopter and thrown to the ground.

Seabees complete five Pohnpei CCAD projects in three months

Embassy of the United States in Kolonia

Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Unit 133, based out of Gulfport Mississippi completed five Civil Construction Action Detail (CCAD) Projects on Pohnpei in three months. The projects included work at the FSMNOC Swimming Pool, Kolonia Elementary, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, Pohnlangas Dispensary, and Sokehs Dispensary. In addition they participated in several community outreach programs including tutoring and advising students in preparation for the ASVAB test, and reading and face painting with kids at the Pohnpei Public Library.

All of the material and labor for the projects were funded by the Department of Defense. The materials used for the project were all bought locally at the cost of \$174,292.

On January 7th and 8th, ribbon cutting ceremonies were held at the FSMNOC Swimming pool, Kolonia Elementary, and Pohnlangas Dispensary, to mark the handover of the completed projects to Pohnpei State. Governor Ehsa attended the handover ceremony at the Kolonia Elementary and FSMNOC Swimming Pool. Representatives from Pohnpei State Department of Health were on hand for the turn over ceremony at the Pohnlangas Dispensary. Turn over ceremonies for the other two projects were held in December.

An additional benefit to the CCAD project is that eight local construction workers worked with the Seabees as apprentices. The apprentices learned new skills and made new friends during the project. At the turnover ceremonies the Seabees talked about how they also learned from the

See "Seabees" on page 9

College of Micronesia-FSM Human Resources Office P.O. Box 159 Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941 Phone: 691-320-2480 Fax: 691-320-2479	<h3>Employment Opportunity</h3> <p>EO No: 2015-031</p>	
	Opening Date: January 14, 2015	Closing Date: February 13, 2015
Position and Salary: Comptroller P/11/C \$30,102.00 PA <i>*Position is eligible for housing and transportation benefits*=-</i>	Location: National Campus/Business Office P.O. Box 159 Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941	

Contact:

Applications and details of positions are available at the College of Micronesia-FSM Human Resource Office, state campus sites or the college's website at www.comfsm.fm.

Submit:

Documents are to be submitted electronically to hro@comfsm.fm (preferably as PDF attachments) or mailed to:

Human Resource Office
College of Micronesia - FSM
P.O. Box 159
Pohnpei FM 96941

Chuuk High School Typhoons see waves of change with reform



Students outside of Chuuk High shout, "Navigate This!" in a recently released YouTube video on reform in Chuuk

By Kalika Kastein

"This is Chuuk High and these are our stories so far..." recite a group of students as the black title screen fades to video footage of the Chuuk High campus. The online clip is one of the first items that comes up when you type, "Chuuk High School Reform" into YouTube. Titled, "Chuuk High School Update. Reform and Continued Success. December 2014," and filmed by WorldTeach volunteer Jayden O'Shea, the video has garnered more than 2,000 views on YouTube.

In the video, 12th grader Patrick Martinez folds his arms, leans back in his chair and tells the camera about his reaction when his family told him he was transferring from a "fancy private school" to Chuuk High a few years ago. He remembers having thought, "This is it for me. This is the end of me." In 2010, Chuuk High's attendance rates for both students and teachers were low. At the time, Chuuk High School had an enrollment of 580 students and employed around forty teachers, less than half dozen of whom had B.A. degrees.

But in 2011, the Chuuk Department of Education decided to make Chuuk High School a pilot school in Chuuk State's new Educational Reform Project. Fast forward three years later, Chuuk High School has seen its enrollment explode to more than 1200 students and over 100 students have transferred in from private schools on Weno; a testament to the quality of education being provided at Chuuk High as a public high school. Due to the addition of WorldTeach volunteers, who must hold a bachelor's degree to work in Chuuk, there are now over thirty teachers at Chuuk High School who have B.A. degrees. A number of reforms have been implemented at the school in the areas of daily schedules, yearly calendar, classroom curriculum and vocational program offerings.

Morgan Serious, a 12th grade A-level student who goes by "Serious," is filmed with his face profiled against the walls of the Chuuk High library. He recounts in the YouTube video how before he moved back to Chuuk he had been in trouble, put on probation, and wasn't going to school.



Senior Morgan Serious says "Chuuk High rescued me," as he reflects on events that lead up to him being transferred to the school.



12th grader, Patrick Martinez transferred from a private school to Chuuk High a few years ago.

"Life back here in Chuuk, I dunno, it just opened...opened up my mind. I want better than this...Chuuk High is helping me a lot." And with a pause and smile, as if remembering something someone once told him, he adds, "education is the key to success."

In the 2014, Chuuk High's "A" section was in the top 10 schools in Micronesia on the essay and reading comprehension sections of the COMET and was the top public school in the nation on these sections scoring higher than a number of prestigious private schools. Programs such as an eighth grade program, adult diploma program, and nursing program are evidence that the school is working work with the diverse needs of the student body. Extracurriculars such as sports teams, a student-run music recording

studio, environmental club, robotics club, music club/choir, art club, SAT/ACT prep club have all given students opportunities to show increased participation and leadership skills.

