

The *This bi-weekly publication is \$1.00*
KASELEHLIE PRESS

PO Box 2222 Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941

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Gruesome murder in Wapar, Pohnpei

By *Bill Jaynes*
 The Kaselehlie Press

Wapar, Pohnpei – On Monday, April 20, residents of Wapar, Madolenihmw were shocked to discover that one of their own had been killed in a gruesome manner and buried in a shallow grave some time on Saturday, April 18.

Late in the afternoon on Monday, Benjamin Hawley Tihpen approached off duty Madolenihmw police officers at Wapar's community naqs and tearfully confessed that he had murdered his father. He asked to be taken to jail. One of the officers, a relative of the family became agitated and refused to believe the story until after Benjamin led police officers to the site of the shallow grave where he said had buried his adopted father Pernal Tihpen. Officers dug in what was Benjamin's vegetable garden and found that Tihpen's body had been buried just as Benjamin said. His severed head had been placed into a bag and was buried in the same grave.

The body was in the early stages of decay. Family members hurried to arrange the fu-

neral for Pernal Tihpen who was in his 70's. The funeral was held beginning late that night.

Pohnpei's Director of the Department of Public Safety, Lucas Carlos said that in addition to Benjamin's oral confession he signed a written confession.

Benjamin has been in police custody since his confession on Monday.

On Friday, April 24, he appeared in Pohnpei State court for a bail hearing, shackled, and in the custody of two Pohnpei State Police officers. Prosecutors for the Attorney General's office asked that bail be denied both for Benjamin's protection and the protection of the community. The court agreed and Benjamin was sent back to jail pending his arraignment.

Bob Irwin, an American citizen and long term resident of the Wapar community said that he has known Benjamin for nearly 15 years. He said that Benjamin visited him at his home nearly every day for all of those years. Irwin helped Benjamin to learn some English

and taught him how to grow his own garden. He said that he knew that Benjamin smoked a lot of marijuana but that he was always pleasant and helpful. He never expected Benjamin might someday harm another person much less decapitate his adopted father.

Irwin said that approximately one month before the incident, Benjamin started to change. He began to worry about people who wanted to "beat him up, hurt him, and kill him." The community didn't know what to do, said Irwin, and some people were beginning to get angry about the stories that he made up.

Irwin said that he didn't think that Benjamin was making the stories up but that he really believed them.

See "Wapar" on page 2

ANZAC Day

Flag Bearers Jack Bricknell and Sean Tallon handled the posting of the colors at the ANZAC day commemoration at sunrise at the Australian Navy Compound in Pohnpei on April 25. Lt. Commander Paul N. Ruhl of the Royal Australian Navy was the Master of Ceremonies for the event attended by a hundred or more people in the early morning hours.



Kolonia Catholic Church properties targeted for theft

By *Bill Jaynes*
 The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM – While Pohnpei Jesuits were out to dinner on Sunday, April 19, thieves entered the Jesuit House residence and stole over \$1000 in cash. The burglars also stole a watch, a flash light, and an expensive cell phone.

Brother Dave Antonelli said that over the weekend, properties occupied by the Catholic Church were burglarized in the area of the Jesuit House. In addition to a burglary at the Jesuit House, the Pohnpei Catholic School was burglarized. Would be burglars were also chased from the grounds of the Catholic Church over the weekend



but no identification could be made of the three males who attempted to enter the church building.

At the Jesuit House burglars removed one section of wood trim before cutting the "security screen". They removed the glass louvers from the window and crawled into the room that the Jesuits use as a guest room.

Bishop Amando Samo is visiting Pohnpei for confirmations. He didn't bring very much money with him from Chuuk to cover travel expenses. All that he did bring with him was stolen on Sunday night. He had decided that he didn't need a rental car while performing his duties in Pohnpei but the check to pay for a car had already been cashed for him. The money was in his locked room. The largest portion of the money taken in the evening's burglary was



taken from his room.

Thieves ranged the hallways of Jesuit house going from room to room and taking whatever they could carry. Father Dave Andrus, Father Frances Hezel, and Brother Antonelli each had small bowls with loose change in their rooms. Each of the bowls contained no more than five dollars. The thieves took that money as well. Another

of the priests was relieved of \$50 that was in his room.

Antonelli rarely uses his watch so it was in his room. The thieves cut the screen on his window in two places in order to access his locked room. They took his watch along with his bowl of change and a couple of one dollar bills.

See "Thieves" on page 4

...Wapar

Continued from front page

On Saturday Benjamin went to Irwin's house and asked to borrow his gun. He told Irwin that he wanted to kill himself. Irwin told him that he shouldn't talk that way. Even though the "gun" that Benjamin was talking about was only a BB gun he didn't give it to him.

Irwin said that on Saturday his neighbor asked Benjamin to get a drinking coconut for a sick relative. He brought the coconut back to the house but he had already drunk it. She scolded him and sent him out to get another one. When he returned a few hours later with the coconut he was "covered in blood". Irwin said that the neighbor asked Benjamin what had happened. He said that he had cut his hand with a machete while getting the coconut. She saw no cut on his hand.

When Pernal did not show up at church the next day as had been his habit for many years, neighbors became concerned about him and asked Benjamin about his father. He told

some of them that he was at home and that he was okay. He waved others away agitatedly telling them to stay away because there were ghosts in the house.

On Monday he told neighbors that his father had gone into town and that he was okay.

He told neighbors that Bob Irwin and his Pohnpeian wife Airholla were bad people and that he should kill them. He claimed that the Irwin's had killed Jeff Fowler and buried him in his vegetable garden. Fowler is an American plumber currently doing business in Pohnpei. He lived for a month with Irwin at his home in Wapar. Benjamin also told neighbors that the Irwin's had also killed their own children and buried them as well.

The Irwin's had gone to Kolonia on the day that Benjamin told neighbors that he should kill them. It was also the day of the gruesome discovery in his vegetable garden.

Benjamin Hawley Tihpen's arraignment is scheduled for 10:00, Friday, May 1 at the Pohnpei State Supreme Court.

Tax Reform Committee Meets In Chuuk

FSM Information Services

Palikir, Pohnpei, April 22, 2009, A Tax Reform Executive Steering Committee (ESC) meeting was held in Chuuk on April 16, 2009. The meeting was chaired by the Honorable Vice President Alik Alik and attended by all four State Governors. Honorable Dohsis Halbert, Chairman of Ways & Means Committee for the FSM Congress, also participated in the meeting as an observer.

The objective of this ESC meeting is to continue to discuss and reach agreement on constitutional, legal, and other policy issues related to the proposed creation of a Uniform Revenue Authority to administer the taxes of all five FSM Governments. In particular, the meeting focused on two issues: 1) funding for the URA; and 2) VAT refunds and URA banking.

Leading up to the ESC meeting, a technical

group comprised of finance and legal officers from the FSM National Government and the FSM State Governments met. At the end of its two-day meeting the technical group reached agreement on the draft URA legislation as embodying its policy recommendations. During its meeting, the ESC adopted the draft URA legislation recommended by the technical group which includes language relating to VAT refunds and URA funding. Vice President Alik reinforced the administration's commitment to the tax reforms and assured the Governors that the administration will continue to work with Congress on the proposed approach for funding the URA.

Going forward, the technical group will undertake review of the remaining draft legislations relating to the tax reforms. The technical group will have 30 days to complete its review and finalize its recommendations on all of the remaining draft legislation in time for the next ESC meeting, tentatively planned to take place in June.

WASC visits Pohnpei Island Central School (PICS)

FSM Information Services

Kolonia, Pohnpei, April 22, 2009, This week (April 20-22) the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation team of seven educators across the Pacific Region is visiting Pohnpei State's PICS for the school's first attempt at achieving accreditation. The team consists of WASC Chairman, Dr. Ron Needham, Dr. Marilyn Salas, Dr. Gayle Hendricks, Geraldine T. Ichimura, Patricia Parks, Ann S. Antal and Rebecca Pickett.

PICS accreditation team is demonstrating how their school is responding to four categories for student learning: a) Organization for student learning; b) Curriculum and Instruction; c) Support for Student Personal and Academic Growth; and d) Resource Management and Development.

Educators responsible for leading PICS Self-Study are: PICS Administrators: Joseph Villazon, Director of Education, Solipisio

Salvador, Chief of Secondary Education, Pernis Diopulos, Acting Principal and PICS Accreditation Leadership Team consisting of the following members: Quincy Lawrence, Accreditation Self Study Coordinator, Solipisio Salvador, Benji Phillip, Mayson Fredrick, Neemia Bourea, Michaela Corr, Andy Brown, Sonster Edgar, Kenio Frank, Rickson Aldis, Carolyn Fredrick, Adarihno Hadley and Pete Leon Panuelo.

