

THE KASELEHLIE PRESS

P.O. Box 2222, Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941

Tel: (691) 320-6547 Fax: (691) 320-6571

Email: kpress@mail.fm

THE KASELEHLIE PRESS

Vol. 6, Issue No. 18 September 27, 2006

This bi-weekly publication is \$1.00

Budget at standstill - States may be in trouble

By **JESSICA CHAPMAN**
The Kaselehlie Press

For the second year in a row, the FSM Congress is scrambling to make arrangements to budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

At press time it was still not clear when the country's next installment of Compact sector grants would be issued. The fiscal year ends Sept. 30.

At particular risk as a result of funding delays are each of the country's four states, which are more dependent on Compact funds than the national government.

The national government is able to more easily sustain itself via local revenues – garnered from, for example, fishing licenses and

penalties as well as taxes. Government officials say states can operate only a matter of weeks without Compact funding.

At a Sept. 13 joint committee hearing senators expressed frustration with the delays.

“Your explanation does not give me comfort,” said Yap Sen. Isaac Figir to representatives from the Office of Compact Management present at the hearing.

Pohnpei Sen. Dohsis Halbert asked those present to consider the damaging effects of shutting down the government.

OCM Director Epel Ilon tried to reassure senators. “Of course there will be funding,” he said. However, he continued, “Whether it will be by Oct. 1 we don't know.”

The OCM is responsible for submitting a consolidated budget – composed of each of the state's budgets as well as that of the national government – to the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs for their review and approval.

Budgeting requirements are different under the Amended Compact Ilon explained, and some states – like Yap – did not properly format their budgets. Chuuk and Pohnpei submitted their budgets late.

Further, Ilon later said, this is the first budget cycle under the management and oversight of the OCM. He reported the office also ran into some technical problems.

As a result, the budget – originally due July 1 – was not submitted until Aug. 30 at the annual Joint

Economic Management Committee meeting in Honolulu.

Due to the improper formatting, U.S. authorities requested the OCM to resubmit the budget by Sept. 19, just 11 days prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Ilon said his office resubmitted the budget Sept. 15.

The FSM will receive approximately \$79 million in Compact funds for fiscal year '07.

Congress is responsible for appropriation of Compact funds to the national government. The national government then makes allotments to the states.

The fifth regular session of the 14th FSM Congress remains underway through Oct. 1.

Chinese turn over leadership housing complex

Photo by Bill Jaynes



Ambassador Yang Qiang and Foreign Affairs Secretary Sebastian Anefal sign documents in what will be President Urusemal's living room

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

On September 13, in a ceremony at the newly constructed President's official residence, Ambassador Yang Qiang of the Chinese Embassy to the FSM on behalf of the People's Republic of China officially handed over the new housing for the FSM National Government Leadership. Foreign Affairs Secretary Sebastian Anefal accepted the residences on behalf of the FSM National Government.

The provided residences are for the sitting president of the FSM, the Vice-President, The Speaker of the Legislature, and the Chief Justice.

The four homes, each with multi-vehicle garages and covered walk-

ways were constructed near the National Government complex in only six months. Jiangsu Construction and Engineering Company was the contractor who built the residential complex working night and day to complete it.

Diplomatic relationships were established between the FSM and China on September 11, 1989. Since that time, Ambassador Yang said in his speech, the “bilateral relations have made great progress.” He highlighted personnel exchanges as an example of one way in which the relations have progressed, saying “This year is a fruitful year in terms of bilateral personnel exchanges. Both the exchange of visits by high-ranking officials and people-to-people exchanges have reached

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NEWS

Micronesians in Hawaii can't get free legal aid

By **MARY VORSINO**
Advertiser Urban Honolulu
Writer

Attorneys for the poor are decrying a federal regulation that allows Micronesians in their home countries to get federally funded legal aid but does not extend similar services to those living in Hawai'i. "We're on an all-out assault to get rid of this law," said Chuck Greenfield, who became executive director of the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i four months ago.

"In some public housing projects, we can represent one tenant, but this restriction prevents us from representing his neighbor. It is an intolerable situation."

Legal Aid of Hawai'i officials estimate they are turning away hundreds of Micronesians each year because otherwise, the private, nonprofit group would face losing federal money, which makes up one-third of its operating budget.

Sekap Esah, president of Micronesians United, said the lack of the legal services makes Micronesians a target for scams and other abuses.

"In Micronesia, they get the service free, and Americans, when they come to Micronesia, they get the service free. But when we come here in the U.S., the service is not free. We have to pay private attorneys," Esah said. "It's very, very hard."

Esah, a pastor at Nu'uuanu Baptist Church, said he frequently hears from fellow Micronesians who need legal help with matters primarily civil in nature, ranging from disputes with landlords and employers to divorces and child support cases.

Limited English skills and a fear of making waves in a new place exacerbate the problem, he said, and often Micronesians simply do whatever they are being told — even if they are being wronged.

The federal regulation, instituted in 1997, is an interpretation of the Compact of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Because the compact specifies services available to countries rather than citizens, U.S.-subsidized legal services offered to Micronesians are available only within the boundaries of the countries served, according to the U.S. Legal Services Corp., the agency that monitors federal funding for legal services.

"We agree with Legal Aid of Hawai'i that this is not a logical situation, but we cannot change it," said Barbara Moldauer, spokeswoman for the U.S. Legal Services Corp. "It has to be done by changing the law."

A MISINTERPRETATION?

Greenfield disagreed, maintaining that the compact is being misinterpreted and a regulation change is possible. He points out that Micronesians are eligible for other federally funded social services in the United States, which are laid out in the compact.

But in the case of legal services, the status of Micronesians is similar to that of illegal immigrants.

"What's particularly outrageous about this restriction is that Micronesians can freely join the U.S. military, yet they cannot get legal services from us," Greenfield said.

Also, he said, the restriction makes it nearly impossible for cash-hungry nonprofits to help Micronesians on U.S. soil because it applies to federal funds along with private dollars spent by federally funded agencies. The only nonprofits immune from the restriction are those financed entirely with private funds.

Micronesians are scattered across the United States, with the largest pocket — about 22,000 people — in California, according to the 2000 Census. In

Hawai'i, there are about 8,400 Micronesians, and about 44 percent of them live in poverty, according to Census data.

Other sources of legal aid are hard-pressed to respond to the need.

NOT MUCH HELP

Kokua Legal Services in Kalihi, which gets no federal funding and has a lone, part-time staff attorney, is one of few agencies trying to fill the gap on O'ahu. For Micronesians on the Neighbor Islands, there are fewer places to turn.

"We're overwhelmed," said Joris Watland, board president of Kokua Legal Services. "It's a population that is probably in greatest need right now."

The small legal aid nonprofit assists as many Micronesians as it can, but has limited funding and a tiny staff.

"I know of Micronesian families in Waimea and Honoka'a and Kona (on the Big Island) and they are totally unprotected," Watland said. "We are only on O'ahu, and we basically focus on Kalihi."

If the federal regulation is changed to allow federally funded legal nonprofits to help Micronesians, Greenfield expects to see a flood of new clients.

But he doesn't anticipate any short-term increase in federal funding because appropriations are based on state poverty estimates — not caseloads.

To deal with the new population, "we'd have to look at re-shifting staff and priorities," Greenfield said. "It's not as if we have staff who aren't fully cased up."

CHANGE ISN'T NEAR

As it is, Legal Aid is forced to turn away one person for every one person it helps.

But at the least, Greenfield added, the potential for representation —

See "Legal Aid" on page 4

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Pohnpei Water Wars

By **JESSICA CHAPMAN**
The Kaselelie Press

A casual glance around Kolonia reveals the recent growth in the purified water industry on Pohnpei.

Banners advertising Aqua Serv, Pohnpei's newest water merchant, have sprung up on neighborhood storefronts.

The Drops of Life company's animated drop of water mascot competes for the attention of passersby from other sites around town.

Vans representing each of the island's three water businesses speed the island roads, delivering dispensers and various sizes of fresh, bottled water to customers.

Product and delivery prices dive lower and lower – to the benefit of Pohnpei consumers – while businesses compete to expand product lines and availability.

Can three private water businesses survive on Pohnpei?

While government officials and citizens alike cry for a more robust private sector, it is not clear whether an abundance of similar products in such a small market can assist with that goal.

Some point out failures that have resulted from sudden proliferation of businesses – such as video stores – offering the same products or services.

Pohnpei's water business operators seem to embrace the challenge. Despite the financial constraints of increased competition they remain optimistic – accompanied by varying degrees of caution – and committed to providing safe, reliable sources of drinking water to the community.

The companies differ little in the water products they offer. All three start with water from Pohnpei Utilities Corporation. DOL mixes the PUC water with some rainwater.

Each goes on to filter and purify the water via a process called reverse osmosis. DOL advertises an 18-stage process to achieve its finished product. Aqua Serv boasts an unabashedly competitive 21.

Prices are also about the same – approximately .40 to .50 cents for a 500ml bottle, \$1.25 or so for a gallon – depending on the wholesale prices that constantly fluctuate in what one operator refers to as “racing to the bottom.”

Where they depart one another is in their business strategy and outlook.

Photos by Jessica Chapman



Pohnpei Water Company, which sells its water under the name “Sparkle Pure,” was the first company to establish business on Pohnpei, in 1991.

The company operated without local competition for nearly 15 years. Drops of Life arrived in early 2005, followed less than 15 months later by Aqua Serv.

