

# The KASELEHLIE Press

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PO Box 2222 Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone 691-320-6547 Fax 691-320-6571 [kpress@mail.fm](mailto:kpress@mail.fm)

## Eiken Saimon Charged in the Shooting Death of Three Saimon Has Been Charged in at Least One Shooting Before

By **BILL JAYNES**  
The Kaselehlie Press

It was Sunday, June 12 in Neosho, Missouri just before 2:00 in the afternoon when the actions of one man violently ended the lives of 3 respected Pingalapese Pohnpeians, wounded five others and shattered the sense of peace and safety two communities thousands of miles apart thought they could rely on.

Senior Pastor Kernal Rehobson was the first to be shot and killed. Pastor Intenson Rehobson, Kernal's uncle, according to reports, tried to calm the situation but instead was shot and killed next. Associate Pastor Kuhpes Jesse Ikosiam was the next to be killed.

Before he was done, according to news reports, the shooter who was carrying a small caliber handgun and a 9mm handgun along with extra ammunition had wounded five others. The early news reports said that there were five people injured. Only four victims appeared on the list of charges: Jim Handy, Melihna Tarra, Dahnny Jack, and Kendey Handy.

The gunman surrounded himself with hostages and held off police for approximately ten minutes before he surrendered.

Aiken Elam Saimon of Pohnpei has been charged for the crimes.

The United Church of Christ Pohnpei, Missouri, so called because the majority of the congregation is from Pohnpei started in Kernal Rehobson's Goodman, Missouri home. Three years ago Kernal approached Reverend Tom Thorne, pastor of the First Congregational Church Neosho and got permission to use the church building on Sunday afternoons. Kernal's congregation had outgrown his home.

The day before the shooting, Kernal presided over a small group of church elders who had gathered to "admonish Saimon" for allegedly raping his 14 year old niece, a charge that police at press time had not yet filed. Usually when church leaders confront people in this way it is intended to be the beginning of a process of healing and reconciliation in the congregation. This time there would apparently be no healing, no reconciliation.

See "Neosho" on page 6



Eiken Elam Saimon, left, is escorted out of the courtroom at his arraignment by a member of the Newton County Sheriff's Department Monday, Aug. 13, 2007, in Neosho. Saimon is accused of opening fire inside of a church on Sunday, killing three people and wounding five others during a worship service of a mostly Micronesian congregation. (AP Photo/Jeff Roberson)

## Palikir Driver Slams Into Sekere Guardrail Injuring Six Police are Searching for Taxi Driver Who Helped Cause the Accident and Left the Scene

By **ENSE ALWIS**  
**BILL JAYNES**  
The Kaselehlie Press

Nineteen year old Bersina Syne was shocked and scared when she picked herself up from the road and realized that her 8 month old son had been injured. Bersina was the oldest of 6 pedestrians injured in a car accident in Sekere at approximately 5:00 on Tuesday, August 7. Her son was the youngest of them.

She said that she and a few others had been at Sekere Elementary School watching a volleyball game there and became tired of standing in the sun. They headed down the road to sit and rest on the guardrail of the narrow bridge just past the school, the closest shade at that time of day, when two cars approached side by side from the direction of Sokehs Shopping Center at a high rate of speed.

The car driven by Phillip Kilafwakun of Palikir slammed into the guardrail and then over the steep embankment at the side of the road. The impact



Kilafwakun's burned out car at the Sekere Bridge. The guard rail, before the accident had been straight. Now it forms a lazy "S".

threw the pedestrians everywhere. Bersina and her son were thrown into the street. The other four were thrown over the rail to the bank of the Kerep river.

Though Kilafwakun is in his late 30's he has only been driving for just over a year. People who know him say that he likes to drive fast. He said that he was heading home from his job at Roadstone Tire Repair and that a taxi driver tried to pass him. They

were both heading to the narrow bridge at the same time. As is the case with most of the bridges between Kolonia and Palikir, the bridge is not wide enough for two cars to occupy at the same time. A Pohnpei State Transportation and Infrastructure representative said that there was, prior to the accident, a plan to repair and widen the bridges.

Kilafwakun lost the battle to gain the bridge and hit the guardrail. He said

that he had not been drinking and according to the Attorney General's Office he is currently being charged only with careless driving. Other charges may be pending but none of them relate to driving under the influence.

The taxi driver kept driving after the accident he had helped to cause with the carnage in his rearview mirror. Police are aware of the name of the taxi company and are looking for the driver who has not yet been identified. Police said they are narrowing it down now.

Kilafwakun said that he was really lucky. First because he could have killed someone in the accident and second because the Police, who were nearby were at the site of the accident very quickly. He said that people who were in the neighborhood wanted to drag him from his car and beat him but they were foiled in that attempt because of the quick arrival of law enforcement officers.

See "Sekere" on page 7

# NEWS

## GMP Associates Files Lawsuit at FSM Supreme Court

Civil Action 2007- 023 Seeks Redress Against Individuals For Personally Acting to Harm the Business

By **BILL JAYNES**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM** – On August 9 at 4:00 in the afternoon, the Law Office of Andrea S. Hillyer filed, on behalf of their clients GMP, Hawaii, Inc. a lawsuit naming National Government representatives Andrew Yatilman, Robert Westerfield III, and US Department of the Interior employee, Ben Privitt as defendants. Each of them has been named “individually and in their personal capacities.” The defendants have 20 days to respond or to file a motion to extend the deadline for response to the civil action which has been assigned the number 2007-023 by the Clerk of Courts of the Supreme Court of the FSM.

The counts filed against the defendants are only charges at this

point and have had no hearing by courts. GMP Hawaii is asking for the court to “award damages, and punitive damages, in an amount to be determined at trial.”

There is a question about whether or not the attorneys from the FSM Department of Justice can by law defend National Government employees when a lawsuit is aimed at the employee personally. At press time that question had not yet been answered. The two defendants working for the FSM may need to hire their own attorneys at their own expense. It is unknown whether Privitt who works for the United States will need to hire his own attorney.

The civil action itself is only thirty three pages long but it has over a hundred pages of attached exhibits and supporting



Wagdy Gurgius, P.E.  
GMP President

documents that are referenced in the lawsuit. It might take a lawyer several hours just to read the suit, not to mention the work involved in formulating a response. In Pohnpei, the going hourly rate for attorneys is \$100 per hour with some variances.

GMP Hawaii, Inc. which does business as GMP Associates signed a five year contract over two years ago to manage the FSM's infrastructure projects. By the filing of their lawsuit they say that the named employees acted outside the scope of their responsibilities and that the actions of those individuals harmed the company in the FSM both financially and in terms of their reputation. They are seeking redress for the damages.

Defendant Ben Privitt is the Insular Area Field Liason for the Pacific region for the US Department of the Interior, Office of the Inspector General. He prepared a Memorandum entitled “Compact Infrastructure Grant; Poor Project Planning and Questionable Contracting”, dated July 31, 2006.

Perhaps those looking for it might have seen the lawsuit coming. In September of 2006 Hillyer responded to Privitt's Internal Memorandum. The voluminous response was addressed to Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs,

David Cohen.

Hillyer said in her response that Privitt “negligently relied on incorrect legal advice, technical advice, and selected documentation emanating from employees of various departments of the FSM National Government, who were acting outside of the scope of their authority and inconsistently with the official position of the FSM Government. As a result, Mr. Privitt's work product is skewed, false and deceptive.”

Defendant Andrew Yatilman is the current Secretary for the FSM's Department of Transportation, Communication, and Infrastructure. The law suit accuses Yatilman of, among other things, “an apparent conflict of interest...by virtue of his personal bias, abhorrence, repulsion and inability to fairly administer the contract in a non-arbitrary and capricious manner.”

The suit contends that Yatilman provided to Privitt documents that had been altered. It contends additionally “on knowledge and belief” that Yatilman knew they had not been altered by GMP but “failed to correct any false impression that the scribbles had been made by plaintiff GMP.” It says that as a result of several documents provided by Yatilman, Privitt issued a false and misleading Memorandum “accusing Plaintiff GMP of illegally altering the contract, of promoting and facilitating conflicts of interest, and of illegally procuring the contract and contract terms in violation of competitive bidding laws.”

Defendant Robert Westerfield III is the Contracting Office Representative of the Depart-

See “GMP” on page 7

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# Micronesia Police Academy Reaches Half Way Mark

*FSM National Police Press Release*

As the Micronesia Public Safety Academy at PATS at Madolenihmw enters the 7<sup>th</sup> week of the 12 week program, FSM State and National Chiefs of Police are very pleased with the progress so far.

The Academy commenced on July 9, 2007 and is being attended by police officers from throughout the FSM police agencies. So far in the training, officers have received instruction from two of the six training modules. This week, training commenced on the third module which involves crimes relating to property and procedures for investigation. Instruction so far has focused on policing foundations units – including police officer's roles and responsibilities, laws and evidence. Last week officers received instruction on traffic laws and regulations and road safety strategies.

Chief Pius Chotailug of the FSM National Police stated, "Even though participants at the academy are required to start their day at 5am with a morning run, the fact they attend classroom instruction throughout the day, further physical training in the afternoon and study until 9pm each night, everyone seems to be handling the intense workload well".

A tally of the distances officers run during their training is being kept. Many have run a total distance so far of 80 miles – which is the same as running around the island of Pohnpei almost three times.

