

The KASELEHLIE Press

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CID Investigating Possible Criminal Activity in Kosrae

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei – On October 29 the Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) released the “Review of Congress Funded Public Projects in Kosrae State” for 2005-2006. Some of the findings in the audit have been passed on to ONPA’s Compliance Investigation Division for further review. It is the job of the CID to determine whether or not laws were violated in the handling of public money and if so to make recommendations to the Department of Justice (DOJ) that charges be filed. The specific items from the review that the CID will be investigating were not specifically identified in the report.

From a review of the audit document it appears that thousands of dollars of public money were misspent, mishandled, misappropriated, or mismanaged. Whether there was theft will be for the in-

vestigators from CID to determine. Investigators from that Department are Deputized National Police Officers.

The 13th Congress overrode a Presidential veto to pass a \$2.8 million CFMS appropriation law from local, non-Compact revenues. The appropriation was to provide funding for “social and economic development projects” a term that according to a legal opinion issued by the DOJ has never been defined in FSM law.

The October 2006, DOJ legal opinion written by former staff attorney, Matthew Olmsted said the CFMS appropriation law was “arguably...defective because it fails to specify the projects for which the funds are to be used or provide sufficient guidance on how to determine what kind of project qualifies for these funds.”

The funds were allocated to the States in proportion to the number of their Congressional repre-

sentatives at a rate of \$200,000 per representative. Kosrae has two representatives so the State received \$400,000.

ONPA reviewed “a) whether appropriate processes for reviewing and selecting projects were followed for Congress of the FSM (CFMS) public projects; and; b) whether implementations of CFMS public projects were in accordance with laws and regulations.”

The ONPA audit said that when Kosrae Congress members selected public projects to fund under CFMS appropriation law, they did so without following selection standards employed by other government agencies in the region. ONPA used four standards commonly used in order to

evaluate the 34 projects that Kosrae Senators chose to fund.

59% of the funded projects had proposals without a clear description. 59% had proposals with scant detailed costs. 65% had proposals without a description of the projects’ benefits to the community. 79% had proposals with no implementation plan. 88% or 30 of the 34 projects that were funded had at least one deviation from common selection standards.

ONPA said, “regardless of how a project was selected for funding, the Financial Management Regulations (FMR) describe how public projects should be managed and implemented...because of

See “CID” on page 10

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Pohnpei State Never Signed Resolution for FSM Fuel Plan

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Peilapalap, Pohnpei – On October 31, Pohnpei Acting Attorney General Salomon Saimon called the Kaselehlie Press to tell us that contrary to what we had printed in three articles, Lt. Governor Jack Yakana never signed the Chief Executive Council’s Resolution recommending that the FSM Congress pass the law establishing an FSM Fuel Corporation.

When Congress was in the process of approving the terms of sale and

purchase of assets agreements and the fuel supply contract between the FSM Petroleum Corporation and MOMI, extensive recess conversation centered on a telephone call that reportedly said that the Chief Executive Council had “unanimously” passed a resolution urging Congress to pass the bill. Senator Dohsis Halbert and Senator Frederico Primo both expressed surprise that Lt. Governor Yakana of Pohnpei had signed the resolution. Senator Halbert went so far as to say that there must have been some kind of mistake that they would find out about later.

U Cultural Education Project



Photo by Bill Jaynes

On a rainy Saturday, November 4, dignitaries gathered to celebrate the opening of the U Cultural Education Center. The structure, which stands next to the U Municipal Building, was funded by a grant from the New Zealand Government and is intended as a gathering place where traditional knowledge can be shared and preserved. Participants have already built new traditional canoes.

Senator Primo, on the record asked what the urgency on the matter was. He said that he had seen with his own eyes that Lt. Governor Yakana signed the resolution of the CEC endorsing bill. He was likely referring to Presidential Communication 15-59 “Pohnpei has a different stand at the moment. To me, to approve this resolution, Speaker, I am sorry to say this in front of all the members—it’s just like swimming up in the current. I don’t know if I

can get there.”

President Mori in Presidential Communication 15-59 which was received by Speaker Figir’s office on the same morning that Congress passed the bill establishing an FSM Petroleum Corporation, had attached to it, resolution 2007-1-01 signed by the representatives of all four States and the President three days earlier. The resolution

See “Fuel Plan” on Page 8

Head On Collision Leads to Five Year Battle for Restitution

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

In the October 31, 2002 issue of The Kaselehlie Press, Dehline I. Manuel who worked as a reporter for the paper at that time had a byline for an article entitled "Car Crash Victim Seeks Justice". The article was written just two months after Hardy Hadley was arrested for careless driving August 14, 2002 after he slammed head on into Mario Ignacio's Nissan Presia at a dangerous curve in the road in Nahnikiwy, Sekere. Ignacio's car, for which he'd paid \$3000 was totaled. After the accident he was only able to sell it for parts for which he received \$150.

Ignacio, a Philippine National came to the Kaselehlie Press office on November 2, 2007, to discuss the issue, over five years after the first article on the subject appeared. He said that he was concerned about a lack of justice. "I don't want to sound like I'm complaining because we're not from here but," he said, "my case is going nowhere."

The five year old article re-

ported Ignacio as saying that he was told at that time "that Hadley had several accidents but had managed to escape the charges". He also claimed in the article that Hadley was arrested for careless driving but that other charges should have been filed for drunk driving and for driving without a license. He said in the 2007 interview that Hadley didn't even spend one night in jail.

Ignacio said that Hadley paid him \$500, part of which Mario used to pay Martin Jano to represent him in court. On June 29, 2007, Judge Dakio Loney of the Sokehs Municipal Court rendered a judgment in which Hadley is required to pay Ignacio \$50 bi-weekly to the sum of \$2235. He is to make the payment to Loney's secretary where Ignacio can pick it up every two weeks. Ignacio said that the judge told him that if payments weren't made on time he would issue a bench warrant for Hadley to enforce the judgment.

According to Ignacio's records which include signed receipts listed chronologically on a spreadsheet, Hadley's last payment oc-



A mechanic working for Ignacio examines the damage to his car on the day after the accident..

curred on September 12. He made five \$50 payments for a total of \$250 under the judgment before he stopped paying.

Ignacio did not say what the math clearly shows from the figures he presented. The payments that he will receive after the 88 week payment scheduled is satisfied will still fall short of the value of the car that Hadley smashed while drunk five years ago. Apparently the judgment required no interest payments and no adjustments for the inflationary value of the car were made.

Ignacio said that since the proceedings in court were all conducted in Pohnpeian including his "swearing in" as a witness he didn't know what had transpired in the court room. He said that his attorney had agreed to the arrangement.

He said that he asked the secretary from whom he was to pick up payments every two weeks about why Hadley had not been arrested for non-payment. The secretary told him that they had already "done the paper work" but that they couldn't find him.

Ignacio said he had a meeting with Judge Loney of Sokehs after the payments stopped arriving. He said that the judge told him they would have to have another hearing. Ignacio said that he had sat through nine hearings on the matter so far.

During the interview at The Kaselehlie Press, Ignacio said that he didn't want to come off as complaining but that he had known several people who had accidents that were less severe than his.

See "Crash" on Page 9

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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USPS Domestic Mail Service Returns to the FSM and RMI

Press Release of the US Embassy

In a final rule that takes effect on November 19, 2007, the U.S. Postal Service has declared that "Mail to the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia is no longer treated as international mail." This action removes all references to the RMI and FSM from the USPS International Mail Manual and restores the domestic zip codes of 96941 (for Pohnpei), 96942 (for Chuuk), 96943 (for Yap), 96944 (for Kosrae) and 96960 (for the Marshall Islands) and the two-letter USPS postal codes of FM (for the FSM) and MH (for the RMI).

The Postal Service, after high-level discussions with the FSM and RMI governments together with the U.S. Department of State, has decided to return these two countries to domestic published prices and mailing standards. This action rescinds the previous rule by the USPS which had trans-

ferred FSM and RMI mail service from Domestic to International Rates. However, the following USPS domestic mail services will not be reinstated under the new rule: USPS money orders, COD service, delivery confirmation, signature confirmation, electronic return receipt tracking of postal mail items, and guarantee of express mail service.

Relevant text from the new rule follows. "Effective November 19, 2007, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia will revert to the domestic mail classification schedule that was in effect prior to January 8, 2006, the effective date of the original article (previous rule). The application of international rates to these Freely Associated States had observable effect on the economy and business correspondence of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia. The Postal Service

had considered a number of business solutions to lessen that impact. Technological and other obstacles currently make other solutions impracticable. Therefore, to allow the governments of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia to continue to pursue appropriate long term solutions to this problem without adversely impacting the economies and the lives of their people, the Postal Service takes this step to return the parties and their people to the position they held prior to the application of the international mail schedule to them."

