



## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC RESOLUTION IGNITES POSSIBILITIES, BIG LESSONS FOR CHUUK



Around 6:00am on October 20, the Lindblad Expedition National Geographic Resolution cruise ship entered the Chuuk Lagoon Northeast Pass, ending a long period of waiting for this industry to reappear.

The Resolution made its way to Chuuk from Guam, stopping at Magur Island in the Nomunweito subregion for a few hours of snorkeling about 24-hours prior to arriving Chuuk Lagoon.

With capacity for one hundred thirty eight adventurers, the ship is a "culmination of luxury and adventure".

On this trip, around twenty six guests and twelve crew members were prepared to snorkel, visits landmarks and sites, and bird-watch.

CVB was responsible for organizing the land-based activities. The Blue Lagoon Dive Shop took care of the snorkel and sea-based events.

At present, there are no land-tour operators in Chuuk. The hotels used to do this for their divers, but, as the roads got really bad in the late 90's, land tours logistics became increasingly unsustainable. This fact crippled the industry and forced a condition of neglect at most sites.

More recently, there has been some indication of interest in revisiting war relic sites and a curiosity for historic sites. However, operating tour activities lacks human and technical resources. At present, the CVB has been trying to fill the gaps while encouraging a return to the "trade" as part of hotel management.

Tentative schedules and inquiries have been made for incoming cruise ships at the end of November and a sizable one possible in March, 2024. Learning from our experience with the Resolution, Chuuk needs a more capable planning team to ably prepare and avail quality receptions on dock, and better transport coordination and time management to maximize visitors' interaction.

Thank you to the Pollap Community for providing entertainment and the Chuuk Women Council vendors for doing dock-side sale.



## RACHEL'S BEACH RESORT OPENS WITH HIGH MARK TURNING MECHITIW INTO A TOURISM LOCUS

The Rachel's Beach Resort has been under construction for some time given its complex design and workmanship, supervised primarily by none other than Mr. BJ Mori himself. The new two-story, five spacious units provide the latest attractive accommodation in Chuuk, turning the Mechitiw Village into a new destination for occupants with financial means. Besides its superior interior amenities, the resort also ensures its guests will not run short on transport preference for both on land and sea adventures.

Prior to the hotel's opening, Rachel's Beach has already been a favorite site for family picnic and beach-type recreation for children of all ages. Many large-size graduation celebrations, birthday parties, and government functions for visiting dignitaries have been held at Rachel's Beach.

The resort's official dedication and opening celebration took place on the 6th of October, just in time for the general assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislature that brought legislators and esteem guests to Chuuk, some of whom lodged at the resort.

There is broad official and community appreciation expressed toward the BJ and Leilani Mori family for their efforts and commitment to business investment over the past twenty years.



## CHUUK AIRPORT COMMUNITY FIRST FUN WALK

The Chuuk Airport Community (CAC) held its first Fun Walk on October 7, the week of the Chuuk Constitution Day Holiday on October 1. Nearly thirty enthusiasts took advantage of the early morning fitness event around the airport loop. The CAC community includes the Chuuk Airport management, United Airlines, Caroline Island Air, FSM Immigration, FSM Customs and Quarantine, Chuuk Tax and Revenue, and the Chuuk Visitors Bureau.

CVB is working with CAC partners to ensure we can repeat the activity by early January, 2024 with inclusion of such as tree planting, market sale, and clinical checkup by health and medical officials.





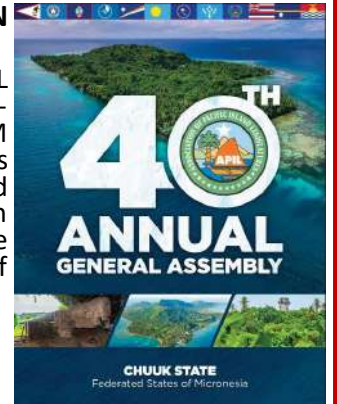


## HON. GOVERNOR ALEXANDER R. NARRUHN DELIVERS STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS TO JOINT SESSION OF CHUUK STATE LEGISLATURE