The effort and support to reform Chuuk High has come on all fronts: local teachers, staff, administrators, members of the Department of Education, and volunteer organization WorldTeach, but most of all because the students themselves have seen beginnings of a positive change and it has resonated with them. Ultimately, Chuuk High belongs to its students, and the school means something personal to each of them.

"Chuuk High rescued me," remarks Serious at the end of the video. Likewise, Patrick smiles and says, "Chuuk High is a home."

Happy 60th birthday to my Mother whom I thank God for blessing me with.

From your children and bubus

Pohnpei 5K FUN WALK/RUN
Pohnpei Rotary Club Scholarship Fundraiser

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th
START - 7:00 AM

START/FINISH - PALM TERRACE

\$5.00 REGISTRATION FEE
T-SHIRTS TO ALL

For information contact FSMNOC Office
(located at Pohnpei Swimming Pool Complex)
For information call 320-8914/15



NOTICE OF LAND SALE

The FSM Development Bank offers the parcels described below for sale:

Parcel no. 022-T-05, locally called Tepat, in Tafunsak Municipality, Kosrae State consisting of 3,284 square meters more or less, as shown on cadastral plat no. 022-T-00;

and

Parcel no. 009-T-24, locally called Kiul, in Tafunsak Municipality, Kosrae State consisting of 604 square meters more or less, as shown on cadastral plat no. 009-T-00.

- There is no minimum offer amount. Offers may be submitted for one or both parcels.
- Offers shall be submitted by personal delivery to any FSM Development Bank office. Offers may also be submitted by email to Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel at: noras@fsmdb.fm
- The deadline for submitting offers will be 4 p.m. on Friday, January 30, 2015.
- All offers must state the full name, address, phone number, e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the offer.
- All offers must clearly state the amount offered for each parcel.
- Offers which are accepted shall be notified in writing and payment of the full amount of the offer must be paid to the FSM Development Bank with cash or check no later than ten (10) calendar days after notice is given.
- Fee simple title to the parcels shall be conveyed by the FSM Development Bank through deeds of conveyance, to persons who are eligible to hold title to land in the Federated States of Micronesia.
- The parcels are offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to their condition whatsoever.
- FSM Development Bank reserves its right to reject any and all offers.

Questions concerning this sale may be directed to Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel, email: noras@fsmdb.fm, FSM Development Bank, PO Box M, Pohnpei, FM 96941, phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-6533, website: www.fsmdb.fm

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FREE SIM
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**Google Nexus 5. The
smart, new phone made
to capture the moments
that matter.**



NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

Pursuant to the order of the FSM Supreme Court entered on June 4, 2014, public notice is hereby given that the parcels described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

Parcel no. 019-H-08, land known as Tora, situated in Yinuf Village, Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 3,723 square meters, as described in the certificate of title issued on March 10, 2010 and as further described on cadastral plat no. 019-H-00 filed in Yap State Land Registry.

Parcel no. 102-H-12, land known as Talang, situated in Dulkan Village, Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 720 square meters, as described in the certificate of title issued on February 19, 2001 and as further described on cadastral plat no. 102-H-00 filed in Yap State Land Registry.

- There is no minimum bid amount. Bids may be submitted for one or both parcels.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "January 30, 2015 Land Auction" by personal delivery to Ms Trudy Munggol at the front entrance area of the FSM Supreme Court courthouse in Colonia, Yap on Friday, January 30, 2015 between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 30, 2015.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, e-mail address or other valid contact information for the bidder.
- All bid submissions must clearly state the bid amount for each parcel.
- All bid submissions must include a deposit of 5 % of the total bid amount by cashier's check. If the bid submission does not include the 5 % deposit by, the bid is immediately disqualified.
- Winning bidders shall be notified in writing and payment of the remaining balance of the bid must be paid to the FSM Development Bank no later than ten (10) calendar days after notice of award is given. If the winning bidder fails to pay the remaining balance of the bid within the required time, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Bank.
- Upon qualification and full payment of winning bids, the non-winning bidders shall have their 5% deposit returned to them within two (2) business days.
- The winning bidders shall be conveyed title through a duly issued Court order transferring title to the land, including all buildings, fixtures and other improvements on the land.
- Winning bidders must be eligible to hold title to land in the Federated States of Micronesia.
- If the winning bidder who has been provided notice of award by the Bank fails to remit payment within the required time, his/her deposit is forfeited to the Bank and the notice of award will be granted to the next highest bidder, and the same conditions will apply.
- The parcels are offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to their condition whatsoever.

Questions concerning this auction may be directed to **Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel, email: noras@fsmdb.fm, FSM Development Bank, PO Box M, Pohnpei, FM 96941, phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-6533, website: www.fsmdb.fm**

US firm teams up with Pacific fish body

By Online Editor
Pacific Islands Journals Online

A United States based tuna vessel management company has partnered with Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA), to supply tuna that meets Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standards.

The understanding (MOU) to do that was signed between the South Pacific Tuna Corporation (SPTC) and PNAO/Pacific, the marketing arm of PNA last Thursday.

MSC standards are considered the most stringent of the current managed sustainability programmes.

This action underscores South Pacific Tuna Corporation's commitment to maintaining the highest sustainability standards while harvesting tuna from PNA island waters.

SPTC executive director and Global Fleets partner J. Douglas Hines said: "The Global Fleets have long-embraced sustainable fishing practices in action, rather than just theory.

