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EDA and Oceania Collaborate to Bring More Tuna Profits to FSM Company Plans an \$80 - \$100 Million Investment That May Bring 3000 Jobs

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM – If Pohnpei's Economic Development Authority is able to help Orlando, Florida based "Oceania", to maneuver its way through complex negotiations in Pohnpei State and with the National Government, a new cannery will eventually be constructed on land in Dekehtik that doesn't currently exist.

Right now there are more questions than answers but the numbers being thrown around are large by FSM standards; numbers like \$80 to \$100 million, and 3000. Up to \$100 million is what the investors think they will likely spend on the project and 3000 is how many jobs they say they will offer. \$9 million, another large number, is the annual salary the company is projecting they will pay to start, but that number may yet change.



Satellite Picture of Dekehtik, Pohnpei, the proposed cannery would be built on reclaimed land in the lower right of the picture.

A person working for minimum wage in the FSM will earn \$2471 in a year after Social Security and Withholding tax if they work 40 hours per week. Mr. Albert Augustin, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Pohnpei's Eco-

nom Development Authority said they hope that the new company will quickly be able to more than double the minimum wage for employees of the plant. He smiles and says, "Maybe we'll start to see FSM citizens moving back to the

FSM to go to work."

The company hopes to provide tuna for the cannery by fishing. It wants to register 50 purse seiners under the FSM flag and has begun preliminary talks with NORMA (National Oceanic Resource Management Authority) the agency of the FSM that registers vessels and licenses vessels for fishing in the FSM EEZ (Economic Exclusive Zone).

Purse seiners are large fishing vessels that currently account for approximately 2/3 of the tuna caught in the Pacific. Many of the vessels utilize helicopters to find schools of tuna. The purse seiner pulls alongside an identified school while a powerful skiff drags a circular net around the school. When the fish are sur-

See "Cannery on page 6

Greenpeace Canvasses the Pacific on Behalf of Tuna

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei - A popularly conceived perception of Greenpeace is of a group of volunteers that would be willing to be shot by a harpoon themselves rather than see one more whale die on the high seas. Some think that the group is slightly off kilter and that they're doing all of this out of an emotional love for wildlife and the environment that is out of all balance, and that there is no science involved.

In fact, the members of Greenpeace are passionate about preserving the earth's resources. The members are in fact, emotionally passionate about preservation and environmental issues. But there is science behind it all; lots and lots of science and thousands of hours of observation.

Greenpeace says in its printed materials that though they support fishing reductions that the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission is pro-

posing, their science shows them that the cuts don't go deep enough. The WCPFC is proposing a 25% reduction of Big Eye Tuna catches and a 10% effort reduction for Yellow Fin Tuna. Greenpeace postulates that if the fishing effort in the Pacific is not reduced by 50% with a focus on purse seiners, the most efficient type of fishing vessel operating in the Pacific, we face the possible loss of the entire fishery within three years.

Greenpeace says that the WCPFC recommendation is based on a scientific model that utterly failed when it was applied to the North Atlantic fishery. "It's too risky. It didn't work in the Atlantic, why would it work here," says Lagi Toribau, Pacific Oceans Campaigner.

He said that the model being used doesn't account strongly enough for IUU (Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported) fishing. IUU fishing is fishing done by unregistered vessels or vessels that may be licensed but are



A purse seiner transships its catch

not reporting many of the fish they catch by participating in unregulated transshipment at sea.

As an example, The Kaselehlie Press reported in the May 2nd edition, the boarding by FSM National Police, of a Taiwanese vessel that had been at sea for two and a half months and had only 6 tuna in their refrigerators. The vessel admitted transshipping fish at sea and not record-

ing them. Though the crew's passports were confiscated and the Captain was ordered to steam to Yap the vessel steamed past Yap and disappeared.

Greenpeace is taking their fisheries conservation message directly to the nations of the Pacific. During the week of July 30 they were in Palikir meeting with Government officials ask-

See "Overfished" on page 9

NEWS

Director, Finley S. Perman Helps Pohnpei to Shine...Again Perman Confirmed as FSM Chief of Finance and Administration

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM – Former Director of Pohnpei's Department of Finance and Administration, Finley S. Perman did it again. Not only was the Fiscal Year 2006 Pohnpei State Audit, performed by Deloitte and Touche, clean, unqualified, and on time but this year the Audit showed that Pohnpei State had an \$8 million surplus in its general fund.

The draft audit report showed \$400,000 in questioned costs but by working closely with the auditors they were able to properly explain the costs and the amount went down to \$80,010 in four citations. Once those costs were charged against the General Fund the exceptions went to zero.

Perman, in a report to the Governor said, "Although it may seem that the amount is material, the auditors explained that the amount

is small and within the acceptable level of error of the total federal awards. It is actually .4% of the total federal grants received in fiscal year 2006."

If Pohnpei State has another unqualified audit for fiscal year 2007 the State will meet the low-risk auditee criteria which would allow the State to be eligible for reduced audit coverage and could mean more opportunity for Federal Funding on application.

Perman admits that the position of Secretary was his first real position of leadership. Apparently, many think that he acquitted his duties in a stellar way, so much so that he is now the Chief of the Department of Finance and Administration at the National Government. Senator Dohsis Halbert in the Congress Session when Perman was confirmed called the Department "the most challenging department at the National Gov-



Former Secretary for Pohnpei State's Department of Finance and Administration Finley S. Perman with good reason to smile

ernment." Indeed, his new role will test his metal as a leader.

He said that he came into the Pohnpei department with two main goals. He said that he wanted to achieve clean audit opinions and to deal with questioned costs in order to achieve that main goal. He said that he plans to take those goals with him to the National Government as well.

Of course, clean audits are the result of clean operations. Perman and his staff set up educational programs for government staffers to be certain that everyone was up to speed on what it takes to handle the finances of the State ethically and accurately. He said that when things were handled incorrectly they made corrections and educated the people involved in making the mistake so that the problem wouldn't occur again in the future.

When asked what he had learned as the leader of Finance and Administration he said that he felt it was good to surround yourself

with truly good and professional people. He said that he felt that good leaders though they have the responsibility to be the final word on decisions should consider the devices of the people that have been hired to lend their expertise to the task at hand. A good leader never "knows it all." Leaders who ignore the advice of their staff do so at their own peril.

Perman gives credit where credit is due. He said that Governor Johnny David gave good leadership, advice, and guidance where he needed it.

Pohnpei's Department of Finance and Administration has 40 employees and advisors. Perman said that he had to do a little "house cleaning" when he first got to the department but the staff who worked for him were all excellent.

He gave his Chief of Finance, Andrew Joseph who has worked at the Department since the 90's much of the credit for the

See "Perman" on page 4

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Australia-Pacific Technical College Opens for Business



The Australia-Pacific Technical College has opened its doors to the first students, fulfilling the Government's commitment to provide world-class vocational education and training in the Pacific.

The Prime Minister announced at the Pacific Islands Forum in October 2006 that the Australian Government would provide \$150 million for the establishment and operation of the college.

The first student intake this month will offer training in tourism and hospitality to fill critical skill shortages and boost employment opportunities and economic growth in the region.

The college will boost essential skills in a range of vocations including automotive, construction, manufacturing and electrical trades, tourism and hospitality, health and community services.

The internationally recognized courses will be run at training centers in Vanuatu, Samoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

From 2008 scholarships will be available to enable students, especially those from smaller island states, to participate.

Dr Peter Shepherd has been appointed

chief executive officer of the College and brings extensive international experience in vocational and technical training to the job.

Training contracts worth \$100 million have been awarded to Queensland's Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE and Box Hill Institute in Victoria.

The College will work with Pacific Island governments, education and business leaders to ensure that graduates are appropriately skilled to meet employment needs in the region.

Further information on the Australia-Pacific Technical College is available at www.aptc.edu.au

Corrections!!

Caroline Adams wrote to inform us that she had neglected to thank Bob and Patty Arthur who donated to the FSM Tennis Association again this year. She forgot also to thank Lt. Governor Yakana for facilitating the use of a rental car.

In my article on the Police Academy I inadvertently said that Ambassador Liu Fei was the Ambassador to China. What I meant to type was that Ambassador Liu Fei is the Ambassador OF China.

We apologize for the omissions & inaccuracies!

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U.S. Ambassador Suzanne Hale Takes to the Municipalities US-FSM Compact II Was the Subject of Last Month's Forum Lectures Taken to the "Grass Roots"

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

U, Pohnpei, FSM—Attendees at the Forum Lecture in U Municipality were slow to gather but by the time the lecture, presented by U.S. Ambassador Suzanne Hale was completed two hours later there were more than 40 people gathered in the small room to learn about the Second Compact of Free Association between the FSM and the United States. Ambassador Hale said that she felt that the Forum Lectures, which are usually held at the National Campus of the College of Micronesia in Palikir and at the Kolonia Campus of COM were too hard for people from the municipalities to attend.

In May Ambassador Hale did similar lectures in Kosrae that were well received. The Embassy approached Pohnpei State and asked them if they felt that a similar tour of the municipalities could work in Pohnpei. They sent a copy of the complete presentation that had been given a slant for Pohnpeian listeners and the State Government set up lectures as well as the schedule for each of the six lectures. The schedule they set up had the Embassy beginning the series at the U Municipal Office on July 24, followed by Madolenihmw Municipal Office on the same day. On the next day they were scheduled for Kitti Municipal and Sokehs Municipal office. They completed the series of Municipal lectures on the 26th starting in the morning at Kolonia and ending at Nett Municipal Offices in the afternoon.

The lecture, entitled "What's New in the Compact" was designed to inform people in Pohnpei about the terms of the newest Compact with the United States that might not otherwise have access to the information. The Ambassador said that the lecture was well received in each of the municipalities.

Seated at the table at the lecture in U was Senator Joab who had in front of him a paperback version of the Compact that appeared to be sev-



Photo by Bill Jaynes

US Ambassador Suzanne Hale waits while Ken Welly, Business Instructor at the College of Micronesia translates for her.

eral hundred pages thick. Despite the size of the subject the Ambassador, using a power point presentation with charts and graphs deftly explained the general provisions of the Compact agreement.

