

The KASELEHLIE PRESS

This bi-weekly publication is \$1.00

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Missing fishermen returned to Pohnpei after nine unexpected days at sea

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM— 72 year old Dr. Aminis David and his nephew, Rayder Oliver who is in his early 20's and also goes by the last name of Suzuki, will never forget Saturday, March 27, 2010 or the nine days that followed. The pair became lost after cloud cover obscured their vision while they were fishing and they could not find their way back to Pohnpei. They drifted in the vast Pacific Ocean for nine days with very little food, very little water, and sometimes very little hope.

On Saturday, April 10, Dr. David, sat on his front porch in Nanpohnmal and looked out over the majestic, sweeping view of Pohnpei's lagoon south of Sokehs Island. Stacked in his carport were at least six cases of soda and at least the same number of cases of bottled water, an opulence that a week before he had begun to think he might never see again. The trailer that carried his 19 foot open boat and 40 horsepower engine to the lagoon on the morning of the Pohnpei Fishing Club Catch 5 tournament sat empty in the lawn. He bent down, rubbed his swollen legs, stretched and began to tell his story.

"We checked in for the tournament at 6:30 that morning and there was another boat there too," he began. The other boat was captained



by Ferny Perman. Dr. David said that he and his nephew went out through Palikir pass. Perman, whose boat was faster overtook and passed them so they followed his boat in the direction of Bird Island.

Not long after, the fishermen caught a 40 pound yellow fin tuna. "But it was a Catch 5 tournament so we needed four more kinds of fish," said David and enumerated the species, counting them off on his right hand.

The two headed towards Ant Atoll where

many fishermen have had good success at catching Mahi Mahi and Wahoo and where the fishing club has placed a payao, a fish aggregating device. They were happy that their first catch of the day had come so early and scoured the ocean looking for the birds that would indicate both schools of bait fish and the bigger fish they were after that feed on the small bait fish. They found nothing. They concentrated for a time around the payao but still caught nothing.

See "Nine days at sea" on Page 10

U.S. Senate Staff members "catch up" on U.S.-FSM Compact issues



By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—Two professional staff members who support the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (SENRR) arrived in Pohnpei on April 1

to meet with FSM government officials on the subject of progress under the FSM-U.S. Compact of Free Association as amended (Compact II).

"Most people ask," Stayman said, "Why Energy? What's that got to do with Micro-

nesia?" The important part of the title is 'Resources.' The committee has oversight responsibility with respect to the Department of the Interior." DOI is the U.S. department that handles the Compact agreement between the U.S. and the FSM.

Allen Stayman, has been involved in Pacific Islands issues since 1984 when he began work as a staff member at SENRR. He worked with that committee for approximately 10 years. He also served in the U.S. Department of the Interior as Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Territories under David Cohen during the administration of former President Bill Clinton. Later he served in the Department of State for approximately three years. He was a U.S negotiator for the terms of the Compact agreement that now functions as the guiding document of FSM - US relations. Coming full circle, Stayman is back as a professional staff member of SENRR.

This was the first visit to the FSM for Isaac

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U.S. Promotes Gardening With Local Youth

By Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia

On April 9, representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Services and the U.S. Embassy in Pohnpei teamed up with thirty-eight Nett Elementary School students to create a vegetable garden on embassy grounds. The organic garden demonstrated vegetable production on a small scale to and encourages the incorporation of a variety of vegetables in people's daily diet. Students were informed about low-cost, high yield gardening techniques, as well as the invaluable health and food security benefits provided by a family garden.

In her opening remarks, the wife of U.S. Ambassador Peter Prahar, Mrs. Amy Kit-Ling Choi Prahar encouraged students to employ the gardening techniques they would learn at home, highlighting the various health and cost-saving benefits for their families. USDA-NRCS Conservation Specialist Paul Lake then educated students on the materials needed for gardening, focusing on those that could be procured locally and free of charge. Students were then able to partake in various hands-on activities, including constructing a raised bed out of local bamboo, mixing the correct ratio of soil to compost, and planting and mulching seedlings to promote effective growth.

The vegetable varieties planted during the event include tomato, cucumber, Chinese cabbage, bell pepper, green onion, and eggplant. Most of the varieties were originally sprouted at the Pohnpei Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Greenhouse, and all seeds were purchased at the Pohnpei Agriculture Office.

In addition to Friday's event, USDA-NRCS participated in the development of small demonstration gardens at schools throughout Pohnpei. In 2006, USDA-NRCS collaborated with FSM Economic Affairs, Pohnpei State Agriculture and the Island Food Community of Pohnpei in an initiative titled Training in Appropriate Farming Techniques. Two separate trainings were conducted for Nahnpei Memorial School Parent and Teachers' Association

in Kitti and Mand Village in Madolenihmw, and demonstrated and promoted culturally acceptable production of vegetables for home consumption and local sale, provided technical assistance and provided knowledge to the community through public workshops.

The goals of both initiatives aligned with the FSM Strategic Development Plan Goal for the Agriculture Sector: to increase production of local produce for food security, health and to encourage import substitution, increase production of traditional farming systems for home nutritional and traditional needs and cash incomes, increased volumes of saleable surpluses to be marketed by the private sector into local and regional markets, and to promote environmentally sound and sustainable production.



Representatives from the U.S. Embassy and USDA-NRCS pose with Nett Elementary 6th graders and teachers in newly-constructed vegetable garden April 9.



Mrs. Prahar and a group of Nett Elementary 6th graders plant rows of Chinese cabbage in a bamboo raised bed at the U.S. Embassy in Nett April 9.

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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FSM Association of Chambers of Commerce (FSMACC) becomes a reality

By **Bill Stinnett**
FSMACC

March 31, 2010

Palikir, Pohnpei - Efforts to establish an FSM National Association of Chambers of Commerce have been underway for several years and thanks to President Manny Mori, steps were taken recently to make this a reality with the signing of the Charter of the FSMACC.

A Meeting of the FSM Association of Chambers of Commerce (FSMACC) took place at the FSM Department of Resources & Development (FSM R&D) Conference Room in Palikir on Wednesday, March 31st, and lasted from 3:00pm till about 6:30pm. The Meeting was attended by Mr. William Stinnett, President of Chuuk Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Phillip Ranganbay, President of Yap Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Witson Phillip, Chairman of Kosrae Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Leon Senda, Vice President of the FSMACC and President of Pohnpei Chamber of Commerce was unable to attend the Meeting for family reasons.

Over the course of several hours those present discussed a number of issues regarding the newly chartered FSM ACC, the draft Terms of Reference, the proposed budget, and a reorganization of the Officers of the Association. Following broad discussions, participants consensually agreed on the following:

- 1) the FSMACC Board of Directors will comprise twelve (12) members consisting of three (3) members from each of the FSM States. Each State Chamber President will automatically be a member of the FSMACC and the two (2) others will be selected by chamber membership based on their own selection criteria
- 2) the Executive Secretariat of the FSMACC will initially have two (2) staff, one Executive Secretary one Administrative Officer.
- 3) the National Government should consider providing institutional support to the four State Chambers of Commerce through the funding of the position of one (1) Administrative Officer;
- 4) the initial slate of interim FSM ACC Officers is reorganized as follow:

President: Mr. William Stinnett of Chuuk State
Vice President: Mr. Leon Senda of Pohnpei State
Secretary: Mr. Philip Ranganbay of Yap State
Treasurer: Mr. Witson Phillip of Kosrae State
- 5) the mandate of Officers will run until the first Meeting of the Board of Directors
- 6) the proposed budget Fiscal Year 2011 for the newly created FSMACC, discussed and adopted by participants, will include funds

for each State Chamber of Commerce to hire its own Administrative Officer and will be submitted to FSM Congress; and,

7) the FSM Department of R&D (Division of Trade and Investment) will continue to act as interim Secretariat for the FSMACC. It was mandated to finalize the job profiles for the positions opened at the FSM Executive Secretariat.

Participants at this historic meeting are optimistic that an FSM National Chamber of Commerce will bring the private sector communities of Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap together and become both an asset and resource for the National Government to call on for assistance and input on economic and private sector issues facing our Nation. They also hope that the leadership of the National Government will invite representation from the National Chamber to participate on boards and commissions that directly impact the private sectors of the 4 FSM States.

There remains lots of work to do and the leadership of the FSM ACC will be working with each other and the staff at the FSM R&D to ensure that when funding becomes available in FY 2011 we will be able to move forward on National issues that are of interest and concern to the state private sectors.

The Meeting was facilitated by Ernest Weirlangt, Assistant Secretary for Trade and Investment and Ms Camille Movick, Deputy



Assistant Secretary for Trade. The FSMACC Meeting also benefited from the technical assistance of Mr. Jean Bertrand Azapmo, Trade Policy Analyst under the Commonwealth Hub & Spokes Project.

For more information, please contact one of the following:

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...Senate Staffers

Continued from front page

Edwards, Republican Counsel to the committee. "He (Stayman) works for a Democrat and I work for a Republican," Edwards said. "Congress doesn't really get along all that well nowadays but on island issues, it's pretty much one voice. So when we come out here to talk with folks we're generally in agreement on what we're talking about... we may have some differences in philosophy on various things but..."

