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U.S. Armed Forces spread Christmas cheer in Micronesia



Photo Courtesy U.S. Air Force/
Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson



U.S. Coast Guard photo by
Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Salas

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Photo Courtesy U.S. Air Force/
Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson



Photo Courtesy U.S. Air Force/
Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson

Erroneously filed charges dismissed in SDA missionary attack

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

January 5, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—Assistant Attorney General Ira Shifflett confirmed today that charges against Ansper George will be dismissed in the Pohnpei State court on January 6. George had been charged with the brutal attack on two Seventh Day Adventist school teachers that took place in the early morning hours of November 17 of last year as the two walked the hill to Cupid's Bar and Grill in Nanpohnmal before their morning classes.

Shifflett said that he had conducted his own investigation and determined that due to lack of evidence the state would not likely succeed on the merits of the case. Charging paperwork that accused George of seven separate crimes had already been drafted. Shifflett said that he had told employees who handle service and court filings that the AG's office would not be pursuing those charges and that they should not be filed. But a mistake was made some time during the holidays and the papers were inadvertently filed at the court and were served on Ansper George on January

3rd, his 21st birthday.

Shifflett said that there would be a hearing on the 6th but that the State will be dismissing the charges entirely at that hearing.

George was one of two suspects detained shortly after the attack. He has vehemently denied any involvement or knowledge of the attack since then. He says that he was shocked and depressed when he received the charges. George who is usually soft spoken and jovial rang his hands and exclaimed, "I didn't do it! I was asleep in my bed at that time. You know me. I wouldn't do something like that!"

Shifflett said that police have focused their investigations on another suspect but the investigating officer had so far, been tight lipped about the results of the investigation. He said that he has a meeting planned with that police officer set for this afternoon and hopes that meeting will lead to charges soon.

SDA teachers Krystle Haugen and Kathleen Schaefer were attacked during their morning exercises by a man who was wearing a white cloth on his head that obscured his identity. In an effort to drive off Haugen so that he could concentrate his attentions on Schaefer the man struck Haugen several times with a stick that the women said was a bit longer than a baseball bat. Haugen's arm was broken in three places, an injury which required off island surgery. Schaefer required stitches for her injuries.

The attack was apparently witnessed by one or more bystanders but we were not able to ascertain whether or not those witnesses have cooperated with the police investigation.

The SDA School has changed its rules about off campus excursions. The United States Embassy to the FSM issued a warning about increased crimes against foreigners.

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Tapioca an energy food



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Tuna Commission makes headway on some issues but is unable to reach consensus on other Pacific conservation measures

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Ko Olina, Hawaii—Representatives of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) say that they “made headway” in their week long 7th Regular Session that concluded in Ko Olina, Hawaii on Friday December 15. Just the same, over 400 delegates and observers from Pacific nations and territories as well as the European Commission were unable to reach a consensus on the key issues related to overfishing of Pacific bigeye or to capping purse-seine fishing capacity in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.

Under the category of “headway” the Commission did adopt conservation measures for Striped Marlin which requires members and cooperating non-members with vessels fishing in the Convention area north of the equator to reduce their harvests of North Pacific striped marlin by 10 percent below the highest catch they made between 2000 and 2003. The measure is subject to amendment after the completion of a new North Pacific stock assessment that will take place this year.

It also approved a new shark assessment and research program to determine the stock status of key commission-managed shark species in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. The research and assessment will be led by renowned shark researcher, Dr. Shelley Clark and will focus on blue, mako, silky, oceanic whitetip and thresher sharks and can be extended to include other shark species such as porbeagle and hammerheads.

The Commission also agreed to a Cook Islands proposal for a Special Management Area in the Eastern High Seas Pocket. That Conservation Management Measure (CMM) requires vessels of Commission members and cooperating non-members (the only ones legally allowed to fish in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean) to provide entry/exit/catch reports to the Com-

mission when operating in the Eastern high seas pocket bounded by the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the Cook Islands to the west, French Polynesia to the East and Kiribati to the north.

The Commission did agree to a strategy to govern the development in 2011 of a new CMM for bigeye tuna. Their press release says that the new CMM may also include measures for yellowfin and skipjack tuna. The CMM that is currently in place has not met the targeted 30% reduction in bigeye fishing mortality. The Commission says that while bigeye tuna stock is not overfished its spawning “biomass” (the numbers of fish that are able to actively reproduce in the Pacific) has been reduced by 75 percent since the 1950’s.

The current CMM did result in a 20 percent reduction in the harvest of adult bigeye tuna by the longline fishing method, but it has not cubed the bycatch of juvenile bigeye by the purse-seine fleets that utilize fish aggregation devices.

Saying that the issue is complex, the WCPFC was not able to reach agreement on a proposal tabled by Japan to cap the number of purse seine vessels fishing in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. Some member countries have boats on the assembly line or in the planning stages, and the small island developing states have a desire to develop their own purse seine fisheries.

Dr. Charles Karnella of the United States was selected as the Commission’s chairman for 2011 and 2012. Matthew Hooper of New Zealand was selected as the vice chairman.

Pohnpei will play host to two major meetings of the Commission in 2011. The Scientific Committee will meet in August. The Technical and Compliance Committee will meet in October.

Palau will be the host for the 8th Regular

Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in December.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission was established by the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean which entered into force on June 19, 2004. The Convention was concluded after six years of negotiation which commenced in 1994.

The headquarters for the WCPFC is located in Pohnpei, FSM. While the Commission is popularly known as the Tuna Commission its role is the conservation of all species of highly migratory fish stocks including those for which the commercial market is smaller than that of tuna.

A large map on the wall of the Commission’s Executive Director Glenn Hurry shows the boundaries of Commission monitored waters. The Eastern boundary is a gerrymandered line west of Hawaii that veers sharply east below those waters before turning back south cutting through French Polynesia. Hurry says that the western boundary is somewhat more nebulously defined and has been the subject of some debate. The line drawn on his map bisects the globe in waters west of Indonesia.

Hurry says that the Commission works closely in a mutually beneficial relationship with several other entities in the Pacific including the Forum Fisheries Agency, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Pacific Islands Forum, and the Parties to the Nauru Agreement.