The crowd had so many questions that she was nearly unable to conclude her presentation.

She began the presentation with a short summary of the first compact. She said that during the first compact, Democracy was supported but that there was very little or no economic growth during the time.

One of the provisions of the Compact is that the United States will defend Micronesia as if it were a part of the U.S. She said that the FSM is the only country in the world with whom the U.S. has made that agreement. As a result, the FSM does not have to spend money on a defense force.

The new Compact is set up in such a way, she said, that the money can only be used in certain ways that are important to the people. The six categories of funding under the amended Compact II are Public Sec-

tor Capacity Building, Environment, Infrastructure, Private Sector Business Development, Health and Education. Health and Education are the two sectors that receive the largest amount of funding under the agreement.

Additionally, she said, a trust fund had been set up. In the first year the FSM contributed \$30 million and the U.S. put in \$15 million. The U.S. will put more money each year into the Trust Fund so that by the end of the sector grant funding in 2023 they will make a final contribution of \$30 million. The trust fund is designed to help sustain the FSM when sector funding comes to an end. She said that it is set up in such a way that the FSM, at that time will be able to utilize the interest from the trust fund but that if they touch even one penny of the principal, the U.S. will, under the agreement take back all of the money that they have contributed to the fund over the entire 20 years.

She also said that, though the sector grants will end in 2023 the terms of the compact that allow FSM citizens to freely enter the U.S and vice

versa, and all of the other terms of the compact will remain in place and that there is no date of expiry on those agreements.

The Ambassador informed those present about the fiscal accountability that is built into the agreement. She said that the reasons for the heavy accountability is to be certain that the money is put to use where it is designated to be used and that JEMCO which consists of FSM and US representatives is tasked with measuring progress and approving budgets.

She said that the private sector will need to play a bigger role in the future. She compared the work forces of four countries in terms of what percentage of employees in those countries work in the Government as compared to the private sector. The U.S. has 10% in Government employ. New Zealand has less than 10%. Luxembourg, a very small country in Europe has only 5% of its workforce employed by the Government while the FSM currently has 55%.

She said that statistics show that when more people are working for the Private Sector in an economy, the per capita income is higher; individuals have higher take home pay.

She said that tax revenues in the FSM are low by regional standards. While in the FSM tax revenue is at 11% of the Gross Domestic Product, Kiribati's rate is 26% of GDP.

She said that it would be important to concentrate on Private Sector Business Development, strong accountability, increased government revenues, and reduced Government spending.

During the presentation someone in the group asked the two Senators attending the meeting why it was that Pohnpei State no longer had a political education program as they once did. Senator Joab said that there was no formal agency that is assigned to go out and teach the public and that it should be the individual citizen's responsibility to educate themselves.

...Perman

continued from page 2

Department's success. Joseph became the acting director of the Department when Perman made the move to Palikir. He also specifically mentioned the efforts of consultants, Ursula Abalos, Financial Advisor, Juliet Jimmy, Funds Certification, and Jeanna Basa, the Component Unit Advisor a great deal of the credit. He said it cost

a bit more money to hire these consultants who he said, "made all the difference" but that the return on the investment was bigger by far than the salaries paid.

As to the \$8 million surplus, he said that the staff helped him to tighten up on Government spending. He said that they strictly stuck with the budgets that were approved by the Legislature. The staff also helped to be sure that all of the accounting records were

cleaned up. It didn't hurt that the Government had a reasonable rate of return on their investments.

When asked if he would be taking any of his staff with him to the National Government, Perman was somewhat non-committal. He said that as the National Secretary for the Department of Finance and Administration he would have to be sure that there were good people in place in the States and that he wanted to leave Pohnpei

State in good hands. He didn't rule out the possibility but said that he wouldn't do so at the expense of Pohnpei State's Department of Finance and Administration.

When Lt. Governor Jack Yakana was asked if it would be fair to categorize the current state of Pohnpei State's finances as the best in years, he immediately agreed with the evaluation.


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10:00 am - 3:00 pm

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NEWS

Students Attend the First Micronesia Challenge Internship Program Workshop

Micronesia Conservation Trust

From July 30 to August 03, 2007, nine college students from all over Micronesia attended the first Micronesia Challenge Internship Program Workshop organized by the Micronesia Conservation Trust.

Attending the workshop were Andy Marty from the College of the Marshall Islands, Joe Lomae of the University of the South Pacific – Marshall Island's Campus, Tracy Ardos of the UH-Hilo Campus, Marvin Ludrick and Carlos Kusto of the College of Micronesia- FSM, Anthony Ritter and Isumechraard Ngirairikl of University of Guam, Semona Igama of the Northern Marianas College and Shelly Remengesau of Palau Community College.

The goals of the internship program are to build the next

generation of conservation leaders (Champions) in Micronesia and to promote the goals of the Micronesia Challenge (MC) and Protected Areas Networks (PANs).

This internship program is part of the Micronesia Challenge, a commitment by the governments of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, US Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of Palau to place at least **30% of the near-shore marine and 20% of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia under effective conservation by 2020**. This is part of the region's contributing to global targets set out at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for protected areas, island biodiversity and to the sustainable livelihoods

of island communities.

At the weeklong workshop, which was facilitated by Willy Kostka, Lisa Andon and Mary Rose Nakayama of the Micronesia Conservation Trust, the interns attended several workshops and learned about the Micronesia Challenge, the FSM Protected Areas Network, the Micronesia Conservation Trust and its programs, the Micronesia GEF-Small Grants Program and the local conservation initiatives by the Conservation Society of Pohnpei and its local partners. The interns also learned several leadership skills which included developing professional networks, creating action plans and the appreciation of diverse leadership styles. The participants were able to use the skills they learned to begin to develop action plans for their internship, to expand their personal and professional networks, to learn

more about their leadership styles and to appreciate their overall team dynamics.

This first of several planned workshops and internship activities were made possible by funds provided by Willy Kostka's Pew Fellowship and other funds he has been able to raise from The Nature Conservancy, the US Department of Interior (DOI) and the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA). The two year internship includes scholarships of \$5,000 per year to each of the interns, laptop computers, travel funds to bring the interns to and from their islands to their schools and funds to support their activities in their islands.

Kostka hopes to continue to work with his partners to ensure this vital program grows in the coming years and has real impacts for the region.

...Cannery

continued from page 1

rounded the bottom of the net is pursed closed and the net is hauled in capturing the entire school of tuna and other fish that swim with the school.

All of these company's plans will hinge on coming to reasonable terms with the many stakeholders in the FSM that will have a say in the process.

At press time a letter of intent that puts in writing the Governor's intention to allow Oceania to undertake a huge reclamation project on the southeast side of Dekehtik was still under review at the Attorney General's Office. The land built would be constructed at the company's cost and would include a brand new dock for staging on the east side of the island.

Mr. Augustine said that EDA, who has partnered with Oceania is looking forward to working with the legislature. He said that there might need to be some revisions to the currently defined industrial development zone. He said that there might also need to be some

adjustments or exceptions made at the National level but he felt that these were all things that could be organized with a good spirit of cooperation.

Dr. James Yaingeluo is part owner of the newly formed "Oceania", the group that is proposing the project. Two other partners include Forward Logistics Group out of Orlando, FL and SeaArk International. Dr. Yaingeluo said that when the cannery is built it would have four operations: cooking, canning, loining, and fish meal.

"Forward Logistics Group," their website says (www.flg.com), "is an international freight forwarder and customs broker, providing tailor-made global services including domestic and worldwide air and ocean transportation, customs clearance, documentation preparation, 3rd party logistics services, supply chain management, warehousing, distribution and fulfillment solutions." They have been in business since 1988. They were first named "Fast Forward Transportation Service" but after expansion they changed their name to Forward Logistics Group.

SeaArk "is in the business of pro-

ducing, processing, marketing, and distributing seafood using advanced aquaculture and mariculture technologies." They currently have a ZAR \$600 million (currently USD \$88.5 million) giant shrimp farm project in Coega, South Africa in partnership with the South African, Bosasa Group. The farm is projected to provide 4500 jobs there by 2011 and is purported to be environmentally friendly.

SeaArk International is owned by Fausel Companies (www.fauselco.com). It is extraordinarily rare to have an individual described as both an industrialist and an economist but that appears to be the way Dr. Stephen A. Fausel, Chairman of Fausel Companies has built his group of companies. Last year, Dr. Fausel won a life time achievement award for his dedication to the U.S.'s national forests and also for his international commitment to the environment.

Before the company can do anything other than studies, the project will have to have an environmental impact assessment. The Environmental Protection Agency will have to sign off on the plans before anything is done.

Waste water from canneries on is-

lands around the Pacific have in many cases, caused the problem of eutrophication. Eutrophication is when dissolved minerals and organic matter exceed the level of dissolved oxygen in a body of water such as the lagoon in Pohnpei, favoring plant life over animal life, in other words, plant life gets more nutrients in that type of aquatic environment than the reef or fish do.

Dr. Yaingeluo said that if the cannery cannot be built in an environmentally sustainable way he is sure that SeaArk won't build it at all.

There are other logistics to consider as well; issues like parking. Where do 3000 people park their vehicles for a business of the size that is proposed? Dr. Yaingeluo said that Oceania is thinking about those things too. He said there will need to be transportation systems, restaurants, entertainment for fishermen whose ships are in port, and possibly hotels, all are investment opportunities for entrepreneurs.

The company hopes to get things started quickly and will send an engineer for studies as soon as agreements are signed.

Liduduhniap Waterfalls

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Kahmar, Pohnpei - For years the access road to Liduduhniap Waterfalls was treacherous and could even damage vehicles. At least one vehicle I know of slid over the embankment on the way to the falls and rolled over. Recently, however, the road has been greatly improved making Liduduhniap Waterfalls one of the easiest falls to access from Kolonia.