Dr. Singero Singeo, whose wife SeNellie owns PWC, admits the change has been a challenge. He says the company has accommodated the demands of the market – while keeping costs low – by, for example, beginning to manufacture its own bottles.

Drops of Life, which established itself in Pohnpei in February 2005, remains competitive by doing business in other states. The company has business in Yap and intends to commence business in Chuuk in the next month or so.

DOL Manager Rey Manlapaz said he also hopes to eventually have eight locations in Pohnpei and six to eight delivery vehicles.

Aqua Serv opened its Pohnpei operations in late April of this year. The company already runs a successful operation in Chuuk, where it has been selling water for about two years.

Gary Irons, advisor to Aqua Serv, said the company is pursuing a diversity of products to complement its water line, including fruit juices and ice.

“There's always room for expansion,” he said.

All three businessmen are protective of their business practices and hesitant to commit details such as the number of customers they have and profits.

Singeo points out that competition appears likely to get only more fierce in the near future.

The Pohnpei Foreign Investment Board approved in May a permit for yet another water company. According to FIB Executive Director Quirino Loyola, Rainfarms FSM, Inc. – which will be Australian-operated – will produce bottled water primarily for export.

However, Loyola pointed out “Nothing prevents them from selling here.”

A statistical bulletin issued in August by the FSM Department of Economic Affairs indicates the state's private sector has provided less than \$34 million annually in goods and services from fiscal year '01 through fiscal year '05.

This represents about one third of the state's gross domestic product for each of those five years.

NEWS

Legal Aid

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whether in the courtroom or with legal advice — would be available to Micronesians.

Greenfield, who worked in Micronesia for nine years with Legal Aid, is partnering with Micronesians United and Kokua Legal Services in an effort to

change the rule.

So far, the partnership has seen little progress. Last month, Greenfield spoke to the director of the U.S. Legal Services Corp., who reaffirmed the current interpretation. Currently, he is writing to the U.S. Departments of State and the Interior for help.

SENATE BILL MAY HELP

Meanwhile, a U.S. Senate bill stalled since April would allow federally funded legal services for Micronesians in the United States. Senate Bill 1830, which was co-sponsored by Sen. Dan Akaka, was passed through committee in April and has since been awaiting a vote. But Jon Yoshimura, an Akaka spokesman, said all hope is not yet lost.

“The problem with 1830 is this

is just one very small provision in a very large bill,” Yoshimura said. “But I don’t think we’re ready to cash in our chips yet.”

The bill also amends other provisions of the compact.

The U.S. Senate will go into recess next month, but Yoshimura said the measure could see some action later this year. The bill was introduced in late 2005.



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Greenpeace, FSM National Police Patrol the FSM

By **JESSICA CHAPMAN**
The Kaselehlie Press

A vessel of the international environmental organization Greenpeace arrived in Pohnpei Wednesday Sept. 20 for a brief stay as part of a 15-month "Defending Our Oceans" campaign.

Through an innovative arrangement between the organization and the FSM national government, two FSM National Police officers accompanied the vessel from Manila to Pohnpei through FSM waters.

Such an arrangement allows for expanded marine law enforcement capabilities. It is well-known that the FSM struggles to fuel its three patrol boats and maintain a vigilant presence in the country's waters.

"By combining our resources and expertise we were able to carry out enforcement activities we could not have accomplished on our own," said FSM Secretary of Justice Marstella Jack in a press release.

Maritime Wing Unit Cmdr. Robert Maluweirang and Port Inspector Nicholas Raifmai boarded five vessels during the approximately two week tour, four of which were operating with possibly faulty vessel monitoring systems.

Vessels are required to have a

VMS in order to consistently notify authorities of their changing positions at sea.

Greenpeace is urging the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission – responsible for monitoring fishing on the high seas – to adopt more rigorous VMS regulations.

"Vessel monitoring systems are the backbone of enforcement work," said Greenpeace Oceans Campaigner Lagi Toribau at a press conference Sept. 21. "Current vessel monitoring systems are easy to play with," he said.

The WCPFC is headquartered in Pohnpei.

The broader mission of the "Defending Our Oceans" expedition is to raise awareness about overfishing – particularly of threatened bigeye and yellowfin species – and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing practices.

Enforcement officials from Kiribati were expected to board the *Esperanza* in Pohnpei and accompany the vessel to Honolulu.

The vessel expected to depart Pohnpei Sunday Sept. 24 or Monday Sept. 25.

Toribau reported Pacific nations currently reap only five percent of the \$US2 billion in fish harvested annually from the vast ocean.

occasion, Ambassador Yang, that I happily reiterate our strong continued commitment and support to the principles that underpin FSM-China relations, including the one-China policy.

A high National Police official has concerns about security for the leaders all living in close proximity. Not all see it that way. Father Frances Hezel in his blessing prayed that the close proximity of the buildings and their occupants would spark a sense of unity amongst the FSM Government's top leaders.

Government witnesses to the handover included President Joseph J. Urusemal, Vice President Redley Killion, Chief Justice Andon Amaraich, and members of the FSM Economic Planning and Implementation Council (EPIC) who were meeting in Palikir. Speaker Peter Christian was absent from the proceedings.



Photo provided by Greenpeace

Greenpeace and FSM National Police in action in the FSM's EEZ—one way that Greenpeace does its work.



Photo by Jessica Chapman

Another way Greenpeace does its work. Press conference on board the "Esperanza"

Residences

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an unprecedented high level... The people-to-people exchanges at all levels between China and the FSM have constantly expanded the mutual understanding and friendship between our two peoples and vigorously enhanced China-FSM relations."

Last April Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao made a commitment to the island nations of \$380 million USD over three years in preferential loans for development of the Pacific Island region.

Secretary Anefal, in accepting the buildings said, "The buildings...stand out as a concrete testament to the strong commitments we made with each other...It is therefore fitting on this



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NEWS

“Hawaii Goes Fishing” in Pohnpei

By **ALLOIS MALFITANI & BILL JAYNES**

On the 7th of September the crew and host of “Hawaii Goes Fishing” stepped from the Continental Micronesia jet to film a one hour segment of television programming about Pohnpei and particularly sport fishing in Pohnpei, a task they figured it would take one week to accomplish. It took two years of discussions between Alloys Malfitani and producer Ben Wong to get the details together for the trip to Pohnpei but it seems to have been well worth the effort. The crew and host fisherman, Keith Nishioka gathered more than enough information to put together an excellent show which will air in October. Two days before the trip was over the crew put away their production gear and put on their fishing gear just for fun. The crew said that Pohnpei was “a top sport fishing destination.”



“Hawaii Goes Fishing” is a one-hour program airing on Time Warner’s cable channel OC 16. The show reaches 93,000 viewers weekly though there are negotiations under way for syndication which will take the show to over ten times that number in the near future. Future viewers could also be exposed to Pohnpei fishing if the show airs in syndication.

According to the producer, “Hawaii Goes Fishing” is a family show that relates multi-generational stories of the ocean lifestyle enjoyed all over the world but particularly in the Pacific. Episodes featuring trips beyond the shores of Hawaii’s islands often have the strongest appeal.

The crew took ground and water tours of Nan Madol, Nahlap, Kepirohi Falls, Ant, Nahlap, and other scenic sites of Pohnpei. Additionally, Tropic Helicop-

ters, now in Pohnpei provided a circle island trip of Pohnpei for the cameraman, co-producer Ben Sensui which provided spectacular aerial views of the island some of which will be included in the show’s footage.

Local fishermen and champion Alex Tretnoff joined the cast and crew while here. They were also joined by John David Jr, Cosdan and Junior Amor, Xner Luther and the crew from the Pohnpei Surf Club.

Ben Wong said, “Outdoor activities such as fishing and sightseeing have an avid following. Many fishermen are willing to travel to exotic and unique destinations for a great adventure. If they are made aware that

the destination includes activities for the entire family, that dream vacation becomes a closer reality.”

According to the crew of HGF speaking of their experiences in Alaska, one prized game fish of 10 pounds is often worth over \$100.00 because of the money spent on boat rentals, accommodations, food, and shopping.

Alloys Malfitani says that the show will be available on DVD sometime after November 1. He can be contacted at the Pohnpei Surf Club at 320-7845.

“Hawaii Goes Fishing” would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their support: Ant Atoll, Cliff Rainbow Hotel, Continental Airlines, Master Halbert, Nahlap Island Resort, Pohnpei Fishing Club, Pohnpei Visitors Bureau, Pwohmaria Beach Resort, The Rusty Anchor, Tropic Helicopters, The Village Hotel, all the fisherman, and the crew of the Pohnpei Surf Club.

Australian Team of Experts visits the FSM to Support Efforts in Addressing HIV/AIDS

Australian Embassy, Pohnpei

Since the late 1980s the presence of HIV/AIDS worldwide and its effects on communities has become more visible. Globally the HIV/AIDS pandemic is having enormous health, social and economic consequences.

Although the prevalence of HIV/AIDS is comparatively low in the FSM, the risk of infection is high. With the high rates of sexually transmitted infections and teenage pregnancies, as well as a young and mobile population and gender issues that exacerbate risk and vulnerability in the region, this strongly suggests that there is potential for sexual transmission of HIV in the FSM.

AusAID’s Pacific Regional HIV/AIDS Project (PRHP), a AUD\$12 Million project that assists 14 Pacific island countries and covers a 6-year period, aims to strengthen the capacity of governments, non-governmental organisations and communities to respond to HIV/AIDS. PRHP is co-funded by NZAID and the Government of France.

