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# Antiquated sewer system continues to cause problems in Pohnpei

PUC receives ADB loan to upgrade and expand the sewer system

By **Bill Jaynes**  
 The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FM – Imagine sitting down at home for a relaxing evening on your porch. The gentle breeze runs its cooling fingers across your skin. Moon glow sparkles on the soft ripples of Pohnpei’s peaceful lagoon. The stars are only just the slightest bit dimmer because of the company of that great light of the night. It’s a wonderful evening marred only by one bothersome problem that simply can’t be ignored. You turn to your loved one who is at your side,

set to enjoy a pleasant evening together and whisper, though you’re not entirely certain that you should, “Honey, what’s that awful smell?”

“I am so glad you asked,” she groans. “I didn’t want to say anything. I thought it was you!”

The cloying odor of raw sewage is an all



Sewage flows into the river just below this Ohmine residence

too familiar smell for some residents of Pohnpei, particularly for residents who live anywhere near the overflow pipes of Pohnpei Utility Company’s sewer system.

When pumps at any of the seven “lift stations” fail in the PUC sewer system in Kolonia and in parts of Nett, raw sewage dumps out of overflow pipes into rivers or into the lagoon. The pipe in what has come to be called “China Town” dumps directly into the lagoon in the water behind Do It Best Hardware. Whether or not the overflow pipes dump directly into the lagoon that is where the raw sewage ultimately ends up.

Lift stations are pumping stations that move raw sewage through the sewer lines on to the treatment plant. Because of the age of Pohnpei’s pumps and the lack of spare parts, the pumps fail frequently. They run on electricity and when the power to the pumps fails, the pumps stop. Gravity takes over and the sewage runs out of the overflow pipes directly into a river or into the lagoon. When power is restored the pumps do not automatically restart. They must be manually reset before they can start their seemingly invisible but vital work again.

One resident of Ku mwunlaid said that he has been pestering PUC, EPA, and any

See “Sewer system” on page 4

**R**ead about  
**grassroots projects  
 in the FSM funded  
 by Japan Government**

*See Back Page*

## What is E-Waste?

Read part one of a 4-part series on E-Waste - Pg. 6

“e-waste” is a term that is used to describe waste that has come from broken or unwanted electronics or electrical devices

# 2009 FSM National Law Day

FSM Information Services

**Palikir, Pohnpei** - FSM National Law Day is one of the court’s annually sponsored programs that features high school students representing their states of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap in debates on issues of national significance. The purpose of the Law Day, when it was first organized and held in 1991, was to involve high school students and the general public in discussion of issues important to the Federated States of Micronesia as a developing nation. Law Day has become an important activity of the court. Since its inception on July 12, 1991, over 120 High School students from the four states have been involved in the event and over \$120,000 in scholarship funds have been issued. For the past seventeen years, the Federated States of Micronesia, through the Supreme Court,

See “Law Day” on page 11

## Ehsa says of his campaign promise, “It’s a go next school year”

Governor Ehsa holds his third press conference in Pohnpei

By **Bill Jaynes**  
 The Kaselehlie Press

**Peilapalap, Pohnpei – June 5, 2009** - Pohnpei’s Governor John Ehsa held the third press conference of his administration in the Governor’s Conference room at 11:00 on June 5, 2009. The event was broadcast live on V6AF, the Baptist Radio Station and retransmitted by the State radio station V6AH. He said that he held the conference so that “we could tell ourselves (his administration) that we are being transparent.”

Governor Ehsa has made it a practice to make himself available to the press and has not been afraid to field difficult questions. His first press conference was held on May 23, 2008. He said at the time that to the best of his knowledge, it was the first press

conference held by a Pohnpei Governor since Trust Territory days.

Ehsa announced that the school lunch program that he promised during his campaign for the office of Governor will begin in August with the next school year for grades 4-12. He said that he knew that the people of Pohnpei had become impatient waiting for the promised program to start. He had not wanted to start the program until he could be sure that it was sustainable. Though there are still some specifics to be arranged the program will start in August with the new school year for students in grades 4 through 12.

Ehsa said that meals would cost the state 63 cents per meal for a total of \$800,000 for the school year. The projected cost for the program including staff and other overhead expenses is expected to be \$1.2 million per year.



See “Ehsa Press Conference” on page 7

# Executive submits Budget for FY 2010 sans compact sectors

FSM Congress Information Service

**PALIKIR, POHNPEI.** May 25, 2009 – Speaker Isaac V. Figir of the Sixteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia issued a strong statement during today's session, in response to the proposed budget bill for the national government for fiscal year 2010.

A budget bill, unprecedented in the history of the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, was received at the Office of the Speaker on May 22, 2009, containing only those areas of the 2010 National Government Budget funded by local revenues.

The bill proposes the appropriation of \$30,459,405 to fund the operations of the three branches, the agencies, the various programs, grants, subsidies and contributions of the FSM national government for upcoming fiscal year 2010 which begins on October 1, 2009.

The current national government budget overview as provided by the Office of Statistics, Budget, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management (SBOC) showed that 77% of the budget is from domestic sources with the remaining 20% plus, from the amended Compact.

While the bill covers the administrative aspects of the national governments operation, absent are those areas supported by foreign assistance, especially programs that fall under the scope of the Compact of Free Association with the United States of America.

According to the transmittal letter, the rationale behind the bill is that "foreign financial assistance is to be disbursed, not by a Congressional appropriation, but by the terms or special nature of the assistance."

The letter referenced the amended Compact and that pursuant to it, "FSM has unequivocal obligation to conform to the provisions of the amended Compact and subsidiary agreements.

"Hence, all laws in the FSM, including budget appropriation act, must be in harmony with the treaty," the letter concluded.

The intent of the bill elicited a strong statement from Speaker Isaac V. Figir, who in this mornings' session went on record to say that the FSM will not compromise its sovereignty for money. His statement in its entirety is as follows:

The Executive Branch has just transmitted to Congress a draft FY 2010 budget bill. According to that bill, Congress has the power to appropriate only revenues, no foreign assistance and no Compact funds. This is a position by the Executive that a enormous significance.

This is also a position that Congress cannot condone. This means that everything that Congress has done for the past 30 years, ever since we established constitutional government, was wrong. To say that Congress can only appropriate local revenues takes us back to the days of the Trust Territory.

Congress represents the people of the FSM. The constitutional mandate of Congress is to control the purse string of the nation on behalf of the people. Yet, the Executive now tells us foreign donors do not want us to control the spending of their funds. That cannot be. To me, donors to the FSM will think twice about giving assistance to the FSM if they knew that the people of the FSM have no say in how the money will be used.

The position of the Executive represents

the most egregious attempt at limiting the power of Congress since this country began. It is un-democratic and does not make any sense.

I urge the Executive to think again. And if there are any foreign donors out there who think that the people of the FSM should not have any say in how their funds should be spent, I urge them to take their money elsewhere. This is a question of the sovereignty of this nation. We will not compromise our sovereignty for some money.

And shame to anyone in this government who would be inclined to do so.

When Speaker Figir completed his statement several members nodded in accord and associated themselves with his statement, while others proposed measures to further clarify the scope of foreign assistances.

Chairman Peter Sitan of the Congressional Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations said Speaker Figir's statement had touched most members. He personally associated himself with the Speaker's statement and went on to say that the position the Executive has taken will have trickle down effects which will seriously impact the state governments who derive more than 50% of their funds from outside sources.

According to Chairman Sitan, for the Executive to "think that legislative bodies of the states don't have authority over funding for their people, has a potetional to be a serious problem."

Following the statements, Congress adjourned the session to continue its public hearings with various entities of the national government.

## Graphic images discourage smokers



Secretariat of the Pacific Community

**Noumea, New Caledonia, 29 May 2009**

– With 'World No Tobacco Day' on Sunday (May 31), it is a good time to remind Pacific nations of the effectiveness of showing smokers graphic images of the physical effects of their habit. Adding these images to tobacco packaging is a well-tried method of discouraging people from smoking.

An adviser on tobacco control at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Ms Jeanie McKenzie, said in Noumea yesterday (Friday May 29) that some countries that have ratified the World Health Organization (WHO) 2005 Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) have not yet fully adopted its recommendations on packaging and labelling of tobacco products.

"In Asia, Europe and Australia, the graphic images that appear on cigarette and tobacco packaging have had a big impact. I'm hoping that Pacific countries will take note of this and fully implement the FCTC guidelines. They recommend health warnings cover at least half of the

See "Smoking" on page 4

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**Bill Jaynes**  
Managing Editor

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## College Community Discusses Options for College at 2009 Retreat

**Palikir, Pohnpei** – The College of Micronesia – FSM held its 2009 President's Retreat from May 12 – 14 2009, at the FSM-China Friendship Sports Center.