The WASC Team is reviewing the school's Self-Study Report, holding discussions with various stakeholders (parents, students, teachers, administrators), observing classrooms, reviewing student work, and gaining insight as they interact with various school groups.

On Wednesday, April 22nd, a general meeting will be held at 3:15 pm with stakeholders in the PICS cafeteria. The Report will be shared by the WASC Visiting Team with a final decision made by the WASC Commission in the Fall of School Year 2009-2010.

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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FSM Trade and trade-related priority projects identified during a Workshop on Aid for Trade and project proposal formulation

FSM Department of Resources and Development

FSM Officials gathered on March 9th and 10th, 2009 at the Central Facility, Palikir, for a Workshop that was aimed at identifying, prioritizing and building capacity in project proposal formulation for the consideration of donors during the 2nd Aid for Trade Round Table Meeting scheduled on July 3rd and 4th, 2009 in Fiji.

The Workshop, opened by Honorable Alik L. Alik, FSM Vice-President and Chairman of the National Trade Facilitation Committee, was chaired by Honorable Peter M. Christian, Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development. The Workshop was attended by the Chairman of Ways and Means of the FSM Congress, the Honorable Dohsis Halbert, in addition to other members of the FSM National Government, Pohnpei State and

private stakeholders; and was facilitated by Mr. Wenguo Cai, Consultant recruited by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS).

Considering the problems faced by the FSM economy, and in view of facing the challenges posed by the current trend of liberalization and regional integration, participants identified the following priority projects:

- development and implementation of a national export strategy (support in agro food processing, business incubator initiatives, development of new agricultural and aquaculture products);
- development of adequate equipment to meet the exports requirements (fumigation facilities in the four FSM's States, upgrading existing facilities to international standards at each stage of the

production chain);

- lab for food testing, inspection, standards for three Free Associated States;

- tourism-related support for FSM including the development of ecotourism programmes and rehabilitation of historical sites;

- development of Intellectual Property rights to protect areas of specific interest for the FSM (including Geographical Indications and Traditional Knowledge);

- building and strengthening the capacity building of FSM Customs' officials in relation to Rules of Origins, certification and trade statistics;

- legal Services drafting support for specific laws and regulations including SPS measures;

- capacity building for trade and

investment statistic in FSM;

- improving foreign investment laws in the FSM and;

- Competition policy and consumer protection (mainly in the services sector including business and finance, transportation, whole and retail...).

All these projects will be further translated into donors-ready proposals by competent national agencies, using techniques and tips learnt during the Workshop; and endorsed by the National and Trade Facilitation Committee, prior to submission to the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat next April 2009.

For more information on the results of this workshop, please contact the Department of Resources and Development, FSM at (691) 320-2646.

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... Thieves

Continued from front page

Father Andrus and Father Hezel had not locked their rooms. Other than their small bowls of change they had very little in their rooms that might have interested thieves.

Antonelli said that thefts at the Jesuit House, the Pohnpei Catholic School, and the Convent in Kolonia are not at all uncommon.

He said that the room where one of the Sisters lives at the Catholic School has bars on every window except for a small bathroom window on the second floor. Not too long ago thieves carried a long ladder belonging to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission down the street for more than a block and used it to access that bathroom window while the Sister was off island. Antonelli said that the thieves ransacked the room but couldn't take anything large out of the room due to the size of the window and because the deadbolt on the front door requires a key on both sides of the door. It's the kind of protection that was deemed to be necessary in the area in order to protect against theft.

On Monday, April 20, Antonelli pointed to what had once been a small ledge on the second floor of the Jesuit House. The maintenance man used concrete to eliminate the ledge because thieves had on several previous occasions used the water tank to gain access to the ledge which they then used as a foothold in order to climb into the second floor corridor of the building sometimes while residents were occupied in other parts of the building.

The foothold no longer exists and thieves can no longer gain access that way.

On Sunday night the thieves relieved Bishop Samo of his Blackberry cell phone. That technological device helped police to apprehend a suspect in the burglary, a minor who, at press time had been released to the custody of his parents. One of the detectives said that investigators went to FSM Telecom and checked the history of the phone. A follow up on that history led them to the suspect.

Antonelli said that the Jesuits had called the cell phone several times mainly to see if the thieves had dropped it somewhere on the grounds. They walked around the grounds hoping to hear the cell phone ring after dialing the number but they never did. He said that a young child answered the phone once but after a few moments the connection was severed.

Director of the Department of Public Safety Lucas Carlos said that some of the stolen property had been recovered.

A Pohnpei Police Detective said that fingerprints taken from the scene also helped them with their investigation.

Police could not release the name of the suspect because he is a minor.

5th Annual Women and Sport 5K Walk/Run a Success

By Jim Tobin

The 5th annual FSMNOC Women and Sport 5k Walk/Run was held the morning of Saturday, April 18 at the Palm Terrace Shopping Centre. Close to 240 people of all ages walked and ran the 3.1 mile course starting at Palm Terrace around the PICS High School loop, down Main Street and returning to the finish at Palm Terrace. The overall male and female winners were Tim Smith, with a super fast time of 16 minutes and 43 seconds, and Meghan Orgeman with a time of 19.35 (new record time by more than 1 minute). The other division winners were: youth division – Joshua Kiapreil (25.43) and Shawn Adams (38.04), 18 years and under division – Dionisio Augustine (22.23) and Margret Damarlene (28.31) and master division – Nebtor Navariosa (26.43) and Jasmin Gonsalez (49.35).

Also receiving awards were the top 10 finishers: 1st - Tim Smith (16.43), 2nd – Albert Meyer (19.04), 3rd – Dexter Rain (19.30), 4th – Meghan Orgeman (19.35), 5th – Mechaela Orr (21.40), 6th – Solomon Goldman (21.56), 7th – Dionisio Augustine (22.23), 8th

– Maynard Serey (22.47), 9th – Leweulel Jim (23.03) and 10th – Mick Weldin (23.14).

The major sponsors of the event were: Pohnpei Cancer Coalition, FSM National Olympic Committee, Palm Terrace Shopping Centre, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, Western Union and CTSI. The event was organized by the FSMNOC Women and Sport commission as a fundraiser for the 4 FSM swimmers who will travel to Rome, Italy in July to compete in the 2009 FINA Swimming World Championships. The next scheduled walk/run is the 13th annual COM-FSM 5k to be held on Saturday, May 02.

All of the walk/runs are open to the general public. Our goal is to improve the fitness and health of our community. For more information contact the FSM National Olympic Committee office at 320-8914.



Investigator Kelly Samuel Earns CFE Credential

The Office of National Public Auditor (ONPA)

Palikir, Pohnpei- is pleased to announce that on April 4, 2009 Kelly Samuel earned the Certified Fraud Examiner designation. Mr. Samuel is an Investigator employed by the ONPA's Compliance Investigation Division (CID).

The Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), the world's leading provider of anti-fraud training and education, awarded Mr. Samuel the globally preferred Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) credential upon his passing of the CFE exam. In order to become a CFE, an anti-fraud professional must meet a stringent set of criteria and pass a rigorous exam administered by the ACFE. The exam focuses on four sections of knowledge critical to the fight against fraud: Criminology & Ethics, Financial Transactions, Fraud Investigation and Legal Elements of Fraud. Mr. Samuel successfully passed the exam on his first attempt.

Chief Investigator Sophia Pretrick highly applauded Investigator Samuel's exceptional achievement, stressing that Samuel is a dedicated and hardworking Investigator.

Samuel joins the ranks of over 23,000 business and government professionals worldwide who have also earned the CFE certification. Samuel is the fourth FSM citizen who has earned the CFE designa-

tion. Fletcher Poll, CID Investigator; Sophia Pretrick, the CID Division Chief; and Jack Jack are the other three.

The attainment of professional designations is part of the ONPA objective to develop and upgrade staff capabilities. The ONPA serves the citizens of the FSM by acting as the public's watchdog over government operations. The ONPA conducts audits and investigations that hold the government accountable for the effective and efficient use of public funds. As Public Auditor Haser Hainrick commented, "We should always be one step ahead of the fraudsters. Mr. Samuel's attainment of the CFE title demonstrates that he has the skills and abilities to assist the FSM when investigating allegations of fraud."