Dr. Tamara Kwarteng, PRHP Team leader, Dr. Gary Rogers, Deputy Section Head of Treatment, Care and Counselling Cluster Coordinator (SPC), and Judy Gold, PRHP Technical Advisor to the FSM HIV Program, visited the FSM in August to meet with government and healthcare



Pictured L-R: Judy Gold, PRHP Technical Advisor; Johnny Hebel FSM HIV/AIDS program coordinator; H.E. Corinne Tomkinson, Australian Ambassador; and Dr. Gary Rogers, Deputy Section Head of Treatment, Care and Counselling Cluster Coordinator (SPC)

officials to initiate the drafting of an HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan.

Judy Gold will remain in the FSM until December 2006 to provide continued support in drafting the HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan, including conducting a situation & response analysis, and assisting with the initiation of surveillance surveys. According to Ms. Gold, “There are a lot of activities happening in the FSM regarding prevention of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. However, without a strategic plan, how do we know what we are aiming for? And how do we know if we are achieving those aims if there is no mechanism to monitor them?”

Community projects that have been implemented through AusAID funding include a partnership between the Chuuk Women’s Council and Chuuk State Health Services in the development of a Peer Education Training Manual and training for 35 young people in that state, Behaviour Change Communication training developed and implemented with the assistance of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and the Red Cross HIV/AIDS program which also involves peer education training.

For more information on AusAID’s Pacific Regional HIV/AIDS Project, contact the Australian Embassy at 691-320-5448.

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(United States Embassy, Kolonia)— The 73rd band of FSM Peace Corps Volunteers, 26-strong, flew into Pohnpei on September 10th and they are now receiving in-country training at the former PATS-Campus in Madolenihmw, Pohnpei. On September 30th they will disperse to their assigned islands, and after an additional 6 weeks of training, they will commence a two-year posting in “the toughest job they’ll ever love.”

In a new development, Peace Corps Volunteers will be going back into the FSM’s public school system for the first time in over twelve years. This is in response to requests from many local communities and FSM officials for support in improving students’ English language skills. All volunteers also serve as a front-line community resource in assisting with local health and environmental initiatives, as well as other needed projects identified by their host communities.

As the Fortieth Anniversary of Peace Corps Micronesia approaches, FSM Country Director David Reside shared the following sentiments. “We warmly welcome the latest group of our volunteers and know they will build on the strong traditions laid by their predecessors. Peace Corps Micronesia is excited to see our volunteers serving once again in

Micronesia’s schools. We feel this is an effective way to provide a valuable local resource to the communities in which they are placed.”

Six of the 26 new volunteers will be assigned to Palau. Four will go to Yap Proper and another two will go to Yap’s Outer Islands of Faderai and Fanif. Four will be stationed in Kosrae. Three more will stand by in Pohnpei for later assignment to the Mortlucks and seven will remain here in Pohnpei. Eighty-eight percent (23) of the new arrivals will be serving in public schools throughout the FSM. The remaining three will work with state agencies in the fields of early childhood education, substance abuse prevention and the environment.

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NEWS

Osaka Gakuin University Group Observes JICA/JOCV Activities Within FSM

With the interest to deepen students' understanding of Micronesian culture, history, politics, economy, etc... as well as JICA/JOCV (Japan International Cooperation Agency/Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers) activities within the FSM, 2 graduate students and 7 undergraduate students under the supervision of Dr. Izumi Kobayashi and Professor Susumu Sako from the Osaka Gakuin University's International Studies Program, visited Pohnpei on September 18-25, 2006.

This group visited several government offices and institutions as well as four recipient agencies of Japanese Volunteers. They visited JOCV Ms. Makiko Iijima at Pohnpei Visitors Bureau where they obtained some information regarding Micronesia. They then visited JOCV Ms. Tamaki Noda and Senior Volunteer (SV) Ms. Kazuko Nomachi at Pohnpei State

Health Services where they were introduced to Director Wensiner David and were given a tour around the hospital facility. They visited JOCV Ms. Akiko Moribe at FSM National Police, thereafter, and had the opportunity to observe and participate in an Aikido demonstration. The group also met with JOCV Ms. Mami Miura and Mr. Yohei Takano at PICS High School where they were introduced to Principal Solpasio Salvador and students studying Japanese Language.

PICS students practicing their Japanese language skills with Osaka Gakuin University group. Faculties of International Studies at Osaka Gakuin University design programs that permit students to have effective exchange with Micronesians and gain knowledge and firsthand experience of the culture. This is the 4th group to visit Pohnpei. The 1st group visited in 1995.



PICS students practicing their Japanese language skills with Osaka Gakuin University group.

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PACIFIC WORLD NEWS

Tongan king disposes off all commercial interests – Lord Chamberlain

AP/PACNEWS

15 SEPTEMBER 2006 NUKU'ALOFA (Pacnews) — In an unprecedented move, Tonga's Lord Chamberlain announced this afternoon that King Siaosi Tupou V would dispose off all his commercial interests in Tonga.

Hon Fielakepa in a briefly worded statement said, "This is in conformity with the obligation and demands of his high office.

"Arrangements for the divestment of his holdings in the Shoreline Power Companies are near completion."

Hon Fielakepa said sale of the rest of the new King's interests will follow as soon as suitable shareholding arrangements can be made.

PACNEWS understands that Caribbean based mobile phone company, Digicel Pacific, has expressed its interest to buy out Tonfon, the King's telecommunication company.

The 58 year old king also owns a television company, an airline,

a brewery and has fishing interests. His company Shoreline has held a monopoly on Tonga's power generation and distribution for eight years and is accused of charging high prices for electricity.

At a protest march against the monopoly in Tonga last year, democracy advocates said the crown prince and his Shoreline partner received salaries of more than NZD\$520,000 (US\$343,000) a year.

This week pro-democracy lawmaker 'Akilisi Pohiva says Tupou V must surrender his involvement in business to focus on being king of Tonga or face a huge conflict of interest.

"Everyone expects His Majesty Tupou V to come out with some sort of new government structure which is accountable and transparent," Pohiva told *The Associated Press*.

"If the new king will not do that Tonga will continue to have a rough ride toward change in the future," he said.

Fiji and PNG send senior officials to mediate between Solomon Islands and Australia

PACNEWS

22 SEPTEMBER 2006 SUVA (Pacnews) -Two senior regional civil servants from Melanesia have been sent on a special mission to try and mediate between Solomon Islands and Australia over the forced removal of Australian diplomat, Patrick Cole from Honiara.

Their mission is being put together quickly ahead of next month's annual summit of Pacific Leaders Forum in Fiji,

"Waiting until the Forum Leaders Meeting in late October will be an inadequate response and secondly it may have a negative impact on the agenda of the Leaders Meeting," said Isikeli Mataitoga, one of the two senior officials sent to Solomon Islands. Mr Mataitoga, the chief executive officer in Fiji's foreign office will be accompanied by his Papua New Guinea counterpart, Gabriel Pepson.

"This special mission has been

launched to try to find a relative solution to the satisfaction of the two disputing parties.

"I am going because I have asked by my Prime Minister to be the representative from the Fiji Government.

The mission is to be undertaken in the next few days, said Mr Mataitoga and a report submitted to our two leaders soon thereafter.

Discord between two brotherly countries affect us all and the leaders of Fiji and PNG have decided to send this special mission to show our collective concern and our desire to be part of the solution to the difficulties the countries concerned are facing, said Mr Mataitoga.

The mission is a response from the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), of which Solomon Islands is a member.

"We will try and find out the factual situation of the problem

Tongan King laid to rest, FSM expresses condolences

FSM Information Services
Palikir, FSM

Palikir, POHNPEI (FSMIS) – President Joseph J. Urusemal has expressed condolences to the people and government of the Kingdom of Tonga who laid to rest on Tuesday - September 19 2006, one of the world's longest serving monarchs, King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV.

King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV died in Auckland on September 10, after a long battle with ill health, he was 88.

The body of the late King returned to Tonga at the waterfront Palace and laid in State for six-days until the State Funeral on September 19. The body is interred at the Mala'ekula, the Royal Tombs in central Nuku'alofa.

A revered South Pacific Monarch, King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV, reign over the Kingdom of Tonga for over 40 years.

He is succeeded by his eldest son, Crown Prince Tupou'toa who has assumed the title, King Siaosi Tupou V.

From the Federated States of Micronesia, President Urusemal conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the Tongan Prime Minister Dr. Feleti Sevele and to "the people and government of the Kingdom of Tonga and, most especially t the royal family for the untimely passing of His Majesty King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV.

His late Majesty King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV was a pioneering personality who influenced and contributed to the dynamic and progressive transformation of our Pacific region. His late Majesty's role in transforming the Kingdom of Tonga from a village-based economy to a regional and international trade economy is much admired...

The President noted that the King's death was felt throughout the region, among islands nations which have come to respect and admire the King for his "genuine love and affection for his people..."

The President concluded that "with this I join the people and government of the Federated States of Micronesia in conveying that we do share this great loss and will remember you and your people during these hard times of national mourning."

Tonga would officially be in mourning until mid-October, while the royal family will observe a six-month mourning period.

The late King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

Along with the people of Tonga, the State Funeral will be attended by the dignitaries and representatives from throughout the Pacific region, Asia and the United Kingdom. The FSM will be represented by HE Ambassador Kodaro Gallen.

and the rationale behind actions already committed.

After that, we will try and build a bridge between the contending parties taking into consideration the particular circumstances in the Solomon Islands, the international standards, including regional instruments that may be relevant to be considered.