Citation: Federal Register, Rules



and Regulations, Vol. 71, No. 210, Wednesday, October 31, 2007 pages 61522-61533 ("Postal Service: 39 CFR Part 20, International Mail Service to the Republic of the Marshall Islands and Federated States of Micronesia Reverted to Domestic Mail Service").

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Ambassador LIU Fei Accompanied the Second Lady to Visit COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus

Embassy of the People's Republic of China

On October 25, 2007, H.E. Mme. LIU Fei, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the FSM invited the Second Lady Shra Alik to visit the faculty of Tourism & Hospitality at Pohnpei Campus, College of Micronesia-FSM.

Faculty instructors introduced to the visitors the teaching programs, explaining how the students are guided to effectively utilize local vegetables and food to cook healthy specialties and the protocols they should follow while serving guests under the instructors' personal demonstrations. Ms. Penny Weilbacher, Director of the Campus expressed her willingness to send students to provide protocol service at the receptions and parties hosted by foreign missions.

After the visit, Ambassador LIU and Second Lady Shra together with the Chinese Embassy staff enjoyed the delicious dishes made by the students.



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FSM National Police Assisting RAMSI in the Solomons

By **BUSTINANZU**
PNG Police Department

Honiara, Solomon Islands - Advisor Delincoln Norman Junior of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) National Police has been in the Solomon Islands since November 2006.

Advisor Delincoln joins police officers from the other Pacific Island countries who form the Participating Police Force (PPF) of the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) as part of the capacity development program to help rebuild the Solomon Islands Police Force (SIPF).

Soon he will be returning home at the end of his mission but the memories of working with other police officers from the region as well as local counterparts will be a lifetime experience.

"I have been with the people and loved working



Delincoln (left) with two of his local counterparts

alongside with the local police officers. It is a lovely country and the people are very friendly.

"This is my first time in such a mission and I have learnt a lot of experiences, both with the Forum country officers and the locals," he said.

He said working with people of different races and culture and their own policing skills is a unique experience.

They were in the country after a civil disorder amongst the locals in early 2000. The Solomon Islands Government (SIG) called for regional assistance to quell the tension.

Australia took the leading role in the regional assistance, with other Pacific countries including New Zealand, forming RAMSI. The intervention in 2003 by the international force saw a dramatic change in the restoration of law and order and the recovery of the



Ricky Falcam(left) and Delincoln Norman, Jr. during the SIPF Open House Day in Honiara.

thriving Solomon Islands economy.

Soon after RAMSI arrived more than 2000 firearms were confiscated and many hundreds of people including police officers were arrested with offences related to tension and corruption.

Advisor Delincoln and Contingent Commander of FSM National Police in mission Ricky Falcam form the second FSM police contingent.

Delincoln said there were three outposts that he was posted to whilst in mission in Solomon Islands.

The first one was at Gizo, a popular tourist destination in the Western Province, which was severely hit by the recent Tsunami.

"I had left for my break when the Tsunami hit Gizo. But I returned to Gizo after the tidal waves and assisted the PPF there as the local officers were traumatised by the disaster," he said.

He said many of the victims' properties including houses and gardens were damaged and they were scared to return back to their land. Instead, they went to higher ground.

He said PPF assisted them by comforting them and helped them as much as possible.

His second posting was to Isuna in the Weathercoast. This is one of the more isolated areas in Solomon Islands where PPF has established a post. It is manned by PPF officers and SIPF officers and is accessible by air but the locals use outboard motorboats to

get into the capital city of Honiara.

"All my patrols are pure walking and trekking the hills and ridges and crossing the creeks. All the villages are located along the coastline and we visited those villages by walking," he says.

This area was well-known during the tensions when a faction of the militia was operating in the region.

Delincoln's last posting was at Lata in the Temotu province. It is about four hours flight from Honiara and close to the border with Vanuatu.

He said whilst stationed there, they rescued a passing outboard motorboat loaded with women.

He said the boat had seven women who were travelling to Lata from an outer island. The boat encountered rough seas and capsized.

The women hung onto water containers and were adrift for eight hours before they were rescued.

He later returned back to Honiara to join the newly-established



Delincoln talking to locals at Isuna

Close Personal Protection team (CPP), made up of Pacific Islanders.

He says he feels comfortable with CPP with his other Pacific Islands counterparts from Fiji and Papua

New Guinea, providing security for government ministers including the Governor General and the Prime Minister.

Delincoln says it is something similar to what he does back in Palikir at Pohnpei, which is the capital of FSM.

He holds the rank of a senior constable and has served FSM national police for eight years.

About 100 officers serve the whole nation of FSM, which consists of four major island groups: Pohnpei (Ponape), Chuuk (Truk), Yap and Kosrae (Kosaie), totalling 607 islands and well over 100,000 people (2005 est.)

The islands have their own police forces who handle minor crimes like traffic and domestic matters while the national police deal with high crime like white collar and other serious crimes.

Commander Ricky Falcam, working alongside Delincoln in CPP, said he very much enjoyed working with people with different cultures and experiences in the mission.

He had nothing to say about his counterpart other than praising him for sharing his policing experiences with the local police.

"He is doing his share of work in the Solomons and received a lot of positive stories from others and it will also be sad when he leave home," he says.

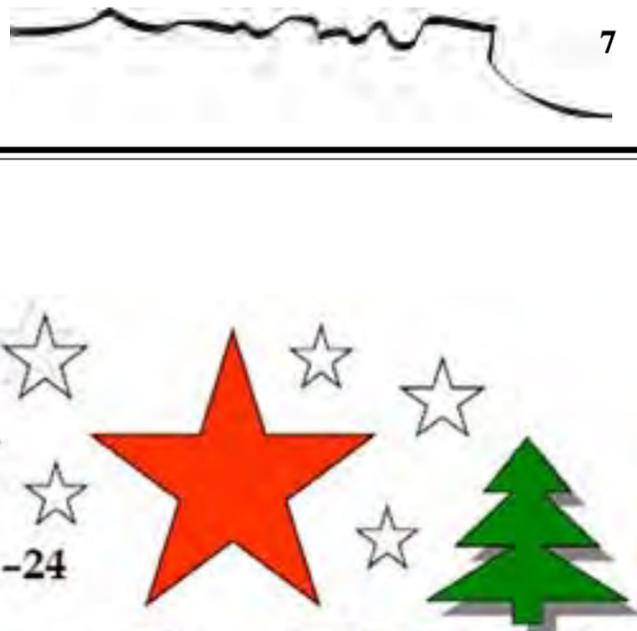
Ricky used to be the Pacific Islands Welfare Officer, a position which he held for almost eight months. This position was mainly to deal with welfare issues of the Pacific Islanders.

"The experience is good when trying to address issues. They come from different cultures and background and when you try to address their personal issues, it is very challenging and interesting as well. But we support each other and work together as a team," Ricky, a corporal with Close Protection back home says.

Ricky recently joined Delincoln in Close Personal Protection and will complete his term in mission at the end of the year.

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...Fuel Plan

continued from 1

though it did mention that the Governors had been briefed on the importance of the urgent need to update the national energy policy, it was really a resolution urging Congress to pass the President's reorganization bill. It was unanimously signed by all of the members of the CEC.

Never delivered to Congress was the resolution that said members "unanimously agree to support the initiative, and following internal review and approval, the execution thereof." It requested "the FSM Congress to favorably consider the passage of CB # 15-39 that accommodate the specific concerns of the States with respect to the divestiture provisions, and land and facility leasing arrangements." On November 5th when we asked about it the CEC Secretariat faxed a copy to the Chief Clerk nearly two months after the law had passed though each of the

resolutions said "Be it further resolved that certified copies of this Resolution be sent to the Speaker of the 15th FSM Congress."

Speaker Figir's secretary said that his office had never received a copy of any of the CEC resolutions other than the first one.

The resolution was adopted by the CEC but it was not, as the resolution claimed, unanimous. It was signed by President Mori, Governor Simina of Chuuk, Governor Weibacher of Kosrae, and Governor Anefal of Yap but it was not signed by Lt. Governor Yakana of Pohnpei.

The press release issued by the FSM Public Information Office on September 12 didn't mention that by the time the CEC adjourned, Pohnpei State still was not ready to sign on and hadn't done so.

The release said, "But up to the time immediately before the Conference, two of the states were still not ready whether they want to be part of the FSM Petroleum Cor-

poration or to join with other partners to form their own companies. In his opening remarks, President Mori said he hoped a consensus would emerge at the end of the two-day conference on whether the FSM would ultimately have the Petroleum Corporation.

"At the end of the Conference, the Council adopted several resolutions, one of which expressed support for the Petroleum Micronesia Corporation idea and called on the FSM Congress to pass the pending legislation. Before adjournment of its Second Special Session also during the first week of September, 2007, the FSM Congress passed the bill on final reading and is now readied to be signed by President Mori".

Even Speaker Nelson Pelep of Pohnpei State Legislature in his letter to Governor David that listed six reasons why Pohnpei should not sign onto the plan thought that Lt. Governor Yakana had signed the resolution. He said in the letter that the signature was based on certain assurances about the plan (See the October 3, 2007 issue of *The Kaselehle Press*).