Member countries include Australia, China, Canada, Cook Islands, European Union, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Chinese Taipei, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, and Vanuatu.

Participating territories include American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Tokelau, and Wallis and Futuna.

Cooperating Non-members include Belize, Indonesia, Senegal, Mexico, El Salvador, Ecuador, and Vietnam.



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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Grant donated to promotion of alternative fishing method in Chuuk State by Government of Japan

Embassy of Japan to the FSM

On December 28, 2010 Ambassador Shoji Sato attended the Signing ceremony held by Director Romio Osiena of Chuuk Department of Marine Resources, for a grant in the amount of \$US106,034.00 by the Government of Japan. President Mori and Senator Roger Mori also attended. The grant was provided by Japan's Grant Aid Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects to purchase fishing equipment to promote a new alternative safe method of fishing in place of dangerous and illegal dynamite fishing.

Ambassador Sato has been very concerned about the negative impact that dynamite fishing has had on the environment and especially the livelihoods of the people of Chuuk. Since his induction as the first full-fledged Japanese Ambassador to the FSM in June 2008, he has worked closely with Japanese aid agencies such as JICA and OFCF to formulate a project for an alternative method of fishing and made a com-

mitment to President Mori that he would do so.

Protection of people's safety and a sustainable fishing method match up with the basic purpose of the scheme for the Grassroots Human Security grant and if an alternate fishing method was introduced it would improve both in many ways such as a more safe and efficient fishing method for the fishing community and would also introduce a new income generating opportunity.

Mr. Maruhisa Ishii, a Senior Volunteer from JICA, was assigned as Project Leader for the project and with combined efforts from the Japanese aid agencies and the Embassy staff, the project was made possible.

In order to achieve the success of the project, it is essential to raise awareness about the importance of the cooperation for the project by the whole local community.

Several grants have been granted to orga-

nizations and government departments in Chuuk in the year 2010. Namely a student centre for the Xavier High School, Chuuk Women's Council Centre, school buses for Saramen Chuuk Academy, and a bulldozer for the Chuuk Environmental Protection Agency.

Ambassador Sato stated in his remarks at the ceremony that 2010 had been an "all-important year for both Japan and the Federated States of Micronesia" and hopes are high for the New Year.



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Chinese government provides 2011-2012 scholarships to the FSM

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China to the FSM

The Chinese government will continue to provide 14 scholarships to the FSM according to the 2011-2012 scholarship program issued by the Chinese Scholarship Committee. Eligible applicants can download the forms from the Chinese Embassy's website or ask the state/national Department of Education, the Department of Foreign Affairs of the FSM, or the Chinese Embassy directly for a set copy. The Chinese Embassy is now open for scholarship applications, and the closing date is March 31, 2011.

Detailed information, such as categories of applicants, duration of scholarships, application procedures, criteria & eligibility, values of scholarship and other information can be found on the Embassy's website (<http://fm.china-embassy.org/>

eng/) as well as at the departments mentioned above.

As a government financed full scholarship, foreign students studying in China will be exempted from the fees of registration, tuition, laboratory experiment, internship, basic learning materials, accommodation and dormitory on campus. A monthly living allowance and medical insurance are also available, but the airline tickets from the FSM to China will be the responsibility of the scholarship applicants.

We sincerely welcome the FSM students who are interested in studying in China to apply. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 320-5575/1646, from 9:00am to 12:00pm, and from 2:00pm to 5:00pm in all working days.



★ NEWS!! ★

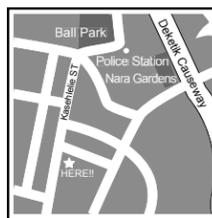
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FSM Telecom is proud to announce the launch of its newest service



MyTV was recently launched in Yap and Chuuk.

The MyTV service employs Digital Video Broadcasting Terrestrial (DVBT), which is a digital wireless system that offers clear picture and sound, as well as convenient new options such as digital radio channels, program scheduling, reminder feature and more.

MyTV will be offered as a prepaid service.

For more information on this service, Contact your local FSM Telecom office.

Search continues for Sie - Pohnpei's rarest bird



Conservation Society of Pohnpei

Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) Terrestrial Program staff in collaboration with BirdLife International partner Mr. Mark O'Brien have just returned from a 7 day expedition to the high ridges of the island surveying Nahnalaud, Nihpit, and Kupwuris forest in search of the Pohnpei Starling, Pohnpei's rarest bird and 1 of 190 bird species identified at the global level as Critically Endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. The last confirmed report was in 1995 when a specimen was collected on the ridge of Nahnalaud. CSP staff reported sighting a bird on a previous visit to the Nahnalaud cloud forest in 2008. The current expedition, undertaken in conjunction with a colleague from BirdLife International Pacific Program, was funded through BirdLife International's Preventing Extinctions Program. It revisited the areas where the bird has most recently been recorded. It was unsuccessful in its primary aim of locating the Starling, but did provide all parties with the opportunity to assess how we might best confirm the continued existence of the Starling. Accordingly a further visit is planned for early in 2011, which, according to local folklore, would coincide with onset of the breadfruit season and flowering season for most plants in the Pohnpei forest, the time when the bird is most likely to be calling.

Pohnpei Starling, or Sie, is smaller than the common Micronesian Starling, is dark grey or black without the shiny feathers of the latter and has a dark brown eye, unlike the bright yellow eye of Micronesian Starling and has a thinner and less robust bill. It has a call that is reputed to be higher pitched and shorter than Micronesian Starling, with a more bell-like quality. However, the call has not been recorded so we are not exactly sure what it sounds like, and while trying to find it we hoped to recognize a call that was different. Recognizing and identifying the

call of Pohnpei Starling is probably essential to locating the bird and estimating its current distribution. Further details about the conservation status of the bird can be found at <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/speciesfactsheet.php?id=6734>

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (also known as the IUCN List or Red Data List), founded in 1963, is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of plant and animal species. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is the world's main authority on the conservation status of species. The IUCN Red List is set upon precise criteria to evaluate the extinction risk of thousands of species and subspecies. These criteria are relevant to all species and all regions of the world. The aim is to convey the urgency of conservation issues to the public and policy makers, as well as help the international community to try to reduce species extinction. Species are classified in nine groups, set through criteria such as rate of decline, population size, area of geographic distribution, and degree of population. Critically Endangered is the category of highest threat for species that are considered still to be present in the wild. Species classed as Critically Endangered are considered to be at an extremely high risk of extinction.

