

## CHUUK VISITORS BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEW NOMINEES FOR 2-YEARS TERM

Pursuant to Chuuk State Public Law number 11-12-05, which amends Section 3 of the Truk State Law number 6-39 relating to the composition of the Visitors Bureau Board of Directors, allowing the Governor to nominate three (3) members, subject to the advice and consent of the House of Senate, and permitting the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to appoint two (2) members, The Honorable Governor Alexander R. Narruhn is in the processes of communicating with certain individuals he is considering as prospective nominees.

CVB is grateful to the three gentlemen with expiring terms for their leadership the past few years, namely Mr. Myron Hashiguchi, long time chairman of the Board, as well as Mr. Don Sean Mori and Mr. Wonpat Rold.

The Legislature has yet to appoint the second appointee to serve along with Mr. Krisos Victus, Director of the Department of Marine Resources, who has nearly one more year of valid term.

Governor Narruhn looks to expedite his selection process in order to have the nominations submitted to the House of Senate for their scrutiny and approval soon as possible.



L-R: Marz Akapito, CVB Executive Director; Curtis Sosa, Division of Community Health and Sanitation; Frita Irons, CHS; Director Bia Nanoto, Dept. of Public Safety; and Angelino Rosokow, Division of Public Affairs.

## AGENCIES CONSIDER WAYS TO POOL RESOURCES AND IMPACT COMMUNITY-DRIVEN ENVIRONMENT CARE

A few weeks ago, a small group of brainstormers gathered at the Truk Stop Hotel with one mission: to suggest ways to pool together resources from offices and programs that can directly impact community work for sanitation and environment care. The group chose to pilot their work at one section of the Mechitiw Village, following the opening of the Rachel's Beach Resort last month.

The group needs to bring in the Chuuk Environment Protection Agency for their on-going community cleaning support, the Department of Marine Resources for their coastal enhancement assistance access, and the Department of Agriculture for their expertise in home gardening and sustainable methods for environment sensitive piggery.

The inter-agency group recognizes the vital role traditional leaders and civil organizations play as the main movers of community driven endeavors, including the youth, women group, and church ministries and services.

## CVB LAUNCHES 2024 VISITOR FRIENDLY APPROACH (VFA) INITIATIVE

Attracting visitors to our shores is one thing. Giving them a great experience is another thing. These two must be like a firm hand-shake to ensure sustainability and success. That is the dream behind the Visitor Friendly Approach (VFA) initiative that CVB is pushing for. The aim is to implant in our mindset and our hearts, working with the school children all the way to community leaders, keen respect and sensitivity to the needs of our visitors. From the way we greet them upon arrival, the way provide accommodation, the way we service their needs, to the way we make policy and legislation: there is need to assure care and concern with the readiness to provide a truly authentic, humanistic focus toward all visitors.

Our first school visit was on November 16, interacting with the seniors from Chuuk High School. We intend to visit all the eight secondary schools in Chuuk Lagoon. We are hiring 2 educators to help us roll out this activity throughout the year.



A few of the seniors class at Chuuk High School on November 16, 2023 at the CHS Gym.

## YOUTH SPORT AND HOME RELATIONS: A GROUP OF SIXTY ATHLETES AND FAMILY VISIT HOME FROM GUAM



According to Mr. John Howard, primary organizer of the FAS competition series between Guam-based Chuuk youth and their peers back home, around sixty youths, families, coaches, and supporters visited Chuuk from December 1 to 4. The main trip purpose was for sport. However, a lot of other important things happened for these athletes, many of whom were first time visitors to their "home of origin".

Their competition included basketball for 17 years and younger category and 19 years and younger. The Guam-based ballers proofed their superiority in the basketball department against players from the secondary schools in Chuuk. In the volleyball series, the Pata Island volleyballers gave the visitors a good run late Saturday afternoon.

Some of the youth were able to also visit places around Weno, such as the Xavier High School, and go swimming. A few went to play in on-going tournament on Fefen Island on Sunday. Others enjoyed picnics with families.