CFE's have the ability to examine data and records to detect and trace fraudulent transactions; interview suspects to obtain information and confessions; write investigation reports, advise clients as to their findings and testify at trials; be well versed in the law as it relates to fraud and fraud investigations; and understand the underlying factors that motivate individuals to commit fraud.

Samuel has 15 years of experience in law enforcement and also served 4 years in the U.S Marine Corp. He is married to Sayleen Samuel from Kitti and has 6 children.

For more information, please contact Sophia Pretrick, CFE, Chief Investigator at 691-320-2862.

New Senior Advisor to Office of SBOC

FSM Information Services

Palikir, Pohnpei, April 21, 2009: Mr. Fabian Nimea, the Director for the Office of Statistics, Budget & Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management (SBOC) has hired a new Senior Advisor. Mr. Asterio Takesy has taken on this role as of April 17th, 2009. In a memo to all Departments of the National Government, Mr. Nimea states that "Mr. Takesy has many years of distinguished service as a senior diplomat and other leadership positions in our government and regionally, most recently ending two terms as the first Micronesian Director of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

Mr. Takesy will take on, as his primary role, to assist with the 5th-Year Compact Review. Director Nimea states that this is "work which we feel is of utmost importance at this juncture, and therefore the rationale to bring in someone of Mr. Takesy's extensive experience and knowledge on international issues."

As Director of SBOC, Mr. Nimea is the person leading the 5th-Year Compact Review which will be completed in December of 2009.

FSM President Mori meets with Citizens Advisory Committee in Honolulu

FSM Information Services

Palikir, Pohnpei, April 16, 2009: Excellency President Emanuel Mori and his delegation to the DOI sponsored conference on Business Opportunities in the Islands, met with the FSM Community Advisory Committee (FSMCAC) and other citizens at the FSM Hawaii Consulate.

In President Mori's opening statement, he emphasized two issues that his administration is working on to improve the services provided to the citizens by FSM's overseas missions. The first is the plan to decentralize the processing of FSM passports. He noted that in order to improve passport processing, the FSM Consulate offices in both Guam and Honolulu will have to install the necessary computer system which will ensure safe and secure processing of passports. This is part of Phase 1 of the plan. In addition, Chief of Immigration Mr. Mohner Esiel did a presentation on how to have this plan implemented.

The second issue is the administration's effort to implement the Citizens Outreach and Advocacy Programs through the FSM's overseas missions. The President emphasized the need to promote and deepen friendship and cooperation between FSM citizens living abroad and the com-

Chuuk State Treasury to Release 441 Checks in Federal Program Payments of Prior Year Obligations

FSM Information Services

Palikir, Pohnpei, April 22, 2009: The Chuuk State Treasury will release this week 441 checks mostly to vendors and some individuals for payment of prior year obligations incurred under various U.S. Federal Programs. This is the result of efforts by the National and State Treasury staff to reconcile their Federal Program records.

This work has been completed for Pohnpei and Chuuk (work with Yap and Kosrae are underway), and in both cases the reconciliation of records resulted in the National Treasury owing the State Treasuries in reimbursements.

The funds were deposited and paid out of the Chuuk Debt Relief Account created by statute back in 2007 when the State Leadership resolved to implement a set of measures that will eventually eliminate all the State's outstanding debts. The payment of these prior year obligations will reduce the state's debt by \$298,000, and the State Treasury is working on processing payment for another approximately \$100,000 in payments.

munities where the citizens are residing. He noted that there has recently been an appropriation of \$10,000 specifically for the FSM Citizens Outreach Program in the State of Hawaii. The FSMCAC is currently working with the FSM Hawaii Consulate on identifying types of efficient and effective outreach programs suitable for each island in the State of Hawaii. In addition to the Outreach and Advocacy program, the President noted that the Outstanding Citizens Awards should be continued and also considered as an Outreach and Advocacy program. He challenged the Committee to sponsor a FSM Cultural Day in Hawaii to showcase activities promoting the beauty of FSM's culture and heritage.

The President concluded this meeting by reminding the citizens to utilize the President's website at www.fsmpio.fm and access all pertinent information regarding activities currently undertaken by his administration and submit any concerns that the citizens would like to share with the President, the Vice President or any member of the cabinet. The President reiterated his commitment for a transparent and participatory government.

Chuuk State Swears in Governor Simina for Second Term

FSM Information Services

Palikir, Pohnpei, Yesterday, Tuesday April 14, the Election Commissioner of Chuuk State gave the Governor-elect, Mr. Wesley W. Simina and Lieutenant Governor-elect, Mr. Johnson S. Elimo, the election result certificate, which certified the results of the April 9th gubernatorial election that re-elected Governor Simina and Lt. Governor Elimo to a second term of office. Both Governor Simina and Lt. Governor Elimo took their oaths at the State Supreme Court in front of a group that contained, among others, Vice President Alik Alik, Chief Justice Andon Amaraich, and Secretary of Foreign Affairs Lorin Robert.

In his short remarks, Governor Simina said, "Four years ago in the same room, in the same month, I told you that we were going to face challenges and some people forgot that. Let me remind you that for the next four years we will face new challenges in the efforts to make Chuuk a better place to live. We need your help even more!"

Due to the short timeframe from the final election to the date that the Chuuk Constitution sets out for the swearing in ceremony, the actual Inauguration Ceremony will be postponed until sometime next month.

Three New Invasive Weed Species Found In Pohnpei

*By Konrad Englberger
Conservation Society of Pohnpei*

In March 2009 three new invasive weed species were found in Pohnpei. In early March, Mr. Steve Perlman from the National Tropical Botanical Garden located an invasive species known by the scientific name as *Clidemia hirta* or by the common name as Koster's curse. The plant was first found near the COM College in Palikir and later in the surroundings of Kitti and in the mountains.



Photo by BeJay Obisbo

This plant is reported to be present in Hawaii, Palau and some South Pacific Island countries. It is highly invasive to natural vegetation and rainforest. This shrub is usually found in the forest understorey. It is reported (Smith Undated) that the impact of this weed on native species and ecosystems is devastating and the rate at which it spreads throughout the islands is alarming. It is highly invasive in mountain rain forest and cloud forest of Fiji, Samoa, Wallis and Futuna and Hawaii Islands.

Since the weed has already spread to a wide area in Kitti it is believed that the plant has been present for several years. CSP has produced a leaflet and has done some spraying. People

have been advised to destroy the plant by uprooting it.

The second new invasive weed species belongs to the cucumber family and is known by the scientific name of *Thunbergia grandiflora* or by the common name of Bengal trumpet.

This species was found and identified by Dr. David Lorece, Director of Science, National Tropical Garden in Hawaii. At this stage the species has been found in three locations in Kolonia. The CSP team has killed the plant with an herbicide spray. This species is native to India, it is present in Australia, Hawaii Florida, Fiji Palau and several other Islands countries.

The impact of the plant is highly invasive to native vegetation and rainforest. It is an aggressive climber and is difficult to control once established due to large underground tuberous roots. The plant climbs and blankets native vegetation, killing mature trees.



Photo by Konrad Englberger

The third species was discovered by Mr. Konrad Englberger who is presently helping CSP on invasive species control. This shade tolerant species is covering a large area in Kolonia at the Botanical Garden. According to the observations this species grows very well in forest understorey it competes with forest trees and other native forest plants. It was also found in two other places in Kolonia.

The scientific name of the plant is *Piper lolat*. It is native to Indonesia, and is present in Hawaii, India, Vietnam and the Middle East. In some countries it is used for medicine against snake bites. A team from CSP has sprayed this *Piper* species and is trying to eradicate it. If it is only present at the three places it should be possible to eradicate this plant.

If you find any of these plants please report in to the Conservation Society of Pohnpei 320-5409.



Photo by Konrad Englberger



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Tagging Studies in Pohnpei and the Need for Improved Management

Kevin L. Rhodes, University of Guam

The University of Guam (UoG), together with the Pohnpei State Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, the College of Micronesia (COM) and the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP), is currently conducting a tag-and-recapture study of two highly important reef fish species in Pohnpei: widir (camouflage grouper) and ripw-ripw (brown-marbled grouper). The study, funded under the US-based National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), is tagging fish within the Kehpara Marine Sanctuary and looking at how and when these two species migrate between their spawning sites and home range habitats. The study is using both internal acoustic tags and external spaghetti tags that can be easily identified by fishers who catch the tagged fish. Acoustic tags send out a radio frequency that can be detected and tracked by a boat-based receiver. Using acoustic tags, researchers can follow fish in real time between spawning and home range habitats. Fishers who catch tagged fish should bring the fish and the tag(s) to CSP to receive a monetary reward. Fishers will also receive an above-market rate for the fish.

