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This bi-weekly publication is \$1.00

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President Mori Speaks to Thousands at the Joint Inaugural Celebration

"To Do What Is Right For Our Nation Is Not Always To Do What Is Easy... I Will Always Endeavor To Do What Is Right"

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM – Despite the sticky heat generated by the hundreds of bodies at the College of Micronesia China Friendship Gym in Palikir, the atmosphere on July 16 was festive during the Joint Inauguration Celebration Ceremonies for President Emanuel Mori, Vice President Alik J. Alik, and the members of the Fifteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia.

A flamboyant choir from Moch, Chuuk provided unique and well done music, some of it written for the event, complete with entertaining choreography, a difficult feat considering that all in the group were seated except for the two leaders of the group. At least one woman said to be a family member of the Vice President couldn't, after the inaugural address by President Mori, keep her seat but let the music of the group take over to the gathered crowds'

delight and apparently, to her own.

The invocation was delivered by Father Frances X. Hezel and called for the "wisdom and courage to unite where there are issues and past grievances that divide us; to offer hope where there is gloom and pessimism regarding the future; to provide leadership at those times when it would be easier to retreat a safe distance and simply let things work themselves out."

For the others gathered at the inauguration including many dignitaries from the Pacific, Asia, and the U.S., Father Hezel prayed, "...We ask for the same readiness to sacrifice for the common good that we pray for our President and Vice President. Grant us the willingness to unite behind these men who have been chosen to lead the nation. Give



Photo by Rebecca Keller

us the generosity to put aside the personal differences that could obstruct our progress as a nation. Help us, like our elected officials, to dedicate ourselves to the good of this nation."

Governor Johnny David, one of the four State Governors present

for the inauguration gave welcoming remarks. He said that President Mori would be the lucky President since he is the 7th President of the FSM. He reminded the crowd that the Bible calls the number seven the num-

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Congress Votes on Presidential Nominees and Reorganization Bill

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM – When Speaker Isaac Figir brought his gavel down at 10:55 on an almost too bright Saturday morning, July 21 signifying the close of the first special session of the Congress of the FSM there was nearly an audible sigh of relief from the Senators especially from Floor Leader Joe Suka who had to run out the door in order to catch his flight back to Chuuk. The Special Session had been extended by two days in order to accommodate the large amount of work that the Senators needed to accomplish. They accomplished a great deal despite sometimes heated discussions on the floor.

President Mori called the special session and asked Congress to act on 5 items. First on the list was the executive Re-Organization bill followed by his Nominations for Cabinet level positions. Not included on the President's action

list was legislation recommended by Micronesia Registration Advisors who have been contracted to promote captive insurance and other plans and other corporate registries in Japan.

Vice Speaker Senator Resio

Moses of Pohnpei, during the first day of the Special Session said that he had intended to read into the Congressional Journal two statements but since President Mori was sitting right behind him he entered the items into the journal in written form for the other

Senators to read instead.

He did make a verbal statement regarding his concern on fast track legislative items such as the one that MRA submitted to Congress on Venture Funds saying that Congress should be methodical in their review of the legislation. He said they should do slow, careful reviews. "Not to question MRA but our duty is to our constituents and not to an outside unelected body."

In his written statement on the Re-organization bill submitted by the President he said, "...one senses [the] President's wish to not only bring efficiency into the delivery of government programs and services but a wish to enhance the qualitative standard of life of the people as well. President Mori's heart is in the right place and re-organization should be given Congressional sanction, that be-

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Thorfinn is Off the Reef at Last

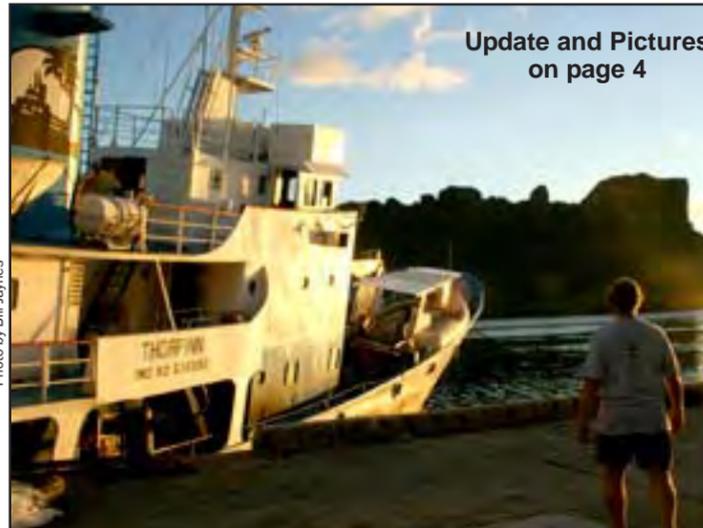


Photo by Bill Jaynes

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NEWS

...Congress

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ing a matter that is and should be the prerogative of the chief executive, the President that is." Having made that statement he went on to say why he thought that what the President was trying to accomplish could be done without having to reorganize in order to do it.

Over the course of the next several days in Congress, the proposed Reorganization Bill became the topic of many intense discussions. The general consensus seemed to be that members of Congress would support the reorganization but that they needed more information. Indeed on July 20th the bill passed the first reading. Senator Claude Phillip of Kosrae abstained knowing that, due to an earlier ruling by Speaker Isaac Figir of Yap on another issue his abstention would be interpreted as a yes vote.

The passage of the bill was based

on a gentlemen's agreement amongst the Senators that they would defer the second reading to the September regular session so that they would have time to have their questions answered by the Executive Branch. President Mori contacted Senator Sitan sometime after the Friday session and asked him to push for the second reading. He told the Senators on Saturday that despite his high regard and respect for the President he felt that it was important to honor his agreement with his colleagues to defer the second reading of the bill to the September session and so moved. His colleagues approved the deferment.

Also passed on the 20th was a bill to put in place the essential legislation by which an FSM Energy Corporation could be set up. The bill passed by unanimous consent of the States.

Since the Reorganization Bill has not yet passed Congress there was substantial conversation on the floor on Friday the 13th as to

whether any of the Presidential nominees for cabinet positions could be confirmed. It was ultimately decided that there were a few nominees that could be confirmed but that the confirmations would be for the positions as they are currently organized.

During the discussion of possible confirmation of Lorin S. Robert as the Secretary of the Foreign Affairs, Vice Speaker Moses said that he would likely vote for confirmation of Mr. Robert but that he would do it with some reservations. He was concerned about whether or not Robert had the strength of leadership necessary to run the department. He said that the letter that Robert wrote for attachment to the FSM Public Auditor's report on the FSM Embassy in Washington D.C. was questionable and appeared to be a deliberate attempt to mislead Congress on the serious issues there. Senator Phillip aligned himself with Moses' statement.

Senator Dohsis Halbert of Pohnpei said at the time the letter was written Robert was acting as a subordinate and was following the policy of his former boss. He said that he felt that if Robert was chief he'd make his own decisions.

The question was called when discussion was complete and Congress confirmed by secret ballot, Robert S. Lorin by a vote of 13 to 1.

There were only a few questions regarding the confirmation of Finley S. Perman who is currently Pohnpei State's Director of Treasury and Administration. Senator Peter Sitan wanted to know if the members of the confirmation committee felt that Perman could actually lead saying that Perman had only held middle management positions. He received many affirmative responses to his question.

Perhaps it didn't hurt that Senator Halbert had publically congratulated Perman in Congress on the opening day of the Special session. Perman was commended

for Pohnpei State's second unqualified audit in a row and for the finding that the State's General Fund had an \$8 million surplus.

Floor Leader Suka asked about Perman's age. Other Senators asked why he felt that was important and wanted to know if they were going to set a precedent of confirming only older people?

Ballots were distributed once again and Finley S. Perman was unanimously confirmed as the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, the department that Senator Halbert called the most challenging one in Government.

In closing remarks that day Senator Sitan challenged Perman to begin to try to collect more tax from the State of Chuuk. Senator Moses Nelson also of Chuuk said that for four years running the FSM had failed to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Compact and challenged Perman to right this wrong.

The vote for confirmation of Francis I. Itimai as Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communications, and Infrastructure was undertaken Thursday with minimal conversation. Most of the discussion on the confirmation of Itimai took place on Wednesday and was characterized by staff as "heated."

Congress voted once again by secret ballot. When they returned to order after the voting recess Speaker Figir told the Senators that when the ballots were counted it was found that one Senator had not voted and that he ruled that vote would count as a yes vote. Former President Joseph Urusemal objected to the ruling though not formally because he didn't know that Congress was no longer allowing an abstention vote. He had intended his vote to count as a "no". Figir's ruling stood and the vote was 7 to 6 in favor of confirmation. Con-

see "Congress" on page 12

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Hawai'i Shows Its Support for the People of the FSM

Senator J. Kalani English Wants to "...Make Life Better for Micronesians in the U.S."

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM - Senator J. Kalani English of the Senate of the State of Hawai'i was in the FSM during inauguration weekend for two main reasons. Senator English is passionate about Hawai'i's relationship with other Pacific Island nations and how they can all work together. He said he was here to attend the inauguration of the new President, Vice President, and the Congress of the FSM in order to extend the best wishes of Hawai'i to the FSM. He said that he felt it was a good symbolic gesture to be in the FSM at this time, both for the FSM, and for the Pacific region.

Senator English serves as the Chair of the Senate's Committee on Transportation and International Affairs.

Though Senator English had

made plans to come to the FSM before The Honolulu Advertiser ran a front page article entitled "Micronesians Fill Hawai'i Shelters", on Micronesian shelter use in their July 8, Sunday issue, the widely read article certainly aided him with the second part of his agenda. He wanted to talk with government leaders about how the FSM and Hawai'i could best work together to make life better for Micronesians in the U.S and perhaps, though he didn't specifically say so, not quite so hard for Hawai'i State finances.

English said that officials in Hawai'i think that the number of FSM citizens living in Hawai'i is in the neighborhood of 15,000. U.S. Census questionnaires differentiate nationalities but only insofar as to say respondents are Pacific Islanders. There is no way to indicate on the form



Hawai'i's Senator J. Kalani English

whether a respondent is from a Freely Associated State (FAS) or not. He said that he asked President Mori in a meeting with him to try to help to determine more closely how many FSM citizens are living in Hawai'i.

Freely Associated States are countries in the Pacific that have financial and immigration arrangements with the U.S arranged

under a treaty. The citizens of FAS countries have immigration arrangements to live and work in the United States with relatively few restrictions. The problem is that because of their immigration status in the U.S. they fall, at least in Hawai'i, into what might be called an area of "bureaucratic misunderstanding."

An insightful study was recently undertaken by the Office of Community Services in Hawai'i under the directorship of Sam Aiona that covered, among other things, what government Social Service programs are available to people who enter the U.S. in one of three different ways. The analysis covered those who choose Hawai'i as their residence.

