

Pohnpei takes Oceania to court

Oceania says it will wait to see how their smaller projects go before it invests \$80 million for a tuna cannery in Pohnpei

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

It has been nearly a year since Oceania, LLC, a corporation based in the United States announced plans to construct a cannery in Pohnpei that according to their projections would employ approximately 2000 people. According to Dr. James Yaingeluo, the President of the corporation's FSM affiliate, Oceania, Inc., those plans are still intact. Oceania is still pursuing plans to open a cannery in Pohnpei.

Fredrick Ramp, attorney for Oceania characterized the progress of the corporation's plans for the cannery. He said that his clients told him during a recent conference call that most of the investment capital required for the project has been raised and that project plans are nearing completion.

During a press conference held on May 23rd of this year, Pohnpei's Governor Ehsa announced that one of the results of his recent trip to China was that China had agreed to provide a grant to build a fish processing facility (a cannery) in Pohnpei. He said the cannery might employ as many as 700 people.

When asked about the status of Oceania's plans to open a cannery in

Pohnpei he said that he thought that Oceania's interests had waned.

Though he mentioned Oceania's plans for a crab farm in Pohnpei, Governor Ehsa did not mention that Oceania had signed a contract with Pohnpei's Economic Development Authority to manage all of Economic Development Authority's (EDA) port functions including management of the cold storage facility. The draft contract was signed in June of last year.

This year, on June 20, the Attorney General's Office of Pohnpei State filed a complaint against Oceania, Inc. at the Pohnpei Supreme Court. The complaint asked the Court to declare the contract to be invalid. The civil action has since been removed to the FSM Supreme

Court.

The state additionally filed a motion for a temporary restraining order (TRO) and preliminary injunction on the management agreement between Oceania and EDA. That motion was heard in Palikir, Pohnpei on July 4. Chief Justice Andon Amaraich heard the arguments.

Bob Rosen, of Oceania LLS, said in a strongly worded email to The Kaselehlie Press that the company was waiting to see how their smaller projects turn out before they invest \$80 million dollars in a cannery. He wrote, "Every single agreement we have ever signed has been violated by some division of their (Pohnpei's) local government at one time or another."

Ramp said in his oral argument before the court that Oceania did not seek out an agreement with EDA. EDA asked Oceania to submit a proposal through its Former Executive Director, Yosuo M. Phillip. Luen Thai also submitted a proposal.

Oceania asserts that the proposal was accepted by the board.

Affidavits submitted by Dr. Yaingeluo of Oceania and Youser Anson a former board member of EDA said, "At that time EDA had no funds, was unable to

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George in the Oval Office

FSM's Ambassador to the USA, Yosiwo George presents his diplomatic credentials to President George W. Bush

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Play Ball!

Little League swings into its season in Pohnpei



Photo by Nigel Jaynes

Raeden Ludah reaches for an outsider in the first game of the Pohnpei Little League between the Mwoakiloa Outsiders and VCS. Hundreds of spectators lined the stands on June 30 at the Spanish wall ballfield in Pohnpei. The score was tight but VCS won the game with a final score of 6 to 4. (the catcher is John Fredich. The umpire is Nikontro Johnny)

See Page 16 for story and Little League game schedule



FSM deepens economic ties with the European Union

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Twenty Nine new recruits from the FSM are Sworn-in in Pohnpei

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FSM deepens economic ties with the European Union

NAO heads strategic team that marks several firsts in the growing relationship.

*FSM National Government
June 25, 2008*

PALIKIR, Pohnpei – A small delegation headed by the nation's National Authorizing Officer (NAO) for EU Programmes successfully completed a

mission to several European countries in an attempt to further broaden economic and development ties between Micronesia and the European Union (EU).

The mission – part of an ongoing effort by the FSM since 2000, when it originally signed the Cotonou Agreement with the EU – set several precedents in key meetings with the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Commission (EC).

Based on the outskirts of Luxembourg – one of the richest nations per capita in the world – the EIB is the globe's largest bank, with a portfolio of low-interest loans and development supportive programs reaching upwards of over •50 billion annually.

The EC is the governing body of the 28 European nations allied as a single economic and political force. The Euro, the official currency of the EU established in 2000, has become the world's strongest currency, eclipsing the British Pound and US Dollar and positioning the EU uniquely relative to the developing nations of the world.

Recognizing this, President Manny Mori has made it a key strategy to foster enhanced relations with the EU, with an eye toward the specific social, environmental and economic prerogatives that the EU can provide.

FSM NAO Fabian Nimea was joined by Assistant Director for Overseas Development Assistance, Olivier Wortel, and REP-5 Renewable Energy Country Manager, Peter Konings. Konings was able to present one of the highlights of the FSM REP-5 Programme of work at the 4th European PV Mini-Grid Conference on Renewable Energy in Athens, Greece, *Sustainable Design for Mini-Grids in Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia*.

REP-5 is the *Renewable Energy Programme to Five Pacific Islands* and



Meeting with an unidentified official in Luxembourg are from left, Peter Konings, REP-5 Renewable Energy Country Manager, FSMNAO Fabian Nimea, and Olivier Wortel, FSM's Assistant Director for Overseas Development Assistance.

a part of the 9th European Development Fund which the FSM accesses as a member of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries that have signed a partnership agreement with the EU.

In two meetings the FSM NAO delegation had with the EIB's David Crush, Head of the Caribbean and Pacific Division, and Irene Galvez, Monitoring Officer for Operations in the Caribbean and Pacific, support to the nation's four utilities and the private and energy sectors was discussed. The meetings marked the first time that a Pacific Island NAO has visited the EIB.

One of the key outcomes of the meeting was a commitment of a \$1 million Technical Assistance program and potentially up to \$3 million for a very low interest Energy and Development Credit Line package for the FSM that would be routed through the FSM Development Bank and the Office of the NAO. A central focus of the \$1 million Technical Assistance portion of the EIB assistance would go toward a broad range of national development priorities, including renewable energy.

Another outcome was the spurred interest by the EIB to support the massive development initiative that is the Submarine Fiber Optic Cable project that the FSM is currently pursuing. The project is seen as a boon to spurring economic growth and job creation, as well as beneficial to the Health and Education sectors.

At the European Commission in Brussels, the FSM team met with Gary Quince, Director of the ACP EuropeAid Cooperation Office, Sanne Willems, Geocoordinator for ACP Coordination and Jose-Luis Trimino Perez, Head of Unit for the ACP EuropeAid Cooperation Office.

It was the first time that an NAO from the Pacific had gone to the EC in Brussels. Quince regarded the meeting as important and lauded the commitment displayed by the FSM.

Several development priorities of the FSM were highlighted, including an Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling Project for Chuuk, the Yap State Museum project, a Pohnpei State Public Transportation and Infrastructure project, a Kosrae State Senior Citizen's Health project, the Natural Resources and Renewable Energy Institute of Micronesia, a National Pension Fund program and a the establishment of a National Health Trust Fund.

As a result of the meeting, the EC and FSM agreed that various projects presented could be supported uti-

lizing funds out of the Europe Aid Cooperation programme, as well as support emanating from what are termed the Energy and Water Facilities, two broad funding and technical programs related to the 10th European Development Fund, starting toward the end of 2008.

During the course of the mission, the Office of the FSM NAO was also able to secure approximately \$1.4 million for the nation toward the ongoing implementation of the REP-5 programme of work, as well as sign off on contracts totalling over \$400,000 to support several of the FSM's more established Non-State Actors (NSAs) or Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) – funds that will have direct positive environmental and economic impacts at the community level throughout the nation.

The FSM team also met with Jan Cloin, an Energy Advisor within the Dutch National Government. Preliminary results from the meeting focused on how the FSM can begin to access up to \$2.5 million for various development projects with assistance from SenterNovem. Novem is an agency within the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs that helps to promote sustainable development and innovation both within the Netherlands and abroad.

In Eindhoven, Netherlands, at the Technische Universiteit (University of Technology), a meeting was undertaken with Dr. Henny Romijn to continue a process of cooperation and technical assistance in the field of RE policy development for the FSM and the region. The University has committed to working with the Office of the NAO to help finalize the process of the development of an integrated energy policy.

The mission also met with several of the leading renewable energy companies in Europe, where the latest technological advances, combined with the rapidly rising cost of power costs to consumers in the FSM, have made several different types of renewable energy technologies not only viable, but profitable as a source of sustainable energy production.

As a result of at least one of the meetings, part of the Presidential Compound in Palikir will be retrofitted with the latest advances in solar and wind energy power generation as a preliminary demonstration of the effectiveness of these technologies.

In all, the mission was effective in deepening the understanding the EU has of some of the priority needs of the FSM and the North Pacific. In addition, a broadened awareness and support of the growing renewable energy movement in the region was achieved.

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Another important page in the diplomatic history of the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States was turned on 06 June 2008 when Yosiwo P George, 66, presented his Letter of Credence to President George W Bush as the new FSM Ambassador to the US. Succeeding former Ambassador Jesse B Marehalau, whose tour of duty terminated on 30 September 2006, George is the second FSM Ambassador accredited to the US.

The presentation of credentials ceremonies took place in the Oval Office at the White House. Ambassador Yosiwo George was joined at the ceremonies by his wife Antilise, his son Palikkun, and his daughter Mialani.

In his prepared remarks at the White House ceremony, Ambassador George stated: "We in the Federated States of Micronesia take pride in our historic and unique relationship with the American people under the Compact of Free Association treaty. While our two governments will inevitably continue to find ways and means of further improving our relationship, it is my happy observation that the Compact has been mutually beneficial."

The original Compact, which went into effect in 1986, has facilitated cooperation between the two countries not only bilaterally but also multilaterally. Under this treaty, the US Government provides annual economic assistance to the FSM.

In his prepared response, President Bush noted: "Micronesia and the United States share a special relationship, forged during

Yosiwo P George presents credentials to President George W Bush

the fierce fighting of World War II and the post-war period. In 1986 our bilateral Compact of Free Association came into force, heralding a new stage in our relations as sovereign partners. Five years later we welcome Micronesia as a member of the United Nations, where our two countries have worked closely ever since."