Chiefs of police throughout the FSM have been lobbying for regular police training academies for many years. The solid support they needed occurred in April 2006 when senior officials of the Pacific Region Policing Initiative (PRPI) pledged \$50,000 plus



Officers in formation at the Micronesia Public Safety Academy at PATS

technical support if an academy was match funded. In April this year when the FSM matched the PRPI offer, work commenced full time on developing the current academy.

The graduation will be held at PATS on Friday September 28, 2007. Invitations are currently being sent out for selected persons to attend that graduation.

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## NEWS

# United States Department of Insular Affairs Honors Micronesians in the Armed Forces

**June 15, 2007 — Washington, D.C.** The Office of Insular Affairs is proud to honor and recognize Roy Carius MM1 (SW/AW) of Pohnpei, Micronesia who proudly serves in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS John C. Stennis in the Engineering Department, Auxiliaries Division as a Leading Petty Officer.

Part of Carius's duties includes repairs on the 363 Ton York A/C Plant. There are 10 on board the USS Stennis. These A/C Plants keep the navigational radars, weapons system, food and personnel cool.

The USS Stennis (CVN-74), as part of the John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group, has two nuclear reactors on board, which gives the Stennis unlimited range and a top speed in excess of 30 knots. The USS Stennis carries approximately three million gallons of fuel on board for its aircraft, and carries enough weapons for extended operations without replenishment. The USS Stennis is currently conducting operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and participating in the Expeditionary Strike Force Exercise in the North Arabian Sea. The Expeditionary Strike Force Exercise consists of three Strike

Groups: the John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group, Nimitz Carrier Strike Group, and the Bonhomme Richards Expeditionary Strike Group.

The USS Stennis is a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier and it is on regularly scheduled deployments in support of Maritime Security Operations (MSO). MSO help set the conditions for security and stability, as well as aid counter-terrorism and security efforts to regional nations.



Roy Carius on the USS Stennis



Stennis Striker Group: USS Stennis at the top left.

**Washington, D.C. (August 10, 2007)** — The Office of Insular Affairs is proud to honor and recognize Jayson Kumar ABHC of Pohnpei, Micronesia who courageously serves in the U.S. Navy as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate, Chief Petty Officer stationed at NAS, Key West, Florida.

Part of Kumar's duties includes aircraft handling related to the operation of launching and recovery of equipment. Aviation Boatswain's Mates prepare aircraft and perform organizational maintenance. They also fuel planes prior to take-off and landing, making sure that the aircraft is safe and working properly for flight.



Jayson Kumar ABHC (left) and Chief Holsclaw at Chief Holsclaw's Retirement Ceremony. Chief Holsclaw asked Jayson Kumar ABHC to present his retirement Shadow Box, which contains the flag of the United States and all of Chief Holsclaw's medals and ribbons.

**June 18, 2007** — The Office of Insular Affairs is proud to honor and recognize Jon Christopher Pangelinan Abraham, E2, who is currently serving with the U.S. Army in Iraq. He serves on the Military Transition Team, which is responsible for training Iraqi soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 1st Division of the Iraqi Army. Serve as a gunner/driver/RTO with Able Company, 1st Platoon, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, AKA the Manchus. Motto: "Keep Up the Fire". He was detached from 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division AKA "Indianhead Division". Motto: "Second to None".

Abraham is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Isamu Abraham. Dr. Isamu Abraham hails from Kosrae/Pohnpei and Mrs. Tee Abraham hails from Saipan. He attended the Calvary Christian Academy (Pohnpei), Grace Christian Academy and Northern Marianas Academy (Saipan), Northern Marianas College and University of Nevada-Las Vegas. He completed boot camp at Fort Benning, GA and has been in the U.S. Army a little under 4 years.



Jon Christopher Pangelinan Abraham.

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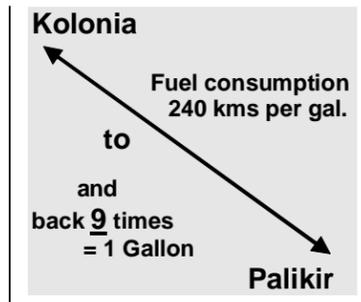
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# NEWS

## ...Neosho

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No one knows what may or may not have gone through Saimon's head when he allegedly pulled the trigger killing three, and wounding four. No one knows if the confrontation the day before had anything to do with the killing spree though that was the first statement of Neosho Police Chief Dave McCracken according to news reports. Saimon is said to have entered the church yelling, "Liars! You're all liars!" before the shooting began.

Police said that Saimon may have "had a few" before entering the church but that he didn't appear to be intoxicated when officers arrested him.

Saimon will not have deportation as an available option in the proceedings. He will stand trial in the United States.

According to court documents from the 40<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court, Newton County Missouri, Saimon was charged with three counts of murder in the first degree, four counts of assault in the first degree, a count of armed criminal action, and a count of felonious restraint. Each class A felony charge carries a possible penalty of 10 years at a minimum and life imprisonment at the maximum for each charge. There are seven Class A felonies in the list of charges.

Saimon appeared before Newton County Associate Circuit Court Judge Greg Stremel who also issued the arrest warrant on Monday, August 13. He pled, "Not Guilty" on all counts. An initial bond was set at \$1 million. That bond has since been rescinded when Judge Stremel ruled that Saimon might be a danger to the community. A preliminary trial will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August.

Newton County Prosecutor Scott Watson said that he had not yet decided whether he will seek the death penalty. "I will go with the victims....As soon as I talk to the folks in the hospital I will let you know."

Saimon, who many in Pohnpei characterize from their memories of him, as a habitual trouble maker, has had trouble with guns and violence before. On April 23,

1988 the FSM National Government filed three separate charges against Saimon for shooting Waltis Harry in Mwalok, Pohnpei. The specific charges in FSM Supreme Court Case #1988-534 were "Assault with a Dangerous Weapon" for the crime of shooting Harry, "Prohibited Firearm" for shooting him with a .25 caliber Colt automatic, a larger caliber than Pohnpei allows, and "Carrying Firearm While Under Influence" for carrying the weapon while he was under the influence of alcohol.

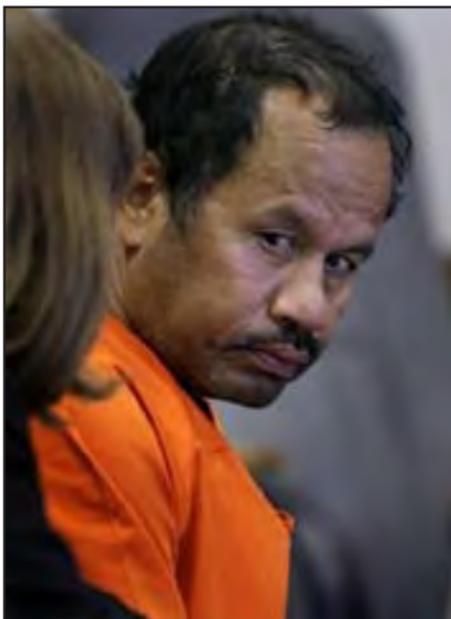
Under FSM law, if convicted, Saimon would have faced a maximum penalty of five years in jail along with a fine of \$2000 for the offense of "Carrying Firearm While Under Influence", but only three years for actually shooting Waltis Harry. Shooting Harry with a firearm having a caliber bullet bigger than .22 might have earned him, if convicted, an additional five years and another \$2000 fine. Altogether he faced a maximum total of 13 years and \$4000 in fines if he had been convicted of those charges.

The prosecuting attorney at the National Government agreed to a plea bargain in which Saimon would have all of the charges dismissed at the National Supreme Court in exchange for pleading guilty to one charge of Assault and Battery at the Pohnpei State Court. Former Chief Justice Edward King signed the order on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June of 1988.

According to a Pohnpei State Supreme Court journal entry the case was filed with the court on the next day and was heard on July 5 by Associate Justice Carl Kohler. As agreed, Saimon entered a plea of guilty to the lesser charge. The maximum sentence for assault and battery is two years in jail and a \$500 fine. Saimon was sentenced to 6 months "to be served on probation" and was fined \$25 for shooting Waltis Harry. The judge ordered that if Saimon was found to be in violation of his probation he would be subject to 50 days in

jail.

Saimon was Sokehs Municipality's top cop, their Sheriff at the time of the assault and battery conviction. He took the position after being terminated from his position as a Pohnpei State Police Officer assigned to the Pohnpei State Jail. He was not terminated from his position after the conviction. He was later forced to resign his position as Sheriff when his former wife's family filed charges against him



*Eiken Saimon at his arraignment in Neosho, Missouri. He pled "not guilty". Bail initially set at \$1 million has been rescinded.*

after Saimon allegedly gave her an unusually bad beating. Neighbors say that he had given her many beatings before. The charges went away after he resigned as Sheriff.

According to retired Pohnpei State Police detective, Reno Annes, Saimon had been a suspect in the murder of a Mwokilese man in the mid 80's who was shot in the head with a .38 caliber revolver. Though current Chief of Police Joe Roby said that Saimon had been cleared in the 20 year old case, Annes said that the case was never solved and that he had not eliminated any of the suspects before the case went cold. He said, "I worked and worked on that one but we could never prove anything." There is no statute of limitations on murder but the files for the case are in storage.

Ferny Perman of Mwalok,

Pohnpei grew up with Kernal Rehobson and calls him his "promise brother". He said that when he was younger and wilder he used to tell Kernal that he was going to beat Saimon up if he didn't stop discharging firearms in the neighborhood which he says he did "all the time". Ferny said that Kernal would have none of it, "He'd say, 'Aiken's my uncle. I can't do that. He deserves a chance.'"

