

# The KASELEHLIE PRESS

This bi-weekly publication is only \$1.00

PO Box 2222 Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone 691-320-6547 Kpress@mail.fm www.kpress.info

## Weno landmark burns!

On the afternoon of Wednesday, July 18, fire broke out at the Christopher Inn. Observers said that the building appears to have been a total loss. One witness said that during the fire a man jumped from the second floor and may have injured his legs. There has been speculation that the fire may have been caused by youths who were burning insulation from copper tubing scavenged from the building, but there has been no official word from anyone in Chuuk regarding injuries or potential causes for the fire.



Photo By Bill Stinner



Photo By Minora Mori

## Pohnpei on the hook for \$123K health project still on hold



Photo By Nigel Jaynes

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

July 17, 2012  
Pohnpei, FSM—If a hearing scheduled for July 25 doesn't resolve a long standing land dispute, Pohnpei is on the hook to reimburse \$123,683.19 to the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). If the dispute is not resolved during the hearing the reimbursement check must be dated and sent to the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) no later than the next day.

Robert Hadley's 4J Store and Sakau market just south of the Pohnpei State Hospital

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# MiCare proposes 15.5 percent rate hike and changes in regulations

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

July 13, 2012

**Pohnpei, FSM**—MiCare is proposing an across the board 15.5 percent rate hike on premiums in order to ensure the insurance provider's future ability to cover the health care needs of the Federated States of Micronesia. The rate hike and other changes are scheduled to go into effect on October 1, the beginning of the 2013 fiscal year, after the public has had opportunity to comment on them.

MiCare says that it needs to make some changes in its regulations including to its schedule of rates if it is to avoid the financial crises it experienced in 2004 and 2005 that threatened to end Micare. Administrator, Mr. Nena S. Nena said that in those years MiCare had a deficit position of approximately \$1.2 million.

"2010 was MiCare's best year," he said. "That year there was actually a profit but at the end of 2011 it had a deficit of \$102,000." The MiCare Board of Directors

had predicted that it would end 2011 with a deficit of over \$140,000. Because of that prediction the \$102,000 deficit was nominally good news.

Nena said that the MiCare board is aware and has planned for the fact that the 2012 fiscal year will also show a loss that will need to be covered by reserves. It's the beginning of a trend that if left unchecked could ultimately endanger the financial health of the health insurance program.

MiCare's full schedule of proposed rate changes is advertised in this issue of The Kaselehlie Press and can be found on page seven.

In addition to the increased rates for all MiCare subscribers, MiCare has added two new options for coverage. One of the options is a "Non-Referral Option" which, at \$8.26 is half the bi-weekly premium MiCare will be charging for the Basic Health Option after it increases its rates. Mr. Nena said that MiCare added that option after numerous requests, particularly from students at the College of Micronesia. He

said that it would also be helpful for retirees living on a fixed income. Essentially it has all of the benefits of the Basic Health Option except under that plan MiCare would not pay for off-island medical referrals.

The other new coverage option is a plan for "Regional and International Workers" that carries a bi-weekly premium of \$51.46 per subscriber.

The proposed changes to the regulations include a number of changes to the language of the regulations. The wording changes broaden the definition of "dependents" by removing the requirement that a natural or adopted child must be unmarried, and remove the requirement that a dependent must rely on the subscriber for more than 50 percent of their support. They also clean up the language for the definition of a household member.

Changes include a new "Veterans Referral Benefit" that would allow referral to a veteran's hospital in Hawaii or in Guam, provided that the veteran is enrolled in the MiCare health plan. The beneficiary must also sign "an agreement that he or she will be responsible for the payment of the total cost of medical services, accommodation, land transportation and any other related cost and expenses accrued during such referral."

On medical referral transportation costs, MiCare is proposing to change its regulations to require a small co-pay of 5 percent of the cost of transportation for the person receiving medical care, including airfare to and from the off-island location for medical care and ambulance to and from the airport and to the health care facility. MiCare would cover the remaining 95 percent of those costs. Mr. Nena said this change is necessary due to the rising cost of transportation.

The proposed regulations also add a first "well baby" check-up to accompany the post-natal care check-up of a new mother.

The proposed changes reduce the number of routine physical examinations for which MiCare will pay from two to one per year. It will not pay for physical examinations for school or work purposes.

When asked how MiCare would know if a physical examination was for school or work purposes, Mr. Nena said that the auditors would "pick it up" because of the differences between a general physical exam and an exam for a health card.

Mr. Nena said that the physical exam benefit is not used as often as it should be. "We want to encourage people to go for regular exams. Some people don't believe in physical exams until they get sick," he pointed out, "but we want the exams to be preventive."

The annual deductible for those who have purchased additional prescription drug coverage under the Chronic Refill Option will increase from \$100 to \$200.

MiCare will also allow for coverage for two dimensional x-rays for dental purposes except for orthodontic assessment and something called "Temporomandibular Joint Abnormality."

Without knowing more, the three proposed changes regarding hemodialysis, organ transplantation, and coverage for cancer treatment look more ominous than they are.

The proposed changes merely clean up the language and don't represent a substantial change from MiCare's current regulations.

On cancer treatment, the proposed regulation changes disallow treatment for cancer determined to be at stage four at the time of diagnosis. It does not mean that MiCare will not pay for cancer treatments for patients whose cancer progresses to stage four AFTER diagnosis of existing cancer. The regulation change merely adds the words "at time of diagnosis."

Coverage for organ transplantation has long been disallowed. The proposed regulation changes add wording that also disallows coverage for related services after an organ transplant is performed.

Mr. Nena said that MiCare has never covered chronic hemodialysis treatments for renal failure. It has covered and continues to cover hemodialysis treatment in the case of an illness that causes kidneys to fail temporarily. In those cases hemodialysis is required to cleanse the patient's blood stream of waste products while the illness is being treated. The proposed regulations merely make the distinction between chronic and acute treatment and explicitly disallows coverage for chronic hemodialysis treatments while allowing for treatment for acute treatments.

Mr. Nena said that the process for changing MiCare regulations is a multi-step process.

First the Board meets and puts together a list of proposed amendments to the regulations. The proposed amendments are then sent to the FSM Attorney General's office which reviews the changes for legal sufficiency and generates a promulgation document. The document is then submitted to the President who either approves the promulgation document or does not. In the case of the current proposed changes, Vice President Alik Alik signed on behalf of President Mori.

The Presidential signature does not end the process. By law, the proposed changes must be advertised for solicitation of public comment for 30 days. Mr. Nena said that the MiCare Board decided to give the public more time for comment. It has already begun advertising the proposed changes and will continue to do so through the end of August.

Mr. Nena said that the Board would consider the relative merits of each comment that is presented to MiCare in writing before new regulations are put in place on October 1, 2012.

The Kaselehlie Press

Your Newspaper for Today and Tomorrow

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**Bill Jaynes**  
 Managing Editor

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# First Pohnpei Cup Regatta



By Dana Lee Ling

July 7, 2012

**Pohnpei, FSM**—On Saturday July 7, 2012, the Pohnpei Sailing Club held opening ceremonies for the first Pohnpei Cup Regatta. The opening ceremony included welcoming remarks from Club Chairman Andrew Lucky and the Regatta Chair Dr. Kiyoshi Umezu. Race Director Kazuo Ishikawa briefed the skippers on the race course and rules. The skippers took an oath of good sportsmanship and a promise to abide by the rules of the regatta. The six heats each featured four Topper sailing dinghies. The day's heats were the first day of heats, with a second day of heats scheduled for the 21st of July. Scores from the heats will be combined to determine

which skippers will advance to the semi-final races.

Pohnpei Sailing Club focuses on connecting youth with sailing and the ocean. The skippers who are racing are primarily young boys and girls from the local community. The Club provides the opportunity for the local youth to participate in an activity to which they would not otherwise have access. As skippers the young girls and boys also gain self-esteem and confidence. The more experienced youth act as student instructors for newer club members. As instructors, these young people gain a unique opportunity in a leadership role with a responsibility of guiding and teaching others.

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## Using USPS for FSM commercial exports not allowed USPS is heavily subsidized; prohibition has been in place for years

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

July 14, 2012

**Pohnpei, FSM**—FSM exporters can ship product to the United States any legal way they want, but the United States Postal Service (USPS) is not a legal way to export commercial merchandise from the FSM.

It's not a new rule. It's been in place since the Compact was amended.