One important element of the Compact relationship is defense and security cooperation. Ambassador George went on to say: "We are grateful for the opportunity extended to our citizens to serve in the US military, even if on a voluntary basis. Through this arrangement, our citizens are

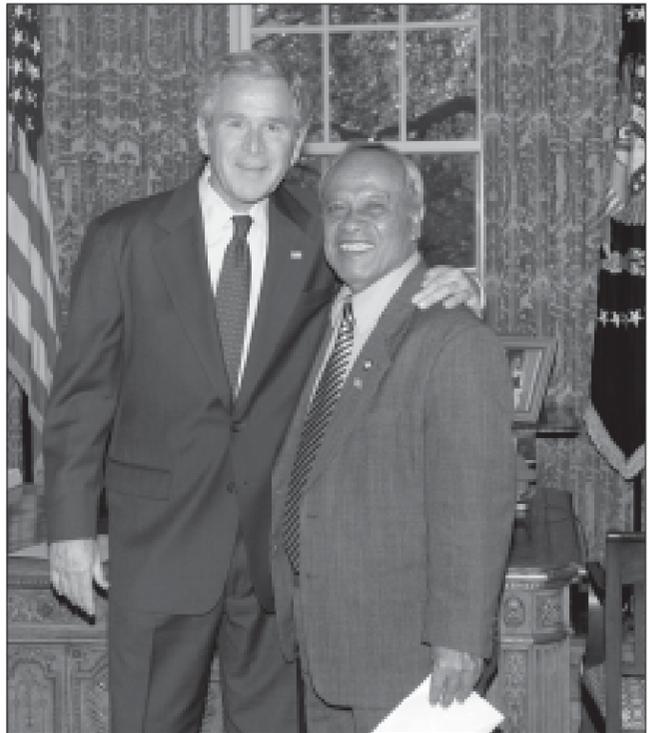
in a position to contribute, albeit in a small way, to the global war on terrorism."

President Bush responded by saying: "We greatly value Micronesians' efforts to fight terrorism and promote peace around the world. The US especially appreciates Micronesians' brave services in Iraq and Afghanistan and are [sic] honored by their service and sacrifices."

Prior to his new appointment by President Emanuel Mori, Mr Yosiwo P George has had held various distinguished positions in the

Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI), FSM National Government as well as the State of Kosrae. These include TTPI Social Security Administrator; FSM Secretary of Social Services; Lt Governor and later Governor of Kosrae; FSM Ambassador to the UN; Senator-at-Large in the FSM Congress representing Kosrae; Chief Justice of the Kosrae State Supreme Court; and Executive Director of the FSM Health Insurance.

FSM Embassy to the United States



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NOTICE TO MEMBERS & PROSPECTIVE ENROLLEES

OPEN ENROLLMENT SEASON

JULY 1 THROUGH 31, 2008

The Board of Directors and Management of MiCare are pleased to announce to our members and prospective members that the Regular Open Enrollment Season on all Health Plan Options will start on July 1, 2008 and end on July 31, 2008. For those members who are currently enrolled in the Plan do not need to re-submit new application. However, to cancel or change from one plan option to another or add new dependents, members are required to submit their amendment form before the deadline. Any members may cancel their health insurance or any eligible individual who is not currently registered in the Plan may enroll during this period. Changes made during the open enrollment season will become effective October 1, 2008. The following are the three Health Plan Options offered by the Plan.

BASIC HEALTH PLAN (BA)

The Basic Health Plan is a medical insurance that allows members to access medical services from local affiliated healthcare providers. Basic Plan members may access services from off-island healthcare providers if they are approved medical referral from state hospitals or medical care received off-island falls under emergency care. Maximum benefits for Basic Plan is \$50,000 per year. This includes cost of medical referral ticket and other non-medical expenses.

SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN (SR)

The Supplemental Plan is a medical insurance that allows members to access medical services from local and off-island affiliated healthcare providers. Individual member in SR Plan are also access to Basic Plan benefits. Supplemental Plan members are allowed to access off-island affiliated healthcare facilities in Hawaii, Guam and Philippines without the approval from state referral hospital. Before the Plan will cover medical costs, a deductible of \$100 must be paid by each member each calendar year. The Plan will pay 90% of the eligible medical costs while member pays 10% co-payments. Maximum Benefits for SR members is \$50,000 per year.

SUPPLEMENTAL NON-RESIDENT (SNR)

The Supplemental Non-Resident Plan is a medical insurance offered to members residing off-island. SNR members are allowed to access approved healthcare providers off-island. SNR members are required to pay \$5 deductible for every visit and 10% co-payment. The Plan is responsible to pay 90% after deductible on all eligible charges. Maximum Benefits for SNR members is \$50,000 per year.

◆ LIST OF APPROVED HEALTHCARE FACILITIES ON-ISLAND AND OFF-ISLAND ◆

LOCAL ON-ISLAND PROVIDERS

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For In-Patient and Out-Patient Services

- Pohnpei State Hospital
- Kosrae State Hospital
- Chuuk State Hospital
- Yap State Hospital
- Genesis Hospital

For Out-Patient Services

- Genesis Island Family Clinic
- Pohnpei Family Health Clinic
- Berysin Community Health Clinic
- MedPharm Clinic & Optical
- Kolonia Dental Clinic
- Pohnpei Dental Clinic
- Sefin Health Clinic
- Family Clinic & Pharmacy

OFF-ISLAND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

Honolulu, Hawaii

- Straub Clinic & Hospital
- Kapiolani Medical Center
- Honolulu Medical Group

Guam

- The Doctors Clinic

Manila, Philippines

- St. Luke's Medical Center
- Capitol Medical Center
- Philippine Heart Center for Asia
- National Kidney & Transplant Institute

BI-WEEKLY PREMIUM RATES

PLAN OPTION	Employee Share (48%)	Employer Share (at least 52%)	Bi-Weekly PREMIUM
Basic Plan (BA)	\$ 6.86	\$7.44	\$14.30
Supplemental Plan (SR)	\$15.58	\$16.87	\$32.45
Supp. Non-Resident Plan (SNR)	\$21.38	\$23.17	\$44.55

Note: First four (4) minor dependent children are covered by one (1) premium under BA & SR Options. For SN option, each dependent children must pay SN premium.

Premium for Additional Dependent Minor Children in excess of first four children

Basic Plan	Supplemental Plan	Supp. Non-Resident Plan
\$3.58 each/bi-weekly	\$8.12 each/bi-weekly	none

For more information, please contact your local MiCare office •Pohnpei (691) 320-2549/5865/3415 Email: info@micareplan.fm•Chuuk (691) 330-5891 E--mail: micarechk@micareplan.fm•Yap (691) 350-2307 Email:micareyap@micareplan.fm • Kosrae (691) 370-2935 Email: micarekos@micareplan.fm or visit our website at www.micareplan.fm

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Kolonia, Pohnpei - FBI Special Agent Dana McMahon was nearing the end of her work day on a Friday afternoon in March of 2007 when Xiu Lan Lin walked into her office and changed both of their lives. According to McMahon, the story that Xiu told her seems also to have changed the attitudes of some people in Saipan about the crime of human trafficking.

Xiu Lan Lin told McMahon through an interpreter that she had paid a recruiting fee so that she could work at as a waitress. After she arrived she was told that she must be a prostitute instead.

Xiu told Special Agent McMahon that she had met the manager of Phoenix Karaoke, Wei Qin Sun several times in China during the previous year. The two came to know each other because Xiu's husband and Wei's boyfriend drove a taxi for the same company in the Quanzhou Province. At each of their meetings Wei asked Xiu to come to work in Saipan. She promised that Xiu would initially make at least \$700 per month, plus room and board if she went to work at Wei's restaurant as a waitress. She said that after a few months Xiu would begin to earn as much as \$1000 per month.

For months Xiu rejected the offer but the more she and her husband thought about it the more attractive the offer seemed to be. Xiu made plans to work in Saipan for at least a year and to send all of the money that she earned during that time home to her family in China. She paid Wei a "recruitment fee" of \$4500 along with other expenses totaling \$5000 in trade for "lawful employment in Saipan". The family raised the funds by depleting their savings, borrowing from family members, and by selling the taxi that had been earning the family's income.

She received "legal" documents that allowed her to travel to Saipan.

Wei met Xiu at the Saipan International Airport on March 2, 2007 and drove her new recruit to Phoenix Karaoke. Xiu told McMahon that she began to be suspicious when she saw the conditions of the barracks where she was to live. She became even more suspicious when she was introduced to the women with whom she would be working. She said that she thought the women were dressed too revealingly to be waitresses. She was instructed to dress in the same way.

Wei explained to Xiu that her job was "to please the customers", and introduced Xiu to her very first customer, an American man. Wei told her to sit next to the man and keep him company. When the man reached out to hold her hand Xiu knew for certain that she was in Saipan not to be a waitress but to be a prostitute. She was horrified and fled to her barracks. She barricaded herself inside her room and did not come out for three days.

When she did come out she left Phoenix Karaoke and walked down the beachfront street. She knew no one and spoke no English. She came across a storefront business that had Chinese characters printed on the sign and went inside. The kind Chinese proprietor told her that she should go to the police but Xiu was used to corrupt law enforcement officers at home and was afraid of what the Saipan Police Officers might do if she told her story to them.

She went back to Phoenix and begged Wei

Crime victim changes lives and Saipan attitudes

FBI Agent Says that Pacific Islanders Should be Aware of the Crime of Human Trafficking

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

to send her home. Wei told her that she couldn't go home and that she must work off her transportation expenses. She told Xiu that she should just accept facts and perform her duties as a prostitute. Wei told her that there was no shame because no one who knew her at home would know what she was doing.

Xiu, distraught, left Phoenix again and wandered aimlessly down the beachfront road where she found another Chinese owned business. The Chinese proprietress was kind to her and fed her but had no solutions for Xiu. When Xiu left the business crying, the proprietress worried about her and asked one of her employees, a Filipina to follow her. When Xiu waded into the ocean it was the Filipina who stopped Xiu from killing herself.

It was also the Filipina who told Xiu about the office of the Federal Ombudsman and told her that it was a place where non-residents could get help when they didn't know where else to turn

When McMahon heard Xiu's story she knew she would need Xiu's help if she hoped to gather sufficient evidence for a criminal proceeding. She asked Xiu if she would be willing to return to Phoenix Karaoke "wearing a wire." Xiu agreed.

McMahon said that Xiu was afraid but she went back to the karaoke establishment anyway. McMahon said that Xiu's performance was "amazing". In the 90 minute recording Xiu made while wearing the wire, Wei once again told Xiu that she couldn't go home and that she should just go to work as a prostitute.

Xiu captured enough evidence on the tape for the FBI to file charges and to begin an in depth investigation.

They closed down Phoenix Karaoke and seized Wei's assets.

The preparation and trial lasted several months during which time Xiu worked at a garment factory. McMahon said that Xiu insisted on working as many hours as she could. She averaged 15 hours of work a day at the factory.

McMahon told Xiu that she should slow down. Xiu said that she was ashamed because she owed her family money. She said that she would work as hard as she could until she could pay each one of them back.

Wei Qin Sun was convicted in the US District Court and sentenced to 41 months in a US Federal Penitentiary for her crimes. When she completes her sentence she will be deported. Wei was also ordered to pay nearly \$10,000 to Xiu to reimburse her for the fraud Wei was convicted of committing.