BirdLife International is a global Partnership of conservation organizations that strive to conserve birds, their habitats and global biodiversity, working with people towards sustainability in the use of natural resources. In the Pacific, the BirdLife Partnership comprises seven national conservation organizations supported by a Pacific Partnership secretariat based in Suva, Fiji. Together, these organizations aim to prevent any bird species going extinct, to protect and restore the regions unique habitats and to raise awareness about birds, biodiversity and sustainable development.

Secretary Itimai signed MOU for Huawei to conduct Desk Study to connect all States in FSM for Broadband

FSM Information Services

January 4, 2011

Palikir, Pohnpei - January 4, 2010. Secretary Itimai, Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure, signed on behalf of the FSM National Government a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd, for Huawei to conduct a Desk Study for a Submarine Fiber Optic Cable (SFOC) system, that would interconnect the FSM States of Chuuk and Kosrae to Pohnpei and the State of Yap to Guam via a spur cable to the Republic of Palau.

Huawei is a company incorporated under the laws of the People's Republic of China (PRC) with the Headquarters Office in Bantian, Longgang District, Shenzhen, PRC. Huawei has been deployed in several Pacific Island Countries including the current FSM Telecom GSM Cellular System.

Witnessing the signing were Mr. Jolden J. Johnnyboy, Assistant Secretary for Communication, Mr. Allen Hao, Senior Account Manager Sales & Marketing, Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd and Mr. Xia Pai, First Secretary for Commercial and Economics, PRC Embassy in the FSM. Secretary Iti-

mai expressed on behalf of H.E. President Manny Mori our government's deep gratitude and appreciation to Huawei and the Government of the People's Republic of China through the China Embassy here in Pohnpei for this very significant undertaking, at no cost to the FSM.

H.E. Ambassador Weidong Zhang hosted a dinner at the China Star Hotel to commemorate the important occasion attended by Secretary Lorin Robert, Department of Foreign Affairs, Secretary Francis Itimai, Department of TC&I, Jolden Johnnyboy, Mr. Allen Hao, Huawei Representative and several Staff from the PRC Embassy. During the dinner, Secretary Itimai underscored to Ambassador Zhang that when the details of the project are organized by his Assistant Secretary for Communications, Mr. Johnnyboy and his Huawei counterpart, Mr. Hao, he plans as Chairman of the President's SFOC Task Force, to call a meeting of the Task Force to further deliberate on steps to move forward on this project. The President's SFOC Task Force includes representatives from the relevant FSM Government Departments and Offices as well as from FSMTC.

The study will commence in early January 2011 and is estimated to take three months.

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Information and Communication technology expert team conducts public consultation in FSM for National ICT Plan

FSM Information Services

January 6, 2011

Palikir, Pohnpei - The Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure in partnerships with the ITU ICB4PAC Project and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), under its ICT Out Reach Program for the Pacific Region, conducted visits to all FSM states from December 14-21, 2010, to consult with relevant stakeholders on the country's proposed National Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Plan. The primary purpose of this consultation with the states is to solicit public views to ensure these views are taken into account in the development and finalization of this proposed National ICT Policy Plan.

Technologies through ICT and its applications have changed the way people all over the world live, work, learn, deliver health-care and conduct business. Technologies not only provide valuable tools, but also bring access that could have negative impacts on our daily lives. It is for these and many other reasons that the government must ensure the use of appropriate technologies providing benefits to the people under sound and practical ICT policies.

President Manny Mori defined very clearly the ICT Policy Vision as reflected in the policy plan. FSM requires not only safe, reliable and affordable telecommunications, but also equitable access for all the people in the FSM regardless whether one lives on a remote outer island or in the urban state centers of Pohnpei, Yap, Chuuk or Kosrae. ICT is declared by the United Nations as a basic human right.

It is in this connection that the Ministers, including Secretary Francis Itimai, attending the Pacific Regional ICT Ministerial Meeting held in Tonga in June 2010, through the Tonga Declaration, unanimously supported the initiative to seek assistance from regional and international organizations (like ITU, SPC, etc...) to assist all the countries in the region to develop their National ICT Policy Plan.

Jolden Johnnyboy, Assistant Secretary for Communication, FSM Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure, is undertaking the project. He joined the ITU ICT Expert Team for the states' public consultations, which comprised of Mrs. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, the Pacific Regional Coordinator for the ITU ICB4PAC Project that funded the project, and Mrs. Christina Higa from the University of Hawaii, Manoa Campus.

New CNMI Rules 'Scary' For Foreign Investors Federal permit good only until 2014

Marianas Variety

SAIPAN, CNMI Islands - In the Northern Mariana Islands, Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) Executive Director Manuel Sablan says this is a "scary time" for many foreign investors who hold a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) long-term permit because it is uncertain if they can still continue to do business in the commonwealth after 2014.

"The [federal] regulation that came out [for the E-2 CNMI investor visa] is up to 2014 only. After that, they have to obtain a federal status. So after that what happens then? Sablan asked. There is a big difference between US\$50,000 and half a million dollars," he added, referring to the Commonwealth and federal investment requirements.

Sablan said the CNMI's sluggish tourism-based economy will suffer more if small businesses are not allowed to stay beyond 2014.

"Do you think they would invest more when they know that they may lose their status after 2014?" he asked.

A significant number of these investors have leasehold interest on lands in the Commonwealth, with structures like buildings, he added.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services already issued the final rule that creates the nonimmigrant investor visa classification in the commonwealth known as the E-2 CNMI Investor Visa.

This visa allows foreign long-term investors to remain in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands through December 2014. If they want to stay beyond that period, they must transition to the appropriate federal visa program.