A person can enter the U.S. as an

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“Thorfinn” No Longer Stuck on the Reef - Still Stuck in Negotiations

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM - At 6:20 on the evening of Sunday, July 15 the “Thorfinn”, the world’s first live aboard dive ship and according to Captain Higgs, the largest sized live aboard vessel in the world, was finally in a better location than the one where they spent the previous 37 days. Instead of sitting precariously on the reef it was finally inside the harbor and at that moment, docking at the commercial pier of the Pohnpei Port.

On Friday, June 8 the “Thorfinn” struck the reef on its way out of Pohnpei’s main harbor ripping a hole in its engine room wall. In order to avoid spilling any of the 80,000 gallons of waste oil it was carrying and to avoid blocking the channel by sinking there or anywhere nearby, Captain Lance Higgs made a painful decision to put the vessel on the reef. It was the first navigational accident the vessel has ever had in their 26 year history despite constantly navigating some of the trickiest reefs in the world.

Larry Adams, of Adams Brothers Construction who managed the salvage operation of the vessel explained why the “Thorfinn” was still listing to starboard even as it was being towed to the dock. He said that because of the way the vessel was sitting on the reef they decided to pump liquids to the starboard side of the vessel so that it could be pulled off the reef with a bouncing action. The FSM’s “Caroline Voyager” was called to service to help get the “Thorfinn” off the reef. Adams said that they would be pumping the liquids back to the port side of the vessel now that it was at the dock in order to balance it out.

The timing of the arrival of the “Thorfinn” at the dock was ironic. The date in Pohnpei was July 15 but back home in Canada, Higgs’ birthplace, it was still his birthday.

There was another irony in that the “Thorfinn” wound up being moored at the dock immediately to the stern of the “Micro Glory”, the government operated vessel that takes passengers and freight to other islands in the FSM. All attention was on the Thorfinn and most people didn’t seem to notice that the stern of the “Micro Glory” was unusually high in the water. The “Micro Glory” had hobbled back to Pohnpei on one engine after striking the reef in Orluk, an outer island of Pohnpei, resulting in a broken propeller, a bent shaft, and two holes in its engine room. The front hold was intentionally flooded with sea water to try to bring the stern up as high as pos-



Photo by Tessa Coultrm

The “Thorfinn” and Adams Construction Barge being towed to smoother and deeper waters in Sokehs Harbor



Photo by Rebecca Keller

Fish feed in the area where the “Thorfinn” spent 37 days. The whiter coral appears to be damage from the vessel. Sandbags in upper left are from Adams Brothers.

sible in order to facilitate repairs.

On Saturday the 21st the “Thorfinn” was moved from the commercial dock to the vicinity of the dock belonging to Adams Brothers Construction in Dekehtik where it currently waits approval to be towed out of the harbor.

The “Thorfinn” is making every effort to get the vessel to the Philippines for repair and they are racing against the clock while rust is rapidly taking over. He estimates that if they don’t leave the Port within a week the vessel may be too far gone to ever run again and it will become just another rusted hulk sitting in the harbor.

He said that they have made arrangements with a tug operator in Saipan to tow the vessel but that tug has not left the Saipan harbor yet because the “Thorfinn” needs to be able to assure

the company that they will have proper clearances to leave the port. They don’t have those clearances yet and nearly all of the expatriate lawyers in private practice on the Pohnpei have been involved in one way or another in the negotiations surrounding the accident with the “Thorfinn”.

Captain Higgs said that the amount of money that Pohnpei State’s Acting Attorney General Bacallando is asking for is beyond hope for the small company to ever pay. The Pohnpei Port Authority is also charging the Thorfinn for blocking the harbor. Adams Brothers Construction has not yet been paid and they don’t want to see the vessel leave until they are paid either.

Higgs said that the dive operation is an FSM corporation employing 35 Micronesians and that their taxes are filed regularly. He said that he could

understand being held in the Port if his vessel was from another country but that the principals involved would still have legal recourse with them if they failed to meet their obligations since they are registered in the FSM.

The parties are still in negotiations to see if they can come to some type of agreement that would work for everyone concerned. He said that it made perfect sense for the company to reimburse the parties for expenses and hoped that they could come to agreement very soon.

He said, we just need to get the ship into dry dock or there will be no more “Thorfinn” and “all of that will just go away.”

At press time no evaluation had yet been done in Pakin or Ahnd Atolls to see if the oil from their engine rooms had floated in that direction and caused damage there.

The Conservation Society of Pohnpei did a dive in the area where the “Thorfinn” sunk and took underwater pictures. The pictures show that the bottom was sandy just as Captain Higgs had said and that some of the dead coral stones had broken. Wherever the vessel touched bottom there were paint scrapings on some of the dead coral. Pictures will likely never tell the extent of the damage especially since no one seems to have a picture before the vessel went on the reef. The Environmental Protection Agency is expected to perform an evaluation.

Larry Adams said that the sand bags that were still on the sea bottom were left by his company. He said that Adams Brothers had also left two anchors at the site and that they would be retrieving all of the detritus including the sand bags they had left as soon as the barge could return to the site.

The worldwide readers of CDNN (www.cdnn.com) a very large scuba diving news publication online have been closely following the news on the “Thorfinn” as evidenced by the number of people who have referenced the article that appeared in The Kaselehlie Press on June 27th. The “Thorfinn” is one of the most famous live aboard dive ships in the world. Lance said that he couldn’t imagine the worldwide reaction if the “Thorfinn” goes out of business.

If the “Thorfinn” is allowed to leave Sokehs harbor in time they say it will take just a few months to repair and refit and that they would be right back in business in the FSM.

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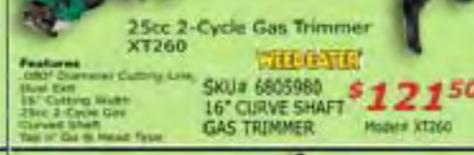
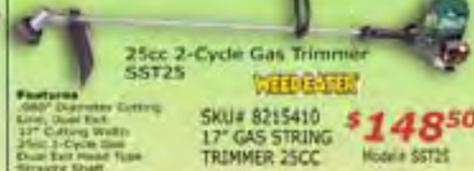
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People of the FSM Listed on UN Drug Report as the Second Highest Marijuana Users in the World

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

The 2007 World Drug Report is out from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Second on the list of Nations who have a population that has used a "cannabis product" even one time over the course of a year in the age range 15 to 64 is the Federated States of Micronesia, not Micronesia but specifically the FSM. FSM usage is exceeded on the report only by Papua New Guinea but only by a scant .4%.

Not long ago the World Health Organization said that the FSM had the most obese people per capita. The statistical methods utilized in that study were questioned by many critics throughout the world but the study was taken by many proponents of proper nutrition in the FSM, including the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, as a warning sign.

Perhaps that will be the reaction to the UN Drug Report.

The data for the report is old. Only Kenya in East Africa and Maldives in South Asia have older data in the Drug Report but only by a year. The data in the report says that 29.1% or nearly one in three people in the FSM inside the reported age range have used marijuana in the past year.

Actually, that's not precisely true. The report data has been carried by the U.N. since the FSM responded to an Annual Report Questionnaire in 1995, over eleven years ago. It is clear that no one in either Papua New Guinea, whose data is also from 1995, or the FSM has responded to the questionnaire since that time.

The years used as a basis for reportage on the UN report range on the number scale from 1994 (Kenya at 4% and Maldives at .5% cannabis usage) to 2006 (England and Wales and Thailand). England and Wales reported an 8.7% usage in 2005 and 2006 but they reported then on a smaller age range of 16-59. Thailand, the newest reporter to the UN reported on those aged 12-65 and still showed a figure of only .9%. The United States reported a figure of 12.6% for 2005. India re-



ported in 2000 that only 3.2% of its population had used a marijuana product that year. Jamaica, even with its "ganja" reputation reported in 2001 that 10.7% of its population between 12 and 55 had used a marijuana product within that year.

National Police Chief Pius Choitailug said that he was the one that submitted the report to the United Nations in 1995 and that it was based on information submitted from the states of the FSM. Since that time, the State Police Departments have not been giving him information for the report on a consistent basis despite their repeated promises.

As in many other countries the data that the National Government is able to submit is based on arrest records.

When asked whether the marijuana problem was bigger, or smaller in the FSM since 1995, Chief Choitailug said that he felt that the problem was smaller but that there is probably more export now than there was in 1995.

In Oceania only Australia and New Zealand showed use of cocaine, opiates, amphetamines, ec-

stasy, hallucinogens, or sedatives. FSM reported no usage of those drugs in 1995.

The compilers of the UN Drug Report say that considerable efforts have been made over the last few years to improve the estimates presented in the report. They say that their efforts were hampered not only by the "hidden" nature of the phenomenon being measured but also by the unresponsiveness of countries that are member states of International Drug Conventions all of whom are required by those conventions to respond to annual drug use surveys. They say that in Oceania only Australia and New Zealand responded or 13% of the countries required to respond under the drug conventions. They say that they sent the survey to 198 countries and that only 104 responded and that many of the questionnaires that were returned were not complete.

Measuring drug use is a difficult task but some countries with rising drug use problems have established innovative techniques to measure the extent of the problem. For instance, in Italy in 2005, scientists started testing waste water to measure the amount of

benzoylecgonine, a substance that apparently - does not come from any other source than the organic processing of cocaine inside the liver of the human body and excreted in the urine. They determined from the first study of the Po River that 3.8 kilos per day or 1387 kilos per year were probably consumed along its shores. Studies in other areas suggested that the Hudson River in New York carries the waste of some 16 tons of cocaine consumed a year, the Rhine River in Germany shows 9 tons of consumption and the Potomac River in Washington D.C. carries the waste of 7 or more tons of cocaine usage.

Most countries don't have the technology for such sophisticated measures. The 2007 UN Drug Report said, "One key problem in currently available prevalence estimates from countries is still the level of accuracy, which varies strongly from country to country. While a number of estimates are based on sound epidemiological surveys, some are obviously the result of guesswork... It can probably be assumed that the countries which reply regularly to the ARQ are those which take the drug problem more seriously."

The First All FSM Police Academy Begins at PATS Campus

Delegates From All Over the FSM Are in Pohnpei to Study the Professional Occupation of Policing

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Madolenihmw, Pohnpei (June 9, 2007) – Calling it, “the most significant milestone in the history of policing in the FSM”, Secretary of the Department of Justice, Marstella Jack officially opened the First FSM Police Academy at the Pohnpei Agricultural and Trade School Campus in Madolenihmw, Pohnpei. The 43 police officers and instructors from throughout Micronesia descended on the campus for 12 weeks of rigorous training in what Jack called the “professional occupation” of policing.

This is the first Micronesian Police Academy to involve delegates from each of the Four States and the National Police. Chuuk State has 12 delegates, Pohnpei State has 17 and the FSM National Police has 8 delegates

Secretary Jack said, “I shudder whenever I hear someone say, ‘Why should I bother to report it [a crime] to the police when they’re not going to do anything?’” She said that the loss of public confidence in police should be a major concern to police forces in the FSM. She challenged the delegates to respond to public need and to investigate crime as if their own lives depended upon it.