McMahon said that there are many heroes in Xiu's story. One of them is Lauri Ogumuro, a social worker who has run a secure shelter for women in Saipan for over twenty years. Xiu stayed at that shelter during the investigation and trial.

For many years, Ogumuro has told anyone who would listen that human trafficking is a problem in Saipan. Some of the occupants of her shelter over the years have been victims of the crime. McMahon said that law enforcement officers and a portion of the community of Saipan previously thought that Ogumuro's accusations were overblown and extreme.

People in Saipan have begun to talk about the issue publicly as a result of the Wei case. McMahon says that since that time Ogumuro's words have carried more weight.

Since the trial a human trafficking task force has been established in Saipan. The task force has only had five meetings but those meetings have had results.

McMahon said law enforcement agencies

have begun to communicate with each other and to work together more effectively on the issue of human trafficking.

The task force has developed a list of rights and resources that will be distributed to every non-resident upon their arrival in Saipan.

McMahon said that three more cases of human trafficking are currently being investigated in Saipan. The victims in those cases came forward when they became aware that they were victims of a crime.

She said that many victims of human trafficking have a feeling of overwhelming shame and that they often have to be convinced that they are victims of a crime.

McMahon admits that she didn't know much about human trafficking and its associated crimes until she met Xiu Lan Lin. Since meeting her she has become passionate about the issue.

McMahon has spent most of her twenty one years with the FBI pursuing white collar crimes. When she was in Houston, Texas she was one of the team of agents assigned to investigate the financial crimes that ended in the conviction of several officers of the Enron conglomerate. Her next assignment is in Denver, Colorado where she will be part of the team that is investigating cases of mortgage fraud.

She said that the story Xiu Lan Lin told her was eye opening for her. Most of the crime victims she had dealt with previously had been corporations, or government agencies—faceless victims. She said the experience of prosecuting Xiu's victimizer gave her a great compassion for Xiu Lan Lin and for all of the other victims of human trafficking whose lives are forever changed as a result of the crime.

McMahon and another FBI agent were in Pohnpei to help train Law Enforcement officers in techniques of investigation into "White Collar" crime.

Additionally, she came to The Kaselehlie Press because she said that residents of the Pacific islands should be aware of the problem of human trafficking and the crimes associated with it.

As an example she pointed to an ongoing trial in Guam for crimes associated with human trafficking. The prosecutor for the case charges that eight women from Chuuk were recruited to be waitresses at the Blue House Karaoke establishment in Guam. After the girls arrived at the establishment they were told that they had been hired to be prostitutes and that they could not leave. Four people were charged with crimes in the case. Two of the people charged entered "guilty" pleas. Two entered pleas of "not guilty".

Xiu's story is far from over. The United States issued her a "Trafficking Visa" that allowed her to live in the United States. Special Agent McMahon said that Xiu now speaks "good English". She is currently enrolled in a vocational training program in Oregon. Because her husband and two daughters have experienced harassment at home by some of those who know about the charges Xiu raised in Saipan, the United States is facilitating their relocation. Soon the three will be joining Xiu in Oregon.

McMahon said that she and Xiu have become close friends.



FBI Agent Dana McMahon tells Xiu Lan Lin's story to K-Press Editor Bill Jaynes

Twenty nine recruits from FSM join the U.S. Army

The Embassy of the United States

On June 24 and 26, twenty-nine young Micronesians took their oath of enlistment in the U.S. Army during ceremonies at Oceanview Plaza in Pohnpei. All were sworn in by U.S. Army Captain Elizabeth Powers, Commander of the Military Entrance Processing Station in Honolulu. U.S. Ambassador Miriam K. Hughes personally thanked the new recruits for answering the call to serve and for joining the honored ranks of a diverse body of men and women who are dedicated to liberty, betterment of the lives of others, and the building of a safer world. She noted the United States and the FSM share a deep history, common democratic values, and an unshakeable friendship; this unique partnership lays the foundation for a more secure future for us all.

The Compact of Free Association allows FSM citizens to serve in the U.S. military. The Army provides a wide range of education, income, insurance, medical, skills training and travel benefits. Recruits first need to pass the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery test in order to qualify for military service. The 29 inductees will depart their home islands over the next two months to report for basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia; Fort Jackson, South Carolina; or Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri in infantry, logistics, maintenance, medical services, security, and supply specialties.

Eighteen of the new soldiers are Pohnpeian: Eugene Albert, Andolin Bartolome, Kihki Edmond, Hetler Ham, Saxona Hedgar, Ilander Ilai, Jayner Kersey, Harvey Kilmete, Relihna Lohn, Vangie Mercado, Marc Molens, Roland Rodriguez, Virginia Siden, Jacky Smith, Spens Solomon, Jesse Suldan, Viola Susaia, and Ronald Tom. Ten more recruits hail from Kosrae: Sapal Aaron, McNally Daley, Palikun George, Palokoa George, Nena Kilafwasru, Danny Jim, Sepel Jim, Hayand Palik, Alik Talley and William Tosie. The final enlistee, Eric Finniginam,

is from Yap.

Also assisting in the ceremony were First Sgt. Fitimalo Siaoosi, Staff Sgt. Nelson Jack (of Pohnpei), Staff Sgt. Neemia Vaiagae, and Sgt. 1st Class Hyong Kim from U.S. Army Recruiting Station Guam. FSM Citizens interested in learning more about opportunities for service in the U.S. Armed Forces can contact the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs or the U.S. Embassy.



Pohnpei and Neosho become sister cities

Joplin Independent

Pohnpei, located roughly between Honolulu and Guam, is the capital of the Federated States of Micronesia. A volcanic island, it has an abundance of rain that sustains lush tropical forests, cascading mountain streams and tumbling waterfalls and flora surrounding hidden freshwater pools. It is the site of Nan Madol, known as the Venice of the Pacific, a city built around lagoons by the rulers of Pohnpei between 750-1500 AD.

It is eden for scuba-diving tourists with

money. A growing number of Pacific Islanders, however, have decided to call Neosho, MO home and have become a significant addition to the city's cultural diversity.

To acknowledge this relationship a Special Note of Friendship will be exchanged between the city and the state of Pohnpei, creating a sister-city relationship between the two.

A signing ceremony between Howard Birdsong, mayor of Neosho and John Ehsa, governor of Pohnpei will take place at 1:30 p.m. on July 8, 2008, at the Lampo Building, 500 E. Spring St.

...Oceania

continued from page 1

meet its payroll obligations and was laying off employees. EDA needed an infusion of money and assistance with its operations."

The audit released by Pohnpei State's Office of the Public Auditor covering the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007 seems to support those assertions.

The contract EDA and Oceania signed said that the shared partnership was designed to meet three objectives:

- 1) "To train and employ citizens of FSM in all phases of Economic Development including Management and Operations;"
- 2) "to manage all of the natural resources in any Economic Development (including the Oceans and waters in and up to all legal range of Pohnpei) so that they may continue to provide sustainable harvests for future years;"
- 3) "and so that a revenue sharing agreement be set up maintained, and substantiated by generally accepted accounting principals and standards Subject to Owner's (EDA's) direction and control, and based on Operator's (Oceania, LLC) prior expertise, Operator will provide direct management, supervision, policies, and revenue collections, for all phases of EDA operations contained at the Port of Pohnpei."

The contract said, "Owner further engages Operator to seek out, invest, develop, discuss, and take on any and all new or additional economic opportunities that can be obtained that will conform and comply with the above Recitals. Operator will act through the Owner

and or the appropriate agency of the Government of the State of Pohnpei to bring about further and additional economic opportunities; including but not limited to commercial ventures, non-profit educational and community building ventures, health and welfare ventures, and utilities and transportation ventures..."

Dr. Yaingeluo said that Former Governor Johnny P. David, signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Oceania, LLC well over a year ago to develop their plans for a cannery in Pohnpei. He said that the Governor was enthusiastically supportive of those plans. Dr. Yaingeluo said that the former Governor was not so supportive of the management agreement for EDA. He issued an Executive Directive removing the port functions of EDA and assigning them to the Department of Economic Affairs.

Dr. Yaingeluo said that the Pohnpei State Legislature took exception to the Executive Directive and asked the Governor to rescind it. He never did and the directive stood until Governor John Ehsa took office.

In October of 2007, Bob Rosen of Oceania LLC told us during an interview that Governor David's directive, in his view was a tortious interference with their contract with EDA. He said that he hoped that they could iron out their differences so that Oceania would not have to sue the state but he did not rule out that possibility.

Apparently they were able to come to some

type of an agreement. On November 16, 2007 a public announcement was issued by EDA announcing that the Authority had entered into a contract with Oceania, Inc. to manage and operate on behalf of EDA the transshipment plant facility, Ship Agency (provisioning services), Bunkering services, and transshipment privilege fee collection.

Even after that announcement, because of the Executive Directive, Oceania was limited to providing (bunkering) drinking water to ships. Oceania, Inc. still was required to meet the expenses of salary, taxes, and other overhead expenses of EDA that they had agreed to pay under their contract.

Governor Ehsa when he took office gave back to EDA the responsibility of handling the port duties that had been stripped from the authority by the previous Governor.

Before that time the Department of Economic Affairs signed a lease with Luen Thai granting them space in the Cold Storage plant.

That lease expired in June and EDA signed a new lease for the facility with Oceania, Inc. On June 10, EDA Acting Director Hernet Ringlen, EDA Board Chairman Albert Augustine, and Dr. James Yaingeluo signed a letter addressed to Luen Thai. The letter informed Luen Thai that they should pay Oceania, Inc. and that the company should not make payment to any other party "either Government or private".

The letter informed Luen Thai that if they did not make the payment by June 14, EDA would shut down the three freezers that Luen Thai leased. The shut down would occur on June 16. Luen Thai did not pay and Oceania, the manager by contract, changed the locks on the freezers locking Luen Thai out.

An affidavit sworn out by Acting EDA Manager Hernet Ringlen and attached to the state's complaint says that "Demand has been made to Oceania, Inc. and to Oceania, LLC and their

agents to reopen the (cold storage) plant. But the ice plant has been kept closed up to this date." The affidavit was signed by Ringlen on the 20th of June, 10 days after his signature appeared on the letter that informed Luen Thai that a lockout would occur if payment was not made.

On June 24 Luen Thai paid Oceania \$80,000 for their lease. Ramp said that within a few minutes of Oceania's receipt of the payment the freezers were unlocked. He said that since that time there have been no further problems. In the hearing on the 4th of July Ramp said the issue no longer exists and is no longer a cause for action by the court. The money paid to Oceania was placed in a trust fund awaiting a court ruling on the disposition of that money.