CNMI long-term permit holders must petition for the E-2 Visa starting on January 18, 2011.

The E-2 visa is valid for two years, is renewable, and is valid only in the Commonwealth.

Chinese technicians will visit Yap next week

Yap Department of Youth and Civic Affairs

Palau President Sign Casino Referendum Bill Toribiong want the people to decide

*By Jose Señase
Marianas Variety*

Dec. 31, 2010

SAIPAN, CNMI Islands - Palau's President, Johnson Toribiong signed into law last Wednesday the amended casino referendum bill.

"In a democratic society, the people are supreme and now they are called upon to render the final decision on this controversial issue," Toribiong said. Let the people decide."

According to the new law, the referendum will be held from 120 to 180 days after the effective date of the Act.

The election commission will announce the date of the referendum not later than 90 days prior to the date on which it will be conducted.

Those who are qualified to vote but are not registered may submit their application to vote in accordance with applicable laws. Any person who is currently registered in

the general registry need not re-register in order to vote in the referendum.

If a majority of votes cast are in favor of a casino, the national legislature must pass a bill creating a casino gaming commission.

If majority of voters oppose the casino, the national legislature can no longer reconsider the issue.

The new law provides for a neutral community education process and states that the election commission will get US\$30,000 for the conduct of the referendum.

The bill was first approved by both houses of the national legislature last November.

But Toribiong returned it to lawmakers with proposed amendments.

The House of Delegates then passed the amended bill by a vote of 13-3 while the Senate approved it, 6-5.

Last year Toribiong vetoed a casino bill citing the lack of a referendum provision.

Chuukese Swimmer Excels at 2010 Hawaii State Champs

By Jean and Bill Sakovich

Fifteen year old Victor Alumbaugh, who attends Kaiser High School on Oahu, competed for the Kamehameha Swim Club on Oahu and finaled in six individual events in his age group, in addition to first and second places on four relays, at the recently completed Hawaii State Age Group Swimming Championships held Dec. 17-20, 2011.

Victor won the 200m Breaststroke 2:30.71sc and 200m Backstroke 2:15.92sc for his first State Titles, and was 5th in the 100m Back 1:02.51sc.

He also placed in the 100 Breast 1:08.85sc, 200m Individual Medley 2:16.88sc, and 400m

Freestyle 4:28.94sc.

According to his club coach at Kamehameha Swim Club, John Flanagan, Victor has made big strides over the last year with his work ethic, and it has paid off with some fast times and 2 state titles this season. His next big meets will be the High School state championships in February and the Sectional Championships in March. One of the assistant coaches at KSC is former Guam swimmer Jared Heine, who has been coaching at KSC about three years.

The above times are all short course yards, as the Hawaii State Championships, held December 17-20 at the Central Oahu Regional Park Pool complex, were held in a 25 yard course, while most international competition is held in long course meters.

Victor has been swimming for 10 years and feels his best events are Breast, Back, and IM. He has a sister Anela, who also competed for Kamehameha Swim Club and Kaiser High School, and in her senior year was selected to Most Valuable Player in the 2010 High School Waterpolo season. She now attends the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

Victor and Anela are the children of Rick and Dolores (Rufes) Alumbaugh who now reside on Oahu.

will conduct the survey and determine the level of maintenance and repairs needed for the vessel.

Governor Anefal, in a reply communication to the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, said he welcomes the news concerning the visit as the state has been for the past three and half years, eagerly looking forward to the eventuality of repairing the vessel given its fast deteriorating conditions.

According to a communication received from the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, the team

PATA Micronesia Chapter Elects New Officers At Tri-Annual Meeting In Guam

FSM Information Services

January 5, 2011

(Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010; Tumon, Guam) Nine private-sector members of PATA Micronesia Chapter were elected to the executive committee at the organization's tri-annual meeting hosted by the Guam Visitors Bureau from Dec. 1-3, 2010.

Katrina Adams of Kosrae Village Resort, Dianne Collins of Micronesia Dive Association (MDA) Guam, Tina Esteves of Guam Hotel & Restaurant Association (GHRA), Casey Jeszenka of Small Business Development Center Guam Network, Jackie Marati of Bank of Guam, Jae Medina of Guam Publications Inc., Monty McDowell of Advance Management Inc. (Guam), Dr. John Salas of Solutions by Salas (Guam), and Sam Scott of Sam's Tours (Palau), were elected to

the chapter's executive committee.

The new committee members then joined National Tourism Organizations (NTOs) and Continental Airlines in selecting chapter officers.

Incoming Chairman Grant Ismael of the Kosrae Visitors Bureau, who accepted the position previously held by Darin DeLeon of Palau Visitors Authority, received overwhelming support. Medine was named vice chair, while Judy Torres of Marianas Visitors Authority was elected secretary, and Collins was named treasurer.

All officers, who serve two-year terms, will begin their duties immediately.

Committee leadership was also chosen. Salas and Esteves will co-chair the Education Committee; Pilar La-

guaña of Guam Visitors Bureau and Don Evans of Yap Visitors Bureau will co-chair the Marketing Committee; and Lourdes Sanchez of Continental Airlines and McDowell will co-chair the Membership Committee.

During their stay on Guam, members of PATA Micronesia Chapter attended a welcome reception co-hosted by GVB and Outrigger Resort Guam, and were hosted by the Sandcastle at an evening cocktail show. They also experienced an authentic village fiesta at a local home through the GVB Guam Island Fiesta Tour.

The chapter, which recently completed a three-month membership drive, welcomes 41 new members from throughout the region. New representatives are expected to attend the next tri-annual meeting scheduled for early April in FSM.

Did you know?

...that the other side of the center line of the road belongs entirely to oncoming traffic and that when you use that lane your space is borrowed?

...that whenever you cross the center line you are responsible for whatever might happen in the event of a head on collision with oncoming traffic, and that your responsibility extends beyond yourself to include your passengers and also extends to the drivers or passengers of oncoming vehicles?

...that if there is an impediment in your lane, whether it be a parked car, a pedestrian, a tree, or even a toddler waddling into your lane you are required to wait until it is safe to cross the center line of the road even if it means that you must wait for seconds, minutes, hours or even days if that is what is necessary?