The retreat participants considered some recommended options for the future structure of the college. The options were recommended to the retreat by the college's planning and resources committee. The need to reevaluate the current structure of the college became even more pressing given the current financial constraints that the college is facing.

The following options were evaluated during the retreat:

- Status quo – to keep the current structure of the college without any changes and to identify money to maintain it. The current structure currently has one national campus, four state campuses and an additional fisheries and maritime campus in Yap. It is administered by a president and four vice presidents who are responsible for set-

ting standards and ensuring consistency at all campuses. Each campus also has a campus director who ensures the programs and services are provided and maintained at each campus.

- One college with centers – to have one dedicated campus while having education centers located in all states. The centers are mainly for continuing education purposes and will not require the need to have all the programs and services that are required of a dedicated campus. Some administrative positions will be made redundant.

- Breakup College and have different colleges in each state – to break up the college and to allow each state to run its own independent college.

- One national campus with FSM State supported centers where courses can be delivered (VPAS model) – to have only the national campus and to offer some programs at state-owned centers. The prospect of offering courses or programs at state-owned centers is depended on the need of

each state and the suitability of each center to host courses for the college.

The retreat participants were given the opportunity to evaluate trends in economic growth of the FSM, enrollment at the college, program completion rates at the college, college readiness of incoming students, and other important issues that the college is facing.

After three days of discussions, the retreat participants were not ready to commit the college to any structure changes regardless of the trends that the college is currently facing. Instead, the current structure or status quo is recommended to be maintained with some streamlining of positions and functions to reduce costs and to ensure consistency.

The college is also faced with the immediate need to make up for a projected shortfall in its FY 2009 – 2010 budget due to reduced government funding commitment and the downward trends in enrollment. The college is now faced with a budget deficit and is currently working to identify solutions.



# Do It Best Hardware

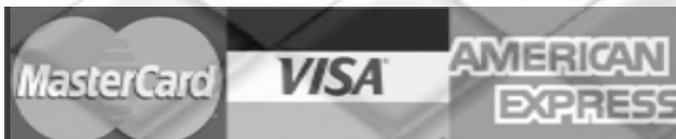
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## ...Sewer Sytem

*Continued from front page*

government official whose ear he can get for help in solving the problem in his area. When overflow pipes at the lift pumps situated on land near the INS Store stop working, copious amounts of raw sewage dump directly into a river. The river flows into the mangrove which is next to his house. Not only is the stench oftentimes unbearable but he says that he worries about the health risk especially in a time when cases of Hepatitis A are once again appearing in Pohnpei. He said that the problem has been ongoing for at least twenty years.

A resident in China Town said that his family has been driven off of their front porch because of the smell but he is mostly worried about the several people who everyday harvest crabs in the lagoon and sell them to the local markets.

Crabs are filter feeders. They are essentially the lagoon's garbage collectors and the crustaceans are not at all opposed to eating the raw sewage there.

Dr. Hedson of Pohnpei Public Health Services said that fecal coliforms that may be present in crabs that feed in water containing raw sewage can be killed by boiling them for 30 minutes. The problem is that

most people stop cooking crabs after they turn red after just a few minutes of boiling. Crabs cooked longer than that are usually unpalatable. Dr. Hedson said that he was not aware of any cases of infections linked to eating crabs but that perhaps the fishermen who tend their crab pots in the part of the lagoon into which the Kamar River flows should be warned.

During the week of June 1 there were at least three lift stations with problems. The lift station in Lewi near the State Hospital continues to have problems due to a lack of spare parts. General Manager Feliciano Perman said that he has instructed his staff to order a new pump. Each pumps costs approximately \$15,000. Two other lift stations were repaired during the week. The pump station in Ohmine near the INS Store has been repaired along with the one at China Town.

The Environmental Protection Agency has a crew that goes out daily looking for violations of EPA regulations regarding out-houses and pig pens that are too close to the water. Those structures must by law be situated at least 50 feet away from the water. EPA has issued letters of warning to violators and some people have been fined. EPA is empowered to fine violators as much as \$100 per day if their warnings regarding violations go unheeded. PUC is not exempt from that regulation but when they are alerted to problems they tend to

work quickly to resolve them.

On Thursday June 4 when we visited the area where the China Town overflow pipe dumps its sewage into the lagoon when the lift station is not working, there was nothing coming from the pipe though the stench was still nauseating. Several hours later an EPA spokesman said that his crew had just come from the area and had been alarmed to see that the pipe was once again dumping human detritus into the lagoon. He said that they would alert PUC to the problem.

Minutes later Perman said that he had sent a crew to the lift station. The power to the pump had tripped. After the crew reset the pump the sewage overflow stopped.

PUC's Perman said that the problem of pollution is not just a PUC problem. "There are so many people polluting the place but the people always jump on PUC," said Perman. "PUC always fixes problems when they come up but other people just ignore them."

As always, there is a money problem. PUC does not charge its customers for use of the sewer system. Money to operate and maintain the sewer system comes from power and water customers who subsidize the system even if they don't have access to it.

Perman said that PUC has made arrangements with the Asian Development Bank for a \$10 million loan to upgrade and expand Pohnpei's sewer system. He said that the Utility will soon go to bid on that project.

Just the same, when power is out, lift stations can't work.

PUC submitted a report to the Governor's office that listed each power outage that occurred in the months of March, April, and May along with the causes of those outages. There were 28 outages reported during that time ranging in duration from one minute to several hours.

Seven of the outages in three months were caused by equipment malfunctions.

Perman said that three of the generators at the power plant are over 20 years old. They obtained two more of them in 1992. Two others were acquired in 1994. He said that the generators should be overhauled every three to four years but that has not been done. An overhaul of just one of the generators costs approximately \$350,000.

21 of the power outages on the outage report were not caused by PUC. Nearly all of those outages were caused by interaction of the power system with trees.

He said that previously when PUC linemen went out to maintain the lines by cutting tree branches that were too close to the power lines they often met with a great deal of resistance from property owners. The utility has begun recently to deal with the problem in a more culturally acceptable way.

Representatives from the utility arrange to meet with Kohsap chiefs where they explain the problem to them. PUC asks the chiefs to select someone from the village to clear the lines. When they have done that, the utility draws up a contract with the selected party and then pays them to perform the service under the supervision of an experienced lineman.

Perman said that in the six places where the utility has handled things in this way he has noticed that property owners are more understanding and that trees are more aggressively trimmed than the utility might have previously felt comfortable doing themselves. He said that the results of the trimming last longer and there is much less animosity than there was before.

PUC started the program in Madolenihmw because it is the furthest away from PUC and when there are problems there it takes workmen a long time to get there to solve the problems. Trees have been trimmed in Wapar, Mand, and Temwen in Madolenihmw. In Sokehs trees have been cleared by residents of Tomwara, and Lewetik. Clearing of trees between Palikir and Iohl is currently in process.

Perman said that as far as he was aware PUC had not been notified about the problems that occurred between June 1 and 4. He urged the public to notify PUC if they notice problems with sewer overflows. They can be contacted at 320-2374.

ing was also common among young men. In Fiji, almost 4 in every 10 young men aged 15 to 25 were smokers, with half of them smoking daily.

Ms McKenzie said the use of pictures was effective for all types of smokers, not just those with access to more education and information. Surveys consistently found that most smokers themselves agreed the images were effective.

"A picture is worth a thousand words," she said.



The Lift Station in China Town. Vandals had broken the electrical meter before this June 4 picture was taken.

## ...Smoking

*Continued from page 2*

packaging."

She said pictorial health warnings are an important part of WHO's six key strategies to fight the global tobacco epidemic. Many countries had already introduced new regulations requiring graphic pictorial health warnings on all tobacco packaging.

Research indicates that most smokers only recall well-known illnesses caused by smoking and that they significantly underestimate its other health risks. Written warnings such as 'Smoking is addictive' and 'Smoking Kills', were often just not recalled by smokers, she said.

However, studies have shown that large pictorial health warnings were the most effective way for tobacco packages to convey the range and severity of risks associated with tobacco use.

Of the 14 Pacific island countries that

have ratified the agreement since 2005, some are developing their regulations but none have fully implemented the guidelines.

Ms McKenzie said the prevalence of smoking in the Pacific region varied considerably from country to country. She said recent survey data from Pacific Island countries suggested that around a third of adults in Polynesian countries were daily smokers, most of them men.