Located upstream from the hydro electric plant on the Nan Pil River, Liduduhniap Waterfalls is a doubly tiered set of falls. Above the upper falls there is a small shelter that is in a state of disrepair but still makes for a nice place to sit and just watch the water pour over the top of the water fall and then slipping again over the edge over the precipice of the lower falls.

It is possible to swim at the upper falls. When we visited several years ago locals were jumping into the upper pool and climbing back out on the rock wall di-

rectly underneath the falls. I joined them for a few jumps but found it very strenuous to climb back out. Considering that I was an accomplished mountaineer for many years that is a considerable statement.

Continue down the path from the upper falls and you will come to a descending trail of moss covered rock and concrete that takes you to the lower falls. Be careful on the trail as it is quite slippery when wet.

Sitting on boulders around the pool of the lower falls I felt as if I were a spectator in a lush green amphitheater whose main performer center stage was a dancing water sprite.

Liduduhniap falls is well maintained. If you visit please respect the land and carry out every thing you bring in. The area is remarkably trash free.

It is perfectly reasonable to expect to pay a fee to cross the land for all of the work the family does to maintain the area. Their published fee is \$1 per visitor. We

were charged an additional fee for my camera but I didn't get the feeling that the family charged that fee to everyone and I have never seen it listed in any tourist literature.

Follow the directions printed

on the Etscheit Farm advertisement on page 5 but take the left fork instead of continuing right to the farm. Park courteously at the monument marker.



photos by Bill Jaynes

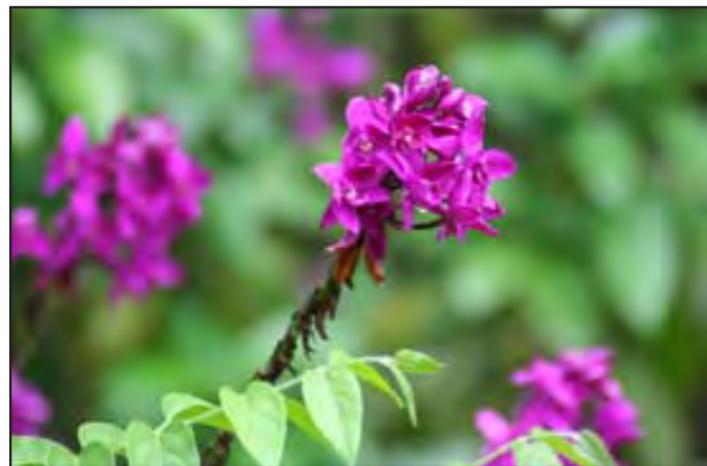
Liduduhniap's upper falls require a bit of rock climbing prowess in order to get back up the cliffs and can be dangerous during periods of rain like on the day that we visited.



The lower falls as seen through the trees on the precarious and slippery descending trail.



The bank of the lower falls is boulder strewn but there is good swimming without the need to climb a rock wall to get out. Exercise caution for possible flash floods. DO NOT attempt to jump from the walls of this falls. The water in the pool is too shallow.



Beautiful flowers line the well tended path above the falls

Invitation to Bid

The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs (HESA) invites bid proposals from interested Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and/or Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in Pohnpei State to implement the **RE-SURVEY of the POHNPEI NCD-STEPS** project.

Project Goal: Successful completion of Re-Survey of Pohnpei NCD-STEPS project.

Location: The contractor selected will be working in Pohnpei State.

Selection: The project is open to all interested parties. The contractor must have broad knowledge of logistical demands related to activities undertaken in Pohnpei State, must be able to communicate in the local language, and must possess in depth work experience in the area of the surveying of non-communicable disease risk factors. The contractor must be able to demonstrate practical, hands-on experience related to the duties indicated below.

Duties: The contractual obligations will include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following responsibilities:

1. Provide initial and continuing planning, administrative and logistic support in the implementation of the Re-Survey of Pohnpei STEPS project in Pohnpei State;
2. Handle all procurement of equipments, fuel, food stuffs and supplies including all necessary data collection and reporting forms for the project;
3. Coordinate and ensure timely transportation of survey related materials and staff;
4. Distribute provided IEC materials for public education relating to the project;
5. Assist Pohnpei State Department of Health Services with scheduling and setting up of check points for steps 2 and 3 of project;
6. Assist FSM-HESA staff with data input activities;
7. Submit project progress report as required by the government;
8. Assist with compilation and writing of final report.

Funding for this project will be available for a duration of approximately five (5) months starting mid-August to December 31, 2007. All interested parties must address the following information items in their bid proposal:

1. Describe your organization profile; structure, capacity;
2. Describe similar activities your organization has taken in the past 1 to 5 years;
3. Describe how your organization plans to meet overall project goal;
4. Provide a realistic plan of action with proposed budget.

Applications and/or bid proposals are currently being accepted and the deadline for submitting all proposals must be received on or before close of business on **August 16, 2007**. For more information, please contact Department of HESA, Secretary for detail project description and proposal requirements.

Please address all proposals to:

Mr. Nena S. Nena, MPH
Secretary
Department of HESA
P.O. Box PS 70
Palikir Station, Pohnpei 96941
Tel: 691-320-2619/2643
Fax: 691-320-5263
E-mail: nnena@fsmhealth.fm or health@fsmhealth.fm

The FSM National Government is an equal opportunity employer. The government reserves the right to refuse any and all bids based on established FSM Government bidding standards.

...Overfished

continued from page 1

ing the government to join them in asking that the WCPFC adopt a 50% reduction of fishing effort. They have members canvassing all of the islands with EEZ's in the western and central Pacific asking those government leaders to do the same.

Toribau said that the interchange in the FSM was good and they are hopeful that the FSM will consider coming alongside with them. The FSM hasn't agreed yet as the Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, and Western Samoa have but there is room yet for them to do so.

Greenpeace is also telling leaders of Pacific Island countries that there are more ways to help the fishery in the Pacific. They say that Pacific Island Countries should negotiate all fisheries agreements as a unified block instead of individually. They say this will maximize their negotiating power with distant water fishing nations

They are calling for the elimi-

nation of pirate fishing and a complete ban on transshipment and bunkering (refueling) at sea. They say that Pacific Island Countries should demand more enforcement and surveillance resources from key foreign fishing nations, and aid partners.

A video produced by Greenpeace vividly gives many reasons for the increased pressure on what was once the last great under exploited fishery in the world. It said that in the middle of the last century the ocean's fish stocks seemed to be unlimited. Because technology wasn't developed to the level that currently exists there were great expanses of ocean that were never fished so that when fish were taken they were replenished by the stock from unreachable waters. Now, they say, there is no part of the ocean that is inaccessible and therefore no place where stocks have a chance to replenish themselves. As a result, fish that are taken are smaller. Many have not yet had time to reproduce and that is resulting in a fishery that is in a disastrous state of decline.

To counteract the pressure Greenpeace is asking the WCPFC to immediately establish no-take marine reserves in the enclosed high seas bound by the Pacific Island countries.

Greenpeace is in no way against fishing. They simply want to see it done in a sustainable way. They also point out the inequities of the exploitation of the Pacific's only real economic commodity. Pacific Island Countries are only realizing 6% of what is a \$3 billion industry. They are calling for intra-regional cooperation for the development of domestic fishery industries—more locals who have a vested interest in fishing ethically and fewer foreign vessels in the Pacific's EEZ's.

Greenpeace says that Pacific Island Countries many of whom are dependent on the revenue from access fees, often find the prospect of making such a huge reduction, daunting. However, Greenpeace points out that studies show that effort reduction could result in profits between 10% and 40% of gross revenue. They site a recent study that

shows that a 36% effort reduction in the Pacific purse seiner effort and 12% and 19% reductions in the frozen and fresh long-line fisheries in the short term, would increase the profitability of the fishery by 30% in the long term.

Effort reduction, they say can therefore lead to more profitable returns to the foreign fleets, which should increase the returns those fleets pay to the Pacific Island Countries accordingly. "Ideally returns to PICs should increase from the current 6% to 30% - 50% of the value of the fishery."

"The collapse of the Grand Bank's cod fishery in the Atlantic in 1992 is a well known example of the consequences of failing [to] address over-fishing. The Canadian Government ignored scientific warnings and stood by as catches fell from 223,000 tonnes to zero in the space of two years."

Could it happen in the Pacific? Greenpeace certainly thinks so and they are telling anyone who will listen.

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MOU Outlines the Chuuk Financial Reform Plan

Office of the Chief of Staff

Palikir, POHNPEI—FSM President Mori and top leaders of Chuuk State have recently executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that sets forth reform measures or ways of helping Chuuk State with its financial crisis.

The MOU was signed at the Cliff Rainbow Hotel at the end of two days of final negotiations and before the Chuuk State leaders were to return home after participating in the National Inauguration ceremonies in mid July, 2007.

Signing on behalf of Chuuk State were: Governor Wesley Simina, Chuuk House of Representatives Speaker, Singkoro Harper and Chuuk State Senate Floor Leader, Alanso Cholymay and accompanied by their staff: the Chuuk State Attorney General; the Director of Finance and Administration and the Legislative Counsel. Also signing as part of the Chuuk State leadership was Chairman of Chuuk Congressional Delegation, Mr Roosevelt Kansou.

The MOU acknowledges first of all that Chuuk State's overall debt portfolio is around 46 million. Four million (\$4 million) of the \$46 million are considered short term loans that need to be paid off within the next six months to one year period; \$7 million

are considered medium term loans that need to be paid off within one year to three years. Among the reform measures agreed upon in the MOU were:

For Chuuk State to:

Sell off its stock holdings or investment in the Banks of Guam and of the FSM and deposit the proceeds in a stabilization fund. The fund will be jointly administered by both Chuuk State and the FSM and will be for the purpose of paying off Chuuk State's debts. The stock divestment is agreed to occur within one year after the signing of the MOU. Proceeds from those sales are estimated to be \$1.8 million

Sell the Chuuk State Medical Referral House in Honolulu and use the proceeds as part of the Stabilization Fund. The sale is agreed to occur within two years of the date of the MOU (July 19, 2007) and is speculated to net about \$1.5 million. (However, there are reportedly judgment liens recorded in Hawaii against the property by individuals who have judgment claims against Chuuk State).