Stayman continued, "...and we'll generally work those out in private. I mean it's pointless for us to go to our bosses unless we agree... They (U.S. Senators) are not going to have a floor fight over the Compact."

No question, the visit by Stayman and Edwards was an important one for the FSM and also for the visiting Senate staffers. "It's an opportunity for us to get caught up," Stayman said. Recently they have been concentrating on the Compact agreement with Palau which should soon be completed in the U.S. Congress.

If Stayman and Edwards are caught up on FSM issues their bosses in the U.S. Senate will be as well.

The staffers have been charged with asking several questions of FSM Government officials. "First and foremost," said Stayman, "the questions our bosses ask are 'What's the (Compact) money being used for and has it been used effectively?'"

The second question they asked FSM officials during their trip was related to their bosses' questions about the process of Compact II. "How is Compact II working?"

"There was a holdup on the infrastructure funds, but that log jam seems to have broken loose," Stayman commented. "The two big sectors beyond that are Health and Education and we've been chatting with folks about that subject."

They also wanted to know about the progress on macroeconomic reforms in the FSM which Stayman said was the underlying motivation behind Compact II.

"In 'Compact I' economics was sort of an afterthought," said Stayman. "Its purpose was for establishing the government, democracy building and security functions. Economic provisions were pretty rudimentary. It was basically money transfers without guidance."

"The basic deal (with Compact II) was that the U.S. Congress said 'Look, we don't know what happened to \$2 Billion and if we're going to do this again we want the FSM to be treated the same as any other Federal grant recipient.'"

That wasn't something new for the FSM. Stayman said that at the time there were some 40 Federal programs operating in the FSM under Compact I. "So there's been a lot of talk about capacity building and reporting but, my understanding of it is that the FSM was perfectly capable of a standard grant relationship with the U.S. Government under Compact I and what this (Compact II)

does is add six more. So it's not as if the world changed dramatically."

Stayman admitted, "Of course, these are bigger grants and there's a fair amount of work but the idea that the FSM didn't have to comply with grant requirements under Compact I is not true."

The FSM did commit to macroeconomic reforms including tax reform. It's built into the Compact.

Stayman said that the current tax structure in the FSM is difficult for investors to understand. "In the U.S., one of the ways that we do territorial taxes is called a mirror tax. It's the exact same tax code in Puerto Rico, or Guam, or the Virgin Islands as the Federal tax so if anyone comes from anywhere in the world and they want to invest in the Virgin Islands they don't have to go, 'Oh my! What's the Virgin Islands tax?' Anyone who knows the U.S. Tax Code, it's the same thing. All of a sudden investors just say, 'Oh, okay. I get it.'"

"But can you imagine an investor coming to the FSM," Stayman asked? "They've got this unique National Tax Code and then he's going to be operating in one of the States that's going to have another unique Tax Code."

Economic development in the FSM is declining rather than improving according to one FSM government official who spoke under conditions of anonymity.

When Stayman was asked if he thought that more Compact spending on private sector development might help to improve the FSM's economic climate he said, "It's not a favorable investment environment. In fact, it's pretty hostile. What investor would come and invest here given the experience of other investors, and the things we've already talked about. There is a lack of transparency in regulations and the laws regarding business, land tenure, opaque tax policies, and so on. So I don't think money is the main problem in terms of stimulating the economy."

To clarify his statement, Stayman said, "So if you're covering health, education, basic infrastructure, transportation, and communications and you're not getting economic development you have to start thinking that maybe there are some internal factors."

He said that geography in terms of transportation and natural resources were also hindrances to economic development. "There's a pretty short list of natural resources in the FSM." He tried to list them and got as far as "beautiful jungle islands," "tuna," and "surfing," before he gave up the count and shrugged his shoulders. "If there was a resource like oil here economic development wouldn't be a problem."

Another issue that Stayman and Isaac brought with them to discuss with FSM government officials is the problem of the Compact's financial impact in U.S. states. "Right now I'm just trying to make people aware that this is a growing political issue in the United States," Stayman said.

When the first Compact was introduced, migrants to the U.S. from Freely Associated States (FAS) which included citizens from Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the FSM could freely travel, live and work in the United States and were eligible

for Medicaid which allowed U.S. hospitals to be reimbursed by the Federal Government for medical treatment of FSM citizens. The Medicaid eligibility was repealed in 1994.

Hawaii, the state that anecdotally has the highest concentration of FSM citizens, still had a program for health care for FAS citizens even if the Federal government did not.

"With the economic downturn 18 months ago, Hawaii got into serious financial trouble as did almost everybody," Stayman said.

Hawaii's Governor Linda Lingle wrote a budget with an eye to solving some of Hawaii's financial problems. Her budget excluded FAS citizens from coverage under Hawaii's health care system.

"There were demonstrations and a fair amount of debate in the State on what to do and it was taken into Federal court," Stayman said. "The judge issued an injunction against this provision in the budget, not on policy grounds but on process grounds."

Stayman said that Hawaii is now in the process of more formally rewriting the rules on the State Health Care program and changing laws that need to be changed. The upshot may well be that FAS citizens will be ineligible for Hawaii's health care program when the State's work is done.

FAS citizens have already been written out of the Health Care Reform law recently passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Obama.

Neil Abercrombie was ten times elected in Hawaii's first Congressional District to be a Congressman in the U.S. House of Representatives. He resigned that position just under two months ago in order to concentrate on his campaign for the office of Governor of the State of Hawaii in the 2010 election. He has been reported to have promised that if he is elected he will pursue more deportations of FAS citizens living in Hawaii without means as the Compact allows the U.S. government to do.

Stayman said that during debates on the U.S. Health Care reform bill, Abercrombie was a vocal proponent of reinstatement of FAS citizen eligibility for Medicaid. That part of the bill was ultimately defeated and is not part of the new U.S. Health Care law.

Stayman pointed out that within the last few weeks several representatives at the U.S. House of Representatives called for a Government Accountability Office review on the financial impact of the Compact agreement. "There are now Micronesian populations concentrated in several areas around the United States," he said

"So what's going to happen, and I want people (in the FSM) to be aware, is that when this report comes out in nine months there's going to be a problem of political reaction. We can guess what GAO's findings are going to be. There's a very high impact and that's going to trigger these states to want to respond in some way."

"Now is the time to start thinking (in the FSM) about what can be done," Stayman implored. "Be proactive instead of reactive."

Edwards added, "Maybe you don't want to do anything until the finding (by the GAO)

comes out but at least have some sort of reasonable and rational suggestions for after it does."

Stayman interjected, "Some things could be done sooner. One that we've been talking about is just getting better information. I think there are a lot of different claims and we're trying to figure out what is and what isn't working, what are the real costs and those are things we could get a better handle on," Stayman said.

He said that information and data collection on the number of FAS citizens is important. "The U.S. doesn't gather very good information on our census. They (the census) lump all Asians and Pacific Islanders into one group, so that's worthless. We can't do anything with that."

According to an FSM press release, Stayman and Edwards met, in the absence of FSM President Mori, with FSM Vice President Alik Alik. They also met with FSM Congress Speaker Isaac V. Figir of Yap, Senators Dohsis Halbert of Pohnpei, Paliknoa Welly of Kosrae, and Peter Christian, also of Pohnpei.

They also had a joint meeting with the FSM Compact Review Committee: Chairmen and Director of the Office of Statistic, Budget, Overseas Development Management & Compact Management (SBOC) Fabian Nimea, Kosrae State Representative Tiser Reynolds, and Pohnpei State Representative Ihlen Joseph.

They held meetings with FSM Department of Health Services Acting Secretary Ben Jesse, Department of Education Secretary Casiano Shoniber, Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure Secretary Francis Itimai, Project Management Unit Acting Program Manager Marcelino Actouka, Postmaster General Midion G. Neth, and FSM Telecommunications Corporation President/CEO Takuro Akinaga.

They also met with Pohnpei State Governor John Ehsa.

Stayman was intimately involved with details surrounding the construction of the Nan Pil Power plant in 1986. He was involved again when the U.S. provided approximately \$1 million for the plant's rehabilitation. Pohnpei Utility Corporation General Manager Feliciano Perman took Stayman and Edwards on a tour of the currently inoperative hydro power plant.

They toured two Compact Infrastructure Grant funded school projects in Pohnpei and also met with Micronesia Conservation Trust Executive Director Willy Kostka on the subject of the recently-completed Biosphere Project in Pohnpei, which recognizes Ant Atoll as a biosphere reserve.

Stayman said that the Five Year review process of the Compact is behind schedule. He anticipates that by this summer the U.S. Department of the Interior will submit the review of the accomplishments and challenges of the first five years of the Compact agreement to the SENR, in the House of the Senate and the counterpart committee in the House of Representatives.

He figured that since this is an election year those committees would be holding hearings at the beginning of the next Congress in the winter of next year.

National Trade Facilitation Committee holds one day meeting in Pohnpei

FSM Information Services

April 5, 2010

The National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) has come together in Pohnpei for a one-day meeting to discuss some issues of critical importance for FSM and for the state governments. This will be the 3rd time the committee has met. The meeting kicked off at 8:45 AM on Friday April 1, 2010 at the Pohnpei State Small Business Development Center and was opened by Vice President Alik and Acting Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development (R&D), Mr. Marion Henry.