"This MOU makes us the first among the US Distant Water Tuna Fleet to make a public commitment to sustainable fishing practices as certified by the Marine Stewardship Council – including effective management and minimal environmental impact. It is not only a commitment to the PNA Countries, but to their customers and consumers throughout the world. This is truly a first step in creating an Ocean to Table project."

"The US Fleet is considered a Global leader in promoting environmental standards with strict adherence to regulations," Hines said.

PNA fisheries commercial manager Maurice Brownjohn said: "As world leaders in tuna conservation and management, this is a great development. We look forward to working closely with The Global Fleets in promoting tuna that is sustainably harvested in our waters to ensure that we will have a continued supply for future generations."

Meanwhile, there are now 295 vessels -- in addition to the majority of fishing boats from the Philippines, Taiwan and China -- that have joined the Marine Stewardship Council's (MSC) certification process for the Parties of the Nauru (PNA) agreement tuna fishery.

"This is consumer and market-driven," Brownjohn said. "Retailers and consumers are very mindful of sustainability of the resources and this is why companies are looking towards MSC as being the gold standard for such practices."

The PNA controls the largest sustainable tuna purse seine fishery in the world. Korean and Japanese fleets are also expected to sign up to the MSC certification process as well, according to Brownjohn.

The South Pacific Tuna Corporation, which has 14 boats in PNA waters, went public with its recent signing of a memorandum of understanding with PNA's marketing arm to seek the certification last week, and Tri Marine also recently announced it is seeking MSC certification for tuna caught in the Western and Central Pacific.

Brownjohn says there has been a significant ramp up in interest in recent months as companies better understand the world recognized MSC ecolabel

...Seabees

Continued from page 6

apprentices and they valued the relationship.

At the FSMNOC swimming pool the Seabees built a new changing room.

The Kolonia Elementary project consisted of replacing the roof and ceiling tiles, and painting the inside and outside of the 2nd and 3rd grade building.

The Island Food Community of Pohnpei project involved the replacement of the

roof, all electrical wiring, plumbing fixtures and painting the interior and exterior walls.

The Sokehs and Pohnlangas dispensary had new air conditioning units installed, and the interior and exterior walls painted.

On a rotating basis each state has an opportunity to propose CCAD projects. These small civic construction projects are fully funded by the U.S. Department of Defense. In addition, there is a capacity building component, which allows local laborers to work one-on-one with the Seabees as apprentices at the construction sites.



Ribbon Cutting at the FSMNOC Swimming Pool

Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum passes resolution on climate change

Quito, Ecuador - The members of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum yesterday passed a resolution on climate change. The resolution was sponsored by Chile. It was acknowledged in the plenary session as being the hardest and the most delicate resolution to work on, with at times contentious debates in the Drafting Committee. "Finally compromise and good will prevailed," said Lam Dang who represented the FSM on the drafting committee.

The resolution follows:

RESOLUTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Considering with great concern the anticipated impacts on the global climate system described in the contribution made by the Work Group One to produce the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

Referring to the fact that Climate Change presents significant threats to the achievement of the MDG's and post 2015 development agenda and also has irreversible potential consequences for human societies, the future generations and the planet;

Acknowledging the urgency and importance of adopting a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the UNFCCC applicable to all Parties to the Convention at its twenty-first session and for it to come into effect and be implemented from 2020;

Bearing in mind that the continuous emission of Greenhouse Effect Gases (GHG) is the primary cause of a greater warming effect and of the changes in all of the components of the climate system, and that stopping the Climate Change requires substantial and constant reductions of GHG emissions;

Considering that even with a zero level of net emissions in the immediate future, the global warming phenomenon will continue its effect in the future due to the high levels of accumulated concentrations of GHG;

Drawing attention to the fact that the predictions made by the IPCC which are based on rigorous analyses of different climate models, not always can assess, in its true dimension, the synergies amongst the different variables that take part in the evolution of the climate;

Emphasizing the urgent need to take effective and sustainable global measures to deal with the Climate Change and to implement local and nationwide adapting measures to fight, even partially, the effects caused by the Climate Change;

Acknowledging the role of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as the main forum to talk about Climate Change;

Acknowledging with appreciation that the Conference of the Parties (COP 20) held in Peru in December 2014 underscored its commitment to reach an agreement in 2015 that reflects the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances;

Acknowledging the problems the different countries are facing not only regarding the coordination of their policies and efforts aimed at reaching a global binding agreement to change: current energy production patterns, current consumption patterns, industrial plants technologies but also to carry out other actions in the short and long term that involve large economic investment and the development of new technology;

Highlighting the role of the incentives, including market mechanisms, can make the advance possible in order to replace the high Green House Effect Gasses (GHG) technologies with new technologies based on renewable and efficient energy;

Noting the human and economic effect that may be the result of climate change;

Noting that safety, health and welfare of the APPF Member States and people of the Asia Pacific region and other parts of the world can benefit from effective measures that can reduce the GHG worldwide;

Realizing the need for APPF Member States and other Nations to assume their responsibilities both towards their own people and towards humankind and to move forward and honor their commitments;

Valuing the importance of regional cooperation and, at different levels – the information exchange to face climate change through international cooperation initiatives.