Specifically Article VI paragraph five says, "The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia shall undertake to protect the postal services provided by the Government of the United States from exploitation for the monetary gain of private or government organizations or of individuals or of commercial enterprises, including the posting of bulk mail, books, catalogues, goods or materials."

Some people think of the definition of the word "exploitation" in its negative connotation, as in "the exploitation of children, or the exploitation of migrant workers." However, the Webster's II Dictionary says that the first definition of the word is "to use to best advantage." With this as the definition, paragraph five is saying that commercial shippers cannot use USPS for their commercial

shipping needs and since it is the first definition of the word that is the one that is meant.

"The USPS pays all transportation costs associated with mail to, from and within the FAS (Freely Associated States)," wrote Leo Tudela of the USPS in Hawaii. "In addition, all monies from the sale of stamps are retain(ed) by the FSM Government."

Essentially, the services of the USPS are just one example of U.S. programs provided above and beyond Compact sector grants. Others in the alphabet soup of extra U.S. programs include the NOAA Weather Station, CDC, EPA, SBA, USDA RD, USDA NRCS, FAA, TSA, the Coast Guard SAR, US Peace Corps, TRIO programs, and others.

According to the Federal Register, dated October 31, 2007, the initial intention contained in the Compact as Amended was to discontinue the "domestic" mail status of the USPS and to phase in the implementation of international mail status, a significantly more expensive service for mailers. On September 15, 2005 the Postal Service published a notice in the Federal Register proposing use of the phased international rate schedules for the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the FSM.

After considering all of the comments on its proposal to use international postal rates, fees, and mail classifications, on November 23, 2005, USPS posted a final rule implementing the use of international published prices and mailing standards, the Federal Register says.

However, the application of international rates to the FAS had "observable effects on the economy and business correspondence of the RMI and the FSM." USPS considered a number of business solutions to lessen that impact, but none were believed to provide optimal service to the FSM and RMI.

The October 31, 2007 notice in the Federal Register was the final ruling returning the FSM and the RMI to "mail treated as domestic" status. "This decision was a result of high-level discussions with the RMI and the FSM and consultation with the U.S. Department of State," the Federal Register said.

Commercial exporters are expected to pay the actual cost for shipping their merchandise from the FSM. The subsidized USPS rate is not available to them. That actual USPS cost of that subsidy is quite high.

Currently FSM and USPS are in sensitive negotiations regarding FSM reimbursement to USPS for the cost of excessive increases in exported freight. The amount of money being discussed is substantial.

Using as a case study, a 30 pound box (dimensions 18" x 14" x 14") containing handicrafts, we called various shipping services in the FSM to find out what such a box would cost to ship to Hawaii. The USPS subsidized rate for that kind of box would be \$23.60. Shipping that same box through commercial services located in Pohnpei as Pohnpei exporters are required to do, the price for the same box ranged from \$216.50 to \$248.20.

The UPS agent in Pohnpei is only an authorized agent for receipt of UPS packages. They do not ship on behalf of UPS so UPS is not an export option for exporters in Pohnpei.

United Cargo said that their rate for shipping packages to Hawaii is \$4.99 per kilo for shipments less than 100 kilos. A kilo is 2.2 pounds. Our test box is 13.64 kilos; a total of \$68.06. However, in order to ship on United Airlines a shipper must have an account. In order to have an account a shipper must qualify as a "known shipper," a Transportation Safety Administration standard. It is rare that TSA opens the application process. "Sometimes people get really lucky and can get in during open season," said one United

## LEGAL NOTICE

Anthony Mix, doing business as Special Service Guards filed an application for bankruptcy with the FSM Supreme Court on June 4, 2012.

Any person or entity having a claim against Anthony Mix or Special Service Guards should file that claim with the FSM Supreme Court before December 3, 2012.

**Claim forms are available at any FSM Supreme Court.**

employee, "but it's really hard and it hasn't been open for a while."

One U.S. official said that "really smart" FSM exporters would find a representative in the U.S. to market their products and then ship out a container load so that they can realize economies of scale.

A twenty foot container is approximately 1000 cubic feet. Our test box was just over 2 cubic feet, so a twenty foot container could carry nearly 500 of them. But we couldn't get a price quotation to ship a twenty foot container from the FSM to Hawaii since our query was merely hypothetical. We were told that the price changes constantly and that the only way we could get a quotation was to send an email and ask for a bid. The shipper we called would not give us even an approximate figure.

The representative of that shipping agent said that the containers that leave Pohnpei for Hawaii are usually filled with personal household goods belonging to people who are relocating from Pohnpei to the U.S.

A letter pinned up in FSM Post Offices several months ago says, "This is to notify all our valued customers that effective immediately, NO MAIL that contains merchandise, materials, etc., for resale will be accepted..."

It then quotes paragraph five of the Amended Compact and continues.

"In order to effectuate these provisions, the FSM Postal Service reserves the right to require full disclosure of the contents of articles to be mailed as well as spot inspections of the contents of package prior to mailing.

"Violation of these prohibitions may be treated by FSM Postal Service Authorities in accordance with the Postal Crime Act and referral for prosecution," the letter concludes.

### Pohnpei Catholic School July 6, 2012 VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### for Classroom Teacher

#### Job Description:

Teaching of all academic subjects typical to an elementary school curriculum, maintaining grades, attendance, and other appropriate records of all students in the class assigned. Conducting extracurricular activities as assigned by the Principal, and participating in all school functions including those not conducted during regular working hours.

#### Qualifications:

Bachelor's Degree from an accredited College or University with courses in elementary education. Must have at least 2 years of successful teaching.

#### Salary:

\$6240-\$6760 per annum

#### Application Instructions:

Applications must be picked up and returned by August 6, 2012 to:

Pohnpei Catholic School Office  
Attention: Principal Staylor Elidok

### Pohnpei Catholic School July 06, 2012 VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### for School Music Teacher

**Job Description:** Teach music to all grade levels (K-5 through 8th grade). Assist the religion teachers in all school Mass activities and other school musical activities. Participate in all school functions including those not conducted during regular working hours.

**Qualifications:** Must be High School graduate. At least some college experience preferred. Must be Talented and Love playing musical instruments such as guitars and keyboards. Knowledge of playing trumpet, trombone or other instruments is a plus. Must be able to read and understand musical notes and know basic music theory. Must have at least some experience working with children from ages 5 to 13.

**Salary:** Varies based on qualifications and experience

#### Application Instructions:

Applications can be picked up and returned to:

Pohnpei Catholic School Office  
Attention: Principal Staylor Elidok

*Position open until filled*

# Sekere Community Youth Association set to restore community reputation

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

July 7, 2012

**Sekere, Pohnpei**—“Sekerehki”, means “to announce”. It’s the honorific form of the word “sekere”, which means “maybe” or “perhaps”. There was no “maybe” this morning at the inaugural ceremony of the Sekere Community Youth Association (SCYA). The brand new community organization has announced with certainty their determination to take back the Sekere community’s reputation starting with the young people.

“Everyone thinks of Sekere as a place where people drink around and party on the side of the road but we want to change that image,” said Nixon Ludwig, Vice President of the new group. “We want Sekere to be a place where people can feel safe.”

He said that a high percentage of the crimes in Sekere are committed by young people with nothing to do. “Most of the crimes are small; not like in the U.S.,” he said

“but our culture is important and crime isn’t a part of that.”

All of the churches have their own youth groups but there was nothing that was community wide. “That didn’t make sense,” Ludwig said. “We’re all relatives here. We all know each other and we should all work together.” He said that all of the churches in the community have endorsed the SCYA. “We’re all trying to work together even the Pohnpei Department of Public Safety.”

The mission of SCYA is “promoting peace, beautification, and cultural activities.”

SCYA plans to sponsor sports events. Those events are already in full swing in Sekere, with basketball and volleyball games that take place on the same concrete slab with a faded yin and yang painted at center court where the opening ceremony took place at Sekere Elementary School. They have also talked about sponsoring a series of block parties in the community involving ALL members of the community including the writer of this article.

“We’re looking for a place where we can have a youth center,” Ludwig said. SCYA, which is a fully chartered non-profit organization with bylaws has already made some exploratory queries regarding a location they hope to use. For now, the meetings of the board are being held at the Sekere Elementary School.

“The whole community is excited about this new community thing,” Ludwig said.

Mitaro Simina served as the Master of Ceremonies for the inaugural ceremony which carried the theme “Yesterday’s Dream, Today’s Reality”. Pastor Peterson Else gave the invocation and Lepen Sekere, Rensper Liwy gave the welcoming remarks. Sokehs Chief Magistrate, Michael Lieman was the keynote speaker. SCYA President, Joas Syne gave the inaugural speech. The gathered crowd was treated to special musical performances by some of the members of the SCYA and by the United Pentecostal Church. Senior Pastor, Istaro Simina.