At the opening, the Vice President, who was serving as the Chairman since the last meeting, welcomed the participants, who represented the members from each state's committee on Trade and people from NGO's and the Chuuk Chamber of Commerce. The Acting Secretary of R&D also gave opening remarks that focused on the objectives for the meeting which are; to bring together members of the Committee to focus collectively on the implementation of the trade policy; to talk about investment and export development in the FSM; to discuss the establishment of the FSM Association of Chambers of Commerce; and to discuss the FSM's participation in ongoing trade negotiations. Through the day's discussions, the Acting Secretary hopes that the group can forge a way forward on such things as trade de-

velopment, income generation and conservation of resources.

The Vice President, as Chairman of the NTFC, then gave remarks that focused the group on the various issues that are relevant to the FSM Trade Policy and asked them to collectively consider and address some of the important challenges facing the economy, including measures to enhance investment in the services sector, export development strategies to help reduce the current trade deficit, private sector development initiatives and approaches to maximize FSM's participation in ongoing trade negotiations. The Vice President stated that FSM requires a more coordinated approach of all na-

tional and state agencies in their dealing with trade and trade-related issues, especially with regard to the FSM's engagement with global and regional trade and investment opportunities. He urged the participants to carefully consider options to enhance the effectiveness of the NTFC and establish subcommittees to help deliver out-of session decisions to support the implementation of the FSM's trade policy objectives.

Some of the expected outcomes of the meeting are anticipated to be: adopting modalities for NTFC's out of sessions-meetings; adoption of the proposed standardized definition of investment concepts, reporting format and timeframe;

adoption of a pragmatic and realistic approach for handling trade consultations with the US pursuant to Section 244 of the Amended Compact; adoption of reports for the PICTA_TIS survey; discussion and endorsement of a way forward for FSM's involvement in the Economic Partnership Agreement (between PACPS and the EU) and PICTA (the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement) Negotiations.

Mr. Steven George, Director of the Kosrae State Department of Resource & Economic Affairs, was elected by the participants as the new Chairman of this 3rd meeting. A follow up press release will detail the actual outcomes of the meeting.



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VDSL-2048	2048 kbps	2048 kbps	\$2,548.00
VDSL-3072	3072 kbps	3072 kbps	\$3,822.00
VDSL-4096	4096 kbps	4096 kbps	\$5,096.00
VDSL-5120	5120 kbps	5120 kbps	\$6,370.00
VDSL-6144	6144 kbps	6144 kbps	\$7,644.00
VDSL-7168	7168 kbps	7168 kbps	\$8,918.00
VDSL-8192	8192 kbps	8192 kbps	\$10,192.00
BUSINESS ISPEED ADSL			
Business Starter	256 kbps	64 kbps	\$100.00
Business Basic	512 kbps	128 kbps	\$200.00
Business Standard	1024 kbps	256 kbps	\$390.00
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Business Pro	1536 kbps	384 kbps	\$599.00
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HOME ISPEED ADSL			
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Premium 384	384 kbps	384 kbps	\$1,909.00
Premium 512	512 kbps	512 kbps	\$2,545.00
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Basic 192	192 kbps	\$2,670.00	\$478.00
Basic 256	256 kbps	\$3,430.00	\$637.00
Basic 384	384 kbps	\$3,640.00	\$955.00
Basic 512	512 kbps	\$6,310.00	\$1,273.00
Basic 768	768 kbps	new	\$1,910.00
Basic 1024	1024 kbps	\$12,330.00	\$2,546.00
Basic 1280	1280 kbps	new	\$3,183.00
Basic 1536	1536 kbps	\$18,350.00	\$3,819.00

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NAME	Transmit/Receive	Existing MRC	Proposed MRC
Domestic 128	128 kbps	\$3,760.00	\$1,219.00
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Lions Club and Habitat for Humanity celebrate the completion of what may become a pilot program

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—Pohnpei's Governor Ehsa and dignitaries from the Pohnpei Lion's Club met on March 22, in the "ballroom" of the new Pohnpei State Government building to celebrate a closing ceremony for the Pohnpei Lions Club and Habitat for Humanity Grant program.

The Pohnpei Lions Club, District 204, and Habitat for Humanity (FSM) jointly sponsored the renovation of five houses in Pohnpei for families with disabled family members. The project was part of the Lions Club International and Habitat for Humanity International 3-year global partnership. The local organizations received \$46,876 from the Lions Club International grants program. Pohnpei Lions club and Habitat for Humanity (FSM) provided \$15,000 in matching funds.

Since June of 2000 Lions Clubs International has provided grants for building 156 homes in Australia, India, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, Vanuatu, North and South America, Africa and Europe.

The two organizations faced several difficulties and the learning curve was steep but according to their report now that those lessons have been learned the current project will be used as a pilot project for the island of Pohnpei and in the FSM. They hope that its success will result in

other communities taking part in similar projects.

Students from the College of Micronesia helped with some of the labor on the projects which included: replacement of roof trusses, painting, installation of vinyl floor tiles, upgrading of toilet facilities, upgrade of doors and windows, electrical repairs, room extensions, septic tank upgrading, and new or additional interior walls.

Pohnpei Lion's Club member Henry Tiongo served as the engineer on the projects.

After the formal portion of the meeting was concluded Lion's Club members and some of the beneficiaries of the home repairs joined Governor Ehsa for a photo opportunity and a light lunch.



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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONDITION
 (at December 31, 2009 / \$ in thousands)

<u>Assets</u>		<u>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</u>	
Cash and due from banks	\$25,748	Liabilities:	
Federal funds sold	-	Deposits:	
Interest bearing deposits with banks	20,588	Non-interest bearing	\$213,292
Total cash and cash equivalents	46,336	Interest bearing	598,602
Interest bearing deposits with banks 6,150		Total deposits	811,894
Investment securities available for sale	238,198	Accrued interest payable	418
Investment securities held to maturity	38,495	Federal funds purchased	10,000
Federal Home Loan Bank stock, at cost	2,198	FHLB advances	35,000
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses	550,297	Other liabilities	2,365
Accrued interest receivable	5,457	Total Liabilities	859,677
Premises and equipment, net	20,639	Commitments and contingencies	-
Goodwill	783	Stockholders' Equity:	
Other assets	32,019	Common stock	1,820
Total Assets	940,572	Additional paid-in capital	13,357
		Retained earnings	67,789
		Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,781)
		Common stock in treasury, at cost	(290)
		Total Stockholders' Equity	80,895
		Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 940,572

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA BRANCHES
STATEMENT OF CONDITION
 At December 31, 2009 / (\$ in thousands)

<u>Assets</u>		<u>Liabilities</u>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 996	Deposits:	
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses	14,555	Non-interest bearing	\$ 20,655
Accrued interest receivable	49	Interest bearing	57,030
Premises and equipment, net	281	Total deposits	77,685
Other assets	-	Accrued interest payable	65
Due from Headquarters	62,401	Other liabilities	532
Total assets	\$ 78,282	Commitments	-
		Total liabilities	\$ 78,282

STATEMENT OF INCOME
 Year ended December 31, 2009 / (\$ in thousands)

Interest income:	
Loans	\$ 1,230
From related parties	85
Total interest income	1,315
Interest expense:	
Savings deposits	464
Time deposits	208
Total interest expense	672
Net interest income	643
Provision for loan losses	84
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	559
Non-interest income	
Service charges and fees	453
Other income	253
Total non-interest income	706
Non-interest expense:	
Salaries and employee benefits	551
Occupancy	207
Furniture and equipment	54
General, administrative and other	601
Total non-interest expenses	1,413
Net income (loss)	\$ (148)

Micronesia Leadership Development Program

The Australian Federal Police through its Pacific Police Development Program (PPDP) and in partnership with the Australian Institute of Police Management (AIPM) will deliver a leadership Development Program for Micronesian police services over the next two and a half years.

The delivery of this important strategy is an agreed outcome from the 2009 Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police annual meeting in Port Moresby.

The coordinator of the PPDP Superintendent Paul Breen stated that "the Leadership Development Program" is a ground-breaking initiative for Micronesian police and represents an exciting opportunity to engage in a range of activities designed to expose participants to various leadership models, critical thinking skills, change management and practical leadership and management tools to use in the workplace.

The PPDP is the successor to the Australian government's Pacific Regional Policing Initiative which ended in 2009. The PPDP has two major goals: To increase the effectiveness of police services; and to increase community confidence in police.

"We need officers who are able to effectively fill management roles at all levels in our organization, particularly those who are able to lead the organization into the future. Officers who can influence and implement change" said Commissioner George Lanwi of the Marshall Islands Police service. "I am excited about this program because it is the first time my officers will be exposed to such a program designed specifically for our region".

The AIPM is a leading provider of leadership development skill and knowledge training for police and emergency services managers across the globe. The AIPM operates in partnership across the Pacific, North America, Asia and Europe. The AIMP is also familiar with policing challenges in the Pacific region having delivered leadership training to senior police from the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Fiji, New Zealand and East Timor.

The Executive Director of the AIMP Mr.

Tom Rogers said "I am very excited by the prospect of partnering with the AFP International Deployment Group and the police agencies across Micronesia to build the leadership capacity of the various agencies. I look forward to seeing some outstanding results as a consequence of this innovative and collaborative initiative."