Past projects by UoG have provided the ba-

sis for improved management of reef fish resources in Pohnpei. For example, tagging studies on sawi in 2005 and 2007 showed that fish using the Kehpara spawning site mostly come from Kitti-area reefs. According to UoG researcher Dr. Kevin Rhodes "for Kitti, overfishing these spawning sites would reduce the number of adult fish on reefs surrounding Kehpara and also limit the amount of eggs available to maintain fish populations. The loss of spawning aggregations from fishing would significantly impact the amount of fish and income available to Kitti fishing communities." Following recommendations first made by Dr. Rhodes in 1999, Pohnpei State recently expanded the Kehpara Marine Sanctuary to include the ripw-ripw and widir spawning aggregations. "This legislation and other types of management are important to maintain fish populations in Pohnpei and ensure that fishing communities don't have to struggle to meet food demands now and in the future," says Rhodes. "Because of the enormous changes in population and economics in the past few decades, Pohnpei no longer has the luxury of not managing their fish populations. A failure to act will result in a situation like Guam where reef fish must be imported. While seemingly impossible, Pohnpei will be facing the same situation as Guam if management doesn't slow the size and volume of fish coming off our reefs."

In 2006, Rhodes, together with local COM

interns and colleagues at Pohnpei State and CSP conducted a fish market survey that found that many species are caught and sold to markets as juveniles. For example, more than 70% of sawi found in markets in 2006 were under-sized. According to Rhodes "under-sized, juvenile fish cannot contribute to future fish populations because they don't reproduce. That is why the US and Australia impose size limits for fish sale and capture. The idea is to allow all fish to spawn at least one year before they are caught. Simply put, the more eggs, the more fish. Removing 70% of your future spawners doesn't make sense in a society as heavily reliant on fish as Pohnpei. Similarly, taking fish off of spawning aggregations before they have laid their eggs can only result in less fish in the future" Many fishers and buyers agree, saying that the size of fish in markets is too small and that fish on the reefs are smaller than when they first started fishing. "It is important as consumers to make our voices heard either by discussing these issues with your municipal and state representatives or simply by not purchasing what we know are small individuals."

Rhodes and his colleagues are also conducting an opinion survey through the University of Hawaii at Hilo. That study, funded by NOAA, was developed to allow Pohnpeians to voice their opinions on the status of reef resources in Pohnpei and

what, if any management may be needed to improve it. "During my 12 years of working here, Pohnpeians have clearly and rightly expressed concern about the status of their reefs and fisheries. We are hoping that the opinions survey will properly document these concerns so that we can move forward toward management solutions that are supported by the people and will be voted on by the legislators. We all want our kids, our grandkids and even their grandkids to enjoy the beauty and bounty that Pohnpei has to offer."



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The Embassy of Japan announces to the public the availability of the Japanese Government Scholarship and the Japanese Language Program. The Examination date is aimed for the last week of July, 2009.

The Japan Foundation invites outstanding students to the Japanese-Language Program for Overseas Students.

The Japan Foundation offers outstanding students of the Japanese Language in the FSM as well as around the world, the opportunity to visit Japan to learn Japanese language and Japanese way of living. The period of this program is from September 2, to September 16, 2009. The Examination will be held on May 16, 2009

Those who are interested in the scholarship and the language program can get guidelines at the Embassy. Please contact the Embassy of Japan at Tel#: (691)320-5465 "Application for Scholarship and Language Program Team" or at e-mail: japanemb_acct@mail.fm

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Pacific adaptation to climate change programme underway

Pacnews

16 APRIL 2009 APIA ---- After several years of planning and preparation, a US \$13.1million climate change adaptation project is now underway in the Pacific region.

The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as its implementing agency and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) as implementing partner.

The project is scheduled to be conducted from 2008 to 2012.

PACC will cover 13 Pacific islands countries and help develop three key areas that will build resilience to climate change in Pacific countries: food production and food security, coastal management and water resource management. Adaptation projects will be implemented nationally, and were selected after an intensive consultative process with the implementing agencies

Under the project, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands will focus on food production and food security. Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa and Vanuatu are developing Coastal Management capacity and

Nauru, Niue, Tonga and Tuvalu are looking at strengthening their water resource management.

"The Pacific countries have continued to indicate at the regional and international forums, the problems they are already facing from climate change, like salination of underground water, inundation of low lying areas and coastal erosion," said Taito Nakalevu of SPREP, who began his new role as the PACC Project Manager on 6 April.

"These are already impacting on the livelihoods of our Pacific people and the very resources they actually depend on. This project is part of the answer to help assist them in addressing this problem," Mr Nakalevu added.

An inception workshop for the region wide project will be staged in June to build the capacity for countries to be able to fulfil the administrative requirements of the Project and to introduce other technical backstopping support.

Mr Nakalevu is currently working with countries bilaterally to help establish project management units that will coordinate PACC on the ground in the Pacific.

"Climate change is an important issue, it just won't go away. We have to adapt, we don't have any other option."

Guest Perspective

Pohnpei Sarawi and Earth Day

Kaselehlie! Thank you for the warm "home town" hospitality. This week I enjoyed visiting your island for the second time. I first visited Pohnpei sixteen years ago. I am delighted to see that the environment is relatively protected.

There is, however, more sewage pollution in the river and more abandoned care now. Pohnpei still has a chance not to make the same pollution mistakes that other states have made. So I was thinking about the relationship between your beautiful, holy island and the coming Earth Day.

Now modern people have to be reminded to protect and care for the earth, the land, the air and the water. We had to dream up Earth Day to remind us to be responsible for the Earth, to make solutions, not pollution, and to put into practice what is called environmental ethics.

Ancient people did not have to invent Earth Day. They told myths and traditional stories to ensure that each generation learned about its moral responsible for the Earth, land, soil, water, air, plants and animals. Even the Bible proposes that people are stewards of the Earth. Many other ancient wisdom texts propose that humans must live in harmony

with the environment. The traditional story about how Pohnpei was built-up on the submerged reef by the ancestors has a deep meaning.

Scientific facts are important. They tell us that we are located on the remains of an extinct volcano, but scientific facts cannot tell us to be moral, honest and good.

The traditional story is important too. It tells us what we—humans—are responsible for doing. If humans can build their world, then they can also destroy it. The ancient storytellers and myth-makers of Pohnpei knew the sacred, holy value of man's relationship with the earth, the land, the soil and the island. The storytellers say that Pohnpei is a raised altar, a sacred land to be protected as it protects the people.

The ancient builders brought soil and vegetables to the island, it is said. It is a well-known fact that the ancient mariners carried vegetables. They also took soil and rocks with them to build gardens, especially on atolls. The old story has its factual truths. Humans construct their environment.

We can create a sacred environment and protect it, or we can pollute and damage it.

When we dispose of old cars, let's make sure we remove the motor oil, the brake fluid, and the transmission fluid to protect the water table. We need to control the pig waste entering the streams. It can spread disease. Let's return to the ancient ways of respecting the Earth. If we respect the Earth, then how much more must we respect others? But to respect others, a person must maintain good health. We must respect our own bodies.

The green of Earth Day must be tied to the green of medicine. Many people suffer from diet related health problems such as diabetes. When we return to the duty to protect the earth; we must also return to a traditional diet.

Vegetables are not "pig food." It is not healthy only to eat meat. I know meat tastes good. But too much meat is not good for people's health. The ancestors primarily ate meat at special occasions, rituals and ceremonies; they did not eat meat everyday.

Other communities have returned to their traditional diet and now have fewer diet related diseases. We modern people need to return to the wisdom of the traditional way of life and diet. So as we protect the Earth, let's also protect our health and each other. Happy Earth Day!

James Sellmann,
University of Guam, Associate Dean,
and Professor of Micronesian Studies,
visiting Pohnpei.