Acting AG Saimon said Pohnpei State Leaders are still not ready to sign on to the FSM Petroleum Corporation because of the same concerns Speaker Pelep listed in his letter. Additional concerns have been raised by Governor David in a letter he sent to President Mori. Saimon said that Pohnpei's stance has not changed and Congress should not have been surprised about that. They'd been saying that they weren't happy with the plan even before it was passed by Congress.

Saimon said that the FSM Petroleum Corporation has signed a preliminary multi-million dollar loan agreement with the Bank of Guam with contingencies that must be met before the loan can be made. One

of them is that all of the States must sign the Mobil Oil of Micronesia, Inc. agreement with the FSMPC. That is something that Pohnpei may never do, at least not until their legitimate questions are answered in a way that they are able to accept.

Pending legislation in Pohnpei State would establish a Pohnpei State Petroleum Corporation. The State is looking to build its own fuel storage tanks and go into competition with MOMI for fuel supply.

According to Saimon, Pohnpei has had at least two offers from major suppliers to compete with MOMI in the State. Tan Holdings, and its fishing company, Luen Thai, is not one of the two. At one time the company was interested in supplying fuel for Pohnpei Utilities Corporation but they have changed their minds and have advised Pohnpei State to sign the MOMI agreement.

Pohnpei State has serious concerns about the problem of completely indemnifying MOMI from any responsibility for environmental cleanup. Saimon said, "Of course this is a good deal for the stockholders [of MOMI]. They won't have to pay to clean up the site but is it a good deal for us?"

He said that Pohnpei would be obligated to purchase 7,000,000 gallons of fuel each year and that if they fell below that level they could be fined \$30,000,000 by MOMI. On the other hand, if MOMI doesn't keep it agreements, he said they would be fined \$2,000.

Not mentioned in Speaker Pelep's communication is that a non-negotiable term of the contract is a forum selection clause in which MOMI, an FSM Corporation and FSM would be subject to the terms of Singapore law in the case of arbitration. Saimon said, "What does Singapore

NOTICE OF INACTIVE ACCOUNTS

Please take notice that as of June 30, 2007, the following SAVINGS and CHECKING ACCOUNTS on deposit with BANK OF GUAM are inactive, and the account-holders listed below must immediately contact their respective BANK OF GUAM Branch, otherwise, the funds contained in these accounts will be transferred to the Secretary of Finance during the month of January 2008, pursuant to 29 FSMC §106 (16) and 29 FSMC §602 and under the procedures set forth in 17 FSMC §102. Please take note that after January 2008, all inquiries pertaining to the accounts below must be directed to the Secretary of Finance.

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MEMBER FDIC



See "Fuel" on page 9

...Fuel

continued from page 8

have to do with it?" He said that arguably, Singapore has different laws and wondered why MOMI had made that clause non-negotiable.

He said that Pohnpei's representative to the FSM Fuel Task force had kept everything to himself. Saimon said the representative had documents that said, "For Your Eyes Only. What is this, a James Bond movie?" He said that the Governor knew in broad terms what was going on with the negotiations but was not privy to any of the details.

He is disappointed with the fact that the Pohnpei State Attorney General was not a part of the FSM Fuel Task Force. He said that the AG's from the other three States had been represented and he didn't know how some of the terms of the contract remained there. Per-

haps it was because both Chuuk and Yap were in a weak position for bargaining since their contracts with MOMI were nearing expiration.

He said that Governor David lost sleep over the situation. Saimon said that David very nearly signed the contract not wanting to deprive either Chuuk or Yap of fuel by his actions, but when he found out that both of the States had options his decision not to sign became firm at least until Pohnpei's concerns can be met.

He said that within the next few days Pohnpei would be asking MOMI to stick to the 1996 fuel supply agreement. He said that he was well aware that the worldwide price of oil had increased to \$100 per barrel and that it was bad timing for Pohnpei. He said that though it looks like Mobil has increased pump prices because of the world wide price of oil he thinks that Pohnpei is being "punished."

...Crash

continued from page 2

Within just a few weeks those that had caused the accidents had already ordered for the victims, a vehicle from japanesevehicles.com, the Japanese exporter that supplies a great many of the cars on Pohnpei.

Ignacio said that he was most concerned that "things like this" don't happen in the future. He considers himself very lucky. On impact his head hit the windshield with enough force to splinter the windshield but that because he was wearing a baseball cap it protected his skull just enough that he only had superficial injuries. He said, "Thank the Good Lord, I wasn't

killed...If people want to drink and die they should die themselves and not bring other people into it."

He said that the biggest problem he was worried about was the drunk drivers that still drive on Pohnpei roads. "They should do something about it!" He said that Chief Roby, five years ago told him that several fatal car accidents had occurred at the curve in Sekere. Ignacio said that the State should do something about that too, "They could put a sign saying to slow down or maybe a 'dangerous curve' sign or something but they have done nothing until now."

He said, "Justice should be done so this doesn't keep happening."

Funny Exam Answers

Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments. He died before he ever reached Canada.

In midevil times most people were alliterate. The greatest writer of the futile ages was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verses and also wrote literature.

Beethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf he wrote loud music. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Beethoven expired in 1827 and later died for this.

The sun never set on the British Empire because the British Empire is in the East and the sun sets in the West.

Gravity was invented by Issac Walton. It is chiefly noticeable in the autumn when the apples are falling off the trees.

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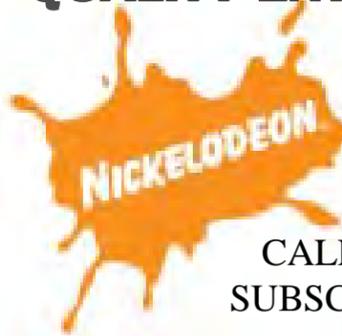
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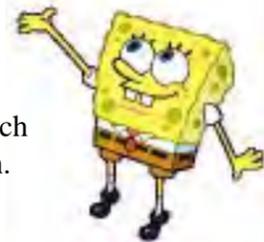
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...CID

continued from page 1

non-compliance with FMR, there is little assurance that project funds were safeguarded and properly accounted. As a result, we noted some instances where project funds were mismanaged and misused.”

Several problems were mentioned as headings in the audit: mismanaged funds, overpriced purchases, misappropriated project funds, questionable contracts, mismanaged receipt and payment, and improper disbursement. Project Control Documents (PCD's) were not clear or complete. Under each heading at least one example of a particular project was described as an illustration.

ONPA pointed out that the sub-allottee of 29 of 34 of the total projects was the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Customs and Tax Administration who was already stretched too thin as the sub-allottee for the majority of 161 public projects. Though the duties of administering the projects were assigned to him in addition to his regular duties he was provided no additional staff members. ONPA suggested that Congress should consider making the State Governor the allottee of all CFMS public projects since the Governor's office has the resources to ensure adequate oversight and implementation of CFMS public projects.

As Appendix Three ONPA listed some of the details of several projects with significant exceptions.

Listed first was a project of the

Kosrae Department of Education to procure classroom furniture at a projected cost of over \$300,000. Congress funded \$50,000 of that amount. The winning bidder was given the “contract” because of a parts warranty they offered. The bid \$230,757 higher than the lowest bid. ONPA said the contracting process was unfair because the warranty was not solicited by Kosrae DOE. Other bidders were not given the opportunity to offer a warranty for their products.

The Purchasing and Contracts Act of FSM Law requires that bid winners be publicly announced yet the department kept the award decision private. Even losing bidders were not informed of the award decision.

Instead of a signed contract as required for purchases over \$50,000, an open purchase order was used that did not specify unit prices or quantities ordered. An inspection and inventory was not performed to be certain that the vendor had delivered what they said they had. DOE was over billed and paid \$38,548 more than the cost of the items delivered.

In October 2005, \$90,000 was given to the Kosrae Utility Authority. They deposited the money into their cash account where it has been earning no interest. KUA was to use the money to extend electrical power to the remote village of Walung. The project has been stalled because the road to Walung needs to be repaired and improved before the utility can move its heavy machinery into the area. Funds to improve the road are not currently available. No one knows how long it will be until the project can be completed.

The Lelu Municipal Government rents out its heavy equipment and operators in order to generate revenue. CFMS gave them \$28,800 for existing farm road maintenance. \$8000 of that was spent on fuel, oil and lubricants, and equipment parts. Fuel was stored in bulk barrel drums without delivery gauges. ONPA says that the municipality did not account for fuel and oil consumed on separate job orders. As a result there was no way to determine if the consumables were used to do farm road work as agreed or if the FSM Government paid for their rental business.

Lelu completed 40 unrelated job orders that earned \$5,020 in assessed rental fees in the same period of time that they performed three job orders for the farm road project. ONPA said in the audit that they don't believe that the money was used as it was appropriated.