The LDP will commence with the executive level workshops to be held in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia including the four State Police services and the Republic of Palau in during the period 9-24 March.

These executive level workshops will be followed by two regional leadership development programs for middle-ranking officers representing all the police agencies. The leadership development programs will be held in Pohnpei in May and Koror in August. Additional regional programs are scheduled for July 2011 and March 2012.

"A key part of this program is the ongoing assistance that will be provided by executive mentors and advisers from the AFP and the AIPM to coach officers in their work environments" said Superintendent Breen. "This is not only validates the effectiveness of the program but more importantly, provides officers with real-time practical support in their workplace".

It is the first time Pohnpei hosted this kind of workshop that is specifically directed to the Executive Level Staffs especially the leaders in the Police Departments in the FSM. According to Chief Joe Roby in his closing remark, "he carefully selected the top key staffs that have known the future direction of the Department since the inception of Pacific Regional Policing Initiative PRPI in 2005 to attend this workshop". Chief Roby further added, "that the content, the way the workshop is designed and delivered enlighten himself in his capacity as a Chief of Police". Chief Roby concluded in his remark, "that a good leader shall consider three important areas: leadership that is adaptable to change, leadership that is affordable and leadership that is dependable and trust".



Pohnpei State holds 27th annual Cultural Day along with the first FSM Culture & Traditions Day

FSM Information Services

April 7, 2010

On Wednesday, March 31, 2010, Pohnpei State held its 27th annual Cultural Day Celebration in conjunction with the first FSM Culture & Traditions Day, the newest FSM national holiday. The event took place at the Pohnpei State Sports and Recreation center near the Botanical Garden in Doroapoap, Nett. The theme for this year's celebration was "Take Pride in the Splendor of our Unique Identity".

The day's events included floats and cultural presentations, a presentation of essays from the Essay Contest winners, remarks from Pohnpei State Governor John Ehsa, a keynote address from Dr. Rufino Mauricio, the Director of the FSM National Archives of Historic and Cultural Preservation, followed by the Pohnpei Traditional Leaders Decree given by His Royal Highness, Salvador Iriarte, Iso Nahniken of Nett, lunch and then entertainments for the rest of the afternoon.

In his keynote address, Dr. Mauricio stated that he believes that each island of the FSM, as individual societal groups, have

their own unique cultural traditions and practices that should be recognized and respected. Then he asked the crowd if they know what these traditions and practices are and the importance for having a Cultural and Traditions Day.

Dr Mauricio went on to explain that in Pohnpei, the term *soar*, translated as identity, has the connotation of something positive, a quality to be admired, respected and followed. He mentioned that the performing arts of the various island groups are often unique, meaningful, and very expressive of the charm and moods of the people of the FSM. He said that these performing arts identify who we are and informatively express the FSM's pleasant, generous, and welcoming characteristics, and noted that much of FSM's ancient histories are preserved in our chants that are performed in dances.

Finally, Dr. Mauricio gave his thanks to the President and to Congress for passing the recent law to create a new FSM National holiday for Culture and Traditions and congratulated Pohnpei State and the people of Pohnpei on the occasion of their 27th Cultural Day.



...Nine days at sea

Continued from front page

They turned southeast from Ant in the direction of Black Coral, a tiny island located on Pohnpei's southwest barrier reef. Approximately half way between Ant and Black Coral they found a floating log. They soon caught 3 Mahi Mahi's and a Wahoo in its vicinity before a storm blew in. The storm brought with it, clouds that completely obscured Pohnpei and soon the two fishermen did not know where they were. "All we could see was ocean," Rayder said.

They used up three of the four gas tanks they had brought with them searching for land until it was nearly dark.

"I told my boy that we would have to put out a sea anchor and wait until morning," David said. But the seas were rough and the anchor line snapped in the night. They filled one of the empty fuel containers with sea water and dropped it in but that line also eventually snapped. They waited for signs of a rescue as best they could until 10:00 in the morning and when nothing came they used the boat's canopy to make a sail. The westerly winds took them in the direction of Chuuk, over 250 miles away.

On the night of the third day at sea, Rayder spotted three lights and thought they might be approaching an island. They started the engine and headed in the direction of the lights. Soon they could see that they were approaching a ship. "Ships have a red and green light as a navigational aid so that other ships know which direction they are heading," David said. "But this ship didn't have those lights." He said that as they got closer to the ship the lights went off and it steamed away. Dejected, the two men killed the engine and continued to drift.

"I don't know what they were doing," David said shaking his head, "probably stealing fish."

Dr. David relies on twice daily insulin shots to control his diabetes. He had a shot on the morning that he set out to go fishing. He left the rest of his insulin at home thinking he would be back in time for his next shot. Probably the fact that the two men had such a small amount of food available to them saved him from entering a diabetic coma.

"I thank God that he did save us," Dr. David said. "I really thought that we would die on the way."

The two men suffered from intense thirst. "I've never been that thirsty," Rayder said, a bottle of water in his hand. "It was really scary."

Surprisingly, David was able to use information he had learned on a favorite television program to help them to survive. "It was something I heard on the show 'Man versus Wild' on the Discovery Channel," David said. "That guy was in the Sahara Desert." They used a survival technique David learned about on that show in order to keep from dying of thirst.

They had cut thin slices of the yellow fin tuna they caught on the day of the tournament in order to air dry the meat and keep it from spoiling. They ate a couple of slices of the sashimi every day. "A booby bird landed on the motor one night. I caught it and I ate half of it," David said. Oliver initially rejected the other half but by the next day he was hungry enough to eat the other half of the bird raw.

They found a coconut floating in the ocean. Oliver husked it and they drank the liquid and ate the copra.

"It was all we had all that time," David said. "Some bits of fish, a raw sea bird, and that coconut, and not enough water."

The men found a large fish aggregating device floating in the water with a radio beacon on it probably placed by a purse seiner fishing vessel. They made two or three circles around the device to see if fish would rise to their lures but they got no bites. They assumed that it had only recently been placed there and that it might be weeks before a purse seiner would return to it.

They once again hoisted their make shift canopy sail and the wind powered them on with their makeshift sail.

"That canopy was really good," David said. "We went really fast," and usually in a westerly direction though not always. One night the wind changed and took them back east again.

"Maybe two nights before we found land it rained all night long," David said. "It was a terrible storm and we took down our 'sail' and filled our water containers."

On the last day adrift David thought that his nephew was becoming confused because of hunger. When they awoke at 6:00 in the morning he told Oliver to put up the "sail." Oliver initially refused.

What Dr. David didn't know was that while he slept during the storm it was Oliver who bailed the boat all night long. "I didn't want to go back into another storm," Oliver said, eyes wide. "We almost sank that night. Water was washing into the boat and rain was filling it up too. I didn't want another storm."

"I wasn't really too scared during the day time," he said. "I was alright. But at night I was really scared. Scared like I never been scared."

"It was really cold at night," said Dr. David. "I only had the t-shirt I was wearing and shorts." He said that he was able to sleep until maybe midnight but after that it was just too cold. "We slept mostly during the day."

Oliver did put up the "sail," that final morning and Dr. David went to sleep. An hour later Oliver woke his uncle and pointed excitedly at an island. "We started the motor and headed towards it. We were really lucky it was high tide and we went right over the break water," David said.

They circled the island looking for residents but they didn't find any. Dr. David was barely able to move by that point but his nephew was strong enough to go on shore and climb a coconut tree and get them some coconuts. "He was so strong," David said. "I promised I would find him a job working on a fishing boat or something, maybe a purse seiner."

They still didn't know where they were and there were no people around to help but there was another island approximately one mile further west and they used their fuel to get there.

It was Kuttu, one of the islands of the Mortlocks region in the Federated States of Micronesia's Chuuk State.

"The people there were really friendly and helped us," David said. "The Deputy Mayor took us in."

David had to be carried from the boat to the shore and the people of Kuttu produced a wheel chair. A pastor on the island gave them clothes. David and Oliver changed and ate and slept until someone woke them at 10:00 in the morning and told them that Alex Tretstoff from Caroline Islands Airlines (CIA) in Pohnpei was already in the air to pick them up in the Mortlocks.

The pastor who had given them clothes volunteered to take the two men to De, a neighboring island that David said was about as far away from Kuttu as Pakin is from the Pohnpei Harbor, over 30 miles. Once again they climbed into the boat in which they had spent nine harrowing days and set to sea. "It was really scary," David said. "It was a long way to De and it took a couple of hours." But De was the closest island with an airstrip where Tretstoff could land.

When they got there David told the pastor to take the boat. He didn't want it anymore. He said that he's never going out on the ocean again.

It was Oliver's first time to be in a small plane. "It felt funny in my stomach and it was scary so I just went to sleep," he said with his palm on his stomach.

The three arrived at the Pohnpei International Airport at just after 5:00 on Monday, April 9. Their nine day ordeal was finished.

The parking lot of the Pohnpei Airport was nearly as full as it is when a Continental Micronesia flight is scheduled to arrive and to depart. Public displays of affection are usually frowned upon in Pohnpei but not on that day. The two sunburned and exhausted men were inundated with unabashed hugs and kisses from their loved ones who swarmed the SUV that carried them from the airport to Dr. David's home in Nanpohnmal.