...that when you are waiting in your lane to make a left hand turn across the center line you should keep your wheels pointed straight ahead until you are ready to make your turn? Otherwise, if a car hits you while you wait to make your turn you will be driven into oncoming traffic.

...that you should always look when re-entering the stream of traffic after pulling off to the side of the road and that you should only do so when it is safe to do so at the same speed as other vehicles are traveling?

Government fraud uncovered in Marshalls Criminal cases indicate \$1 million stolen

Marianas Variety

December 27, 2010

MAJURO, Marshall Islands – Two criminal cases filed by the Attorney General's Office alleging fraud and theft at the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Health are just the tip of a wider investigation that is expected to lead to more criminal prosecutions, an official in the AGO said Wednesday.

Affidavits and police investigative reports in court documents filed this week allege that government workers in both ministries have stolen tens of thousands of dollars in United States federal grant funding to the Marshall Islands government by approving fake invoices, purchase requisitions and purchase orders that resulted in numerous government checks being issued and enjoyed by a criminal ring involving government and private sector individuals.

A police investigation at the Ministry of Finance has turned up evidence suggesting the fraud and theft dates to 2006 and could top \$1 million in losses to the government, the government's Chief Prosecutor Tubosoye Brown said Wednesday.

While investigators say — and one government worker involved in the theft ring confirms — that some evidence of the alleged crimes has been destroyed by government workers, the investigation has been aided by a confession issued by Candi Leon, the first person charged in the ongoing investigation who has agreed to testify for the government in exchange for consideration when it comes time for sentencing.

The government's Public Service Commission has responded to the expanding fraud investigation by suspending without pay five government employees pending the outcome of probe and criminal prosecutions.

Three Ministry of Finance staff and two Ministry of Health workers have been placed on suspension without pay until further notice, a commission official confirmed Wednesday.

Possible suspension of two more workers from Health and Finance was under review by the Commission Wednesday, with a decision likely before week's end, the official said.

The AGO submitted a list of government workers implicated in the theft of government money that it requested be suspended.

PSC officials said they temporarily suspended five, and requested additional information on two others included on the list.

Leon, who works for a business on Majuro, and Ministry of Finance official Nella Nashion, have both been charged with a series of theft-related criminal counts.

Leon has implicated three current and former Ministry of Health workers and three Ministry of Finance workers, including Nashion, who is facing 12 counts alleging her involvement in approving documents for a \$14,820 check that was issued to Ji-ang Hu Repair Shop for allegedly phony purchases, and altering a purchase requisition from \$3,000 to \$19,000 to Home Special Supply in another allegedly fake purchase.

"I expect we will file two or three more criminal cases next week," said Brown. He also said the ongoing investigation by the National Police Criminal Investigation Division is not limited to the Finance and Health ministries.

Included with the charges against Nashion is an affidavit from Allister Mantiera, an official in Finance's accounts payable office. In a handwritten statement, Mantiera states that he received a call from Leon in April to pull out from the file all documents related to payments made to Home Special Supply and destroy them, which

he says he did. The amount involved in the five checks was \$80,350, according to this statement.

Mantiera said that for his involvement in processing the first check of \$15,661, Leon gave him \$100. For the later four checks, he said he received \$4,000.

Police Detective Parker Wilson stated in his affidavit attached to the Nashion prosecution that Nashion, the Ministry of Finance's international aid officer, "was one of those who masterminded the deal in 2009 by preparing a fake purchase requisition document, which she later destroyed, and facilitating the preparation of all relevant documents, including the purchase order, which led to \$14,820 being paid out of U.S. federal grants."

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Damarlane and Berman file \$10 million lawsuit against U and its chief official

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—In what may be the first filing at the FSM Supreme Court in the new year, lawyer Mary Berman and her husband Kadalino Damarlane sued the U Municipal Government and Ioannis Donre in both his personal and professional capacities as the U Municipality Chief Minister. Berman and Damarlane have asked the court for \$10 million dollars in damages relating to problems at the “condemned” causeway that fronts their home in Awak, U.

Summonses were served on the defendants that gave them 20 days from receipt, exclusive of the date of summons before a default judgment could be rendered against them.

Berman has sent copies of The Kaselehlie Press communications that she has sent to officials at the Pohnpei Department of Public Safety, the Pohnpei State Attorney General, Pohnpei’s Governor John Ehsa and other Pohnpei State government officials. The first of those emails complaining of six month old problems arrived in January of 2009. One of the emails said that the problem had been persistent since August of 2008.

In each of the emails Berman has complained about activities that took place on the “condemned” causeway and the lack of Pohnpei State law enforcement there but neither the State nor any of its officials were named in the Damarlane/Berman civil suit.

Then Berman sent a copy of a letter written to Ioannis Donre dated December 29 explaining why she was in the process of drafting the lawsuit. “After our discussion this morning on the telephone, I agreed that I will hold off

filing this lawsuit to see if this problem can be managed by the U Municipal Government without litigation. If you will try for one week to manage the problem, and if this solves the problem finally and permanently, then the lawsuit can be put off.” The letter said.

The civil suit was filed five days later.

The complaints are as follows:

- The plaintiffs and their family use the oceanfront and lagoon area in front of their home to walk, swim, fish, relax and sunbathe. The U Municipal Government issued a business license to individuals who invite the general public to use a condemned state government mining causeway in front of complainants’ home in Awak, U. The business operators have no ownership interest in the condemned causeway, the oceanfront area or the lagoon.
- The U Municipal government hires police officers and fails to train them or alternatively gives them inadequate training. The business which U Municipal government has licensed allows alcohol to be consumed on the causeway site as part of the business, although the business does not have a State Alcoholic Beverage Consumption license. The drunk customers destroy plaintiffs’ property and make noise which invades plaintiffs’ home. U municipal government does nothing to control this when plaintiffs request assistance.
- The business operators built an illegal toilet on the causeway in front of the plaintiffs’ home. Environmental protection law prohibits toilets located within 50 feet of any body of water. The causeway business’s toilet is about 5-10 feet from the lagoon shore depending on the height of the tide at the time. As a re-

sult of the public’s use of the toilet, the lagoon area in front of plaintiffs’ home is severely polluted. The area generally smells of human urine and excrement. U municipal government does nothing to control this pollution when plaintiffs request assistance.