Selected delegates were required to have been police officers for less than five years and to have never attended a Police Academy anywhere. Lino Amor of the National Police is the Commander for the Academy. He said that he hoped that other officers who were not eligible for the training and per-

haps have never been trained would look to the delegates of the Academy for guidance when the students return to their own jurisdictions. Yap and Kosrae each had three delegates. .

Amor said that the curriculum for the Academy was written by Pacific Islanders who understand the unique policing challenges in Micronesia. Patrick Carl of the Pohnpei State Police and Joab Paul of the National Police were two contributors to the voluminous curriculum. The Police Academy is the first in Micronesia to be taught by all Micronesian instructors.

Chief Joe Roby of the Pohnpei State Police said in his remarks, “Loyalty and commitment are the key factors to completing this training...Our expectation is to produce good product by the end of this training.” He also announced that the next Micronesian Academy would be held sometime in February of 2008.

“You are some of the most important people in Micronesia”, Her Excellency, U.S. Ambassador Suzanne Hale said in her impromptu speech. “Things are more complicated than they were in 1965 when the first Micronesian police academy was held in Guam.” She was nonplussed by a power outage at PATS and continued her speech, “You are the face of the law.” She said that young people look up to law enforcement

officers and in many ways learn to live by the example law enforcement officers provide.

Her Excellency Australian Ambassador Corinne Tomkinson said that the Australian Government, in addition to providing a good percentage of the funding for the Academy has long had ties with the FSM in its policing initiatives. In addition to working closely with police departments in the FSM through the PRPI program which provides training of many varieties including the most recent training opportunities on finger printing technology, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) have a close relationship with police in the Pacific. The most recent cooperative effort in policing between the AFP and the FSM is the recently established Transnational Crime Unit.

She also made mention of the Defense Cooperation Program with the National Police and the Australian Navy. The Australian Government provides and maintains three maritime surveillance vessels on behalf of the FSM National Police as well as three officers of the Australian Navy who consult with FSM officials on law enforcement issues in the economic exclusive zone (EEZ) of the FSM. The vessels are charged with patrolling FSM waters to insure that FSM laws and international laws are followed by vessels traversing or fishing in the EEZ.

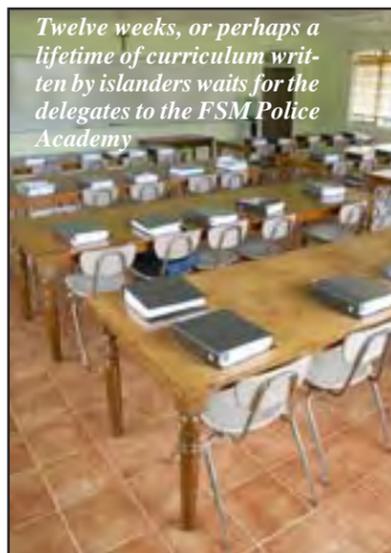
Her Excellency Ambassador to the

People’s Republic of China, Liu Fei who has a long and varied history in the Pacific, said that she was pleased to see that there were female police officers in the delegation and hoped that there would be more in the future. She mentioned that she would be behind the idea that officers could, in the future, train in China.

Ambassador Fei in a telephone conversation said that she had not spoken with anyone in the FSM about the possibility but it was something that had been done for other countries in the past. Since law enforcement officers in the FSM must by virtue of their job, deal with Chinese Nationals, the Chinese Embassy also donated 100 books on Chinese culture, history, and business.

The Australian Government provided \$50,000 in funding for the program through its Pacific Regional Policing Initiative, a program of AusAid. PRPI has been providing regional trainings through consultants to police departments in the FSM and across the Pacific for many years. Senator Peter Sitan sponsored a bill in the FSM Congress to provide matching funds for the Academy. The United States Government also provided funds. The States have also committed to funding agreements.

Successful delegates will be graduating on September 28, 2007.



Twelve weeks, or perhaps a lifetime of curriculum written by islanders waits for the delegates to the FSM Police Academy



Some of the delegates to the 1st FSM Police Academy



Chief Pius Choitailug and Advisor Tim Fenlon iron out the details

INAUGURATION IMAGES

President Mori greets guests after the inauguration



Can't stop it. Just can't stop it...the celebration



Just a bit of the Moch, Chuuk Choir

Inauguration picture by Rebecca Heller
Reception pictures by Bill Jaynes



Dancers and more dancers at the Inaugural Reception



Even Presidents need to have fun - President Mori at the Inaugural Reception at Cliff Rainbow

College Of Micronesia-FSM Awarded \$100,000 U.S. Grant**U.S. Embassy Press Release**

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) in Washington, D.C., recently awarded the College of Micronesia-FSM (COM-FSM) a \$100,000 matching grant to provide funding for the college's Vocational Education Program. The award, funded by the DOI Office of Insular Affairs' Operations and Maintenance Improvement Program (OIA OMIP), will be supplemented with at least \$100,000 from COM-FSM's Pohnpei Campus. It will facilitate specialized technical training to equip FSM citizens with the necessary skills to fill local vocational positions traditionally held by expatriates. It could also facilitate short-term employment in potential jobs arising in Guam and the

Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands in the near future in connection with the U.S. military buildup in the Marianas.

COM-FSM President Spensin James received the Notification of Grant Award from the OIA Director, Mr. Nikolao I. Pula, in a letter dated June 22, 2007. In a statement of appreciation President James remarked, "The Department of the Interior has helped COM-FSM Vocational Programs tremendously in the past. We are quite happy that DOI continues to directly support our college and works closely with us to develop promising career paths for our students. This funding will help ensure continuation of valuable and much-needed skills training in the FSM for Micronesian citizens."



COM-FSM President Spensin James

Tuna Commission Land Lease Signing

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

Following protracted negotiations, a lease for the Tuna Commission's headquarters site land was signed on 19 July 2007 at the Interim Commission Offices in the Congress Building, Kaselehlie Street, Kolonia. The lease was signed by Lieutenant Governor Jack E. Yakana, Mr Largo Edwin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Pohnpei Public Lands Trust, Mr L. M. Bacalando, Jr., Acting Attorney General, Pohnpei State Government and Mr Andrew Wright, Executive Director of the Tuna Commission. The signing was witnessed by Mr Lorin Robert, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Also present to witness the signing were Ms. Marstella Jack, Acting Attorney General for the National Government, Mr Eugene Pangelinan, acting Executive Director of NORMA and Ms Andrea Hillyer as Counsel for the Com-

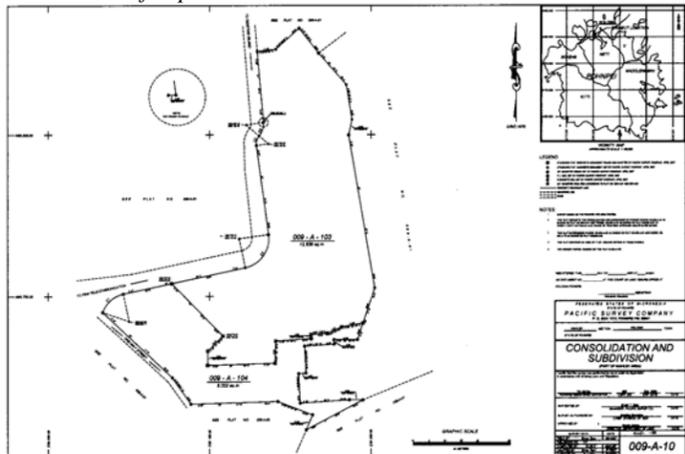
mission.

The lease can be executed when signed by Mr Youser Anson, Director, Department of Land and Natural Resources. That is expected to occur shortly.

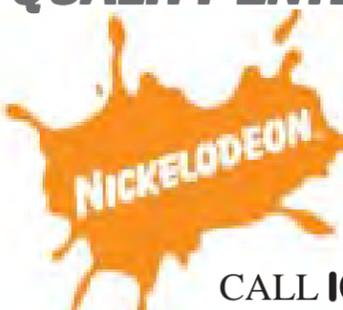
The leased area is less than that indicated in the bid made by the Federated States of Micronesia for the Commission headquarters to be located in Pohnpei, however it had become clear that Pohnpei State needed to retain portions to preserve heritage value buildings and sections of the Spanish Wall as well as to allow for access to the Headstart Programme and the Peace Corps Offices and, eventually, to provide some parking for the softball stadium. The area included in the lease represents a compromise that satisfies the State's requirements and will allow the Commission to take the next step towards occupancy, namely finalising safe and secure access to the headquarters building. The building was constructed by the People's Republic of China and handed to the National Government in December 2005.



Signatories and witnesses to the Tuna Commission lease signing. The lease is for plat 009-A-103



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MiCare Makes Strides Towards Eliminating Their Accumulated Deficit 2006 Audit Shows the Lowest Annual MiCare Deficit in Three Years

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM - Perhaps Yosiu George – Director of MiCare who usually has an engaging smile has a better reason to smile, even if only guardedly now that the audit report from Deloitte and Touche is out. George came into the position at MiCare in March of 2006 midway through the fiscal year of the nation's health care plan. He inherited a deficit at MiCare that has been accumulating since 1999. At this point the unaudited accumulated deficit stands at nearly \$1.55 million but the healthcare plan is making good progress.

The amount that was added to the accumulated deficit in fiscal year 2006, at \$113,000 was slightly more than a fifth of what was added in 2005 and less than a 10th of what was added in 2004.

In 2005 MiCare reported a

\$500,000 deficit figure for the year. In 2004 the figure was a whopping \$1.189 million.

In 2007 the National Government stepped in and gave MiCare a \$300,000 shot in the arm.

The 2006 annual deficit figure was before an across the board 10% premium increase went into effect in March of this year. MiCare is also utilizing a comprehensive list of reimbursable expense levels for health providers on the island. Those two measures along with some staff changes that were made early in his administration, according to Mr. George should serve to provide a positive cash flow for MiCare by the end of this fiscal year which will begin to offset some of the deficit.

Referrals to off island health providers were down in 2006. Mr. George said that part of the reason

was a more careful scrutiny of those cases that might require travel to the Philippines or the United States. Mr. George said that since referral cases began to be more carefully screened, off island health providers have told him that they have seen a greater concentration of referred patients that truly need their help. The patients they are talking about include those that have had early detection of acute health problems that already may have had their lives saved by referral from the FSM.

Mr. George stopped short of saying that local health services are getting better but that may well be one reason that the deficit is going down. Local services don't carry the high cost of travel and accommodation while a patient is off island. The number of patients being treated by local providers has risen while the off island referrals have gone down.

MiCare is currently near the end of its open enrollment season. This is the time when new insurance holders can sign up or current policy holders can drop their insurance. Mr. George said that he knew that some people were hearing rumors that MiCare is going to collapse. "That's not true", he said.