Dais Lorrin who handles Pohnpei's emergency responses was also at the airport. He said that Tretstoff had been in the air searching for the lost men as often as he could be.

Dr. David said that neither he nor his nephew ever heard any of the search planes.

Lorrin early on notified the US Coast Guard which sent a C-130 from Hawaii to aid with

air searches. Lorrin said that the USCG was only able to participate for three days due to mechanical difficulties with the plane. He said that the USCG in Guam does not have the type of aircraft that would be needed for an air search.

A resident who returned to Pohnpei from the U.S. on the day that David and Oliver found Kuttu said that sometime in the last 20 to 30 minutes before his flight was scheduled to land in Pohnpei, the pilot of the Continental Micronesia Airlines asked passengers to look out the windows of the plane. The pilot told them about the missing fishermen and flew much lower than normal in the hope that one of the passengers might spot them. The pilot was unaware that the men had already landed in Kuttu.

The incident has sparked some self examination within the Pohnpei Fishing Club. An email campaign amongst members and former members of the club spawned a determination to review safety regulations for fishermen involved in tournaments. At least one marketing manager for a company that sponsors tournaments for the club said that his company was concerned about the issue as well. Future sponsorship might depend on what action the club takes.

Rayder Oliver said, "I want to tell people who fish everyday, or even just sometimes that they need to carry things with them that we didn't have. We didn't have any flare gun. They need to carry a lot more water," he said.

Family members gathered for a party on Saturday evening, April 10 and Dr. David's home to celebrate their triumphant return.



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ECONOMICS AND THE LAW VALUE ADDED TAX

By Martin Mix
The Kaselehlie Press

Taxation is where law and economics really come together to affect our lives. Taxation affects our lives because it affects the prices we pay for everything we buy in the store and how much money is taken away from us in business taxes and income taxes.

The only reason we have taxes in the FSM and on Pohnpei is to raise money for our governments to use. The US compact funds are decreasing. We need to increase taxes if we want to maintain the same level of government services.

The most important thing about our taxation system is that it should be efficient. Our taxes should be:

1. Easy for the taxpayer to prepare
2. Easy for the government to monitor
3. Difficult for the taxpayer to avoid

The value added tax was first started in 1954 in France. The value added tax is very good for countries with a lot of businesses that make things. We don't make things.

The FSM Constitution limits the national governments taxing power to taxes on imports and taxes on income.

The value added tax is a sales tax. Because it is a sales tax, and not a tax on imports or income, it will be the exclusive responsibility of the state government to collect this tax unless an amendment to the FSM Constitution is passed.

Almost all of our taxes come from the sale of imported goods. Import taxes, sales taxes, sur taxes and the Gross Revenue Tax all depend on merchandise sales. Almost all of our merchandise sales are sales of imported merchandise. We manufacture almost nothing.

The FSM tax advisory group says we can do away with import taxes if we adopt the VAT along with changes to the GRT and the personal income tax.

The money we receive as foreign aid is much larger than the taxes we raise locally.

These are all facts. What follows are my opinions.

Countries that export want to keep import taxes as low as possible so their merchandise can compete with local merchandise.

All taxes paid by businesses go into the price paid by the customer. The customer doesn't care what kind of taxes he is paying, All the customer cares about is the price of the merchandise.

We should adopt the value added tax only if our foreign aid will be decreased if we do not adopt this tax.

The easiest way to collect taxes on merchandise is by collecting all of the taxes when the merchandise first comes in. This tax would be divided between the national government and the state government. It is almost impossible to cheat using this system.

This kind of tax is not acceptable to countries that export or the development banks which these countries finance such as the

World Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

This is one reason why the World Bank advocated a VAT for the FSM the last time.

The VAT will be more difficult for the taxpayer to comply with. It will cost the government more to monitor. It will allow more opportunities for not paying.

If we are going to change our taxation system we should change it to the system that is easiest to work with, both for the taxpayer and the government.

However, if any major source of foreign aid says we must pass the VAT then we will pass the VAT if we need the foreign aid more than we need an efficient tax system.

I favor the proposals to change the gross revenue tax to a net income tax and I favor the proposed changes in the personal income tax. I do not favor the VAT. It is harder to comply with, harder to monitor and easier to avoid.

Letter to the Editor Solidarity as a motivator?

Dear Editor,

How much of a hurry are we in? (Martin Mix's article in Volume 10, Issue #8, dated March 17,2010) Well, usually not very much, really. Unless, of course, if concerned citizens banded together to submit a petition to the Governor's office complaining about the snail pace of a certain contract.

Case in point. The boys and girls dormitories at PICS High School, that house students from the outer islands, were contracted out to two different contractors for renovation. Work on the boys dormitory, contracted out to a local contractor, began two weeks earlier than the girls dormitory. The girls dormitory was said to be contracted out to a foreign contractor. As it turned out the girls dormitory was completed way earlier than that of the boys dormitory.

While the snail pace of renovation on the boys dormitory continued, some 50 relatives and friends, who had been hosting the outer islands students as "guardians" since early August of 2009, submitted a petition to the Office of the Governor. The first of the four findings in the petition reads:

WHEREAS, we, the undersigned guardians of the high school students from the outer islands of Pohnpei wish to register that since the TTPI administration, the students from the outer islands of Pohnpei were provided housing accommodation, daily meals and other support services by the government un-

til this new administration, "Pohnpei Met", under the leadership of Governor Ehsa... The second reads: WHEREAS, we, the undersigned guardians of the high school students from the outer islands of Pohnpei wish to register that this new administration, "Pohnpei Met", has failed to provide the same for the outer students and have obligated us the burden to care for them...

A meeting was held at 3 in the afternoon of February 22, 2010, at the PICS auditorium to discuss the petition. More than 100 guardians of the outer island students, staff of the Department of Education, including Director Villazon, Chief of Secondary Education Solpasio Salvator, PICS Principal Pernis Diopulos, PICS teachers, house parents and cooks. Several heated complaints were raised by guardians, which the Education staff patiently rebutted.

In the end, Lt. Governor Churchill Edward, who organized the meeting, calmed everyone down by announcing that the dormitories would be opened to the outer islands students the very next day. A tour of the dormitories was carried out after the meeting, and sure enough the work on the boys dormitory was just being completed.

So there you have it, Mr. Mat Mix. People's power can sometimes change the pace of things. Yet I wonder. In light of the apparent lack of genuine initiative on the part of

elected representatives of outer island people of Pohnpei at local, state and national levels, can a petition on the slow pace of repair on MS Micro Glory, or the lack thereof, be as effective?

Herson Anson

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President Mori Submits \$53 Million Proposed Budget for FY 2011 to Congress

FSM Information Services

April 9, 2010

(Office of SBOC) On April 1, 2010, Vice President Alik Alik, on behalf of President Emanuel Mori, transmitted to Congress a \$53 Million Proposed Budget of the FSM National Government for Fiscal Year 2011. Of the total, \$39 million will come from domestic revenue and \$14 million from other sources, including Compact grants and other foreign aids.

In a very detailed 10-page transmittal letter, the President noted that the budget "lies at the heart of our efforts to manage the overall national economy. Individuals, communities, businesses and the state governments rely on the national government for critical services and functions – from helping to create employment and income opportunities to financing the education of their children, to ensuring that all citizens have access to affordable and sustainable retirement programs and health insurance, to protecting the environment and public safety."

The President further indicated that the FY 2011 budget proposal calls for major reforms by shifting the overall focus and resource allocation from general operations and taking serious actions on issues that have been neglected for far too long, such as capital formation through investment in private sector development and human capital, physical infrastructure, as well as long-term savings and investment. The President also noted that the 2011 Budget continues to move the National Govern-

ment towards a performance budgeting format, which will focus decision-making on actual performance.

While holding operational expenditures to a slight increase, the budget proposes a \$14.60 million investment in capital and human resources development for FY 2011, an increase of \$3.67 million or 34% over the current FY 10 budget. The budget also proposes a \$9.49 million budget for 'grants, subsidies and contributions', an increase of \$4.16 million, or 78%, over the FY 2010 level of \$5.33 million.

Top funding priorities in the FY 2011 budget include: \$5.14 million for the College of Micronesia – FSM; \$4.91 million for capital improvement programs; \$2.0 million to subsidize and strengthen the FSM Social Security program; \$1.5 million to capitalize the FSM Trust Fund; \$1.5 million to finance the Scholarship Fund; \$1.0 million to develop financial institutions, \$600,000 to assist non-public schools, and \$500,000 to capitalize a new National Employee Pension Plan.

The Operations Budget of \$28,949,713 for the three branches (Executive, Legislative, and Judiciary), the Public Auditor's Office, all national agencies, boards and commissions represents a 7% increase or approximately \$1.9 million over the Fiscal Year 2010 operations budget.

As in the past, the proposed budget represents a balanced budget, matching \$53,044,445 in projected revenues to the proposed total expenditure of \$53,044,445. The projected revenues for FY 2011 were conservatively estimated after a careful

analysis of audited financial statements since 2006, and the actual and revised projections for 2009 and 2010, to ensure a strong financial base for the coming fiscal year. The forecast also took into account outlook of the economy for the next two years.