Lelu also received a \$10,000 appropriation for “technical, legal, or professional services”. At the end of two years when no contractual services were used the mayor requested a change to the Project Control Document so that the Municipality could use the money to pay for six job orders for \$500 each to pay 50 workers to work for 4 hours each at \$2.50 per hour to cleanup the roadside. All six of the job orders were issued on the same day and did not specify a timeframe for completion, nor did they say where the work was to be performed.

Tafunsak Municipality was given \$15,000 to use for existing farm road improvement. Instead, the mayor hired a contractor to build a new farm road on private land,

“remote from the island's main paved road and away from populated areas of Tafunsak proper.” The \$10,000 contract for the road which was signed by the FSM Attorney General's Office included no details about the road. It didn't even state the road's location but it did specify that the contractor was to be paid \$10,000 for construction of a farm road. The contract was awarded without going to bid. The contractor was selected by the mayor.

There were no records of any easement that would allow public access to the road built on private land.

For the project, the mayor purchased \$3500 worth of landfill for the road's sub-base from a quarry owned by a member of the municipal council when it could have been purchased from another quarry for \$2100 less than was paid. Since there were no listed specifications for the road the auditor could not determine whether or not the quantity of landfill purchased was appropriate.

Malem Municipality received \$14,000 to acquire land for a playground project. The mayor's request to Congress only specified the amount of money to be spent on the purchase but contained no details as to where the land was located, the size of the properties or basis for the amount of money to be spent on the land.

Property acquisition regulations require that property values be determined before negotiations for land purchases are initiated. Property values in zone 51 in Malem are valued at between

See “Kosrae” on Page 18

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Micronesian Youth Leaders Visit Japan

UPF Press Release

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) recently sponsored a Youth Leadership Seminar in Hiroshima, Japan, for twenty leaders under the theme, "Universal Values and Lasting Peace: Towards Good Role Models for Micronesian Youth Leaders in the 21st Century"

The seminar covered such topics as: UPF's Global Vision for Peace and Current Activities, Character Education (including Education on HIV/AIDS and Drug Addiction, Relationship Education and The Importance of Family), Underlying Principles of UPF, Core Values for Leadership and The Importance of Goal-setting.

Other youth leaders from Hiroshima University joined the group for special sessions and also for the tour of sights of interest in Hiroshima.

The tour included visiting the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Peace Park, an area previously devastated by the atomic bomb. The group also visited Hiroshima Castle and the Maritime Museum.

There was also time for shopping in specialist shops and department stores in downtown Hiroshima. An

opportunity for creating a Friendship Association was made so that Japanese and Micronesian Youth Leaders could have ongoing contact and support. Other events included walks along the seaside and casual walks through the interesting Kure Village. Participants had a first hand experience of Japanese culture, food and language.

Through the sometimes deep and moving experiences of the whole event, participants were inspired to make their own resolution, based on the acceptance of the previous resolution of Traditional Leaders of Micronesia which was made in 2006.

The Traditional Leaders resolved the following: To Place God as our First Priority, To set the Highest Personal Example, To live for the Sake of Others, To Strengthen Family Life, To Educate and Train our Young People in Purity, Virtue and Public Service, To Promote Love for our Nation and for Nature, To promote Love and Peace in the World and Transcending all the Barriers that have Divided People in the past, To Extend Thanks and Gratitude to the Founders.

The Micronesian Youth Leader-



ship added their own extension to this resolution, which was unanimously agreed upon and included the following: That young people are valuable resources for our respective states and the nation, and taking into account the challenges facing the young people of the FSM; and, recognizing the escalating problems faced by young people of our states and country in the areas of education, employment, sexual and reproductive health, mental health and suicide, law-breaking, alcohol and drug abuse, family, cultural, religious differences and environmental health; and, being appreciative of the efforts made by the Universal Peace Federation in supporting and funding of the Youth Leadership Seminar in Hiroshima; and, rec-

ognizing the need to join together in implementing this resolution and to fulfill its objectives, we wish to live together in peace and harmony, to preserve the heritage of our past, and to protect the promise of the future; and recognizing and continuing to sustain our traditional role and exercises in our community for our future generations. The document was agreed and signed by all participants.

Everyone returned home with a new hope to work in their communities and assist the youth to meet the challenges before them. With ongoing support from UPF, this hope can be sustained and we will see the real fruits of the work of Father Moon and his dynamic organization.

Position Available

Private employer is looking for a cook, 20-40 hours per week, varied schedule including some evening and weekend work. Must have a proven record of professional, documented food preparation experience, minimum five years experience.

Employment with high ranking officials is desirable although not absolutely necessary. Experience as the head chef in a hotel or restaurant is also desirable. Incumbent should have experience in preparation of food for both large receptions and small formal lunches and dinners, and be able to prepare a wide range of cuisine.

Jobholder is expected to plan weekly menus, shop for supplies independently, ensure attractive presentation of food and service, and keep the kitchen and cooking equipment clean and organized.

A good working knowledge of English is required. Honesty, integrity, cleanliness, reliability and confidentiality are required.

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest and resume to: "Application for Cook", P.O. Box 1286, Pohnpei, FM 96941.



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B N N

By Bermin F. Weillbacher

bnn_fsm@yahoo.com

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

On your mark...set...run off...

There are winners and losers in any election. Congratulations to the winners of the Pohnpei State General Election of November 13, 2007. For those who did not make it, the end result was the product of your work and it could be a lesson learned. Accept it and go on to live your life.

And to those who have to go over the election again, like in the run off,

use the media to advertise your platform. The forums, billboards, banners, etc, were sophisticated but were not enough.

There are other media available—AM/FM radio and television

Say what?

“FSM Congress Bill No. 15-63 (relating to the authorization of the \$4

million grant from the People’s Republic of China for “emergency government reforms”). Just what does “Emergency government reform” mean?” Some say this is China’s help to those states that are seriously doing reforms, like Kosrae State. But there are other opinions that say that by constitutional mandate, all monies received from foreign grants go to the Congress and they can do what they want with it, like giving it to Chuuk, a State in financial trouble that is reportedly not very serious about reform.

Jesus!!! Are we in Abugabi in Iraq????

In this instance, I note that the person giving the suspension order is not the immediate supervisor. That could spell trouble for management.

The Da Vinci Code? Only in Pohnpei...

Every now and then, at my favorite sakau bar, someone will ask me if I know the meaning of the code word “Kadorodo 3 Kisin uht en.” Its literal meaning is, of course, “Small Banana.” But what is the code? Anyone care to help me break it?

Temporary assistance can be really ‘temporary’ in these islands.

.... Would you believe that back in 1992, the State Government gave some land slide victims temporary government housing while it built more livable homes for them and some of those victims are still in the ‘TEMPORARY’ government houses???? That was back in the early 90’s. This is past mid 2000’s!!

From my experience of over 20 years in public service...:

Even TDY needs documentation...

Some FSM employees aren’t too happy about their being shuffled around without proper Merit System backing. True, it’s human nature to resist change. But if management tasks you to do something that is not within your job description and such task is on an indefinite period, as in TDY or Temporary Duty, management had better justify such move and officiate it with such things as personnel actions, job descriptions and new pay level that reflect the new assignment.

Adverse action...

One FSM employee I know has been suspended for trying to preserve her dignity and due process by asking management to document and justify its demand for action by staff and in failing to obtain same, brought her most trusted friends to sit in as 3rd party witnesses to witness the goings on in the department where she claims to have been “..constantly scolded, belittled, demeaned, insulted, defamed, threatened, harassed, and terrorized...

I kin rong sang nan wedei en sakau lepin kahs me kosoia, “Kadorodo 3 Kisin Uht.” Ia weweh? Kom kak sawas oh kawewehdohng ie?

Resident aliens fishing without permit?

And I picked up a report that some alien residents are out fishing and selling our fish from our waters—all without fishing permits that NORMA issues to foreign fishing vessels. Reminds me of the joke that said, “Why you come to my country to eat my mother?”

Back door to USA?

Now that the aliens have come into the picture, I am picking up vibes that the FSM is still a back door to smuggle aliens to the United States. Presently all aliens that travel to the FSM and passing through the US(Guam) must obtain a US transit visa before departure. But what if the alien traveler arrived the FSM via sea transport that need not pass thru Guam? Remember Enrico Calderon’s scam?

Out to kill it?

Remember the cancer coalition mentioned in an earlier column? Well it seems there is someone in power who wants it to fail and therefore fall under his control—not the NGO. The State Coalitions are unanimous in asking for certain functions to be maintained at the national level but the powers that be is saying, in essence, “I am in charge here so you’d better live with it.” Unbelievable what some people will do to retain power.

**ANNOUNCEMENT
Land for Sale**

Type: Fee Simple/Parcel No.073-E-03

Area: 39,624 square meters

Municipality: Rohi, Kitti

State: Pohnpei

Parcel no. 073-E-03 is located in Rohi, Kitti, approximately 40 – 45 minutes from Kolonia and a 10 minute drive to PATS High School. The land is located alongside the circumferential road and electricity is in close proximity. It is an agricultural land and considered very fertile for any type of plantation.