Later, it was Kernal Rehobson that gave Saimon the chance he talked about when he paid for most if not all of the cost of his plane ticket to Southwest Missouri.

FSM immigration officials said that the only thing that would have made it illegal for Saimon to travel would have been if he had been under a court ordered travel restriction at the time. Since the conviction at Pohnpei State set aside the National Government's pre-trial travel prohibition it was perfectly legal for him to travel to the U.S.

Police say he had been arrested for misdemeanors before but that would not have barred him from owning weapons as long as he went through the permitting process. Saimon had not committed a felony in the United States. They did not know that he had a felony conviction in Micronesia. Though they initially said that the weapons they found in his house all had permits they now say that they believe that many of the weapons he owned were illegal.

Perman said that Kernal, had a dream to build a Micronesian community in Southern Missouri; a great church with Micronesian people living the way they should. He said that he offered as many Micronesians a chance as he could because he didn't think they had much economic opportunity in the islands.

Kernal paid for the plane tickets of many of his friends and family and helped them to establish themselves in the area when they got there. He was a well respected leader in the community. He and his family owned and operated L & K Island Market which caters to the unique needs of the islanders in the area. Islanders from all over the tri-state area (Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas) drive to

*continued on the next page*

## Thousands Gather to Say Goodbye

the family store, perhaps to feel as if they are home for just a short while.

Each year, the Rehobson's sponsor a popular Fourth of July softball tournament and gathering in Neosho. According to a Micronesia Seminar video entitled "Micronesians Abroad" in which Kernal is featured heavily, participants from as far away as Corsicana, Texas flock to the event.

In Pohnpei, a prayer service was held at the United Church of Christ - Mwalok on Tuesday, August 14. Aiken Saimon's family in Pohnpei, though they had nothing to do with the actions of their relative has spent a good deal of time within the last week making traditional apologies to the family members of victims that are on the island.

Bobbie Pottorff of KOAM-TV in Kansas said that on Saturday August 18, between 2,000 and 2,500 people attended the funeral of the slain Micronesians in Neosho many of them standing in the parking lot in a show of support.



*Kernal Rehobson (center wearing dark pants) greets congregation members in the parking lot of the First Congregational Church in a film entitled "Micronesians Abroad" produced by Micronesia Seminar*

The day before the funeral KOAM-TV interviewed James Naich, Charge D'Affaires and Acting Head of Mission of the FSM Embassy in Washington D.C. who was one of the many who attended the funeral. He said during the interview, "...the President [FSM President Mori] feels we have to be here not only to express

our condolences to the family and friends of the victims but also to express our appreciation to the local communities and the city of Neosho." He said the loss was personal since he knew Kernal Rehobson well which made the trip even harder for him.

Pastor Thorne, wearing a pink shirt because Kernal used to joke

with him about wearing pink shirts said in his eulogy for the three respected Micronesians, "They wanted better lives for everyone," he said. "They concentrated on improving the lives of the Micronesians community. They knew they could only achieve these goals through faith in God. They had a self-contentment with their service to the Lord. Their faith was leading them, and they took on this task and they were making the journey forward. They wanted to make life better for everybody. These men were trying to give others what they had.

"I believe these men would have asked, or even demanded today, you to put up the standard which they have carried. As those are wounded or fall, others will pick up their standards and move on. We know that many people have died before their time on Earth was complete. These men also died before their vision was complete, and we believe these men would want you to be a part of their mission. As part of my challenge today, I want you to ponder in your heart if you will step up and continue the fight that these men began."

## ...GMP

*continued from Page 2*

ment of TC&I. He is alleged in the suit to have "constantly made statements to the third party beneficiary governments that he is the Project Management Unit, and not Plaintiff GMP, that he would like to terminate GMP, and that he intended to terminate GMP and replace them with his own in-house engineers."

The lawsuit lists eight counts. Not all of them apply to all defendants.

Count one is against all defendants and alleges, "Violation of Civil Rights.

Count two is against defendants Yatilman and Westerfield and alleges, "Breach of Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Negligent Misrepresentations"

Count three is against all defendants and alleges "Abuse of Process".

Yatilman and Westerfield are the targets of count four which alleges "Negligent Misrepre-

sentation".

All defendants have been alleged to have been involved in "Civil Conspiracy" under count five of the lawsuit.

Yatilman and Privitt are named under count six "Intentional Interference with Business - False Accusation by Public Officials"

All defendants are named as having participated in "Interference With Customers and Contractual Relationship" in count seven of the filed civil charges.

Yatilman and Privitt are accused in the suit's 8<sup>th</sup> and final count of "Libel and Slander".

Essentially, GMP Associates is asking the court to grant them compensation for damage to their reputation and for the loss of income due to what they say are the actions, inactions, and misrepresentations of the defendants.

Yatilman, Westerfield, and Privitt will have an opportunity to respond to the voracity of the civil charges in court if the case goes that far.

## ...Sekere

*continued from page 1*

Ambulances were quickly dispatched to the scene and the injured six victims were transported to Pohnpei State Hospital. Kilafwakun, who was also injured in the accident, was transported under Police escort.

Bersina Syne received a nasty scrape on her right shoulder. Motorcyclists who have taken a spill call it "road rash" which results from contact with asphalt on bare skin while sliding. Bersina's 8 month old son had a head injury. Both Bersina and her son were treated and released along with another young victim of the accident.

Three of the young pedestrians were admitted to the hospital with injuries ranging from severe head injuries to broken bones.

Three of the victims were from the Syne family. The other three were from other families in the Sekere area. Their names have been withheld by request.

A crowd of 20 or more people gathered at the hospital apparently with ill intent. At least one member of the crowd said that they went to the Hospital to kill Kilafwakun. They ar-

rived too late to implement their plan. Kilafwakun had already been treated and released to the custody of the Pohnpei State Police. He was jailed for 24 hours and released pending arraignment. Though he was summoned to court for his arraignment on Tuesday, August 14, Kilafwakun failed to show. A bench warrant has been issued by the court for his arrest.

The Kaselehlie Press in its attempt to find out what had happened also asked neighbors what had happened to Kilafwakun's car. The reporter researching the story said that, "They really laughed."

No one seems to know, or at least they're not saying how Kilafwakun's car came to be engulfed in flames at around midnight on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The people we interviewed said they smelled the smoke and went over and found the vehicle on fire. The tires which would have melted leaving at least the rims had already been removed by persons unknown. A Pohnpei State Police Department's spokesperson said that they are looking into who it was that started the blaze and may file charges.

What remains, nose down on the steep roadside embankment is a burned out hulk of metal in the shape of a car.

## NEWS

# Quarantine Awareness for the Pacific Games

SPC/Fiji  
Press Release

The Pacific is one of the last remaining areas of tropical paradise on earth. It boasts a pristine environment, a rainbow of unique cultures and languages and an ecosystem that is the backbone of the tourism, fishing and agriculture industries. Nature has blessed the Pacific with this unique environment, which must be protected to sustain livelihoods and growing island populations.

Thousands of people will travel to our beautiful region this year for the biggest gathering of Pacific Islanders since the Pacific Arts Festival in Palau in 2004. The Pacific Games (formerly the South Pacific Games) are held every four years and will take place in Apia from 25 August to 8 September 2007.

### Technical attachments

To help with the clearance of athletes arriving for the Games, SPC is strengthening Samoa Quarantine by bringing in quarantine officers from the different regions of the Pacific on technical attachment; one officer from French Polynesia and three from Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands, and Fiji will help with quarantine clearance of their respective nationals. They will also accompany Samoa Quarantine officials conducting pest surveillance and monitoring at Games Venues. The technical attachments will provide much-needed help to Samoa Quarantine as well as serving as a learning exercise for the regional officers on quarantine issues at major Pacific events.

This is an initiative of the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation to foster closer relations with national biosecurity (quarantine) services of the Pacific Community and to help each other out in technical capacity building.

### Fragile Pacific environments

The Pacific is relatively free of many serious pests and diseases that are found elsewhere in the world a huge asset when negotiating overseas markets for Pacific products. Pests and diseases pose a threat to crops and livestock. They reduce yields and adversely affect the quality of agricultural products.

Certain pests and diseases are found in some islands but not in others — for example, the taro beetle is found in Fiji but not in Samoa. Sound plant protection practices including reliable national quarantine services backed by appropriate legislation help reduce

the threat posed by plant pests.

For the Pacific Games thousands of visitors will be travelling to Samoa, and items carried in their luggage could pose a real threat to Samoa's national biodiversity. The biggest risk is in the transport of food items, but plant products, cultural items and unclean sports equipment could also be dangerous.

### Educating the public on quarantine issues

Recent incursions of new pests and diseases into some Pacific Islands have been the result of undeclared quarantine items at national borders, but X-ray machines are becoming common in major Pacific airports and Samoa is one of them. The technology will pick up quarantine risk items, and if these items have not been declared, passengers might find themselves on the wrong side of the law.

To help educate those planning to go to Samoa for the Pacific Games — and indeed the general travelling public — on quarantine matters, the Land Resources Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is launching a media campaign in collaboration with regional heads of quarantine services in the Pacific. Aimed at getting travellers to declare items to quarantine, the awareness exercise will include a TV spot, a radio spot, brochures and strategic placement of quarantine messages in regional online services and magazines. National quarantine services will also conduct training of athletes on relevant issues.

The campaign will be at its most visible in the few days prior to national contingents leaving for the Games. Usually there is an air of festivity swirling about at this time as governments, businesses, sponsors and the general public participate in send-off celebrations for their teams. Quarantine services aim to get their serious message across at the same time.