MiCare, stated George, is making great strides toward viability and plans to be around for a long time.

"People without Health Insurance are taking a gamble", said the Director.

To enroll or for enrollment information contact MiCare in Chuuk at 330-5891, in Kosrae at 370-2935, in Pohnpei at 320-3415, 320-2549, or 320-5865, or in Yap at 350-2307 or 350-2142. You will need to hurry. Open enrollment ends on July 31.

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NEWS**SAROPS Proves its Effectiveness in the Western Pacific****Search and Rescue Computer Program Helps Coast Guard Meet Unique Challenges***By Lt. Brian J. Murphy
U.S. Coast Guard*

Two men from the tiny island nation of Palau were on the return leg of an inter-island boat voyage May 26, 2007, when they realized they would not have enough fuel to complete the trip. When they decided to make a fuel stop, their 20-foot boat, a twin-engine 60 horsepower loaner from a Palau-based tug company, was blown off course by strong winds, and the two islanders quickly lost their bearings. The search and rescue (SAR) liaison officer with Palau's Division of Marine Law Enforcement called U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Sub-Center (RSC) Guam to report the mariners overdue and request assistance.

This case became one of the first opportunities for RSC Guam to employ SAROPS, a sophisticated new drift modeling system that replaced two older programs the U.S. Coast Guard had previously used to find distressed mariners – the Joint Automated Work Station, or JAWS, and the Computer Aided Search Planning, or CASP system.

The U.S. Coast Guard's Fourteenth District has always faced unique challenges because of the massive size of the area they patrol which covers most of the Western and Central Pacific. Part of the Caroline Islands group in the Western Pacific, Palau is located 500 nautical miles to the east of the Philippines, in the far western corner the Fourteenth District's area of responsibility (AOR). The nation consists of more than 340 islands (mostly uninhabited) and was part of a former trust territory of the United Nations administered by the United States.

An independent nation since 1994, Palau's nearly 20,000 citizens rely heavily upon U.S. financial assistance and SAR resources thousands of miles away in Guam and Hawaii. While much of Palau's economy is based on

tourism and the sale of fishing licenses to foreign fishing fleets, many citizens live on subsistence agriculture and fishing. Transportation by inexpensive and small-powered boats between islands is common and problematic for the Coast Guard. Capt. Chris Conklin, former Chief of the Fourteenth District's Response Division, has addressed the issue in several case studies.

"Generally, small powered skiffs are used for inter-island movements of short duration and typically end up in the open ocean after an engine failure," said Conklin, who now heads the Fourteenth District's planning division. "A lack of boating safety awareness and commitment by the local population is a causative factor."

Nearly one third of these overdue cases result in suspension of search efforts. From 2003 to 2006, there were 15 such cases involving 69 missing boaters, averaging 52 hours of search efforts; 47 people were recovered, 22 presumed lost. Often search efforts are hampered by lengthy delays in notification after vessels are overdue.

"Overdue and adrift boats such as these represent a chronic SAR problem for Guam and District 14, and require a significant amount of Coast Guard and DOD air resources," says Conklin. "There are usually lengthy delays in notification to the Coast Guard after the vessel becomes overdue."

This point, combined with a more than 24-hour transit through four time zones for a rescue aircraft from Barbers Point in Honolulu to the search area, or 12 hours for a Department of Defense asset from Kadena Air Base in Japan, generally results in excessively large search areas. Staging areas are often hundreds of miles from the search area, shortening time on-scene and fatiguing aircrews. Furthermore, the resilience of islanders must never be underestimated.

Most are very experienced watermen who are known to sustain themselves on sea life, conserve fuel, jerry-rig sails, and flip their vessels to protect themselves in bad weather. These factors, combined with warm water temperatures, often create an evasive target and extended search efforts.

The two men during May's case, one from Palau, the other a Philippine national, departed Koror State intending to travel to Kayangel State, a voyage of more than 25 miles through an archipelago of tall, rocky islands and barrier reef. When low on gas, they aimed for Ngarchelong, a village at the northernmost tip of Babelthaup Island (the largest of Palau), approximately 20 miles into their journey. Sudden rain squalls with strong winds are common in this tropical climate; it's possible these two encountered just such a situation, causing them to quickly find themselves disoriented and without sight of land.

The request for U.S. Coast Guard SAR resources was routed to RSC Guam from the Government of Palau through the U.S. State Department's Embassy in Palau. RSC Guam assumed SMC – Search and rescue mission commander status – and began search planning using SAROPS. RSC Guam also notified the Fourteenth District's Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Honolulu, which tapped Barbers Point Air Station to launch a ready C-130 and rescue crew. Coast Guard C-130 Rescue 1714 was directed to stage out of Kwajelein – an atoll more than 2,900 nautical miles southwest of Honolulu and the largest island of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and a U.S. base of military operations since 1944.

The opportunity for search planners to apply SAROPS in this remote region came with some eager anticipation. There are several unknowns associated with remote Pacific regions such as Palau, including actual environmental conditions and a lack of area familiar-

ity. There are no leeway tables that account for a wooden skiff typical of this AOR, and search areas are often slewed by highly variable local currents. RSC Guam's SAROPS drift model covered more than 4,000 square miles, and data relied almost exclusively on environmental data servers linked to SAROPS.

Before Rescue 1714's arrival, RSC Guam provided search tasking to a Good Samaritan single-engine aircraft based out of Palau, which was unable to locate the vessel. The PSS REMELIK, based in Palau as part of Australia's Pacific Patrol Boat Program to conduct maritime surveillance in the South Pacific, conducted a 10-hour search using SAROPS data and covered more than 400 square miles. Not long after Rescue 1714 had completed a three-hour search sortie, a tug (belonging to the same company as the missing boat) conducted an A-4 search and located the two men in the heart of the SAROPS drift models.

The survivors were in good condition, and subsequent analysis of completed searches showed that it's likely that by the time they were discovered, SAR resources were within two miles of the vessel's position not less than four times.

Operations Specialist First Class Zachary Graham was on duty for the U.S. Coast Guard in RSC Guam's command center during the case: "This was a good test for the SAROPS program," Graham said.

"Adjusting to a new drift model system requires training and practice but SAROPS is proving to be an effective tool. SAR planners should be confident in its use on future cases."

Lt. Brian J. Murphy is a search and rescue controller in the U.S. Coast Guard's Fourteenth District Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Honolulu, Hawaii.

...Congress*continued from page 2*

confirmation requires a minimum of 10 votes.

Before adjournment for the day a motion was made for reconsideration of the vote on another day.

On the following day, Congress voted once again on confirmation of Mr. Itimai. This time the vote was 5 yes votes to 9 no votes.

Francis Itimai was not confirmed by Congress despite news that Yap leadership had sent their support for the nominee to the confirmation committee on the previous evening.

Julius Joey Sapelalut was confirmed by a secret ballot vote of 13 to one in favor of confirmation. Mr. Sapalalut will be the Chief of the Office of the Public Defender.

Evelyn Adolph was confirmed with a vote of 11 to 2 in favor of

confirmation. Senator Urusemal wanted to be certain that the President was aware that the confirmation of Adolph is not a Congressional message that the process of establishing the tax reform plan is to be put on the back burner. Adolph is currently in charge of the Tax Reform process.

Dana Wesley Smith had his confirmation hearings with the committee for Justice and Government Operations chaired by Senator Peter Sitan. Smith is the Presiden-

tial nominee for Secretary of the Department of Justice. Senator Sitan said in a conversation after the closing day that Mr. Smith fared well in the hearing but that since the law allows a salary of \$47,000 and Smith told the committee that he needed a salary of more than \$60,000, the committee had to put the hearings on hold until they received a legal opinion on how to proceed further.

Mr. Smith is currently in private practice in Hawaii.

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

I. Sitework Job

A. Supervisor (1)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read civil drawings
- Ability to operate Builder's Level, Total Station, other laser guided equipment
- Experience in building with backhoes, bulldozers, motor graders, rolling compactors, excavators, dump trucks, other sitework equipment
- Excellent math skills (especially geometry for calculating volume)
- Stable work record

B. Equipment Operators (4)

Candidates must have:

- Experience in building with heavy equipment such as bulldozers, motor graders, excavators, compactors, backhoes, dump trucks, boom trucks, cranes, and other sitework equipment
- Stable work record

II. Concrete Job

A. Supervisors (2)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other concrete equipment
- Experience in excavating for foundations/formwork, using steel, heavy equipment, saws, and other concrete equipment as well as layout skills
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Laborers (8)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other concrete equipment
- Experience in excavating for foundations/formwork, using steel, heavy equipment, saws, hand tools, and other concrete equipment
- Stable work record

III. Masonry Job

A. Supervisors (2)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other masonry equipment
- Experience in layout, laying-up block/brick/precast/natural stone, CIP, mortar, grout, reinforcing steel, door/window frames, lintels, bond beams, pavers, tile, other masonry work
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Masons (8)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other masonry equipment
- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other masonry equipment
- Experience laying-up block/brick/precast/natural stone, CIP, mortar, grout, reinforcing steel, door/window frames, lintels, bond beams, pavers, tile, other masonry work
- Stable work record

IV. Metals Job

A. Supervisors (2)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with squares, tape measures, hand/power tools, boom trucks, cranes, clamps, and other metal/steel equipment
- Experience in layout, welding (all types), soldering, tacking, bending metals, breaks, handforming, metal punch, other metal skill work
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Laborers (8)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with squares, tape measures, hand/power tools, boom trucks, cranes, clamps, and other metal/steel equipment
- Experience with welding (all types), soldering, tacking, bending metals, breaks, handforming, metal punch, other metal skill work
- Stable work record

V. Carpentry-Framing Job

A. Supervisors (2)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other laser guided equipment
- Experience in layout, framing using wood/metal studs/steel, for decks, walls, doors/windows, other penetrations, roofs, and other carpentry work
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Carpenters (4)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other laser guided equipment
- Experience in layout, framing using wood/metal studs/steel, for decks, walls, doors/windows, other penetrations, roofs, and other carpentry work
- Stable work record

C. Laborers (4)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with squares, tape measures, transponders, hand/power tools, and other laser guided equipment
- Experience in framing using wood/metal studs/steel, for decks, walls, doors/windows, other penetrations, roofs, and other carpentry work
- Stable work record

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COMMUNITY

Conservation Society Of Pohnpei Awarded \$40,000 U.S. Grant

U.S. Embassy Press Release

The U.S. Embassy in Kolonia recently awarded the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) a \$40,000 grant to fully implement its Watershed Forest Reserve (WFR) initiative. The grant, funded by the U.S. Department of State, will support the management and protection of the central highland region of Pohnpei, covering over 5,100 hectares. It will fund the survey, demarcation and delineation of the WFR boundaries in Kitti, Nett and Sokehs municipalities. CSP Director Patterson Shed signed the grant agreements at the U.S. Embassy on Thursday, June 14, with U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Richard Pruett.