Adopt austerity measures to control General Fund expenditures for the remainder of the 2007 Fiscal Year. (Chuuk State FY07 expenditures exceed gross revenues by \$2 million). The austerity measures include a moratorium on hiring, salary increases and other spending as travel. The State shall also aim to reduce its FY07 \$2

million Budget Deficit by \$500,000.

Chuuk State also agreed that before end of the FY07 on October 1, 2007, it shall work to balance its proposed FY08 Budget and to include a provision to reduce the budget deficit by \$1 million.

Chuuk State also promised to eliminate 400 positions from its operations budget. The elimination will involve two phases: 200 positions by March 31, 2008, and the other 200 by March 31, 2009. An approximate \$2 million savings is expected from the elimination of positions.

Chuuk State will work to restructure its state government, including restructuring the Chuuk Legislature into a unicameral legislature. The State agreed to make sure voting on the Legislature restructuring constitutional amendment is on the March 2009 General Election ballot. The restructuring measures are expected to yield a savings of \$1 million.

No later than October 1, 2007, Chuuk State will develop a public awareness program to educate the Chuukese people about the imminent need for reform.

In addition, there were other measures that both Chuuk State and the FSM National Government committed themselves to doing jointly. They include joint pursuit of outside finan-

cial and technical assistance to help the state's problems, strengthening of tax administration to improve revenue collection, and the immediate allocation of Chuuk's 20% revenue sharing balance from fiscal years, 2002 and 2003.

In submitting an original set of the MOU to FSM Speaker Isac Figir, President Mori's cover letter stated:

'...I want to impress upon you and the Congress that in due time, I will be coming to the Congress for support as it is apparent that the gravity of Chuuk's problems do pose potentially disrupting effects both on the National Government's operational capability and on the Nation's long-term financial and economic wellbeing. As you go through the MOU and its supporting tables and matrix, you will find that a significant part of Chuuk State's debt portfolio is urgently due and owing to different agencies of the National Government, including the FSM Social Security Administration and the FSM Department of Finance and Administration Customs and Tax Administration. I am sorry to say that Chuuk's financial problem is indeed a FSM problem, requiring our joint effort and resolution...'

The Chuuk State leadership has reportedly begun implementation steps for some of their obligations under the MOU.

Kosrae Team Wins Law Day Debate 2007

Colonia, Yap - The 2007 FSM law day was held in Colonia, Yap on July 12, 2007. Kosrae State won the 2007 national debate. Chuuk was the first runner-up and Pohnpei and Yap tied for third position.

The FSM law day was held first on July 12, 1991 to commemorate the first ten years of the existence of the Supreme Court of the FSM. It has since become an annual activity of the court. Each year, a coordinating committee is appointed. The committee is comprised of employees of the court.

Each year, the committee explores a number of possible topics of National significance to be debated by high school students throughout the Federated States of Micronesia. This year the topic selected by the committee was: "Be it resolved that the FSM Constitution be amended to provide for an office of Special Prosecutor for the Federated States of Micronesia."

State Championship Debates are held in each state to determine which school will represent their state in the National Debate Championship.

This year the State Champion Debaters representing the State of Kosrae were Ms. Evangeline Ching and Ms.

Sepe Waguk from Kosrae High School. Ms. Martha Timothy was the coach for the Kosrae team.

The debaters representing the state of Pohnpei were Mr. Hetler Ham and Mr. Darwin Shelten from Madolenihmw High School. Ms. Mayumi Albert was the coach for that team.

The State of Chuuk had as their debaters, Ms. Lorraine Enlet and Ms. Adina Ruben from Berea Christian High School. Mr. Joe Enlet was the coach for the State of Chuuk.

Debaters representing the host State of Yap were Ms. Valynna Gippen and Ms. Jerica Buthungligorad from Yap High School. Mr. Joselito Despi was the coach for the team from Yap.

Each of the student debaters in the national debate will receive at least \$1,000.00 in scholarship funds from the FSM court for College Education.

The national debate held on July 12 of each year is important because it gives High School students an opportunity to involve themselves with the legal system. It also gives an opportunity to the general public to get involved in issues of national significance to the FSM.

The President of the Federated States of Micronesia, His Excellency Emanuel Mori proclaimed July 12, 2007 as law day in the FSM and urged all citizens, residents, government agencies, and other organizations to join in recognizing law day 2007 as a historic event in our nation's history.

The Governor of Yap, the Honorable Sebastian Anefal delivered the welcoming remarks followed by special remarks by the Honorable Sabino Sauchomal, Vice Speaker of the Seventh Yap State Legislature. The Honorable Martin G. Yinug, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the FSM in Yap, gave his remarks as the last of the opening ceremony.

The first semi-final debate was between Pohnpei and Kosrae. The Pohnpei team was assigned to argue for an FSM Special Prosecutor. The Kosrae team was assigned to debate against the proposition. The team from Kosrae won the first debate.

The second semi-final debate was between the Yap team who was assigned to argue for a Special Prosecutor and the Chuuk team who was assigned to debate from the other point of view. The team from Chuuk won

the second debate which set them to face Kosrae in the final debate of the afternoon.

The Chuuk team was assigned to switch sides for the final debate. Kosrae debaters again argued against the proposal for a Special Prosecutor for the FSM.

The Debaters representing Kosrae won the final debate making them the winners of the 2007 National Debate. Chuuk State Debaters came in second. Pohnpei and Yap State debaters tied for third position.

The debates were heard throughout the FSM on the radio stations of each State, each of which is streamed to the internet at www.fm.

The Embassy of the United States of America in collaboration with the Supreme Court of the FSM sponsored an essay contest amongst high school students in the FSM. The assigned topic of the essays was "Why Should I Vote in Elections?"

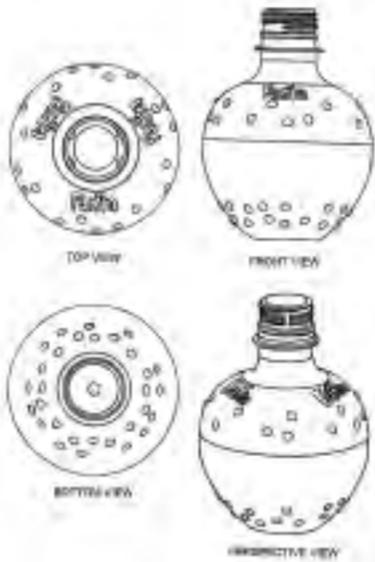
Mr. Vincent Neth of Xavier High School in Chuuk won the contest and his essay was read as part of the radio broadcast of the Law Day Debate.

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Pohnpeians, Your Input is VITAL!

The College of Micronesia-Pohnpei Campus and the Kaselehlie Press are planning forums where candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor can answer your questions in a live debate setting. In order to make these events as effective as possible for you as you make your voting decisions in November we need to know what questions you might have for the candidates. Consider the following possible issues:

- Compact issues as they relate to Pohnpei
- Education
- Health
- Infrastructure
- The FSM Federation
- Economic Development
- Environment
- Law Enforcement and Justice

You can share your questions with the committee by calling the COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus at 320-3795 and asking to speak with Merins Hadley Race. Your questions and your identity will be completely confidential. Your questions may or may not be chosen as questions that will be asked of the candidates.

Though candidates will be briefed on the general subject matter of questions they will receive at the Forums, the specific questions will remain confidential until the forums are held.

Neither The Kaselehlie Press nor the College of Micronesia will endorse any candidate nor intimate that any one answer by any candidate is better than another. Forums will be held in Pohnpeian.

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NEWS

Honolulu's Shriner's Hospital Donates Medical Supplies to Pohnpei

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Honolulu, Hawaii - A news item in the Honolulu Advertiser that appeared in the July 28 issue says that a donation of medical supplies from the Shriner's Hospital in Honolulu is on its way to Pohnpei. According to the news item, the hospital is undergoing a major renovation. Greg Wolf, Shriner's Environmental Services Manager said, "We are breaking ground on a new hospital next month and have to get rid of a large volume of extra medical equipment. Since we service hundreds of children from Micronesia, we are glad the items are finding a new home in Pohnpei."

Hawaii State Representative Glenn Wakai said that he worked together with Senator Fernando Scaliem of Pohnpei State's Legislature for a month. The donation was facilitated by Reach Out Pacific (REPAC). Wakai said, "Part of REPAC's mission is to get local Micronesians involved in efforts to help their brothers and sisters back home." He said that portions of the Micronesian society in Hawaii are getting a bad

reputation for what appears to be an abuse of relief systems on the island. "If we can show the big hearts of the local Micronesian community, we can combat that erroneous image."

Representative Wakai said that Pohnpei was chosen as the recipient because it's the last Association of Pacific Island Legislatures members not to be touched by REPAC. He said that in two years the small non-profit organization had sent surplus medical and educational supplies to islands from Palau to American Samoa.

Matson Navigation Company is shipping the items for REPAC. Matson Senior Vice President Gary North said, "Matson is pleased to be part of this effort to assist the people of Pohnpei. We know these items will be a great benefit for this island community." The container left Hawaii on August 1 and is scheduled to arrive in Pohnpei on August 19.

Ric Salvador is a Palauan living in Hawaii. He served as the founding chairperson of the

Micronesian Community Network (MCN) for the first two years of its existence. He is currently the chair of the MCN Education committee. He said that REPAC has donated over \$83,000 worth of education and medical supplies throughout the Pacific.

Salvador was tasked to contact MCN members to assist with the loading of the Matson Navigation container at the Shriner's hospital. Unfortunately at the last moment the date for the move changed and coincided with the celebration of Chuuk Constitution Day in Hawaii and FSM citizens were not available on that day.

Matson Navigation paid for movers to pack and load the donated items. Representative Wakai said it took less than two hours from start to finish to get the container loaded.