For example, in American Samoa almost 40% of all men smoked every day. Smok-



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## Micronesian ordained as a Roman Catholic Priest in Connecticut

*By Marcellino D. Umwech*

On the sixteenth of May, 2009, half of the world away at the Atlantic coast in Connecticut, a Micronesian son just made history. Bruce Mikael Roby of the FSM became a diocesan priest of the Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Father Roby has come a long way. He was born into the Nanly and Kande Roby family on July 4, 1974. As early as his elementary years, when the island catechist talked about the need for more priests in the islands, Bruce started contemplating off and on about becoming one. At his graduation when the school principal gave word of encouragement to the graduates, his prophetic advice to him was 'Bruce, work hard to become a priest'. These two momentous occasions were etched into Bruce's heart so vividly he still talks about them as if they just happened this moments ago. At the Chuuk High School, the thought of becoming a priest still persisted in his mind and it was then and there that he decided to go for it. He then went to the Saraman Chuuk Academy for another year before going to the South Pacific Regional Seminary in Fiji

on a scholarship from the Diocese of the Carolines and was later transferred to the St. Patrick Seminary in California. When his scholarship was suddenly terminated, the very determined Bruce didn't fly off on a tangent for another pursuit or quit. He has already set his heart on becoming a priest believing this was a divine call for him. Out of college for about two years, Bruce finally matriculated at the St. Joseph Seminary in New York

After years of hard work, the payoff came when the two-day solemn ceremonies came to pass: on May 16th was the ordination to the priesthood of Bruce M. Roby by The Most Reverend William E. Lori, Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport; and on the 17th the Rev. Bruce M. Roby celebrated his first thanksgiving mass. Attending the ceremonies in addition to the regular parishioners of the Bridgeport Diocese were family members, relatives, and friends coming from as far away as Micronesia, Samoa, and all over the USA. Vesting Father Roby at the ordination mass was Father Lane Akiola from Hawaii. At the Roby's

first mass Father Fernando P. Titus who came from Chuuk on his own was one of the 15 concelebrants and Deacon Kelly Yalmadau, who will be ordained priest on June 27th in Uluthi, was the Master of Ceremony.

We made some good impressions on the local parishioners. At the Roby's first mass floral wreaths (mwaramwar) were presented and a few Chuukese songs were sung. The intercession prayers were offered in English, Chinese, Hindi, Pohnpeian, Spanish and Tagalog.

Father Bruce has been assigned to the St. James Parish in the Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut. We believe he is the first Catholic priest of FSM citizenship on a permanent assignment in the USA.



# What is E-Waste?

This is number one in a series of four awareness messages about e-waste. Support for this activity is provided by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP) and the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs. The information contained in these messages is from a variety of on-line and off-line sources.

Just like the term e-mail has become the shorthand term for electronic mail, or mail that has been transmitted by an electronic method, "e-waste" is a term that is used to describe waste that has come from broken or unwanted electronic or electrical devices. Many electric products, that would not be considered e-waste in the past, now contain one or more circuit boards or other components containing hazardous substances. Over the past 40 years economic develop-

ment in the region has led to a dramatic increase in the imports of such items to Pacific island countries. When these items are in use, they pose no danger. But when they are discarded, or thrown out, some serious pollution is created, as many of these items are not biodegradable. Look at the list at the end of this article and see if any of these items are in your house or office. Ask yourself, "What did you do with that broken TV set or that old toaster?"

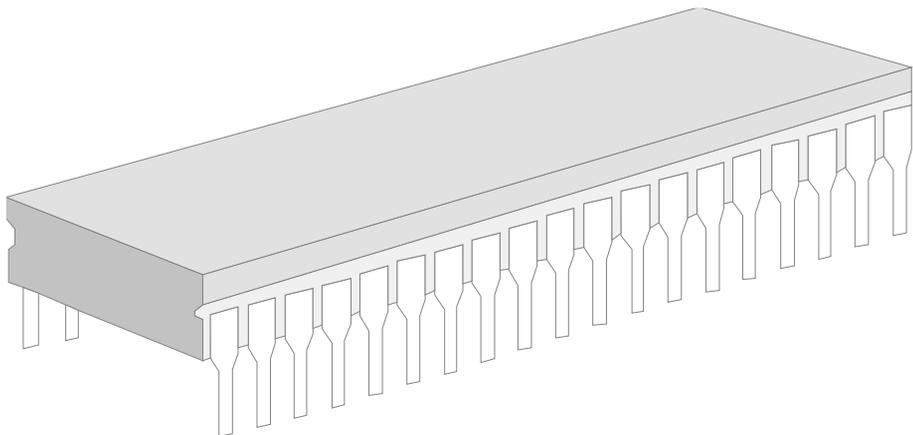
Items that eventually become e-waste include: household appliances, office machines, communication equipment, entertainment systems, fluorescent tubes and sodium lamps, many electric tools, some toys and sports equipment, surveillance equipment, and some of the machines used in medical facilities. E-wastes are dangerous

because the substances and elements they contain are known to be toxic or poisonous, and are forms of hazardous pollution when not handled, or disposed of, properly. Some of these substances are fiberglass, epoxy resins, Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and certain kinds of plastics. Some of the elements that are found in e-waste include lead, tin, copper, silicon, beryllium, carbon, iron, and aluminum in large amounts, and small amounts of cadmium, mercury, and thallium. There are many elements (more than 25) that are included in very small, or trace, amounts in e-waste.

In the FSM, there are no manufacturing facilities that produce products containing e-wastes, so all e-waste comes from imported goods. There are some e-waste items, such as PCB contaminated electrical transformers, which have already been removed from the FSM during the past five years. This effort was implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP) and the POPs in PICS project. Almost all electric items manufactured in the US after the 1970's no longer contain PCBs.

The following is a partial list of common items which become e-waste when their "useful life" is over and they are discarded: washing machines, dryers, refrigerators, air-conditioners, vacuum cleaners, coffee makers, toasters, irons, microwave ovens, computers (desktop and portables), monitors,

telephones, cordless telephones, cell phones, fax machines, copiers, printers, scanning machines, televisions, VCR/DVD/CD players and recorders, radios, fluorescent lighting tubes, sodium lamps, electric hand drills/saws/sanders/etc., sewing machines, lawn mowers, smoke alarms, electric train sets, automobile (lead/acid) batteries, nickel-cadmium batteries, and lithium-ion batteries.



## Weno Water Well Remediation and Rehabilitation Project



The Federated States of Micronesia National Government announces the commencement of the Weno Water Well Rehabilitation Project. Wholly financed by a grant from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, and administered by the Asian Development Bank, through the FSM DOTCI. This project will improve the water supply system on Weno Island, in the State of Chuuk.

The Chuuk Public Utility Corporation (CPUC), the implementing Agency, is soliciting Expressions of Interest from qualified consultants and organizations to perform the following components of the work:

### Public Awareness Campaign

Conduct Willingness to Pay Survey; Water Conservation Workshops, and Community Outreach Meetings.

12 month duration.

### Water Quality Monitoring

Perform system sampling, analysis of samples, and prepare reports. Design sampling plan for utility staff to follow. Train utility staff in process.

6 month duration

### Rate Study

Prepare Demand Forecast. Establish appropriate rate for service. Set Tariff

6 month duration.

### Civil Works

Clean boreholes. Set new equipment. Construct buildings to house equipment.

12 months duration

Contact Tim Scheidt, the Project Manager, at the CPUC at [wenowater@gmail.com](mailto:wenowater@gmail.com) or 691-320-2865

## ...Ehsa Press Conference

Continued from front page

Not all schools would have kitchens but meals would be transported from schools with kitchens to schools without kitchens.

Ehsa said that the meals would be balanced and would not consist of 100% imported food though there will still be some food that is imported. He said that food producers in Pohnpei should benefit economically by the program and that the scholastic aptitude of students should also be increased.

Some details are yet to be arranged. Ehsa said that it wouldn't make sense for farmers to sell their produce for use at the schools and then have to spend money for a taxi for a ride all the way to the State Finance office in Kolonia in order for them to be paid. The government is looking into the possibility of making financial disbursements from the municipal government offices. This is still to be worked out. He said that he is aware that most of the municipal government offices have not had "clean financial opinions," meaning that financial reporting irregularities appear quite often on municipal finance audits.

Other details include whether or not children will need to bring their own plates and silverware so that the expense of washing dishes can be avoided.