SCYA provided a list of its board members and others whose assistance they wanted to acknowledge. Senator Rensper Liwy is the Advisor to the Board. Board members are: Wehns Billen, Loriano Martin, David Syne, Midaro Simina, and Hinden Alexander. Executive officers are: President- Joas Syne, Vice President- Nixon Ludwig, Secretary Anthony K. Eliam, and Treasurer Robert George. Anderson Agrippa will serve as Chair of the Social Affairs sub-committee. Jesse Martin will be the vice chair for the committee. Alvin Martin will serve as the chair of the Policy subcommittee. His vice chair will be Simina Simina.



Sokehs Magistrate Michael Lieman addresses the crowd at the inaugural ceremony in Sekere

Special thanks goes to the Office of the Chief Magistrate (Sokehs Municipal Gov’t), Sekere Inclusive Elementary School, Sekere Protestant Church, Apostolic Church, Latter Day Saints (Sekere), United Pentecostal Church, Sekere Local Stores, Acting Chief of Fish And Wildlife - Tony Pernet, Senator Magdalena Walter, and Francisco Simram

SCYA also wants to acknowledge the guests and participants at the inaugural ceremony including the Sokehs Chief Magistrate, Department Of Public Safety, Pohnpei State Senators (Sokehs Delegation), Sokehs Councilmen (Section 3), Sokehs Speaker of the Council, COM-FSM Media, Sekere Churches, Friends and Families and, Kolonia Town Mayor Cassiano Shoniber.

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**Senior Program Manager, AusAID**



Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the position of Senior Program Manager for AusAID’s Development Cooperation program, based at the Australian Embassy in Pohnpei.

The Senior Program Manager is responsible for AusAID’s Development Assistance Program in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau. He/she will be required to manage and implement development assistance programs including the Pacific Partnership for Development, the Pacific Technical Assistance Mechanism and the AusAID scholarship programs.

The person that we are seeking will have a solid experience in project management and implementation, with strong organisational and administrative skills. He/she will use initiative and be able to work with minimal supervision. High-quality communication and writing skills and sound computer skills are required. Relevant tertiary qualifications and experience in working in a multicultural environment will be highly regarded.

**Salary:**  
The salary offered to the successful applicant will be in accordance with the AusAID Pohnpei Salary Scale, commensurate with experience and qualifications and within the range of USD30,000 - USD45,000.

**Application process:**  
The Selection Criteria and Duty Statement may be obtained by contacting Erin Magee at erin.magee@ausaid.gov.au

Once complete, please email your application addressing the Selection Criteria, together with your resume/CV to erin.magee@ausaid.gov.au.

Please note earliest start date for the position is 19 November 2012.

Closing date for applications is close of business on 27 July 2012.

## ...Hospital Project

Continued from front page

Pohnpei spent money provided by a Compact infrastructure sector grant to conduct preliminary engineering of public land just south of the hospital it designated for the construction of a Pohnpei Primary Health Care facility. If built the facility will house an extension of the Pohnpei State Hospital dedicated to preventative, rather than the curative medicine the hospital already practices.

Without being specific FSM officials would say only that the project will cost "a few" million dollars.

Meanwhile Robert Hadley built the "4J" store and sakau market on the public land designated for the project and legal battles ensued. The health care project has been stalled since then and because Pohnpei has been unable to get the land problem resolved DOI wants its money back.

Trial Counselor Vince Kallop who represents Mr. Hadley said today that in the 1980's his client applied for permission to homestead on the land in question but never received an answer from the Board of Trustees after repeated attempts. He claims that in 2003 Hadley built a home on the land and later built the business.

Kallop continues to argue that the Nanmwahrki of Nett gave Hadley the land.

The AG's office said that even if that were the case the transaction was never made legal.

Kallop said that in 2006, a geographic survey was conducted on the land around the house but that no one told his client what was going on. "There was no due process," Kallop claims.

Kallop argued in court that in July of 2010 the Office of the Pohnpei State Attorney General signed off on Mr. Hadley's application to cut the pavement so that he could get utilities services to the property. Kallop said that the application requires a plat drawing of the property; a cadastral map, and that the AG's office should have known when it signed the application that it was signing off to allow utilities to be installed on land that belonged to Pohnpei State if that was what they believed. He argues that the AG's signature on the application was a tacit admission that Hadley had a right to be on the property.

Kallop said that instead, two months after the AG's office signed the application for his client to cut the pavement the State filed a suit to evict him from the land on which he'd built his business.

The end result of the court proceeding on the eviction was that the State Supreme Court Justice Nickontro Johnny ruled in favor of Pohnpei State, ruling that the

State had the right to evict Mr. Hadley from the property.

Hadley had lost but his counselor battled on and filed a notice of appeal. While waiting for the appeal brief to be filed, the court issued a stay on the eviction order. Because of the stay, Pohnpei State could not proceed with its plan to build the Primary Health Care facility.

The Clerk of the court provided notice of the certification of the record on October 3, 2011. From that day, Kallop had 60 days to file his brief in support of his appeal. But he didn't make that deadline. Early December 2011 passed and Hadley's counselor did not file an appeal brief.

As soon as the deadline passed, Assistant Attorney General Ira Shiflett filed a motion to deny the appeal and to lift the stay that prevented Pohnpei State from evicting Mr. Hadley from the property so that the State could proceed with the Primary Health Care project.

Shiflett filed six other motions requesting the court to lift the stay, one motion each month; each more tersely worded than the one before.

In June of 2012, six months after the deadline had passed, Kallop filed the appeal brief on behalf of his client.

Mr. Kallop claimed that the Attorney General's office had filed all of his

motions for dismissal of the appeal in the wrong court saying they should have been filed in the court of appeals. But Pohnpei State doesn't have a court of appeals. If appeals are granted they are heard by a panel of judges.

The appeal brief was short and essentially presented the same arguments that Kallop presented in the original court hearing.

Associate Justice Nickontro Johnny has scheduled a hearing in his chambers on July 25 to consider the matter of whether or not the appeal brief filed that was filed six months after the deadline should be accepted or dismissed.

Shiflett is unwilling to make any prediction about what the outcome of that hearing could be. "For all I know this whole thing could still be several months from resolution," he said, and shrugged his shoulders.

Meanwhile, in June, the Pohnpei State Attorney General's office filed an additional claim against Mr. Hadley requesting the court to award Pohnpei State a reimbursement of the money it will lose if they are unable to proceed with the Primary Medical Care facility.

Kallop filed a motion to dismiss the new claim. The court denied that motion and scheduled a preliminary hearing on that separate matter for the morning of July 18, 2012.



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### Availability

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## Movick selected to head the Forum Fisheries Agency

*Radio New Zealand International*

**July 10, 2012**

**Honiara, Solomon Islands**—The Solomon Islands-based Forum Fisheries Agency has a new head, James Movick from the Federated States of Micronesia.

Mr Movick, who had been the deputy director for the past several years, replaces Su'a N.F. Tanielu.

The selection of Mr Movick gives the directorship to a citizen of one of the eight members of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement bloc, which since establishing its first secretariat in Majuro in 2010 has driven major changes in the tuna fishing industry for the region.

Controversy had plagued the Forum Fisheries Agency selection process after the Marshall Islands and other countries in May challenged the short-listing of five of the 10 candidates.

Those challenges led to all 10 candidates being interviewed for the FFA's top job.

The Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority Director, Glen Joseph, congratulated Mr Movick who had his appointment confirmed earlier this month during FFA meetings in Tonga.

Mr Joseph also added he was satisfied the challenge had allowed the best candidates to be considered in the final selection round.

## “Vital” Fishing Tournament

*Pohnpei Fishing Club*

The Vital Fishing Tournament was held on June 23, 2012, and we had a great turnout. 16 boats participated on a beautiful day where a lot of fish were caught.

It was a great day for fishing on that Saturday. The beauty of the day was a 367.5 pound marlin caught by Glenn Hurry on “Two Dragons”. The winners and the prizes are listed below. Vital, (formerly known as Petrocorp), donated gasoline as prizes, and everyone walked away a winner.