RESOLVES TO:

1. Urge all APPF Member States to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Lima Peru in 2014;

2. Exhort APPF Members States to work together inside the UNFCCC, to develop a protocol another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the UNFCCC applicable to all Parties;

3. Encourage all APPF Member States to start preparing their contributions for 2015;

4. Boost initiatives inside our own parliaments that could complement the UNFCCC Framework Convention;

5. Support to the strengthening of the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) in the developing countries within the sustainable development framework;

6. Encourage the sharing of practical experiences of domestic mitigation actions to reduce emissions;

7. Call the governments of the region to support sustainable development policies and consider innovative models of international cooperation to reach sustainable development;

8. Work towards a new agreement on Climate Change through our parliamentary work to stimulate adaptation actions;

9. Work towards improving clean developing mechanisms;

10. Welcome the decision to set the Warsaw International Mechanism for loss and damage under the Cancun Adaptation Framework;

13. Implement an inter-parliamentary communication mechanism to exchange information, successful legal experiences and knowledge that could provide the proper and timely elements in response to Climate Change, amongst others, to our own domestic legislative bodies to promote stronger coordination efforts and eventually the progress during their normalization processes.

Quito, January 14th, 2015

President Mori meets with Japanese Delegation

myfsm.blogspot.com

On January 13, 2015, Federated States of Micronesia President Manny Mori met with a visiting delegation from Japan in the President's Conference Room. The eighteen member delegation comprises Japanese investors and businessmen, was led by Mr. Yasuyuki Fujishima, Director of Mutual Service Aid Guarantee Insurance Company (MIA).

The President extended his warm welcome to Mr. Fujishima and his delegation and thanked him for his visit and for bringing in many prospective investors. Mr. Fujishima who planned this trip to introduce Japanese businesses to the FSM, was also instrumental in planning and coordinating the recent inaugural Investment Seminar in Nagoya, Japan, aimed at attracting Japanese companies to invest in the FSM.

The President highlighted the FSM Government's and businesses desire to deepen ties with Japan, and to create a favorable environment for Japan to continue to expand its business and investment ventures in the region. He further expressed confidence in Japan's economic progress and lauded Prime Minister Abe's efforts to improve, grow and sustain Japan's economy.

"I really admire his courage, of trying to revive his economy. All Pacific nations can benefit from Japan's economic progress" expressed President Mori.

While the FSM is pursuing business partners through the captive insurance and the Micronesia Registration Advisors (MRA), FSM stands ready to enhance its services as well as increase exchanges by working together closely to improve the business and government relationship with Japan.

"I think the program that MRA is pursuing for your region is going to take off very successfully," said President Mori.

President Mori concluded that the FSM government will continue to help MRA fashion the business environment through captive insurance ventures, and will also continue to work on improving tourism in the FSM, as the tourism sector is a key component in efforts to stimulate economic growth.

Present with President Mori were Chief of Staff Leo Falcam Jr. and FSM Registrar of Corporations Samari W. Suta.

Japanese Embassy in Pohnpei

Japan grants surgical equipment to Pohnpei State Hospital

Pohnpei State Hospital and Embassy of Japan welcome this New Year by finalizing the Project for Procuring Surgical and Emergency Surgical Equipment that was signed over to the hospital on September 4, 2014. On January 14, 2015 the project was kicked off with both sides rooting for the best outcome. Pohnpei State will benefit greatly through this project by upgrading the quality of health care, increasing the number of outpatients and inpatients. This project provided \$89,475 for the Hospital.

At the handing over ceremony, Ambassador Masaki Sakai presented

his remarks hoping that granted equipment contributes to enhancing medical service. Representing the Hospital, Mr. Paulino Rosario, Director of Department of Health Services stated that the equipment is a lifesaving. He expressed his sincere gratitude for the generous grant and he made sure the equipment functions at all times.

Present at the ceremony were government officials, staff of the Hospital and of the Japanese Embassy.



Handover of Medical Equipment Mr. Paulino Rosario - Director of Department of Health Services of Pohnpei State with Ambassador Sakai

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PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT
Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISER

About the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The Pacific Islands Forum was founded in August 1971 and currently comprises 16 independent and self-governing states in the Pacific. Forum Leaders meet annually to develop collective responses to regional issues.

The Forum's administrative arm is the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, based in Suva, Fiji. It acts as the Secretariat for Forum-related events, implements decisions by the Leaders, facilitates the delivery of development assistance to member states, and undertakes the political and legal mandates of Forum meetings. The Forum Secretariat is also mandated to coordinate the implementation of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism.

The Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

About this Opportunity

An exciting opportunity exists for a Human Rights Adviser to join the Secretariat. The Adviser will be accountable to the Director, Political Governance and Security Programme in supporting Forum members strengthen human rights mechanisms, policy and practice in the region in accordance with the international human rights framework.

Responsibilities will include (but are not limited to):

- Policy analysis and advice;
- Support to the Director of the Political Governance & Security Programme and Management of Staff;
- Coordination of capacity and capability building within Forum Island Countries;
- Coordination of regional initiatives;
- Representation of Forum interests; and
- Meeting Coordination.



PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM
40th Anniversary 1971-2011

Applicants should have an advanced university degree (Masters or equivalent) in human rights, public or international law, political science, international relations or other related field and substantial experience in the provision of strategic policy advice on human rights, preferably within the Pacific region. Knowledge and understanding of the international human rights framework, experience of human rights technical assistance within the region, and experience in designing and implementing effective consultation methodologies are essential.

About the Benefits

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance, housing and education for dependent children. The salary is adjusted for cost of living and will be in the range of SDR34,026 to SDR 51,040 per annum. At the 1 November 2014 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD97,608 to FJD146,414. For non-Fiji nationals, this salary may be tax-free.

Any travel required will be at economy class. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply through our website: www.forumsec.org where an information package containing the job description and remuneration details is also available.

To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country.* Deadline for applications is at 5pm (Fiji time), 30 January 2015.

* Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu

C	G	R	A	P	○	O	N	E	P	L	R	U	Y	
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A	L	N	L	H	A	T	S	I	○	I	G	O	R	
C	H	I	O	T	S	Q	W	E	E	E	M	P	Y	

Your Word List

Goes Here



Bingo!

Insert the proper consonant into each empty circle to create the maximum number of 4-letter words. In the example, "V" would form the words "hovel," "verse," and "vying," but "T" (as shown) forms the words CATCH, HOTEL, TERSE, and TYING, for a total of 4 words. If you choose the right letters, you'll hit the 52-word BINGO. Use each consonant only once.

- C
- D
- G
- H
- K
- M
- P
- R
- T
- V
- Z

Crossword - Food for life 1

ACROSS

1. Dutch cheese
5. Brewer's yeast
9. Absorb, like gravy
12. Part of IPA
13. Recipe words
14. Another part of IPA
15. Italian cooking style?
16. Broil
17. Food school, for short
18. Recipe abbr.
20. Hungry-Man rival
22. Soy sauce
25. Red wine also called Shiraz
27. Way more than 18 Across
28. ___ Moco (a burger with a fried egg, rice, and brown gravy)
30. Spirit sometimes used in tapenade
33. Sushi tuna, often
34. Dos Equis, for one
36. Strong Brazilian coffee
37. Jicama or horseradish
39. ___ trout
40. Place often having a quaint restaurant
41. Frequent detail for Chinese food
43. Stovetop

45. Epicure's pride
47. Where to skim from
48. Sushi squid
49. A lubricating liquid
52. ___ apple
56. Sushi fish
57. Their tails are used in soup
58. Common fruit shape
59. Tea ___
60. More than merely dip
61. Keg tapper

DOWN

1. Farm spray watchdog
2. Indian legume or dish
3. ___ purpose flour
4. Like some beans
5. Food fish
6. Fruity drink
7. Advised quantities, for short
8. Seder spice
9. Artificial sweetener beverage
10. Aglio e ___
11. Fruit shaped like a light bulb
19. The "meat" of onion or garlic
21. ___ prik

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
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			41		42				43	44			
45	46							47					
48					49	50	51			52	53	54	55
56					57					58			
59					60					61			

- (hot sauce)
22. ___ fruit
23. Hostess product
24. Seasoning from a shaker
25. One without much meat
26. ___ Imperial apple
29. Seasons a pan, perhaps
31. Flan mold
32. Ice cream holder
35. UK candy bar
38. A "short shot" of a beverage
42. Red Bordeaux wine
44. Chef's garb

45. Bow ___ (far-falle)
46. Caribbean fruit resembling a peach
47. Loosely cover meat
50. Kitchen gadget
51. Black-eyed or goober
53. Caviar, for instance
54. ___ Tai (drink)
55. Shape for some kitchens