Ehsa said that he would welcome help of any kind on the project including financial donations, volunteer service, or donations of goods—in kind donations. Though there are still details to be handled Governor Ehsa committed to his promise of school lunches, "It's a go next school year."

Governor Ehsa gave the gathered press members and members of the diplomatic corps an update on other governmental developments:

### Infrastructure:

The governor said that a list of 21 projects with a combined total cost of approximately \$100 million has been approved by the State Government and has been transmitted to the National Government for review and certification to the US Government for concurrence.

Construction of new classrooms at Kolonia Elementary School, and Madolenihmw and Nanpei Memorial High Schools has begun. Work is scheduled for

completion in January of 2010.

Task orders for Saladak, Nett, and Sapwalap Elementary Schools, along with a new Primary Health Center/Dental Annex have been issued and are expected to be completed within 6 to 8 months. Construction, he said, is expected to begin in the early of part of 2010. Task orders for Sokehs Powe and Seinwar schools are "expected to be issued shortly." Ehsa said that there are still some land issues and issues of environmental protection that need to be resolved before those projects can enter the design phase.

Ehsa said that there will be a new Dental College located in Pohnpei.

In January of 2009 a public road symposium was held in Pohnpei. Ehsa said that there are 50 miles of primary road that need repair along with 44 miles of paved secondary roads. 45 miles of secondary roads are still unpaved. The members of the symposium estimated that approximately \$88 million is needed for road maintenance and construction needs. The governor has sent a bill to the legislature that would increase vehicle registration fees by \$10 across the board along with a 1% increase in fuel tax. The money raised from those fees would be put into a restricted fund to be used strictly for road maintenance projects. He estimated that the state would raise \$700,000 per year for road maintenance projects.

Local matching funds required for the US Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Projects grants totaling about \$19 million and the Asian Development Bank's Omnibus Water Project loan program in the amount of approximately \$8 million have been made available under the Compact Infrastructure Development Program grant. Actual implementation of both projects will commence shortly. The total cost of the two projects is over \$30 million.

An Infrastructure Maintenance Fund projects priority list totaling over \$5 million was prepared and transmitted to the Legislature for consideration in March 2009. Programs proposed include projects to repair and maintain public schools, health and sports related facilities in Pohnpei.

### Power Generation:

Governor Ehsa said that in January Pohnpei Utilities Corporation adopted a resolution declaring that Pohnpei is under a power emergency condition. They asked the Governor's office and the Legislature to assist in order to prevent a total power shutdown in Pohnpei. Options now under consideration include the procurement of a new two megawatt generator and the rehabilitation and restoration of the Nanpil Hydroelectric plant.

He said that his administration's priority is for renewable energy and steps have been taken to develop a program of renewable energy generation.

All of Pohnpei's outer islands now have solar power. The project was made possible by assistance of the European Union.

Two pilot biogas projects have been installed in Pohnpei funded by Pohnpei sister-state the Zhejiang Province in China. He said that biogas can play a major role in developing renewable energy and sustainable development to improve peoples' living standard and the environment of Pohnpei. He said that he would like to see biogas system installed in every household that raises pigs. Printed materials for the press conference said that the cost for one biogas system is \$1000. Governor Ehsa said, however, that each one costs approximately \$8000.

See "Ehsa Press Conference" on page 10

# MARY BERMAN

Attorney  
Chinese Spoken  
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# Andersen receives Barksdale bombers

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente

**ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam** – Three B-52 Stratofortress bombers, from Barksdale Air Force Base, La., arrived here after a 17-hour flight May 30 in to support the Pacific region.

“The mission here is part of the Continuous Bomber Presence that’s been going on since 2004,” said Lt. Col. David Ballew, 96th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron commander. “... This is the third or fourth time the 96th EBS has been here. It’s a recurring deployment for us.”

The recurring deployment is shared with B-1 Lancers and B-2 Spirits, the B-2s departed after the arrival of the Stratofortresses.

Approximately 300 Barksdale AFB Airmen deployed here as part of the rotational bomber deployment here to maintain stability and security in the Western Pacific, while allowing units to become familiar with operating in the Pacific theater.

“The fact that we are in a new environment [can be challenging while we are

deployed], but that’s what we train to do,” said Capt. Brandon L. Fischer, 96th EBS aircraft commander and life support officer. “Some of the unique opportunities that we have on this deployment include a vast amount of air space to train, the chance to integrate and employ with other weapon systems, services and countries, and a variety of training exercises that include long-range precision strike on a continual basis.”

Captain Fischer is one of many Airmen who have returned to Guam as part of the CBP mission.

“I’m very proud to be a part of the CBP mission,” Captain Fischer said. “I think we have a wonderful purpose out here ... Each and of every one of these individuals who deployed with this squadron have a sense of purpose as far as what they are doing out here. Even though we may not be involved in direct combat, we can stand ready at all times.”

The 96th EBS will perform training missions to prepare for real world missions and they have a chance to integrate training with the F-22 Raptors.

“We’re going to be accomplishing a variety of training,” Colonel Ballew said. “The big thing is familiarizing our crews with



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christopher Bush)

Three B-52 Stratofortress bombers, from Barksdale Air Force Base, La., land here after a 17-hour flight May 30. The bombers, assigned to the 96th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, are here in support of the Continuous Bomber Presence in the Western Pacific.

the Pacific theater of operations. We get a chance to fly maritime interdiction and mining sorties that are hard to get back home. We also fly a lot of long-duration sorties to all parts of the Pacific theater.

“We get plenty of focused training out here, and we integrate with a lot of our coalition partners and other U.S. platforms already here at Andersen,” he added.

Part of the training missions will include employment of simulated weapons. The 96th EBS will use their deployment location to include sorties for training over water and air refueling training.

Nearly half of the Airmen deployed from Barksdale AFB are assigned to the 96th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit. Senior Airman Eduardo Negron, 96th EAMXU crew chief, helped catch the aircraft when they arrived.

“We caught three jets arriving from Barksdale AFB,” Airman Negron said. “We pretty much did the basic requirements and inspections after they landed completing a 17-hour sortie.”

Airman Negron has also returned to Guam for his second deployment in support of CBP.

“It feels good coming out here to support

the CBP,” he said. “It makes you feel real proud. I like the area. It’s nice out here.”

Airman Negron and the rest of the Airmen assigned to the 96th EAMXU are responsible for maintaining three B-52Hs.

“The B-52 Stratofortress has been around a long time,” said Colonel Ballew. “The jets we are currently flying were all made in 1960s which makes them older than almost all of the crew members flying them. It’s a pretty unique thing. We are scheduled to keep flying for another 20 or 30 years, so even another generation will get to fly this plane.

“We like to tell people this is not your mother’s B-52. It looks the same on the outside as you might have seen on old footage, but completely reworked on the inside. The B-52 is a very capable platform. We’ve participated in every U.S. conflict since the plane has been put into service. The plane has a rich heritage, and we like to say that we can shoot or drop just about anything that the Air Force has in inventory.”

The 96th EBS and the 96th EAMXU are scheduled to be here for a four-month deployment.

## VACANCY

### VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM (VMS)



### OPERATIONS OFFICER

(Second Position)

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) invites applications from suitably experienced and qualified individuals for the Support Staff post of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Operations Officer to be based at its headquarters at Kolonia, Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia. This is the second and final recruitment of a VMS Operations officer in 2009. Information about the WCPFC is available at [www.wcpfc.int](http://www.wcpfc.int). Working as a member of a small, multi-national team in a challenging environment, the successful candidate, who will work closely with another VMS Operations Officer and report to the VMS Manager, will share responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Commission VMS. This includes monitoring the operation of the Secretariat-based Commission VMS hardware and software, and providing regular reports to the VMS Manager on these matters. Additional information, including terms of reference, qualifications and experience requirements and conditions of employment, are available on request from Mr Albert Carlot, VMS Manager, WCPFC Secretariat ([albert.carlot@wcpfc.int](mailto:albert.carlot@wcpfc.int) or telephone +691 320 1992). Applications, which close on June 19, 2009, should be addressed to the Executive Director, WCPFC Secretariat, P.O. Box 2356, Kolonia, Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia 96941, and clearly identified as an application for the post of VMS Operations Officer. Applications via e-mail will be considered. Applications will be accepted from persons who unsuccessfully applied for the post of VMS Operations Officer earlier this year. The appointee will be expected to commence duties in July 2009.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christopher Bush

A B-2 Spirit takes off from the flight line here as part of the redeployment to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. B-52 Stratofortresses replaced the B-2s as part of the Continuous Bomber Presence here in the Western Pacific.