In anticipation of the huge task of finalizing this budget for the coming year,

the President expressed his appreciation to Speaker Figir and the Members of Congress, and stated, "I am once again seeking your cooperation to work together to reach agreement on an appropriate level of resource allocation that provides for essential government services, and one that our citizens and stakeholders deserve."

Micronesia Red Cross hosted partnership meetings with international delegates

Micronesia Red Cross Society

From 15th to 20th March 2010, the Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS) hosted a group of international visitors from the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement for a series of partnership meetings. The joint-mission included Ms. Aurélie Balpe, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Head of Regional Office in the Pacific, Mr. Jean-Luc Metzker, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Head of Regional Delegation in the Pacific, Ms. Kathleen Walsh, Manager for Pacific Programmes from the Australian Red Cross and Mr. John Hirsh, Executive Director of American Red Cross Northern Mariana Islands Chapter.

According to Ms. Sizue G. Yoma, Executive Director of MRCS, "this joint-visit was a first for MRCS as it included international representatives from the different components of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Through these meetings, we were able to

give our partners a better understanding of our organisation and operations in FSM, and together, identified existing gaps in our programmes and areas for improvement, especially in building the capacity of our chapters in Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap and making them stronger. MRCS is part of a large global network and we intend to draw from the vast experience, knowledge and resources of the network in forging the road ahead.

In moving forward, MRCS is resolved to do more, do better and reach further in meeting the needs of vulnerable communities. Together with our board members, volunteers, staff and partners, we were able to make some concrete decisions on the way forward for our programmes and partnerships. We would like to improve our engagement with local communities, with the aim of contributing to more resilient communities by expanding our existing programmes and developing new ones in other focus areas in both Pohnpei and Kosrae. We will also be focussing on de-

See "MRCS" on back page

K-Press Perspective - Editorial

Dr. Aminis David is one of my heroes. It was about six years ago that my son was in the Pohnpei State Hospital with a throat infection that threatened to close his throat down completely. The staff doctors admirably did the best they could but finally called Dr. David to help them. He made the right diagnosis and recommended the proper treatment that essentially saved my son's life. I never met him then but for obvious reasons he has a special place in my heart and I will never forget him

Many people in Pohnpei have similar stories about Dr. David's kind and expert medical care. His was the first face that some people saw when they entered the world.

Rayder Oliver (who is also a Suzuki) is one of my youngest son's good friends. They've known each other for several years.

While Rayder and Dr. David were lost at sea for nine days, they were not the only people who suffered. People who know, love, and respect both of those men had their own times of desperation. Some of us may even have suffered a bit of guilt because we were able to get into our cars and drive to our homes, have dinner with our families and sleep in our own beds. Meanwhile, Rayder and Dr. David were suffering in a way that those of us who have never had to go through that kind of ordeal can not come close to imagining.

It ranks me no end to know that

they could have been safe six days earlier than they were. They could have been spared the ravages of ocean storms, and ocean sun, and ocean thirst but instead, some bloodthirsty, scum sucking, profiteer decided that it would be too much trouble to help them and instead hid in the darkness and turned away.

I grow tired of writing articles that include these words: "Instead of rescuing the drifters the ship steamed away."

What kind of a heartless scum-of-the-earth individual turns away from a desperate, possibly dying human being lost at sea?

After they do, do they whistle or hum to themselves as they saunter back to their bunk? Do they give the matter a second thought or do they toss and turn for weeks knowing that what they did was not only wrong but despicable?

A person who would do that is probably the same kind of person who cruises the FSM EEZ breaking every fisheries law they can because there's money in it and the risk is worth it as far as they're concerned; "local population be damned." Maybe they figure that the tuna in our waters is not ours, because after all, the fish are just traveling through. They don't live here.

Please pardon my hubris at using the possessive tense. The FSM has come to be MY home too. It's the home of people I laugh with and sometimes cry with and care

for. I have spent over 20% of my life here and this is my home.

Fisheries lawbreakers in the FSM give me wild ideas. For instance, maybe the FSM Marine Surveillance vessels should be equipped with torpedoes. Then if a vessel refuses to be boarded, never mind a shot over their bow. They could just put two in their hull and steam away.

Any ship that knowingly leaves people stranded in the ocean should automatically get two, maybe four torpedoes in the hull on sight. Shoot first take names later.

Is it a bit harsh? Yeah, it is; but so is knowingly leaving defenseless good people to drift. Who are they to decide whether they should live or die?

What if people came to *their* homes and burned *their* crops and stole *their* livelihoods and left *them* hungry and defenseless? Isn't that what they do when they come here and break what few fisheries laws we do have?

A friend of mine had a good idea. He suggested that if a vessel is caught breaking the fisheries laws in the FSM maybe we should automatically offload all of their fuel so we can use it in the Marine Surveillance vessels or, if the fuel isn't the right kind maybe we could use it to power the generators for our electricity needs.

Then if our prosecutors don't succeed in their efforts to seize lawbreaking fish-

ing vessels and "their" catch, when those vessels leave to go home they would be forced to buy a brand new load of fuel from us.

So, mister important ship's captain, what if your purse seiner went down and you were hanging on to a piece of flotsam desperate for rescue and one of your competitors left *you* to desiccate in the sun, to starve, maybe to drown, or to be eaten by sharks? What would you think then? How desperate would *you* be?

You are a parasite, Mister lawbreaker, nothing more, nothing less. Fish the FSM waters but do it by the rules. Pay for the privilege of fishing in one of the last great tuna fisheries of the world.

You make plenty of money from your fish. We make squat. What? It's not good enough? You have to steal the fish too?

If you follow the rules, the next time someone comes floating by your vessel you won't have to do one of the most despicable things a person can do; turn your back on a desperate fellow human being.

Dr. Aminis David and Rayder Oliver did not deserve to be left at sea. Whoever you are that steamed away from them in the night, I for one, want to see justice done where you are concerned. I wish a similar fate for you.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

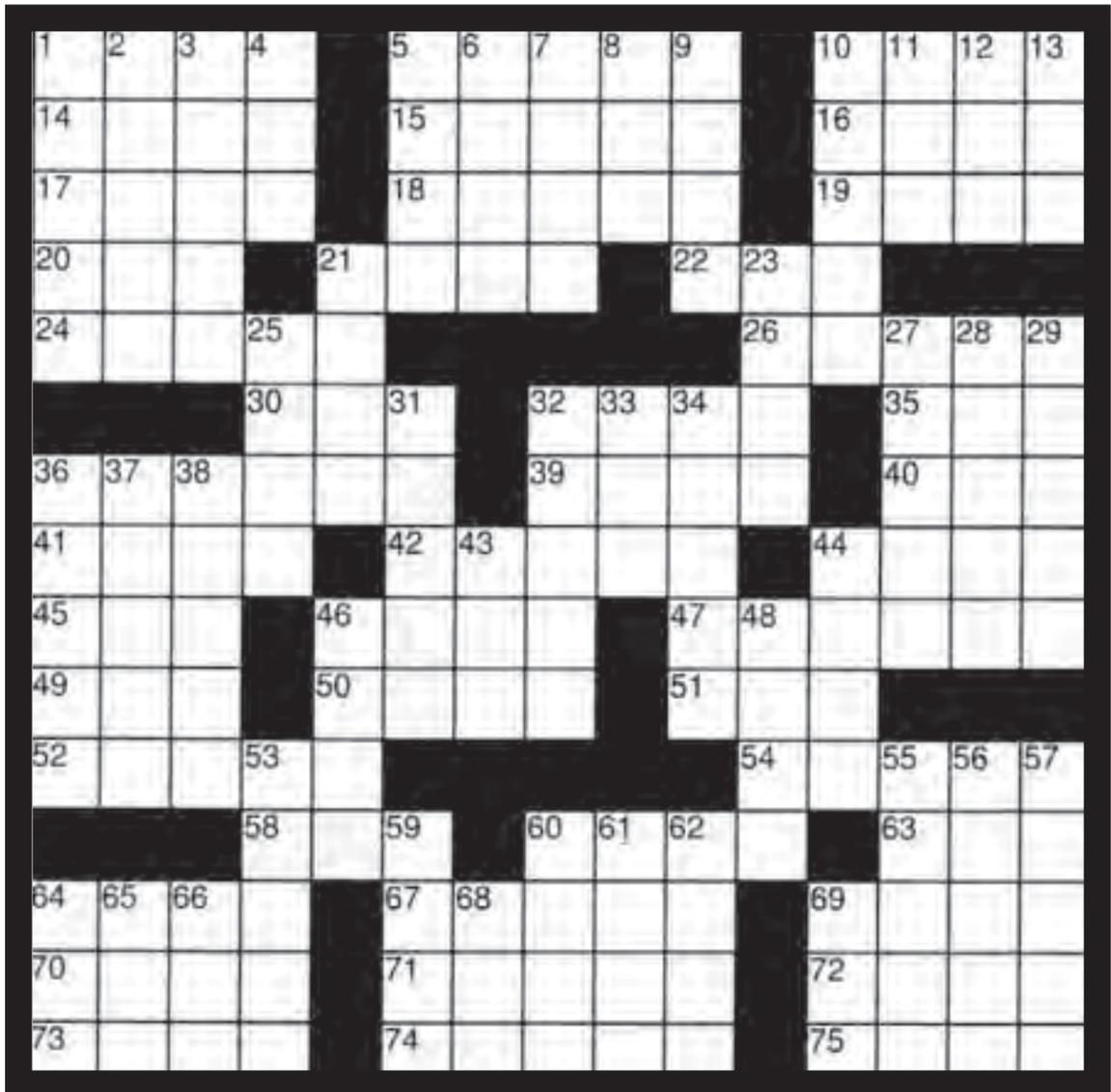
Crossword - A Lot!