The regional campaign is intended to prevent incursions of pests and diseases into Samoa. In Samoa itself, the quarantine service will be conducting its own media campaign targeting the general public with the message to be on the lookout at Games venues for possible new pests.

SPC's Land Resources Division is committed to preventing the spread of pests and diseases by raising the profile of quarantine at events where thousands of Pacific Islanders gather such as the Pacific Games. We need to prevent the trans-border movement of quarantine risk items if we are to maintain the relatively pest-free status of the Pacific islands.

**QUARANTINE**  
Protecting Island Biodiversity

Pacific islands are unique and rich in biodiversity. Quarantine keeps it that way.

Quarantine protects our environment, our food sources and our way of life.

Harmful pests and diseases can be carried in food, plant material, sports gear, animal products and cultural items.

You must declare for inspection all food, plant material and animal products. They will be checked for pests and diseases.

Produced by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) Land Resources Division in support of quarantine awareness in the Pacific, and in collaboration with our working partners.

**Goods that are prohibited**  
Except with prior quarantine approval

- ❑ Dairy and egg products
- ❑ Meat and animal products including untreated feathers, hides or skins
- ❑ Live animals including pets
- ❑ Fresh fruit or vegetables
- ❑ Live plants including seeds and nuts

**Goods that must be declared**

- Plant material
- Animal products
- Sporting goods

## LDS Youth Enjoy Annual Conference

**LDS  
Press Release**

On August 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup>, youth from all over Pohnpei gathered for the annual youth conference of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The theme of the conference was "Seek and Ye Shall Find". (See Matthew 7:7.)

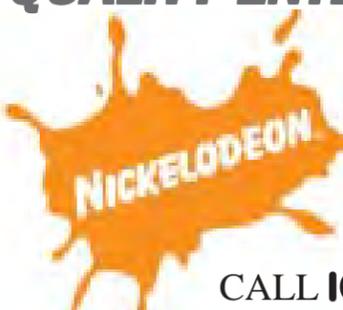
Nearly 140 youth ages 12 to 18 were in attendance. Andon L. Amaraich, Chief Justice of the FSM Supreme Court gave a memorable address on Friday in which he emphasized the value of one's heritage, taught the importance of making good choices, and encouraged the youth to take advantage of every educational opportunity available to them.

Other highlights of the conference included a scavenger hunt around Kolonia Town, a talent show featuring traditional songs and dances, a service project at PICS High School, and classes focused on the importance of scripture and high moral standards to provide peace and security in a difficult world.

At the conclusion of the conference, the youth were given the opportunity to express their feelings about the Savior and his teachings. All who participated had a wonderful experience and look forward to next year's conference. For more information about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, please visit [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org).



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## U Gets Funds to Promote Cultural Preservation

**A Year-long Training Program That Will Focus on Youth and Women is Now Being Implemented**

*The Kaselehlie Press*

U, Pohnpei – The U Municipal Government is currently embarking on a one-year program to “revive and preserve the Pohnpeian Culture.” The project is being supported by the government of New Zealand through the New Zealand Agency for International Development, otherwise known as NZAID.

Although New Zealand has long extended foreign aid and assistance to its Pacific neighbors, it has made a recent commitment to put more of a focus on increasing regional overseas assistance and bilateral relations with the various South and North Pacific Island States. New NZ Ambassador to the FSM Craig Rickitt – based in Kiribati – presented his credentials to President Manny Mori on July 13.

“The office of the U Municipal Government is in full support of this project as they see it necessary in protecting and preserving the culture,” according to Welsin Helgenberger, Chief Minister of U

Municipal Government which is the main proponent of the project. “The project is a long time wish for the people of U... (as we have) expressed concern toward the dying Pohnpeian culture evident in the young Pohnpeians.”

This is the first overseas grant that the municipality of U has ever received. The grant from NZAID is for just over \$11,000.

The grant proposal states that “the people have an intimate relationship with the land, sea, and natural resources, which is manifested in the culture and tradition of the people of U and played out in the daily lives... from uplands to the reefs, Pohnpeians have so many cultural and traditional linkages.” It also notes the “very complex and hierarchical” nature of Pohnpeian society.

This is the primary justification of the U project: “Like many countries Pohnpei is facing a major problem of losing its cultural heritage due to western influence.”

The objective of the project is to introduce the cultural art and skills of canoe building, and the making of other local items from the plants and trees of the tropical island ecosystem through a hands-on approach in order to prevent the knowledge from becoming obsolete. These are items that were once everyday needs, but have become more and more relegated to the des-

ignation of handicraft. The skills are still important.

The U project will focus its efforts toward youth and women.

New Zealand is the fifth country to recognize FSM’s independence which it did when it established diplomatic ties on June 30, 1988.

## Australia Appoints New Ambassador to Micronesia

*Australian Government Press Release*

Ms Susan Cox is to be Australia’s new Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Ms Cox will succeed Ms Corinne Tomkinson who has been Ambassador since November 2004. Ms Cox is expected to take up her appointment in September 2007..

Australia’s relations with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are warm and friendly. Defence, law enforcement, development cooperation and regional security are important elements of our relationship with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and Palau.

Australia’s trade and tourism links with Guam continue to expand. Australia and the Micronesian States cooperate through the Pacific Islands Forum to promote economic growth,

sustainable development, good governance and security and to advance their interests through sector-specific regional organisations and the UN and its agencies.

Ms Susan Cox is a career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and is currently Director in the Post Security Task Force. Overseas, Ms Cox has served as Deputy High Commissioner in Port Vila (1998-2001) and as Vice-Consul in Noumea (1990-93). She has also served in Cairo.

In Canberra, Ms Cox has held a range of positions including Executive Officer and later Director, Consular Policy and Crisis Management Section (2003-06), Manager of the Consular Coordination Unit (2002-03), Executive Officer in the Multilateral South Pacific and Resources Section (1995-98) and the Bilateral Pacific and Political Section (1993-95).

Ms Cox was awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia for her role in the management of the response to the Bali bombings in October 2002. Ms Cox holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Canberra and was awarded a University medal in 1997. Ms Cox speaks French and Bislama.

## Pohnpei State Hospital Receives Donations to Better Help Patients

*The Kaselehlie Press*

NETT, Pohnpei – On August 13 the Leo Etscheit Foundation & Memorial Fund donated two pieces of equipment to the Pohnpei State Hospital that should allow the main care provider on the island to help its patients with various illnesses and diagnoses related to the examination of blood.

The first is a Hematology Analyzer, a fairly sophisticated, advanced piece of medical equipment (the cost is around \$42,000). Hematology is a medical term that used to describe the study and analysis of blood. The HA is the size of a small refrigerator and is used in small to medium sized laboratories.

In Pohnpei the new HA will allow laboratory staff to perform more and more thorough blood checks of patients. The HA will allow analysis of up to 60 samples of blood per hour, with a complete blood cell count – important in determining if the patient has any form of infection (high white blood cell count), a parasite infestation, or a shortage of red blood cells in the body, amongst other important diagnoses. In sum, this is a tool that will allow doctors to give the appropriate treatment to patients.

The second donated piece of equipment (also purchased new for about 1,265) is called a Pulse Oxime-

ter. This valuable tool is about the size of a hand-held phone and it is used to take the vitals (heart beat, respiration, pulse rate) of patients before and after surgeries.

According to a brief press release by the Etscheit Foundation: “It is able to detect the level of blood oxygen in patients with lung and heart diseases, thus helping in the course of their management and prognostication of the patients, and also helps in preparing patients for major surgical procedures to avoid postoperative respiratory complications.”

In sum, the piece of equipment will greatly aid medical staff in the delivery of more complicated medical procedures, and most important, will help the smooth recovery process of patients at the Pohnpei State Hospital (PSH).

The Leo Etscheit Foundation and Memorial Fund has a long tradition of giving to PSH. Amongst various recent projects that it has funded at PSH, it also continues to provide for the serving of all the meals to the patients at PSH on an ongoing basis.

Ms. Marcelle Gallen of PSH accepted the donation from Etscheit Foundation representatives Ferny Perman and Ronney Pretrick. Gallen extended the gratitude of all Pohnpei Health Services & Administration personnel for the beneficent gift.



*New medical equipment donated by the Etscheit Foundation set up and ready to use.*

## The Heart of a Surfer and Pohnpei Friend

By *Allois Malfitani*  
*Pohnpei Surf Club*

As soon as the Pohnpei Surf Club (PSC) opened its doors for business in Pohnpei we got interested in the work done by the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) and wanted to get involved. As a surfer I was always very close to nature and had always chosen to surf the most pristine surf destinations in Brazil, Indonesia, Hawaii and now Micronesia. I have also surfed really polluted waters, so I know what that is like. The beauty of Pohnpei and the pristine ocean and reef conditions attracted me as much as the surf. That is how things should be and look, but more and more nowadays we see fewer and fewer places like Micronesia around the world. On Small Island environments like Pohnpei, a little damage to the environment can have big and lasting consequences.

The Pohnpei Surf Club has partnered with CSP and has committed to giving something back to this island that has welcomed our services with open arms. PSC since its inception has committed to give a portion of every guest's payment to CSP and donate manpower, boats and fuel whenever requested towards conservation ef-

forts. In promoting Pohnpei through information provided to every guest before they arrive on island, we inform them also about the work CSP does, how we work with them and how the guests can get involved and help. The main product any tour operators sells in Pohnpei is the environment. We take our guests diving, surfing, hiking so nothing more logical then helping to conserve the same environment so tourists and locals can see it 100 years from now just like it was 100 years ago. Easier said than done, but we have got to start somewhere.