Big Fish:

1. Glenn Hurry - Marlin  
367.5 pounds 66 gallons
2. Alex Tretnoff - Yellow Fin  
95.0 pounds 50 gallons
3. Mary Tretnoff - Sailfish  
75.5 pounds 40 gallons

Biggest fish in select categories:

- |                |            |             |            |
|----------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Wahoo          | Ty Hubbard | 22.0 pounds | 25 gallons |
| Skip Jack      | Dean Moore | 12.5 pounds | 25 gallons |
| Giant Trevally | Kita       | 36.0 pounds | 25 gallons |

Lady Angler

Mary Tretnoff - Yellow Fin Tuna - 40 pounds - 26 gallons

Junior Angler

Maggie Finnen - Rainbow Runnerr - 9 pounds - 20 gallons

That's a lot of gas!

We even had another marlin and sailfish that did not make the prize winning cut.

A great big thanks to Vital for their support. Vital also donated 6 gallons of gas to every boat that registered, so everyone won who participated.

The Fishing Club also supports the Pohnpei Public Library, with the Fishing Club sponsoring the barbecue, but the proceeds going to the Pohnpei Public Library. The Pohnpei Cinemas helped out with this fundraiser by donating movie tickets. Everyone had a good time at the weigh in and saw lots of fish to be weighed.

A great big thanks goes out to all those who helped out. Our next tournament is July 28, 2012, sponsored by Caroline Fisheries Corporation, Western Union and Ace Hardware.

See you there.



*Glenn Hurry caresses his prize winning marlin*

## CAUTIONARY NOTICE

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## MiCare Premium Changes To Become Effective October 1, 2012

Type of Option	Current	New	Bi-Weekly Increase
<b>A Basic Health Option</b>			
Eligible Employee	14.30	16.52	2.22
Dependent Spouse	14.30	16.52	2.22
Dependent Minor Children (First Four Children)	14.30	16.52	2.22
Additional Dependent Minor (Each)	3.58	4.13	0.55
Other Dependents	14.30	16.52	2.22
<b>B Supplemental for Residents</b>			
Eligible Employee	32.45	37.48	5.03
Dependent Spouse	32.45	37.48	5.03
Dependent Minor Children (First Four Children)	32.45	37.48	5.03
Additional Dependent Minor (Each)	8.12	9.38	1.26
Other Dependents	32.45	37.48	5.03
<b>C Supplemental Non-Residents</b>			
Eligible Employee	44.55	51.46	6.91
Dependent Spouse	44.55	51.46	6.91
Dependent Minor Children (First 4 Children)	44.55	51.46	6.91
Additional Dependent Minor (Each)	44.55	51.46	6.91
Other Dependents	44.55	51.46	6.91
<b>D Non-Referral Option (New)*</b>			
Eligible Employee	0	8.26	N/A
Dependent Spouse	0	8.26	N/A
Dependent Minor Children (First Four Children)	0	8.26	N/A
Additional Dependent Minor (Each)	0	N/A	N/A
Other Dependents	0	N/A	N/A
<b>E Regional and International Resident Workers (New)**</b>			
Eligible Employee	0	51.46	N/A
Dependent Spouse	0	51.46	N/A
Dependent Minor Children (First 4 Children)	0	51.46	N/A
Additional Dependent Minor (Each)	0	51.46	N/A
Other Dependents	0	51.46	N/A

## Team FSM to compete in London 2012 Olympic Games

### Keitani Graham invited to compete in wrestling with a tripartite invitation

By Jim Tobin

The Federated States of Micronesia will be sending six athletes to this year's Olympic Games competing in Weightlifting, Swimming, Athletics (track and field) and just announced in Wrestling. The 2012 Olympic Games are from July 27 to August 12, 2012 in London, England. The FSM National Olympic Committee and FSM Wrestling Association were notified by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and International Wrestling Association (FILA) that Keitani Graham, FSM male Greco-Roman Wrestler from Chuuk State received a late Tripartite Commission invitation to compete in the London 2012 Olympic Games. This is outstanding news for the development of Wrestling in the FSM and is a great honor for Graham. He has now returned to Hawaii to train and will arrive to London on July 24. His coach is Larry Uwelar from Yap State.

Over 10,000 athletes from 205 countries will participate in 28 sports in the London 2012 Olympic Games. The FSM sports delegation will include 6 athletes (Manuel Minginfel, Debra Daniel, Kerson Hadley, John Howard, Mihter Wendolin and Graham), 6 coaches (Ron Etschreit, Sweeter Daniel, Rendy Germinaro, George Steven, Lestly Ashby and Uwelar), 1 Chef de Mission (Ted Rutun), 1 doctor (Dr. Felix Yomai), 1 Press Attaché (Marcellus Akapito), 1 and FSM National Olympic Committee (FSMNOC) President and Secretary General (Berney Martin and Jim Tobin).

The FSM athletes will be competing on the following dates and times (London time): Manuel MINGINFEL – male – Weightlifting - 62kg men's – 2.30pm 30 July; Kerson HADLEY – male – Swimming - 50m free style prelim – 10.00am 02 August; Debra DANIEL – female – Swimming - 50m free style preliminary – 10.00am 03 August; Mihter WENDOLIN – female - Athletics - 100m women's preliminary – 10.45am 03 Aug; John HOWARD – male – Athletics - 100m men's preliminary – 10.00am 04 August; and Keitani GRAHAM – male – Greco-Roman Wrestling - 84kg division qualifications – 1.00pm 06 August.

For the first time ever, the FSM National Olympic Committee has sent the 2 FSM swimmers (Daniel and Hadley) and 2 FSM runners (Wendolin and Howard) and one coach (Germinaro) to a pre-Olympic Games training camp. The FSM group arrived to Liverpool, England on June 11 and will remain at the camp for 6 weeks prior to moving into the Olympic Games Village in London on July 23. The FSM swimmers and runners will be trained by world-class English coaches from the NW England region. This should greatly improve their results in the 50-meter free style and 100-meter dash at the London 2012 Olympic Games. The FSM National Olympic Committee applied and received a 25,000 pound pre-games training camp grant from the London Olympic Games Organizing Committee (LOCOG) to fund the majority of the costs of the FSM training camp. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) funded the airfare costs.

Minginfel has been training full-time since February at the Oceania Weightlifting Institute in New Caledonia. Last week, he qualified on his own merit for the London 2012 Olympic Games by winning the men's 62kg category at the 2012 Oceania Weightlifting Championships in Samoa. He was the only lifter at the Oceania Weightlifting Championships who qualified on his own merit and was awarded the Best Overall Lifter trophy. Minginfel will be traveling with Paul Coffa, his institute coach and mentor, along with other Pacific island lifters from New Caledonia to London on July 24.

The FSMNOC also supported Keitani Graham, FSM male wrestler from Chuuk State, in his bid to qualify for the Olympic Games in Wrestling. For over one year, Graham trained full time in Honolulu with some of the best USA wrestlers. He competed in numerous continental and world Olympic wrestling qualifiers in Australia, Morocco, China and Finland but fell short. Amazingly, on June 23, Graham received a last minute Tripartite Commission invitation to compete in the Olympic Games. For the past three Olympic Games (Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Athens 2004 Olympic Games and Beijing 2008 Olympic Games) the Federated States of Micronesia had sent only 5 athletes to compete in the Olympic Games in Weightlifting, Swimming and Athletics. The London 2012 Olympic Games will be the first time the FSM has sent 6 athletes, and the first Olympic Games the FSM has competed in Wrestling. Daniel and Minginfel all received 2-year \$28,000 London Olympic Games Athlete scholarships, more than another National Olympic Committee received in the region.

The FSMNOC, with funding support from the IOC, is working with FSM Telecommunications Corporation to live television broadcast the London Olympic Games on Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae, from a feed from SkyTV of New Zealand.

## ATHLETE PROFILE

### Keitani GRAHAM

DOB – 01/02/1980

Male Greco-Roman Wrestler – 84kg  
Chuuk, (FSM)



Graham received a London Olympic Games Athlete Training Scholarship from 2010-2012. On June 23 the FSM National Olympic Committee was notified by the Tripartite Commission that Graham received an invitation to participate in the London 2012 Olympic Games in the sport of Wrestling and will compete in the 84kg men's Greco-Roman Wrestling competition at 1.00pm, August 6 (London time).

#### COMPETITIONS, DATES, LOCATIONS AND RESULTS (all in 74KG weight division)

##### 2008

Oceania Wrestling Championships  
Canberra, Australia, 8-10 February  
Greco-Roman - Silver Medal and Free Style – Silver Medal

1st Beijing Olympic Qualifying Tournament  
Rome Italy, May 9-11

2nd Beijing Olympic Qualifying Tournament  
Novi Sad, Serbia, May 23-25

Applied for Tripartite Commission invitation place and was listed #1 but all places were given to China

##### 2009

Graham underwent surgery to replace his ACL in one knee. Upon the advice of his surgeon, he spent 2009 doing physical therapy and rehabilitating his knee.