Mr Mataitoga said they would also encourage further dialogue directly between Solomon Islands and Australia.

The unresolved diplomatic row between Australia and Solomon Islands resulted from this week's expulsion of Mr Cole who was blamed for political interference. Australia retaliated and revoked all multiple visas for Solomon Islands members of parliament. This forced Prime Minister Sogavare to travel through Fiji en route to the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Did You Know???

That... In the 1980 26 mile Boston Marathon, Rosie Ruiz tried to cheat by running only the last mile. Shortly after crossing the finish line, a pack of cigarettes fell out of her sock

That... A woman named Kola Boof claims she was Osama Bin Laden's mistress, and he was obsessed with singer Whitney Houston

That... an Oregon woman was arrested for shooting her husband after he shot her pet chicken. The chicken died, he was wounded in the arm.

That... ExxonMobil oil company made \$10.36 billion in the second three months of the year. That's \$114 million per day, \$79,000 per minute, \$1300 per second

Liberation Day celebrations in Hilo, Hawaii

While people in Pohnpei were preparing for the Liberation Day celebrations (September 11th), Pohnpeians (young and old) residing in the State of Hawaii, mainly on the big island and Maui met in Hilo for their own celebrations. The main highlight of this year's celebration was a softball tournament comprising of seven teams representing the big island and Maui. Maui brought in four teams while the remaining three teams were formed on big island (Hilo and Kona). According to Mr. Bensis Henry, coach-player for the UH student team, this is the first time that something like this has happened on the big island mainly due to the growing number of job seekers and students coming to Hilo over the years.

Celebrations began on Friday, September 8th with a short ceremony commemorating the holiday. Shortly after the opening cer-

emony, the teams immediately battled each other in a very intense single-round robin tournament with a double elimination showdown that lasted for approximately 30 hours from Friday morning till Sunday night. More than a dozen families, friends, and students came out to root for their favorite teams. After all that was said and done, one team came out on top, the student team from UH, Hilo led by Mr. Bensis Henry from Madolenihmw. The student team went undefeated during most of the competition but lost only one game against the hard-hitting Hilo all-men team during the double elimination playoffs. They stopped the all-men team during the 7th inning with a one-run lead. Everyone departed after the championship game with the promise to return for more competition next year. Thanks to the organizers for a job well done.



Pohnpeians in Hawaii celebrating Liberation day, September 11

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**Our Future**

Dear Editor:

A strong advocate of the freedom of speech, I once again implore for your time to share my views on our future. I must, first, uncurl a matter before I proceed. To my friends whom I have known for so long: I have no interest in politics, so those of you who have been eager to rush to conclusions whether in the past or now may rest your hullabaloo. Forgive such statement for truth is the proper antagonist to error.

The crude effort of a well-meaning society in advancing its economy can very well rest with the steady step of amelioration of its respective government. We, too, must contrive on how to achieve a better government. Transparency and accountability must be prioritized and implemented ardently in order to instigate this new concept. It's not surprising that it requires honest leaders to achieve healthier government in order to gain a good economy. I personally think that if we do not alter the course of our nation, the bulk of our society will be reduced to mere automatons of misery and such inroad will be a reproach on our sedentary way of life, if you believe what's been described of us. Gone are the days

of remaining idle, while those we put our trust in abuse our government for their own personal gains. Under pretense of governing, they have divided our nation resulting in finger pointing on whom to blame. Our identity as Micronesians, which has coalesced us in the past has ebbed with yesterday's flood leaving in its aftermath a sense of profound confusion. An incident so vivid in my mind worth sharing happened in college when one of the professors asked me, "where are you from?" without thinking I said, "I'm from Pohnpei." Try asking an American the same question and you will not be surprised of the response.

The uniform tenor of a man's life is to live happily and cherish what is most important to him, family. Any intrusion will be deemed unacceptable and shall never prevail if the man has something to say about it. We have witnessed the growth and decline of our government and we know who is to praise and who is to blame. It is our god given right to make amends for the past and change the course of the future. The effusion of the citizenry points to reform, to reclaim integrity in the government and to

see "Future" on next page

Reply on Condoms and More

Dear Editor,

In reply to all my dear friends who are concerned about my verifiable views about the frenzied proliferation of condoms in societies around the world, I would like to explain my concerns. Firstly, it is funny that the U.N. and all its down-line organizations, along with Gay and Lesbian groups agree that condoms hold the key to the World's Sexual problems.¹ ² The U.N. was asking donor countries for 9.9 Billion condoms to control AIDS in affected areas, particularly in Africa.³ Perhaps they believe that if every man, woman, and child has pockets full of condoms, then, this will control the spread of AIDS. I hope that they also explain the chronic failure rate of condoms. Many studies have been done on this subject and figures range widely

due to many variable factors (slipping, breaking, leaking and incorrect use). In the best educated control groups, results of condoms failure are between 2-4%.⁴ Other more common results are around 14% failure or higher.⁵

At the Marie Stopes Center in Leeds, England, where 4666 unborn children were aborted, after proper counseling, 46% of the women blamed condom failure for their unwanted pregnancies.⁶ The US Department of Health stated that condoms only offer 85% protection against HIV and 50% protection for men against Gonorrhea.⁷

Can a person be labeled irresponsible for demonstrating that condoms are unreliable and other options should be considered? We seem to be still suffering from the Freudian brainwash that unrestrained sexual activity is our best option in life. Our values-defi-

see "Reply" on page 14

KP-Perspective**Enough Condoms Already!**

I have, out of an almost coerced sense of fairness, published in this issue, yet another rebuttal on the issue of whether or not condoms work. I happen to be the managing editor of the Kaselehlie Press but opinions are like noses, everyone has one and they all smell to varying degrees. This is mine not necessarily the paper's.

Do you know the term "mutually exclusive"? It comes from Mathematics and has to do with set theory. Intersecting, or finding the common elements from two or more sets results in a subset of common elements. In Math, the sets consist of numbers but in this case we're talking about sets of ideas. Mutual exclusivity is when the resulting subset of intersection is "null", meaning that there are no common elements amongst the sets. The arguments presented in this and the last two issues really are not mutually exclusive; argumentative, and very, very different, yes, but not mutually exclusive.

We all know that human sexuality is extremely complex because each and every reader of this article is a human being with sexual drives ranging from those with almost no desire to people who think about not much else. In many cases the sex drive is not even sexually related. I'm not going to talk about where that drive came from in the first place because it just doesn't matter. It's there and it's not going away.

It seems to me that the arguments that have been presented in this paper vary in terms of how successful each camp feels they can

be in training out behaviors that result from the sex drive of humans. Both camps feel that they need to do training on abstinence or faithful monogamy which is one of the common elements. Both camps seem to be concerned about the extent to which condoms help or hinder the training. From what I read, one camp feels that giving out condoms is like saying, "You can't be abstinent or faithfully monogamous. Go ahead. Act on your impulses." That camp goes so far as to say that educators are "...telling our kids to lose their virginity and indulge in any kind of filth that they can imagine." The other camp says that people will act on their impulses no matter how they're trained and that they should be protected if they do.

The rhetoric flies: "We seem to be still suffering from the Freudian brainwash that unrestrained sexual activity is our best option in life." Interesting. Freud wrote, "But it must be said, to believe that psychoanalysis seeks to cure neurotic disorders by giving free reign to sexuality is a serious misunderstanding that can only be excused by ignorance." I wonder who it is that is "just" telling our kids to wear condoms. I'm certainly not seeing evidence of that on Pohnpei and I challenge anyone to find one program here that does not teach abstinence and faithful monogamy as the best way to prevent HIV/AIDS. You can't get HIV/AIDS or STI's from a practice you don't participate in. That's a no-brainer, but what about when a person does give in and participates in any one

See "Enough" on Page 14

Letters to the Editor are not researched in the same manner as articles. They are simply opinions and views of our readers. However, the policy of the paper is that we have your name, address and phone number in order to have it in print. The Editor has the right to edit Letters to the Editor. We still appreciate all tips and letters sent but just can't print them without a name.
Thank You. The Editor

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More Guidelines from the Center of the Universe

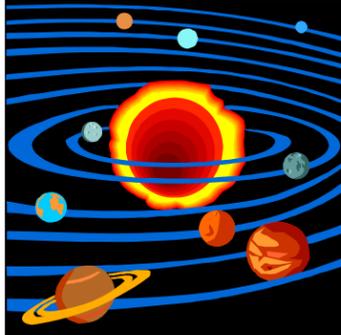
This set of guidelines was inspired by a recent trip down the causeway from the airport. I couldn't believe my eyes. I don't know why I didn't think of it. There, floating on the west side of the causeway was a trail of at least a thousand floatable containers of all types. If it could store air it was floating right there in the lagoon. It's too bad that one of those great purse seiners at the dock couldn't scoop up the debris so that I could see if the master had left his or her initials on each can, each bottle, and each ramen container. Great job and I bow to you, whoever made that happen. You are truly the center of the universe!

As a result of that experience I have developed a few more ideas in our quest to be at the center of the universe.

The first one will seem like a guideline for driving. It just involves driving. You've finished a pack of smokes, every one of which you've smoked and thrown out the car window in a flurry of roadside sparks. Good for you! That's step one. You could take that empty pack of smokes and fling it out the window as soon as

you pull your last one out and you'll get points but not as many as you would if you waited. When another vehicle is in view, chunk that pack out your window. Much better! You get extra points if the pack bounces off the windshield of the vehicle behind you. Quadruple those points if the pack sticks when it hits.