For the last 3 years the Pohnpei Surf Club has donated money to CSP and many hours on the ocean helping CSP to install and maintain mooring buoys on passes and MPAs so boaters can tie their boats instead of dropping anchors on the reef. We also do ocean clean-up on the reefs as well. As long as Pohnpei maintains its pristine environment, we can keep bringing more tourists to enjoy the Pohnpei Experience, and the donations will keep coming in.

The time has come in our lives for

see "Surfer" on page 20

## 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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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## LEGAL

### The Island Road: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

### E Kesempwahl Me Komwi En Tamanda Ire Siluh Duen Social Security

#### The Good:

- It is a wonderful asset to the State as it circles the island giving easy access to all points of interest.
- The road surface is excellent for 95% of the way.
- It is clearly marked for most of the way with a centre line and in places it has edge lines as well.
- It is one of the best roads in Micronesia.

#### The Bad:

- Grass, a yard high and root stock growing over the surface in places reducing the available road to half its width.
- Several deep holes, some over 8" deep that have been there for months, possibly years, are a hazard to safe driving.
- Some road signs are covered with grass and trees.
- Several older bridges are too narrow for the road, causing a hazard.
- Two piles of sand have covered one section of damaged road for months. When will the damage be fixed?
- A lack of road signs to all points of interest: except for the Capital and some Schools.

#### The Ugly:

- Cars parked and stopping at all angles on the road.
- Adults and children walk on the road and expect the vehicles to move aside.

- Wrecked cars are left abandoned on or close to the edge.
- Pools of water formed by the lack of drains soften the underbase and eventually cause cracks in the road surface.
- Deep ruts, fall offs and even drains right on the edge of the road are a hazard to safe driving. The road edge for at least two yards on each side should be flat and level with the surface to provide room for parking and walking.

Clearly it is too much to expect the residents of the local villages to keep the road to its original standard. Some do and are commended, but most do not.

It is clear that the present administrators of the road shows a lack of pride, interest and care for them and have been negligent in their duties. There are just too many hazards that have been there for too long and are not only dangerous to vehicles but also to the lives of the users.

Most of the hazards would require very little work to repair, yet they are just left for months on end and are getting worse. Surely they are an accident waiting to happen.

Yours faithfully,  
**John D. Hamann**

1. Tehk mwahu me ahmw employer report kiong Social Security pwain en ahmw doadoahk
2. Ma Social Security katikatikala de lipwukala ahmw social security komwi anahne pakair kio9ng Social Security erein rahn weneisek ma kmwi sapwuhngni.
3. Ma komwi kin ale Social Security pweki omwi pwoud mehla Social Security pahn lipwukala ahmw payment ma irail rong me komwi pwurehng pwopwoud.

Kosonned katihtihki me aramas me pwain ong komwi ahmw doadoahk e pahn reportkiong Social Security.

Komwi anahne pein report pein komwi ong Social Security aa komwi doadoahnk ong pein komwi

Ma komwi pepehm me aramas de company me pwain komwi sohte reportkiong Social Security komwi kak peidek rehn Social Security ma komwi iang report de soh. Ma komwi sohte men kohla rehn social Security komwi kak kohdo ni Ophis en Legal Services.

Ma Social Security kauhdi de katikitikala omwi payment oh komwi sapwuhngki komwi anahne pakairkiong Social Security, ni inting, erein rahn weneisek. Ma komwi sohte wiada pakair ni inting erein rahn weneisek komwi pahn luhs sang menda me Social Security sapwuhng. Ma komwi anahne sawas pwe en wiada pakair ong Social Security komwi kak kohdo ni ophis en Legal Services.

Ma komwi kin ale surviving spouse benefits Social Security kak kauhdi omwi benefit ma irail rong me komwi pwopwoud. Ma komwi kin ale soang en benefit wet e konehng komwi dehr wia mehkot me kasalehda me komwi pwopwoud ma komwi sohte pil ehu pwopwoud.

Ekei ansou e kin apwahl en ale kamanaman en pwek seri nin duen diak sang mwolen kopwung. Ma mie ahmw seri me pwekpwek nin duen diak e konehng komwi en pwekida seri menet nin duen kosonned.

Kosonned en Social Security kapw kosonehdi ma aramas me dauili sounpahr limeisek limau pah pwekida seri me seri menet sohte kak ale benefit en social security.

Komwi kak ale Social Security ma komwi lel sounpar seneisek oh mie itar en omwi

quarters. Ia wen mohni me komwi pahn ale poasaohnada ia wn mohni me komwi kapidelong nan Social Security. Ma komwi men ese ia wen benefit me komwi pahn ale komwi kak tuong ophis en social security.

Ma komwi ohla oh solahr kak doadoahn komwi kak ale Social Security ma omwi quarters pahn itar.

Ma mie omwi peidek duen Social Security komwi kak tuong irail de komwi pail kak kohdo ni ophis en social security.

## Why Didn't They Just Ask Us?

When I read the report stating that the FSM was ranked as one of the top end marijuana users with a use rate of something in the neighborhood of 29 percent, I kept my peace, thinking that this was so silly that it would be discounted immediately. But the talk about this figure has continued intermittently since the first report came out. So, let me correct it for the record.

In 1997, MicSem did a report on drug and alcohol use in FSM for the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. From a survey of 6 percent of the population (in other words, over 6,000 people), we concluded that only 8.1% of the FSM population of age 15 and over were marijuana users. The sex breakdown for marijuana is: 15% of the males and barely 1% of the females were users at that time. Unless the UN knows something about the subject that we don't know, the figures in its report may be discounted as fanciful—or maybe just a typo.

Frances Hezel

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## MORE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

### XI. HVAC Job Descriptions

#### **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, voltmeters, pressure gauges, and other HVAC equipment
- Experience in layout, all HVAC materials, ductboard, sheetmetal, gypboard, insulation, tapes, caulk, sealants, PTAC, RTUs, central systems, and other HVAC systems/products
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

#### **B. Laborers (4)**

Candidates must have:

- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, voltmeters, pressure gauges, and other HVAC equipment
- Experience with all HVAC materials, ductboard, sheetmetal, gypboard, insulation, tapes, caulk, sealants, PTAC, RTUs, central systems, and other HVAC systems/products
- Stable work record

### XII. Plumbing Job Descriptions

#### **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, pressure gauges, and other plumbing equipment
- Experience in layout, all plumbing materials, PVC pipe, DIP, ABS, copper, funny pipe, concrete, tapes, caulk, sealants, underground systems, multifloor systems, in-the-wall systems, and other plumbing systems/products
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

#### **B. Plumbers (4)**

Candidates must have:

- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, pressure gauges, and other plumbing equipment
- Experience with all plumbing materials, PVC pipe, DIP, ABS, copper, funny pipe, concrete, tapes, caulk, sealants, underground systems, multifloor systems, in-the-wall systems, and other plumbing systems/products
- Stable work record

### XIII. Electrical 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, voltmeters, and other electrical equipment
- Experience in layout, all electrical materials, PVC pipe, wire (all types), tapes, caulk, sealants, j-boxes, receptacles, control boards, switch panels, cans, interlocks, alarm systems (including fire/security) underground systems, multifloor systems, in-the-wall systems, and other electrical systems/products
- Excellent math skills
- Stable work record

#### **B. Electrician Helpers (4)**

Candidates must have:

- Experience with levels, squares, tape measures, power/hand tools, voltmeters, and other electrical equipment
- Experience with all electrical materials, PVC pipe, wire (all types), tapes, caulk, sealants, j-boxes, receptacles, control boards, switch panels, cans, interlocks, alarm systems (including fire/security) underground systems, multifloor systems, in-the-wall systems, and other electrical systems/products
- Stable work record

### XIV. Restaurant Manager

Candidates must have:

- At least 5 years experience in Hotel & Restaurant business.
- Computer literate is a plus must have background in management with costing knowledge preferred.
- Customer friendly & must have outgoing personality.
- Stable work record

### XV. Heavy Equipment Mechanic

Candidates must have:

- Ability to repairs and adjusts hydraulic pumps, safety valves, and load packers
- Experience in repairs, inspect and adjusts diesel power units, hydraulic systems, injection valves and systems, mold boards, and scarifiers on road graders, gasoline/diesel tractors, hydraulic and cable operated attachments on tractors; trenching machines and sets to proper grade; welding operations
- Experience in installing, replace or adjust filters, belts, or similar objects to maintain equipment.
- Stable work record

### XVI. Auto Mechanic

Candidates must have:

- Light vehicle motor mechanics service, repair and overhaul the mechanical parts of motor vehicles such as the engine, the transmission (clutch, gear box and differential), and the suspension systems (springs, steering, brakes, wheels and tyres).
- Ability to discuss problems with car drivers or vehicle operators, discover faults, listen to engines, fit and operate special test equipment, test drive vehicles repair or replace worn and faulty parts by removing assemblies such as engines, transmissions, differentials of steering gear; dismantle and check parts, referring to manuals, reassemble, test, clean and adjust repaired or replaced parts or assemblies,
- Experience in using special electronic equipment, minor trim repairs diagnose, repair and replace engine management/fuel injection components use oxy, electric, TIG and MIG welders test and repair electrical systems such as lighting, instrumentation, ignition and electronic fuel injection
- Experience in Automotive Airconditioning, Fitters and Brake Mechanics.
- Stable work record