ACROSS

1. Baja rahs
5. Stamps
10. Pts. and qts.
14. Cap-___
15. Trash
16. Sand
17. Jazz fans
18. "Halt, salt!"
19. Blvds. and rds.
20. Map abbr.
21. Plan part
22. Tarzan's pal
24. "Walk away ___"
26. Warms
30. Small flap
32. Las Palmas cash
35. RSVP part
36. Cash back
39. Latch ___
40. Jazz gp.
41. Track path
42. Bad lad's grab
44. Bawl
45. Ran
46. Charlatan
47. Warns
49. Change and ___
50. Aardvark snacks
51. Garland
52. Harsh
54. Warmth
58. Flap
60. Nana
63. ___Baba
64. Smart
67. Hallway
69. Dash
70. 24-Karat
71. Gap
72. Staffs
73. Marsh grass
74. ADAs and TAs
75. Flank

DOWN

1. AMPAS award
2. Strand
3. Had
4. Grad. class
5. Bat a gnat
6. Mansard part
7. Stat
8. AF rank
9. ___trap
10. Match
11. D.C. Cab star
12. Draw
13. AL and WA
21. Pants part
23. "Rats!"
25. Catchall abbr.
27. MTMs
28. Lama's land
29. Smacks
31. Start
32. Standard and ___
33. Naval grad
34. Snach
36. Play parts
37. Match
38. Pass
43. ___ bran
44. Small dam
46. Catch
48. Slant
53. Ran a 10K
55. ___Lama
56. Chan man
57. Wash
59. Man___
Mancha
60. Scams
61. Nap
62. Mars
64. Y class
65. Cast
66. Wrath
68. 1948 pact
69. 911 abbr.



K Press Puzzle Pleasure K Press Puzzle Pleasure

DINING OUT

Is all this solving making you hungry? Then treat yourself to a nice meal at your favorite RESTAURANT. The 38 terms in this puzzle are all associated with dining out.

MEATBRENNIDAVO
MGRRGPUOSILVER
LAE EUWSKMBKNLD
YACASHIERUIPBE
DRINKTSEDSSLAR
LEVCCSAIIBKITN
UYRHEKNUDOMSCG
NFETFPCNRYEERY
CNSAILSITACEEU
HOSALADFFONRTN
HTFKPTMOUYFTIE
CSOFCEOREGANAM
LOIOEDSMNOREWM
CVLFBEGRKCEHCP

BOOTH
BREAD
BREAKFAST
BUSBOY
CASHIER
CHECK
COFFEE
COOK
COURSE
CUISINE
DINNER
DISH
DRINK
ENTREE
FARE
FISH
HOSTESS
KITCHEN
LUNCH

MAITRE D'
MANAGER
MEAT
MENU
MUSIC
NAPKIN
ORDER
PLATE
RESTAURANT
SALAD
SEAFOOD
SERVICE
SILVER
SOUP
SPECIAL
TABLE
TRAY
UNIFORM
WAITER



Congress invites President Mori to give State of the Nation Address in May

FSM Information Services

April 1, 2010

During the Third Special Session of the 16th FSM Congress, Floor Leader, Senator Joe Suka, submitted a Resolution to invite President Mori to address the people and the Members of Congress on the state of the nation during the Fourth Regular Session of the 16th Congress, which begins May 10, 2010.

In the FSM Constitution, article X, Section 3(b), there is a pro-

vision that the President shall make an annual report to Congress on the state of the nation. Although this has not happened during every presidential administration, this will be President Mori's third address in three years of office.

The Congress adopted this resolution on March 26, 2010. A copy of this Resolution, No. 16-76, has yet to be posted on the Congress website, www.fsm-congress.fm, but is expected to be posted shortly.

President Mori nominates Associate Justice Yinug for Chief Justice

FSM Information Services
March 30, 2010

During the recent Third Special Session of the 16th Congress, President Mori transmitted a nomination for Associate Justice Martin G. Yinug for the position of Chief Justice of the FSM Supreme Court. In the transmittal letter, the President described the Associate Justice as "one of our own who is well acquainted in law and possesses extensive background and experience in law." He mentioned that Associate Justice Yinug has been serving on the bench for nearly 19 years and has contributed to the development of the national's ever growing legal jurisprudence. The President said that he has confidence that Justice Yinug is well suited to serve as this nation's Chief Justice.

President Mori formally offered the nomination for the position of Chief Justice to Associate Justice Yinug through correspondence, and then, while attending Yap Day this year, he received a written reply from Yinug to accept the nomination.

During the Third Special Session, the 16th Congress received the nomination and the Committee on Judiciary & Government Operation, led by Chairman Peter Sitan, has decided to hold public hearings in the four states in order to make an informed report back to the Congress during the next regular session in May, 2010.

ANOTHER CLASSIC
LIMERICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY
TRASHBUSTERS

There was a young maiden, a Sioux,
As tempting as fresh honeydioux.
She displayed her cute knees
As she strolled past tepees,
And the braves, they all hollered "Wioux-Wioux!"

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL COLLECTION
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COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

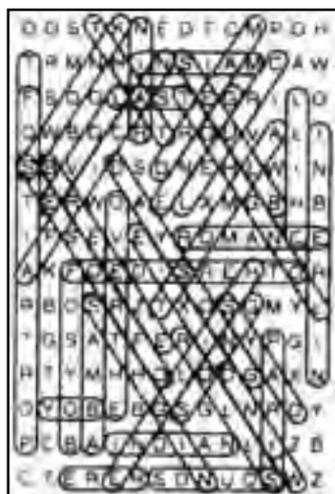
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome. For details, call 320-8365.
- Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at China Star Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. Public Welcome.
- The Christian Ministerial Association 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 High Tides Restaurant. You are welcome to attend and can contact us at: - rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com
- Pacific Mission Fellowship - A Bible-based English Worship Service Invites you to join us on Sundays for worship at 9am - 11am, Children's Church for the kids too!. Call: 320-2496
- Ultimate Frisbee pick-up game every Tuesday 5:45pm at the Spanish Wall. All levels welcome! Call 320.2439 for more details

Previous

Crossword Solution

FEE	TRY	LEG	PAL
ELM	RQO	APE	ERA
ADD	ELK	PIT	ACT
SET	NEED	LOATHE	
TREAD	LEMONS		
DYE	TUG	KILL	
BRAD	BLOT	DUO	
EATS	BONER	TELL	
AGO	WADE	HAUL	
MEMO	PET	DIE	
BARREL	SNIDE		
FARINA	DEAL	MEN	
IRE	NIB	ARE	AFT
SEE	USE	SIT	GEE
TAD	LET	HAS	ERR

Summer Songs



4 Letter Words

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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 phone to: (691) 320-6547
Pohnpei, FM 96941 email to: kpress@mail.fm

FSM Food Summit Discusses Food Security Issues Including Local Food Production and Consumption

By Dr. Lois Englberger
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

Over 60 delegates attended the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Food Summit on March 29 to April 1, 2010, in Kolonia, Pohnpei, with representation by all four states, and a broad range of governmental and non-governmental organizations. The meeting was planned as a part of the preparations for the Regional Pacific Food Summit, which will be held in Vanuatu, April 21-23, 2010.

Preparations for the FSM Food Summit were made by an inter-agency FSM Food Summit Steering Committee, with Mr. Moses Pretrick from the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs, as its Chairman, and overall leadership provided by the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs and the FSM Department of Resources and Development.

The Hon. Marion Henry, Acting Secretary, FSM Department of Resources and Development, stated in his Keynote Address that "food security is not just a health or agriculture issue, it is cross-cutting." He pointed out the importance of a food security policy but also that we "need to keep it simple".



Participants enjoyed the local foods served at the FSM Food Summit. Here pictured are the local foods served on local plates, made from banana stems

He described a recommendation of FSM President Mori, that all government-supported workshops should serve primarily local food, for both economic and health reasons. This would support local farmers and local economies. Local food, rich in vitamins, minerals and fiber, is particularly healthy and helps protect against overweight and obesity, due to its high fiber content. Overweight and obesity are major contributing factors to many diseases, in particular diabetes, heart disease, can-



Participants in the FSM Food Summit, held in Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM from March 29 to April 1, 2010 pose for group photo

cer and other non-communicable diseases, which are now at epidemic proportions throughout FSM.

Presentations included those by the FSM Department of Resources and Development, Department of Health and Social Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, Office of Environment and Emergency Management, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, College of Micronesia-FSM Cooperative Extension Services, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and the World Health Organization-Fiji Office. The topics discussed included: food security as related to land resources; marine resources; trade and imported food; food security and health; climate change and the environ-

ment; education and research; access to transportation and infrastructure, attitudes and knowledge related to behavior change and production and consumption of local food.