Crossword - Food for life 2

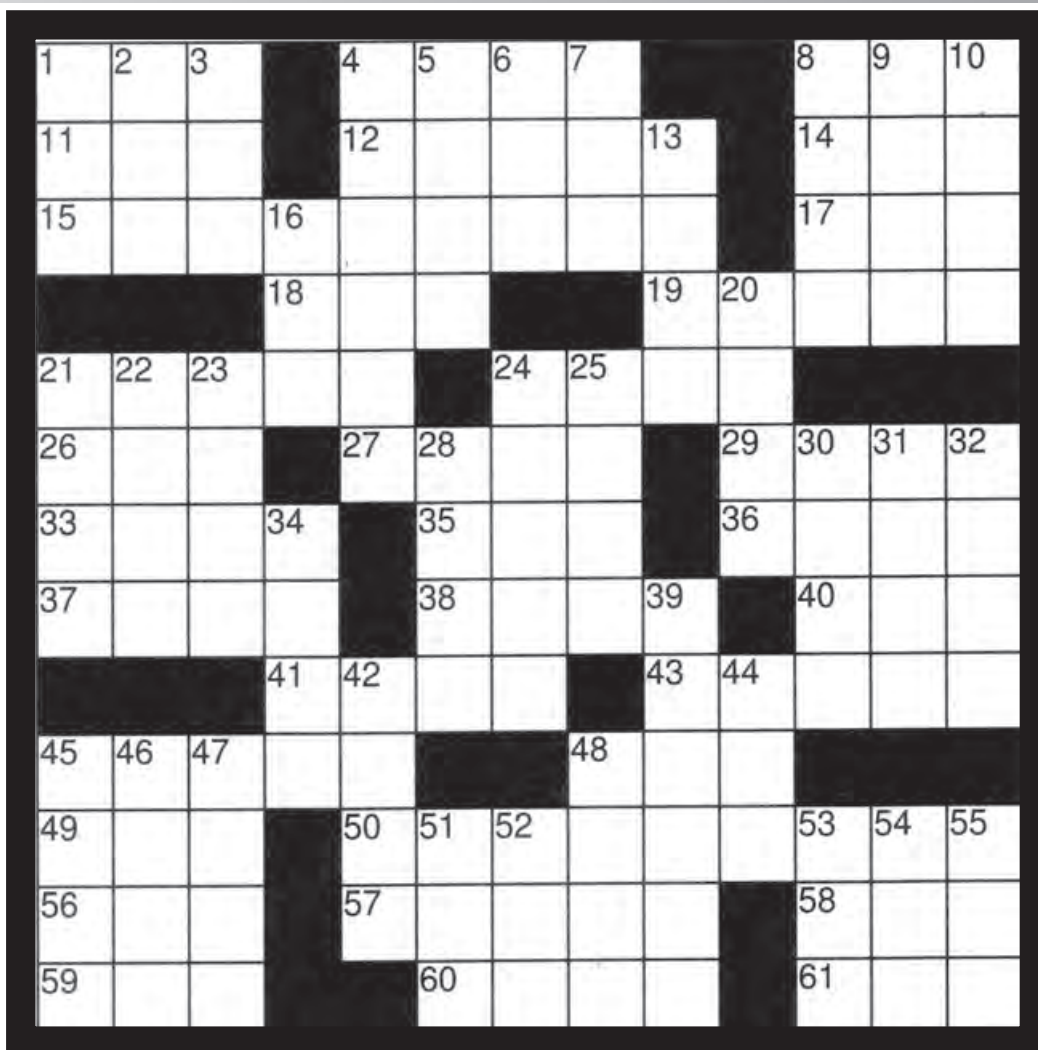
ACROSS

1. Italian wine standard
4. Dutch cheese type
8. Cola, casually
11. Beating and folding add this
12. Where to coat with egg and bread crumbs, fry, and season with Parmesan
14. Food pesticide regulator
15. Diner "special"
17. Cooking vessel
18. French for "garlic"
19. Campfire treat
21. Rub clean
24. ___ spumante
26. Anago or unagi
27. Waffle brand
29. Mexican dough
33. Trans fatty ___
35. Chef Rachael ___
36. ___ Chef (Japanese head-to-head cooking show)
37. Mostly Martha adoptee
38. Spanish grapes
40. Pistachio or macadamia
41. Cannoli or manicotti
43. Pub on Murphy Brown
45. Had a fine meal
48. Milk, at a diner
49. Italian for "goose"
50. Another name for muttonfish
56. Tasty mushroom

57. Chinese takeout disclaimer, often
58. Summer refresher
59. Cookie selling gp.
60. Beef Wellington or mayonnaise honoree, originally
61. Recipe unit for whale chowder?

DOWN

1. Type of flounder
2. Sesame or olive product
3. French or Italian vineyard
4. Kind of apple
5. Type of seasoning
6. Recipe preposition
7. Place setting, perhaps
8. Hard-skinned fruit
9. ___ ayam (Indonesian chicken in coconut milk)
10. French mixture served with bread
13. Bird's ___ soup
16. ___-de-vie
20. "La Bohème" lead, who has no money for food
21. Cook en papillote
22. Another name for a 'chickpea
23. Chocolat actress



24. Tequila base
25. ___ bean milk
28. Food, casually
30. Souvlaki ingredient
31. ___ food
32. They can be covered in chocolate and eaten
34. Middle Eastern fruit
39. ___ cake
42. Thick Japanese noodle
44. ___ sack (grain bag)
45. One step up from 1 Across
46. Italian desserts
47. California wine region
48. Completely cover
51. Haddock's family
52. Aussie delicacy
53. Common cereal grain
54. Japanese veggie similar to fennel
55. Arm count for calamari



Your List Goes Here

Studying "Y"

This puzzle is a study of "Y." You should be kept busy finding the 18 4-letter words, 13 5-letter words, and 18 6-letter words for a total of 49 words containing the letter "Y."

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President Mori holds last Cabinet meeting in 2014

MyFSM.blogspot.com

The last 2014 Cabinet meeting convened on Wednesday morning, December 31, at the President's Conference room. The meeting specifically centered on the efforts, services and achievements of the past year, while also taking a broader view on a few highlights. Namely, for the first time in the history of Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the revenue has gone up over \$100 million. Additionally, the FSM National Government zeroed out its share of the Compact sector grants to increase shares of the States under the interest of "burden-sharing", to name a few.

President Manny Mori underscored his appreciation to his Cabinet and Agency Heads for their contribution and commitment to serving the Nation.

"For this administration, we have until (middle of) next year; I want to ask you to give further efforts and further our service to our people across FSM."