Astronomical Tide Prediction April 29 Through May 12, 2009

	Pohnpei		Chuuk	
Wednesday	04/29 05:35AM 3.9 12:35PM 1.7 05:20PM 2.3 10:38PM 1.5	05/06 01:46AM 3.7 07:47AM 1.4 01:43PM 3.7 07:51PM 1.0	04/29 04:07AM 2.1 07:56PM 0.0	05/06 01:45AM 1.5 07:35AM 0.7 01:06PM 1.5 07:08PM 0.4
	Thursday	04/30 06:03AM 3.6 01:41PM 1.9 05:22PM 2.1 10:23PM 1.8	05/07 02:09AM 4.0 08:22AM 1.1 02:18PM 3.7 08:16PM 0.9	04/30 04:28AM 2.0 08:03PM 0.0
Friday		05/01 06:40AM 3.3 07:46PM 1.9	05/08 02:36AM 4.4 08:58AM 0.8 02:52PM 3.7 08:43PM 0.9	05/01 04:49AM 1.8 08:06PM 0.1
	Saturday	05/02 08:32AM 3.1 06:39PM 1.7	05/09 03:05AM 4.6 09:35AM 0.7 03:27PM 3.5 09:09PM 0.9	05/02 05:07AM 1.6 08:00PM 0.2
Sunday		05/03 02:30AM 2.6 05:04AM 2.5 11:23AM 3.1 06:49PM 1.5	05/10 03:37AM 4.7 10:14AM 0.6 04:02PM 3.3 09:36PM 0.9	05/03 04:53AM 1.4 07:15AM 1.3 10:36AM 1.5 07:41PM 0.3
	Monday	05/04 01:26AM 2.9 06:32AM 2.2 12:25PM 3.3 07:06PM 1.4	05/11 04:10AM 4.7 10:56AM 0.7 04:38PM 3.0 10:03PM 1.1	05/04 03:17AM 1.3 06:39AM 1.2 11:47AM 1.5 07:20PM 0.4
Tuesday		05/05 01:29AM 3.3 07:12AM 1.8 01:07PM 3.5 07:28PM 1.2	05/12 04:46AM 4.6 11:42AM 0.9 05:16PM 2.6 10:30PM 1.3	05/05 02:11AM 1.3 07:03AM 1.0 12:29PM 1.5 07:08PM 0.4

Coastal Erosion Assessment in FSM

FSM Information Service

Palikir, Pohnpei, April 21, 2009: Side by side, the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, in conjunction with University of Hawaii, US geological Survey and the FSM National Government, Office of the Environment and Emergency, are working together to assess the threats to coastal ecosystem services in the face of global climate change here in the FSM.

Dr. Chip Fletcher and Dr. Bruce Richmond will be visiting the FSM from April 19th to May 8th, 2009 to assess the extent and consequences of coastal erosion in each state. They will meet with Government officials to initiate development of a comprehensive coastal protection strategy and work to improve the understanding of the effects of coastal erosion, and it's acceleration as a result of sea level rise, on the ability to provide for ecosystem services and support the existing populations.

The schedule of state visits are slated as: April 19th to 21st visit to Kosrae State, April 21st to April 25, visit to Pohnpei State, April 25th to April 30th, visit to Chuuk State and April 30th to May 8th, visit to Yap State.

Environment and technical staff from relevant agencies in each state will be working with our visitors to coordinate the assessment arrangements and other needs they might have that are vital for a successful visit.

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Joab wins COM-FSM Speech Contest

College of Micronesia - FSM

For the second time the winner of the COM-FSM Speech Contest was rewarded with a study tour of Tokyo, Japan. The winner of the 2009 Speech Contest was Ms. Yolanda Joab of Pohnpei State.

Ms. Joab was provided a round-trip ticket to Tokyo, Japan and full coverage of housing accommodations and daily meals. The study trip took one week and was undertaken during the Easter break. Ms. Joab was accompanied by an English Instructor, Mr. Robert Jonas from the COM-FSM Pohnpei State Campus.

The program was first started by a Japanese University Professor who has worked mostly to improve English language skills for Japanese university students.

This opportunity will be opened again at the beginning of the Fall Semester 2009. It is open to all interested COM-FSM students who residing in Pohnpei State. Students will participate in an on-going workshop before participating in the speech contest.

Organizers said, "This is an excellent opportunity for those who are thinking of improving their speech skills as well as their public speaking skills."

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NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

Pursuant to the order of the FSM Supreme Court entered on March 18, 2009, public notice is hereby given that the land described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

Land known as "Waath", situated in Maa Village, Tomil Municipality, Yap State, with an area of 300 square meters, more or less, as described in Document no. 4091, registered on April 10, 1990 at the Yap Land Commission, Office of the Registrar.

- There is no minimum bid amount for the land.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "May 20, 2009 Land Auction" by personal delivery to Ms. Teresa Fagaltinan at the front entrance area of the FSM Supreme Court court house in Colonia, Yap on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 between the hours of 12:00 p.m. noon and 5:00 p.m.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2009.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, and e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the bid.
- All bid submissions must clearly state the bid amount for the land.
- The winning bidder will be notified by a duly issued Court order transferring title to the land, including all buildings fixtures, equipment, and other improvements on the land, upon delivery of a cashier's check in the full amount of the bid payable to the "FSM Supreme Court" no later than ten (10) days after notice is given.
- If the winning bidder fails to remit payment within the required time, the award will be granted to the next highest bidder and the same conditions will apply.
- The land is offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to its condition whatsoever.

Questions concerning this auction may be directed to Ms Teresa Fagaltinan, Representative for Land Sales, phone no. 691-350-3185 / 950-5523 or Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel at the FSM Development Bank, PO Box M, Pohnpei, FM 96941, phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-6533, email: noras@fsmdb.fm, website: www.fsmdb.fm

Hawaii CODEL Expresses Interest in Progress of Amended Compact

FSM Information Services

Palikir, Pohnpei, April 16, 2009: Honolulu, Hawaii – During a recent visit to Hawaii to attend the Fifth Island Business Opportunities Conference sponsored by the US Department of the Interior, President Manny Mori met with three of the four members of the Hawaii State Congress Delegation, Senator Daniel Akaka, Senator Daniel Inouye and Congressman Neil Abercrombie at the Prince Kuhio Federal Building in Honolulu.

At the meetings with the Hawaii Congress members, the President raised various issues of significance to the Federated States of Micronesia, including the upcoming Compact Fifth Year Review, effects from the global financial crisis and possible consideration under the Obama Administration's new initiatives for clean energy. President Mori also requested continued support from the Congressmen for programs currently made available as a result of the free access of FSM citizens into the United States under the terms of the Amended Compact.

The two Senators from Hawaii are not unfamiliar with Micronesia. Senator Akaka greeted the President with an enthusiastic "Ran Annim" and gave an account of his concern when he first visited the islands in 1947 of what was to happen in the next 25 years. "Whoever we are, we need to keep our culture and build this mind-set in our children and grand-children," he said. Senator Akaka went on to say that we must take advantage of technology, but allow it to take care of our culture and language so that we do not lose them. Among members of the US Congress, Senators Inouye and Akaka are part of the small contingent who have traveled and spent time in the Micronesian region.

Responding to the Congress members concerns about the implementation of the Amended Compact and ongoing reporting shortcomings, President Mori acknowledged that the FSM faces numerous internal challenges. The Director of the Office of Statistics, Budget & Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management (SBOC), Mr. Fabian Nimea, was on hand to offer a practical snapshot of the Amended Compact. Director Nimea made the contention that the Amended

Compact is not achieving its goals, as clearly evident in the declining trend of the FSM's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Congressman Abercrombie noted that the amount of funding given to the FSM is not nearly enough to reach economic self-sufficiency as envisioned by the Compact of Free Association and its successor, the Amended Compact.

Despite economic constraints within the FSM, the President highlighted recent developments on the implementation of projects in various sectors, most notably the ground-breaking for the Weno Road Project in Chuuk. On the issue of immigration impact, Senator Inouye emphasized that progress in the FSM is in the best interest of both countries and noted that he is looking forward to the upcoming Compact Fifth Year Review, a requirement under the Amended Compact which he played a significant role in advocating.

Under the terms of the Amended Compact, the US Executive Branch is required to review the bilateral treaty and provide an update to the US Congress every five years. The first Compact Fifth Year Review has been initiated as a joint collaboration between the Mori and Obama Administrations and will include issues of mutual concern including various economic and practical procedural adjustments, with the intent of streamlining and improving the successful implementation and management of the Amended Compact.

Senator Akaka, who is the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs and a member of the Armed Services Committee, expressed appreciation through President Mori for the commitment and dedication of FSM citizens who have served and who continue to serve in the US Armed Forces.*

The Congressmen invited the FSM Ambassador to Washington, D.C., H.E. Yosiwo George, to visit them and provide updates on issues in the FSM, such as progress on the Compact Fifth Year Review. They expressed an interest in continuing to work with the FSM for the betterment of its future. "If we know the problems, we can help," remarked Senator Inouye.

NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

Pursuant to the order of the FSM Supreme Court entered on February 26, 2009, public notice is hereby given that each of the six parcels of land described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

- Parcel One:** Parcel No. 023-D-15 situated at Rohi, U Municipality, consisting of 1,063 ± square meters, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 023-D-02.
- Parcel Two:** Parcel No. 023-D-05 situated at Rohi, U Municipality, consisting of 4,400 ± square meters, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 023-D-00.
- Parcel Three:** Parcel No. 009-D-02 situated at Lukop, Madolenihmw Municipality, consisting of 27,077 ± square meters, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 009-D-00.
- Parcel Four:** Parcel No. 140-A-08 situated at Pahlap, U Municipality, consisting of 12,611 ± square meters, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 140-A-00.
- Parcel Five:** Parcel No. 002-E-12 situated at Temwen, Madolenihmw Municipality, consisting of 7,330 ± square meters, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 002-E-12.
- Parcel Six:** Parcel No. 046-D-06, situated at Kinakapw, Madolenihmw Municipality, consisting of 793 ± square meters, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 046-D-00

- There is no minimum bid amount for any of the parcels.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "May 8, 2009 Land Auction" by personal delivery to the filing window of the Office of the Chief Clerk of Courts of the FSM Supreme Court – Pohnpei trial division in Palikir.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8, 2009.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, and e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the bid.
- All bid submissions must state a bid amount separately for each parcel. Bids may be placed on one or more of the subject parcels.
- The winning bidder for each parcel will be notified by a duly issued Court order transferring title to the parcel, including all buildings fixtures, equipment, and other improvements on the parcel, upon delivery of a cashier's check in the full amount of the bid payable to the "FSM Supreme Court" no later than ten (10) days after notice is given.
- If the winning bidder fails to remit payment within the required time, the award will be granted to the next highest bidder and the same conditions will apply.
- The properties are offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to its condition whatsoever.

Questions concerning this auction may be directed to the FSM Supreme Court National Justice Ombudsman or Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel at the:

FSM Development Bank,
PO Box M,
Pohnpei, FM 96941,
phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-6533,
email: noras@fsmdb.fm, website: www.fsmdb.fm

Corrections:

In the third paragraph of the front page story in Issue No. 10 entitled "FSM Supreme Court hears arguments in DOJ case against Marehalau" we reported that the Department of Justice had offered former Ambassador Jesse Marehalau two previous plea arrangements. While it is true that two plea arrangements were discussed, the first of the two was an offer from the defendant and not the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice rejected that offer.

K-Press Perspective

Doing what needs to be done—like it or not

I've been told that it is not unusual when a person survives a heart attack to become somewhat depressed. Apparently I'm no different and I've found myself undertaking a great deal of introspective "naval gazing" lately. Things that two weeks ago seemed to be the most vital things for me to be busy doing just didn't seem to be quite as important any more. I found it difficult to concentrate and to write stories that are important to you because, quite frankly, I've come face to face with my own mortality which before April 9 was a concept that remained a vague distant reality in my mind. Now it's in my face and it can't be ignored. I've come to know that my heart will not continue to beat forever no matter how much my mind wills it to do so.

It's a tough thing to get over really and I suppose that I won't ever truly "get over it" per se, and perhaps I shouldn't. Sometimes it takes dramatic events to snap us human beings back to reality and that leads me to what I really wanted to write about.

Two news stories from this issue served in some measure to help snap me back to reality—to cause me to care again about what's going on around me and around you. They're both on the front page.

How sad is it when a young person is deprived of one of the most important things he can have, an education? And why is it that in this day and age anyone should be deprived of at least a basic education even if they don't want it?

What is not in the front page story is what I was told by one of the victims of the burglaries at the Catholic Church complex in Kolonia. Whether or not it is true is academic since the scenario is played out in Pohnpei so many times that the problem warrants discussion. Since the suspect in the crime is a minor his name cannot be released and even if it could be I don't know it. I was told that the young suspect dropped out of school when he was much younger. He apparently tried to go back to school when he was 13 but since he was the biggest kid in his elementary classroom he dropped out again and has not been back since. I understand that he is now 15 years old.

It's not a new scenario in Pohnpei. I remember writing an article about a year and a half ago that said that the Pohnpei State Police Department was going to begin enforcing truancy laws. A school aged child in Pohnpei is required by law to go to school and that child's guardian is required to make sure he or she goes to school. The article I wrote with information provided to me by the Department of Public Safety listed all kinds of repercussions for parents who don't send their children to school. Perhaps I was not the only one who was encouraged by the stated strong commitment of DPS to enforce the truancy law.

Perhaps something is happening in regards to truancy but I haven't seen it. Yesterday a child who was probably nine years old walked into my office holding a rooster on a rope leash. He didn't seem to speak much English but I think he wanted me to buy his rooster. I was busy holding back my dog who desperately wanted to eat the rooster. The boy was adamant and when it became apparent that I wasn't going to buy his rooster he pointed to my phone. I guess he wanted to use it which would have been fine except that my dog was suddenly hungry for chicken and I didn't think it would work for the boy to carry his rooster into my office and I told him so. Then he spoke what I gathered to be his few words of English. "Please give me one dollar," he demanded, his brown eyes flashing. Once again I refused. He darted through the door and grabbed a pink highlighter pen I use for editing. I snatched it back and told him forcefully that he had to leave. He understood that one or at least the tone of my voice and the anger in my eyes. He ran out the door, up the stairs and into the parking lot obviously terrified.

Here was a boy with ingenuity and dogged persistence, who would likely, had he been at school at 1:30 in the afternoon instead of at my office door, have been an excellent student but he wasn't in school and, I would venture to guess that he seldom is, though I don't know that for certain. I only know that he wasn't in school that particular day.

The conversation I had with the victim of the Jesuit House burglary focused largely on the topic of truancy. He told me that the Micronesian Red Cross Peer Counseling group who at one time focused on safe sex practices and AIDS prevention has now added another priority. He said that some girls have dropped out of school and are now practicing prostitution instead of going to school. The Peer Counseling group is trying to reach out to those young women without judging them. I've written about the problem of prostitution before but it never occurred to me that some of the girls who are taking part in it might be high school aged girls who should be in school preparing for a future that doesn't include lying down with strangers in order to make a living.

The problem of children not being in school is not just the universal fact that left unsupervised children will get themselves into trouble now; it is that they will continue to get themselves into trouble in the future. Yes, children are a vital part of society right now but they are also the future, ours and theirs. Neither we, the community, nor the person who is currently a child will have any future without an education. Part of preparing a child for the future is helping them to guard themselves against poor decisions in the present whether they like it or not. It's an intervention that will

Director-General concerned about media crackdown in Fiji

Paris, 17 April – The Director-General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura, today voiced grave concern about the suspension of press freedom in Fiji under thirty-day Public Emergency Regulations that came into force on 10 April.

According to the new regulations, editors are not allowed to publish or broadcast any material that shows the military in an unfavourable light. Sensitive stories must be approved by government officials before publication and media organizations ignoring these directives may be shut down.

"I am gravely concerned about press freedom in Fiji," the Director-General declared. "The basic human right of freedom of expression, which underpins press

serve them well into the future.

Speaking of intervention what should family members in Pohnpei do if one of their loved ones begins to lose his or her grip on reality? What tools are available to them to intervene on behalf of a loved one who is tormented by the things going on in his or her head?

What has come to be known as the Wapar incident is a prime example of this problem if sources from the village are correct. According to Bob Irwin, who said that he spent time with Bejaming Tihpen nearly every day for the last fifteen years, Tihpen, who confessed to Madolenihmw police that he had killed his adopted father by beheading him with a machete had always been friendly, and helpful; a vital part of the Wapar community. Irwin said that all that changed approximately one month ago. Tihpen began to display a paranoia that was not typical of him and no one knew what to do. Irwin said that he told his wife a few weeks ago that if something wasn't done for Tihpen there would be a funeral in Wapar but he was thinking that Benjamin would do himself harm.

Irwin said that no one in the village had any idea what to do for Tihpen. As is often the case with mental illness Tihpen's rambles were scary and a source for concern but lacking any other more effective means of dealing with them, they went largely ignored. What else was there to do?

Nearly two decades ago I had to do one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. An extremely bright woman who attended the church where I was the pastor had a similar break with reality. She beat her husband and threw him out of their apartment. She became convinced that her doctors were poisoning her with the medication they prescribed for her that was meant to control a bipolar disorder. She refused to take it. As a result she became increasingly paranoid and her husband and I began to think that she might do herself harm. We set in motion the mechanism that existed to have her involuntarily committed for observation in the mental ward of the hospital.

freedom, is essential for democracy, good governance and rule of law. I urge the authorities to allow open debate that is always essential if lasting solutions to difficulties and disagreements are to be found."