The meeting kept to its "WALK THE TALK" principles with delicious local food refreshments and lunches. On the second meeting day, the refreshments were also served on local "plates", banana stems and plates woven from coconut. How beautiful, and also good for the environment, along with decreasing the use of non-degradable plastics and Styrofoam.

Thanks are extended to the World Health Organization and the FSM Government for the major funds for the meeting.

Astronomical Tide Prediction April 14 through April 27, 2009

		Pohnpei				Chuuk						
Wednesday	04/14	03:02AM	4.3	04/21	07:19AM	3.6	04/14	02:10AM	2.0	04/21	05:06AM	2.0
		09:19AM	0.9		04:04PM	1.7		08:54AM	0.3		07:01PM	0.0
		03:13PM	3.7					02:25PM	1.3			
		09:06PM	0.9					07:43PM	0.4			
Thursday	04/15	03:27AM	4.5	04/22	09:22AM	3.3	04/15	02:27AM	2.2	04/22	05:36AM	1.8
		09:51AM	0.8		05:43PM	1.6		09:29AM	0.2		07:03PM	0.1
		03:41PM	3.5					02:50PM	1.1			
		09:28PM	0.9					07:53PM	0.3			
Friday	04/16	03:54AM	4.5	04/23	12:27AM	2.6	04/16	02:49AM	2.3	04/23	10:29AM	1.5
		10:25AM	0.8		04:51AM	2.3		10:08AM	0.2		07:06PM	0.2
		04:11PM	3.3		11:22AM	3.4		03:12PM	0.9			
		09:51PM	0.9		06:28PM	1.4		08:00PM	0.3			
Saturday	04/17	04:23AM	4.5	04/24	12:50AM	3.0	04/17	03:12AM	2.4	04/24	02:50AM	1.4
		11:01AM	0.9		06:23AM	1.9		10:54AM	0.3		07:01AM	1.2
		04:41PM	3.0		12:31PM	3.6		03:29PM	0.7		12:01PM	1.5
		10:14PM	1.1		07:01PM	1.3		08:01PM	0.2		07:07PM	0.3
Sunday	04/18	04:55AM	4.4	04/25	01:17AM	3.5	04/18	03:38AM	2.4	04/25	01:53AM	1.5
		11:43AM	1.1		07:17AM	1.4		11:58AM	0.3		07:35AM	0.9
		05:13PM	2.7		01:19PM	3.7		03:23PM	0.5		12:52PM	1.4
		10:37PM	1.2		07:30PM	1.1		07:54PM	0.2		07:06PM	0.4
Monday	04/19	05:31AM	4.2	04/26	01:47AM	4.0	04/19	04:06AM	2.3	04/26	01:41AM	1.8
		12:33PM	1.4		08:00AM	1.1		07:34PM	0.1		08:11AM	0.6
		05:50PM	2.4		02:00PM	3.7					01:31PM	1.2
		11:00PM	1.5		07:58PM	1.0					07:03PM	0.5
Tuesday	04/20	06:14AM	3.9	04/27	02:17AM	4.3	04/20	04:35AM	2.2	04/27	01:46AM	2.0
		01:48PM	1.6		08:40AM	0.8		07:10PM	0.0		08:47AM	0.4
		06:49PM	2.2		02:37PM	3.6					02:03PM	1.0
		11:21PM	1.8		08:26PM	0.9					07:00PM	0.5

Pohnpei Farmers Association Holds Training on Priority Crops and Sustainable Agriculture

Mona J. Tara
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

On March 18-19, 2010, farmers from all over Pohnpei attended a Pohnpei Farmers Association (PFA) training on Priority Crops and Sustainable Agriculture as held at the new Pohnpei State Administration conference room. Over 122 participants attended the 2-day workshop.

The PFA chairman of the PFA welcomed everyone to the workshop. The workshop topics were the effect of agricultural production on our environment, different soil types, appropriate cultivation techniques for these different soil types, Agro forestry systems and how it functions in relations to sustainable agriculture practices for small island agriculture, imports vs. exports, using local feed stuff to reduce feed cost, integrated pest management, nitrogen fixing trees, wind break trees as wind break, contour farming, mulching, using local plants for treatment of livestock, health benefits and values of local food, composting, crop production practices and plant propagation techniques.

Farmers were happy to attend this training. An exciting part of the training was the "Go Local" lunch which had no rice, provided by the Island Food Community of Pohnpei through the Global Environment Facility Small Grant Program. The FSM Resources and Development office also provided lunch for this training.

Thanks are given to the Governor's office for providing the venue, College of Micronesia (COM)-FSM-Cooperative Extension Services, Conservation Society of Pohnpei, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Services, The Nature Conservation and the Island Food Community of Pohnpei for facilitating the workshop along with the office of economic Affairs and the Pohnpei Farmers Association of Pohnpei.

New Public Law makes changes to Caroline Islands Air Corporation

FSM Information Services

March 29, 2010

Back in January of 2010, the FSM Congress Committee on Transportation and Communication, led by Chairman Dion Neth, held public hearings in Yap State on three bills, one of them being a bill to nationalize the Caroline Islands Air (CIA) Corporation. From these meetings, Congressional Act No. 16-25 was born. This is an Act to further amend Public Law No. 10-72, which originally set up the CIA Corporation back in December of 1997. This Act amends Sections 6, 7, 8, and 9 relating to the composition, organization, terms and vacancies of the Board of Directors of the CIA Corporation.

For Section 6, Board of Directors – Composition, the original Public Law, as amended by Public Law 10-103, set the Board at five members including the FSM Secretary of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure, or his designee, and all the other members of the Board were appointed by the President. The new public law states that the Board shall be composed of five voting members and one ex officio non-voting member (the chief executive officer of the Corporation). For the voting members, the national government will be represented with one member and each state will have one member. All appointments to the Board shall be made by the President of the FSM with the advice and consent of Congress, and the appointment of any State representa-

tive to the Board shall be upon the recommendation to the President by the Governor of the pertinent state.

The changes to Section 7, Board of Directors – Organizational meeting, deleted a subsection that required the appointed Board members to randomly select the length of their initial terms, with three members serving initial terms of one year, and two serving initial terms of two years. This subsection is not found in the new law.

In Section 8, Board of Directors – Terms of office and Term limitations, clarifies that terms of office shall all be for a period of three years and shall be staggered so that not more than two of the five terms can expire in one year.

This new Section 8 also states that the rights and powers of a member whose term has expired shall remain in effect until the first meeting of the Board following the appointment of that member's successor, and this interim period shall not last for more than one year after his or her terms has expired.

Finally, changes to Section 9 – Board of Directors – Vacancies, give 90 days, instead of 60 days, for the chairman or the presiding officer of the Board to notify the President and the Governor of the state represented, of an impending vacancy on the Board, prior to the expiration of the term of a member, or resignation or death.

In his transmittal letter to Congress, President Mori stated that it is his hope that the changes in the national law will result in an efficient operation of the corporation and it can, in turn, translate into safe and more reliable air service for the nation. President Mori signed this Act into Public Law 16-26, and a copy of the law can be found on the FSM Congress website at www.fsmcongress.fm.

MOVIE NIGHT

Join

The College of Micronesia & The U.S. Embassy

for a screening of

"THE PAPER"

78 minutes, produced in 2007 by Aaron Matthews, distributed by Icarus Films

The documentary film THE PAPER, goes inside the newsroom revealing the drama of deadline journalism. But this is not a big-city newspaper. It is The Daily Collegian, the newspaper published by students at Pennsylvania State University (better known as Penn State). In the course of one crisis-filled year the students face crashing deadlines, ethical dilemmas, doubts and disagreements, all at the same time they are handling course work, homework and exams.

THE PAPER explores the journalists of tomorrow wrestling with today's media questions. Do you lure newspaper readers by entertaining them or by offering them hard news? What is the media's responsibility to serve the public interest in all its diversity? This film addresses these questions in a story that interweaves the drama of pressure-cooker journalism with the idealism of youth.

THE PAPER is a revealing portrait of young Penn State journalists whose disillusionment and determination are shaping the news of tomorrow.

With Guest Speaker

Bill Jaynes

Managing Editor, The Kaselehlie Press

National Campus

FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH

4-6 PM

Library - mitc

Pohnpei Campus

Saturday, April 17th

6-8 PM

Gymnasium

Admission: FREE

...MRCS

Continued from page 12

veloping the Chuuk chapter in the next few months."

Ms. Aurélie Balpe said, "IFRC is committed to supporting MRCS to scale up its work with vulnerable people in ways that are adaptable and relevant to local needs. The Red Cross promotes development by preventing and reducing the underlying causes of vulnerability."

Mr. Jean-Luc Metzker added, "as representatives of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, we also visited several government officials including the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Secretary of the Department of Justice, Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Affairs, as well as to the Speaker for Congress of the FSM and Governor of Pohnpei.

We discussed topics relating to MRCS' legal base, the national society's programme priorities, as well as the government's commitment towards International Humanitarian Law. Government support is critical for facilitating the Movement's initiatives in meeting the needs of vulnerable people in FSM, and we are pleased by the local government's support and positive response to the Movement's initiatives."

The joint-mission also visited MRCS chapters in Kosrae and Chuuk.

For more information and to arrange interviews, please contact:

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Email: mracs@mail.fm

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross together constitute the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. www.ifrc.org