##### 2010

Oceania Continental Championships:  
Apia, Samoa, April 8-10  
Greco-Roman - Silver Medal and Free Style – Silver Medal

Micronesian Games: FS-Gold, GR-Gold  
Republic of Palau, August 3-5  
Greco-Roman – Gold Medal and Free Style – Gold Medal Men 74kg

FILA World Championships  
Moscow, Russia - September 6-12  
World ranking – 34th Place – 74kg men Greco-Roman

##### 2011

Oceania Continental Championships:  
Samoa, February 23-25  
Free Style – Gold medal

FILA World Championships  
Istanbul, Turkey  
World ranking – 14th Place – 74kg men Greco-Roman

2012  
Oceania Continental Championships  
Sydney, Australia, January 2012  
Greco-Roman Wrestling - 74kg – Silver Medal

World Olympic Wrestling Qualifiers Attended  
Olympic wrestling qualifiers in Australia, Morocco, Finland and China but failed to qualify



Wrestler Keitani Graham at 2011 FILA world championships

# ATHLETE



## Manuel MINGINFEL

DOB – 28 September 1979  
Male Weightlifter (62kg)  
Yap, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

Minginfel received a London Olympic Games Athlete Training Scholarship in 2010-2012. Recently, at the 2012 Oceania Weightlifting Championships in Samoa, he qualified for the London 2012 Olympic Games on his own merit in the 62kg Men's weight category, and therefore he will be competing in London 2012 Olympic Games for the FSM in his fourth Olympic Games.



His performance in Samoa was brilliant according to competition manager and coach Paul Coffa. His total of 280kg placed him as the BEST WEIGHTLIFTER of the entire tournament. To qualify on your own merit, you need to be in the top 15 in the world. He was the only Oceania lifter who qualified on his own merit at the 2012 Oceania Weightlifting Championships.

In 2011, he competed in the 2011 IWF Weightlifting Championship in Paris and finished 14th overall in the men's 62kg division, with a snatch 122 kg, clean & jerk 156 kg and total of 278kg. Also he competed in the 2011 Pacific Games and won 3 gold medals in the men's 62kg division (snatch - 115kg, clean & jerk 150kg and total 265kg. For most of 2011, Minginfel trained at the Oceania Weightlifting Institute in New Caledonia. Minginfel won 3 Gold medals at the 2010 Micronesia Games in August 7 in Palau in the men's 62kg weight category with a total lift of 270kg. He has been the dominate male weightlifter in the Pacific region for over 10 years winning 18 Gold Medals in the South Pacific Games and South Pacific and Pacific Mini-Games. He has won 3 Gold Medals in each of the past 3 South Pacific Games in Guam (1999), Fiji (2003) and Samoa (2008). He has also won 3 Gold Medals in the past two South Pacific and Pacific Mini Games in Palau (2005) and Cook Islands (2009).

At the Samoa 2007 South Pacific Games, as a 56Kg category lifter, he smashed the Oceania record by almost 30Kg. The previous total record was only 242Kg. According to Paul Coffa, Oceania Weightlifting - "If you break an Oceania weightlifting record by 2 kilos that is a lot but to take it to 276kg it was something out of this world". At that time he was only 15Kg away from the world total record.

In 2006, Minginfel won a Silver Medal at the IWF World Weightlifting Championships in the 62Kg men's division in clean and jerk. He is a 3-time Olympian competing in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Athens 2004 Olympic Games and Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. He is still actively lifting will compete in the London 2012 Olympic Games. In 2009, he was elected the FSM Weightlifting Federation Secretary General and is the current head coach of the FSM Weightlifting team.

### Minginfel Results from South Pacific Mini Games, South Pacific Games, and Pacific Mini Games

1997	South Pacific Mini-Games	American Samoa	3 Silver medals	56Kg
1999	South Pacific Games	Guam	3 Gold medals	56Kg
2001	South Pacific Mini-Games	Norfolk Island	No weightlifting	
2003	South Pacific Games	Fiji	3 Gold medals	56Kg
(Best Overall Lifter Award)				
2005	South Pacific Mini Games	Palau	3 Gold medals	62Kg
2007	South Pacific Games	Samoa	3 Gold medals	56Kg
2009	Pacific Mini Games	Cook Islands	3 Gold medals	62Kg
2011	Pacific Games	New Caledonia	3 Gold medals	62Kg

### Oceania and South Pacific Senior Weightlifting Records (Men)

<u>56Kg Category</u>		<u>Kg</u>		
Snatch	124	Manuel Minginfel FSM	27.08.07	Apia- Samoa
Clean & Jerk	152	Manuel Minginfel FSM	27.08.07.	Apia- Samoa
Total	276	Manuel Minginfel FSM	27.08.07	Apia- Samoa
<u>62Kg Category</u>		<u>Kg</u>		
Snatch	129	Manuel Minginfel FSM	09.12.06	Apia-Samoa

## Debra DANIEL

DOB – 04 March 1991  
Female Swimmer (50m Free Style)  
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

Selected as Universality Swimming athlete for London 2012 Olympic Games. She has been training at Edge Hill University in Liverpool, England under a LOCOG pre-games training grant since June 3 and will swim 50m Free Style in the London 2012 Olympic Games at 10.00am, August 3 (London time).



## Kerson HADLEY

DOB – 22 May 1989  
Male Swimming Athlete (50m Free Style)  
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

Selected as Universality Swimming athlete for London 2012 Olympic Games. He has been training at Edge Hill University in Liverpool, England under a LOCOG pre-games training grant since June 3 and will swim 50m Free Style in the London 2012 Olympic Games at 10.00am, August 02.



## John HOWARD

DOB - 21 July 1981  
Male Athletics Athlete (100m)  
Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

Selected as Universality Athletics (Track and Field) athlete for London 2012 Olympic Games. He has been training at Edge Hill University in Liverpool, England under a LOCOG pre-games training grant since June 3 and will swim 100m Dash in Athletics at the London 2012 Olympic Games at 10am, August 4 (London time).



## Mihter WENDOLIN

DOB – 03 February 1987  
Female Athletics Athlete (100m)  
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

Selected as Universality Athletics (Track and Field) athlete for London 2012 Olympic Games. She has been training at Edge Hill University in Liverpool, England under a LOCOG pre-games training grant since June 3 and will swim 100m Dash in Athletics at the London 2012 Olympic Games at 10.45am, August 3 (London time).



## ROTC Cadets wrap up first ever CULP visit to the FSM

By *Bill Jaynes*  
*The Kaselehlie Press*

July 12, 2012

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Upward Bound students are half way through summer school at Pohnpei Island Central School. The Upward Bound program has held summer school before but the 64 students from all over the island including two students from the Marshall Islands; the cream of the crop of their schools, according to test scores and school grades, are the first ever in the FSM to have been taught by ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Cadets participating in the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP) program.

U.S. Ambassador Peter Prahar beamed this morning as he watched the Micronesian students in their classroom settings participating and studying difficult subjects diligently and effectively.

The students are living on the PICS campus in the dorms and at least while the ROTC Cadets have been part of the summer school a typical day begins at 6:00 a.m. with Physical Training followed by breakfast and a full day of rigorous instruction and study. Classroom instruction includes English language courses including reading for comprehension and vocabulary building, Mathematics, and science. But not just any Math or science courses; students were given training in second level calculus, physics, and chemistry, scary subject even for college students.

Two days before the Cadets were scheduled to leave island, Lt. Colonel Michael Feret of Columbus State University in the U.S. State of Georgia, who is also the CULP Program Coordinator for the FSM said that the program had been a win-win situation for the Upward Bound students and for the Cadet teachers.

The Cadet instructors said that they noticed during the first three weeks of the program that student vocabularies had increased and they had seen increased student confidence. The Upward Bound participants have also been exposed to college students from many different schools in the United States; the Cadet teachers.

Lt. Colonel Feret said that the Cadets had opportunity to create the curriculum, develop lesson plans, and to work as a team. Several of the Cadets said that the latter opportunity was surprisingly difficult but rewarding.

One Cadet said that since all of her associates are on an Officer track for the US Armed Forces they all have fairly dominant, leadership oriented personalities. She said that it was an excellent learning experience to really learn how to work as a team, even if it was sometimes difficult and sometimes even frustrating.