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

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Closing Date

: July 19, 2007  
: **OPEN UNTIL FILLED**

## OPINION

### KP-Perspective

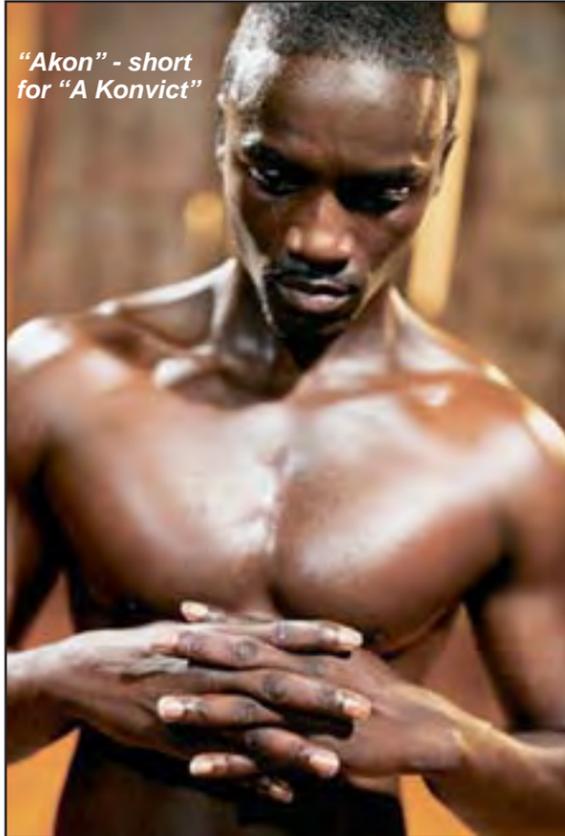
## “Sorry, Put the Blame on Me”

I hear the song through my wall from the audio business next door at least five times a day. I no longer listen to any of the radio stations except when I'm in my car, and only then because I don't have any other music available. I hear the song on three radio stations nearly every time I get into my car. If Akon's "Mr. Lonely" was big in Pohnpei a few years ago, and it was, his new song "Sorry, Put the Blame on Me" is even bigger, maybe because I'm no longer at the radio station controlling how often things are played there.

Alioune Badara Thiam is his real name but he goes by the stage name "Akon" which is short for "A Konvict" because of the time he spent in jail. According to "Wikipedia", Akon served time for armed robbery and drug distribution charges. Others say it was for grand theft auto though that is doubtful because his new song talks about "...the feds" coming to take him away which they wouldn't have done unless he crossed state lines. Regardless of why he was in jail, Akon seems to wear his time behind bars as a badge of courage though some of his music seems to suggest that he doesn't want to go back and has cleaned up his act.

That's debatable. At a concert in Fishkill, New York on June 3<sup>rd</sup> a young fan threw a Frisbee that missed the hip-hop artist's head though no one knows whether the fan was aiming for Akon's head or not since young boy hasn't been identified.

Akon asked the crowd to point out to him who threw it. The crowd in their frenzy pointed out the purportedly fifteen year old boy. Akon's security guards zeroed in on the boy and, picking him up like a rag doll, passed him hand to hand until he was next to the performer on the stage. Akon picked the boy up, held him over his head and threw him back into the audience from the elevated stage. Though the



"Akon" - short for "A Konvict"

boy apparently was unharmed, Abby Rosa on whom the boy landed suffered a concussion and has hired a lawyer.

The boy is still unidentified and Akon's representatives say it was a publicity stunt for the next album. According to MTV.com, Akon's lawyers released a statement that said, "it does not appear to us that Akon was involved in any criminal conduct whatsoever."

The song, "Sorry, Put the Blame on Me" is a song of apology—sort of. In the first verse he apologizes to his wife saying that he is sorry that he "had" to go on the road and leave her alone.

It might be that he was apologizing to his wives since Akon admitted that he was a polygamist on a radio talk show. He said in the interview, "I can afford to have as many wives as I can afford to have. All Africans believe in it. My Dad (Senegalese percussionist, Mor Thiam) has four wives."

He apologizes in another verse, to his mother because his father left her and for the fact that he turned into a thief for a time. "I'm sorry that the feds came and took me away" is what he says rather than, "I'm sorry that the feds had to take me away."

He talks, in the rest of the song about an incident that happened in Trinidad at Club Zen, a 21 and over club, with a fourteen year old daughter of a preacher who was admitted to the club. Akon sent staff members into the audience to find willing participants for a "dance competition". The participants were told that the winner in the international competition would win a free trip to Africa. Apparently, the trip to Africa was a ploy to get participants involved in the "dance contest".

Once on stage, Akon threw the girl around in a way that even a 28 year old woman shouldn't be, simulating sex acts with her in many positions while the crowd cheered.

Verizon, who was the sponsor of Gwen Stefani's "Sweet Escape" Tour, canceled their sponsorship because Akon was the opening act. They also removed from their product line all of the ring tones, artwork and any other products they were selling that involved Akon.

He talks about it all in his

song. He says, "You can put the blame on me" but in every verse he tells the listener why the blame should not be on him—why he did everything he did and the people he did it to had it coming. He seems to say "I'm just an entertainer and the crowd wanted it."

"I didn't know that you were lonely."

"My dad left me and you."

"I *had* to be on the streets every day."....

He says in the song, over and over, "Even though the blame's on you....", because he loves his fans "I'll take that blame from you."

What a hero for our young Micronesian listeners. I guess the young people of Micronesia hear the same thing from many important people, "Put the blame on me but it's not really my fault." I was going to give some examples but I think I'll leave that to you.

I guess it's a touch better than Shaggy's, "It Wasn't Me". I don't even want to touch, Sean Kingston's, "Suicidal", another great message for FSM.

Bill Jaynes  
Managing Editor



Akon "dances" with a 14 year old girl in Trinidad at Club Zen. The Club was shut down because of the evening's activities and the admittance of a teenager.

## Pahn Takai Waterfall

By **BILL JAYNES**  
 The Kaselehlie Press

Going to Pahn Takai Waterfall is like leaving Pohnpei for a short time.

The rock that is purported to be a cave overhangs visitors by maybe 100 feet as it rises 150. In many other environments the wall would be covered with the climbers' chalk that dots so many rock walls in the U.S. I have doubts that any climber's hands have ever touched the walls of Pahn Takai.

To find Pahn Takai, head from Kolonia toward U on the circumferential road. Just past the turn off for the world famous "Village Resort and Hotel" the road curves right and then down left.

At the bottom of the hill you will find a Catholic Church in the community of Awak. Set your trip meter at that point. When it reaches 4.2 km there will be a secondary road to the right (the 2nd secondary road past the

Protestant Church in U).

There was once a sign at the turn-off telling travellers that they had reached their destination but it has passed as things often do. We had to ask locals from the area if we had passed the road to Pahn Takai. We had. If you reach Salidak School you've gone too far.

The paved road is steep but in no way treacherous as you head up the hill. It is a single lane road so keep your eye out for wide spaces to back into if someone else is coming down the mountain while you are heading up.

High on the road there will be a fork just after the pavement ends. Take the unpaved road to the right. When you have passed the rusted out Nissan Bluebird on the right side of the road, continue on just a few hundred feet further. The road ends at the trailhead. There's not much parking

so park courteously and leave yourself a way to turn around when you have finished your visit. Watch the exposed PVC pipes as you drive. They carry water to the houses beyond the trailhead.

You will be noticed as you drive up the road and someone will come to collect the \$3 per person fee that is expected and deserved by the family that maintains the excellent trail to the falls.

As you begin your short hike from the trailhead, the first dilemma you will face will be which of the three trails to follow, the upper, the lower, or the middle. Take the middle trail.

There will be no more choices for you to make as you wind your way through the jungle to another world shaded by overhanging rock.

Along the trail you will encounter beautiful foliage. Although that is the norm for Pohnpei, there's something about the higher altitude environment of Pahn Takai that makes it "other worldly".

As my wife and I started out at the trailhead it began to rain. We stopped on occasion in the shelter of banana leaves. We decided, despite the rain to push on and found the shelter of the overhanging rock in short order.

Once we did we were perfectly dry from that point forward despite the downpour going on beyond the overhang.

Unlike Liduduhniap Falls there is no place to swim but that doesn't take away from the beauty of the place.

In places the trail underneath the falls slopes downward and out occasionally making footwork a bit dicey; nothing that this 45 year old couldn't handle, at least on that day.

Continuing on to the other side of the falls we found a large flat space in the shade of the rock wall that was perfect for a picnic. Apparently several people have found the same to be true as there were a few stone circles with ashes on them indicating that campfires had been built there.

We noticed a bit of trash tucked into alcoves in the rock but Pahn Takai was, despite that, overall, quite clean.

Let's keep it that way. If you go to Pahn Takai, pack out whatever you pack in. (By the way, there's no need to carve your name into the rocks as others have done. You'll still be important, and if you avoid the temptation, Pahn Takai, with its magical vistas will be beautiful for years to come!)



The view of the falls from directly underneath them is almost impossible to see, but from the side, in the shade of the overhanging rocks it is a magnificent sight as the falls pours through the overhanging moss!