Disposable diapers are another great tool for establishing yourself at the center of the universe. After all, why should you have to live with them when you can share the wealth? Baby's got a nasty nappy? If you throw that nasty thing into a closed container and then dispose of it at the dump you lose points immediately. Throw that foul thing into the street, or even better, a waterway like a river or an ocean. Dogs help the process along since they love nasty nappies. They will go so far as to



swim for them and will spread your status as the center of the universe over a much bigger area than you can do yourself!

I once had a landlord that taught me a great deal on my quest to be the center of the universe. He operated with such smooth style! We asked him if he'd get rid of the trash on the side of the house he had rented to us. Oh, it was beautiful! There were old stoves, bits of waterbed, tools, clothes—the whole thing. We thought that he'd drive up in his pickup truck and haul it all to the dump. We knew immediately that he was the center of the universe when he picked up the first box of crud and threw it into the ocean next to which we lived! When I asked him about it he said, "This is how we build land in Pohnpei!" Cool! I wish I'd've known. I could've had more land than anyone on the island—rented of

course.

Oh, that house reminds me, the neighbors that moved in next door didn't have a bathroom but that didn't bother them at all. They used what would to most people be an inconvenience to take another step toward the center of the universe. They simply used a five gallon bucket all night and in the morning they would dump it off their back porch into the ocean. We first knew that they were the center of the universe when the tide went out leaving their used tissue on our back porch in a wad. They knew how to take a bad situation and make it better.

I could talk about cans, and chewing gum, and little old ladies at public swimming places who give their grandkids plastic bottles which they finish and then chunk into the ocean. I could talk about broken bottles, and broken down cars with trees growing out their windows but it's time to let you get creative. All of these things can be used to good effect to establish yourself at the center of the universe. Let's get crackin'!

Bill Jaynes
Center of the Universe

Future

continued from previous page

do away with the past errors before they become inveterate, as evidenced by the acts of the few odious leaders, whom our trust they so deliberately abused. There is no worse example than the Pitcher vs. Catcher scenario.

Now, one may ask, what does an honest leader have to do with the economy? Some of those sustainable economies around the world have corrupt leaders. Well, I, too, share the similar view. However, I would argue contrarily because it is not our own money they are abusing. The money comes from the sweats of Mary and Joe in America who find it in their kind hearts that they do care about our children. And they have entrusted with our leaders the obligation to care for the money to improve our livelihood. If the distribution, Mary and Joe's money, is done improperly, who does it affect? Mary and Joe, yeah a little but, the intended recipients shoulder the worst. The money that has been

abused can very well be spent on creating a business friendly climate, which we truly lack. What I am implying certainly does not mean that the Government should invest the money in businesses because it has been proven time and time again that such investment always fail, not only here, but, all over the world. To create a business friendly environment the government needs to create better roads, ample water supply, reliable electricity, better airport, etc. Doing so will attract more investors to come in and invest in the Country creating more jobs, therefore, helping the economy. So to answer the first question, honest leaders would find ways to properly spend our money. It is sad to say that Mary and Joe have finally decided that they will end the support in the next 17 years.

Now, it is my turn to ask you a question. First, here is a hypothetical scenario to consider, Mr. Corruption was elected to office by popular vote, after a while he found out how to cheat the people without them knowing it and he became good at it. Many years

pass and Mr. Educated found out about such activities. However, it was too late because Mr. Corruption held a post where his control was powerful and expansive. On top of that, Mr. Corruption had found out how to coerce and dupe his strong supporter Mr. Uneducated. Along with Mr. Family, Mr. Corruption became untouchable during election. So, in essence, if Mr. Corruption truly exists, he may be planning for his next maneuver. My question is, if this made-up individual(s) walks among us, should we allow him to get any hefty than he already has? I am only afraid that if we are to let him continue, it will certainly be an ok sign to those little Mr. Corruptions that may be emerging out of their own shells.

I guess the moral of the story is that we cannot allow the continuous abuse of our government because it is our only source of survival. The private sector alone cannot improve the economy without the support of the government. Our aim during the 3rd Economic Summit points to high growth development. I personally

believe that that is what the US wanted to hear, because if we fail they will say, you chose that path and it is your fault that you failed. I cannot stress enough how much we need reform, personnel is only a small factor in this process. The objective of the government should be placed on the private sector development to boost the economy. Our conservative way of life is something that we all value, but if we have to sacrifice a few to retain this standard of living, then do we have any other alternative? It is true that if transparency exists, the answer will be right in front of us.

I wonder how our children will describe of us when they come of age and look back on the so many wrongs committed against them, and yet we fail to stand up for them. Wise up.

Sincerely,
Mason Albert

REPLY

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cient sex education has been a disaster from the very beginning. Sex education was introduced into Swedish schools in 1956 promising to solve all problems of sexual ignorance. By 1964 venereal disease had doubled and by 1992, 65% of all first born children were illegitimate—an increase of 450% since 1957.^{8 9}

In Denmark, pornography was legalized in 1967 and sex education was made compulsory in 1970. Over the next 10 years, rape increased 300%, venereal disease for under 15s increased 400% and abortions increased 500%.¹⁰

In Anaheim, Orange County, California, the Sex Information and Educational Council of the U.S. (SIECUS) began teaching 9th graders the fundamentals of sexual relationships. By the time the girls reached their senior year, 300, or half the class, were pregnant.¹¹ Letter from Michael Treacy, UPF, September 19, 2006, Page 2

Mr. Johnny Hebel and HIV/AIDS Health employees point out that, concerning condoms, "...it merely offers a life jacket to those already swimming." I would ask, "Who pushed them into the water in the first place?" We, as educators, have a lot to answer for what we have done – or failed to do.

Sex Education should be taught alongside Character Education so that values are instilled at the same time that biological knowledge is given. Unfortunately most of our sex educators and Health Department people are more comfortable to just teach condom application. Our teaching standards should be higher than that. Even the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) state on their fact sheet that, "The surest way to avoid transmission of sexually transmitted diseases is to abstain from sexual intercourse, or be in a long-term mutually monogamous relationship with a partner who has been tested and you know is uninfected."¹²

Aren't we showing a careless attitude when we just tell our kids to wear condoms?

At a recent World Congress of Sexology, a speaker asked the 800 sexologist present this question, "If you had available the partner of your dreams and knew the person carried HIV, how many of you would have sex depending on a

condom for protection?" Not one person raised their hand. The speaker was irate and chastised them saying, "It was irresponsible to give advice to others that they would not follow themselves."¹³

Apart from the biological damage (and death) that failed condoms have caused, there is a greater emotional risk that premature sexual activity can cause. In a study of "Teen Sex and Emotional Risk for Girls," researchers found that there were big differences between abstinent and non-abstinent girls. Non-virgin girls felt twice as lonely, three times more tense, five times more likely to do self-harm and six times more likely to commit suicide than their virgin counterparts.¹⁴

In a similar study of behavior risks for girls, it was found that non-virgin (sexually active) girls were five times more likely to be suspended from school, six times more likely to drink alcohol, seven times more likely to smoke cigarettes, nine times more likely to be arrested by police, ten times more likely to use marijuana and nearly eighteen times more likely to run away from home compared to their virgin abstinent counterparts.¹⁵ Behavioral patterns for boys were less extreme, but still worrying.

Why are sex educators telling our kids to lose their virginity and indulge in any kind of filth that they can imagine?

In an Australian sex education manual, "Boys and Sex", the class was instructed on how to deceive your parents, engage in premature sex with girls, other boys and even animals.¹⁶

At another school at Grand Rapids, Michigan, staff from the Community Mental Health Service (CMHS) taught students as young as Seventh Grade about sexual fantasies and included graphic descriptions of masturbation, oral sex and group sex.¹⁷

Now the truth about the success in Uganda through the major role of the abstinence education and faithlessness to one partner which occurred over time through convincing education programs: When the program started in Uganda in 1980, the number of pregnant women infected with HIV was 21.2%. By 2001 the number was 6.2%. In Botswana, where condoms were promoted as the answer, their figure remained at 38% of pregnant women with HIV.¹⁸ The miss-reporting of facts by the liberal-leaning *Washing-*

Enough

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of those practices? People do or we wouldn't have to worry about whether or not condoms work.

I wouldn't presume to know why it is that some kids do and some kids don't have sex and by the way the issue of condoms goes way beyond teenagers. I know that as a High School student the only thing that kept me from sexual activity despite my upbringing in a pastor's family was lack of opportunity and probably a little bit of ugliness and bashfulness as well. All that said I find the research on high school non-virgins discussed in today's letter, to be backwards. All of the behaviors that were measured were risk behaviors in many different areas not related to whether the subjects were virgins or not. I would be willing to risk an uneducated opinion that the causative agent was not the lack of virginity but that the lack of virginity stemmed from problems of wanting to belong, or other deeper factors.

The issue of AIDS and condoms is always discussed in statistical terms. I found in college that anything can be proved with research

ton Post, printed a very different scenario. They said that condoms saved the day (or the Nation).¹⁹

However, it was due to the ABC model with emphasis on Abstinence and Faithfulness with one partner which really made the changes in Uganda.