The Conservation Society of Pohnpei has demonstrated that Pohnpei's watershed plays a critical role in ensuring the survival of most of the state's endemic and rare terrestrial species. A well-managed WFR also significantly reduces sediment runoff and coastal estuary pollution, while providing a constant, dependable supply of fresh water for the island's population.

Director Shed expects a number of conservation benefits from the grant, including: improved en-



Photo provided by the U.S. Embassy

U.S. Embassy Chief of Mission Richard Pruett and Conservation Society of Pohnpei Director Patterson Shed sign paperwork to seal the deal



Photo by Bill Jaynes

A healthy watershed is not only vital for life, sometimes it provides a bit of just plain fun on a hot day!

forcement against illegal forest clearing within the WFR, improved community compliance with the Pohnpei WFR and Mangrove Protection Act of 1987, reduced choking of rivers and back-filling of the lagoon by sediment, and improved management capacity for communities and government agencies as a result of clearly defined WFR boundaries.

The project will actively involve key stakeholders, including traditional leaders, Pohnpei State and municipal government officials, community representatives and CSP. The grant will focus on three strategic goals: (1) promoting the importance of environmental considerations in the FSM's national policy planning and economic development activities; (2) protecting, conserving, and sustainably managing a representative group of the nation's marine ecosystems; and (3) improving public environmental awareness and increasing the involvement of FSM citizens in conserving their nation's natural resources.

"Protecting Watershed Biodiversity through Improved Community Compliance" was made possible by U.S. Department of State Economic Support Funds for Environmental Programs in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Development Workers Learn To Write Better

SPC Press Release

Over 15 Development workers from the College of Micronesia Land Grant Program, Conservation Society of Pohnpei, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Society, Pohnpei Agriculture Office, Department of Health and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) Project: Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific (DSAP) got together for a 3 day workshop on Plain Language on July 3rd-5th. The training focused on using plain language in communication, writing, developing posters, brochures, etc. and was facilitated by Andre Capiez, SPC Publications Manager.

Some of the questions development workers had to ask themselves included: Is the document

really needed? Who is the document for? How are we going to put the information in the paper? What is the style of writing I need to use? What is the document going to look like? Is the document effective or not effective? Have I done any field-testing with target groups? What evaluation have I done?

The training on Plain Language is the first of its kind to be conducted by SPC for the Federated States of Micronesia. Participants found the workshop a learning experience and requested for a follow up training to enable them to focus on specific topics. The workshop concluded on a high note when the Deputy Director General of SPC, Richard Mann who was visiting the FSM at the time presented participants with well earned Certificates.



Photo provided by SPC

Andre Capiez, SPC Publications Manager in discussion with (left-right) Alpenster Henry, Tobias S. Tamerlan, Gibson Santos and Kadalino Lorens at the Plain Language Training.

...Inauguration

continued from page 1

ber of perfection. He called for all people of the FSM to pledge to work together in the future.

The inauguration proceedings were broadcast live to all of the state radio stations and to V6AF Radio, the Baptist Radio Station in Pohnpei. From those radio stations, the proceedings were simulcast on the internet via FSM Telecom's web page (www.fm) to anyone that wanted to access it around the world so that by the time President Mori got up to speak he had a potential audience of thousands.

President Mori greeted the many dignitaries from other countries in attendance including the only head of state present, President Tommy Remengesau of Palau and his wife Debbie.

President Mori, who has been President of the FSM since he was sworn in on May 11th of this year, in a moving moment dedicated his Presidency and public service to his wife, Elina, his 9 year old daughter, Merriam, and "to those six brave young men: Jem, Dominick, Eplin, Resemin, John, and Rater."

While on a journey to an outer island of Chuuk on a campaign mission, the boat his family and friends were traveling on went missing and was never recovered.

He said, "The loss of these individuals is now the strongest inspiration for me to conduct my public service career to the fullest of my ability, so that my family's painful loss, and the loss of the brave young men, would not have been in vain."

The message that President Mori delivered to the nation was a message of unity. Unity is the central word in the official national motto: "Peace, Unity, Liberty".

He continued, "Our Federated States are a statement of our commitment, of our determination and purpose as Micronesian Islanders. It is a statement of our determination to overcome the barriers that were thought to divide us from each other—the barriers of history, of geography, of language, and of cultural differences.

"It is a statement of our commitment to one another that, despite all of the adversities and limitations we have faced, we continue to strive together as a Micronesian nation."

"...Within our communities there is growing concern and anxiety over our collective future. Some feel we are drifting away from our national purposes. Others fear we are seeing an erosion of our sense of community. Some fear we are losing our self-respect and honor as a people.

"I therefore offer a challenge to you, my people and leaders.

"We need to change our mindset, our understanding of our relationship with our governments. We, as individuals cannot continue to perceive government as the answer to all our problems. We must take responsibility for ourselves and for one another.

"Likewise, those of us in government must remember that we are here to do a job. The government is not an end in itself; it is a tool to serve the people. We are part of that tool, and we must combine our energies to fulfill the commitments and aspirations of our people."

President Mori, in some ways echoed the words of Father Hezel when he gave his homily at the Inter-Denominational Service the day before (see page 23). He said, "For my part, my Administration will work with every level of government and with every segment of our community on issues of national interest, irrespective of the consequences to my own political career. To do what is right for our nation is not always to do what is easy; and it is my commitment to each of you my fellow citizens, that I will always endeavor to do what is right."

He said he and Vice President Alik have agreed that the Administration's vision is "based on a balancing of our people's hopes and dreams against the realities and limitations of our island resources."

He said, "If 'hardship' is defined as 'a lack of access to services

and opportunities,' then it is difficult to argue with this assessment. The number of our citizens migrating overseas, searching for meaningful opportunities elsewhere, is a sobering reminder of a socio-economic reality."

President Mori spoke strongly about States' sovereignty. "It must always be kept in mind that it is the four states that are ultimately responsible for their own economic policies and programs." He said that the National Government is an "effective coordinator and facilitator of State policy."

He spoke of "rightsizing the structures and streamlining the processes of government...It is my further hope that this transformation can take place at all levels of government; and toward that end, we will be inviting the states to assess their own activities and to join us in making all of our governments more responsive to the needs of the people."

He spent a good deal of time in his speech talking about speeding up infrastructure development; both the physical and human type. President Mori, according to his speech wants to see physical plant projects speeded up that have been conceived but not implemented.

On the issue of human resource infrastructure development he said that the private sector should be involved in "developing a curriculum to fit for the twenty-first century." He wants to see incentives put in place to retain the young people of the FSM. He said, "We must keep valuable skills at home for them to be of use."

He wants, further, to ramp up the skills of FSM students by helping the College of Micronesia to achieve their goal of becoming a four year institution that caters to the nation's manpower requirements.

To help the economy by connectivity to the rest of the world and amongst the States he said that the Administration placed a high priority on a proposed high-speed fiber optic cable.

He encouraged the state governments to promote an "open door" policy toward foreign investment with proper controls in place.

Tax reform has been in the works for a long time. President Mori

said in his speech that his "administration will strive to improve the tax system and build a unified tax regime, one that will help improve the oversight of our tax laws and regulations."

Not to leave out the problem of the rising cost of fuel which just last week went to \$4.30 per gallon for unleaded gas at the pump, the President said, "I have therefore attached the highest priority to the creation of a national fuel corporation as recommended by the EPIC council. It is only through local control over our fuel infrastructure that we can insure access to competitively priced energy for years to come." The legislation to establish the corporation, proposed by the Administration was passed by Congress on the closing day of their special session.

The President announced his proposal of the creation of two cabinet level positions. The Office of Statistics, Budget, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management was part of the President's proposed reorganization of the National Government. Fabian Nimea was nominated by the Executive Branch for the position of Secretary of that office. The President's reorganization plan also called for the establishment of a new Office of Environment and Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Andrew Y. Yatilman has been nominated for the position of Secretary for that office.

The President, while calling for Micronesians to remember and live out their heritage and culture also called for a deepened sense of harmony in the islands.

"...Micronesian political unity and social stability are an enshrined virtue in our Constitutions and are encouraged in our Compacts of Free Association. This is so because unity and stability discourages the impulse for secession or separation.

"And it is only through unity and stability, not secession and separation, that we will achieve the aspirations of our people."

The complete text of the President's inaugural speech can be found at www.fsmpio.fm

BNN

By Bermin F. Weilbacher

The opinions expressed in the BNN Column are those of the author.

Wired or wireless, it is still bad...

Now I know. The best place to get high speed Internet is in the TCOM corporate office itself. No wonder they are not too concerned about our problems in the real world. Instead of 2 sticks of cigarettes, I now have to read almost a page of newspaper while waiting for downloads and it still takes over 10 minutes to upload a picture. I have tried their much touted WIFI Zone and get 11 something megabytes—that's a million something per second but wired or wireless, the speed of downloads remains unchanged. In fact a customer told me it took nearly 3 hours to send an email to Manila.

I still remember my frustrations with dotfm when traveling abroad like in Manila.

Maybe the much expected under water cable will solve the problem but when???

They just sneak up on you and cut you off and you say this is Pohnpei???

PUC customers are still baffled at the un-Pohnpeian way that PUC goes about cutting off services. A customer complained to me that PUC employees are behaving as if they are in the dark ages of the western world where courtesy is not a commodity—they just sneak up on you to cut your water or power. And you call this Pohnpei where culture matters??

Early starters....100 plus days to go..

As soon as the FSM election of March 2007 was over, the Pohnpei State political wheels began rolling. I know that there are so far 8 individuals who are seeking the two top posts of Governor and Lt. Governor.

I have seen car stickers, posters or other hard copy documents of candidates Del Pangelinan, Feliciano Perman, Jack Yakana and John Ehsa for Governor. I have also seen posters of Churchill Edward and Esteban Santiago for Lt. Governor. I have not seen any stickers or posters for candidates Rufino Mauricio for Governor and Kiyumi Albert for Lt. Governor. There are 23 State Legislature seats, not to mention the municipal council seats. . I am sure this is not the end of the list.

There are 100 plus days till election day on November 13, 2007 and formal registration has not even been announced by the State Election Commissioner.

US brass visits FSM, again...

For the second time in a decade, the highest official of the US Department of Interior visited the Pacific region with the

FSM as part of the itinerary. The first one was his predecessor, Secretary Gale Norton who came to the FSM about two years ago. Secretary Dirk Kempthorne visited the FSM in June 2007 and, like Norton, met with officials at both National and State Governments and discussed things of mutual interest including the Compact II, FSM soldiers in the war on terrorism and the military's plan for moving troops from Okinawa to Guam. I hope the Secretary told the FSM Government to get its act together with respect to the annual \$20 million Trust Fund reportedly sitting idle in a bank for 2 years. Can you imagine the amount of interest that is lost in two years?

Enough is enough!!