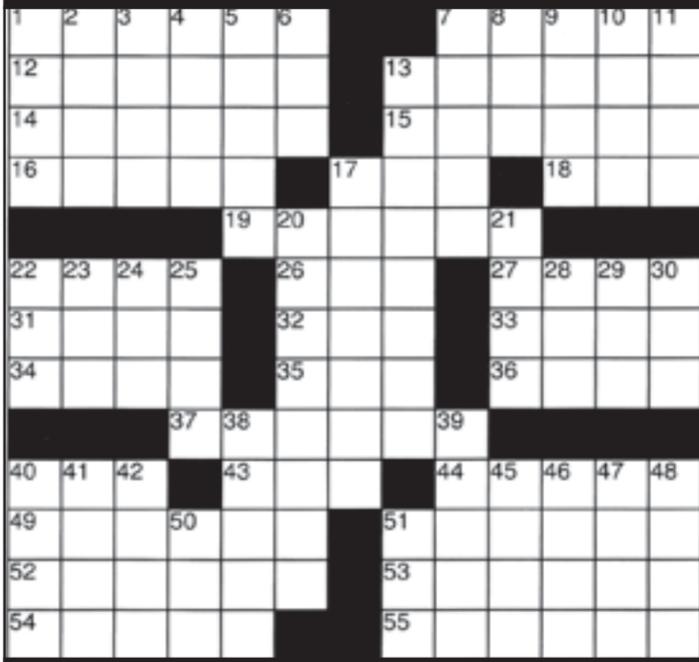
Pahn Takai doesn't have the flowered pathway of Liduduhniap Falls but if you look closely you will see bright treasures and, as you wend your way will likely find yourself lifting sakau plants that hang over the trails so that you can pass. Be gentle as you do...



Not all of the trail to Pahn Takai waterfall is as easy to follow as it is in the picture above, but it would be hard to get lost.

K-Press Photos/Bill Jaynes

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

### ACROSS

1. Vulgar
7. Make a sheepish comment?
12. Kind of lizard
13. Cause to do under duress
14. Unlikely to stand up
15. Source
16. On edge
17. Male child
18. Like 3 or 7
19. Fiddle with
22. Sauce seasoning
26. Recent
27. Put up in poker
31. Good's opposite
32. Hot or iced beverage
33. Wet weather
34. Office notice
35. "To \_\_\_\_ is human.
36. Espied
37. More than just a job
40. Tap lightly
43. It'll come and go
44. "\_\_\_\_ ho!"
49. Nuclear
51. Head cushion
52. Dairy snack
53. Caught con
54. Digging tool
55. Tries for a ringer or a leaner

8. Living necklace
9. Therefore
10. Base's counterpart
11. Cultivate
13. Pots and pans
17. Showed scorn
20. Relate with each other
21. Uncommon
22. Skirt edge.
23. Night's start
24. Edge of a golf hole
25. Group that functions as one
28. Type of 47 Down
29. Part of a suit
30. Finale
38. Burning
39. Animal with a horn
40. Gives money to
41. Upon

42. Frat party attire
45. Shade trees
46. '\_\_\_\_ poor Yorick...'
47. Congressional noun
48. Barnyard birthers
50. Pigs like to wallow in it
51. Poe's pendulum place

## Word Search - GOLD RUSH...

Gold was discovered on January 24, 1848, at Sutter's Mill, California. News of the discovery spread throughout the world, sparking the Gold Rush of 1849. Do a little prospecting in the diagram below for entries associated with the gold rushes.

ALASKA  
ATTRACT  
AUSTRALIA  
CALIFORNIA  
DEPOSITS  
DIG  
DISCOVER  
DUST  
FEVER  
FIELDS  
FIND  
FORTUNE  
FRENZY  
GOLD  
GRAINS  
INFLUX  
KLONDIKE  
LAND



MANIA  
MINERS  
MINING  
MOVEMENT  
NUGGET  
PROSPECTORS  
QUEST  
REGION  
RIVER  
RUSH  
SEEK  
SETTLEMENT  
SITE  
SOUTH AFRICA  
SUTTER'S MILL  
TERRITORY  
WEALTH

Law Office of



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FAX: (691) 320-6485

email: ahillyer@mail.fm

**KASELEHLIE PRESS**

Bill Jaynes

MANAGING EDITOR

Tel: (691) 320-6547

Email: kpress@mail.fm

P.O. Box 2222

Pohnpei, FM

96941

**MARY BERMAN**

Attorney

Tel: (691) 320-2210

(691) 921-4236

Email: mberman@mail.fm

P.O. Box 163

Kolonia, Pohnpei

FM 96941

# RELIGION

## Do The Unexpected

One of my Bible professors shared with me an experience that he had several years back. He said that one Sunday after church he and some others went out to eat. The restaurant was busy and there were some problems with the order. My professor and his friends were patient with the waitress and assured her that the problems were “no big deal.” The waitress responded to this by saying, “are you all church folks?” Her reply to their affirmative answer was that she could not believe it. When asked why this was so shocking to her she said, “No offense, but every waitress knows that Sunday afternoon is the worst shift to have to work.” She went on to say that the after church crowd was always “rude, impatient and usually

lousy tippers.” Because of her experience this lady had come to expect certain behaviors from Christians.

The daily goal of all disciples should be Christ-likeness (Matthew 10:25). Jesus is our perfect example in all things (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:21). To become more like Jesus it is imperative that one studies the gospel accounts of His life. In a study of the life of Jesus there are many things that jump out at you. One of those is that He managed to never do what people expected. Consider just a few examples from His life:

Jesus defied people’s expectations from the very beginning of His life on earth. The King of kings was not born in a place

of beauty and splendor with servants to attend to His every need, but in a stable with a feeding trough as His first crib. No one saw that coming. The first witnesses to His arrival were not princes and dignitaries, but shepherds, the lowest of the low on the great social ladder of His day.

Jesus continued to not do what was expected through His childhood. In Luke’s account, we read that when our Lord was twelve years old He was left behind in Jerusalem after the Passover. After searching Jerusalem high and low, His mother and Joseph found Him in a place that even they did not expect, teaching the adults in the temple. These adults, by the way, were “astonished” by Him. Why were they astonished? Because they did not expect a twelve year old to be able to ask and answer questions the way He did.

Consider also His choice of apostles. Did He choose the most educated, most religious, most elite people as His inner circle? Nope. Among the twelve were four uneducated fisherman (two of whom were called “sons of thunder” because of their violent tempers), a hated tax collector, a Jewish terrorist and a thief to name a few. In choosing the men who would be responsible for carrying out His work after He was gone Jesus truly did the unexpected.

His earthly ministry was all about doing the unexpected. Consider the example of the woman at the well. In that one event Jesus hit the tri-fecta of the unexpected. Of all the people in the world to give His time to He chose a woman, with a bad reputation, from the race the Jews hated more than anybody. The Bible says that even His disciples “marveled” at this (John 4:27).

Jesus defied expectations in setting up His kingdom too. The Israelites expected Jesus to come as a military king that would overthrow the Roman occupation forces. On one occasion the people tried to force Him to be their King. However, they missed the idea of His Kingdom completely. Jesus never intended to set up an earthly kingdom, as people expected Him to. Instead, He came to set up a heavenly, spiritual kingdom (John 18:36).

It doesn’t stop there either. Even though He repeatedly told His disciples how He would die they were shocked when it happened. They never expected the Messiah to be a suffering servant that would give His very life as atonement for sin. Likewise, His resurrection and ascension into heaven were not events that anyone expected.

Many people have low expectations of Christians that, unfortunately, sometimes, are deserved. Christians often are expected to be unloving, judgmental, rude and cruel. These things characterize not all people who profess Christianity, however, there are enough “bad apples” out there that the bunch is getting spoiled. As Paul put it “a little leaven, leavens the whole lump (Galatians 5:9).” Imagine what the world would be like if all Christians followed Christ’s example and defied these expectations. I do believe that if more Christians did this there would be fewer servers in restaurants dreading the Sunday afternoon shift.

*Scott Shanahan*

Tide Table August 22 - September 4, 2007				
	POHNPEI, KOSRAE		CHUUK	
Wednesday	22 Wed 11:37AM 1.5 10:24PM 3.0 H	29 Wed 03:38AM 4.7 10:06AM 0.4 04:05PM 3.8 09:56PM 0.6	22 Wed 09:36AM -0.2 10:29PM 1.4	29 Wed 02:45AM 2.3 09:44AM -0.1 03:33PM 1.1 08:41PM 0.3
Thursday	23 Thu 09:18AM 1.5	30 Thu 04:10AM 4.5 10:30AM 0.5 04:33PM 4.0 10:32PM 0.7	23 Thu 09:31AM -0.2	30 Thu 03:12AM 2.1 09:50AM 0.1 03:46PM 1.3 09:23PM 0.3
Friday	24 Fri 12:29AM 3.3 08:34AM 1.2 02:45PM 2.1 06:18PM 1.9	31 Fri 04:41AM 4.2 10:53AM 0.6 05:02PM 4.1 11:10PM 0.8	24 Fri 12:05AM 1.6 09:23AM -0.3	31 Fri 03:33AM 1.7 09:49AM 0.2 04:02PM 1.6 10:08PM 0.4
Saturday	25 Sat 01:19AM 3.7 08:39AM 0.9 02:38PM 2.5 07:22PM 1.6	01 Sat 05:11AM 3.8 11:15AM 0.8 05:33PM 4.0 11:50PM 1.1	25 Sat 12:42AM 1.9 09:18AM -0.3	01 Sat 03:44AM 1.3 09:40AM 0.2 04:21PM 1.7 10:59PM 0.6
Sunday	26 Sun 01:57AM 4.1 08:56AM 0.6 02:53PM 2.8 08:05PM 1.3	02 Sun 05:38AM 3.3 11:34AM 1.1 06:07PM 3.9	26 Sun 01:15AM 2.1 09:19AM -0.3 03:46PM 0.7 06:27PM 0.6	02 Sun 03:27AM 0.9 09:22AM 0.1 04:43PM 1.8
Monday	27 Mon 02:32AM 4.4 09:17AM 0.4 03:14PM 3.2 08:43PM 1.0	03 Mon 12:37AM 1.5 06:00AM 2.7 11:46AM 1.3 06:47PM 3.7	27 Mon 01:46AM 2.3 09:26AM -0.3 03:25PM 0.7 07:17PM 0.4	03 Mon 09:00AM -0.1 05:09PM 1.8
Tuesday	28 Tue 03:06AM 4.6 09:41AM 0.4 03:39PM 3.5 09:19PM 0.8	04 Tue 01:51AM 1.9 06:02AM 2.2 11:40AM 1.5 07:51PM 3.4	28 Tue 02:16AM 2.3 09:35AM -0.2 03:25PM 0.9 08:00PM 0.3	04 Tue 08:47AM -0.3 05:43PM 1.8

## Australia Purchases Important Medical Equipment for State Hospital

Australian Embassy  
 Press Release

The body's skin is the largest organ on the human being. This protective covering protects against fluid loss, aids in temperature regulation, and helps prevent disease-causing bacteria or viruses from entering the body.