Epidemiologist, Dr. Rand Stoneburner who conducted a USAID study, concluded that Uganda's success was based on behavioral change in response to the epidemic.²⁰ In particular, he found that 89% of Ugandans had changed their sexual behavior to avoid AIDS.²¹ It was discovered that now 98% of Ugandan women were reporting either abstinence or no sex partner outside their regular partners.²²

Under Uganda's ABC approach, condoms were considered the last option, aimed primarily at high risk groups such as commercial sex workers who were unlikely to change their sexual behaviors, and most of the population rejected the condom option, as

Dr. Vinand Nanlulya, an infectious disease advisor to President Museveni said, "Ugandans never really took to condoms."²³

statistics given the proper coefficient of correlation. What we're talking about in this discussion is not condoms, abstinence or statistics. We're talking about people—individuals; massive groups of individuals yes, but individuals, with all of the complexities that make us individuals. There is no one solution that is going to solve the problem of HIV/AIDS other than a vaccine. We're all just too complex.

I believe that sexual activity with no condom offers 0% protection while with a condom there is at least some protection. It seems that both sides want education. Perhaps that education should not assume that we all have the same moral background. We just don't.

I'm a southern boy by birth if not by practice. When my brother and I got in an argument my Mom used to say, that we "looked like two mules braying at each other across a fence." I'm seeing that here. The resolution of the debate between condoms and abstinence will rage on and on but that debate will no longer rage in this paper. We'll put it to bed for now if you'll pardon the pun.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

Even of the high risk groups, 91% of condoms distributed went unused.²⁴

We need to ask how effective condoms really are in combating epidemics like HIV/AIDS. A UNAIDS report clearly stated, "There are no definite examples yet of generalized epidemics that have been turned back by preventive programs based primarily on condom promotion."²⁵ In countries which have the highest levels of condom availability – Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa and Kenya – they still have the highest HIV prevalence rates.²⁶

In conclusion, it is essential that the principles of the ABC program are in the right order: abstinence, fidelity and condoms as a last resort.

Dr. Anne Peterson, USAID director of global health commented, "Kids are willing and able to abstain from sex." She added, "Condoms play a role. They are better than nothing, but the core of Uganda's success story is a big A, big B and a little C".²⁷ We should then question why Global Funds, like UNAIDS and WHO (World Health Organization) con-

See "Reply" on the next page

GUEST VIEWPOINT

Facing the past, Embracing the Future

By **DAISAKU IKEDA**
Soka Gakkai International

To communicate the truths of history is an act of hope for the future. We thus owe it to the youthful generations of the 21st century to communicate the hatred of war, the commitment to peace, that was engraved in so many lives on Aug. 15, 1945.

A survey conducted in Japan last year revealed disturbing realities: It found that only 45 percent of Japanese in their 20s -- and scant 26 percent in their teens -- could accurately date the end of World War II. And asked if the thought Japan would go to war during their lifetimes, 15 percent of those in their 20s responded "yes". One in four teenagers expects to experience war.

These attitudes are not unrelated. A healthy vision of the future is not possible without an accurate knowledge of the past.

Aug. 15, 1945, was the day of Japan's defeat in World War II. At the same time for the peoples of Asia, this was a day of liberation from the cruel domination of Japanese militarism. Many Japanese citizens experienced a similar sense of liberation. I will never forget the sight of my father, already in poor health, listing the names of his four drafted sons and murmuring, "Soon they will be home."

For Japanese people living today, Aug. 15 should be a day of renewing our vow to build enduring peace; it should be a day of reaffirming our determination to contribute to the stability and prosperity of Asia.

The misery inflicted by Japanese militarism on the people of Asia is too vast and deep ever to be fully atoned for. Japan must demonstrate, with clear words and earnest actions, the commitment never to repeat the errors of the past. And it must do so in a way that earns the heartfelt trust of the people of Asia.

To make a sincere accounting of historical realities and reflect on past misdeeds is hardly "masochistic" or self-denigrating. It is, rather, a courageous and honorable act.

Japan's war-renouncing Constitution and policy of not possessing nuclear arms are essential conditions for gaining the trust of our fellow Asians. The loss of either of these conditions will increase regional instability and undermine Japan's security.

The benefits Japan has received from Asia are immeasurable. Wet-rice culture, the Chinese writing system, construction and engineering technology, medical treatment and pharmacology, and systems of thought and religious belief--these are just a few of the cultural riches that have reached Japan from Asia, in particular from our neighbors in China, and the Korean Peninsula.

Nor is this debt limited to objects or ideas. Since ancient times, people from throughout Asia have brought to Japan their talents, knowledge and energy, helping to lay the basis for Japan's existence as a country. It is crucial that we remain cognizant, from a larger historical perspective, of these profound and ancient connections with the countries of Asia, to whom we owe an immense cultural debt.

In recent years the idea of an East Asian Community has been gaining momentum. Last year, for example, the first East Asian Summit was held in Kuala Lumpur. Among the important outcomes was agreement to continue dialogue at the highest levels toward the eventual creation of an East Asian Community.

There are a number of cross-border "human security" issues -- ecological integrity to energy issues and the spread of infectious disease -- that urgently require region-wide cooperation. Tackling such problems can provide concrete opportunities for building collaborative relations in the region.

A sense of a common civilization provided a basis for the initial stages of European integration. Asia is richly diverse in its cultural and religious traditions, as well as political systems. But there is within the region, I believe, a shared spiritual heritage that values harmony between humans and between humanity and nature that sees personal identity as most fully realized through our familiarity and engagement with others. This ethos gives precedence to cooperation over rivalry, unity over fragmentation, the pluralistic "we" over the isolated "I".

To foster recognition of our shared past, efforts have been made to write textbooks to be used for the teaching of history throughout Asia. These efforts have bogged down, hindered by nationalist sentiments in different countries, but they should not be abandoned. Here also we can learn from the example of a recently launched joint French-German textbook for the teaching of modern history, a project first pro-

posed by the European Youth Parliament.

Such efforts can encourage awareness that transcends the limitations of individual states. States change and are transformed by the rushing currents of history. What is constant is the people - human beings and humanity.

If we review history in bird's-eye perspective, it is clear that it is always authoritarian leaders, and the forces that fan the flames of conflict for their own gain, who start wars. And it is always ordinary citizens who pay the price. This is why we need to transcend the confrontations of "our country" versus "theirs," creating a global people's solidarity that confronts and challenges the demonic abuse of authority wherever it occurs.

Asia has the potential to demonstrate a model for shifting from a system centered on national interest to one centered on people's interests.

It is crucial to build a solid, multi-layered fabric of friendship and trust, firmly connecting the hearts of ordinary people. Especially vital are exchanges between the young people who will carry the challenges of the future. The solidarity of the youthful citizens of Asia - of world citizens - is our most certain bulwark against war.

When human beings live together, conflict is inevitable. War is not. The idea that "we are in conflict" can be reinterpreted to mean "we share a problem." A shared problem can best be met and resolved through shared efforts. Rather than facing off in confrontation, we should together turn to face our common future, united in a shared commitment of the welfare of the young.

While our language, culture, ethnic and religious heritages may differ, the future we must share - the future of the young people of each society - is one and the same.

REPLY

continued from previous page

tinued to devote much of its resources to the least affective means of combating HIV/AIDS - Condoms.

Another troubling fact is that the average Global Fund employee's salary is \$174,603 (a sum greater than the salaries of most heads of state).²⁸

After working hard to solve Uganda's tragic situation, President Museveni said, "We made it our highest priority to convince our people to return to their tradi-

tional values of chastity and faithfulness and failing that, to use condoms. The alternative was decimation."²⁹

The evidence cited above is an indictment on the false hope and limited protection of condoms that some would have us believe to be a sufficient safeguard. It is also true that condoms don't protect the heart. Certain emotional damage is inevitable when we adopt that lifestyle. Regret may come years later.

We should all feel responsible for the wholesome development of our youth who will be the parents

and leaders of tomorrow.

Let us learn from the mistakes of the past and work together to guarantee them a safer, happier and more peaceful world for the future.

Michael Treacy
Universal Peace Federation
(320 3201)

Editor's note: Mr. Treacy supplied all of the footnotes listed in his reply. We didn't have room to print them. If you are interested in a copy please email us at kpress@mail.fm and we will send you a copy.

LAST Issue's Solution

M	O	B	S	G	R	E	A	M	S	H	O	E		
O	M	I	T	H	O	R	D	E	C	O	R	D		
L	A	T	E	C	A	L	I	T	R	O	A	D		
T	R	E	A	D	S	E	L	A	T	E	D	I	L	I
D	I	E	T	E	P	E	S							
D	E	S	I	G	N	E	R	H	E	N	B	I	T	
E	V	I	L	S	P	I	T	O	N	A	G	E		
M	A	R	Y	D	E	F	E	R	G	A	I	N		
C	O	L	G	R	E	T	A	M	O	O	N	S		
N	E	S	T	L	E	S	C	R	O	U	N	G	E	
R	E	D	S	H	E	R								
S	T	R	A	N	G	E	R	M	E	M	B	E	R	
L	O	O	M	I	N	A	N	E	A	L	T	O		
A	T	O	P	N	O	V	E	L	N	U	T	S		
M	E	T	S	G	R	E	E	T	D	R	E	E		

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12
13					14						15		
16					17						18		
19					20			21		22			
		23					24						
25	26	27				28				29	30	31	32
33					34				35				
36					37				38			39	
40			41				42				43		
44						45				46			
			47			48				49			
50	51	52						53			54	55	56
57						58		59			60		
61						62					63		
64						65					66		