## BLUE LAGOON DIVE SHOP CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AND TOURISM SERVICES



On November 13, the Blue Lagoon Dive Shop celebrated its 50th year of successful operation in Chuuk. Congratulations to the Aisek Family for their dedication to the diving industry, establishing the trade as their hallmark of achievement in Chuuk, starting with the famous pioneer, master diver and founder of shipwreck diving, the late Kimiyo Aisek. Detail history and biography of this famous man and his achievements is written by Dr. Dianne Strong in *Witness to War: Truk Lagoon's Master Diver Kimiyo Aisek*.



## 9th FSM WOMEN MEETING HELD IN KOSRAE: FIN CHUUK REPRESENTS WITH TALENTS AND LOTS OF FUN



Group photo at the Chuuk Airport prior to departure. Photo by Dr. Anamaria Yomai.

**T**eam FinChuuk fan emwenien Niefon Second Lady Mrs. Marine Wein Shirai William, Head of Delegation me Mrs. Cathy B. Mori, Vice President of Chuuk Women Council a nò fiti ewe 9th FSM Women Conference a fis non Kosrae State seni ewe 11/27/23 ngeni 12/1/23.

Kinisou ren mènun ej team mei tupw seni fituu ach kewe kinikin ren; CWC, Office of the Governor, State of Chuuk, Chuuk Department of Health Services, Chuuk Department of Education, Attorney General Office, Chuuk Visitors Bureau, Catholic Relief Services, Cpuc Chuuk, Human Trafficking Office, me Chamber of Commerce. (Article by Dr. Anamaria Yomai)

Congratulations to each of you!

## NEMWAN RESIDENTS RALLY IN CLEANING INITIATIVE



**R**esidents of Nemwan section in Sapuk Village come together in a cleaning initiative supported by several families. On social media, Mr. Jason Reiong, Deputy Director of the Department of Education and a few others have been acclaimed as initiators of such worthy cooperation. With the blessing from traditional chiefs the promoters of this event have been able to rally the willingness of fellow residents in what has

been explained as an on-going effort, starting this December. CVB must also point out that other youths from the same area were involved in the launching of the Japanese Lighthouse access enhancement project led by Mr. Rancher Walter.

This initiative is in line with community support programs from Chuuk EPA and CVB.

## CORAL EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP IN TONOAS WATER

**T**onoas became a part of the itinerary for the 26-day journey that began in Manila and ended in Kavieng in Papua New Guinea. According to their itinerary, the ship would make stops along the way in places around the Philippine islands,



enter Micronesia waters through Palau, make stops in Yap, Ifalik, Lamotrek, and arrive Chuuk through Polowot. The ship spent a night and left morning of the 25th of November. The visitors enjoyed swimming around Etten Island and also wreck diving near Tonoas and Uman.

## POLOWOT'S LIMTIACO CAPTURES 3 GOLDS, 1 SILVER



**T**asi Limtiaco adds his name to the history of great athletes from FSM. In the recently concluded Pacific Games held in the Solomon Islands, he captured three gold medals in the swim races in 200-meter breast stroke, 50-meter breast stroke, and 100-meter breast stroke. He also won a silver medal in the 400-meter individual medley. Limtiaco is probably the most "decorated" Chuukese athlete ever to

compete at the Pacific Games. He has swum at the Olympics when he represented FSM at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

## CPUC LINEMEN RECEIVE NEW PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Weno & Tonoas linemen received brand new personal protective equipment or PPE along with new boots and gloves specifically made for linemen. CPUC's power loss for 2023 was one of the lowest in the region at 9%. Power loss is the total power generated minus the total

power sold. Congratulations to our local linemen. Job well done. (This article is taken from CPUC facebook wall status posted on December 2, 2023.)

CPUC carries roles and responsibilities centrally critical to the enabling of economic and social development of Chuuk.