The state's case said that the management agreement between EDA and Oceania was invalid because it had never been approved. He provided an affidavit from Acting EDA Manager Hernet Ringlen that said that he could find no records in EDA files that the Board had ever approved the agreement.

Ramp provided two affidavits that listed the people that were at the meeting of the board when the agreement was first approved. He said that Ringlen's affidavit didn't say that EDA didn't approve the agreement but that he couldn't find the piece of paper that said so.

Ramp said that the fact that the signatures of then EDA Manager Yosuo Phillip and the Chairman of the EDA Board Albert Augustine was the first proof that the agreement had been approved. He said that the Attorney General's office had the agreement under review for two months after which time the EDA board met again and approved it again.

Assistant Attorney General L.M. Bacalando said that the AG's office never recommended

continued at the bottom of page 7

US Independence day celebration in Pohnpei

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

On the 4th of July, the day that Americans celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence a group of invited guests gathered at the home of the US Ambassador Miriam Hughes. FSM's President Manny Mori was one of the distinguished guests present at the small celebration.

Ambassador Hughes in her speech utilized the historical context of the United States beginning with the revolutionary war that began in Massachusetts a year before the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776. She spoke of the civil war between the Northern and Southern States that occurred nearly a hundred years later that resulted in Constitutional Amendment 13 which freed slaves and abolished slavery in the US. Fifty five years later women in the United States were given the right to vote with the passage of Amendment 19.

"So it took time," she said. "The institutionalization and defense of our values has required grassroots mobilization, strategic compromise, freedom of expression and sometimes, gut-wrenching human sacrifice. America has paid the price, including on the beaches and high in the cliffs of the Pacific.

"We did not advance through back room politics or quick infusions of cash. Progress and unity as a nation came rather from the hard, daily struggle to make good laws, build democratic institutions, resolve differences peacefully, and share power justly. Economic development depended upon an enabling legal architecture, as well as educational preparation, and the active participation of our citizens. We worked toward a stable regulatory environment, sound systems of taxation and cooperation among states for the common good, which helped unleash creativity in every field of human endeavor.

"It is vital to American interests today that sovereign nations, in accordance with their particular circumstances and traditions, meet the basic needs of their people. The United States is committed across the board to generous and transparent partnership with the FSM..."

"...Just in the past month, for example, our small U.S. Embassy has: engaged the FBI to deliver workshops on white collar crime; welcomed doctors from the Centers

for Disease Control to share their expertise on multi-drug resistant tuberculosis; transmitted a framework airport security agreement from the Transportation Security Administration; with the Department of the Interior, initiated a \$3 million grant to repair health and education facilities in all four

"We are aware that none of these and our many other programs and initiatives come easily. It is not the way of Uncle Sam or our Founding Fathers to hand out gifts on sterling platters. America was not made that way. During that hot summer in Philadelphia more than 230 years ago, from our desperate fight for independence to the darkest days of a civil war, to the hard-fought battles of the 20th century, there were many chances to lose our heart, our nerve, or our way. But Americans held firm to their founding values. With the approach of U.S. Presidential elections, we are now engaged in vigorous and open public debate in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

As the FSM also struggles at this pivotal time to overcome internal and global challenges, please know that your American partners understand because we have and will continue to face similar problems. Our engagement is multifaceted, relevant, and historically profound. Some of the Americans who are here today have chosen to make their homes with you and to dedicate their talents to your country. I wish we could have invited every American in Pohnpei and Micronesia to this reception, but unfortunately our resources don't stretch that far this year."

The entire text of the Ambassador's speech can be found on the Kaselehlie Press website at www.kpress.info.



continued from page 6

the agreement.

Ramp said that the announcement of November 16 was further proof that the EDA board had approved the agreement.

The AG's case said that at the time the agreement was signed, Oceania, LLC did not have a Foreign Investment Permit as they were required to do and that their violation of that law invalidates the agreement.

Ramp called that argument a "red herring". He said adamantly, "Oceania, LLC does not do business in the FSM." He said that after the agreement was signed, Oceania, LLC formed a new corporation in the FSM named Oceania, Inc. that has a Foreign Investment Permit (FIP). Despite the state's claims to the contrary, he said that the types of businesses that they can operate according to that permit are broad enough in scope to cover their management agreement with EDA and that the agreement itself allows for the assignment of the contract to Oceania, Inc.

The state alleged in its complaint that the agreement is "Usurpation of Government Power; Illegal Exercise by Private Persons of Governmental Regulatory Powers." It says that the agreement assigns governmental functions to Oceania, Inc to manage. "This wholesale relinquishment of governmental authority to Oceania is irreconcilably at war with State laws..."

Oceania did not respond to that allegation in the hearing on the 4th of July and has not yet filed a response to the amended complaint filed by the state.

The state says that EDA is required by law to deposit any money that it receives into a development fund and that the agreement with Oceania is a misuse of public funds.

Oceania says that there is no violation of the law. The money is not received by EDA but by Oceania. The money that Oceania receives is split with EDA. EDA then puts the money in the proper place under the law.

The letter that was sent to Luen Thai informing them of the new payment procedure for the freezers at the Cold Storage Plant had three signatures, two from EDA and one from Oceania. The letter head contained Oceania's Logo, the EDA logo and the Pohnpei State Seal. The fourth cause of action filed by the state charges that the inclusion of the State Seal was illegal.

Bacalando did not mention that allegation at the hearing on the 4th. Ramp said that EDA regularly uses the State Seal and that its inclusion on the letter head was not improper.

The state filing says that when Oceania locked Luen Thai out of the cold storage facility it was tortious interference of contract. The state says that it has a contract with Luen Thai that they could not fulfill during the period of time that Luen Thai was locked out of the cold storage facility.

Ramp said that the lockout was a business means of compelling Luen Thai to pay their rent and that once they did Oceania immediately removed the locks.

The state essentially said in its complaint that because the contract executed with Oceania was invalid when they destroyed and replaced the padlocks at the cold storage facility it was an act of trespassing and destruction of public property. Bacalando said that they have a video of the locks being destroyed.

During the hearing on the 4th of July, Ramp said that the subject at hand was three padlocks that were removed either with a key or by cutting them so that Oceania could exercise their right as managers of the plant.

The complaint says that since the agreement

FSM states; demonstrated a new Internet link for private sector networking; worked intensely to prepare for the arrival later this summer of the biggest U.S. Naval hospital ship in the world; and urged the FSM Government to engage in frank and creative dialogue with us on ways to make the Amended Compact work better, for which we share joint responsibility.

with Oceania grants the company exclusive control of ship bunkering and provisioning it is an antitrust arrangement that restricts trade or commerce. The eighth cause of action in their complaint is entitled "Antitrust, Illegal Combination; Unfair Business Practices."

Oceania did not respond to that allegation in the hearing.

Oceania argued both in their written response to the state's request for a Temporary Restraining Order and through Ramp's oral arguments on the 4th that the Governor does not have standing to file the complaint.

He pointed out that EDA is a separate entity not under the Governor's control. He said that they have the power to sue and be sued and to enter agreements in their own name. He said that EDA is not arguing that the management agreement is invalid and that the Governor doesn't have the standing to act on their behalf.

The state argued that the contract is overbroad and delegates powers such as coordination of law enforcement responses in the port that they obviously cannot perform.

Ramp said that the contract did not appear to have been written by a lawyer and that there are flaws in it. He said that just like many other contracts, the agreement specifically says that if any provision of the agreement is ruled to be invalid all of the other terms of the agreement would still be in force.

Further, he said that he had called the AG's office several times during the past year so that they could talk about and negotiate terms of the contract that the AG might feel were overbroad. He said that they never contacted him to point to any specific provisions during the year.

The ninth and final cause of action is for "Declaratory Judgment; Injunctive Relief". The state has asked the court to declare the man-

agement agreement to be void. It is also asking that the court "enjoin" (order the parties to stop) the defendants from performing acts to implement any provision of the management agreement."

The two sides had differing views on what the result would be if Judge Amaraich ruled to issue a temporary restraining order enjoining Oceania to stop providing management service for EDA.

Bacalando said that things would simply go back to normal with EDA directly managing transshipment again.

Ramp said that enjoining Oceania from providing services would essentially close down transshipment services because the agreement and the lease would still be in force. He argued that under such an order Oceania would not be able to provide the service and neither would EDA because of the agreements that would still be in force.

He argued before the judge that what the state was asking was for the court to make a ruling on the validity of the agreement rather than a simple issuance of a TRO. He said that ruling could not be made until after a trial on the matter.

Chief Justice Amaraich had several questions for both sides during the hearing to help him to clarify matters. He wanted answers to those questions which he didn't always get. Before adjourning to consider the matter he asked one final question and told the two parties that he didn't want an answer to his final question. He asked why it was that a year went by before he heard anything about the matter. He wondered why through two administrations the matter had not arisen before. Then he adjourned.

At press time a ruling had not been issued on the states' request for a temporary restraining order.

Senator J. Kalani English elected President of Association Of Pacific Island Legislatures

HONOLULU – Hawai'i State Senator J. Kalani English (District 6 - Hana, East and Upcountry Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i and Kaho'olawe) has been elected president of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL), a voluntary organization representing twelve states from around the Pacific. The first Hawai'i legislator elected to lead APIL, Senator English previously served two terms as the association's vice president.

"It is an honor to be selected by my colleagues to serve as president of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures," English said. "We are looking at a number of areas of mutual interest where regional cooperation, coordination, exchange and assistance can help our individual governments achieve important goals through collective action. I'm pleased that Hawai'i will play a role in these efforts, and that I will have an opportunity to contribute to helping improve the lives of our Pacific Island neighbors."

Walden Weilbacher of the APIL Secretariat said, "It has been a pleasure working with Senator English as our vice-president, and we are proud to have him as our new president. He brings to the office an expertise and unique perspective that will be extremely valuable to APIL as we continue our efforts to serve our member states."

APIL also includes three affiliated organizations: the Pacific Islands Development Bank (PIDB), a regional development finance institution established by APIL to

assist member countries in accelerating their economic and social development through lending and other programs; the Ayuda Foundation, a humanitarian organization which offers a number of medical and educational programs to assist the Association in achieving its goals; and Reach Out Pacific (REPAC), a Hawai'i-based organization that delivers medical and other supplies to the Pacific.

Aren Palik, president and CEO of PIDB, looks forward to Senator English's leadership as the region faces new challenges. "We are always looking for fresh perspectives," said Palik. "Economic and social development have to take place in an ever-changing global landscape. Experience has shown that Senator English will be an effective leader and ally in fulfilling our mission."

Carlotta Leon-Guerrero, Executive Director of the Ayuda Foundation, said, "Senator English has always been a great supporter of our foundation, and I welcome his continued leadership with APIL. We all look forward to his assistance as we continue to



Sen. J. Kalani English chairs the Committee of the Whole at the 27th General Assembly of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, Guam, 5 May 2008

help others."