Representative Wakai said that inside the container are 14 hospital beds, 5 examining tables, 10 over bed tables, surgical gowns, 100 bed sheets and pillow cases, 10 night stands, IV poles, nursing

text books, nursing supplies, wheelchairs, and crutches. He said that one of the 5 examining tables is in the shape of an elephant. "The kids will love it!"

FSMer's discussing the donation on the Micronesian Seminar Forum bulletin board somehow gathered the impression that there was a CAT Scan machine in the container. A CAT scan machine, as we reported in the January 10 edition of The Kaselehlie Press could save many lives in Pohnpei but there is not one included in the donation.

Representative Wakai said, "REPAC looks forward to assisting the Pohnpei Hospital with substantial medical equipment in the future. I have been given a wish list."

Wakai said, "These are good times for Hawaii and with great prosperity comes great responsibility. REPAC is Hawaii's way of being responsible Pacific citizens. We are here to improve the health care and educational systems throughout Micronesia."

UPF - Character, Education, and Life Skills Summer Camp

By **MARGARET DAMARLANE**
The Kaselehlie Press

PICS, Pohnpei, FSM - Have you ever heard of kids enjoying school? From July 9 to July 20, PICS hosted a 10 day Character Education camp. The camp was so popular with the students that attendance increased day by day. The Universal Peace Federation, Department of Education, Iso Nahnken of Nett, & the Treacy family were all organizers of the event. The students who attended the camp were a select group of approximately 150 public school students, grades 8 - 12.

"Leading a Moral Lifestyle" was the camp's theme. Presentations at the beginning of each morning session covered topics as diverse as virtue, family life, illegal drugs, goal setting, & practical instruction on dealing with life's issues. Speakers included Camp Director Mr. Michael Treacy, Activities Directors Mr. Morrow Willis and Mr. Daniel Treacy, Committee Facilitator Mrs. Poppie Richie, and Committee Advisor Dr. Alan Saunders. Iso Nahnken of Nett was present as the Traditional Leader Advisor. The First Lady of Palau was a surprise speaker at the camp on July 17. Her speech reminded the students to remember their traditional roots & to respect their cul-

tural values.

After these morning talks, the students split into smaller groups. Each group went to a classroom, where the peer counselors & PICS teachers led them through activities, reading, & discussions. Teachers & peer counselors received special training the week prior to the camp. Students utilized a book titled "Discovering the Real Me", which served as a stimulus for group discussions.

Following a lunch provided by the PICS cafeteria staff, the students enjoyed group activities such as dancing, sports, pictionary, roadside trash clean-ups, relay races, basket weaving, photo scavenger hunts, & arts and crafts.

The students' parents came to PICS on Parent Day, July 18, to learn about Character Education. The students entertained the parents with songs, dances, and skits.

The camp ended on July 20. Teachers, peer counselors, & students gave testimonies to share what they had learned during the camp with other students. Each student & teacher was presented with a certificate of completion. The students enjoyed camp so much that there are plans to repeat the camp next year for a larger number of students.



Chuuk Rotary Helps Outer Islands

The Rotary Club Of Truk Lagoon would like to acknowledge the generosity of Mr. Iwata Naoyuki of Tokyo, Japan for his personal contribution to the efforts of the RCTL in assisting the outer lower-lying islands in Chuuk that were affected by drought and damage to food crops.

Mr. Iwata Naoyuki is a long-time friend of Chuuk, having been employed by a construction company that was involved with the construction of the Chuuk International Airport runway In The 1980's.

Mr. Naoyuki is a Rotary Club Member of the Tokyo, Haneda Club.



Pictured With Mr. Naoyuki during his visit in Chuuk From left to right: Mr. Perry Killion (RC President), Iwata Naoyuki, Nancy Aizwa, Gardenia Walter, and Cindy S. Mori.



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MORE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

VI. Carpentry-Finish 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, finish work using wood/metal studs/steel, for decks, walls, doors/windows, other penetrations, roofs, trim, millwork, locks, and other carpentry work
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Carpenters (2)

Candidates must have:

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

C. Laborers (2)

Candidates must have:

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

VII. Roofers Job

A. Supervisors (2)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, roofing hand tools, and other roofing equipment
- Experience in layout, all roofing materials including standing seam, copper, corrugated metal, fiberglass/asphalt shingles, deck materials, underlayments, built-up roofs, and repairs
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Roofers (4)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, roofing hand tools, and other roofing equipment
- Experience with all roofing materials including standing seam, copper, corrugated metal, fiberglass/asphalt shingles, deck materials, underlayments, built-up roofs, and repairs
- Stable work record

VIII. Door/Window Job

A. Supervisors (2)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, and other trimout equipment
- Experience in layout, all door/window types (including storefront), gaskets, thresholds, sealants, caulk, door locks (mechanical, magnetic, other), and trim kits
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Laborers (4)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, and other trimout equipment
- Experience with all door/window types (including storefront), gaskets, thresholds, sealants, caulk, door locks (mechanical, magnetic, other), and trim kits
- Stable work record

IX. Flooring Job

A. Supervisors (2)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, and other flooring equipment
- Experience in layout, all flooring materials, VCT, sheet goods, porcelain, natural stone, wood, cork, underlayments, carpet, and other flooring products
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Laborers (4)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, and other flooring equipment
- Experience in layout, all flooring materials, VCT, sheet goods, porcelain, natural stone, wood, cork, underlayments, carpet, and other flooring products
- Stable work record

X. Painting Job

A. Supervisors (1)

Candidates must have:

- Equivalent of a high school education
- Ability to read structural/architectural drawings
- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, sprayers, rollers, brushes, and other painting equipment
- Experience in layout, all painting materials, acrylic, oil, latex, elastomeric, masonry, caulk, sealants, stains, and other painting products for all exterior/interior applications
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

B. Laborers (4)

Candidates must have:

- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, sprayers, rollers, brushes, and other painting equipment
- Experience in layout, all painting materials, acrylic, oil, latex, elastomeric, masonry, caulk, sealants, stains, and other painting products for all exterior/interior applications
- Stable work record

*****All candidates must be able to read and write with some fluency in English**

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OPINION

KP-Perspective

All Fugued (“fyoogd”) Up

“If everyone paid their bills on time, or at least close to it, there would be fewer problems.” That was the over simplistic solo voice that got my very divided attention one early morning as I tossed and turned in my bed. From that point forward my mind went fugal on the theme for about an hour while I was trying to wake up though I tried to stop it. That wouldn’t be a good thing if I was talking about a psychological disorder but I don’t mean it in that way. At least I don’t think I mean it that way.

For those who are not aware, a fugue is a musical form that introduces in a solo voice, a musical theme. A second part enters that restates the theme, sometimes in a slightly different way, maybe starting on another note. The first part continues reiterating the theme in different ways while the second and all other parts that enter do the same until there are many parts stating the theme. The fugue culminates in a grandiose way when all parts come back to the original key of the opening statement ending with a satisfying Q.E.D. from the Latin, “quod erat demonstrandum”, which literally means, “which was to be demonstrated”. Q.E.D or its Greek equivalent has been written at the conclusion of many Mathematical proofs since the time of Pythagoras and his contemporaries. The closing statement of a musical fugue seems to say, “It’s logical. I have shown it. That is my entire statement.”

Some say, the culmination of the art of the fugue came with the works of Johann Sebastian Bach who, of course was not from the FSM. He was from Germany and lived from 1685 to 1750. Whenever I think of a fugue I think of Bach’s famous “Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor”, made popularly famous in the twentieth century in a 70’s movie entitled, “Rollerball”. I also think of the Bach fugue that the 70’s band, “Styx” helped to make famous again in the 70’s when they recorded it as a prelude to the song “Father O.S.A.” on their album, “Styx II”. Unfortunately, many “Styx” followers thought that the band wrote it.

The second voice in my early morning mental fugue on that morning entered, providing examples to support the theme the first voice had talked about. The second voice said that \$13,000 is too much Accounts Receivable for a small newspaper like the Kaselehlie Press to have, especially since only \$3000 of it is for invoices that are not really due yet. \$3500 of it is for accounts 30 days overdue, \$2200 for accounts 60 days overdue, and a whop-

ping \$4400 is 90 or more days overdue. Voice two was a strong contributor to the mental fugue going on in my head on that morning.

Voice three, when it entered reminded me of an article I wrote a few months ago on the collection strategies of Pohnpei Utilities Company in which I reported their assertion that it wouldn’t be fair to have service disrupted for those many who do pay their bills just because there are so many more who



don’t pay their bills in a timely way.

In an inversion of the same theme, voice three also reminded me that PUC always pays The Kaselehlie Press eventually but that it has two of the oldest invoices on current record at The Kaselehlie Press. It also said that since the first of those invoices was written we have bought approximately \$1700 of cash power and paid \$100 or so for water. Voice three’s thematic statement certainly got my attention and I nearly listened only to that voice but there were more to be heard.

Just so you know, none of the voices straining to be heard in my mental fugue were saying that The Kaselehlie Press is in danger of shutting its doors. Let’s kill that rumor before it starts. Most people do pay their bills...eventually.

In the mean time utility bills, printing bills, rent bills, fuel bills, tax bills...all that it takes to run this small non-profit, continue on and on whether we ever receive any money or not.

While voices one, two, and three were telling me over and over what they had already told me, voice four entered. What it had to say was really a foreshadowing of what would ultimately be the loudest voice of all. It said, “Remember, every two weeks before you print the paper you end up calling on all of your best paying customers again because you can usually count on them to pay their bills quickly. If you don’t do it you can’t pay the printing bill and

because of the problem that voice four was talking about.”

The national scenario is so much more complex than the situation at The Kaselehlie Press and it took, in my mental fugue, all of the combined voices to drive the theme home. All of the voices combined to remind me that Social Security, Withholding Taxes, and many more bills have been studiously ignored or at least underpaid by at least one State in the FSM.