Which comes to mind the revelation that that Chuuk and Kosrae States. That is not the news. The news is that Kosrae is doing something about its \$2 million deficit while Chuuk thinks it can get away with another financial fiasco, this time a whopping \$41 million dollar deficit. The National Government has been babying this naughty State for too long at the expense of the other three states. Remember when Pohnpei State had its share of financial woes that led to reduction or workers, etal? Where was the National Government? Enough is enough! These are sentiments often uttered in the sakau bars lately in Pohnpei State.

Put them in their proper places and put teeth into the public statements....

We wrote this piece before the July 16th Inauguration....

Ah, yet another reorganization! The new FSM Administration has proposed its own version of a governmental organization—a structure with a purpose that sounds noble, to wit, *"to increase management efficiency within our national government and to better enable those departments and offices to deal with the evolving issues and challenges facing our islands people today,"* according to the FSMPIO press release.

A seesaw that never seems to balance....

The reorganization plan was followed by a list of names of Mori's cabinet nominations. Since its inception, the FSM Government has played around with the setting health and education functions. One administration comes in and bundles the two together. The next one comes in and splits them up and on and on... there seems to be no end to the seesaw.. Mori's separation of the two departments appears to respond to the Compact II re-

quirement that Health and Education be given priority.

Lip service continues...

The Department of Resources and Development is not too far behind. It was R&D for sometime, then lately Economic Affairs (hello?). I will be happier if our leaders put teeth into their often eloquent remarks about AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND TOURISM being the backbone of our economy, and elevate them to their proper places. Maybe it's all still lip service.

The nominees are supposed to be talented and available never mind their geopolitical origin in the federation...

As long as I can remember, there always was some degree of distribution of cabinet posts representing the four states in the federation. This new FSM administration is starting with some pretty new names to run the government and according to the current administration's nomination process they represent talent and availability and not necessarily political distribution. So far two of the President's nominations have been given Advice and Consent by the FSM Congress.

So let's see how the talent and availability concept translates into actual reality:

Lorin S. Robert for Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs. He has been confirmed by the FSM Congress. He is from the State of Chuuk.

Fabian Nimea as Director of the new Office of Statistics, Budget, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management. Nimea is currently running his own financial consulting firm, prior to that he was the Executive Vice President and Credit Administrator for the Bank of FSM. He is from Chuuk.

Roger S. Mori as Secretary for the proposed Department of Resources and Development. Mori is the current Assistant Secretary for the FSM Department of Economic Affairs and was a former President of the Chuuk State Senate.

Finley S. Perman for Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration. He has also been confirmed. Perman is from Pohnpei State.

Anna Mendiola as a Trustee on the Compact Trust Fund Board of Trustees. Mendiola is the current Chief Executive Officer of the FSM Development Bank. Mendiola is from Pohnpei State.

Evelyn Adolph as one of two FSM representatives to the Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO). Adolph is currently the Program Manager for the FSM Tax Reform after serving as an advisor to the Executive Director at the

International Monetary Fund (IMF). Adolph is from Pohnpei State

Francis I. Itimai for Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure. Itimai is from Yap State.

Andrew R. Yatilman as Director of the new Environment and Emergency Management Agency. Yatilman is the current Secretary for the Department of Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure. He is from Yap State.

Julius Joey Sapelalut as the new Chief of the Office of Public Defender. Sapelalut is a former staff attorney for the Public Defender's Office and is currently the Chief of Litigation for the Chuuk State Office of the Attorney General. He is from Yap State.

Robert W. Spegal as Secretary for the proposed Department of Health and Social Affairs. Spegal is currently the program manager for the Pohnpei Competitors Association and was a former Director of Pohnpei State Department Health Services. He was also the former Administrative Office for the University of the Hawaii School of Medicine Pacific Basin Medical Officers Training Program in Pohnpei.

Dana Wesley Smith as Secretary of the Department of Justice. Smith is currently an attorney in private practice in Hawaii and was former Legislative Counsel to the Chuuk Legislature and former staff attorney to the Congress of Micronesia. He was a Peace Corp Volunteer in Micronesia. Smith is an American citizen.

The remaining nominations would be for the proposed Department of Education, Post Master General and the proposed Office of National Archives, Culture and Historical Preservation, along with the heads of FSM's overseas missions.

So there you have it. The scoreboard reads as follows;

Chuuk State	3
Pohnpei State	3
Yap State	3
USA	2
Kosrae State	0

The Inaugural Speech... benefit of the first 100 days...

President Mori gave his inaugural speech on July 16, 2007. While it was different semantics of the same issues that I have heard before, I will give him the benefit of the first 100 days to see how he fairs on what he told his listeners.

NEWS

...English

continued from page 3

"Immigrant". A person with immigrant status is a person that has pre-applied and has been given approval to pursue citizenship in the U.S. They obtain a green card and a Visa while they are in their home country and they have a U.S. sponsor. People who arrive in Hawai'i in this way are eligible for Legal Aid, Supplementary Security Income (SSI), Housing Aid, and Hawaii's MedQuest though U.S. law has said since 1996 that Immigrants to the U.S. cannot access any government sponsored Social Service program for the first five years. After they have spent five years in the U.S. they are eligible for all other Social Service programs by the Federal Government.

50,000 to 60,000 people enter the U.S. each year as a "Refugee". A refugee has applied for and received notification from the U.S. Government that they have been accepted for entry into the U.S. as a refugee. They have undergone a health and background check in their home country and when they arrive in the U.S. undergo a second health and background check when they are referred to the U.S. State Department. Once all of the agencies they must see have approved them, a refugee is eligible, for the first eight months of residence to receive Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance, Federal Medicaid, and can utilize the Section 8 housing program. They can additionally access without the 8 month limit, all of the programs that people who enter under an immigrant status can utilize when they first arrive.

People who enter the U.S. who are from Freely Associated States have applied for and received a passport from their home country. They have filed an I-94 form, and have applied for a U.S. Social Security number while they are in their home country. When they arrive in Hawai'i they are eligible only for TANF, MedQuest, and Housing aid. Under the current bureaucratic misunderstandings, this may be all that Freely Associated Citizens will qualify for unless they change their status to "immigrant". Under current FSM law that would require them to give up their FSM citizenship and

would also require them to start all over as if they had just entered the country for the first time with immigrant status.

Perhaps it's no wonder that Micronesians who find the high cost of housing in Hawai'i too much to bear clamor to gain any advantage they can to obtain one of the few benefits they can get in the U.S.

Senator English said that homelessness is really the last of a series of tragedies that can occur in people's lives and that Hawai'i is working with the community to try to find a way to get a safety net out for them before it is actually needed. Right now the safety net for FSM citizens is small and nearly all of the cost for it is born by the State. Senator English said that the annual cost is between \$30 and \$40 million.

Hawaii's current policy is a leftover from the Federal policy that went to the States for their own discretion in 1998. It says that first priority for housing benefits should go to homeless people. One way people can prove that they are homeless is to access homeless shelters and Micronesians are doing that. Not all of them, but a good number of them.

The Honolulu Advertiser article said that the number of Micronesians using the State's homeless shelter system increased by nearly three times between 2001 and 2006 and that Micronesians, who make up only 1% of Hawaii's population are now utilizing 20% of the state's total homeless shelter population.

In May when we interviewed Hawaii's Governor Linda Lingle and former Chief of Staff Bob Awana, we were told that in 2006, 90% of the residents of the Light-house Homeless Shelter, a large, relatively new shelter in Honolulu, were from the FSM. The materials that Senator English brought with him to the FSM to share with government officials here confirm that statistic.

Micronesians in Hawai'i who can help are not sitting on their hands and watching it happen. The Nations of Micronesia meeting minutes from the May 23rd meeting listed as attendees a who's who of people concerned with helping Micronesians to get a toe hold in their new community. The min-

utes, which spanned several pages of one line action suggestions showed that Micronesians and Hawaiians are working together to develop action plans to help people from Freely Associated States to understand their new, different, and sometimes difficult surroundings. Discussions ranged from one stop social services delivery with interpreters from each country and state to whether or not census forms could be developed in the various languages of the islands. There was discussion of how the group could get the message out to FAS people that there would be no harm in reporting accurately on the census since it would actually help with funding programs they might need.

Both the House of Representatives and the Senate in Hawai'i passed a resolution requiring the Attorney General to establish a Task Force to investigate and coordinate the provision of medical and social service to migrant from Freely Associated States (FAS). The Task Force is to include a representative from government and private agencies in the areas of health, education, and labor and industry. It also called for a representative from The Micronesian Community Net-

work and Micronesians United.

Senator English's committee, in concert with Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland's committee on Human Services and Public Housing recommended a House concurrent resolution. The resolution requested the Center for Pacific Island Studies, the only congressionally recognized national resource center for the study of the Pacific Islands, housed at the University of Hawai'i, to establish a task force to identify and address the needs of Pacific Islanders living in Hawai'i.

Senator English says that he believes that regional directors of Federal programs may not be aware that the amended Compact of Free Association calls for access to FSM citizens to Federal programs. He said that the Compact is a treaty and should, under the law be given priority over other policies. He's trying to get that message to the right people in Washington D.C.

He said, "It's not like we don't want to provide the service. It's just that we need as much help as we can."

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E-mail: <dandrus@mail.fm>

July 2007

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Acting on behalf of Bishop Amando Samo, the Catholic Vicariate of Pohnpei is accepting proposals for the use of the land and facilities previously occupied by the Ponape Agriculture and Trade School ("PATS").

All interested parties may submit proposals to the Vicariate Office at any time. The Vicariate may request additional information regarding various proposals during the proposal review process.

Background:

Legal title of ownership of PATS resides with the Bishop of the Diocese as Corporation Sole.

The land and facilities under consideration were, until recently, occupied by the Ponape Agriculture and Trade School (PATS). Since 1965, PATS has functioned as an academic and vocational high school. Operations at PATS were discontinued in December 2005. The PATS property available for lease occupies over 2 hectares (21,677 square meters) and includes 9 major buildings including the administration building, library, kitchen/dining room, 2 dorms and a warehouse (easily converted into other classrooms or other facilities), 3 classroom buildings and several other smaller structures. The campus has its own internal sewerage and natural water systems including two 50 foot wells that produce 14 gpm of fresh water that serve the campus and the surrounding community. All buildings on the campus are connected to a 125 KW, 3-phase/208 V diesel back-up generator as well as island power.

General Proposal Criteria:

To be granted consideration by the Vicariate, a proposal should demonstrate the project's direct service to the overall socio-economic development of Micronesia. Proposed projects should fit within the parameters of one or more of the goals outlined below:

- ✘ To promote a curricular approach to education which is integrated in Micronesia culture and developmental needs;
- ✘ To promote a sense of united community among Micronesians of different districts and an ecumenical spirit among Micronesians of all religious traditions;
- ✘ To promote understanding of the process of social change in Micronesia by providing a center for the interchange of ideas concerning socio-economic development in Micronesia and foster integration of traditional values and customs with the necessities of a developing social and economic structure;
- ✘ To provide quality training for youth and adults in those areas most urgently needed for the development of Micronesia;
- ✘ To provide quality training for Micronesian teachers, particularly in vocational education;
- ✘ To promote agricultural production through research, pilot projects, training programs, and other means.