Senator English was elected president at the APIL's 27th General Assembly in Guam, May 7, 2008, and will be seated October 1, 2008. He will serve for one year in the APIL 2008-2009 term. The other officers for the term are Delegate William Ngiraikelau, Vice-President from the Republic of Palau; Speaker Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D., Secretary from Guam; and Vice Speaker Alik J. Alik, Treasurer from the Marshall Islands' Parliament.

The APIL's mission is to organize a permanent association of mutual assistance by representatives of the people of the Pacific Islands. Current issues before the APIL include those arising in the areas of Resources and Economic Development, Commerce,

Legislation, Energy, Regional Security and Defense, Communications, Cultural Appreciation, Health and Social Services, Education, Agriculture, Air and Sea Transportation, Aquaculture, Sports and Recreation, Youth and Senior Citizens, Tourism, Finance, Political Status, External Relations, and Development Banking.

Among the Pacific Island states participating in the APIL are American Samoa; Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) State of Chuuk; FSM State of Kosrae; FSM State of Pohnpei; FSM State of Yap; Island of Guam; Republic of the Marshall Islands; Republic of Palau; State of Hawai'i; Republic of Kiribati; and Republic of Nauru.

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MOMI and FSM' Petro-Corp arrangements nearly complete

FSM Government remains silent on the matter

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

At press time the price of unleaded gasoline at one of the gas stations in Pohnpei had risen to \$6.10 per gallon. The diesel price rose to \$6.80 per gallon. The recent price increases for fuel have effected the cost of nearly everything in the FSM.

FSM residents have been left to wonder and to wildly speculate what is happening with FSM's intention to control its own fuel resources. Government officials have remained quiet on the matter.

The Kaselehlie Press over the course of the last four weeks placed dozens of phone calls to the office of the FSM National Government that is supervising the process. None of those phone calls have been returned.

Two press releases received within three days of each other indicate that the plan for the FSM Petroleum Corporation (FSMPC) to obtain Mobil's assets in the FSM is nearing completion. Neither of the press releases was from the National Government or from FSMPC.

For well over a year, Mobil Oil Micronesia, Inc. (MOMI) has been working with the FSM National and State Government to finalize asset sale and supply agreements covering its operations in the FSM. According to a Mobil press release, since the National Government and all of the State Governments signed the agreements in March of 2008 MOMI has been working with the FSMPC on the necessary transition arrangements.

The Mobil press release said that MOMI is "focused on ensuring product supply conti-

nuity and a seamless changeover and will commence a phased transition to FSMPC from June 30, 2008. The turn-over of assets will start with its facilities in Yap, followed by Chuuk and Pohnpei. We anticipate that full transition of MOMI's assets and operations in the FSM to the FSMPC will be completed by end July 2008."

Another press release by Yap's Department of Youth and Civic Affairs indicated that the transition has already occurred in Yap. The release said that FSMPC representatives briefed gathered leaders at the Sixth State Leadership meeting on July 1. They asked the State's leaders to take action on the pending lease agreement between the government and FSMPC, and to transfer the Jet A-1 fuel farm at the Yap International Airport over to the FSMPC.

The seventh one-month lease agreement with MOMI had expired at the end of the previous day and FSMPC had made the transition with MOMI on the morning of the leader's meeting. Governor Anefal placed an interim agreement before the leadership body for their consideration. Under



Yap's laws, the governor is empowered to enter short term lease agreements for up to five years for government properties.

Anefal assured the body that the execution of a temporary lease with FSMPC was by no means "a preemptive move on the part of the Executive to the necessary legislative process, but as a temporary bridge that should allow ample time for the Legislature to consider the longer-term arrangement" with FSMPC. Anefal said this is "only a temporary" solution necessitated by time constraints and other agreements already in place. Should the legislature approve the pending long-term lease agreement with FSMPC, this temporary arrangement ceases

de-facto.

The gathered leaders reached consensus on the proposal and agreed that the legislative process should be allowed to take its course while the transfer of the Jet A-1 fuel farm to the FSMPC should also be pursued in due course.

In Pohnpei all Mobil logos were removed from the fuel trucks and the gas stations leading many to believe that FSMPC had taken control. According to the Mobil press release the transition arrangements between MOMI and FSMPC in Pohnpei and Chuuk have not yet been completed.

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Guest Perspective

For the good of the nation the states need a fairer deal from the FSM National Government

The Federated States of Micronesia is a nation that is almost unique in the history of the world. Four different groups of people, separated from each other by thousands of square miles of ocean, joined together to form a single nation. Each group agreed to put aside their differences and sacrifice some of their own independence for the greater good of the nation and formed a Federation of four states with a strong national government located in Pohnpei.

In our short history, we have much to be proud of. However, I believe that the member states of the FSM and the nation itself is coming to a crossroads in our history. The decisions we take now are going to have repercussions for decades. We must look at what we are doing and make sure that we make the right decisions for the long-term future of the FSM.

Our Congress and our Executive Branch are the leaders of our nation. We in state government look to our national government for leadership and financial assistance with our social and economic development. Yet at a time when two states, Kosrae and Chuuk, are facing major financial difficulties, we are not seeing the leadership or example that we need from

our national government.

Kosrae and Chuuk have both had to take very strong actions to begin to solve the financial crises facing those states. In Kosrae, we are in the process of eliminating up to 20% of our government work force, and all government workers have had to take a 5% pay cut. This cut was on top of what was already the lowest rate of pay in the FSM. Not only have people lost their jobs and had their salaries cut, but the government has had to raise taxes on just about every item for sale in Kosrae.

Kosrae is proud of the actions it is taking and the people are willingly committed to working our way out of financial problems. However, the people of Kosrae are suffering. As a result of the salary cuts and tax increases our economy has declined. Add in the rising costs for fuel, electricity, food and other essentials, you have a growing gap between what people need and what they can afford.

At the same time that the people of Kosrae are suffering, the national government has voted for a large pay raise for all government workers and for a nearly 25% increase in the Representation Funds available for members of Congress. This is not fair. We

are all Micronesians and it is not fair that just one sector of our society can live in a greater degree of prosperity than other workers only because they are employed by the national government instead of a state government. I want to make it clear that I am not calling for the national government employees to lose their pay raise. I know that they need it. But, what I am calling for is an immediate appropriation by the Congress to be used to give some pay relief to state government employees because many of them need it even more.

The national government has apparently taken no significant steps in recent years to do anything to reduce its spending. Every year the FSM budget goes up and in recent years there have been budget surpluses at the end of the year. State budgets are either static or declining while, at the same time the national budget keeps getting bigger and spending increases.

How can this be? How can the national government afford large pay raises when the states are eliminating employees and cutting wages? The answer is simple. The national government is not sharing revenues fairly. Under current FSM law, the national government retains 50% of local revenues from income tax and import duties. This is just too much. The states are not receiving a fair share of the revenue. Early in this Congress' term C.B. 15-06 was introduced which, if it becomes law, will change the

revenue share to 30% to the national government and 70% between the four states. Congress urgently needs to pass this law.

I firmly believe that the national government and the states must all work together to reduce government spending – at all levels of government; national state and municipal. Recently the FSM was the subject of criticism before the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs. Some of the criticism was unfair. Some of it was accurate and justified. All of it hurt. Our nation needs to do a better job in building our economic future. The first and most important step is for the national government to urgently act to reduce government spending. If we spend our money on things that are not building our future, then we will not have any money left to spend on our future.

If the national government keeps spending too much, and the states continue to be denied their fair share of revenue, then state economies will inevitably continue to decline and the secure and prosperous future that is our children's birthright may be lost. I believe that our national government right now needs to show the leadership we expect of them and begin to take the urgent steps needed to first increase the revenue share to the states and then to reduce their own spending so that they can continue to operate with a reduced budget.

Lyndon H. Jackson
Speaker, Kosrae State Legislature

K-Press Perspective

Throw that cigarette down and run!

It's Friday afternoon, one week short of deadline and I just stepped out the door for the *umptieth* time today to have a smoke. On Sunday I'll be 46 years old but I feel like I'm in my late 60's. I shouldn't feel that way. I know what did it—cigarettes!

Sometimes when I smoke, I look at my cigarette burning away and think about the fact that the stick is just a nicotine, poison, and carcinogen delivery system.

So, now I'm 46 years old. I have emphysema. My violent coughing keeps my wife awake at night.

I'm so accustomed to my coughing fits that they no longer awaken me even when I have to sit up in bed to cough efficiently.

Sometimes I wonder why my wife isn't particularly happy with me in the morning. On those mornings I discover that she has spent the night wondering whether or not I was going to die in my sleep.

There was a time when I always turned my face into the pillow whenever I coughed to avoid disturbing my wife who, by the way, is beautiful when she sleeps. She's beautiful all the time but she's especially beautiful when she sleeps.

I've digressed. Let's go back to the subject I started with.

I walked out the door of my office to smoke my *umptieth* cigarette for the day when a "herd" of children sprang down the stairs close to my office. The "herd" was headed, with great joy on their faces toward "Richie's Game Room" which is two doors away from my office.

A few of the children hung back from the rest of the "herd". They were sharing a cigarette. I was surprised that none of them were coughing when they smoked. I'm a

smoker and I know what that means.

It means that those children have smoked enough cigarettes that their bodies no longer care enough to reject the intrusion of poisonous smoke into their lungs. That surprised me especially because the stragglers were so young. I guessed that the four boys were between 8 and 10 years old.

In the distance I thought I saw, a crouching lioness waiting to pounce on the stragglers. A cartoon lioness might have had the words "cancer", "emphysema" or "heart disease" stenciled on her side but she didn't. Just the same, I knew what she had come to do. She was there to pick off the weak ones from the "herd" and to devour them.

I wanted to scream out to the little ones, "Hurry! Run! She's right behind you! Don't look over your shoulder. She's right there and she'll grab you and drag you off to her husband and to her young to gnaw on. You will die if you don't throw that cigarette down and run!! Run!!"

I didn't do it. I froze instead, remembering my past.

I had never been so bold as to stand on a street corner and smoke a cigarette. I always took great pains to hide.

I think I was 9 or 10 years old when I took my first drag from a cigarette. It was awful! I coughed nearly as violently as I do now.

Still, I was convinced that smoking was cool and so I persevered. It was important to me that I learn to smoke. Just like the children I saw today, I didn't see the lioness lurking in my future. She is a patient killer and she is still waiting for me.

See "K-Press" on page 11

Ambros Supermarket

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Seen Any Good Movies Lately?



By **N.N. Isaac**
The Kaselehlie Press

In honor of recent events culminating in Hillary Clinton conceding her bid for the Democratic Nominee in the U.S. presidential race, this edition of "SAGML" will be dedicated to celebrating and honoring powerful, intelligent, capable, hard-working women everywhere.