ACROSS

- 1. Bivalve mollusk
- 5. Room
- 10. Santa aide
- 13. Sharpen
- 14. Husks
- 15. Graf _____
- 16. Raw steel
- 17. Data received
- 18. Prong
- 19. Suspended
- 21. Of physicians, etc.
- 23. Island (Fr.)
- 24. Credit
- 25. Sinuous movement
- 28. Secret agent
- 29. Reverberates
- 33. Sudden pain
- 34. Lick at
- 35. Stick
- 36. Work unit
- 37. Support columns
- 39. Fruit drink
- 40. Swore
- 42. Wonder
- 43. Angered

- 44. Ranked
- 45. Convent dweller
- 46. Admittance
- 47. Oven-cooked
- 49. Eric the
- 50. Twins
- 53. Wing section
- 57. Deception
- 58. Short jackets
- 60. Lay concrete, e.g.
- 61. Chilled
- 62. Level
- 63. Maple or birch
- 64. Degree of study (abbr.)
- 65. Author Anya _____
- 66. Livestock group

DOWN

- 1. Potato
- 2. Knowledge
- 3. Later
- 4. Repairing
- 5. Gloss
- 6. Football kick
- 7. High mountain
- 8. Inept
- 9. Italian nobles
- 10. Heroic tale
- 11. Singer Home
- 12. Sense
- 15. Baste, e.g.
- 20. Large deer
- 22. Actions
- 24. Clap
- 25. Lance
- 26. Insect form
- 27. Cast metal
- 28. Actor Mineo
- 30. Core
- 31. Command
- 32. Dilapidated
- 34. Cover
- 35. Exist (p1.)
- 37. Foot lever
- 38. Grain beard
- 41. Like duck's feet
- 43. Thorough (hyph.)
- 45. Snuggle
- 46. Skinny fish
- 48. Retains
- 49. Gone up
- 50. Slight spill
- 51. Sound of pain
- 52. Not new
- 53. Year (Lat.)
- 54. Uncommon
- 55. Above
- 56. Necessity
- 59. Type of grain

SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

Word Search - Yo Ho!

He sang "Tiny Bubbles," played the big rooms from Vegas to New York, and even had his own TV-Variety show. He's Hawaii's own Don Ho, the subject of this Word Seek!

- "AIN'T NO Big Thing!"
- "A LOVER'S Prayer"
- AUDIENCE
- "BEAUTIFUL Kauai"
- "DON HO Show"
- "DOWN BY the Shack, by the Sea"
- DUKE's (nightclub)
- ENTERTAINER
- FANS
- "FOLLOWING Sea"
- HAWAII
- HOST
- HUMOR
- "I'LL REMEMBER You."
- IMAGE

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

- "KRAFT Music Hall MUSIC ORGAN
- "PEARLY Shells"
- RECORDS
- SINGER
- SONGS
- STAGE
- STARDOM
- "SWEET Someone"
- TELEVISION
- "TINY Bubbles"
- TV SHOW
- VARIETY programs
- VOICE
- WAIKIKI
- "WINDWARD SIDE"

MARY BERMAN
Attorney

Tel: (691) 320-2210 P.O. Box 163
Email: mberman@mail.fm Kolonia, Pohnpei
FM 96941

KASELEHLIE PRESS

BILL JAYNES
MANAGING EDITOR

Tel: (691) 320-6547 P.O. Box 2222
Email: kpress@mail.fm Pohnpei, FM
96941

Law Office of 

ANDREA S. HILLYER
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P.O. Drawer D, Pohnpei, FM 96941
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FAX: (691) 320-6485
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What is the Solution to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Problem?

The problem is a big one and everyone has a chance to help. Even small efforts at the individual level are valuable and added together can result in major contributions. In the FSM, we are lucky that some of the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) chemicals have never been brought here intentionally, but we are also unlucky in that a relatively small hazardous substance "spill" can cause substantial damage to our fragile island environments. The bottom line is that we must all do our part.

At the global level, all nations need to ratify and follow the Stockholm Convention's regulations and guidelines. It is our best opportunity to reduce the harm to the environment, the earth's wildlife, and to the human inhabitants of the planet. POPs contamination and exposure do not stop at

the border, they do not stay put in one place. Consensus is essential for an international agreement affecting the entire world. The Convention is a case of everyone benefiting if everyone participates, and of everyone losing if only a few do not join in and cooperate.

At the regional level, nations and international organizations must follow the prescribed actions and recommendations of the Stockholm Convention. Production of all POPs must be stopped as soon as possible, and research in the development of safe alternatives must be supported. Countries must stop the import of POPs, and the use of POPs as soon as possible. Governments must adopt regulations that control the activities, such as incineration and the manufacturing of products that produce POPs as an unintentional byproduct. Citizens should lobby their governments to ratify and

adhere to the provisions of the Stockholm Convention.

At the state and national levels, environmentally "friendly" legislation needs to be established. The importation and use of POPs containing substances must be strictly controlled until total elimination is achieved. Governments should encourage and provide legislative support to waste reduction strategies, proper waste management procedures, hazardous substance registration, and regulations that ensure that the general public is well informed and aware of the safe storage, use, and disposal of all potentially dangerous substances.

In the island neighborhoods, community level programs that reduce the waste stream need to be developed, such as the recycling of plastics, metals, glass, and paper. Stores should encourage customers to reuse shopping bags, not to use plastic bags, and decrease the ordering of products with unnecessary, excess packaging. Laws restricting the use of POPs chemicals need to be strictly enforced, and the provision of safe alternative products encouraged. Information must be made available to

residents about how to recognize potential POPs hazards, and assistance provided on how to properly dispose of materials containing, or contaminated with, POPs chemicals.

At home, members of the family should reduce, reuse, and recycle as much as possible. Purchase products that are made with recycled materials, and that are not disposable. Don't trade convenience for an environment polluted with POPs. For example, matches are less harmful to the environment than lighters. Vehicles that are serviced regularly and tuned up properly produce less POPs emissions. Do not burn rubbish, garbage or other trash at your residence. Make sure that cooking fires are supplied with plenty of oxygen and use clean fuel at all times. Do not use plastics or other POPs containing substances to start your fire. If possible, locate cooking locations downwind of the places where people live and sleep. And last, but very important, keep alert to any potential sources of POPs in your village or town. Report them to the Police, the Environmental Protection Agency, or the Health Department.

TIDE TABLE September 27-October 10, 2006

	POHNPEI, KOSRAE		CHUUK	
Wednesday	27 04:42AM 3.3 0:31AM 1.1 L 05:10PM 4.3 11:42PM 1.6	4 01:12AM 4.2 07:56AM 1.0 02:04PM 3.6 07:40PM 1.5	27 03:04AM 0.9 08:34AM 0.1 03:54PM 2.0 10:59PM 0.4	4 12:27AM 1.9 08:07AM -0.3 02:45PM 1.1 06:56PM 0.7
Thursday	28 04:59AM 2.9 10:42AM 1.3 05:39PM 4.1	5 01:51AM 4.5 08:19AM 0.8 02:26PM 4.1 08:18PM 1.1	28 02:52AM 0.7 08:27AM 0.0 4:17PM 2.0	5 01:06AM 2.0 08:11AM -0.1 02:29PM 1.3 07:38PM 0.5
Friday	29 12:27AM 1.9 05:09AM 2.5 10:47AM 1.5 06:15PM 3.8	6 02:27AM 4.6 08:43AM 0.8 02:51PM 4.5 08:55PM 0.8	29 08:18AM -0.1 04:44PM 1.9	6 01:41AM 1.8 08:13AM 0.0 02:28PM 1.6 08:20PM 0.3
Saturday	30 02:10AM 2.1 04:31AM 2.2 10:24AM 1.7 07:23PM 3.5	7 03:01AM 4.5 09:07AM 0.7 03:18PM 4.8 09:32PM 0.7	30 08:08AM -0.2 05:20PM 1.7	7 02:12AM 1.6 08:12AM 0.1 02:36PM 1.9 09:04PM 0.2
Sunday	1 07:57AM 1.7 10:57PM 3.5	8 03:33AM 4.3 09:31AM 0.8 03:47PM 4.9 10:10PM 0.7	1 08:01AM -0.3 10:05PM 1.6	8 02:39AM 1.3 08:08AM 0.2 02:50PM 2.1 09:49PM 0.1
Monday	2 07:24AM 1.4 02:11PM 2.7 05:54PM 2.4	9 04:05AM 4.0 09:54AM 0.9 04:18PM 5.0 10:48PM 0.9	2 07:59AM -0.4 11:39PM 1.8	9 02:57AM 0.9 08:00AM 0.1 03:07PM 2.3 10:38PM 0.2
Tuesday	3 12:24AM 3.9 07:36AM 1.2 01:52PM 3.1 06:57PM 2.0	10 04:34AM 3.6 10:14AM 1.1 04:48PM 4.8 11:29PM 1.2	3 08:02AM -0.3 03:28PM 1.1 06:10PM 1.0	10 02:59AM 0.6 07:50AM 0.0 03:27PM 2.3 11:44PM 0.3

Clean Up the World

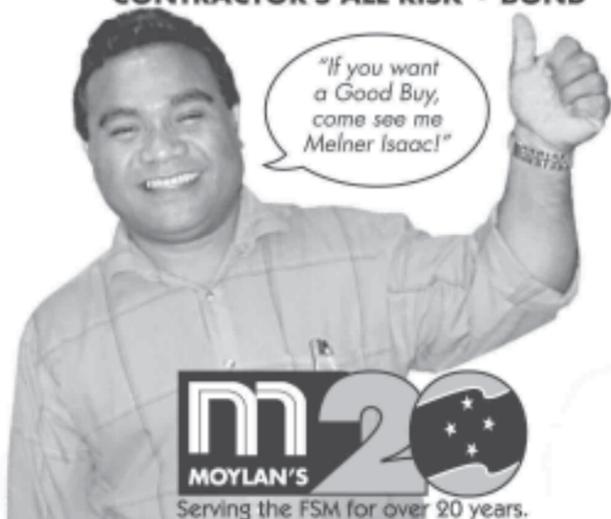


Photo by Bill Jaynes

The fourth graders of Ohmine Elementary were only some of the participants as the Pohnpei "Clean Up the World" came to close at a special celebration held at the PICS High School Track. "Clean Up the World" is a community based environmental program based in Sydney, Australia that inspires and empowers individuals and communities from every corner of the globe to clean up, fix up and conserve their environment. The program was begun in 1993 in Australia and has spread throughout the world. Dignitaries from the Australian Embassy and Pohnpei State Government were on hand to speak to the small crowd gathered on the track.