Turning to fellow Cabinet members, Secretary of Foreign Affairs Lorin

Robert said it would be a remiss to enter the new year (2015) without the Cabinet expressing their appreciation to the President. In that regard, he extended the invitation to Dr. Rufino Mauricio, Secretary of Education, to speak on behalf of the Cabinet, especially those who have been with President Mori since the start of his administration.

Secretary Mauricio expressed their gratitude to the President by also acknowledging the accomplishments that have taken place over the past seven years.

"On behalf of all of us, I would like to indicate to you that I personally and all of us have learned a great deal from your administration. We have seen your leadership in many lights and it is found inspiring", Secretary Mauricio stated, punctuating the close of not only the meeting itself, but also another enduring and eventful year for the Mori administration.

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The traditional cultural significance of bananas on Pohnpei

By Island Food Community of Pohnpei

These excerpts have been taken from Dr Lois Englberger and Adelino Lorens' book chapter in Ethnobotany of Pohnpei (2009, Balck et al).

"On Pohnpei, banana is used as a welcome for visitors. It has been traditionally hung from awnings of the cooking house so that visitors may partake of and enjoy the fruit. Some banana cultivars, including Karat, Utin Iap, Mangat, and Ihpali, are awarded high status and are included in the offerings to the paramount chiefs. These offerings are those of the mwohn sahpw, or the tribute of the "first fruit". [Furthermore,] specific banana cultivars are an important part of Pohnpei legends and lore."

"Although any kind of banana may be used for medicinal purposes, the one presently most prized for this in Pohnpei is Preisihl. The fiber of either the stem or young sucker may be pounded and used to treat muscle aches, twisted ankles, or broken bones... and burns. The juice of the stem is used to treat concussions, respiratory problems such as coughing and fever [as well as] treating cuts."

For more information, the Ethnobotany of Pohnpei book can be found at the Pohnpei public library, SPC library and in stores for purchase.

Believe in the Go Local campaign? Become a 2015 member of IFCP!

By Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP)

For more information, visit www.islandfood.org, call IFCP at 320-3259 or email at info@islandfood.org.

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 Palm Terrace

Sapwohn implements a no-soda policy

By Island Food Community of Pohnpei

that provide no nutritional benefit to protect the body from disease.

As part of the Revival of Culturally Significant Traditional Food Crops project in Sapwohn, Sokehs funded by the Pacific Development Conservation Trust the Sapwohn community has decided to remove soda from community events.

Island Food Community of Pohnpei applauds the Sapwohn community for taking this active step in the health of their people and we encourage other communities to follow in their footsteps by introducing local food policies into their gatherings. Other community groups have removed rice from their food celebrations, made decisions to only use local biodegradable plates (such as banana leaves and baskets), or ban plastic disposable drink bottles. Thank you to these proactive groups and well done to the communities for supporting these policies!

This simple action reminds people that there are local substitutes for imported unhealthy products. It shows pride in locally available foods such as coconuts and supports the local farming families. The decision also has a health impact on the people in Sapwohn by reducing the consumption of high sugar beverages



Food processing recipes included in new recipe book

By Island Food Community of Pohnpei

The new Let's Cook Local Recipe Book published by the Island Food Community of Pohnpei has almost 20 recipes for food processing or preserving many of which use energy efficient methods such as sun drying.

Local food which is dried in the sun to preserve for long storage life or for sale at the market has a very low environmental impact as it hasn't travelled far or used much fossil fuel energy in its production. It is thus an environmentally friendly food item for your table.

The Recipe Book is now available for sale at IFCP for \$10.

Dried Bananas

Ingredients
Taiwang bananas, ripe but firm

Method

1. Peel the bananas and place on a sun dryer to avoid sweating
 2. Place in the sun for 3-6 days, turning occasionally, until dry, brown and no longer sticky
 3. Cool and store in a sealed bag, container or jar in a cool, dry place
- *Bananas can be sliced lengthwise to reduce drying time

Sun dryers can be purchased at IFCP or built at home with locally available materials

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Pohnpei Fishing Club donates computers to Library

The Pohnpei Fishing Club is glad to assist the Pohnpei Public Library.

At every fishing tournament the Pohnpei Fishing Club provides a barbecue at the weigh-in, and gives the proceeds to the Pohnpei Public Library. As a result of the public's generous support, the Pohnpei Fishing Club donated two Dell computers with monitors to the library.

Please go to the library and check them out. Pictured in the photo are Paul Thomas and Steve Finnen from the Fishing Club, Uta Krause from the Friends of the Pohnpei Public Library and Dohsiner Jose from the library staff.

The Pohnpei Fishing Club will have its annual AGM in January, with a new year of tournaments starting in February.



YELA Community received support from the GEF Small Grants Programme

By *Dr. Tholman Alik*
Executive Director YELA Organization

In December the Yela Environment Landowners Authority (YELA) launched partnership with the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme FSM to the amount of \$50,000 USD. The funding will support its project "Yela Ka Forest Legacy: Moving Towards Establishing A Ridge-To-Reef Community-Driven Initiative" with emphasis on comprehensive protection of the last stand of Terminalia forest locally known as Yela Ka.