Sex and the City (2008)

It's been four years since fans of Carrie, Samantha, Charlotte, and Miranda, bid a final farewell to the scintillating foursome from New York City. Now the dynamic ladies are back in a full-length movie to witness Carrie's long-awaited wedding to her main squeeze, Mr. Big, in this hilarious, glitzy pageantry follow-up to the award-winning HBO television show, "Sex and The City."

Starring in the roles that made them fabulously famous are Sarah Jessica Parker as the fashionista icon, Carrie Bradshaw, Kim Cattrall as the sexually confident, Samantha Jones, Kristin Davis as the conventionally conservative Charlotte York, and Cynthia Nixon as the cynical workaholic, Miranda Hobbes. Chris Noth, Evan Handler, David Eigenberg, Jason Lewis, and Willie Garson also reprise their roles from the show.

After the series ended, makers of the show began to make immediate plans for a movie. However, due to salary, script, and timing issues, mainly with actress Kim Cattrall, production was dropped until mid-2007. Patricia Field, who was the costume designer for the show from 1999-2004, and who popularized the use of designer clothes for every-day use, was also enlisted for the film. Field cites the inspiration for Samantha's wardrobe as the American TV soap opera, *Dynasty*. First Lady Jackie Kennedy was the influence for Charlotte's clothes, and Miranda's fashion was inspired by the actress' development in the past years.

Written and directed by Michael Patrick King, "Sex" experienced huge commercial success, recording the biggest opening ever for a romantic comedy and currently grossing over \$311 million USD.

Even with its unprecedented success, the movie received mixed reviews from audiences. Both critics and disappointed fans claim the show lost its steam in its transition to the big screen. Some described the movie as nothing more than five episodes strung together, only three of which retained a modicum of the original show's wit, irony, and focus. Others deplored the questionable portrayal of an African-American girl, played by Jennifer Hudson, as the less-affluent assistant, resorting to "renting" designer labels and living with multiple roommates in a one-bedroom apartment.

During the first 30 minutes this movie, I was slightly mortified by the unabashed materialism and slightly shallow portrayal of the show I'd come to love over six wonderful seasons. It's also quite possible that I lack a sufficiently

imaginative fashion-sense for I was confounded by the debatable usage of a studded belt and the arrangement of a giant flower choker. Despite a few fashion faux pas, somewhere between the catwalks and shameless product-placements, the movie found its humor and heart, making "Sex and the City," in my opinion, one of the best chick-flicks of the year so far. This cinematic incarnation is a sexy, sassy, and satisfying love-letter to both long-time and new fans of the show.

"Sex" is rated R for strong sexual content, graphic nudity, and language. Like its HBO progenitor, this movie portrays blatant promiscuous behavior, frank discussions about romance and sexuality, and is **NOT** for younger audiences.

Caramel (Sukkar banat) (2007)

Forbidden love and exotic beauty propel this modern romantic comedy set in a warm, inviting beauty salon in the cosmopolitan city of Beirut. In "Caramel," friendships ease the struggles of five contemporary Persian women dealing with the bittersweet emotions that accompany the pursuit of life, love, and happiness in a society steeped in a strong patriarchal tradition. "Caramel" is the first feature film for director/actress Nadine Labaki, who stars in the movie as the loyal Layale. With the exception of Labaki, the cast consists of non-professional actors, including Yasmine Al Masri as the engaged Nasrine, Joanna Moukarzel as the boyish Rima, Gisele Aouad as the aging Jamale, Sihame Haddad as the beautiful Rose, and Aziza Semaan as Lili.

"Caramel" premiered in 2007 at the Cannes Film Festival, and has since been distributed in over 40 countries, easily becoming the most internationally acclaimed and exposed Lebanese film, to date. It was also chosen to be Lebanon's official submission to the 80th Academy Awards for the Best Foreign Language Film Category earlier this year.

"Caramel" received warm reviews from critics and has endeared thousands of viewers since its release. Despite the plot being specifically based on Lebanese culture, people around the globe easily identify with the astute social commentary and graceful storytelling of this film. Labaki, especially, has been praised by filmmakers and critics alike, for showcasing an inviting, colorful locale with characters dealing with universal issues, rather than a war-ravaged Beirut.

The film's confectionary title refers to the epilation method used by women for thousands of years in the Middle East, also known as "Persian waxing," or "sugaring," using

heated sugar, water, and lemon juice, to get rid of unwanted hairs. This painful beauty regimen highlights the paradoxes of love and beauty, and how the two can be both intensely liberating and incredibly repressive at the same time. In "Caramel," burning something sweet and using it to painfully remove the undesirable, all to create something desirable is not only an ironic fate, but a reality in this romantic drama.

I always find it highly rewarding to come across a foreign film that manages to find a special place in your heart. This poignant movie is excellent not only for those who

enjoy foreign films, it also intimately rings true for any who've grown up in a melting pot of cultures, genders, and traditions.

"Caramel" is rated PG for thematic elements involving sexuality, language, and some smoking. This film is English subtitled with spoken Arabic and French dialogue.

I thank you, and my daughter thanks you, Hilary Clinton, for being the icon that you are. We'll see you again in 2012. In the meantime, let's not forget to be kind, rewind, and watch for these veritable chick-flicks on DVD.

...K-Press

continued from page 10

Now that I can see her she's much scarier than my parents told me she would be every time they "grounded" me after they smelled cigarette smoke on my breath, or after they caught me in the act of smoking a cigarette. I wish I had listened to them and quit smoking before it became nearly impossible to do it.

They do too. It's possible that my parents and my wife will outlive me. The idea that my grandmother, who is over a hundred years old, might outlive me if I don't take action soon is just too bizarre to consider. I have been selfish.

I didn't say anything today to the children that I saw smoking a cigarette so I'm saying it now even though I know they won't read The Kaselehlie Press. I'm hoping that their parents will and that they will take action and that their actions will be sufficient (without being abusive) to put a

stop to their children's experimentation with cigarettes.

Smoking is not cool! Look at me. I'm a prime example. Listen to me cough and puke in the morning. Look at my face. Is mine the face of a "cool guy"? No! My face is wrinkled and leathery much earlier than it should be. Those aren't coffee stains on my teeth just as it's not yellow magic marker on my thumb and forefinger in the place where I have clutched thousands of cigarettes.

You want to be cool? Get that burning fag (stogie, cigarette) out of your mouth!

Beginning on my birthday I am beginning a serious effort to quit smoking though I've tried many times before. It will be the hardest thing that I have ever done. I wish I'd done it when I was 9.

I have heard the voice of the Lioness and she scares the hell out of me.

If you smoke she might be coming for you too.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

The Pohnpei Dental Clinic is now open to the public.
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POHNPEI STREET TALK



“Before, we could cruise around a lot, and now we’re limited because gas is so expensive. The price of kerosene also goes up which affects my family.”

Albert Weirlangt

← (Student C.O.M.)



“What we need we reduce. I have a car now but I walk to work to save a little. My family sells items in town but we live outside town and it’s hard to pay for gas. This means my family gets less profit.”

Seamon Andreas

← (Wone Elementary Teacher)

What changes have you made in your life due to higher fuel costs? How has it effected you?

“For me it’s harder to go around and do what I need to do. I think the price is too high.”

Sepe Tolenoa

→ (DJ’s Store Shopkeeper)



Photos By Nigel Jaynes

“Because it’s going up, people are struggling and complaining. My family has a car, but gas prices make their paychecks smaller.”

Jay Kiluwe

← (Pit Stop Cashier)



“If I need a ride I can just taxi. Gas is too expensive and I live close so I just walk to work.”

Peteriko Wentolin

← (State Hospital Security)

**Astronomical Tide Prediction
July 9 - 22, 2008**

	POHNPEI, KOSRAE		CHUUK	
Wednesday	09 Wed 12:45AM 1.5 06:49AM 3.2 01:30PM 1.0 08:04PM 2.8	16 Wed 02:07AM 3.8 09:28AM 0.7 03:05PM 2.0 07:44PM 1.2	09 Wed 04:06AM 1.5 11:55AM 0.3 07:12PM 0.9 09:25PM 0.8	16 Wed 01:18AM 2.0 10:33AM -0.2
Thursday	10 Thu 01:42AM 1.8 07:16AM 2.7 01:58PM 1.2 09:05PM 2.9	17 Thu 02:39AM 4.0 09:49AM 0.5 03:32PM 2.2 08:25PM 1.1	10 Thu 03:38AM 1.3 11:24AM 0.3	17 Thu 01:48AM 2.2 10:31AM -0.2
Friday	11 Fri 03:15AM 2.0 07:39AM 2.3 02:27PM 1.3 10:26PM 2.9	18 Fri 03:10AM 4.2 10:12AM 0.4 03:58PM 2.4 09:02PM 1.0	11 Fri 02:36AM 1.3 10:59AM 0.1	18 Fri 02:17AM 2.3 10:34AM -0.2 04:18PM 0.3 06:21PM 0.2
Saturday	12 Sat 03:07PM 1.4 11:50PM 3.1	19 Sat 03:40AM 4.3 10:35AM 0.3 04:25PM 2.6 09:38PM 0.9	12 Sat 12:26AM 1.3 10:47AM 0.0	19 Sat 02:45AM 2.3 10:44AM -0.2 04:11PM 0.4 07:15PM 0.3
Sunday	13 Sun 08:39AM 1.6 12:16PM 1.7 04:23PM 1.5	20 Sun 04:11AM 4.3 11:00AM 0.3 04:52PM 2.8 10:13PM 0.9	13 Sun 12:01AM 1.5 10:43AM -0.1	20 Sun 03:11AM 2.3 10:56AM -0.2 04:22PM 0.5 07:57PM 0.3
Monday	14 Mon 12:49AM 3.3 08:52AM 1.2 01:58PM 1.7 05:52PM 1.5	21 Mon 04:41AM 4.2 11:25AM 0.4 05:21PM 2.9 10:49PM 1.0	14 Mon 12:22AM 1.7 10:42AM -0.2	21 Mon 03:37AM 2.3 11:09AM -0.1 04:41PM 0.6 08:36PM 0.4
Tuesday	15 Tue 01:32AM 3.5 09:09AM 1.0 02:37PM 1.9 06:56PM 1.4	22 Tue 05:12AM 4.0 11:50AM 0.5 05:52PM 3.0 11:27PM 1.1	15 Tue 12:49AM 1.9 10:38AM -0.2	22 Tue 03:59AM 2.1 11:21AM 0.0 05:04PM 0.8 09:14PM 0.5