# World Blood Donor Day

"Celebrating your gift of blood" 12 JUNE 2009



## COME FIND OUT YOUR BLOOD TYPE!

Do you know your blood type?

Many people don't. Knowing your blood type and becoming a Micronesia Red Cross blood donor could help you save the life of someone in your family, someone you know or even a complete stranger!

**A-**

*Donate blood and give the gift of life!*

**AB+**

**FIND OUT YOUR BLOOD TYPE**

- it's only a finger prick!

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**FREE typing on Friday June 12<sup>th</sup> at:**

COM - Pohnpei Campus - 8:00-10:30am

**O+**

Palm Terrace - 11:00am-1:00pm

**B+**

COM - National Campus - 2:00-5:00pm

To register as a voluntary non-remunerated blood donor, please call Micronesia Red Cross society at 320 7077 or 320 8700 or email us at [mrcs@mail.fm](mailto:mrcs@mail.fm)

# Nanpworangon Community of Pohnpei Empowered

## NCP Press Release

The Nanpworongon Community of Pohnpei (NCP) in Nett, a chartered NGO in Pohnpei State, received AusAID funding to start a community farm. The goal of the project is to teach each other farming skills necessary for subsistence living, and to promote goodwill and positive social upbringing throughout their community.

Upcoming activities of the NCP farming project will include the demonstration of appropriate farming techniques by representatives of government agencies, identification and planting of seedlings and other crops.

The NCP members appreciate the financial support from the Aus AID small grant scheme.



**Left:** Land cleared by the community members for cultivation. **Bottom Right:** An elder member of the community teaches the young the art and skills of traditional farming, an important element for the community development. **Top Right:** Even the female members of the community are involved and empowered to take responsibility of their community.

# ...Ehsa Press Conference

Continued from page 7

Ehsa said that a Chinese company has been to Pohnpei at his request and has identified five rivers where hydroelectric power could be viable. He was told that the generation capacity of hydroelectric power in Pohnpei's rivers is upwards of 10 megawatts of power. Pohnpei's current demand stands at 6 megawatts.

### Private Sector Development:

The Governor said that foreign investors are concerned about Pohnpei's restrictive foreign investment laws and that he agreed that they need to be improved. He has transmitted a bill to the Legislature proposing to amend the current foreign investment laws that his administration thinks will improve the environment for foreign investment in Pohnpei. The Legislature is currently deliberating on the bill and final action on the measure is expected shortly.

In April of 2009, Ambassador Eric Hotung visited Pohnpei to explore investment opportunities in tourism and other developmental areas. The governor said that he has been informed that Ambassador Hotung is prepared to sign a Memorandum of Understanding relating to interest in financing the development of a Five Star Hotel in Pohnpei. In order to convey the State's earnestness in pursuing the project the MOU has an 18 month timeline that puts the project on a fast track. After that point the MOU expires.

Saying that Pohnpei State was not yet ready to take over the project, he has asked the Government of China to extend the Pilot Farm project in Pohnlangas. Though the decision is not yet final he said that he had been given the impression that the Chinese

See "Ehsa Press Conference on page 12

**For more information, Call**  
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## Funding received for 2010 FSM-wide census of population and housing

SBOC

The Division of Statistics of the Office of Statistics, Budget and Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance, and Compact Management (SBOC) is gearing up to launch the 2010 FSM-Wide Census of Population and Housing, after being granted from various donors about \$550K. The estimated budget needed for the project stands at \$1.4 million.

The financial contributions received thus far are provided by the following sources: UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), US Department of Interior (US DOI), and the Public Sector Capacity Building Grant. About \$850K is yet to be sourced and the Division of Statistics continues to seek financial and technical assistance from other potential donors, including the FSM Congress.

President Mori had issued a Proclamation on July 31, 2008, declaring April 4th 2010 as the FSM Census Day and April 2010 as Census Month. He further emphasized statistics as foundation for development planning.

The 2010 Census aims to take an inventory of population and housing. It aims

also to compile benchmark information on the socio-economic characteristics of the population. Census statistics determines eligibility for grants and funding for public works, education, infrastructure projects, etc. Up-to-date social and economic information enable planners, both from the government and the private sector, to make effective plans and sound decisions; and, to formulate meaningful policies and appropriate strategies.

The Census will cover all households and all usual residents of the FSM, including expatriates. The Census is authorized by Public Law 5-77, otherwise known as the Statistics Act of 1988. This same Act protects the confidentiality of any data gathered by the Division of Statistics, preventing it from being disclosed to the public in any form that may identify an individual.

The Division of Statistics is the official statistics agency for the nation, so the government is highly dependent on it to produce timely and accurate results. Mr. Mathew Chigiya, the Assistant Director for Statistics stated that the role of the communities and households is important for the successful conduct of the project and calls upon their cooperation.

## FSM National Taskforce on Influenza A (H1N1) Recommends Cancelling Airport Screening

FSM Information Services

In a letter to President Mori, the President's H1N1 National Taskforce has given a recommendation to cancel airport screenings for passengers who may be infected with the H1N1 Influenza A virus. The Taskforce has based their recommendation on "evidence from other countries, the experience of FSM public health staff, and the science of H1N1," as stated in the letter.

The letter further stated that despite good intentions, the current passengers screening for H1N1 at points of entry (particularly airports) that the FSM States are currently doing has become a burden on the public health resources for some of the states. For example, multiple staff members have been diverted from their usual program duties (tuberculosis, diabetes, maternal and child health, etc.) in order to conduct daily airports screening activities. As the number of H1N1-affected areas increases, so does the number of passengers undergoing individual screening.

At the same time, it has long been recognized that passenger screening CANNOT prevent the introduction of the H1N1 to our country. This has been emphasized repeatedly by international agencies, particularly the World Health. It has also

been demonstrated by the fact that Japan, despite conducting temperature screening on every single arriving passenger, has acquired the greatest number of cases of any Asia-Pacific country. At best it will detect a small number of symptomatic cases, while most cases go undetected (because they are still in the incubation period). In the Southeast-Asia region, of 1.7 million passengers passing through checkpoints, only 3 patients with H1N1 have been picked up through passenger screening.

Based on the above mentioned examples and based on the latest information and sciences of H1N1 available, it is recommended that the current active passenger screening for H1N1 at the points of entry be discontinued, unless surplus resources are clearly available. It is far more important that limited resources be channeled toward hospital preparedness, good surveillance for influenza-like-illness, and public education.

While President Mori endorses the H1N1 National Taskforce's recommendation and supports the plan to focus more on hospital and other public health countermeasures instead, he has also asked the taskforce to continue monitoring what is going on in our neighboring islands, especially Guam and Hawaii, and periodically review if additional actions are necessary.

# ...Law Day

Continued from front page

has been providing the opportunity to high school students to participate in the development of our nation through debates on issues important to the FSM, and the same opportunity has been given to the general public to be involved in these discussions as well.

A coordinating committee is appointed each year to organize the law day. The committee selected its chairman after the appointment and decided on the topic of the debate. This year's topic is:

"Be it resolved that in the interest of improving the health of the citizens and residents of the Federated States of Micronesia, the importation of the following items into the FSM shall be prohibited by law:

- Turkey Tail
- Canned Corn Beef
- Spam
- Instant Ramen Noodle

Such other products as may be determined by statute or regulation to be unhealthy."

Each year, the court pays to send the student debaters to the venue of the debates and provides financial assistance for their initial post-secondary education to attend colleges and universities of their choice, including the College of Micronesia-FSM. The scholarship assistance money is given to the student debaters upon their submission of letters of acceptance to the colleges or universities of their choice to the court.

The venue for the 2009 FSM National Law Day is Chuuk State. Since July 12 falls on a Sunday this year, the committee decided to move the event to Monday July 13, 2009. The ceremonies and debates will commence at 9:00 a.m., Chuuk time, and will be broadcast live throughout the Federated States of Micronesia on Monday, July 13, 2009 from the State of Chuuk.



**OLYMPIC DAY**  
Saturday, June 20, 2009  
**5K Walk/Run**  
7:00a.m., Saturday

Pohnpei - start and finish at Palm Terrace Shopping Center.  
Runs will be also held at the same time in Yap, Kosrae and Chuuk.  
\$5.00 registration fee, with t-shirts to all finishers

## K-Press Perspective

### If it gives you life is it valuable?

It is an axiom of both economics and of human nature that we tend to assign a lower value to commodities that are both easy to get and in abundance. Suppliers who provide commodities that are difficult to get and scarcer, demand and get higher prices for their goods. You may remember that when rice was hard to find in the FSM the consumer could expect to pay more for what there was if rice could be found at all. OPEC often takes advantage of this axiom to help them to increase the price of oil per barrel when they feel it has fallen too low. They simply cut back on production and voila; instant world wide fuel price increases.