Wounds to the skin, such as third-degree burns, and non-healing wounds caused by diabetes and pressure sores must be covered as quickly as possible to prevent infection or loss of fluid.

With the assistance of the Australian Government, Pohnpei State Hospital now has the means to conduct important life-saving skin grafting procedures. A skin graft is a surgical procedure in which a piece of healthy skin, taken from the patient, is transplanted from one area of the body to another. With the acquisition of a skin grafting machine, Pohnpei State Hospital has the capability to replace damaged or missing skin.

This means patients will no longer be required to seek such procedures off island and as a result, the Hospital is able to save its referral resources for other procedures that require off-island treatment.

This project is being funded by the Australian Embassy's Direct Aid Program. For more information on this and other Australian development cooperation schemes, please contact the Australian Embassy in Pohnpei – (691) 320-5448 or at [australia@mail.fm](mailto:australia@mail.fm).

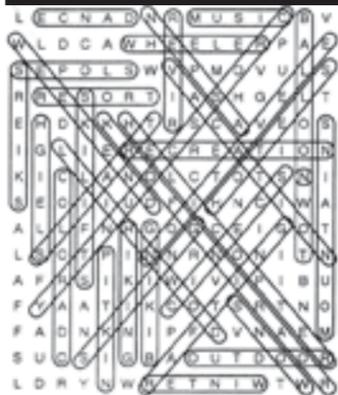
### TWO APARTMENTS FOR RENT:

Two bedroom apartment, partly furnished, \$450 per month. Located in Dolonier, Nett. Walking distance to SDA School. Will be available beginning September.

One bedroom studio apartment, partly furnished, \$400 per month. Located in Dolonier, Nett. Walking distance to SDA School. Available now.

For information, contact Emy at 920-1829.

### LAST Issue's Solution



The deadline for ads and news items for the next issue is August 31

### 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 Based 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  
 P. O. Box 2222 Pohnpei, FM 96941  
 fax to: (691) 320-6571  
 phone to: (691) 320-6547  
 email to: [kpress@mail.fm](mailto:kpress@mail.fm)

## ANOTHER CLASSIC LIMERICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY TRASHBUSTERS

A lady, while climbing Mount Shasta,  
 Complained as the mountain grew vaster,  
 That it wasn't the climb,  
 Nor the dirt and the grime,  
 But the ice on her butt that harassed her.

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## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

# CSP and Environmental Club Summer Camp Study Island Foods

By **Dr. Lois Englberger**  
*Pohnpei Island Food Group*

A summer camp for 12 high school students, organized by the Conservation Society of Pohnpei and the Environmental Club from Pohnlangas High School, was carried out from July 30 to August 4, starting at Temwen School with safety briefings, ground rules and a pretest activity. Following that, the Meninkeder Lapalap Honorable Petrick F. Ringlen shared a brief story of Temwen Island and its significance and opened the 2007 summer camp.

Other activities were held on 31 July at the Pilot Farm located in Pohnlangas. One presentation was that made by Gailliard Eliou of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, who shared about the values of local food.

As part of the presentation the students filled out a questionnaire. This showed that all students knew that *Karat* is the Pohnpei State Banana, but none knew the Pohnpei banana that contains the most provitamin A carotenoid, which is *Utin Iap*.

Three students won Island Food t-shirts as prizes for their responses on how to increase the production and consumption of island foods. These students were Bellannie Silahra, aged 17, Grade 12; Joemar Silbanuz aged 16, Grade 10; and Lucy Ann Sidney aged 18, Grade 12.

All participants received Island Food postcards and the Island Food writing pens, with the mes-

sage Grow and Eat Yellow Varieties. The students showed interest in the Let's Go Local High School club, which aims to promote local foods for their many benefits.

Other parts of the 2007 Summer Camp included that of climbing the tallest peak in Pohnpei Nahna Laud and other activities teaching about the natural heritage of Pohnpei.

Thanks are given to Ben Namakin and Patterson Shed for information on this article.



*The Environmental Club of Pohnlangas High School students and Conservation Society of Pohnpei, after a presentation by Gailliard Eliou (not in photo) of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, on the values of Pohnpei bananas and local food*

### Recipe of the Week

#### *Papaya Lumpia*

- 2 cups fish meat
- 2 cups green or unripe papaya, grated
- 1 onion
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 carrots, if desired
- 3 bell peppers, chopped, if desired
- 2 tablespoons oil
- Salt/black pepper to taste

#### Method:

1. Wash and peel the papaya. Remove the seeds.
2. Grate the papaya.
3. Peel and grate the carrots.
4. Saute the onion. Add the fish meat, and sauté until almost cooked.
5. Add the grated papaya and carrots. Stir and allow to fully cook.
6. Add bell peppers, and seasoning. Stir and remove from heat.
7. Serve while warm.

Note: For health reasons, salt should be avoided or used sparingly.

## Dollar Up Enterprises

School  
Back Packs  
~ \$1.99 ~

70 sheet  
Notebooks  
~ 88 cents ~

Adult  
Backpacks  
~ \$6.99 ~

## SPORTS

# “Boat” Edges *Ms Pakin* for Top Spot In Catch-8 Tournament and Pohnpei Teams Gear Up For Majuro All-Micronesia Tournament

The \$150 first place prize for last Saturday's Catch-8 Tournament was won by the father/son team of Alex Tretnoff Jr & Sr, which arrived at the Rumor's Bar weigh-in with five different species of fish, including a Yellowfin Tuna, Skipjack Tuna, Wahoo, a 27.5 pound Barracuda, and a Rainbow Runner. The big Barracuda proved to be the difference as Andy Musrasrik and Wescot Panuelo on *Ms Pakin*, also weighed in five species: Dogtooth Tuna, Skipjack Tuna, Barracuda, Rainbow Runner, and a one pound Giant(?) Traveller. *Boat's* five fish totaled 55.5 pounds, while *Ms Pakin's* set weighed 17 pound less, at 38.5 pounds, good enough for the \$100 second place prize. The pride of Pohnpei's Australian anglers, the *True Blue*, took the \$50 third place prize with four species caught. The other tournament boat, the *Pohnlik Special*, reported in a large number of fish, but all Skipjack.

The next Pohnpei Fishing Club Tournament is scheduled for 22 September. This is tentatively planned as a sponsored, half/day tournament, so look for more information in the next issues of the K-Press, and for posters around town.

Two teams of anglers will represent Pohnpei Fishing Club at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual All-Micronesia Tournament in Majuro, September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. These six Club members, Kumer Panuelo, Sonny Sultan, Benither Paul, Henry Paul, Alex Tretnoff, Jr, and Noel Boylan, are the top fish-point earners since last September and will travel to Majuro at the end of August to participate in this prestigious regional tournament, which a Pohnpei Team has won in five of the past six years. Teams from Guam, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and all of the other Micronesian islands have partici-



pated in the “All-Mic” in past years. Good luck to the anglers, and a special note of appreciation to Continental Micronesia Airlines for their generous support by providing three complimentary tickets for the Pohnpei anglers. – Work Hard, Fly Right, and Catch Big Fish!

## ...Surfer

continued from page 11



Allois Malfitani takes a wave “goopy foot”

everyone who has used the ocean and land for recreation or for earning a living to start thinking about a way to give something back. Working with CSP and responsible Pohnpei State Government agencies is one of the easiest and smarter ways to start. Everything we use through our lives requires maintenance and care in order to last. Our bodies, health, cars, boats, pets and family all do require it. If you don't put something back, give love and take care, things will break, get old and eventually be lost. With nature it works the same way. Some people take, take, and take, and then you can see the deterioration of the environment moving faster and faster. It's time to give back. Let's not leave it all to Pohnpei State Government and CSP. Everyone can help. Respect the environment so it can continue to provide for Pohnpei.



### INAMIKI RESTAURANT

~ Tel: (691) 320-2403/4829 ~



**HOURS**

**MONDAY-SATURDAY:**  
6:00am-3:00 pm

**Featuring:** 

Great Food  
Plate Sized, Mouth Watering Steaks  
Expanded Menu  
Cool, comfortable seating  
Fast, friendly service



**“Where Pohnpei comes to eat!”**