"Depriving people of news and information about events that affect them only breeds fear and suspicions. Such measures will not promote a solution to the nation's social and political problems," Mr Matsuura added.

The Public Emergency Regulations were proclaimed after Army Chief Commodore Frank Bainimarama was reinstated as Prime Minister and the President of Fiji, Ratu Josefa Iloilo, abolished the Constitution and dismissed judges who said that the island nation's military government was illegal.

It was truly heart rending to watch this woman destroy herself. Police escorted doctors to her apartment, took her from her home and brought her to the hospital where for the next 48 hours she legally had no choice whatsoever about being locked up, observed, and treated. It was the hardest and best thing we could have done for her. She didn't choose it. She was incapable of choosing it. Her mind was no longer able to determine what was real and what was not. She needed those people who loved her to help her no matter how painful it was for them.

She stayed quite a bit longer in the mental ward than we had hoped. Ultimately the marriage fell apart—too much strain I suppose, but she got the help that she needed and afterward was able to function in society again.

When people are incapable of helping themselves it is the responsibility of the community to help them even if they don't want that help but there is no mechanism for that kind of help in Pohnpei at least in terms of mental health. Yes, there is a Mental Health section of Pohnpei State Health Department. A doctor is available on Wednesdays and Fridays. All mental health care is done on an outpatient basis by a Registered Nurse and a physician. There is no mechanism for involuntary commitment. The concept is highly stigmatized and is a political hot potato. Who wants to be the Legislator who submits a bill setting up a system that could possibly result in the involuntary commitment of a constituent or a constituent's family member?

Yeah, I can just bet that would be politically tough but then I don't think that government servants were elected to make easy choices, just the right ones. In light of what has happened in Madolenihmw maybe now is the time.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

Crossword - 4 Letter Words

ACROSS

- 1. Rate
- 4. Test
- 7. Limb
- 10. Chum
- 13. Tree
- 14. Joey
- 15. Copy
- 16. Time
- 17. Fuss
- 18. Deer
- 19. Hole
- 20. Feat
- 21. Pair
- 22. Lack
- 24. Hate
- 26. Step
- 28. Duds
- 30. Tint
- 32. Haul
- 33. Veto
- 37. Nail
- 40. Soil
- 42. Pair
- 43. Grub
- 44. Flub
- 46. Blab
- 47. Past
- 48. Slog
- 49. Drag
- 50. Note
- 52. Dear
- 53. Mold
- 55. Cask
- 58. Mean
- 62. Meal
- 65. Pact
- 67. Guys
- 68. Rage
- 69. Beak
- 71. Live
- 72. Rear
- 73. Spot
- 74. Hire
- 75. Pose
- 76. Thou

77. Iota

- 78. Rent
- 79. Owns
- 80. Flub

DOWN

- 1. Dine
- 2. Bush
- 3. Gush
- 4. Chic
- 5. Part
- 6. Rube
- 7. Lick
- 8. Coda
- 9. Fare
- 10. Turf
- 11. Bend
- 12. Slow
- 23. Blew
- 25. Pose
- 27. Sums
- 29. Soft
- 31. Fade
- 34. Plan
- 35. Find
- 36. Laze
- 37. Grin
- 38. Fury
- 39. Iota
- 41. Drop
- 45. Rosy
- 46. Next
- 51. Sash
- 52. Laud
- 54. Keys
- 56. Void
- 57. Rein
- 59. Icon
- 60. Stay
- 61: Join
- 62. Duke
- 63. Zone
- 64. Cane
- 66. Solo
- 70. Ante

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12
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17				18				19				20		
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73				74				75				76		
77				78				79				80		

SUMMER SONGS

There's something about summer that inspires people, which explains why there are so many songs with "summer" in their titles. The puzzle below contains 37 song titles in which "summer" appears.

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

- ... SUMMER**
- 1. AFRICAN
 - 2. ALMOST
 - 3. BOYS OF
 - 4. CRUEL
 - 5. ENGLISH
 - 6. INDIAN
 - 7. LAST
 - 8. LONG HOT
 - 9. OTHER SIDE OF
 - 10. OVER THE
 - 11. PARIS
 - 12. PORTRAITS OF
 - 13. THAT

- SUMMER....**
- 14. BOY
 - 15. BREEZE
 - 16. CHILL
 - 17. DAYS
 - 18. IN BERLIN
 - 19. IN DIXIE
 - 20. IN SIAM
 - 21. KNOWS
 - 22. LOVE
 - 23. NIGHTS
 - 24. OF ROSES
 - 25. RAIN
 - 26. ROMANCE
 - 27. SAMBA
 - 28. SOFT
 - 29. SONG
 - 30. SOUNDS
 - 31. WIND

- SUMMER'S...**
- 32. DAY SONG
 - 33. GONE
 - 34. HERE

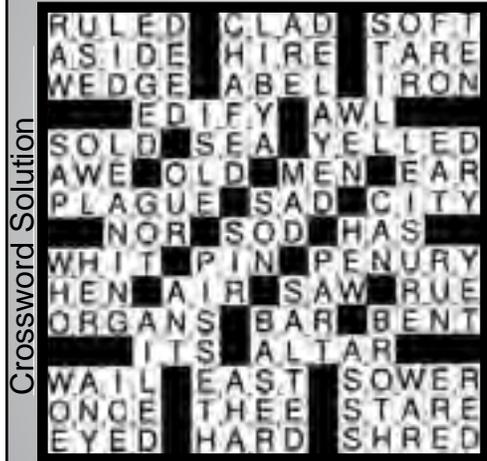
- SUMMERTIME...**
- 35. BLUES
 - 36. DREAM
 - 37. ROLLS

Puzzle Pleasure Previous Issue's Solution

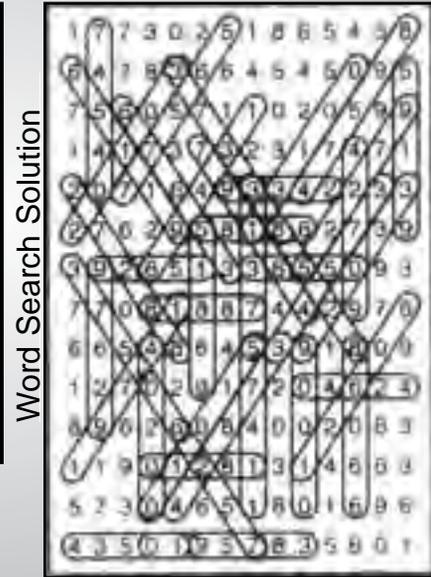
4-15-09 - Bible

4-15-09 Issue

Hidden Numbers



Crossword Solution



Word Search Solution

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

- 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 6:30 p.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

ANOTHER CLASSIC
LIMERICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY
TRASHBUSTERS

There was a young man of Japan
Whose limericks never would scan.
When they asked him, Why?
He said, with a sigh,

"It's because I always try to get as many words into the last line as I possibly can."

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

P. O. Box 2222
Pohnpei, FM 96941

phone to: (691) 320-6547
email to: kpress@mail.fm

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Nett Elementary 6th Grade gives the "Let's Go Local" message at Pohnpei Cultural Day 2009

By Kathay Larsen

Island Food Community of Pohnpei

It was another beautiful day for this year's Pohnpei Cultural Day celebrations. The festivities, held in the Botanical Garden, were joined in and observed by many. To put a smile on everyone's faces, the events started with the ECE (Early Childhood Education) floats.

Remember, those little ones are the future leaders! The festivities continued throughout the day with speeches from important societal members, dancing, local handicrafts for sale, and public awareness tents.

This year, the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) again was invited to participate as one of the informational booths that were present at the event. IFCP had an array of brochures, pens, pencils and bumper stickers that gave nutritional information about local foods. There were also Daiwang, Karat, Utin Menihle, Utin Iap and Inahsio bananas for the public to enjoy. As a special awareness campaign, there were samples of coconut and Karat jam, spread on taro and breadfruit, for passersby to try. This jam is made here in Pohnpei by the Coconut Development Authority and available for purchase at stores such as Palm Terrace, Seven Star, and Yoshie. This is a tasty jam and, if spread lightly on taro (mwahng), adds a hint of sweet flavour.