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FSMDB will accept serious offers for purchase of the entire parcel or portions of the parcel.

Asking Price \$72,000

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Call Linda Carl during business hours at the phone number below to arrange a tour of the facilities



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Letters to the Editor

Disappointed in Court

Dear Editor,

Does the Court have the right to dictate my Constitutional right to vote by telling me who to vote for? Is it really the intention of our beloved framers of the Constitution that the Government has the right to force me to vote for someone I would rather not? This is how I understand the ruling of the Pohnpei Supreme Court when it ruled that single voting is in violation of the Constitution and shall be treated as null and void.

My problem with the ruling is that the right I hold so dearly is open to invasion by the government through force. The concept of a forced vote is the last thing I believe the framers had in mind. Why in the world would you throw away my vote if I only wanted to vote for one candidate for the Legislature, say if I am from Kittu or from Nett?

The apportionment of the number of candidates for each municipality does not mean that because one municipality has four candidates, voters

must vote for all four. The apportionment was made to make sure that those municipalities with larger populations are fully represented according to their population.

This has nothing to do with voting rights. Yes, you are allowed to vote for all four and no more but, to say that I cannot vote for less than four is mind boggling and challenges one's inalienable right to choose and vote.

I have every respect for the Court but, I absolutely do not agree with its ruling.

Not one individual could admit publicly that single voting is right. I personally do not like it. However, one of the key components of a democratic system is the sacred right to vote freely of one's own choosing.

I certainly hope that the decision is struck down by a higher court as null and void.

Sincerely,
Mason Albert

What is A.A.?

Alcoholics Anonymous is a voluntary worldwide fellowship of men and women from all walks of life who meet together to attain and maintain sobriety. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership.

Who May Attend Meetings?

Anyone may attend open meetings of AA. They usually consist of talks by a leader and two or three speakers who share experience as it relates to their alcoholism and their recovery in AA. Some meetings are held for the specific purpose of informing the non-alcoholic public about AA. Doctors, members of the clergy, and public officials are invited. Closed discussion meetings are for alcoholics only.

What is Alcoholism?

Remember that alcoholism is a progressive disease. Take it seriously, even if you feel you are only in the early stages of the illness. Alcoholism kills people. If you are an alcoholic, and if you continue to drink, in time you will get worse.

Anonymous, What is Anonymity?

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of AA. It disciplines the fellow-

ship to govern itself by principles rather than personalities. We are a society of peers. We strive to make known our program of recovery, not individuals who participate in the program. Anonymity in the public media is assurance to all AA's especially new comers, that their AA membership will not be disclosed.

What AA is not

We are not reformers, and we are not allied with any group, cause, or religious denomination. We have no wish to dry up the world. We do not recruit new members, but we do welcome them. We do not impose our experience with problem drinking on others, but we do share it when we are asked to do so. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Alcoholics Anonymous

[Editor's note: We normally will not allow anonymity for Letters to the Editor. Because of the above stated principles of Alcoholics Anonymous and the nature of the letter we have opted to allow anonymity in this one case. All of the information above is directly quoted from Alcoholics Anonymous literature.]

APAFS Viewpoint

Editor,

I would like to share with your readers something of a recent valuable experience I had. Many of our region's boards have been a member of the Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies. This non-profit organization exists through the hard work of a number of individuals in our region who have been bringing together board members of retirement funds, social security funds, and a variety of public and private trusts and organizations entrusted with the guardianship of other people's investments and funds.

APAFS was launched in 1999 with the idea of bringing investment and fiduciary experts to our region so that board members in our region could gather and learn from them. This approach seemed more beneficial from a cost and value perspective versus each fund sending its board members to the U.S. mainland to meet with a limited number of people and discuss a limited number of investment options.

Additionally and perhaps more importantly, the annual Pacific Region Investment Conference allows speakers to tailor their presentations to our region, rather than the U.S. mainland perspective. APAFS itself decides the location of the conference, which has been variously held in different locations, including Guam, Saipan and Palau.

The approximately 300 attendees at this year's conference were exposed to representatives of investment banks and houses, fund managers and money managers - a high caliber of speaker. Because the conference was in Manila, it also drew speakers from such locations as Hong Kong and Singapore, as well as from as far away as New Zealand. Many of us were able to speak with individuals whose level of fiduciary expertise is far beyond our own, and who were willing to answer a multitude of questions concerning the investment strategies of boards in Micronesia. The conference in Manila kept us occupied for its duration, with back-to-back presentations and luncheon speakers.

Any organization or individual may attend the conference. Besides public and private board members, attendees also included graduate students and the general public - all seeking the wisdom of the same financial experts. Professional attendees such as attorneys and accountants accumulate continuing education credits, also arranged by the association. A number of Philippines media organizations, regional and international ones such as the Asian Wall Street Journal and Reuters also took the opportunity to interview the expert speakers at the conference.

continued on next page



\$200 REWARD

for Stolen Lap-top Computer

A reward of \$200 is offered for information leading to the return of a MPC lap-top computer model "Transport" T2400/Serial Number 429900-001 that is the property of the Tuna Commission.

This lap-top computer was stolen from 103 Ahi Court, Kolonia (new houses behind the Cinema) on the evening of Sunday 4th November 2007.

Any person who may have seen something related to this robbery, or has knowledge of who may have committed it, or knows the whereabouts of this computer, should contact the Tuna Commission on 320 1992.

All information provided will be kept confidential.

KPress Perspective

‘Na, Na, Na, I Can’t Hear You!’

For musicians like Susan Tedeschi who opened a benefit concert featuring the Rolling Stones in Los Angeles on February 6, 2003 during the “40 Licks Tour”, the issue of Global Warming can make fans feel good. Speaking out, singing out in the issue can help to boost a musician’s career. A string of musicians have done benefits to raise awareness of the issue including U2’s Bono.

According to an excellent article, five times longer than this one that appeared in the June 20, 2007 issue of Rolling Stone Magazine (no relation to the aging rockers above) entitled “The Secret Campaign of President Bush’s Administration to Deny Global Warming” written by Tim Dickinson, some people in the US Government have also built careers on the issue. They are professional deniers of the existence of Global Warming. They apparently are being paid well for the job they are doing.

It must be a tough job, the one that John Connaughton has as head of the White House’s Council on Environmental Quality. I know nothing about the man other than what I read in Dickinson’s article but from the description he reminded me of the lead character in the movie “Thank You for Smoking” whose job it was to spin news of the health damages of tobacco on behalf of the big tobacco industry and for most of the same reasons. Money is being made and that industry doesn’t want to see the supply cut off just because of a few deaths or in the case of the oil industry, a few more hurricanes and typhoons per year, or a few islands sinking beneath the waves.

To be fair, American tobacco farm-

ers didn’t know, when indigenous Americans taught them how to grow it that their products would one day end up killing billions of people. It was killing them then too but the average life expectancy was quite short already and it probably wasn’t as obvious as it is today. Really it has only been in my life time that the facts that have big tobacco corporations petrified started to come out. I remember as a kid watching the Dean Martin “Celebrity Roast” television shows and the cloud of smoke that constantly curled around Dean’s head. That doesn’t happen today.

In the same way, when the inventors of the automobile were tinkering around in their home workshops they probably never thought about the fact that one day in Los Angeles and other places their product would contribute to a new segment on the news, the daily air quality report telling us exactly how much crud we’re going to suck into our bodies on that day. Did Henry Ford think, “Because of my assembly line, wars will be fought, and climates will change.” No! He more likely thought, “I’m not making cars. I’m printing money, lots and lots of money!”

And the dough has flowed from both industries since each one first began. In the oil industry the amount of money is on the level of a great obscenity. Just one oil company, I am told, generates more revenue in one week than the FSM received from the US under the first Compact of Free Association in twenty years. Nice work if you can get it and they’ve got it in spades. They, understandably, want to keep it.

I’m not saying that oil companies

...APAFAS

continued from page 14

The Financial Executives Association of the Philippines, the Philippines Stock Exchange and the Chartered Financial Analyst Society of the Philippines saw fit to associate themselves with the conference. I took the opportunity to tell members of those organizations something about our islands. I hope that they will now come and visit us.

APAFS once again held a multinational college competition with students representing all of Micronesia. Continental Micronesia graciously flew the student winners to the conference and offered conference attendees significant fare discounts. Frankly, I don’t know how the association keeps the cost of attendance so low, as similar mainland conferences run several times more to attend.

In addition, several dignitaries were

asked to represent APAFS and Micronesia at the bell ringing at the opening of the Philippines Stock Exchange the day before the conference. I am humbled that the group from Micronesia was actually pictured on the front page of a leading business newspaper in the Philippines.