Proposal Format Description:

All proposals must include the following information and documentation:

- I. Name of Proposed Project
- II. Name and contact details of person and organization submitting proposal
- III. Organizational Background Information
- IV. Project justification and objectives including:
 - 1) program rationale;
 - 2) size and general location of PATS property needed,
 - 3) targeted groups;
 - 4) projected numbers of Pohnpeian/Micronesian beneficiaries
- V. Phasing and Duration of Implementation Process including
 - 1) any identified personnel and/or explanation of staffing recruitment process;
 - 2) projected start date

Project Financial Plan:

All proposals must also include a projected financial plan outlining:

- 1) estimated annual expenses;
- 2) estimated annual income;
- 3) income sources (both domestic and international)

Proposal Submission:

All proposals should be submitted to:

Vicariate of Pohnpei-Kosrae
c/o Fr. David Andrus, SJ
P.O. Box 160
Pohnpei, FM 96941

Inquiries regarding the proposal process or requests for arrangements to examine the available facilities should be directed to Fr. Dave Andrus at (691) 320-4661 or dandrus@mail.fm.

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			

SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

ACROSS

- 1. Places to hit the hay?
- 6. Challenged
- 11. Radiant
- 12. Not bugged
- 13. Playwright's product
- 14. Tiny tabby
- 15. Nonetheless
- 16. British bumbler
- 18. Mugger repellent
- 20. Tales
- 25. Ground, as one's teeth
- 28. Appearance
- 29. It's often said with a raised hand
- 30. Soft
- 32. Follows
- 34. They're on a janitor's ring
- 35. Expert pilots
- 37. Number in a pair
- 40. Catered event
- 44. Use 4-letter words
- 46. Almost
- 47. Like a haunted house
- 48. Manuscripts
- 49. Bird buildings
- 3. Brit's apartment buddy
- 4. Male cat
- 5. Fabric sample
- 6. Worshipped one
- 7. Appear onstage
- 8. Often-traveled path
- 9. Before, once
- 10. Reading room
- 12. Go down the slope
- 17. Cry
- 19. Like a fireplace
- 21. Someone you can count on
- 22. Nature's alarm clocks
- 23. At this time
- 24. Wild blue yonder
- 25. Sticky bit
- 26. Apprehend
- 27. Water barrier
- 31. Minimize
- 33. Leaves port
- 36. Shed tears
- 38. "... for me!"
- 39. Mined-over matters
- 40. Picnic pest
- 41. Admission charge
- 42. One way to send a picture
- 43. Handicraft
- 45. Petite

DOWN

- 1. Lord's companion
- 2. Shrek, for one

Word Search - ... CREAM PIES

Hit a home run in the kitchen as you whip up a luscious cream pie to sink your teeth into during the seventh-inning stretch!

- BAKE
- BANANA cream pie
- BOSTON cream pie
- BUTTER
- CHILL
- CHOCOLATE cream pie
- COCONUT cream pie
- CONFECTIONERS' sugar
- HEAVY CREAM
- HOMEMADE
- MAPLE cream pie
- MILK
- MIXTURE
- OVEN
- PEACH cream pie
- POUR

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

- PREPARECOOL
- CREAMY
- CRUST
- CUSTARD
- DESSERT
- EGGS
- FILLING
- FLOUR
- FLUFFY
- FRUIT
- RICH
- SERVINGS
- SHELL
- SUGAR
- SWEET
- VANILLA
- WHIPPING cream
- YUMMY

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RELIGION

Homily for FSM Inauguration

Friends, meet James and John here. One of them is named Manny Mori, and the other is Alik Alik. Tomorrow we'll be calling them President and Vice President. They have come forward and declared their desire to sit at the head of the table, one on the right side and the other on the left. Well, maybe it wasn't they themselves who asked for the presidency and vice-presidency. It might have been their supporters, their fellow congressmen. In Matthew's account of this same passage, it's the mother of James and John who asks Jesus if he will grant this honor to her two sons.

Whoever did the asking, the result is the same. These two men will tomorrow be inaugurated as the leaders of their nation. Therefore, the words of Jesus in this gospel passage are as applicable to them as they were to Jesus' own dis-

ciples, especially those who had their eyes on the rewards of a place of privilege.

Jesus issues a warning and articulates an ideal, both of which are interrelated. "You don't know what you're asking," Jesus tells his disciples. "You have no idea what you're getting into—and here comes the ideal—because the people in charge are supposed to be servants of all," he tells them. Maybe if Jesus were speaking to our leaders today, he would tell them: "Travel Business Class if you want, and be the first off the plane and into the waiting limousine."

But plan on also being the first into the office in the morning and the last out in the evening. Be ready to put in long work hours, be ready to explain again and again what seems obvious to you but your

constituents can't seem to grasp. Be ready to share the effect of pay cutbacks and austerity measures with the other further down the food chain—the clerks, the secretaries and the cleaning women. Prepare to be misunderstood, to be blamed for many things that are not really your fault.

But even when you are taking responsibility for anything and everything, keep your eyes lifted to heaven and a smile on your face. Now you are truly a servant of your people. Now you are drinking the cup that Jesus drank, and being baptized with his baptism. Now you're getting the idea of what it means to surrender your life...and your reputation...and your resources...as a ransom for many.

President Mori and Vice President Alik, together with all of you government leaders, are being entrusted with a heavy burden at a difficult time in the history of FSM. Your job is nothing less than to build a nation, a task you inherited from the men who founded this country, including the two former leaders who passed away just a few months ago: T o s i w o Nakayama and John Mangefel.

ing from reduced Compact funding. Somehow they must step up the productivity of the government workforce, while withhold the pay increases that long-time civil servants feel they are entitled to. They may have to trim the number of employees at the very time their people most need jobs. They are required to shepherd public funds just as their fellow citizens are complaining loudly over the price of gas and electricity and everything else. Meanwhile, they are being asked to somehow grow an economy that will support their country well into the future, despite the slender resource base they have to work with in the islands. (Perhaps our FSM leaders can identify with the Israelites who, during their captivity in Egypt, were commanded to make bricks without straw.)

Above all, our leaders will have to lift the eyes of their people from their day-to-day struggles, and elevate their hearts, so that they too are prepared to give of their best to achieve these large goals. If the country is to succeed, all voices will have to be singing the words of the FSM anthem with real meaning.

Our FSM leaders are called to be nothing less than pathfinders, charting the way through the forest for those who follow. They will have to draw on inner strength to keep up their own spirits as well as to encourage others when they're too tired to continue. They will repeatedly be called on to put their own interests aside—even their interest in another term of office—if they are to be true to their task. They will have to be servants of their people, not just in a rhetorical sense but a real one. They will understand what it is that Jesus meant when he asked whether they could "drink of the cup that I drink of."

But their sacrifices will not be unrewarded. They will have the guidance of the Spirit in their mission. And the gratitude of their people...perhaps not immediately, but surely in the future. And the prayers and support of all of us here. And the approval of those who sacrificed so much so that this country could be born. And, above all, the satisfaction of knowing that in serving their people honestly and faithfully, they have honored and loved their Lord.

Father Frances Hezel
Inter-Denominational Service
Our Lady of Mercy Church
Sunday, July 15, 2007

Tide Table July 25 - August 7, 2007				
POHNPEI, KOSRAE			CHUUK	
Wednesday	25 Wed	01 Wed	25 Wed	01 Wed
	09:06AM 1.5 12:52PM 1.6 03:48PM 1.5	04:31AM 4.5 11:11AM 0.3 05:06PM 3.1 10:41PM 0.8	10:26AM -0.1	03:29AM 2.4 11:00AM -0.2 04:39PM 0.7 08:41PM 0.4
Thursday	26 Thu	02 Thu	26 Thu	02 Thu
	12:45AM 3.3 08:47AM 1.2 02:11PM 1.8 06:01PM 1.5	05:04AM 4.3 11:37AM 0.4 05:37PM 3.3 11:21PM 0.9	12:15AM 1.7 10:15AM -0.2	03:54AM 2.1 11:09AM 0.0 04:56PM 0.9 09:22PM 0.5
Friday	27 Fri	03 Fri	27 Fri	03 Fri
	01:31AM 3.6 09:02AM 0.8 02:42PM 2.0 07:11PM 1.4	05:36AM 3.9 12:03PM 0.6 06:11PM 3.3	12:51AM 1.9 10:07AM -0.3	04:11AM 1.8 11:10AM 0.1 05:16PM 1.1 10:06PM 0.7
Saturday	28 Sat	04 Sat	28 Sat	04 Sat
	02:10AM 3.9 09:24AM 0.5 03:10PM 2.2 08:02PM 1.2	12:03AM 1.1 06:08AM 3.5 12:28PM 0.9 06:49PM 3.3	01:25AM 2.1 10:07AM -0.4	04:13AM 1.4 10:59AM 0.2 05:42PM 1.3 10:59PM 0.9
Sunday	29 Sun	05 Sun	29 Sun	05 Sun
	02:47AM 4.2 09:49AM 0.3 03:38PM 2.5 08:45PM 1.0	12:52AM 1.4 06:37AM 2.9 12:50PM 1.1 07:36PM 3.2	01:58AM 2.3 10:16AM -0.4	03:28AM 1.1 10:36AM 0.1 06:20PM 1.4
Monday	30 Mon	06 Mon	30 Mon	06 Mon
	03:22AM 4.4 10:16AM 0.2 04:07PM 2.7 09:24PM 0.8	02:04AM 1.7 07:04AM 2.4 01:11PM 1.3 08:48PM 3.1	02:30AM 2.4 10:30AM -0.4 04:19PM 0.4 07:13PM 0.3	10:05AM 0.0 07:32PM 1.5
Tuesday	31 Tue	07 Tue	31 Tue	07 Tue
	03:57AM 4.5 10:43AM 0.2 04:36PM 3.0 10:03PM 0.8	01:21PM 1.5 10:53PM 3.2	03:00AM 2.5 10:46AM -0.3 04:25PM 0.5 07:59PM 0.3	09:44AM -0.3 11:26PM 1.7

En Tohn Doadoahk En Pali En Private Arail Pwuhng

Ma komwi emen tohn doadoahk en pali en private mie ahmw pwung me komwi ale sang Poasoahn en FSM oh Poasoahn en Wein Pohnpei. Mie ahmw pwuhng me komwi ale sang kosonned en FSM oh kosonned en Pohnpei oh mie pwuhng sang ehu kosoandi en Mwolen Kopwung en FSM.

Poasoahn en FSM oh Poasoahn en Wein Pohnpei koaros inda me sohte mwekid en government kak wiawi me uhong komwi pweki komwi iang towehda ehu pali en sarawi, de komwi tohn ehu wei, ma komwi ohl de lih, ma komwi pwopwoud de soh de soang en loakaia me komwi kin lokaia..