Several Cadets agreed with Lt. Colonel Feret's assessment that it was good for the Cadets to see how people in other countries live.

"They couldn't just get on their cell phones and surf the net like they're used to doing," Feret said. It was even good for them to experience power outages. "They're not used to those kinds of things in the U.S.," he said with a grin.

One Cadet said that she had never heard of "cash power."

Lt. Colonel Feret said that all of the experiences will help to prepare the Cadets to be better U.S. Army officers.

1600 ROTC Cadets participated in CULP programs in 83 countries this summer. Though this is the first time that Cadets of the CULP program have visited the FSM, plans are already in progress for another group of Cadets to come to the FSM next summer.

Both for the Cadets and the Upward Bound students, the summer program helps to avoid the "summer slide" that students so often experience. Ambassador Prahar said that after nine months of intense education and study it's easy for a student to "lose the program" during the summer months only to have to come back and start again when they have to rebuild their learning momentum.

Cadet Maychee Zah who attends the University of Georgia said that she discovered that the Micronesian students didn't relate to the English textbooks. The topics they covered had nothing to do with their lives, she said. She was surprised to find out that the Upward Bound students liked poetry so they studied some poetry and wrote their own poems. "Some of them were really good," she said. "It was cool to see a lot of improvement," she said, and her eyes flashed like party lights.

Zah said of her experiences on Pohnpei that she enjoyed all of her trips with the students and with other Cadets. She most enjoyed climbing "chicken shit" rock in Palikir. Her CULP experience made her "a lot more open to new experiences" especially in terms of food. On a fishing trip the Cadets "ate the heart right out of fish, right on the boat," as is traditional for some in Pohnpei. It was something she never thought she'd experience or for that matter, ever considered.

Melissa Fellrath is in her fifth year at Columbus State University where she is studying Special Education, a degree that requires an additional year of education. In Pohnpei she taught Introduction to Literature. She said she was impressed to watch the progress of the students. By the end of her time in Pohnpei the Upward Bound students were speaking more clearly and were not afraid to speak out in class.

"The kids who are here want to be here," she beamed. "That's really exciting and it makes it fun!"

The CULP experience showed her how different her culture is from the culture in Pohnpei and it taught her to be more humble about her life in the U.S.

Her favorite experience was snorkeling in the waters of the Ant atoll lagoon; seeing little "Nemo's," (clown fish). She had never been snorkeling before.

The U.S. Department of Education's Upward Bound is designed to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of post-secondary education.

Cadet teachers were: Zhe Pan - Temple University; Samuel Watts - Minnesota State

University; Andrew Munger - Wake Forest University; Daniel McRoy - Western Kentucky University; Stephen Cherry - Stephen F. Austin University; and Jack Wood - Lewis University in addition to the Cadets named in the content of the article above.

To quote a recent U.S. Embassy press release: "The Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps was formed when President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Defense Act of 1916. Since its inception, Army ROTC has provided leadership and military training at schools and universities across the country and commissioned more than a half million officers. It is the largest commissioning source in the U.S. Armed Forces."

Lt. Colonel Feret said that ROTC CULP Cadets were not in the FSM for recruiting purposes.



*Cadet Melissa Fellrath of Columbus State University*



*Cadet Maychee Zah of the University of Georgia teaches Upward Bound students*

# PetroCorp to reduce fuel prices in FSM

**POHNPEI, FSM** – Following a significant drop in international oil prices, FSM PetroCorp has announced it will reduce wholesale fuel prices in the FSM between 20 to 35 cents per gallon, mirroring price decreases observed across the region.

the year continues to foresee high volatility in prices.

*"We are pleased to pass on these price decreases as they are reflective of our anticipated lower costs of importing fuel. If prices continue to stay at these levels we may be able to pass on further reductions to our customers.*

FSM PetroCorp manages and operates fuel terminals and ancillary fueling services in the aviation, marine and inland market in Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap and Guam and is the largest energy provider in the country. It has a medium-term pricing model that is in alignment with the FSM strategic development plan goal calling for 'stable and reasonable energy prices for homes, business and government'.

*However, I must caution the public, we have seen these trends before, massive decreases, matched with slow, gradual and consistent market recovery," stated the Chief Executive Officer, Jared Morris.*

The price decreases are expected to offer short-term relief on utility tariffs throughout the FSM, however, the longer term outlook for oil prices signal higher prices than currently commanded in the market.

*"As a locally-owned and operated company we are mindful of the impact of fuel prices on local economic development and growth. We cushioned the price increases for as long as we could when prices were rising, and passed on the savings as soon as we could when prices started to fall," stated Vital Board Chairman, William Hawley.*

FSM PetroCorp has recently entered into the field of renewable energy, most notably, it has recently requested expressions of interest to improve the energy efficiency of its operations and to construct solar arrays to partially power the five main terminal facilities it operates. Within eight years it aims to meet the energy requirements needed to distribute petroleum products throughout its terminals from entirely renewable sources.

Global oil prices have traded below \$100 per barrel for approximately a month, down from a high of over \$135 a barrel this year. The short-term outlook for the remainder of

# Chuuk High School wins FSM National Law Day debate for first time in 20 years

*The Kaselehlie Press*

Kosrae High School was represented by Brence Mongkeya and Ronald Moody.

Kosrae, FSM—The Chuuk High School Debating Team of Francezua Kaminaga and Gina Rayphand were the 2012 winners of the FSM National Law Day Debate. Chuuk High's victory was the first time in 20 years that a public school from Chuuk has taken home the trophy and the first time ever an All-Girls team from Chuuk has won the Debate.

The debate was held at the Rose Mackwelung Library and was the highlight of the Law Day Activities which included speeches by both Speaker of the FSM National Congress Isaac Figir and FSM Supreme Court Chief Justice Martin Yinug.

This year's resolution was: "Be it proposed that the Constitution of the FSM be amended to reduce the majority required for Constitutional amendments to be adopted from 3/4 of the votes cast in 3/4 of the states to 2/3 of the votes cast in 3/4 of the States"

The resolution was a result of growing frustration by a segment of voters over the issue of Dual Citizenship. Many people feel the current system of requiring 75% of voters from 3 states to approve an amendment is too high. All the teams raised several interesting points.

Each team debated twice.

- First round Chuuk High defeated Kosrae High
- Second Round Yap defeated Pohnpei SDA
- Third Round Pohnpei SDA defeated Kosrae High
- Fourth Round Chuuk High defeated Yap

1. The original draft of the Constitution required only a majority vote but was later changed to 3/4 to "make it easier to defeat an amendment".

Final scores were as follows:

- Chuuk High 427
- Yap 419
- Pohnpei SDA 418
- Kosrae High 412

2. CNMI, Palau and Marshalls all influenced the writing of the Constitution including the section on amending the Constitution, then those 3 countries voted to reject the entire Constitution. The constitutions for those 3 countries are much easier to amend.

This year's debate was the closest final tally in recent years and the first time that all 4 schools scored over 400 points.

3. Under the current system 92% of the nation's voters could approve an amendment yet the amendment would still fail. For example 100% of voters in Chuuk and Pohnpei could vote yes and combine with 74% of voters in Kosrae and Yap to vote yes. However, since the two smaller states did not reach 75% those few voters could stop the rest of the nation from approving an amendment.

Yap was represented by Kapiolani Gregorio and Axel Junior Befingin. They were coached by Therese Filipin who works at Yap Upward Bound. For the first time Yap was represented by one student from Yap High School and one from Yap SDA.

4. No other country makes it as hard to amend the Constitution as the FSM does.

Pohnpei SDA was represented by Sheila Alverin and Arthy Arthurson

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## Opinion Editorial

FSM citizen responds to US  
Ambassador's economic diatribeBy Marion Henry

At the outset, I want to applaud U. S. Ambassador Prahar's "Opinion Editorial" in the Kaselehlie Press June 25 – July 8, 2012 issue for calling attention to FSM's global ranking in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report. Ambassador Prahar clearly pointed out the shortcomings facing the FSM, using criteria laid out by a world financial system that is currently in trouble. But as a Micronesian, I do resent being compared with Rwanda and Afghanistan, two war-torn countries, which according to the US Ambassador are doing very well in attracting investors better than the FSM. These countries have done well I suppose, as some investors are getting their money's worth in the manufacture of war equipment, missiles, guns, grenades and other implements of mayhem and destruction.

Fortunately, the FSM prohibits that kind of investment.