We wouldn't bend over to pick up a gold nugget if we could have a cubic yard of the stuff delivered to our homes in a dump truck to line our driveways. Because gold is both labor intensive to mine and is hard to find its value is quite high. Surely if we found a gold nugget in our driveway we would cherish it, put it in a secure place, and take care of it until a buyer could be found.

A few days ago I read a posting on the Micronesian Seminar Forum by a man who said that he had once spent time in a country in Africa in a place where the only potable drinking water in the vicinity was a three hours hike away. I gathered from his post that his firm had been hired to drill wells in the area. He said that they dug several wells and that the majority of them came up dry. Just the same, because drinking water in that country was in such short supply the government was willing to spend the money necessary to attempt to get water to its people. The value of water is very high in that place because there is so little of it that is fit for human consumption.

Pohnpei, on the other hand has a nearly constant supply of the life giving stuff. About 20 feet of rain falls on Nana Laud every year. It seems that about the only time that folks in Pohnpei are concerned about water is during El Nino years and then the demand for water catchment tanks goes up along with their price even though at that time there is little rain to fill them. It's then

that the meaning of the words from an old song by "White Lion" becomes abundantly clear: "Don't know whatcha got 'til it's gone."

It seems that just about as fast as the Conservation Society of Pohnpei works to preserve watersheds from the highest mountains down to the lowest mangrove and beyond, others are at work, even unwittingly, to tear it all down. It seems CSP has made slow and steady progress in halting some of the highland watershed clearing which if left unchecked would kill the reefs and replace the mangrove forests with mounds of silt. Good job CSP!

We are indeed blessed to have such a relatively constant flow of water in Pohnpei. It would be easy to take it all for granted; to devalue it in our thinking. Yes, it's important that we have water but that water will be completely useless for human purposes if we foul it with our own waste and that, I fear, is what is happening.

This topic has come to weigh heavier on my mind in recent weeks as I have watched the way that my neighbors handle the beautiful river that flows by the house where I live; the wanton disregard displayed for those who live further down the stream and for the environment that sustains them.

I think it's possible that they have no way to transport their trash from their home to the dump in Dekehtik since they stack it up on their property. If I had a pick up truck I would certainly offer to make a daily trash stop at their house to help with the situation. I'm not entirely unsympathetic to that situation but surely another solution could be found other than waiting for the rain to come and then throwing all of the accumulated trash into the river.

During the last decent sized rainfall I was appalled to look out my window just in time to see my neighbor dump two 40 gallon black garbage bags into the river. I'm not sure where my neighbor thinks that stuff goes. Trash thrown into the river (and for that matter, out a car window on the road) doesn't go away. It just goes

somewhere else. If some downstream neighbor who cares about the river and who also has a vehicle to transport trash didn't scoop it out of the river that trash is in the mangrove right this minute. The plastic bottles are probably already floating in the lagoon where they will be swept out to sea; just a part of their long journey to become a part of what I call "Plasticovia". "Plasticovia" is a plastic floating dump larger than the State of Texas that has accumulated in the Pacific Ocean. Each piece of "Plasticovia" was contributed by someone who wanted their trash to go away and who didn't care where it went.

On top of the problem of people dumping trash into Pohnpei's beautiful rivers there are many who use the rivers as toilets and as a place to make pig manure disappear as well.

The cumulative effect of the countless numbers of "river dumpers" will ultimately be devastating to the water supply and to the environment of Pohnpei. Already the Environmental Protection Agency is undertaking an information campaign to teach community members what they need to do in order to avoid the possibility of Hepatitis A which is a disease linked to fecal matter contamination.

A world traveler was astonished to discover on one of his journeys that the young boys happily squatting in the dust of a village he visited were playing a game that was similar to a game he had played as a boy. The grimy, smiling boys had no marbles to play the game so they used what in their mind was the next best thing. They were playing with diamonds they had found along the road.

Just think of Pohnpei's life giving water supply, its watersheds, and its rivers as a diamond mine and then act accordingly. I am fully aware that the analogy is sappy and oversimplified but something somewhere has to change or we will wake one morning to find that Pohnpei is not the paradise it could have been if we'd all just taken care of it.

*Bill Jaynes*  
*Managing Editor*

entitled to land and that the problem is the issuance of land to the needy.

Land reform is set to begin now that there is a new director at the Department of Public Lands. Ehsa said that Pohnpei will need more surveyors in order to complete the process of land reform and called the issue one of his Administration's biggest challenges.

He said that he has tasked the Department of Public Lands to look into commercial leases of public land particularly the issue of the transfer of leases from a failed business person to another business. He said that he didn't think it was fair or right that a failed business man could make more money by failing than by operating successfully and that lease payments for public land should go to the general fund of the state.

#### Other issues:

Under the heading of "other issues" Governor Ehsa said that he had submitted a bill to the Legislature for a reorganization of the Executive Branch of the government. He said that the bill includes seven departments and five offices. The bill also proposes to eliminate certain boards, commissions, authorities and corporations and to merge their functions under relevant departments or offices.

## Letter to the Editor

### Trouble in Paradise?

Dear Editor

I'm appalled at the treatment the Arthurs' are getting. Having built the Village in the 1970's, they have lived in Pohnpei and have been committed to island development for many years.

Something is very wrong when the government puts US and Micronesian investors out of business and then demands they pay a loan they could not pay because they had been put out of business by your Government.

Can you imagine how bad an image is being projected and how angry American taxpayers will be?

The solution is not difficult. Pay the court ordered judgment in favor of the Arthurs and dismiss the development loan the Arthurs' are wrongfully told they must pay to Pohnpei State. If not, please explain why foreign investment and development of private sector is unimportant to FSM.

*Sam Middlemiss*  
*Hong Kong*

A new executive office of Fisheries and Aquaculture has been established by law within the Executive Branch. The Office assumed the public functions previously performed by the Pohnpei Economic Development Authority and the Pohnpei Fisheries Corporation.

The latest Pohnpei financial reports shows that revenue collection for the first six months of fiscal year 2009 is approximately \$500,000 higher than for the first six months of FY 2008. His notes said that if the present trend continues he expects to collect a minimum of one million more dollars this year than in the last.

In the question and answer session Governor Ehsa was asked what he would say to his detractors who say that he has traveled too much since he has been in office. He said that nearly everything he had said during the press conference was a direct or indirect result of travel. The Executive Branch, he said, has only \$20,000 per year for travel and that is for the Lt. Governor, his support staff as well as for himself. He said that unfortunately whenever government officials travel outside of Pohnpei they are automatically criticized but that he feels that there is not enough travel.

He said that his travels had all produced fruit for Pohnpei that is nearly ready to harvest. "I really don't care what they think," he said. Other funding sources need to be found for Pohnpei's economy besides the Compact alone, he said and likened the Compact of Free Association to a "500 pound elephant".

A Pohnpei questioner asked him whether his travels to Taiwan went against the FSM's adherence to the one China policy. He answered that his visits to Taiwan were for consultations with businesses and not with the government of Taiwan. He doesn't think that those visits are a violation of that policy at all and that Pohnpei still stands on the one China policy.

## ...Ehsa Press Conference

*Continued from page 10*

Government seems disposed toward continuing the project.

An MOU between Pohnpei State and the Shanghai Deep Sea Fishing Corporation is currently at the stage of review and comment. Shanghai Deep Sea Fishing Corporation is proposing to manage and operate an on-shore fish loining plant and other related interests in Pohnpei. Ehsa said that the Legislature has already passed a bill that would allow the company to build the facility on the site of the Pwohmara Beach Resort. Ehsa had formally said that the company would employ approximately 800 people. During the press conference he said that it would employ approximately 500 people.

During the open question session of the press conference Governor Ehsa asked if Pohnpei State was any closer to paying off on the court judgment against it in favor of AHPW Corporation. The judgment in excess of \$1.2 million dollars has not been paid and is accruing interest and penalties every day. Bob and Patti Arthur are under house arrest at The Village for contempt of court and a related but separate matter that would likely be resolved if Pohnpei State were to pay off on the judgment.

Governor Ehsa said that in September of 2008 he submitted a bill to the Legislature that included payment of the judgment. The Legislature did not pass that bill. He resubmitted another bill to the Legislature that would have mandated payment and once again the Legislature turned the bill down. Ehsa said that he had done all that is in his power to do.