The project contributes to YELA community's vision and efforts toward healthy and resilient environment, informed community aspirations and resources sustainability through the following key outcomes:

1. Develop and implement a comprehensive management plan for the establishment and demonstration of the Yela ridge-to-reef conservation initiative.
 2. Implement environmentally sound small-scale infrastructure developments on the ground to promote ecotourism activities, awareness on the Yela conservation easement, forest stewardship, scientific researches, and monitoring/ surveillance.
 3. In partnership launch integration of the watershed, mangrove forest, and a new marine protected area (MPA) as part of the overall Yela Conservation Area.
 4. To become a highly recognized demonstration model and forest legacy that represents a common brand name to the people of Kosrae through social networking and marketing.
- Key partners included the Kosrae Conservation and Safety Organization (KCSO), Kosrae Island Resources Management Agency (KIRMA), Tafunsak Municipal Government (TMG), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), United States Forest Service (USFS), Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) who have been integral partners and supporters to the initiative. Special recognition goes to Mayor of Tafunsak the Honorable Jacob George, and the Tafunsak and Yela Landowners Authority union for their commitment to the project's success through their presence at the launch.

The Small Grants Programme, FSM is part of a global GEF funding modality initiative implemented by UNDP on behalf of GEF partnership to provide grants to FSM NGOs and community-based initiatives that works to mitigate threats to the environment, support sustainable community livelihood development and to build capacity of its grantees to be more effective. The Programme is hosted by the UN Joint Presence Initiative office in Pohnpei.

Papua New Guineans to return home after Pacific odyssey

International Organization for Migration

Two Papua New Guinean men picked up drifting in the Pacific, will soon set foot in their homeland for the first time in six months, after their planned 60-kilometre journey turned into an epic 16-week tale of survival on some of the world's remotest waters.

Michael Bolong and Ambrose Wavut have been in Pohnpei, the capital of Micronesia, since November 29th, after being picked up by a Micronesian tuna-fishing boat.

After a brief stay in hospital, IOM, together with local groups including the Salvation Army, Pohnpei State Hospital staff, the Pohnpei Fishing Club and the Australian Embassy, found them temporary housing, food, and enabled them to phone home.

On Thursday they will begin their homebound flights, completing their amazing journey, thanks to tickets purchased via IOM's Humanitarian Assistance for Stranded Migrants (HASM) fund.

Bolong and Wavut, together with Wavut's father-in-law Francis Dimansol, who died three weeks before their rescue, set out from Tanga Island, in a remote archipelago off the north coast of Papua New Guinea on August 15.

They were making for Litir Island, which on clear days is visible from their home island. Their small boat, carrying building supplies, was caught up in a storm. The seamen soon became disorientated and their craft ran out of fuel.

They survived on some rice and flour they had brought with them, which they cooked using the sun's heat. That lasted for two weeks, after which they survived on fish (including a six-foot

shark which they wrestled aboard) and turtle, which they caught using improvised spears made from a pot handle and from nails. The fish and turtle meat were cut up in small pieces and dried over the tin roofing materials on board, which they also used to capture rain water.

From time to time, they found coconuts floating in the water. Sometimes, they would go three days without food, and survive only on rain water or salt water mixed with rain water, until they caught another fish. Twice they came close to rescue, but were missed by two passing fishing boats.

Although primary responsibility for the repatriation of stranded migrants rests with national governments, there are many instances where additional assistance is required. HASM was established in 2005 to allow IOM to better respond globally as a provider of last resort to urgent requests from national governments to assist with the repatriation of stranded migrants.

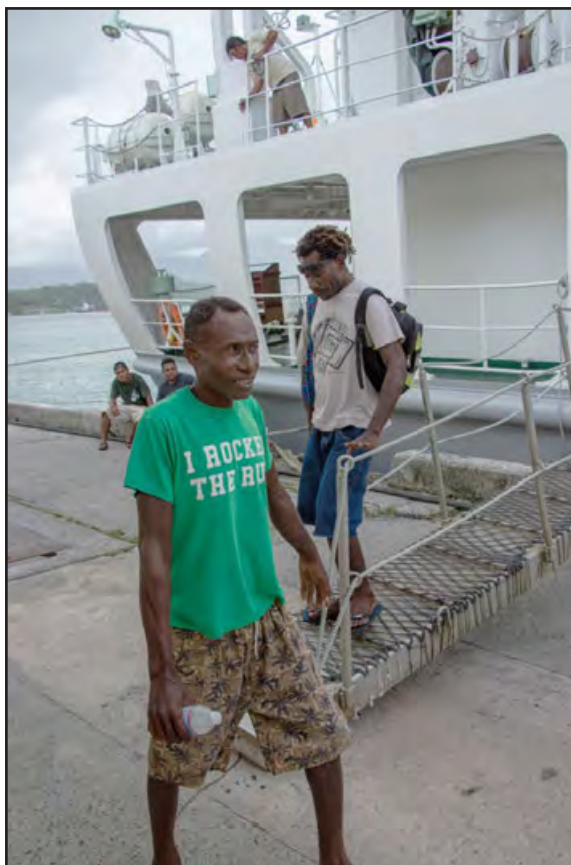


Photo by IOM Micronesia



Michael and Ambrose pose with one of their health care providers, Bernolina Hedson