Obviously, the good Ambassador does not know the FSM people if he believed that chiding or blaming the FSM Leadership for inaction will inspire action. He also blatantly ignored the efforts we have been undertaking to raise FSM's ranking in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report in order to attract investors.

Admittedly, the FSM has had its share of carpetbaggers and other fly-by-night "investors" and this has perhaps sowed seeds of suspicion and mistrust of "foreign investors" which could only be healed by Grandfather Time.

And no, the Ambassador is not a lone voice crying in the wilderness. The FSM Government and Leadership recognize that foreign direct investment would grow the private sector and contribute to economic and social growth. The FSM Leadership is fully aware of the need for foreign investment and has been working on these issues, prior to the arrival of Ambassador Prahar in the FSM.

But before going into the undertakings we've implemented over the years to boost investment in country, let us look at where we came from to understand where we are. It is also important to know the background to scrutinize the issues in a fair manner and in perspective.

As a kid enrolled in primary school on an atoll island, I loved to say and to write the words, "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands", acronym "TTPI" in official documents. I had no idea what the acronym meant, although I rather enjoyed eating USDA rice and drinking USDA powdered milk in school. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; the words sounded good and besides, they were just a few of the English

words I could say at that time without hesitation, ranking right up there with the words "United Nations".

Did the U.S.A. administer the islands, under trust, with a view to promote economic growth and well being?

One only has to review projects undertaken during the TTPI era to note that it was ad hoc at best and definitely not meant to boost sustainable economic growth. As an example, travelers around the FSM will note that the United Airlines pilots really apply the brakes when landing in our airports for obvious reasons. In planning, one would think that a critical economic infrastructure like an airport would consider future growth potentials and should have been designed and constructed accordingly. In one case, a contractor for an airport was allowed to dredge from both ends to fill in the runway, making it cost prohibitive to consider future extension.

A student of the TTPI days would not have to look deep to find several examples of "infrastructure" constructed supposedly to boost economic growth but ending up falling far short of intent (or ending up as intended).

There was of course the opinion that the TTPI should have remained as it was, as found by the Americans when they "liberated" the islands from Japan. I am proud to say that we have gone beyond that mentality and are progressing expediently, thank you very much. In reality, we have come out of the good old days of fishing, farming and warring. Without a doubt, the FSM will continue to grow and develop but always mindful that development must be done in ways that prioritize the interest of the people and at a pace which takes into full consideration, Micronesian cultures, customs and traditions. To do otherwise simply means the disappearance of a rich culture that has sustained the people, making them a proud people, resilient to man-made dictums imposed by foreign rules.

The FSM National and State governments share Ambassador Prahar's view with that enhancing growth and competitiveness of the FSM depends primarily on one key factor, the existence of a friendly business environment; given that the creation of a level playing field is likely to enhance FSM competitiveness, contribute to attract more investors, and boost faster and equitable economic growth. It is in this respect that a number of important reforms have been undertaken and have led over the past years to improve FSM's ranking in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report.

The first round of reforms took place in the 1990s, aimed at improving the laws enacted during the TTPI era. This was followed by a second round of reforms in early 2000 under

a Private Sector Development Program (PSD) initiated with a loan from the Asia Development Bank (ADB).

With respect to land, which is a key factor in any investment decision, as correctly pointed out by Ambassador Prahar, FSM State Governments, with an ADB Technical Assistance grant, undertook between 2003 and 2008, a series of reforms of existing land tenure laws, including the enactment of Chuuk State Land Leasing and Mortgage Act of 2003, and Kosrae State Leasehold Act and State Mortgage Act of 2005. Also, the length of land leases in the FSM, which are pretty much similar to the practices in other countries are as follows: 99 years in Chuuk and Yap, 55 years renewable but no more than 99 years for private land and 40 years renewable for public lands in Kosrae, and 55 years renewable for up to 99 years in Pohnpei State.

In relation to the tax system, the National Government has initiated a reform process, which Ambassador Prahar called "some painfully slow progress". Also, land offices were built in the four States to store all land documents safely and land appraisal studies were conducted and adopted. In addition, the Secured Transaction law was enacted by the FSM Congress, followed by the establishment of a Secured Transaction Filing Office, which is now being utilized by the Banks operating in the FSM.

And finally, in respect to protecting investors and enforcing contracts, National and State governments have acknowledged the importance of providing businesses with Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms to help resolve commercial disputes without having to go through the court system. Kosrae State has taken the lead with its Mediation Program, which is being implemented as a pilot project. It is anticipated that the system will be extended to other jurisdictions with necessary adjustments, and in full consideration of lessons learned.

These reforms have led the World Bank to assign to FSM an average of acceptable rankings in the areas of obtaining a construction permit, paying taxes, trading across borders, and starting a business and the 2012 World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report ranks the FSM respectively at 19, 92, 102 and 92 out of 183 countries in each of those areas.

As a citizen of the FSM, I am proud that the people of the FSM, through democratic processes, are working to move forward. In spite of the many challenges, such as pointed out in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report, the people of the FSM, as proud Micronesians, are integrating well into a world foreign to a majority of them.

Admittedly, we have a long way to go yet and it is important to note that there is room for improvement despite the relative progress achieved so far, but at least two generations of Micronesians growing up during the TTPI era would attest to the fact that we have come a long way as well. I have

Letter to the  
EditorPohnpei resident  
restores "faith in  
mankind"

Dear Editor,

My wife had a short contract with the ONPA this past February where she originally worked from '05 through '07. I accompanied her there in February for the length of the contract.

We went to the 7:00 o'clock movies on a Friday night. I had a wallet that, unbeknownst to me at the time, did not stay in my pocket; it fell out twice during the movies. It had a clasp on it and apparently the snap came unsnapped which I did not realize at the time and \$100 fell out.

After the movie we went out to the Rusty Anchor and when I went to pay for our purchase, I realized I was a \$100 short. I knew what happened and jumped in the car and drove back to the theater. When I got there the 10:00 o'clock movie had started.

I found a worker and explained what happened. He got a flashlight and we looked on the floor where I had sat. There was nothing to be found. I was upset; it was too much money to lose.

All of a sudden the man who was in the seat in back of where I sat asked me if I was looking for this, and held up the money. I thanked him profusely and offered him a reward which he refused to take. I insisted but again he refused.

For me it was a humbling experience. Not only did he give me the money back he wouldn't take a reward and I suspect he could have used the money; we all could.

I want to thank that man who I will never know but he certainly renewed my faith in mankind. My humble gratitude sir, my humble gratitude.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Thom Baker, RO**

full confidence that the FSM Leadership will continue to address these issues but I hope that we are not rushing to meet a man-made deadline.

The future outlook for the FSM does not look as bleak as Ambassador Prahar would seem to believe as evidenced by his Op-Ed. The FSM has special assets which cannot be measured and ranked. Our message to investors is to not only make money but to also enjoy the serenity of our islands. Our laws allow foreign investors to visit and live with us as long as they wish.



IOM • OIM

# Job Vacancies

Due to the high volume of applications received by IOM, only short-listed candidates will be contacted directly and applications will be processed on a rolling basis.

## Background:

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is a dynamic and growing inter-governmental organization, with over 146 member states. IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems, and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, and the wider community.

### Head of Sub-Office/Assistant Program Officer Chuuk Sub-Office

#### General functions

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission located in Pohnpei, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and in close collaboration with Program Managers, the successful candidate is responsible and accountable for assisting in the implementation and monitoring of all activities related to IOM activities being implemented in Chuuk State, FSM.

#### Mandatory qualifications/experience:

Applicants must have: a) A diploma from an accredited educational institution. b) At least 2 years of professional level working experience. c) Ability to prepare clear and concise reports. d) Personal commitment, efficiency, initiative, drive for results, respect for diversity, patience, and creative thinking. e) Ability to work effectively and harmoniously with colleagues from varied cultures and professional backgrounds. f) Ability to work under tight timeframes and during weekends and overtime, when required. g) A thorough knowledge of oral and written forms of English with a proven track record of writing reports and/or professional correspondence.

#### Desirable Qualifications

Bachelor Degree; with further graduate studies an added advantage. Additional years of professional level working experience; particularly for an Embassy, development agency, United Nations agency or international organization an added advantage.

Experience working in the education and/or environmental and/or disaster management sectors highly beneficial, and experience supervising staff advantageous.

#### Language

Fluency in English and a local language of Chuuk is essential for this position.