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COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Namiki 2nd Floor Restaurant at 6:30pm. Public Welcome.



The Christian Ministerial Association of Pohnpei State meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Cantor Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office.



FSM Veterans Association meets the first Friday of every month at 6pm at the The Rusty Anchor.



Devotions every Sunday 9:30 a.m. at the Baha'i Center in Dolonier. For details, call 320-2182.



Habitat for Humanity Pohnpei holds their meeting every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sei Restaurant.



Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30p.m. Everyone welcome.



The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15p.m at PCR/Nantehlik.



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 Community Bulletin is a free message board exclusive to announcements. To post your announcements to The Kaselehlie Press

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that he hadn't had
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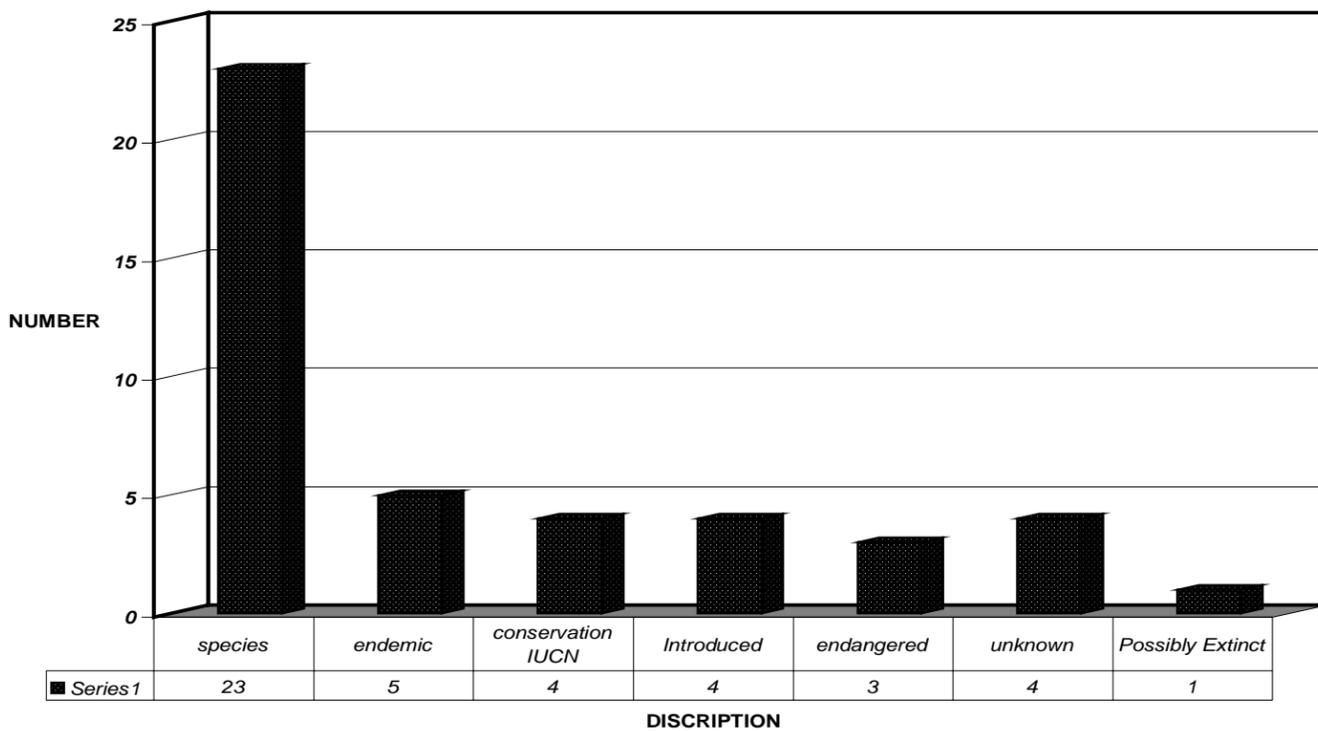
CONSERVATION CORNER

Avifauna of Pohnpei

Two bird surveys were done and completed in Pohnpei, which showed that most of the populations of Pohnpei's birds were reduced by 60% between 1981 and 1993. The past two surveys suggested that there are potentially disastrous downward trends in bird populations over the long-term. It would be difficult to notice such a slow decline without surveys, and there is the potential that the decline has continued. Therefore, CSP is working hard to implement a third bird survey with assistance from USFWS, Dylan Kessler, a professor at Virginia Polytechnic University and other partners who had done tremendous work in such field both locally and internationally. This third survey should provide information about whether populations have continued to shrink. In addition, it would be useful in identifying WHY populations have changed. This information would certainly be more useful to directing future conservation efforts than simply knowing that there are fewer birds.

The graph shows how many bird species are there in Pohnpei, how many can be found in Pohnpei, how many are brought in, how many are on the brink of extinction, unknown and how many are classified extinct under IUCN an international organization who monitors species through out the world. For further questions, you can contact CSP at 320-5409.

THE AVIFAUNA OF POHNPEI



1/2 Chickens Down

\$1.55

61¢/yd.

1 pair Shorts

2 for \$3.00

SPORTS

Rahn en Mwei Mwahu Little League Champs

By **LESTLYASHBY**

Kolonia- On Sept. 10, 2006 in front of a packed and cheering crowd the Rahn en Mwei Mwahu Little League Baseball Championship was crowned with the TRITONS from Mwokilloa edging the Diamondbacks from Lepin Sed, Madolenihmw in an 8 inning thriller with a score of 7-6. The day-capper saw two teams from Kolonia Town vying for the bronze medal game with the SCREAMING EAGLES SCORING 18 runs to defeat the NIGHTHAWKS with 11 runs. Rounding out the league results is the youthful POSIEDON who went winless in league play.

Organizers of the league would like to thank all who have contributed to making this league a success, most especially our sponsors, the LEO ETSCHKEIT FOUNDATION, The FSM NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE who donated the trophies & medals, WESTERN UNION for the complimentary gift bags and Mr. Willy Hawley for the lease of baseball gear.



Championship winners, the Tritons celebrate victory

RANK	TEAM NAME	WIN	LOSS	GB	PCT.
1.	TRITONS	4	0	-	1.000
2.	LEPINSED DIAMONDBACKS	3	1	1	.750
3.	SCREAMING EAGLES	2	2	2	.500
4.	NIGHTHAWKS	1	3	3	.250
5.	POSIEDON	0	4	4	.000

PLAY-OFF RESULTS:

LEPIN SED DIAMONDBACKS 20 SCREAMING EAGLES 10
TRITONS 12 NIGHTHAWKS 9

CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND

3RD PLACE GAME

SCREAMING EAGLES 18 NIGHTHAWKS 11

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

TRITONS 7 LEPINSED DIAMONDBACKS 6

Half Day Tourney was a Blast

By **ZAC and ANDREW JACKSON-CALWAY**
Pohnpei Fishing Club

On Saturday, September 9, 2006 the Pohnpei Fishing Club held a successful half day jackpot tournament with 8 boats participating. The idea for the tournament was to encourage more ladies, juniors and anglers to participate who did not wish to spend their whole day out on the water fishing.

The total boat weight prize worth \$70 was won by "Boat" with 159 lbs of fish. "Rosie II" took the second place prize of \$30.00. The biggest fish for the day was a 58lb Yellowfin caught by Alex Tretnoff. Second prize went to Mary Tretnoff with a 31.5lb yellow fin. Mary was also awarded lady angler with her 21lb Wahoo. Nihda Weilbacher took second place in the ladies division with her 16.5lb skipjack tuna. Rebecca Jackson-Calway fishing in her first tournament, caught a (whopping) 6lb Barracuda to take first place junior angler and Sophie Finnen came a close second with her 5.5lb Barracuda.

Over 50 anglers and spectators then enjoyed a delicious barbecue lunch provided by the Rusty Anchor and a few fun hours enjoying the Pohnpei sunshine by the water's edge.

The one that didn't get away prize went to Konrad Englberger who reeled in a lovely 11lb yellow fin **head**, no points for that one matey. Better bulk up on bananas Konrad to reel in the fish quicker.

The Pohnpei Fishing Club would like to thank the Rusty Anchor for providing both the weigh in venue and the great lunch we all enjoyed.



Weighmaster Paul Thomas weighs in a nice yellow fin

Another Kalahngan goes to the boys from "Hawaii Goes Fishing" who shot some great footage at both the weigh in and around Pohnpei.

The next tournament will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2006 with registration at PCR Restaurant on Friday, October 20, 2006 at 5.30 pm until 7.00 pm.

Don't forget the Catch 8 Tournament on November 18, 2006.