As Chairman of APAFS, I am honored to be among our region’s trustees who continue to find value and service in our respective roles as fiduciaries, often in the midst of difficult challenges and controversy. I am further humbled by the new member faces in APAFS, who have become interested through our work in the islands. For those who are interested, more information can be found on www.apafs.org.

Gerard A. Cruz
Chairman
Asia Pacific Association
for Fiduciary Studies

shouldn’t make a profit or that we should take it away from them. I’m merely pointing out that the industry has a strong motivation to act like a selfish child and all indicators are that the US Government is enabling the spoiled child mentality of the oil industry, especially if Dickinson’s article is correct.

Someone told me recently that his wife, who had not been to her home island in Chuuk in a long time visited there and was shocked at what she found. In a situation of high ocean swells that wash over an island it might be expected that the first food crop to disappear would be taro since taro patches are often at or below sea level. That had happened. The taro had been nearly wiped out. She also found that nearly all of the rest of the food crops on her atoll island have been poisoned by salt water and are dying. Though resident islanders have always been able to subsist on what the land and the sea provided they recently had to accept a large shipment of food charitably given in order to survive.

I can’t personally afford to go to the island to verify it with my own eyes but with news of this type circulating daily throughout the Pacific Island countries it would not surprise me in the least. Just a couple of weeks ago I received a news item that said that eight islands in Papua New Guinea are just gone, vanished; washed away. I’ve sat with Ben Namakin of the Conservation Society many times, heard his stories and seen his pictures of Kiribas, his native home. I’ve seen the evidence he has collected to show that Kiribas is well and truly sinking.

Articles that talk about the FEMA relief in Chuuk for six islands that have suffered from drought talk about the effects El Nino, which is interesting to me specifically because of a COM Forum Lecture I went to several months ago that said that a small La Nina seems to be on its way. For those who aren’t aware, El Nino has a warming and drying out effect on the weather in the Pacific Islands while La Nina creates a colder, wetter season. One of the islands that FEMA is assisting had a wave wash over it.

I can’t prove the voracity (the truth) of information I’ve received that said that the FEMA representatives working in Chuuk are not allowed to mention the term, “Global Warming” but it would not surprise me in the least. I did an internet search on the issue and found an article from a reputable source that reported on an internal memo of the Department of the Interior that essentially said that scientist



Vice President Dick Cheney looks on while U.S. President George W. Bush speaks during an alternative fueled vehicles event on the south lawn of the White House, March 26, 2007 in Washington DC. Photo: Wilson / Getty

spokesmen representing the U.S. must be cleared to speak for the U.S. and that clearance meant that they would not mention the term “Global Warming” when talking about a possible extinction of Polar Bears due to the disappearance of their habitat.

The article by Mr. Dickinson points out numerous cases where the US has acted to systematically deny global warming. I am not anti-American and am not trying to be subversive. I believe that the U.S. Government has done a great deal of good in many places and in many ways, most especially in the FSM. Not all of our Micronesian readers agree with that assessment and I can certainly understand that especially after I read Mr. Dickinson’s article in *The Rolling Stone*.

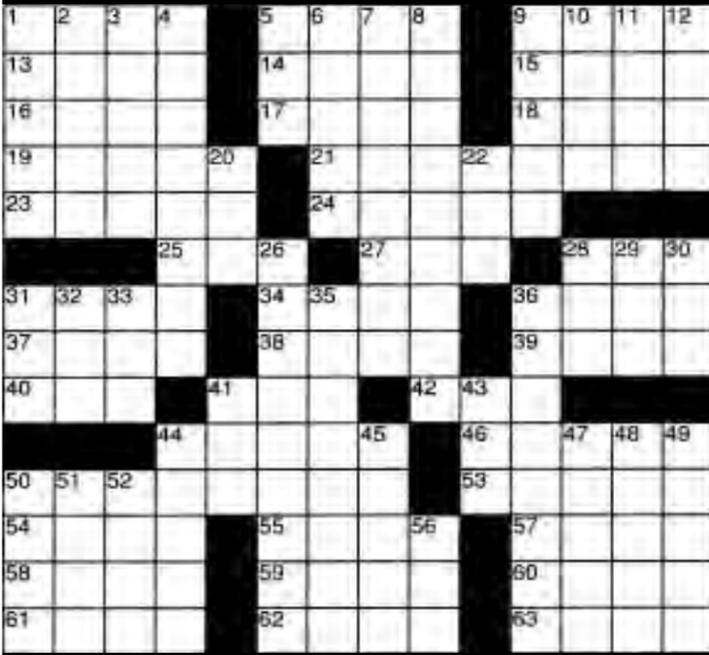
The problem, of course is that if the White House said to the American public, “Industry (not just the petroleum industry) might be causing (not “is” but “might”, whatever the definition of “is” is) climate change,” they would have to do something very difficult and drastic very quickly. It’s easier to put their collective fingers in their ears, bob their head back and forth, and yell, “na, na, na, na, I can’t hear you!”

If there was real justice in the world, the people of the FSM, Papua New Guinea, and all of the other Pacific Islands that, I would venture to say most Americans have never heard of or at least rarely think about would not have to pay by losing their islands, their homes so that big corporations like the oil industry can continue to ride the money train.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

[Note: If you are an internet user you can find a link to the article on our website at www.kpress.info. Follow the web links tab and then on to the “news” section where you will find a link to the article.]

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

ACROSS

- 1. Knight's weapon
- 5. Male tykes
- 9. _____ the hogs
- 13. Press a suit
- 14. Cooperate in a crime
- 15. Busy place
- 16. Tuna treat
- 17. Engine's happy sound
- 18. So be it!
- 19. Emcee's speech
- 21. Net draggers
- 23. _____ the joint (spied on)
- 24. Vision
- 25. Throw in
- 27. Conceit
- 28. Unit of homework?
- 31. Like Felix Unger
- 34. Nobleman
- 36. Sport where horses aren't in water
- 37. Part of the eye
- 38. Run away
- 39. Took out a loan

So Be It!

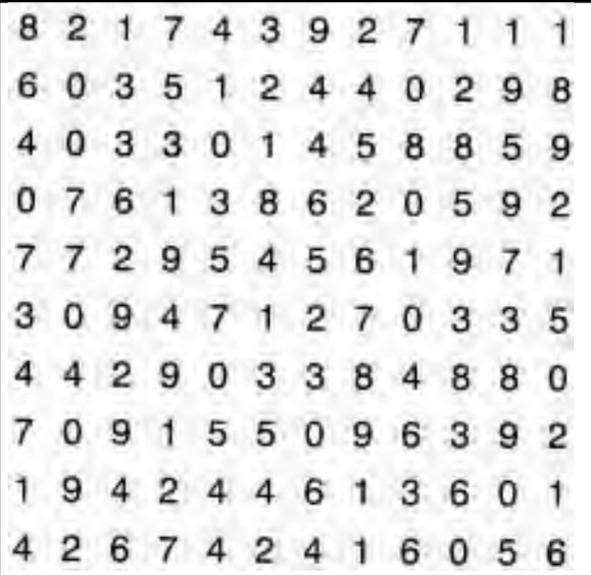
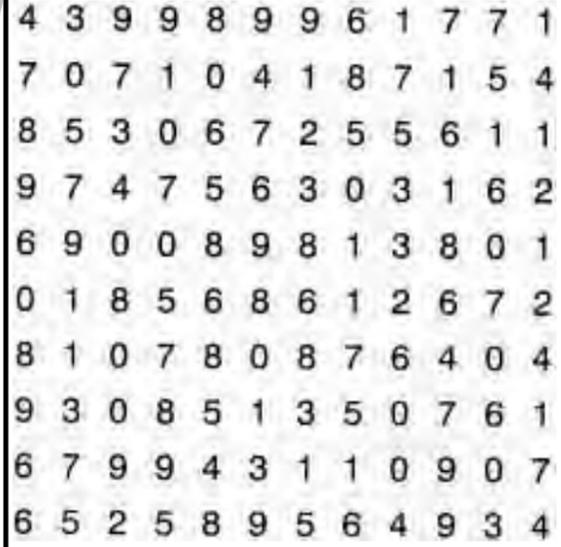
- 7. Rump
- 8. One not in the lead
- 9. Commandment word
- 10. Counterpart to 46 Across
- 11. Completed
- 12. Writing utensils
- 20. Peculiar
- 22. Owl's question?
- 26. Took out of the freezer
- 28. Take a trailer
- 29. José's hurry
- 30. Show you agree
- 31. _____ it in the bud
- 32. Distinctive period
- 33. Not do well
- 35. Kind of tuna
- 36. Strong
- 41. Galena, for one
- 43. Experienced
- 47. Mickey _____
- 48. When it started
- 49. Requirements
- 50. Select coupons
- 51. Mine and yours
- 52. Big boats
- 56. Parking _____
- 44. Hallowed
- 45. Condescend

SOLVE THESE PUZZLES BY SEEKING NUMBERS INSTEAD OF LETTERS.