- The business’s customers play loud radios day and night, disturbing the plaintiffs in their home. U municipal government does nothing to control this when plaintiffs request assistance.
- The business’s customers sleep at the causeway overnight. The business does not have a hotel operator’s license.
- The business does not dispose of its garbage in accordance with environmental laws. The business operators dump the business’s garbage beside the lagoon in front of the plaintiffs’ home, where the garbage is carried into the lagoon on the daily tides. Currently there is about fifty cubic meters or five truckloads of garbage lying on the condemned causeway next to and lying partly in the lagoon water. When plaintiffs swim in the lagoon, they swim among the floating garbage from the business’s dump. The garbage is a source of odors and a haven for flies which invade plaintiffs’ home. U municipality does nothing to control this pollution when plaintiffs request assistance.
- The business operators continually expand the ground area on which their business operates by destroying living coral which they take from the lagoon, piling it up as landfill. The business operators do not have any permit to destroy coral or to create landfill at the site. Their actions destroy the beauty of the natural environment in front of the plaintiffs’ home. U municipal government does nothing to control this destruction when plaintiffs request assistance.

- U municipal government provides no supervision or policing of persons invited onto the site by the business operators. As a result, these customers make noise day and night with large loud radios, wander around the neighborhood screaming drunk, damage property of the plaintiffs, leave broken glass and other garbage on the causeway in front of the plaintiffs’ home, excrete human waste into the causeway business toilet, and pollute the lagoon where plaintiffs live, all of which degrades the plaintiffs’ living environment.
- This condition has continued since 2008. U municipal government does nothing to control the illegal activities when plaintiffs request assistance.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Ioannis Donre, Chief Executive of U Municipality, permits the unlawful business because the business operators want to take the plaintiffs’ residential land without compensation. Ioannis Donre’s close relative, an attorney, sent plaintiffs a letter demanding that plaintiffs give their land to the business operators. Plaintiffs refused. The illegal business proceeded with U Municipal government’s blessing.
- U municipal government also allows U municipal residents to maintain pigpens and garbage dumps in front of plaintiffs’ home and to operate loud “boom-cars” on public roads in front of plaintiffs’ home. As a result plaintiffs suffer odors and flies on their property, pollution in the lagoon water where plaintiffs swim, and loud noises. U municipal government has done nothing to control this.

It is extremely early in the life span of the filed lawsuit and no response had yet been received at press time.

“Your Earth Pacific” appoints Hawthorne as product distributor

Saipan Tribune

TAMUNING, Guam - Your Earth Pacific CEO David Loughnan announced the appointment of Hawthorne Pacific Corporation as their distributor for the Northern Pacific region. The Hawthorne Pacific Corp.’s Guam branch will service Guam, Palau, Saipan, and the Federated States of Micronesia, effective immediately.

Hawthorne will stock and supply YEP’s uniquely eco-friendly major product lines for customers throughout the region at both the Caterpillar dealership and the HFP Industrial Products store.

“A strong relationship with a company like Hawthorne Pacific Corp. is a major step for our company and began when we persuaded them to trial our fuel conditioner-FCC (Fuel Conditioner Concentrate) in their own rental equipment and with selected customers who were having

fuel related maintenance and operating efficiency issues. Degraded fuel is such a common problem in the tropics and we find we can produce noticeable improvements almost everywhere FCC is adopted. We found Hawthorne to be very professional throughout the trial and it was a natural progression to find a way of forging a closer business relationship,” said Mr. Loughnan.

He added that the FCC product exceeded his company’s expectations and will be a great addition to the quality service products marketed by YEP.

“Our view is if we can assist our loyal Caterpillar customers to reduce fuel-related maintenance by removing the ever present problem of moisture in fuel, and if we can eliminate the quite common and dreaded diesel bug, we will be a very strong position to maintain our strong market share when it comes time to replacing and purchasing new equipment.

We are committed to our customers having uninterrupted use of their Caterpillar machines. When they are not operating due to service problems, our customers are not making money,” said HPC Guam branch service manager Darrell Slyter.

The first shipment of FCC has arrived in Guam and YEP is embarking on a rigorous training program with Hawthorne Pacific’s staff and customers.

Hawthorne’s regional manager Vincent Davis said, “This is a great product for this region. Our market place is very competitive so being able to offer FCC to every major fuel user is a huge improvement in our customer service options. Any user of a diesel, gasoline, or even 2-stroke engines will benefit from regular use of this excellent Australian-made product, regardless of the engine manufacturer.

Loughnan went on to say, “Everywhere

we have trialed FCC in the Pacific, the story has been the same—lower and more efficient fuel usage due to restoring manufacturer levels of performance, reduced black smoke emissions (unburned fuel), reduced down-time due to minimizing fuel related maintenance problems and major reductions in operating costs. FCC is diluted at 1:4000 so it is very efficient and the cost benefit case is very compelling.

Hawthorne will be stocking a wide variety of pack sizes suitable for almost every application, ranging from a pleasure yacht with diesel bug in its tanks to a major power station looking for operational efficiencies.

Like all YEP products, FCC is an environmentally best practice, contains no hydrocarbons or harsh chemicals, is non toxic and can be safely transported by air, so even emergencies in remote locations can be addressed.

Hawthorne has stocked up and is ready to go and we look forward to servicing customers throughout the Northern Pacific.

Coast Guard Cutter plays part of Santa's Sleigh



Coast Guard station.

Sequoia next anchored in the turquoise lagoon of Woleai atoll, located 370 miles South of Guam. The first crewmembers ashore were warmly welcomed by the village chiefs and the island community. Before the official welcome ceremony began, one Sequoia crewmember, Seaman Alexis Martin, was granted special permission by all of the chiefs to be allowed into the men only assembly area where formal greetings were conducted.