Today marks a historic moment for the Narruhn/William Administration as the Governor finally gets the opportunity to appear in front of the Joint Session of the Chuuk State Legislature to address the Body and the People of Chuuk regarding the State of the State of Chuuk since the start of the Administration. In approximately one hour and forty five minutes, Honorable Governor Narruhn itemized achievements made and highlighted remaining agenda prior to March 2025. The Meeting was jointly presided over by the Honorable Arno H. Kony, President of the House of Senate, and The Honorable Lester Danny Mersai, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

## THE ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURES HOLDS 40TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN CHUUK STATE

The APIL is no stranger to Chuuk. Enfolded twelve legislative bodies throughout the region, the APIL wields broad collaborative strength that comes from the American Samoa 'The Fono', the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the FSM State of Chuuk, the FSM State of Kosrae, the FSM State of Pohnpei, the FSM State of Yap, the Island of Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands "Nitijela", the Republic of Palau "Olbiil Era Kelulau", the State of Hawaii, the Republic of Kiribati, and the Republic of Nauru. The APIL officers for the term of 2022 to 2023 are: Senator Nelson Stephen from Chuuk as President, Speaker Edmund S. Villagomes of the Northern Mariana Islands as Vice President, Hon. Tessie Lambourne M.P. from the Kiribati as Secretary, and Senator Victor Bamog of Yap as Treasurer. The APIL met in Chuuk on October 16 to 21, 2023.



Arrivals and Departure Count for July, August, September 2023

	July	August	September	Total
<b>ARRIVALS</b>				
International Arrivals by Air	358	178	204	740
International Arrivals by Sea	105	48	62	215
Interstate Arrivals by Air	13	38	59	110
Interstate Arrivals by Sea	0	0	0	0
FSM Citizen arriving from international destinations by air	995	995	335	2325
FSM Citizen arriving from interstate destination by air	497	497	201	1195
<b>DEPARTURES</b>				
Departing to International Destination by air (Non Citizen)	248	266	175	689
Departing to Interstate Destination by air (Non Citizen)	28	122	162	312
Departing to International Destination by air (Citizen)	1287	868	588	2743
Departing to Interstate Destination by air (Citizen)	486	106	198	790

Source: FSM Immigration, Chuuk Field Office

## CVB AND SAPUK COMMUNITY EMBARK ON LIGHTHOUSE ENHANCEMENT



CVB Volunteers, from left: Kanisto Redy, Wichap Village; Rickson Muritok, Lekiniokh Island; Tinson Jessy, Mechitiw Village. During the first dat of CVB cleaning on October 25, 2023. We intend to keep up with cleaning once a week until the end of the year. CVB and Owners will devise a management plan to guide community-led activities in keeping the site attractive and accessible.

On October 23, Mr. Aka Cholymay, along with two others, represented family owners of the area where the Japanese Lighthouse is located at a meeting with Chuuk Visitors Bureau. At this meeting, owners and CVB established the understanding that a joint effort must be done in improving conditions for the lighthouse as a favorite visitor's attraction in Chuuk.

CVB officials used the recent experience with visitors from the National Geographic Resolution who visited the site on October 20th as a basis for discussion. One of the visitors got injured after she fell on the way down from the lighthouse.

As part of the understanding, CVB will help procure working tools to make easier access; cement part of the road where it is most slippery; and hire a part-time staff as part of a forming community-based management.

DOUBLE DRAW

IN SUPPORT OF CHUUK HIGH SCHOOL AND XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL BALLERS GOING TO COMPETE IN Pohnpei CHRISTMAS BREAK 2023

**\$1,000.00 GRAND PRIZE**

FOR INQUIRY CALL:  
JED HAINRICK @ 330-4133 (CVB)

CHUUK HIGH SCHOOL @330-2555

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL @330-4266

OR  
Inbox  
Chuuk Visitors Bureau  
Facebook

Email: markapito@gmail.com

\$5.00 per ticket

Purchase tickets at

Chuuk High School  
Xavier High School  
Chuuk Visitors Bureau

Draw Date: November 24, 2023  
Time: 2:00pm Chuuk Time  
Place: Erhart Aten International Airport  
Front Drop-Off Area

KINISSOU