Ehsa announced the reopening of the Pohnpei Public Market located in Kolonia. It reopened on May 29, 2009.

#### Education related issues:

A report for the Department of Education said that the number of students passing the cut-off score of 60% on the high school entrance examination in the 2009 school year is lower than the number recorded in the previous school year. Over 800 students failed the examination. Ehsa noted that the highest scores were higher in 2009 than in 2008.

#### Land Reform:

Governor Ehsa said that while squatting is a problem in Pohnpei he did not think it was possible for a Pohnpeian to squat. He said that every Pohnpeian is

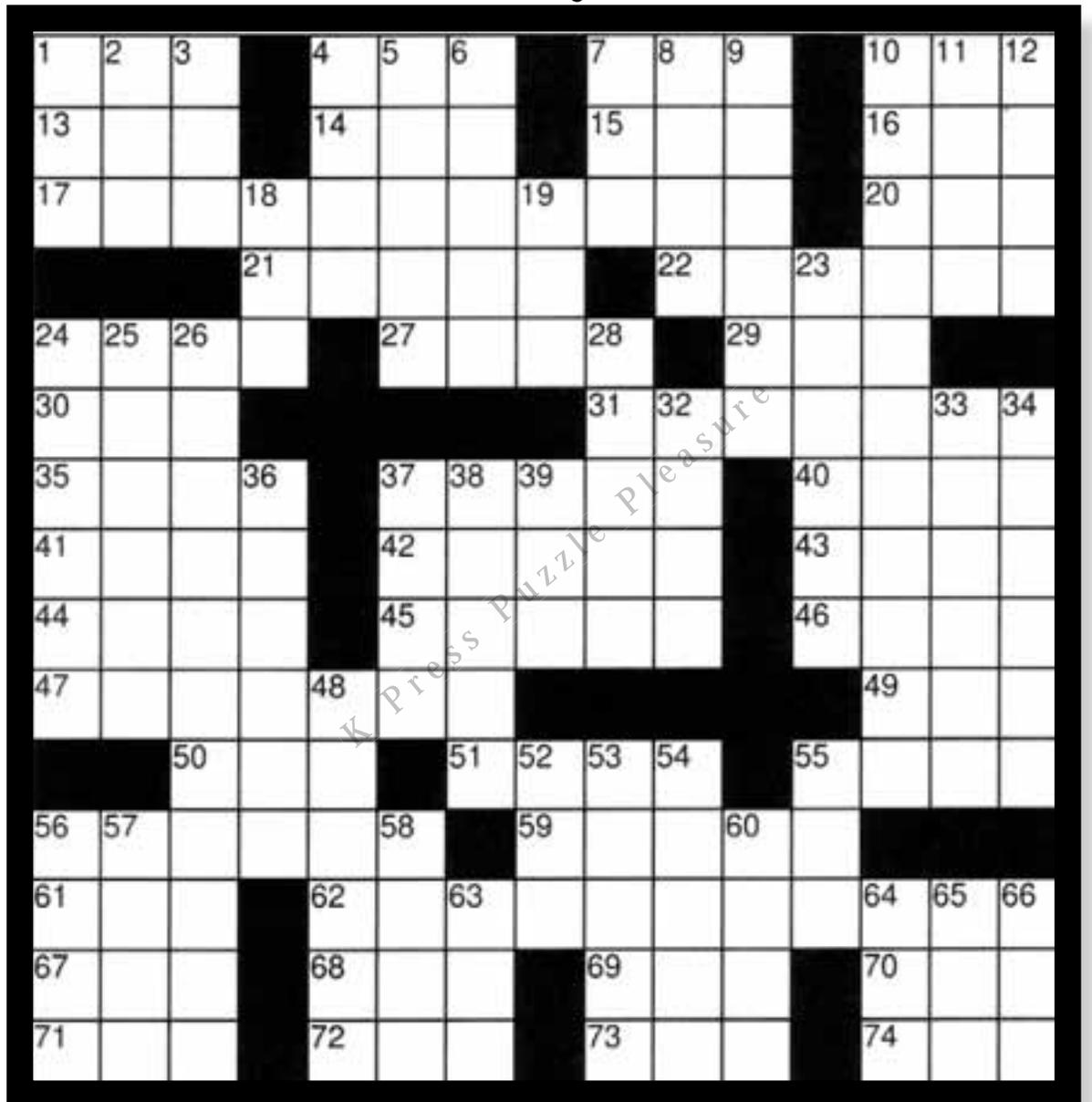
# Crossword - Sean Connery Flicks

**ACROSS**

1. Common complaint
4. Relaxing place
7. Apple alternative
10. Uppermost
13. Musical sense
14. Laugh track collection
15. Dawn, for instance
16. Resentment
17. Sean Connery film of '96
20. Gullet
21. Sing part of "Hocus Pocus" by Focus
22. Author output
24. Frolic
27. Answers in Jeopardy
29. Intriguing place
30. Cry against the bull
31. Cinematic style
35. Bookie's numbers
37. Spring-time sound
40. Stack from the bank
41. Amistad, for one
42. Phrase
43. Rephrase
44. Shell food
45. Raises a stink
46. Aerial replacer
47. Avoided lumps
49. \_\_\_ Don
50. Gallery givers, for short
51. Fool
55. Ruthless ruler
56. Midday break
59. Vital vessel
61. Sleeve
62. Sean Connery film of '65
67. Doc flock, for short
68. 49 Across, in Spanish
69. It's important to me
70. Pool breaker
71. Outlaw
72. Spud bud
73. Place for cars
74. Embarrassed one's face cover

**DOWN**

1. Joined together
2. Boathouse item
3. The end of an \_\_\_
4. Vamoose
5. Bamboo biter
6. Angela's \_\_\_
7. Rhoda's mom
8. Feel the \_\_\_!
9. Soul deliverer
10. Sean Connery film of '81
11. Aloud
12. Where the plate gets passed
18. Trick
19. He's got a lot on his mind
23. Put the kibosh on
24. Perches
25. The usual
26. Sean Connery film of '92
28. Paint protector
32. 7/4 cries
33. She entertains
34. Bible book without the G-word
36. Plant missiles
37. Piece of land
38. Dorm denizens
39. Paint choice
48. Baby toy
52. Fleming who wrote of M and Q
53. T
54. Ragu rival
55. Cola choice
56. Volvo rival
57. Marie Wilson's friendly role
58. Yoo-hoo on the blue
60. Hurry
63. Apply
64. Poker or tennis term
65. Shlep
66. Chair part



## MORE MODERN MOVIES

The 1991 drama *Regarding Henry*, starring Harrison Ford and Annette Bening, tells the story of an unscrupulous lawyer who is forced to reexamine his life after a near-death experience. Below you will find a brief summary of the movie, and once you've circled all the words, the unused letters, when read from left to right, starting at the top, will spell out the titles of the three other Ford films.

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

Ruthless lawyer Henry Turner is shot in a robbery. During his long recovery, he sees that there are more important things

in life than lust winning cases, such as his neglected wife and daughter, and he is moved to give up his career in law.

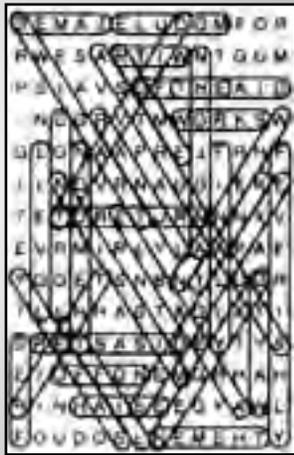
*Puzzle Pleasure Previous Issue's Solution*

Crossword Solution



Slivered Side

Modern Movies



Forrest Gump, Saving Private Ryan, That Thing You Do!

**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](mailto:rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com)

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

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Pohnpei, FM 96941

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**NEW**

## Pohnpei Bananas Found Rich in Resistant Starch with Related Health Benefits

A study by Jessica Thakorlal, University of Auckland, New Zealand, under the supervision of Professor Conrad Perera, in collaboration with the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, has shown that five varieties of Pohnpei bananas in the mature green stage of maturity contain varying amounts of resistant starch, which has important health benefits. Of the varieties analyzed, Utin Kerenis, Inahsio, and Utin Ruk contained the highest levels of resistant starch, but Karat and Daiwang also contained somewhat less.