2008 Pohnpei Youth Basketball Camp
JULY 14-18, 2008

LOCATION
Gymnasium, COM-FSM Main Campus, Palikir

AGE GROUPS
8 – 12 years old 9:00 am – 12:00 noon (Mon-Fri)
13- 17 years old 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Mon-Fri)

HEAD COACH
Ryan Burns from Melbourne Australia

REGISTRATION
Registration forms available at the COM-FSM Sports and Recreation Office and FSMNOC Office

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
5:00 pm, Friday, July 04, 2008

INFORMATION
Telephone 320-2480 ext 159 and 320-8914

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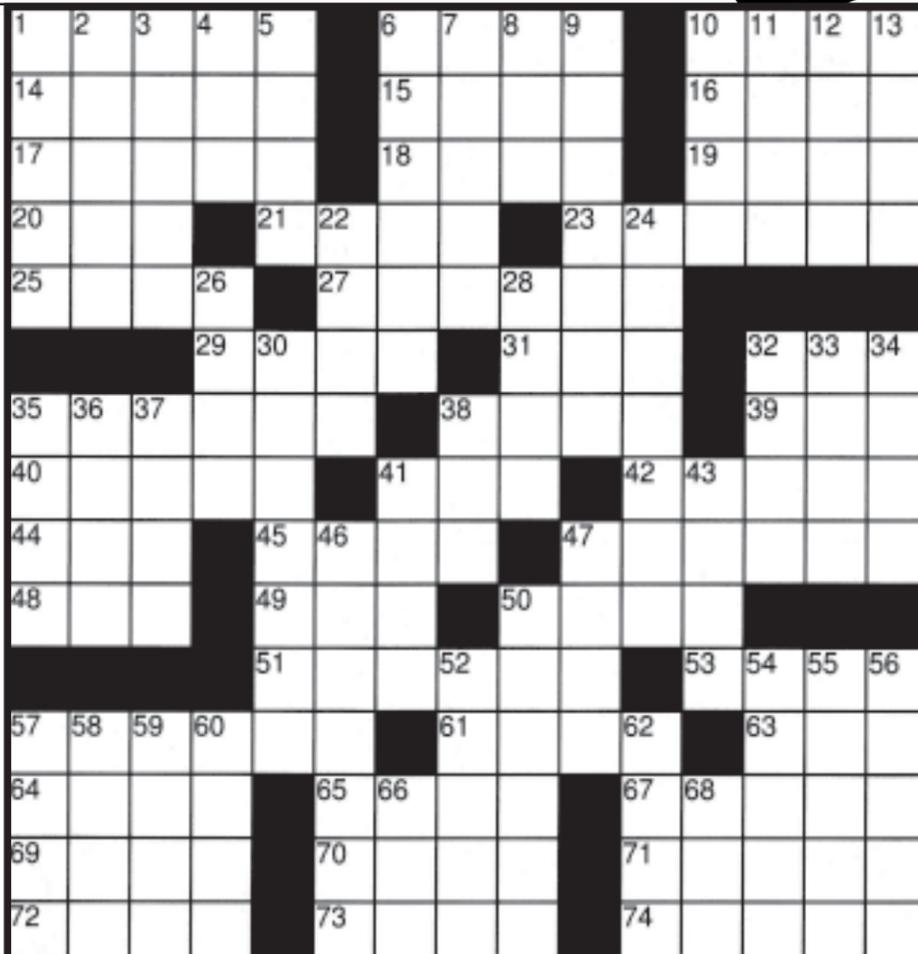
July 9 - 22, 2008

The Kaselehlie Press

Puzzles

Puzzle Pleasure

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1. Stockpile
6. Sing like Ella
10. Clean
14. Mistake
15. That hurt!
16. Fair
17. Put up with
18. Pretentious
19. Bard's lament
20. They come before dos
21. ___ of the court
23. Tranquil
25. Cook slowly
27. Craft
29. ___ test
31. <i>Arsenic and ___ Lace</i>
32. Baden-Baden, e.g.
35. Wanted
38. Bistro
39. Don't have one, man
40. Kind of closet</p> | <p>41. School dance
42. Don't waste
44. Break the ___
45. Jacob had one
47. Held responsible
48. Church seat
49. Grounds keeper?
50. Responds to the moon
51. Hinder
53. Croquet site
57. Cloisters
61. Nerd
63. Douglas ___
64. Get better
65. Melt
67. Ingenuous
69. Perot features
70. Tardy
71. Nasty ones
72. Inspiration
73. Black- ___ Susan
74. Red veggies</p> | <p>DOWN</p> <p>1. Puts on a burner
2. Go around
3. Greet the day
4. Curtain fixture
5. Made a picture
6. Flew high
7. ___ and whey
8. What Daryl Hannah and Ethan Hawke do
9. A good person to know
10. It's starting to ___ thin
11. Crossbar
12. Reach across
13. They might get a run
22. Fervent
24. Golden aged
26. Stadium activity
28. <i>General Hospital</i>, e.g.
30. 100 years</p> | <p>32. Lowlife
33. Stance
34. Lost in wonder
35. Pace
36. Chinese staple
37. From scratch
38. Bilk
41. "You're getting warmer," e.g.
43. Part of this book's title
46. Struggle
47. Expressed, as a farewell
50. Made coffee
52. Striped stone
54. Blazing
55. Rosie's bit
56. Woman's wear
57. Excuse me!
58. Better half
59. Prohibits
60. Or ___!
62. Door part
66. Mare munchie
68. Ripen</p> |
|---|---|--|---|



K-Press Puzzle Pleasure

Heads Puzzle B

Form a continuous chain of looped words. The last letter of each word is the first letter of the next. The number of each word is given in parentheses. We have started you off with the first two words in each puzzle. Beware of false paths.

<p>INNING (6)</p> <p>GIANT (5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(8)</p> <p>(7)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(6)</p>	<p>N E K L G I T D E H E K</p> <p>K I T E N B L B P T M L</p> <p>E N N N P A R T A G E T</p> <p>E I I L E A K G S T R H</p> <p>L N A H D V I D E A A U</p> <p>G I A N T V A R E P L M</p> <p>D O O R A H I H S I D B</p> <p>O O T N N P E N B O U N</p> <p>O G M E M B K M L H N G</p> <p>M K L E T G D L E P K T</p>	<p>T E P O R O A R T S H N</p> <p>O R A E N O E E D T L F</p> <p>Y N N R N L A N R U O J</p> <p>F W L R N I U D O N T Y</p> <p>O E T O O F F L U G E L</p> <p>P T B R T E L O E F I O</p> <p>C L A Y E B N A L A R P</p> <p>E K R M D O U G H O R N</p> <p>E E N H O A Y P O E Y O</p> <p>H T O R L T A L E N T F</p>	<p>JOURNAL (7)</p> <p>LIFEBOAT (8)</p> <p>(6)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(4)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(4)</p>
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SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

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The **KASELEHLIE** Press

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US Compact Grants to FSM in June 2008

For the ninth month of the current fiscal year, the FSM Department of Finance received Compact-funded grants from the United States Government totaling \$ 3,774,092. These payments were for Compact sector grants for Education, Health, Public Sector, Environment, and Private Sector Development plus Infrastructure and Supplemental Education Grants for June of Fiscal Year 2008. The breakdown of these grants follows:

Sector Grants for FSM National Government

Education Sector (FSM Department of Education)	\$	31,000
Health Sector (FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs)	\$	58,000
Education Sector (COM-FSM Supplemental Education Grant)	\$	670,594
Total Payment for FSM National Government:	\$	759,594

Sector Grants for Kosrae State

Education Sector	\$	72,600
Health Sector	\$	59,700
Public Sector (Capacity Building)	\$	76,491
Environment Sector	\$	8,500
Private Sector Development	\$	30,700
Supplemental Education Grant (2006)	\$	28,300
Infrastructure (Lelu Elementary School)	\$	112,227
Total Payment for Kosrae:	\$	388,518

Sector Grants for Pohnpei State

Education Sector*	\$	827,374
Health Sector*	\$	651,278
Public Sector (Capacity Building)	\$	43,943
Environment Sector*	\$	50,683
Private Sector Development	\$	29,600
Total Payment for Pohnpei State	\$	1,602,878

Sector Grants for Yap State

Education Sector*	\$	516,405
Health Sector*	\$	205,928
Public Sector (Capacity Building)	\$	30,000
Environment Sector*	\$	40,769
Private Sector Development	\$	70,000
Supplemental Education Grant (2007)	\$	160,000
Total Payment for Yap State	\$	1,023,102

(*These Amounts include 2004 Carryover Funding in addition to 2008 Sector Grants.)

TOTAL SECTOR GRANT PAYMENTS FOR FSM (June FY 2008): \$3,774,092

These payments are made on a monthly basis, based upon requests submitted by the FSM Government on behalf of the national government, the four state governments and the College of Micronesia-FSM. The U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs administers these funds for the United States Government.

The above information is provided as a public service by the United States Embassy.

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 320-8365.
- 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 Community Bulletin is a free message board exclusive to announcements. To post your announcements to The Kaselehlie Press

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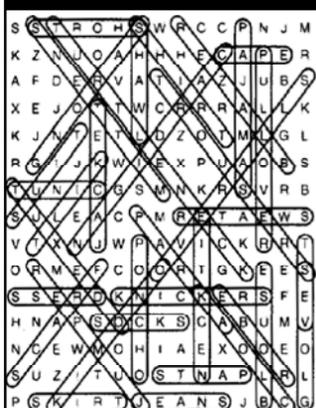
There was a young lady named Harris
Whom nothing could ever embarrass
'Til the salts that she shook
In the bath that she took
Turned out to be Plaster of Paris.

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**The deadline for Ads, News Items,
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is July 18, 2008**

LAST Issue's Solution

Public A-Dress

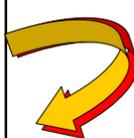


Word List for Public A-Dress

Blazer, Blouse, Cape, Cardigan, Cloak, Dress, Gloves, Jacket, Jeans, Jumper, Kilt, Kimono, Knickers, Mittens, Necktie, Overalls, Pajamas, Pants, Parka, Poncho, Pullover, Robe, Sarong, Scarf, Shawl, Shirt, Shorts, Skirt, Socks, Suit, Sweater, Trousers, Tunic, Turtleneck, Tuxedo, Vest.

LAST Issue's Solution

Eccentric



Pohnpei youths surveyed about local foods and exercise habits

By Blanche Greene-Cramer
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

During an 8-week period between June and August 2008, 300 youths between the ages of 10-22 from all over Pohnpei will participate in an interagency study of their attitudes and practices regarding local foods. This project is being coordinated by the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) with assistance from the College of Micronesia-FSM, Camp Glow, Upward Bound, Pohnpei State Youth Leadership Conference, elementary schools in Nett and Sekere, Saint Joseph Catholic youth representatives in U, Emory University and the Emory Global Health Institute.