#### Conditions of Employment

- Grade: National Officer - A
- Salary: \$17,063 Net per annum (\$21, 121 Gross)
- Duration: 9-months, with likelihood of extension.
- Medical Service Plan

### Trainer (3 Positions) Pohnpei, Chuuk & Yap

#### General functions

Under the overall supervision of the Program Manager and the direct supervision of the Head of Unit or Head of the Sub-office, the successful candidate will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of the Climate Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Education (CADRE) Program in schools and communities in Pohnpei, Chuuk, or Yap (Federated States of Micronesia).

#### Mandatory qualifications/experience:

Applicants must have: a) At least 4 years of work experience, including 1 year of relevant work experience. b) Ability to work with school-aged children. c) Ability to prepare clear and concise reports. d) Personal commitment, efficiency, initiative, drive for results, respect for diversity, patience, and creative thinking. e) Ability to work effectively and harmoniously with colleagues from varied cultures and professional backgrounds. f) Ability to work under tight timeframes and during weekends and overtime, when required. g) A thorough knowledge of oral and written forms of English with a proven track record of writing reports and/or professional correspondence.

#### Desirable qualifications:

a) A college diploma and/or university degree in social science, education, management, or alternatively a combination of relevant education and experience in this field. b) Experience working with an international organization, embassy, or NGO is advantageous.

#### Language

Verbal and written fluency in English and one or more local languages of the FSM is essential for this position.

#### Conditions of Employment

- Grade: G4 - G5
- Salary: \$7,725 - 9,348 Net per annum (\$9,537 - \$11,541 Gross). Commensurate with qualifications and experience.
- Duration: 9-months, with likelihood of extension.
- Medical Service Plan

### Administrative Assistant Pohnpei Head Office

#### General functions

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission and the direct supervision of Admin/Finance Officer, the successful candidate is responsible in assisting daily administrative requirement in IOM head office in Pohnpei, FSM.

#### Mandatory qualifications/experience:

a) At least 2 years of work experience, including 1 year of relevant work experience. b) Ability to prepare clear and concise reports. c) Computer literacy including proficiency in MS Office application. d) Personal commitment, efficiency, initiative, drive for results, respect for diversity, patience, and creative thinking. e) Ability to work effectively and harmoniously with colleagues from varied cultures and professional backgrounds. f) Ability to work under tight timeframes and during weekends and overtime, when required. g) A thorough knowledge of oral and written forms of English with a proven track record of writing reports and/or professional correspondence.

#### Desirable qualifications:

a) University degree in Business Administration, Mass Communication or any related field of study. b) Experience working with an international organization, embassy, or NGO is advantageous.

#### Language

Verbal and written fluency in English and one or more local languages of the FSM is essential for this position.

#### Conditions of Employment

- Grade: G3
- Salary: \$6,335 Net per annum (\$7,821 Gross)
- Duration: 9-months, with likelihood of extension.
- Medical Service Plan

### Application Process

1. One page Statement of Interest
2. Curriculum Vitae or Resume
3. Contact Information of at least 3 referees
4. Copies of academic transcript/s – Do Not Send Originals

### Application Acceptance Dates

July 20 - August 1, 2012

For details and job descriptions, e-mail us at: HRmicronesia@iom.int or pick up a ToR from your nearest IOM office.

Email to: HRmicronesia@iom.int

#### Mail to:

International Organization for Migration  
PO Box K2644  
Pohnpei, FM 96941

#### Hand-delivery at:

International Organization for Migration  
Suite 2G Pohn Umpomp Building  
Pohn Umpomp Place, Nett (Next to US Embassy)

# SUMMER PUZZLE



## Ice Cream Wordsearch

N Y T A E D N R D Y B G D L G J  
 J Y B U G C V W I S I B R F N I  
 N I E A T Y U E K P Q R E R K C  
 D C T H Y Y I A C R B C T M N D  
 Z E A F V Z Y D I I A Y S S Y N  
 W C L A Y N I N A N N C Y R S O  
 N R O T L P S U W K A D O O G J  
 H E C W X L T S G L N W E M F D  
 U A O H X C I F Q E A P A C Q Y  
 X M H B K G P N Y S S P E F S Q  
 O F C C O N E T A H P D D Y E B  
 A L V V Y G F S J V L Y V G E R  
 T I F M J Z R S D P I U F S B T  
 N F F C T Y H U Q L T G B P A H  
 Y B D Q G W O U T J O R Y W U P  
 M P G Q H G U R B N A C T Q C O

- |              |           |         |
|--------------|-----------|---------|
| banana split | chocolate | cold    |
| cone         | ice cream | oyster  |
| sprinkles    | sundae    | vanilla |
| wafer        |           |         |



## Sun Safety Wordsearch

Q P D F J H Z Q K L S Q C U K  
 X D L W A Z Y V I C V M G X H  
 F K L K F P O S X R N B T E G  
 E T O E C H A T Z K W R J D G  
 S C N C S O V T S W O W H A F  
 W A G D J B L K A U W W M H B  
 B O S M E V A B S J M A P S C  
 B Y L U Y H X E N W W E T J N  
 W W E K H D R O P U X K W E K  
 W V E B T S W B G A S R J K R  
 K B V I N R T Z K T R A O H W  
 K T E W B W L Y M L X A N C B  
 C O S K L O E W F G A Q S H F  
 M B S E S S A L G N U S B O T  
 F V R W R K G Z H E R C I U L

- |          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| hat      | long sleeves |
| shade    | sun block    |
| trousers | water        |
| parasol  | sunglasses   |



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- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome.
- Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Kia's Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. Public Welcome.
- The Christian Ministerial Association of Pohnpei meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office.
- Devotions every Sunday 9:30 a.m. at the Bahai Center in Dolonier. For details, call 320-4015.
- Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- St John's Catholic Church in Kosrae conducts services every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For further information, call 370-3240 or 370-3209.
- The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. at PCR Nantehlik.
- FANGO holds its monthly Issue Based Dialogue (IBD) on the last Wednesday of each Month at the Sei Restaurant at 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The public is welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon holds its weekly meetings every Wednesday at 12:00 Noon at the High Tides Restaurant. You are welcome to attend and can contact us at: rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com
- Pacific Mission Fellowship - A Bible-based English Worship Service Invites you to join us on Sundays for worship at 9am - 11am, Children's Church for the kids too! Call: 320-2496

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# LET'S GO Run, Walk and Plant LOCAL!

By Chizuru Seki (JICA)  
*Island Food Community of Pohnpei*

Over 200 participants gathered together for the Island Food

Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) 3rd Annual Fun Run, Walk and Plant in the morning of Saturday, July 7, 2012.

All participants received an orange, a yellow or a green IFCP new cap at the registration. They put the cap on and made a start in front of Palm Terrace Parking Lot.

This year's IFCP Fun Run had a new approach for a way to get exercise: planting a local crop. Instead of running or walking 5 km, participants run or walked along the street of Kolonia town to one of three designated government sites: Pohnpei State Legislature, Ohmine Elementary School or Dekehtik causeway, and planted local crops.

45 crops at Pohnpei State Legislature, 116 at Dekehtik causeway and 45 at Ohmine Elementary, which added up to a total of over 200 local food crops, were planted in one morning.

Now, if you go to those three designated government sites, you will see so many yellow flesh bananas, pandanus, lime trees, local apple trees and pineapples planted.

At Ohmine Elementary School, Ohmine School teachers planted rest of the apple trees in their play ground. You can imagine, in the near future, students climbing up on the trees to get apples for their snacks.

IFCP would like to thank all the participants.

Special thanks are given to those offered their place as a planting site: Department of Education-Ohmine Elementary School, Department of Land & Natural Resources, and Pohnpei State Legislature; those provided planting tools: Forestry, PICS High School, St. Paul Elementary, FSM NCD/Ohmine Elementary School and Pohnpei State Agriculture.

IFCP very much appreciates Mrs. Shra Alik, FSM Vice President's wife, Pohnpei State First Lady Mrs. Julilin Weital Ehsa, and all the volunteers coming to help the event.

IFCP would like to thank and is grateful to each of our generous donors: Drops of Life, FSM Development Bank, FSM NCD, Genesis Clinic & Pharmacy, Island Spring, National Olympic Committee (NOC), Palm Terrace, Pohnpei Art's & Craft, Pohnpei Catholic School, Pohnpei Water Company, Ray & Dor's, True Value, Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (alphabetical order).

More planting materials are available at IFCP. Please call at 320-3259.



Let's Go Local Fun Run, Walk and Plant! 2012



Above: Pohnpei State Legislature Below: Dekehtik causeway



Above: Ohmine Elementary School Below: Pohnpei State Legislature





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