**Recent research has indicated that resistant starch functions as fiber, which is the fraction in the food that one eats that is not digested. Fiber is known to help protect against diabetes, and to help against sharp sudden rises in blood glucose.**

Past research has shown that green, not ripe, bananas are rich in resistant starch. Dr. Perera facilitated a small-scale food processing workshop in Pohnpei in 2007, and at that time offered to assist in a study looking at the question of whether different Pohnpei banana varieties might contain different levels of resistant starch. One way of preserving

bananas and providing a variety of new food products is by drying slices of green banana and grinding these slices to prepare flour. Pancakes made from banana flour are quite tasty, and are one of the food products that Dr. Perera demonstrated in Pohnpei in 2007. Adelino Lorens, Chief of Pohnpei Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs, and Chairman of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, and his wife Palerina Lorens carried out the sample collection, preparation and drying. Adelino expressed particular interest in the results. He pointed out that this shows even further health benefits of the Pohnpei bananas, and that green bananas can provide important contributions in the daily diet. So let's go local and eat more green bananas for their important resistant starch benefits and more!

*Thanks are extended to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community Trees and Forest for their support of small-scale food processing development in Pohnpei.*



**How to make banana flour:** Use mature green bananas. Peel and cut into slices 1.5 to 2 mm thick. Dry in dehydrator for about 3 hours at 135° F or in a solar dryer until fully dried and crispy. Grind to a fine powder with an electric grinder, or pound in the traditional way and use a sieve to sift to a fine powder.

## Banana Flour Pancakes

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup wheat flour
- 1 cup banana flour powder
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoon oil
- 4 ripe banana, mashed through a 2 mm sieve to obtain a smooth creamy puree
- Water as needed

**Directions:** Measure all of above except ripe banana into a clean bowl and mix well with a whisk. Add the banana puree and whisk. Add enough water to obtain a thick batter.

Prepare a skillet at medium heat and add a little oil. Spread the oil evenly with a paper towel and pour a tablespoon of the batter onto the heated skillet. Cover and cook for about a minute or two and turn over and cook the other side for a further minute or two or until light brown.

## Astronomical Tide Prediction June 10 Through June 23, 2009

		Pohnpei		Chuuk	
		06/10	06/17	06/10	06/17
Wednesday		04:14AM 4.3	04:08AM 2.0	03:04AM 2.4	
		11:19AM 0.7	09:15AM 2.6	11:42AM 0.0	01:37AM 1.3
		04:55PM 2.3	03:59PM 1.3	03:42PM 0.2	01:58PM 0.4
		09:53PM 1.2	11:18PM 3.2	06:22PM 0.1	
Thursday		06/11	06/18	06/11	06/18
		04:43AM 4.1	06:05AM 1.8	03:31AM 2.3	
		11:49AM 0.8	11:03AM 2.3	12:06PM 0.1	12:11AM 1.5
		05:30PM 2.4	05:01PM 1.3	03:58PM 0.2	01:56PM 0.4
	10:25PM 1.3		06:47PM 0.1		
Friday		06/12	06/19	06/12	06/19
		05:13AM 4.0	12:16AM 3.5	03:57AM 2.2	
		12:20PM 0.9	07:19AM 1.4	12:30PM 0.2	12:15AM 1.7
		06:07PM 2.4	12:35PM 2.3	04:26PM 0.3	09:17AM 0.2
	11:00PM 1.5	06:01PM 1.2	07:06PM 0.2		
Saturday		06/13	06/20	06/13	06/20
		05:44AM 3.8	01:06AM 3.9		
		12:52PM 1.0	08:13AM 1.0	04:20AM 2.1	12:39AM 2.0
		06:51PM 2.4	01:42PM 2.3	12:51PM 0.2	09:28AM -0.1
	11:41PM 1.7	06:55PM 1.1			
Sunday		06/14	06/21	06/14	06/21
		06:18AM 3.5	01:52AM 4.2		
		01:28PM 1.1	08:59AM 0.6	04:40AM 1.9	01:11AM 2.3
		07:45PM 2.5	02:37PM 2.3	01:11PM 0.3	09:57AM -0.4
	07:44PM 1.0				
Monday		06/15	06/22	06/15	06/22
		12:37AM 1.9	02:36AM 4.5		
		06:58AM 3.2	09:42AM 0.3	04:51AM 1.6	01:47AM 2.5
		02:10PM 1.2	03:24PM 2.4	01:28PM 0.4	10:31AM -0.5
	08:52PM 2.7	08:31PM 0.9			
Tuesday		06/16	06/23	06/16	06/23
		02:02AM 2.0	03:19AM 4.6		
		07:53AM 2.9	10:23AM 0.2	04:30AM 1.4	02:23AM 2.6
		03:00PM 1.3	04:08PM 2.5	01:45PM 0.4	11:09AM -0.6
	10:08PM 2.9	09:16PM 0.8			

# Government of Japan funds grassroots projects in the FSM

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

One might think that the subject of toilets would be beneath the dignity of a diplomat. However, Ambassador of Japan to the FSM, His Excellency Shoji Sato while visiting Seinwar Elementary School in Kitti for their graduation exercises on June 3 demonstrated that isn't the case. Ambassador Sato, spoke in Pohnpeian to those gathered and presented brand new toilet facilities to the school.

It's the third school in Pohnpei to be provided with new toilet facilities by Japan through its Grassroots Human Security scheme of the Japanese Government. Pohnpei Island Central High School and Mand Elementary also received new toilet facilities. The Japanese Government donated over \$90,000 and a JOCV volunteer for the project which provided a total of 31 toilets, six urinals, and 22 hand washing stations.

In 2008 the government of Japan provided over half a million US dollars in grant money to support nine different programs

and organizations in the FSM. They also provided JOCV volunteers and other support staff for several of the projects.

In Pohnpei, in addition to the school sanitation projects the Japanese government funded an integrated fishery development program for the fishing community of Kitti. They provided medical equipment to the Pohnpei State Hospital. They funded the repair and expansion of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei. They provided equipment to help support the efforts of Kaselehlie TV Productions. The Conservation Society of Pohnpei received funding to support their environmental education program. They also provided funding for the construction of the Pwihn Keisu Community Hall.

In Chuuk the Government of Japan provided funding for the set up of a student center at Xavier High School which will benefit the students of Xavier as well as those from Sapuk Elementary School.



Kosrae Centralized Landfill before

Kosrae Centralized Landfill after conversion to Fukuoka Method



Toilet facility at PICS High School before



New toilets facilities installed

All of the projects have been major achievements and some are ongoing.

Perhaps one of the most outstanding environmental achievements of the Grassroots Human Security scheme was in Kosrae. There the Japanese government funded a major improvement of the Kosrae Centralized Landfill.

Before that project was completed the landfill was simply a piece of land designated for use as a dump site. Trash was dumped there and periodically plowed under the soil.

The new landfill utilizes the "Fukuoka method" for landfills. The Fukuoka method was developed in the mid 70's in a cooperative project between the City of Fukuoka and the University of Fukuoka in Japan. It is a low cost, environmentally friendly and efficient way of handling the garbage that people inevitably generate wherever they gather. Land used as a landfill utilizing the Fukuoka method can be much more rapidly reclaimed for other community uses when its life as a landfill is at an end. Approxi-

mately 70% of all the land fills in Japan are Fukuoka method landfills and the method is being put to use throughout the world especially in developing nations.

For the scientifically minded the Fukuoka Method is a "semi-aerobic" landfill type. (The term "aerobic" refers to a process that can only take place in the presence of oxygen.) The method involves laying a network of water collection and air ventilation pipes at the base of a landfill site which is enclosed by a liner. These pipes remove contaminated waste water from landfill material as quickly as possible, before it can leach into the surrounding soil. Oxygen entering the landfill activates microbes in the landfill material and these purify the contaminated waste water as it is being collected making purification of leaching ponds much easier and more economical. Vent pipes help to eliminate the possibility of explosion due to accumulated methane gas build up. Methane gas is a by product of decomposition.

The amount of methane produced by the method is decreased and the level of Car-

bon Dioxide is increased. Methane's contribution to global warming is about 25 times greater than that of Carbon Dioxide and so the method helps to prevent global warming. It also smells better than other waste disposal methods.

Further, the method is a more efficient use of land. Because trash is compacted before being buried, less land is required for purposes of waste disposal.

The project was initially funded in 2006 but due to unanticipated large amounts of rainfall and equipment malfunctions it was not completed until March of this year.

Ambassador Sato spoke at the official handing over ceremony in Kosrae on March 5.

A message from the Kaselehlie Press:  
**DRIVE SOBER**  
OR DON'T DRIVE AT ALL!



Save some lives,  
**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!**