It must be irritating indeed to the States that are up to date. It must seem to them that they are carrying the whole enchilada. By way of example, the newest voice said, “Pohnpei State pays the most Withholding, and Social Security taxes. Its private sector pays the most Gross Revenue Tax and it has the largest number of subscribers to MiCare.” It said, “This is true even without the employee taxes paid by the National Government in Palikir. The State still ended up with an \$8 million surplus at the end of last Fiscal Year.” (see article on page 2)

“Remember Congress”, the voices said? “After Chief Finley Perman was confirmed to lead the Department of Finance and Administration during the recent special session of Congress he was given a charge to collect more tax from Chuuk State.” I don’t envy him that task any more than I envy the Executive Branch their task.

The fugue by this point had built to a Fortississimo (*fff* means to the musician that sees it on the musical page, “play your guts out!”) and the clamor was enormous.

An audiophile listening through very good speakers might hear coming from the right speaker, despite the clamor, a solitary oboe confidently stating a promising theme but only at mezzo forte (*mf*, meaning medium loud). The oboe’s voice doesn’t have to be loud in order to be heard but in all of the clamor even its unique voice is hard to pick out, perhaps because it has been heard several times before. Listening closely I was able to hear it say, “Chuuk State just signed an aggressive Memorandum of Understanding with the National Government to begin to resolve its \$46 million debt.” (see press release by the Chief of Staff on page 10).

It’s not the satisfying Q.E.D. we hope to hear yet but if the other voices can settle down and let the oboe have its say we might just see a resolution that is satisfying enough that all of the other voices can join in after all. I hope so. I need the sleep. We all do.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

OPINION

BNN

By Bermin F. Weillbacher

bnn_fsm@yahoo.com

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

From Ant Island to the swamp...

These modern day gadgets, especially the Internet and the cell phone, have certainly taken over the teletype and fax. But they, like many other technical gadgets, have their own weak points too as I pointed out earlier. It was very nice to be able to enjoy the sacred brew at my favorite sakau bar and call my niece who was enjoying the fresh air and sun on Ant Island, some 4 miles away across the open sea. But the down side is (still) drop calls continue to test my patience to keep the cell phone or toss it into the swamp. As to the Internet, believe me, at 45.2 kilobytes, sending two color pictures is like climbing the Sokehs Rock but do you think I am going to pay \$399.00 for the much touted High Speed Internet?

The engine must be fueled by air...

A local businessman has been after the FSM Government to help him sell his copyrighted product in China. He has met with the former President and spoke on first name basis (they were classmates at Xavier) about his venture. He has also spoken to the FSM Foreign Affairs and Chinese officials based at the PRC Embassy at Palikir. Everyone assured the businessman that his venture would be added as another "talking point" when President Urusemal traveled to China before finishing his tenure as President of the country.

Well, sad to say but not surprising, Mr. Frank Panuelo, who makes his living on revenues from the gas pump and Arnold's Pizza, among other things, has been frustrated about the lack of follow up by the FSM Government. "It's been ten years since I started this venture and approached the government," he told me before departing to New Zealand on another private venture expedition. What was it I recall the numerous public officials saying that, "The private sector is the engine of our economy?" Must be an engine fueled by air?? And did I hear a new leader who stated publicly that he would "cut the red tape that hinders development?" Well now is his chance to prove those words.

She has been chasing a dream since 1985...

If you think frustrating for ten years in the above piece is bad, read on...

Marcelina Epina heard about the thing called telephone (*mehn lokaia nan sahl*) when FSM TCOM began digging ditches to lay a ground telephone system around her village in U Municipality. Since 1985, she has visited TCOM to

apply for a phone installation and is still trying to get it without success.

That revelation really turned my stomach inside out. I mean how do highly paid people, sitting in air conditioned offices, build up walls to keep this poor lady coming to beg them for a simple telephone for over TWENTY TWO YEARS?

Read the rest of the story in my next column because today, August 1, 2007, I am going to visit Epina when she opens a new sakau bar and I am going to apologize to her for being part of this society.

It ain't over till it's over....

I have heard many sources tell me that in Pohnpei and the FSM as well, "Justice delayed is justice denied." I know of a friend of mine who was fired from his government job. He appealed and won but the decision was never made known to him until he died and I mean it wasn't like a week after his appeal but years. Which brings to mind another friend of mine who caught up with me today and reminded me that his impeachment case has been revived. "I was impeached going into the first year of my second term," former Kitti Municipal Chief Executive (Luhk en Moanlap) told me over a full pitcher of ice tea at Cliff Hotel. "So I lost the case and it's been seven years and I cannot get a job because of the unsettled case," he said. "I appealed the Special Tribunal's decision but no decision was ever made known to me until..." Until what? I asked.

"Until I casually talked to a lawyer during a funeral gathering (Mwirlik) recently and he agreed to help me," he replied. But two of the Justices who heard his appeal have since died, a situation that has not exactly speeded up the justice that Mr. Akinori deserves, but he pursues.

Was it the New York Mets baseball coach whose team was way behind? When asked about the game, he said, "It ain't over till it's over." As I recall it, the Mets won that game.

The deluge of the aged causes heavy road traffic as well as cyberspace congestion.

Have you noticed, here at the Federation's capital, how congested everything is in town at the end of each month? It really does show when all the old age folks rush to town to pick up their social security checks at the Post Office and elsewhere. The State Government even built them a nicely air conditioned room at the PUC corporate office. Why there, I can never

figure out. Traffic on the road is congested as well as telecommunications traffic—literally congested as one TCOM worker told me this morning.

I am in that class, old age I mean, but I still think that I am a teenager and I do my business a bit differently—I make the social security and the banks do what we pay them to do—handle our benefit checks so I don't have to stand in line anywhere to receive the benefit of my sweat.

Pohnpei State, you are next...

This statement caught my eyes in the last BIZ Express edition. Under the headline "Great Change Right Before My Eyes," the editor of the paper praised the new administration for turning things around, from a lifetime of waiting to something like a few days getting the FSM Government to pay for his services. The article ended with the eye-catching sentence, "Pohnpei State, You're Next" and I said to myself, didn't the new FSM administration steal Pohnpei's Finance Director?"

It's a dozen years old but do they know it??

An article appearing in the last KP edition said that the United Nations reported that the FSM is the second most user of marijuana in the whole world. SAY WHAT?? Where are the acres and hectares of marijuana in these tiny dots? I got

curious and followed up on the report. Although the primary source of the information (FSM Drug something), has not responded to my inquiry, other sources have told me that the report is a dozen years old but the UN does not know it. Or is this how long the world body conducts business??

And the political wheel continues to roll....up next....

[Editor's note: The data reported in the last issue was from the United Nations Drug Report, a comprehensive report on drug usage around the world with statistical analysis. The figure reported was PER CAPITA marijuana usage as reported by the FSM. The UN report very clearly showed the date of the last submitted report by each of the member countries. The U.N. drug report was for 2006 and utilized data 11 years old for the FSM as well as Papua New Guinea since that was the last report they received.

They made it clear that the report from the FSM was old and spoke extensively in the over 300 page report about the difficulty of getting timely and accurate reports from member countries. The "primary source" of the report from the FSM was the National Police whose data comes from the police departments of each state. As reported in the last issue, the State Police Departments have not been reporting to the FSM National Police Department who has not been able to report to the UN since 1995.]

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HOURS

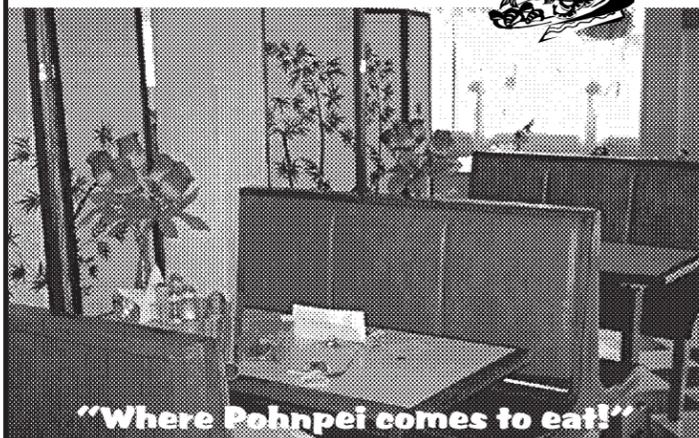
MONDAY-SATURDAY:

6:00am-3:00 pm

Featuring:

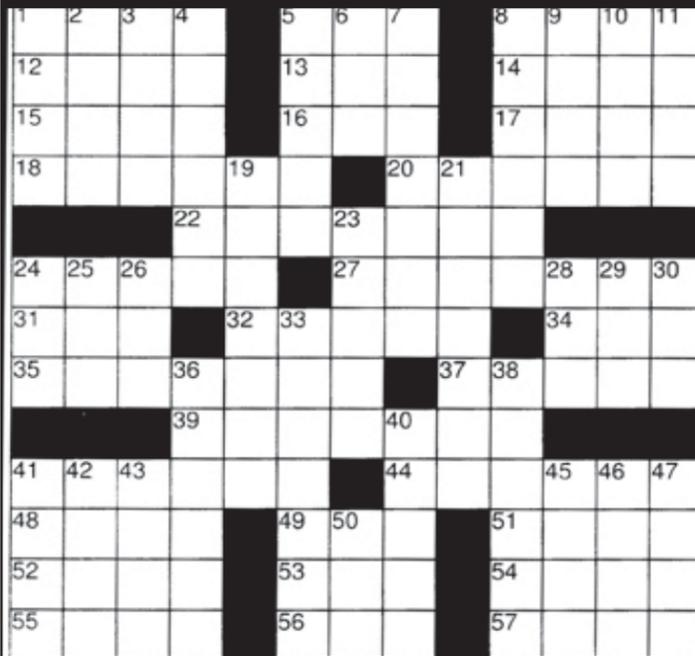


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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

ACROSS

1. Military branch
5. Evian, for one
8. Low on funds
12. Boyfriend
13. Pot top
14. Earring's locale
15. Indoor light source
16. Freud's find
17. "Once ___ a time..."
18. Go by, like time
20. Done in the dishwasher
22. Suspicion
24. Pulverize in the food processor
27. Put in through the keyboard
31. Raw material
32. Words to live by
34. Sailor's assent
35. Appeals to
37. Continue a subscription
39. Have reference
41. Picture taker
44. Kisses loudly
48. Roast roaster
49. Annoy
51. Lion's facial encircler
52. Medicine tablet
53. Strong cleaner
54. Fairly matched
55. Crosscurrent
56. Use a needle
57. Bawdy

DOWN

1. Competent
2. Actual
3. Y Tu _____ Tambien
4. Starbucks connoisseur
5. Glossy
6. Arnold of Green Acres, for one
7. "I'd like to thank my _____ fans"
8. Dive
9. "My mistake"
10. Woodwind instrument
11. Shred
19. Sports shoe
21. Meantime
2. Minimal
24. Luau chow
25. Coffee container
26. Gun, like an engine
28. Jogged
29. Tear maker
30. Beads on the blades
33. More than sidetracks
36. Not covert
38. Tooth covering
40. Out of kilter
41. Try to adapt
42. Fanatical
43. Come together
45. Lair for a bear
46. Was privy to
47. Transmit
50. Bread sounding like a sense of humor

Word Search - ... THE ASPEN WAY

Aspen, Colorado, has gone from being a prosperous silver-mining town to a prosperous year-round resort, ski mecca, and center of the arts. It's also a celebrity magnet, drawing notables intrigued with the blend of art and nature..