"I felt very honored and privileged by the whole experience," Martin said. "I'm so glad I got to be a part of a rare moment."

The Woleai island chief, Chief Francisco, thanked Sequoia for

their visit. "I am very happy that the Coast Guard has not forgotten us," said Francisco through an interpreter. "It has been nearly 10 years since the last visit by a Coast Guard Cutter."

Once the donations were brought ashore, they were immediately taken to the men's meeting area where they were evenly distributed to the families while the village chiefs from each island in the atoll observed.

After the distribution, the women of Woleai gathered in their colorful ceremonial dress to perform dances for the crew of Sequoia. Forty women cheerfully clapped and sang in unison to show their gratitude for the generous gifts.

During the short visit to Woleai, one of the villagers had asked if the Sequoia could replace the battery of their Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon. Chief Petty Officer Allen Hunter, a boatswain's mate aboard the Sequoia inspected the EPIRB and demonstrated the proper technique for testing and operating the device. The EPIRB was in fine working condition and operated normally. To promote safety, Sequoia also provided several adult and children's personal floatation devices to the villagers.

"The visit was truly heartfelt from both sides," Hunter said. "This was an experience the crew will forever remember,"

Sequoia carries out the Coast Guard's missions of law enforcement, maritime safety, maritime mobility, environmental protection and defense readiness in an area that spans the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands.

*By Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Salas
Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia*

GUAM – The Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia returned from a four-day mission, Operation Santa Sleigh, to deliver holiday donations to the remote atolls of Ulithi and Woleai in Yap State of the Federated States of Micronesia.

A combined effort from Coast Guard families, the Guam Naval Officer Spouses Club, and Boy Scout Troop 23 of Navy Base Guam collected nearly 1,000 pounds of goods including clothes, shoes, linens, camping equipment, and tools. The GNOSC also contributed \$1,000 towards the purchase of new items including reef shoes, hygiene products, towels, and garden tools.

"I was very pleased with the effort of the crew and the community to help these islands during the holiday season," said Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Salas, commanding officer of Sequoia. "Many of the islanders will find the items very useful."

Sequoia's first stop was at Ulithi Atoll, located 340 miles Southwest from Guam. Using a small boat, crewmembers transferred items to the main island of Falalop, the atoll's population center. Sequoia's crew were assisted by a group of Ulithi men to help with the transfer of goods. All of the donations were taken to a secure place at the local high school where the village chiefs from each island in the atoll would gather and distribute the items to the families.

For many of Sequoia's crewmembers, it was their first opportunity to visit such a unique island. As a staging point during World War II, Ulithi still had remnants of U.S. military presence including the structure of an abandoned

Christmas Drop--58 years of cheer and aid

*By Airman 1st Class Anthony Jennings
36th Wing Public Affairs*

12/19/2010 - Andersen Air Force Base, Guam - In this region of the Pacific, Santa doesn't always fly with 12 reindeer or climb down the chimney to deliver gifts. Sometimes he drops them from hundreds of feet in the air from the back of a C-130 Hercules aircraft.

The Air Force delivered 60 pallets of gifts to about 50 islands to help support Guam's neighbors during Operation Christmas Drop, a four-day airdrop mission which delivered donated supplies and gifts to those in need. Christmas Drop donation boxes stayed in place until Dec. 8 and flights ran from December 13 through 17.

"Many people around the world anxiously wait for December in order to celebrate Christmas," said Col. Tod Fingal, 36th Wing vice commander. "However, for many men, women and children living across the Pacific, Christmas begins when they see the U.S. Air Force overhead. Many of the remote, Pacific islands have little to no contact with the outside world, and the islands' inhabitants depend on Operation Christmas Drop for much needed supplies."

"It is truly inspiring to see Team Andersen's and the local community's level of generosity in donating much needed supplies to people they have never met," he continued.

Operation Christmas Drop is a nonprofit organization powered by volunteers from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, and the local community that have to date dropped more than 800,000 pounds of goods throughout the islands since operation Christmas Drop's inception.

This year marks the 58th anniversary of Operation Christmas Drop, making it the longest-running airdrop mission in the history of the Air Force.

The Christmas tradition started in 1952 when WB-50 aircraft from the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, formerly assigned to Andersen, was flying a mission south of Guam. As the aircraft passed over one of the islands, the crew saw islanders waving to them. The crew gathered miscellaneous items from the plane, put the items into a container, attached the container to a parachute and dropped the cargo as they circled around again.

That small gesture of kindness, which started with just one box, has now grown into an island-wide effort to help make Christmas merry for those less fortunate.

Today, the men and women of the U.S. Air Force, the University of Guam, media, local government, business, professional and charitable organizations work together to collect cash and merchandise to deliver toys, clothing, fishing equipment, food items and tools to remote islands and atolls in the area.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson

Senior Airman Joseph Doria, 36th Airlift Squadron loadmaster from Yokota Air Base, Japan, and Capt. Stanley Kimball, 36th Airlift Squadron flight surgeon, watch after pushing a box of humanitarian assistance goods out of a U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules, call sign ?Santa 23? to its drop-zone in Yap Islands during Operation Christmas Drop, Dec. 14. This year more than 60 boxes will be dropped to 55 Island weighing in at more than 20,000 pounds.



Airmen watch as the parachute deploys and a box of humanitarian goods travels to the Yap Islands below during Operation Christmas Drop, Dec. 14

Letter to the editor

Have I failed my colleagues and friends at COM-FSM?

Dear Editor:

I invite those armed with the courage and the patience to read on and then to form their own opinion about what steps should be taken in order to make the College of Micronesia – FSM the very best that it can be both for students and for teachers.

I arrived in November 2007 and began to work within the systems of the College of Micronesia - The Federated States of Micronesia (COM-FSM). I set up and launched a brand-new education program in Public Health [PHTP] by August 2009. I was able to secure academic and financial resources for the program which included the salaries for two instructors who are still working at the College. I also was able to secure more than adequate grant funding [FSM AHEC]. As my close colleagues and friends know I was instrumental in bringing into the College resources, either in cash or in kind, a total of \$ 1.36 million, approximately \$450, 000 per year.