Kosonned en Wein Pohnpei inda me omwi employer sohte pahn wia mehkot me me sarak ong komwi pweki komwi iang ehu pali en sarawi, de komwi wia tohn ehu wei, de ma komwi ohl de lih. Omwi employer kak wia mehkot me saparek ma saparek wet pid ia wen werei me komwi iang doadoahk, mwomwen doadoahk me komwi wia, de kilok de rahn en doadoahk. Ong ni mour en doadoahnk kosonned wet sohte pahn sawese komwi ma komwi lekedeksang doadoahk.

Kosonned en Wein Pohnpei inda me kowi pahn ale pweipwei me sohte pahn tikitiksang \$1.35 awa ehu. Ma komwi doadoahk dauli awa paisek nan wihk ehu komwi ahneki pwuhng en ale overtime.

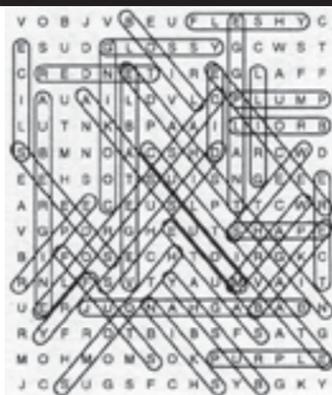
Kosonned en FSM katihtihki me omwi alepweipwei pahn report ong Social Security. Ma komwi pepehm me ohmwi alepweipwei sohte report ong Social Security komwi kak kalepak rehn Social Security de Legal Services kak sawese komwi.

Mie pwungalahn kopwung nan Mwolen Kopwung en FSM me inda me komwi ahneki pwuhng me ohmwi wasahn doadoahk sohte pahn keper ong komwi. Mwolen Kopwung en Wein Pohnpei saikinte alehdi case me pid ire wet.

Ma mie ohmwi peidekd duen ire pwukat komwi kak call Legal Services ni telephone 320-2404 de komwi kak kohdo ni ophis en Legal Services nanpwubg kilok 9:00 ah 3:00 Ni Ehd kan.

**The deadline for
ads and news
items for the next
issue is
August 3, 2007**

LAST Issue's Solution



LAST Issue's Solution



COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office at 7:00pm. Public welcome. For details, call 320-2123.

Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Cliff Rainbow Restaurant at 6:30pm. Public Welcome.

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

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

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.

FANGO holds its monthly Issue Base Dialogue (IBD) on the last Wednesday of each Month at the Sei Restaurant at 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. The public is welcome.

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

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HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Lieutenant-Governor Shifts to Local Food

By Dr. LOIS ENGLBERGER
Pohnpei Island Food Community

Local food, such as breadfruit, banana, and taro, contains rich levels of micronutrients, including provitamin A carotenoids, minerals as iron and zinc, other micronutrients, as well as fiber, which helps protect against diabetes. Rice, on the other hand, contains no provitamin A carotenoids and low levels of essential minerals and other micronutrients.

Jack Yakana, Lieutenant-Governor, Pohnpei State Government, recently shared with the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, about his experiences with local food.

"I stopped eating rice two years ago, and now I feel a lot better. I eat local food when I am on island. When I travel, I eat more veg-

etables."

Lt. Governor Yakana explained that his daughters Anna Marie (Jonie) and Rebecca Yakana are now eating local food along with him. "At first they didn't really like it. But after a while, they started eating it and now they complain if they don't get it!"

The Lieutenant -Governor said that there are ways of preserving giant swamp taro so that it is convenient and maintains its good taste. For example, large amounts can be purchased, peeled, and frozen. When it is prepared, it should be boiled without thawing. It then maintains its good texture (if it is allowed to thaw, the taro becomes mushy).

So let's go local and let's all eat more local food!

Pohnpei Prepares for Farmers Fair in October

By Dr. LOIS ENGLBERGER
Pohnpei Island Food Community

Preparations are now underway for the state-wide Pohnpei Farmers Fair, which is to be held Friday October 19, 2007, at the Pohnpei Agricultural Station (Bunzo) at the Botanical Garden in Kolonia,

Farmers are encouraged to start now in their preparations for participating in this event. The events include a crops competition, healthy cooking competition, art and essay competition, and a final prize-giving ceremony. The Farmers Fair is an inter-agency activity coordinated by Pohnpei Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs, College of

Micronesia (COM)-FSM Land Grant Program and COM-FSM Media Center, Departments of Education and Health, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, FSM National Government and other agencies.

Warm thanks are given to the past funding agencies Food and Agriculture Organization, Australian, New Zealand and German Governments, Pohnpei Legislature, Sight and Life, Bank of FSM, Pohnpei Island Architect and Construction, Pacific German Regional Forestry Program, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, Do It Best, Ace Office Supply, Yoshie Enterprise, V6AH Radio, and Senny's Enterprise.



Banana varieties entered in the 2005 Farmers Fair/World Food Day event, including the rare Utin Iap banana (lower left, reddish skinned fruit)



Samuel Washington shows his vinegar made from Daiwang Banana, one of the entries in the 2006 World Food Day Healthy Cooking Competition

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Chuukese Swimmers Do Well In Hawaii State Championships

By Bill Sakovich

Anela and Richard Alumbaugh are two Chuukese swimmers making names for themselves in Hawaii. Fourteen-year-old Anela and her brother, 12-year-old Victor, recently competed in Hawaii's biggest swimming meet of the year. The two Chuukese joined about 1,500 swimmers on Oahu competing in the Hawaii State Long Course Championships.

Anela Alumbaugh is one of the better swimmers for the Kamehameha Swim Club in her age group. Although only 14 years old Anela is already one of the best female

swimmers in all of the FSM.

Kamehameha won the State Championships and Anela scored in every event she swam. Her times are definitely competitive in the region, and although she can compete in any event, there was a limit of 8 individual events and 4 relays over the four-day period. Her strongest showing was a third place finish in the 200 Backstroke, and each relay was a near top finish.

She did final in every event, an achievement in itself, and four of the individual events were her best times.

Her younger brother, Victor (12 years

old) also competed in the State Championships, and although did not make the finals in six events, he placed in the top 20 in each of those events: swimming the Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and the Individual Medley.

Both swimmers train daily and compete regularly for the Kamehameha Club.

Their mom Dolores goes back to Chuuk almost every year to visit family and friends.

Anela's times from the recent State Championships:
50m Free - 29.85 - 9th place

100m Free - 104.61 - 5th place
200m Free - 2.26.12 - 8th place
400m IM - 5.46.02 - 6th place
400m Medley Relay - 5.10.46 - 4th place
100m Back - 1.15.91 - 7th place
200m IM - 2.40.33 - 6th place
200m Medley Relay - 2.19.87 - 3rd place
200m Back - 2.39.64 - 3rd place
400m Free - 5.00.04 - 8th place
200m Free Relay - 1.59.42 - 2nd place
400m Free Relay - 4.22.91 - 2nd place

Congratulations to Anela and Victor for making Chuuk and the FSM proud. You should hear more about these two fine Chuukese athletes in the future.

2007 North Pacific Qualifying Tennis Tournament

FSM Tennis Association

With only one day to recuperate from the 7 and a half hour trip and to adjust to the Saipan heat, 9 FSM children were ready to show their skills on the courts of the Pacific Islands Club and American Memorial Park courts.

They did just that. In the girls 13 and under division, Joni Yakana, who finished 7th in 2006 finished 6th. Shawn Adams, 10 years old and with two more years to compete in the 13 and under division, finished 10th in 2006. This year she beat out seven other girls to finish fifth in the region. Amanda Hawkins who finished 12th in 2006 improved her ranking to 9th and still has another year in this age division.

Shawn and Joni paired up to play the girls 13 and other doubles and took 1st place.

The boys 13 and under division was and exercise in experience development as the two participants in that division were both 9 year old boys who have only one year of tennis under their belt. However, Jericho Akinaga and TJ Rush proved that with they will become forces to contend with. They came in 11th and 12th.

In the girls 18 and under division Alyssa Hawkins, just 15 years old stunned the crowd by finishing 5th in the region after finishing 12th last year. Samantha Arther, 17 years old, improved her ranking by jumping three spots and finishing 7th.

Perhaps the biggest surprise was in the boys 18 and under division. Dayn Iehsi and Lloyd Yamada, plagued by injuries in the previous year did not compete in 2006. Both of the young 15 year old boys shocked everyone with their focus and skill. Dayn Iehsi finished ranked 4th in the region and Lloyd finished 5th. The two boys paired up for the 18 and under doubles and in the semifinals beat out one

CNMI pair for 3rd place.

Caroline Adams, coach for team FSM said, "Going into this event I knew we had a real young team and our toughest opponents would be CNMI. I encouraged the kids to play hard and to keep the goal of improving their regional ranking in mind. I am proud that they accomplish that goal. Many of the kids played several 3 hour matches going into three sets with tie breakers and it takes a great deal of mental toughness to do that and persevere.

The FSM Tennis Association, coaches, players, and parents would like to express their deepest appreciation to the following individuals and businesses who so unselfishly donated money to assist with the ticket and travel expenses for the team. Without you we could not have sent a team to yet another great NPQ event!!

The Bank of the FSM
Mr. Yamabe Kaneko
Mrs. Shindo
Matsukaze Family
Funabashi Kaiyo Shonendan
Leo Etscheit Store
PNI ACE Hardware
Napa Auto Parts
True Value
Adam's Brother's Corporation
Pohnpei Transfer and Storage
Luen Thai Fishing Venture
Telesource International, Inc.
Tan Holdings
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CTSI
Medpharm
House of Travel
OFCF
Bryan and Tasha Isaac
Yvette Adams
Abiner Robert
Deloitte and Touche
Special thanks to Kikuo Apis and Hubert Yamada for assistance in securing a hotel sponsor.



Ambassador's Cup Tennis Tournament 2007

The Australian Embassy hosted the second Ambassador's Cup Tennis Tournament at the Embassy compound on Saturday 7 July 2007. After an exciting match, the cup for singles champion was awarded by Ambassador Corinne Tomkinson to Bryan Isaac. The runners up were Renedgardo Merenciello, Yolanda Neth and Seth Hansen.

The Tournament attracted a large crowd from all over Pohnpei.

"This is one of the many social activities that Ambassador Tomkinson has supported during her tenure, to the delight of tennis enthusiasts here in the islands. "We do not have much support and thus sponsorship in the sport of tennis, other than the Etscheit

Family (For the Annual Memorial Robert Etscheit Tournament) and the regular Liberation Day Celebration which tennis, at times, is included", said Tasha Isaac.

"I would like to, once again, thank Ambassador Tomkinson, for her support for activities such as tennis, which help and encourage our people to get out there and do some exercises. This recently completed tournament, the 2nd Australian Ambassador's Cup, was fun and involved at least twenty-plus participants, whom I could tell, really love the sport and enjoyed participating. There were only a few winners at the end, but for all of us who love the sport, everyone was a winner", said Bryan Isaac.