Puzzle #
1

- | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 47835 | 20158 | 74015 |
| 10586 | 58956 | 40800 | 78885 |
| 15660 | 60457 | 45868 | |
| 18057 | 64799 | 46780 | |

- 09400
- 67994
- 69989



Puzzle #
2

- 03304
- 07217
- 11987
- 20077
- 24584
- 24762
- 33629
- 34924
- 34962
- 39054
- 39315
- 50216
- 52821
- 57584

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email: ahillyer@mail.fm

Why Should I Go To Church?

"I don't need to go to church to live a moral life." "I don't go to church anymore because of all the hypocrites," "Church is so boring, they're going to have to jazz it up if they want me to come." These are all different things people say regarding church attendance. I am sure you could come up with a list of a hundred or so more excuses people give for not attending church. However, it is extremely important to attend church services. Let us examine a few of reasons why we should attend church.

At the outset, I should say that the word "church" is never used in the Bible the way we commonly use it. The word "church" is translated from the Greek word, "ecclesia." This word means "the called out." From this we see that the church is not a building, nor is it the time when Christians gather together on the first day of the week. It is instead the Christians themselves. The word the Bible uses to discuss the worship of the church is "assembling" (Hebrews 10:25).

The first reason to attend the assembling faithfully is that God commands it. We see this by example and by direct command. In Acts 20:7 Luke records, "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight." The day that these early Christians came together was no coincidence. For in 1st Corinthians 16:1,2, Paul commanded that the church take up a collection "on the first day of every week." Why take up the collection on that day? Because, that is the day when the early Christians came together. In Hebrews 10:25 the Hebrews writer says "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, but exhorting one another and so much the more as you see the day approaching." In this verse, we see that it is a violation of a command to quit attending

the worship assembling. The fact that this is a command is a good reason to attend, however, it is not the best reason, as we will see in just a few moments.

Another reason to attend the worship assembling is that it is good for you. I personally enjoy going to worship, however, I also enjoy eating broccoli, and both are good for me. In worship we pray together as a family of believers (Acts 4:24). There is that "chimney corner Scripture" which states, "the family that prays together stays together." It is true that I cannot make it to heaven without my Christian family encouraging and helping me from time to time. Missing the worship service would mean missing out on this time. Also the Bible tells us that we should sing songs when we come together (Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19,20). Even if the singing is not good, it has several benefits: teaching, encouraging and exhorting. All three of those are good for me. Also at worship I am fed with the Spiritual food of God's word (Acts 20:7). Most people that I know that don't attend worship are not usually wearing the pages out on their Bibles. By going to worship I benefit in that my soul is fed with the only thing that can keep it going. Also in the weekly observance of the Lord's Supper (1st Corinthians 11:20-29), I am given an opportunity to reflect on what the Lord's death means to me. This is by far one of the most beneficial aspects of worship. Finally, there is that collection (1st Corinthians 16:1,2). Charity is good for the soul. When I give on the first day of the week (as I am commanded to) I show God that I love, trust and appreciate Him. The contribution where I attend has been used several times to help people I care deeply about. What if I had never been there to be a part of that? Yes, attending the worship assembling is good for you, however, this too is not the best reason to attend worship.

The best reason to attend worship is found in John 4:23. In this verse Jesus says, "The time is coming and now is when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him." The truth is that God wants us to worship Him. He has given us the hope of Heaven and His Son because of His love for us. When we worship Him the way He wants (in spirit and in truth), we are saying, "thank you and I love you too."

Yes there are many excuses people give for not attending worship, however, there are many much better reasons to attend worship. Let us commit to showing our Heavenly Father that we love Him by worshipping Him the way He wishes us to do.

Scott Shanahan

| Tide Table November 14 - 27, 2007 | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | POHNPEI, KOSRAE | | CHUUK | |
| Wednesday | 14 Wed 04:43AM 2.5 09:49AM 1.4 04:57PM 4.4 | 21 Wed 12:17AM 3.4 06:31AM 1.3 01:05PM 4.0 07:26PM 1.4 | 14 Wed 02:23AM 0.1 06:55AM -0.2 03:41PM 2.1 | 21 Wed 05:49AM 0.2 01:09PM 1.6 08:06PM 0.3 |
| Thursday | 15 Thu 12:16AM 1.4 05:21AM 2.3 10:09AM 1.6 05:33PM 4.2 | 22 Thu 01:09AM 3.4 07:04AM 1.1 01:38PM 4.4 08:11PM 1.1 | 15 Thu 06:52AM -0.2 04:09PM 2.0 | 22 Thu 12:46AM 0.7 05:49AM 0.2 01:14PM 1.9 08:48PM 0.0 |
| Friday | 16 Fri 01:15AM 1.6 06:21AM 2.2 10:27AM 1.9 06:19PM 3.9 | 23 Fri 01:54AM 3.3 07:36AM 1.0 02:12PM 4.8 08:55PM 0.8 | 16 Fri 06:42AM -0.2 04:38PM 1.9 | 23 Fri 01:42AM 0.5 05:48AM 0.2 01:31PM 2.2 09:33PM -0.3 |
| Saturday | 17 Sat 02:41AM 1.7 07:33PM 3.6 | 24 Sat 02:36AM 3.2 08:08AM 0.9 02:48PM 5.0 09:38PM 0.6 | 17 Sat 06:23AM -0.2 05:05PM 1.6 | 24 Sat 02:31AM 0.2 05:46AM 0.1 01:54PM 2.4 10:22PM -0.4 |
| Sunday | 18 Sun 04:14AM 1.7 11:59AM 2.6 02:28PM 2.5 09:30PM 3.4 | 25 Sun 03:17AM 3.0 08:41AM 0.9 03:26PM 5.1 10:22PM 0.6 | 18 Sun 06:04AM -0.1 04:57PM 1.4 | 25 Sun 03:14AM 0.0 05:41AM -0.1 02:22PM 2.6 11:17PM -0.5 |
| Monday | 19 Mon 05:14AM 1.5 12:07PM 3.1 05:24PM 2.3 11:10PM 3.3 | 26 Mon 03:58AM 2.8 09:13AM 1.0 04:04PM 5.0 11:08PM 0.7 | 19 Mon 05:54AM 0.0 02:28PM 1.2 07:07PM 1.0 09:52PM 1.1 | 26 Mon 02:52PM 2.6 |
| Tuesday | 20 Tue 05:55AM 1.4 12:34PM 3.5 06:35PM 1.9 | 27 Tue 04:40AM 2.6 09:45AM 1.1 04:43PM 4.8 11:55PM 0.8 | 20 Tue 05:50AM 0.1 01:26PM 1.3 07:29PM 0.7 11:37PM 0.9 | 27 Tue 12:27AM -0.5 03:22PM 2.5 |

ISLAM
A Misunderstood Religion

Islam teaches:
Peace, Love, Harmony,
Unity of mankind, Brotherhood,

**LOVE FOR ALL -
HATRED FOR NONE**

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1477 W. 8th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11204 U.S.A.



...Kosrae

continued from page 8

\$2.00 and \$2.50 per square meter, a figure that was verified by ONPA with the Kosrae State Audit Office. The mayor paid \$9,000 to one land owner, \$10.99 per square meter for 819 square meters of land. He paid \$5,000, \$18.32 per square meter for a 273 square meter parcel of land belonging to the Chairman of the Malem Municipal Council.

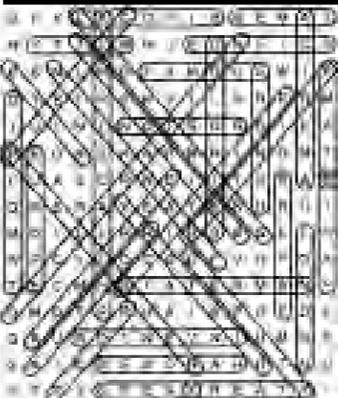
The manager of Utwe/Walung Marine Park received an appropriation for renovation and improvement of the park. The project request said that \$1420 would be spent for labor and that materials would cost \$7,235. Congress funded \$6500 of the project. Actual expenditures amounted to \$4,500 for labor, three times the requested amount and \$1,783 for materials, 25% of the amount proposed for the project.

The park manager hired a contractor to renovate three picnic huts, one traditional hut and to provide general maintenance. He purchased the materials himself. ONPA could only substantiate that \$144 worth plywood and \$285 worth of lumber had actually been purchased.

The audit document said that there is a dispute between the Park manager and the contractor over payments received for work performed. ONPA, without saying so seems to be saying that money may not have gone where they were told that it went.

The Kosrae Red Cross Chapter was given \$6000 for a project that would provide "emergency aids to the community and to the villages" and to "train and register as many Kosraeans as possible to stand-ready for all emergencies and needed assistance in the State."

LAST Issue's Solution



Nearly 45% of the \$5000 they spent went to travel by the Chairman and the Coordinator to attend a conference in Pohnpei. After the conference, the Coordinator moved to Hawaii and the Kosrae Red Cross Chapter shut down.