The purpose of the study is to provide baseline data on the types and quantities of food being consumed by Pohnpei youth as well as information on the amount of physical activity youth engage in, the number of TV and video programs watched, and recognition of IFCP awareness messages regarding healthy eating and local foods. This will be useful for identifying trends in youth behavior that may be putting them at risk for certain diseases, particularly diabetes and obesity, later in life and in the development of the school lunch program. Also, the questions pertaining to IFCP awareness



The Upward Bound Karat group performs their skit and song about the state banana of Pohnpei, Karat, on June 27, 2008, at the College of Micronesia-FSM gymnasium, as part of a local foods workshop held by the Island Food Community of Pohnpei.

messages will help Island Food to identify which of their messages and techniques have been most successful in reaching a wide audience and which could use modification.

Blanche Greene-Cramer, Emory University student from mainland USA doing an internship with IFCP, is leading the data collection and analysis, with the help of IFCP summer interns Mihne Pretrick, Miuveen Diana, Nelvin Bartolome, Reedwin Edwin, and Gailliard Eliou. In order to collect information from a large number of youth from across Pohnpei, Blanche designed a short, 16-question survey with support from IFCP. Local organization and program directors helped to identify groups of youth to participate in the survey. So far 272 youth have completed surveys, with about 40 surveys collected from youth from other islands in Micronesia and from Pohnpeians aged 23-60.

While data collection is not yet complete,

initial analysis has highlighted some interesting trends. Over 74% of youth sampled are consuming rice on a daily basis while less than 10% reported eating local staple crops like taro, breadfruit, banana, and yam on a daily basis. Almost 60% of youth engage in physical activity less than twice a week and 43% report watching 3 or more TV programs or videos daily. Once data collection is finished, Greene-Cramer hopes to look for different trends depending on municipality as well as within specific age groups.

Thanks are again extended to all the youth who have participated in the study, Emory University and the Emory Global Health Institute, College of Micronesia - FSM Pohnpei Campus, Camp Glow, Upward Bound, Pohnpei State Youth Leadership Conference, Pohnpei Department of Education including elementary schools in Nett and Sekere, and Saint Joseph Catholic youth representatives.

Upward Bound students enthusiastically learn about local foods

By Dr. Lois Englberger
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

On Friday afternoon 27 June, the Island Food Community of Pohnpei was invited by the Upward Bound program to give a workshop on local foods for the 68 high school students during their summer session. First all joined in singing the LET'S GO LOCAL song, followed by a talk on local foods and their CHEEF benefits: Culture, Health, Economic, Environment and Food security. Students took part in local food quizzes and several won IFCP pens as prizes.

The students enthusiastically played a game to identify ten Pohnpei banana varieties. The game was first played by individuals, with the person who most quickly and correctly naming the ten varieties winning the game. The game was also played by the student groups. This year the Upward Bound organizers came up with an innovative way of grouping their students, naming them as a banana variety: Akadah, Inahsio, Karat, and Kudud. These groups also competed in developing and presenting a skit on their own banana variety.

What creative students! The Karat group told about the rich beta-carotene content of the ripe banana and sang a song, and another group came up with a new legend... how Inahsio got married to Akadah and had a little baby called Kudud! The Karat team won, but the other teams came close behind and all had a great time, learning about local foods and celebrating their unique differences.

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Pohnpei Little League swings into its first season in years

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

It was 9:00 on the morning of June 30. Hundreds of players, family members and baseball lovers gathered at the Spanish Wall ballfield in Pohnpei for the opening ceremony that launched the first season of Little League baseball in many years. Dignitaries, including Lt. Governor Churchill Edward addressed the crowd, the first pitch was thrown and the season began with a tight battle between the Mwoakilloa Outsiders and team VCS.

VCS won the game. The score was a close 6 to 4.

A spokesperson for the Little League Organizing Committee said that they had hoped that there would be interest in the League and they kept the entry fees as low as possible to attract participants. When all of the teams had registered, the Pohnpei

Little League had a field of 18 teams that will compete. "People are literally coming out of the jungle to take part. It's more than we had hoped for," said Jim Tobin of the FSM National Olympic Committee who helped to organize and to fund the Little League.

The committee said that in addition to funding from the FSMNOC, Pohnpei State contributed to the league. Peter Konings facilitated a substantial donation to the effort from the European Union.

The competition brief describes the purpose of the Pohnpei Little League:

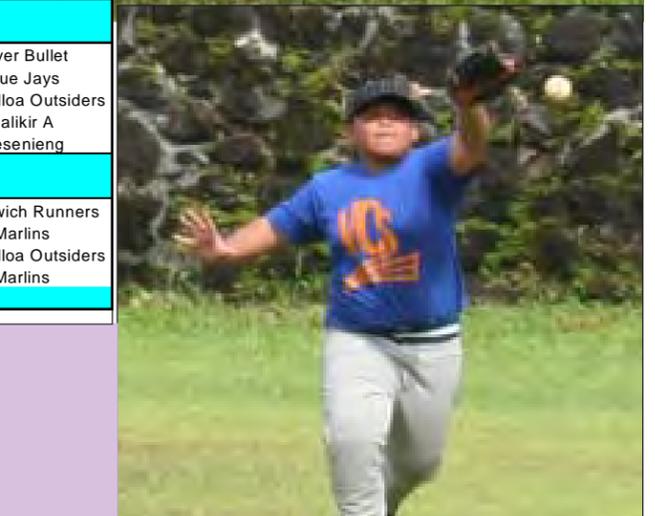
"This Pohnpei Little League Baseball Program of Summer 2008 (PLL08) is being held as a collaborative effort of the Pohnpei State Government, the FSM-National Olympic Committee, and a committee of volunteers formed to organize the PLL08. This committee is dedicated to providing an op-

portunity for Pohnpei youth (boys and girls) to play baseball during the Summer of 2008, and although the committee encourages the continuation of Little League activities beyond this time period, the primary goal of the committee's efforts is limited to youth baseball activities in Pohnpei during the Summer of 2008. The PLL08 committee welcomes additional support of any kind from any person or entity which will enhance the capacity of the committee to reach its stated goal.

A review of the rules of League shows that the Committee wanted the players to enjoy the competition and for all players to be able to participate. Players substitution rules insure that every player will play. Breaking pitches are not allowed and there is a 60 pitch limit for any pitcher per game

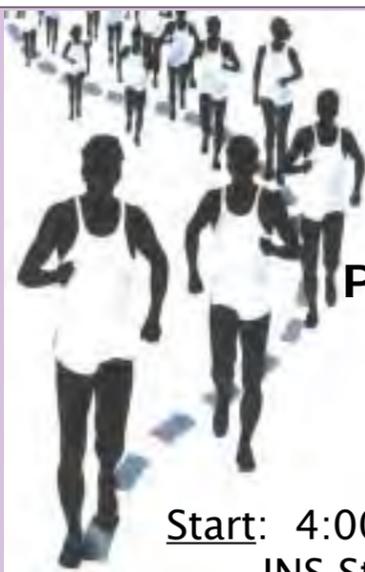
Games are scheduled for six innings within a one hour and forty five minute time limit for each game.

Photos by Nigel Jaynes



Pohnpei Little League first round schedule

		Game #1 9:00am		Game #2 11:30am		Game #3 2:00pm	
Dates	Visitor	Home	Visitor	Home	Visitor	Home	
Thursday 10-Jul	Marlins	Mesenieng	Greenwich Runners	Palikir A	Palikir B	Mwoakilloa Outsiders	
Friday 11-Jul	Blue Jays	Lemars' Quick Cash	VCS	Rookies	Ihoang	EMC Blocks	
Saturday 12-Jul	MAKE-UP GAMES						
Sunday 13-Jul	MAKE-UP GAMES						
Monday 14-Jul	Silver Bullet	Pohnpei Plumbing	Eniwahn Explorers	PP01	U Hope	Marlins	
Tuesday 15-Jul	Playboys	Palikir A	Mesenieng	Palikir B	Blue Jays	Greenwich Runners	
Wednesday 16-Jul	Mwoakilloa Outsiders	Rookies	Lemars' Quick Cash	EMC Blocks	Silver Bullet	VCS	
Thursday 17-Jul	Palikir A	Ihoang	Pohnpei Plumbing	Palikir B	PP01	Blue Jays	
Friday 18-Jul	U Hope	Rookies	EMC Blocks	Eniwahn Explorers	VCS	Mesenieng	
Saturday 19-Jul	MAKE-UP GAMES						
Sunday 20-Jul	MAKE-UP GAMES						
Monday 21-Jul	Silver Bullet	Marlins	Playboys	Lemars' Quick Cash	Palikir B	Silver Bullet	
Tuesday 22-Jul	EMC Blocks	Palikir A	Rookies	Pohnpei Plumbing	Ihoang	Blue Jays	
Wednesday 23-Jul	U Hope	Mesenieng	Greenwich Runners	Eniwahn Explorers	Marlins	Mwoakilloa Outsiders	
Thursday 24-Jul	Playboys	PP01	Palikir B	VCS	Lemars' Quick Cash	Palikir A	
Friday 25-Jul	Rookies	Silver Bullet	Blue Jays	EMC Blocks	Pohnpei Plumbing	Mesenieng	
Saturday 26-Jul	MAKE-UP GAMES						
Sunday 27-Jul	MAKE-UP GAMES						
Monday 28-Jul	Eniwahn Explorers	Blue Jays	Mwoakilloa Outsiders	Pohnpei Plumbing	Ihoang	Greenwich Runners	
Tuesday 29-Jul	Palikir B	U Hope	EMC Blocks	PP01	VCS	Marlins	
Wednesday 30-Jul	Eniwahn Explorers	Lemars' Quick Cash	Playboys	Ihoang	Mesenieng	Mwoakilloa Outsiders	
Thursday 31-Jul	U Hope	Silver Bullet	Palikir A	PP01	Rookies	Marlins	
Friday 1-Aug	Greenwich Runners	Playboys					



5th Annual 2008 "INS" MAROSONG

POHNPEI HALF MARATHON 13.1 MILE RUN

4:00 p.m., Saturday, July 19

CASH PRIZES

Start: 4:00 p.m. at
INS Store

Finish: Spanish Wall
Softball Field

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 st Place - \$500 | 2 nd Place - \$250 |
| 3 rd Place - \$100 | 4-10 th Place - \$30 |
| 11-20 th - \$15 | 21-30 th - \$10 |
| 1 st Women - \$300 | 2 nd Women - \$200 |
| 3 rd women - \$100 | 1 st Junior - \$100 |

No registration fee. All runners will receive finisher's medal, INS souvenir t-shirt, hat and gift bag

For more information contact the FSMNOC office (320-8914)