ASPEN Institute
BALLOON rides
BIKING
COLORADO
CROSS-COUNTRY
skiing
DANCE festival
DOWNHILL skiing
ELEVATION
HELICOPTER tours
HIKING
HOTELS
MOUNTAINS
MUSIC festival
OUTDOOR activities
PITKIN County
RAFTING
RECREATION



RESORT
RIVER expeditions
ROARING
FORK River
SCENIC
SKIERS
SKIING
SKI LIFTS
SLEIGH rides
SLOPES
SNOW
TOWN
TRAILS
VACATION
WEEKEND
WHEELER Opera House
WINTER sports

Law Office of



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RELIGION

Pondering the Palm Tree

The windshield on my daughter's little Suzuki fell victim to a mango out of our 60 foot tree. The crack was minor but spread enough that the safety inspector said our grade was an F but we could try again after a repair.

After paying \$400 for a windshield, I was never able to look at the Mango in quite the same way again.

After a neighborhood poll, it was decided that the trees in our parking area had to go. Two large palm trees, of a variety that was never determined, also needed to be removed. A dinner table discussion with my family produced a strong opinion that I am too old for climbing trees, so I

contracted with some local guys to do the job. The trees were successfully topped and then toppled and I set out to finish the cleanup. This was my first introduction to cutting up a palm tree. I discovered they have a skin like a rhinoceros and the core of a sponge cake. The mightiest blow from my freshly sharpened machete bounced off like bb's flung at armor plating. The bottom ten or twelve feet were so tough it took a Husquevarna chainsaw with a hardwood chain to cut it up. The top of the tree changes to soft thick leaves rolled up tightly like a canvas tent with the poles inside. As I sweated over these fifty foot marvels of God's creation, my awe at God's wisdom grew. These trees were designed to

hold great weight high in the winds of tropical storms. The hard, strong wood at the base is the foundation. The tough outer layer is made of fibers that will not break across the trunk but will flex lengthwise as the tree is bent over in a "U" by a typhoon's gale. The soft, honeycomb core is capable of storing and transporting a minor deluge of water. Palm trees grow in sandy soil so the water received must be captured and used well. The tough skin discourages the most persistent of pests. It really is a puzzle to discern how they could have evolved so perfectly!

I could not help but wonder if the palm tree is one of the things the Apostle Paul referred to when he said God's divine characteristics could be understood through what has been made. The Intelligent Designer made that tree to thrive and bear fruit where the weather is wild. God never promised to keep the Christian out of the storm; He promised to keep the storm out of the Christian. He shows his wisdom and power by bearing spiritual fruit through us even in the stormy places. We need to have a tough skin that keeps the termites of disappointment, careless insults and discouragement from penetrating our core and weakening our ability to let the water of life flow through us. We need a strong base, firmly rooted on Christ our foundation. So when the typhoons blow we will not be destroyed. If we

keep our trunk strong, able to drink in the life-giving water, we will produce vibrant, healthy fruit which will strengthen others. How? Psalm one says be like the tree firmly planted by the streams of water that drinks deeply, regularly. Then you will be like the righteous ones of Psalm 92:12 who flourish like the palm tree to praise and honor the Creator. In Revelation 7:9 the branch of the palm tree will be in the hands of the multitude before the throne praising our God and the Lamb. The amazing palm produces fruit used to honor the king. A fair job description for the Christian, don't you think?

Gary Gardell

Tide Table August 8 - 21, 2007				
POHNPEI, KOSRAE			CHUUK	
Wednesday	08 Wed 08:17AM 1.3	15 Wed 04:21AM 4.3 10:50AM 0.5 04:50PM 3.4 10:34PM 0.9	08 Wed 09:40AM -0.5	15 Wed 03:08AM 2.1 10:20AM 0.1 03:52PM 1.0 08:43PM 0.3
Thursday	09 Thu 12:35AM 3.5 08:37AM 0.9 02:37PM 2.0 06:21PM 1.7	16 Thu 04:45AM 4.0 11:08AM 0.6 05:14PM 3.5 11:03PM 1.1	09 Thu 12:21AM 1.9 09:46AM -0.6	16 Thu 03:23AM 1.9 10:19AM 0.1 04:06PM 1.2 09:17PM 0.4
Friday	10 Fri 01:33AM 3.8 09:01AM 0.6 02:54PM 2.2 07:29PM 1.4	17 Fri 05:05AM 3.8 11:24AM 0.7 05:37PM 3.5 11:30PM 1.3	10 Fri 01:00AM 2.1 09:56AM -0.6	17 Fri 03:33AM 1.7 10:14AM 0.2 04:22PM 1.3 09:49PM 0.5
Saturday	11 Sat 02:16AM 4.1 09:24AM 0.5 03:16PM 2.5 08:16PM 1.2	18 Sat 05:22AM 3.4 11:38AM 0.9 06:01PM 3.5 11:59PM 1.5	11 Sat 01:33AM 2.2 10:04AM -0.5	18 Sat 03:36AM 1.5 10:05AM 0.2 04:39PM 1.4 10:21PM 0.6
Sunday	12 Sun 02:53AM 4.3 09:47AM 0.4 03:39PM 2.8 08:55PM 1.0	19 Sun 05:35AM 3.1 11:49AM 1.0 06:27PM 3.4	12 Sun 02:02AM 2.3 10:10AM -0.3 04:05PM 0.4 06:21PM 0.3	19 Sun 03:31AM 1.2 09:54AM 0.1 04:59PM 1.5 10:54PM 0.8
Monday	13 Mon 03:25AM 4.4 10:09AM 0.3 04:02PM 3.0 09:31PM 0.8	20 Mon 12:31AM 1.8 05:41AM 2.7 11:58AM 1.1 07:00PM 3.2	13 Mon 02:27AM 2.3 10:15AM -0.2 03:41PM 0.6 07:22PM 0.3	20 Mon 03:12AM 1.1 09:46AM 0.0 05:25PM 1.5 11:34PM 0.9
Tuesday	14 Tue 03:54AM 4.4 10:30AM 0.4 04:26PM 3.3 10:03PM 0.8	21 Tue 01:17AM 2.1 05:30AM 2.4 12:01PM 1.3 07:52PM 3.1	14 Tue 02:49AM 2.2 10:18AM -0.1 03:42PM 0.8 08:05PM 0.3	21 Tue 02:25AM 1.0 09:40AM -0.1 06:03PM 1.5

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What You Should Know about Social Security

Three important things to remember about Social Security are:

1. Make sure that your employer reports your wages to Social Security.
2. If Social Security stops or reduces your payments you must make a written appeal to Social Security within sixty days.
3. If you are receiving benefits because your spouse died and social security receives information from "any credible source" that you are remarried they will stop your benefits.

The law says that your employer must report your wages to Social Security.

If you are self employed you must report yourself.

If you think that your employer is not reporting your wages you can go to the Social Security office and ask them if you are being reported. If you do not want to go to the Social Security office you can come to Legal Services for advice.

If Social Security stops your benefit payment or reduces your benefits and you do not agree then you must file a written appeal with them within sixty days or you will lose your benefit even if Social Security is wrong. If you want help in filing your appeal you can come to Legal Services.

If you are receiving surviving spouse benefits Social Security can stop your benefits if they have any reason to think that

you are married. Social Security defines "married" quite liberally so be careful about doing anything that might make it look like you are married unless you really are re-married.

It is sometimes difficult to prove customary adoptions. We suggest that all customary adoptions be confirmed by a court.

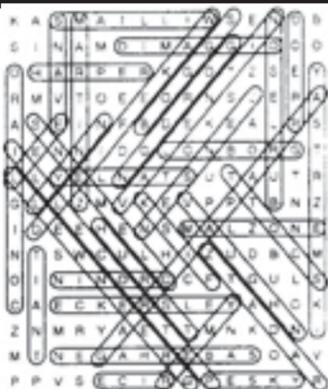
The new Social Security law says that if a child is adopted by persons who are fifty five years old that the child will not receive Social Security benefits.

When you reach sixty years of age you can receive retirement benefits if you have enough quarters. The amount of your benefit depends on how much money you have paid into Social Security. If you want to know how much your monthly benefit will be when you retire you can contact the Social Security Office.

If you become disabled you can receive Social Security benefits if you have enough quarters.

If you have any questions about Social Security you can contact the Social Security Office or you can contact Legal Services at 320 2404 or come to Legal Services any Monday between 9:00AM and 3:00PM.

LAST Issue's Solution



**The deadline for
ads and news
items for the next
issue is
August 17**

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

Island Foods are Showcased at President's Inauguration

By **Dr. LOIS ENGLBERGER**
Pohnpei Island Food Community

The Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) recently showcased rare and valuable varieties of Pohnpei bananas and island food promotional materials at the Joint Inauguration Celebration Ceremonies, for President Emanuel Mori, Vice-President Alik J. Alik, and members of the 15th Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), held 16 July, 2007, 9-12 am at the College of Micronesia-FSM Gymnasium, Palikir.