Invoices of over \$1500 were submitted for fuel despite a \$500 budget for it. Four of the fuel purchases were made during the holidays. The sub-allottee disallowed one receipt because its date was the day after another fuel purchase had been made. \$1276.73 was spent on an executive chair, a file cabinet and other supplies.

The Kosrae State Scholarship Board received \$12,000 for scholarships for Kosrae students. The scholarship administrator prepared minutes listing the four awardees and the scholarship amounts but the minutes were not signed by any board member. The files do not contain any documents indicating that board members ever reviewed the student applications, or approved the students selected for the awards.

The audit findings were discussed with "all of the pertinent" officials. Each was allowed an opportunity to respond in writing to the audit and to have their responses included. No management comments were submitted. ONPA released the report without comments from them.

A copy of the twenty two page audit can be downloaded at no charge from the ONPA website at www.fsmpublicauditor.fm or by visiting The Kaselehlie Press website at www.kpress.info and following the weblinks menu item.

The deadline for Ads, News Items, or Letters to the Editor for the next issue is November 23

LAST Issue's Solution

BUSH MOSE ARCH
ANTE ONTO VILLE
IDOL LEAF EGAD
TOPPLE GAINING
PEA NUDGE
AWARDS BARE
WAG EARLY EBB
LIVE REGAL DUE
BEAUT BADE YOGURT
LEDGERS STEALS
ORAL INFO ATOP
WIPE BILL SEAR
NETS SPUD EDDY

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

- **Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome. For details, call 320-2123.**
- **Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Cliff Rainbow Restaurant at 6:30p.m. 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 meetings every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sei Restaurant.**
- **Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.**
- **The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15 p.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 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.. The public is welcome.**
- **The Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon holds its weekly meetings every Wednesday at 12:00 Noon at the Truk Stop Hotel Restaurant VIP Room. You are welcome to attend and can contact us at rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com**
- **The Pohnpei Ministerial Association invites the public to a Worship Service at the Sokehs UCC Church in Sokehs Pah on Thanksgiving Day at 6 PM**

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
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Let's Go Local High School Club Teaches on Healthy Island Foods

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

How exciting to see high school students motivated to teach about island foods! On 21 September 2007, twenty-seven Let's Go Local High School Club members from two high schools (PICS and Seventh Day Adventist) went to two elementary schools, Ohmine and Kolonia, to share the Yellow Varieties message, as dressed in their yellow t-shirts.

They taught Class 5 and other students, with Gailliard Eliou (President) leading the arrangements. John Ryan led the class in Ohmine (see the photo) assisted by his fellow club members. Other club members helping in this and past events include: Ryan Yamada (Vice-President), Saxona Edgar (Secretary), Marvin Obispo, Miyuki Paul, Jeffrey Bonaparte, Relihna Lohn, Sanolyn Rettin, Amy Albert, Nick Santiago, Miuveen Diana, Barry Penias, Nordel Ehpiel, Jeffrey John, Midion Neth Jr. and Norma Lohn.



John Ryan, member of the Let's Go Local High School Club, teaches Ohmine Elementary School students about the Yellow Varieties Message and benefits of local island foods.

Some of the messages that the students shared with the primary school children were:

- Health is related to what we eat.
- Imported foods (e.g. rice) often provide poor nutrient content, leading to health problems.
- There are many varieties of local bananas and other local food.
- Yellow-fleshed banana varieties (like *Utin Iap*, *Utimwas*, *Karat*, *Mangat*, and *Ihpali*) contain greater amounts of provitamin A carotenoids than white-fleshed varieties.
- Yellow-fleshed giant swamp

taro (mwahng) varieties also contain rich concentrations of provitamin A carotenoids. These protect against cancer, heart disease and diabetes, and are turned into vitamin A in the body, alleviating vitamin A deficiency disorders (protecting against infection) and strengthening the blood.

- Even white-fleshed banana varieties contain some carotenoids but rice contains none.
- Carotenoids in cooked foods are not destroyed (bioavailability generally improves by cooking); this is different from vitamin C,

which is destroyed by cooking.

- Carotenoids develop with ripeness (green bananas contain low levels).
- Bananas are rich in tryptophan, which turns into the mood-enhancer serotonin, giving a happy feeling. ...so... **BE HAPPY, EAT A BANANA!**
- Local foods also provide food security, economic, environmental, and cultural benefits.

Gailliard Eliou assisted in arrang-

ing for the yellow t-shirts, as printed by Pohnpei Arts and Crafts, with yellow symbolic of carotenoids, which are characterized by yellow and orange coloration. Thanks are given to Robina Anson and the Pohnpei Diabetes Program and to the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Small Grants Program for their support, to the four schools involved, and to Kun Isaac, Department of Education, assisting in arrangements for the release of the high school students for the event.

Dollar Up Enterprises

- Men's Boxer Briefs ~ \$2.99 ~
- Select COFFEE ~ \$1.99 ~
- Comed Beef Hash ~ \$1.99 ~



Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia

Notice of Inactive Bank Accounts

Bank of the FSM currently maintains accounts for the following individuals & groups:

| | | |
|--|---------------|-----------------|
| Marites C. B. Allens | P.O. Box 1938 | Kolonia Pohnpei |
| Anton Augustine | P.O. Box 856 | Kolonia Pohnpei |
| Brian Jacob Forest | P.O. Box 9 | Kolonia Pohnpei |
| Wahu Mwoamwoadiso En Ping Elap | P.O. Box 373 | Kolonia Pohnpei |
| Eot Housing Authority | P.O. Box 1292 | Weno Chuuk |
| Urupwin Fishing Project | P.O. Box 790 | Weno Chuuk |
| Edgardo C Carlit | P.O. Box 1190 | Colonia Yap |
| Anthony Lowthiy or Lesa G Nelson | P.O. Box 551 | Colonia Yap |
| Bechiyal Cultural Center | P.O. Box 37 | Colonia Yap |
| FSM Football Association | P.O. Box 698 | Colonia Yap |
| Academy for Culture & Education of Yap | P.O. Box 1034 | Colonia Yap |
| Peter Managol & Maria Urtin | P.O. Box 281 | Colonia Yap |
| Robert Struppeck | P.O. Box 1189 | APO, AP |
| Timothy Hill | P.O. Box 786 | Tofol Kosrae |

As required by FSM law, the Bank wishes to inform these customers that accounts will be closed and the funds transferred to the FSM Secretary of Finance in January 2008. If your account appears on this list, you can avoid having your funds turned over to the Secretary of Finance by making a deposit or withdrawal to the account before December 31, 2007.

Kosraean:

In fwal nuke pusren Masap lun FSM, Bank FSM inge akkalemeye nusin Customers nukewa ,ma e akkalemeyeyuk lung inge la account lowos ma akkalemeyeyuk inge e tufwa kauli a money ka an ac tuhfeh itukyan nusin Secretary lun Finance ke FSM National Government ke January 2008. In oralla account se lom an tia putatyan nuke oakwuk ku oiya se inge, kom enenu in tuku nu Bank FSM oralla sie deposit ku withdrawal nuke account san meet liki December 31, 2007.

Chuukese:

Sia awora ei esinesin ngeni ami kei aramas, mwicheichen aramas, ika sopai mi affat itemi assan pun faan pungun annukun FSM, masowan ami kei accounts epuene lo ngeni ach ewe FSM Finance lon January 2008, ika pwe ese wor mwokutukutun uttut (withdrawal) ika isonanong (deposit) lon me mwen December 31, 2007. Ach anean pwe kopwe chuuto rech ach sipue annisfengen won om kei account.

Yapese:

Tan e Motochiyal nu FSM, Bank e badag ni nge yog ko pi customer rok ney ni rayan I January 2008, maran close nag e pi account ney, man pii e salpiy riy ko FSM Secretary ko Finance. Fa'an ra be mug e account rom ko re list ney, ma rayog ni dabni pii e salpiy rom ko Secretary ko Finance faanra ngamub mu deposit fa mub mu withdraw nag e salpiy ko account rom u m'on ko December 31, 2007.

Pohnpeian:

E kosonndier sang ni ruwes en kosonned en FSM me FSM Bank udahn pahn pakairkiheng aramas oh pwihn en aramas me sansalehr powe, me epwelpen amwail tungol de sapwellimomwail nekinek nan Bank en FSM pahn katoktokidi nan sounpwong en January pahr 2008. Mwoni koaros me patpato nan nekinek pwukat pahn kesepwillang FSM Secretary en Finance. Ma mwaromwi iang sansal powe ah komwi kak pwaredo de ketido oh kapidohi de kasauwada omwi tungol de sapwellimomwi nekinek sang nan FSM Bank mwohn December 31, 2007 ma komw sohte kupwuriki omwi tungol de sapwellimomwi nekinek en kepideklang FSM Secretary en Finance.

MEMBER FDIC