Island Food Community of Pohnpei has had the privilege of partnering with the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) and Nett Elementary School's 6th Grade class this year for CSP's Youth to Youth project. A group of girls from Nett Elementary School's 6th Grade class were asked to present the "Let's Go Local" message at Pohnpei Cultural Day this year. They were introduced first by Nelson Damarlane who is a teacher at Nett. They started their presentation by explaining about the Vitamin A Carotenoid content in 15 of Pohnpei's bananas. They further went on to teach the crowd about how important it is to eat foods that are nutrient rich and have Vitamin A in them. A cheer went up from the health department tent when the students explained that we need to fill our plates with food that have more nutrition and not so much with foods that are "empty", such as rice. The girls wrapped up their presentation by singing the "Let's Go Local" song that is found in the movie "Going Yellow". This song was written for Island Food Community of Pohnpei by Gibson Santos and it is used in most of the teaching seminars. The Let's Go Local High School Club uses this song when they go to the elementary schools and teach the children about the importance of eating yellow fleshed varieties and growing local foods. Lois Englberger uses this song as a way to reach many different groups during her travels and spread the "Go Local" message. No matter what island they live on, she has found that the groups really enjoy hearing the importance of their local food is, and they always love to have a new song to sing to. This year, there have even been new "actions" put to the song, so that it "gets you moving" while you are singing the local message.

As an added bonus, Island Food Community of Pohnpei was able to share their tent with the Embassy of the Peoples Republic of China, which supports the Pilot Farm in Madolenihmw. We were able to show their watermelon, cucumber, cabbage, lettuce, eggplant, cantaloupe, bell pepper, squash, tomato, and corn. There was quite a bit of interest in this wonderful assortment of vegetables and fruits. It is wonderful that we are able to grow such delicious food here in Pohnpei. Island Food Community of Pohnpei thanks the 2009 Cultural Day Committee for again allowing us to participate in this year's festivities and to spread the important message about "Go Local" to the people of Pohnpei.



Results of the 5th Annual Pohnpei Do It Best Hardware Fishing Tournament

13 boats registered, 10 boats fished, 5 boats skunked (no fish)

BOATS:

First Place Boat – Bavaria (Konrad E) – 4 species (YF/MM/B/GT) \$400 GC

2nd Place Boat – Yellowfin (Walden W) – 3 species (SJ/MM/B 48#) \$250 GC

3rd Place Boat – Do It Best (Steve M) – 3 species (SJ/MM/B 34#) \$150 GC

4th Place Boat – True Blue (Paul R) - 3 species (MM/B/GT 31.5#)

5th Place Boat – Sticky Beak (Wayne B) – 2 species (DT/B)

BIG FISH:

Tuna 20# – Randy Smith (Sticky Beak) \$75 GC

Skipjack 16.5# – Arlino Wilson (Do It Best) \$75 GC

Mahi Mahi 16# – Arlino Wilson (Do It Best) \$75 GC

Barracuda 25# - Walden Weilbacher (Yellowfin) \$75 GC

Giant Travelle 16# - Paul Ruhl (True Blue) \$75 GC

All of the following boats/captains have a \$25 Gift Certificate waiting for them at Pohnpei Do It Best Hardware:

Sticky Beak / Wayne Bicknell
True Blue / Paul Ruhl
Miss Pakin / Andy Musrasrik
Palikir Marine / Steve Ware
Pohnpei Ocean Cruise / Kazuhiro Fujiita

Pohnpei Surf Club / Allois M.
Rebel / Willy Hawley
Saucerful of Secrets / Dennis Gearhart
Try-Ton / Noel Boylan
Locals / Alex Narruhn

"Call for papers"

FSM Health Issues to Highlight the Next Issue of the Pacific Health Dialogue

The next issue of the Pacific Health Dialogue (PHD), a journal dedicated to fostering publication and dissemination of health information on the Pacific, will focus on the health issues of the Federated States of Micronesia. The College of Micronesia-FSM and the FSM Department of Health Services are jointly working together to support the publication of the journal, which is expected to be out at the end of this year. They have indicated that the next issue can include articles from other parts of Micronesia but it will focus primarily on the Federated States of Micronesia. The theme "Contemporary Health issues in the Federated States of Micronesia" has been chosen for the next issue.

PHD is inviting authors to submit abstracts and articles for publication in its next issue. Interested authors should submit their manuscripts no later than **October 30, 2009** to the contact person below. To request information and instruction for authors, send an email to any of the emails below:

The PHD is a journal for community health and clinical practitioners in the Pacific and beyond and is published at least twice a year. Its aim is to provide a platform for an international exchange of experiences and opinions from all aspects of health in the Pacific. Ultimately, PHD aims to contribute towards improved health care and status at all levels for all Pacific peoples.

PHD is marketed to major health professional groups and those with an interest in Pacific health and welfare. It contains peer-reviewed original papers, case reports, communications, viewpoints and opinions, reviews and news from Pacific health institutions, contributed by local and international health professionals.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.hrcpacific.org/phd.html>:

<http://www.resourcebooks.co.nz/phd/phd.htm>:

<http://www.pacifichrc.org/archive.asp>.

Mr. Marcus Samo

Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs

P.O. Box PS 70

Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Telephone: (691) 320-2619

Fax: (691) 320-5263

Email: msamo@fsmhealth.fm



Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia

Statements of Condition
December 31, 2008 and 2007



LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

<u>ASSETS</u>	2008	2007		<u>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</u>	2008	2007
				Liabilities:		
				Deposits:		
				Noninterest-bearing	18,736,176	18,897,391
				Interest-bearing	50,183,921	42,919,530
					-----	-----
				Total deposits	68,920,097	61,816,921
				Accrued interest payable	64,834	92,624
				Accrued expenses and other liabilities	490,157	558,984
					-----	-----
				Total liabilities	69,475,088	62,468,529
				<u>Commitments and contingencies</u>		
				Stockholders' equity:		
				Common Stock, \$5 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized;		
				934,348 shares issued and outstanding at 2008 and 2007	4,671,740	4,671,740
				Additional paid-in capital	4,663,576	4,663,576
				Retained earnings	5,763,676	5,244,830
				Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,399,156	241,323
					-----	-----
				Total stockholders' equity	16,498,148	14,821,469
					-----	-----
				Total Liabilities & Stockholder's Equity	\$85,973,236	\$77,289,998
Cash and due from banks	\$11,466,932	\$4,859,232				
Federal Funds Sold	2,613,000	8,455,000				
Interest-bearing deposits in banks	543,203	797,157				
	-----	-----				
Cash and cash equivalents	14,623,135	14,111,389				
Interest bearing deposits in banks	5,291,000					
Short-term investment in money market funds	296,648	24,075				
Securities available for sale	31,966,425	29,643,424				
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses	29,714,252	29,290,320				
Accrued Interest receivable	540,229	528,222				
Premises and equipment, net	3,400,933	3,469,187				
Prepaid expenses and other assets	140,614	223,381				
	-----	-----				
Total Assets	\$85,973,236	\$77,289,998				



Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia

Statements of Income
Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007



	2008	2007			2008	2007
				Non-interest expense:		
Interest income:				Salaries and wages	1,435,966	1,441,684
Loans	3,263,511	3,317,811		Occupancy expense	404,950	405,298
Investment securities and due from banks	1,223,308	1,390,439		Data Processing expense	294,584	194,094
Federal funds sold	155,948	524,428		Employee benefits	272,879	234,137
	-----	-----		Fixed Asset expense	246,693	242,897
Total interest income	4,642,767	5,232,678		Professional Fees	212,554	240,886
	-----	-----		Telephone	160,129	159,251
Interest expense:				Stationary and Supplies	136,465	142,710
Time deposits, \$100,000 and over	342,917	471,893		Travel expense	117,205	170,975
Savings	244,542	389,874		Correspondent Bank Fees	99,877	77,224
Other time deposits	85,368	101,618		Gross Receipts and Use Taxes	72,839	98,966
	-----	-----		Insurance	55,068	56,022
Total interest expense	672,827	963,385		Directors and Shareholders expense	54,127	64,113
	-----	-----		Credit and Collection	30,658	25,244
Net interest income	3,969,940	4,269,293		Business Development	25,612	40,090
	-----	-----		Postage	19,399	17,340
Provision for loan losses	0	220,000		FDIC Deposit Insurance	8,709	7,324
	-----	-----		Teller and Operating Losses	3,566	10,192
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	3,969,940	4,049,293		Miscellaneous expense	27,312	49,302
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Non-interest income:				Total Non-Interest Expense	3,678,592	3,677,749
Service charges on deposit accounts	243,208	317,845			-----	-----
Loan fee income	203,929	203,190		Net Income	1,126,172	1,230,366
Other	387,687	337,787			-----	-----
	-----	-----		Earnings per share	\$1.21	\$1.32
Total Non-interest Income	834,824	858,822				