The booth was presented at the section for welcoming over 350 dignitaries, including those from overseas, as well as leaders of all four states of FSM.

Samples of the rare and nutrient-rich Pohnpei bananas provided for tasting included: *Karat*, the State Banana of Pohnpei, with its rich nutrient content; *Utin Iap*, the variety with the richest provitamin A carotenoid content; *Akadahn*; *Akadahn Weitakta*; *Daiwang*; and *Utin Menihle*.

Many dignitaries tasted *Karat* banana for the first time, expressing that they liked the taste and remarking about the unusual flesh color, some even asking "Is that a banana?"

Some of the promotional materials included complimentary copies of the new FSM *Utin Iap* postal stamp in the Bananas of Micronesia Postal Stamp series, Island Food postcards, posters, booklets, newsletters, and the Yel-

Photo by Gloryulla Ludwig



His Excellency President Emanuel Mori (right) after tasting the Three Banana Fruit Salad, and members of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei team from left to right, Himena Paul, Laura Kaufer, and Dr. Lois Englberger.

Three Banana Fruit Salad

5 raw *Karat* or 10 raw *Utin Iap* bananas
10 raw *Daiwang* bananas
10 raw *Utin Menihle* bananas
3-5 raw Karertik (Kalamansi) citrus

1. Peel bananas and cut in round slices into bowl.
2. Squeeze the juice of the Karertik citrus in a glass or cup, strain seeds from the juice.
3. Pour the Karertik citrus juice over the cut banana slices.
4. Chill or serve directly.

low IFCP pen with its message saying Grow and Eat Yellow Varieties and presenting the IFCP website www.islandfood.org.

A recipe, the Three Banana Fruit Salad (see above) was presented for tasting. Many tried this, including His Excellency President Emanuel Mori, who agreed about the many values of local foods, including the benefits for food se-

curity, health, economics, environment, and culture.

Members of the IFCP team assisting in the booth included: Gailliard Eliou, Sylvia Nennis, Gloryulla Ludwig, Himena Paul, Dr. Lois Englberger, and Laura Kaufer, collaborating research student from McGill University, Canada.

Thanks again to the Committee of the FSM Joint Inauguration Celebration Ceremonies for involving IFCP in this activity, including the Food Committee which especially focused on local foods, complementing IFCP's activities of promoting local island foods. Note is made of the different varieties of taro, other staple foods and locally grown fruits that were presented

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Smit Dominates 'INS' Marosong/Pohnpei Half Marathon

By **JIM TOBIN**

The 4th Annual "INS" Marosong was held on Saturday, July 21st on Pohnpei. The run was an official half marathon, with a distance of 13.1 miles. The run started at the main Isamu Nakasone Store and finished at the Spanish Wall softball field, with a course that was run through Kolonia, Nett and U municipalities. Twenty of 24 runners completed the half marathon.

The overall winner was Tim Smit, a Jesuit Volunteer working at Pohnpei Catholic School on Pohnpei. His time was a very fast 1 hour, 23 minutes and 21 seconds, finishing second was Makilihno Ardos (1.32.40), with third place going to Colleen Sweeney (1.33.30) who was also the first to finish in the women's division.

Other top finishers were: Roy Alex (4th - 1.38.28), Rendy Germinaro (5th - 1.39.06, Yuichiro Ide (6th - 1.52.51), Roland Weibel (7th - 1.59.53, Marino Ardos (8th - 2.02.03, Solomon Goldman (9th - 2.02.53 and Dan Meyer (10th - 2.05.20). The junior division champion was Dionisio Augustine



Photo by Lesty Ashby - FSMNOC

Pictured are the business sponsors and winners of the 4th Annual INS Marosong. From left to right: Yumi Nakasone Silbanez (INS), Tim Smit (1st place), Makilino Ardon (2nd place), Colleen Sweeney (3rd Place), Roy Alex (4th place), Rendy Germinaro (5th place) and Uto Nakasone (INS).

(2.09.45).

The Pohnpei Athletics Association and the FSMNOC would like to thank the Nakasone family and INS for again sponsoring the Marosong. INS prize

money was awarded to the top finishers with the overall winners receiving: 1st - \$500, 2nd - \$250, 3rd - \$100, 4th-10th - \$30, 11th-20th - \$15, 21st-30th - \$10 and women's division: 1st - \$300, 2nd - \$200 and 3rd - \$100 and junior division: 1st -

\$100. All participants received a finisher's medal, event t-shirt and INS gift bag. Next year, we hope to invite long distance runners from Japan and Guam to compete in the run.

FSM Athletes Compete Around The World

By **JIM TOBIN**
FSMNOC

The Federated States of Micronesia will be sending a small delegation of 14 athletes, coaches and officials to participate in the 2007 South Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa from August 25 to September 08. The FSM will compete in weightlifting, wrestling, athletics (track and field) and swimming. The FSM National Government, with the outstanding support of FSM President Mori, FSM Vice President Alik and FSM Congress, agreed to provide funding for the delegation's airfare, accommodation, insurance and stipend. The FSM had hoped to send teams in baseball, softball and basketball but decided not to do to the high costs of airfare and Samoa accommodation. Palau is the only Micronesia country participating in baseball and softball (women), and only Palau and Guam are sending men's basketball teams.

Leading the FSM athletes will be six-time South Pacific Games gold medalist Manuel Minginfel (Yap). Immediately after SPG Minginfel will travel to the 2007 IWF World Weightlifting Championships in Chiang Mai, Thailand. He is the defending Silver Medalist in the men's 62kg weight division and will again contend for a medal. Minginfel has already qualified for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

Since early June, 5 FSM wrestlers have been training full time in Palau with a world class Korean wrestling coach. The FSM wrestlers are: Dundy

Dosalua - 55kg (Pohnpei), Marcel Yatilman - 66kg and Keitani Graham - 74kg (Chuuk), Larry Uwelar - 84kg (Yap) and Kun Killin - 120+kg (Kosrae) All of the FSM wrestlers will compete in both the Freestyle and Greco-Roman divisions, and all are medal hopefuls. The FSM wrestlers will depart Palau on August 20 for Samoa. In September, Graham, Uwelar and Killin will travel to Baku, Azerbaijan to compete in the 2007 FILA World Wrestling Championships. The goal is for one of the three FSM wrestlers to compete in the Beijing Olympic Games. No FSM wrestler has ever competed in an Olympic Games.

Jack Howard and Maria Ikelap (Chuuk) will represent the FSM at the upcoming 2007 IAAF Track and Field Championships in Osaka, Japan later this month. Immediately after the championships, they will travel to Samoa to run in the 2007 South Pacific Games. At this time, Howard and Ikelap are the top FSM contenders to be selected to run in next year's Olympic Games.

In March, four FSM swimmers competed in the 2007 FINA Swimming World Championships in Melbourne, Australia. The swimmers have not been able to properly train, with the Pohnpei swimming pool being closed since August 2006. Only Debra Daniel will compete in Samoa. Two FSM swimmers, most likely Daniel and Tony Augustine, will represent the FSM at the Olympic Games.

On Thursday, August 2, the College

of Micronesia sent Tony Augustine (swimming), Patsihpa Neth (tennis) and Loatis Seneres (coach) to participate in the 2007 World University Games in Bangkok, Thailand. The games will consist of over 20 sports with over 7,000 athletes and close on August 19.

For the past year, the FSM National Olympic Committee office has been

organizing the FSM athletes' participation in all of these regional and international sport championships, with a goal of properly preparing 6 FSM athletes for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. The FSM hopes to send 2 runners, 2 swimmers, 1 wrestler and 1 weightlifter to the games. The dates of the games are August 8 - 24, 2008.

Fish Are Big Winners In July Contest, Anglers Gearing Up For Catch-8 Tournament

By **Robert Spegal**
Pohnpei Fishing Club

It appeared during the club's July 14th Jackpot Tournament that the fish in the oceans surrounding Pohnpei were indeed learning how to outwit the humans trying to catch them. After catching an average of more than 1,720 pounds per day of tournament fishing from February through May, only two qualifying fish were caught in the June tournament and only four in the July event. Of the seven boats registered on July 14, just four landed fish, totaling only 215 pounds, to the weigh-in at Rumors Bar. The big fish of the day was Konrad Englberger's 26.5 Dogtooth Tuna, with Kenji Niwa's 20.5 pound Travelle Jack taking second place. Jade Ford won the Lady Angler prize with a 24 pound Mahi Mahi, one of two Mahi Mahi's that she caught. Mary Tretnoff's 15 pound Barracuda won her the second place Lady Angler prize.

The first prize for Total Boat Weight went to Konrad's boat *Bavaria*, with 59.5 pounds, beating out Johnny O'Keefe and crew on the *Tru Blu* by

just one pound. Alex Tretnoff's "*Boat*" weighted in 54 pounds. *Pohnpei Ocean Cruise*, captained by Kazuhiro Fujita, caught 38 pounds, and Dennis Gearhart's *Saucerful of Secrets* was credited with a five pound Barracuda. The other three boats, *Pohnlik Special*, *Ms. Pakin*, and *Rosie II*, all choose to wait for the evening feed and were thus recorded as "late" to the weigh-in.

The Pohnpei Fishing Club will hold the first Catch-8 tournament of the year on Saturday, 11 August. The object of a Catch-8 tournament is to catch at least one of each of the following eight species: Billfish, Yellowfin Tuna, Skipjack Tuna, Mahi Mahi, Wahoo, Barracuda, Rainbow Runner, and Giant Travelle (Arong). Any fish, no matter what the size, counts towards the species, but only fish meeting eligibility weights will earn 2007 points for the angler. If two or more boats catch the same number of species, then there is a "weigh-off" to see which boat has the heavier set. Everyone is invited to Rumors Bar at 4:00 on Saturday afternoon to witness the weigh-in and enjoy the fun.