In time I learned of several inadequacies, incongruent approaches and quite frankly, human-made errors at COM-FSM. I dared to ask questions and to offer comments and suggestions for possible improvements that might ameliorate the problems I had identified. Given the staunch, uncompromising and quasi-dictatorial management style of the current leadership at COM-FSM I discovered that approach is and remains to be, a “no no.”

After 2 years of externally supported work, and a third year on specially funded FSM AHEC- contracts I was presented in September 2010 with a demeaning 3-year “first time employment contract” that I was told I must sign in order to continue my employment with COM-FSM. It was a high pressure situation (“sign or else”) and the contract seemed to be tailored to my particular circumstance and was fraught with “ad personam” limitations and clauses never before known to have been used at the College.

In simple words the contract was a trap.

Why did I sign? I signed to foil the mischievous intentions of the designers of the contract who were supposedly very senior executives at the College who probably thought that I wouldn't agree to a 50% reduction in pay or any of the other travesties of that document.

Two months later, I took part in the Pacific Basin Medical Association [PBMA] Conference in Yap, and also made a stop in Palau for personal medical reasons. While I was traveling I received an email saying that because I had left island without the permission of the College my employment had been terminated. No due process was observed.

When I tried to present my grievances to

the President of the college in the method set out by college rules he, in the presence of a witness refused to receive them.

Many of my friends and colleagues urged me to get a lawyer and go to Court!

I decided instead to continue and to complete my efforts to resolve the matter internally within the COM-FSM structure. I was very fortunate to have the personal financial means to travel to Chuuk and to be heard by the College's Board of Regents during their most recent meeting.

A few excerpts from the Board's Chairman' letter to me, along with some excerpts from my reply to their letter, may summarize what transpired at that meeting in Chuuk:

Excerpts from the letter from the Chairman of the Board of Regents, Mr. Kasio Mida:

“... The Board decided to acknowledge the good work you did...”

“...The Board believes that you contributed much to the success of the Public Health Program...”

“...The Board regrets very much that you were not allowed to launch the Nursing Program, which is critically important to the FSM”

“...The Board wishes to go on record in deploring the manner in which you claimed you were treated...”

Excerpts from my letter in response to the letter from Mr. Kasio Mida:

“...I am grateful to the Board for the recognition it awarded me for '...the good work...”

“...Furthermore, I am grateful for the Board's deploration of the manner I was treated after my 'able' service to students and the Nation for the past 3 years”

“...I however regret that the Board opted not to use this opportunity, my own case, to re-establish confidence, faith in the rule of stated norms, and goodwill among Faculty and Staff by stamping out arbitrary and rule-incompliant decisions and actions of the College's Leadership, such as:

- intentional, pre-determined 'ultimatum-style' stance in contract negotiations;
- refusal to receive grievances, in breach of College's stated norms and manuals;
- inadequacies and inability to deal with opportunities of new financial support to activities and programs”

“...This may well result in the perpetuation of the “state of fear” currently prevailing at the College, and may also have

no beneficial impact on the accreditation process, itself in dire straits at present, with the WASC's-issued warning to COM-FSM, nor on the potential support, financial and otherwise, from donors and grantors...”

“...In a word: ...if not even the Board wishes or is able to contain management styles, actions and attitudes that put the reputation of COM-FSM in jeopardy (WASC's warning regarding disenchantment of Faculty and Staff; 'I only do my job, and will not care about anything else' attitudes among College personnel; etc.) then there seems to be no hope for Faculty and Staff to escape the current unilateral, uncompromising [dictatorial?], and grossly inadequate management practices at COM-FSM”.

While I am considering eventual options open to me for more incisive actions aimed at a better managed COM-FSM, I can only wish the greatest of luck to my colleagues. I encourage everyone involved in the college system to step beyond the current apparent standard of acquiescence as a requirement for continued professional employment and to move toward an open professional collaboration for the betterment of the entire educational system.”

Does FSM, the Federated States of Micronesia deserve a better tertiary education Institution or should significant change

PUC GM responds to David Loughnan

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to Mr. David Loughnan's letter to the editor entitled, “Power crises in Pohnpei- There are solutions and savings immediately available”.

To understand the power situation in Pohnpei, we must first start with the history of the generators at the Nanpohnmal Power Plant (NPP). There are seven generators at the Nanpohnmal Power Plant: three Caterpillar and four Daihatsu. The three Caterpillar were commissioned in 1988, about 22 years ago, two of the four Daihatsu units were commissioned in 1992, about 18 years ago, and the other two in 1994, about 16 years ago. This brief history shows that the generators are quite old and their operating conditions are not the same as the generators in Kosrae, as claimed by businessman David Loughnan. The operating conditions and the age of a generator play a vital role in determining the level of benefits that can be realized from using such product or any additives for that matter.

It is also equally appropriate to know that Mr. David Loughnan is currently an allied member of the Pacific Power Association (PPA). This Association exists for the mutual interests of the twenty five (25) utilities located in the North and the South Pacific Region. The North Pacific utilities include Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk, Yap, Marshalls,

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be enacted at COM-FSM, for the sake of students, families, and the country as a whole?

Thank you, readers, colleagues and friends. I tried as much as I could and am sorry that there was no immediate evident result but there is always hope at least for those who remain.

Dr. Giuseppe Cuboni

Guam, Palau, and CNMI and the rest of the twenty five utilities are located in the South Pacific.

With respect to the FCC or the fuel conditioner Mr. Loughnan is promoting, only two utilities out of the 25 have used the product, Western Samoa and Kosrae. However, Western Samoa has stopped using the product for reasons not known to PUC. As claimed by Mr. Loughnan, the product is working well in Kosrae. This may be attributed to the fact that one of the two generators there is new. If what Mr. Loughnan said about his product is true, PPA would be recommending its use to all its member utilities. However, this has not been the case. Moreover, just recently, PUC was advised by a mechanical engineer from Daihatsu Company, the manufacturer of the four Daihatsu generators at the Nanpohnmal Power Plant, not to use any additives due to the present condition of the generators.

Based on the above and since there are more pressing needs to be addressed by the Board and the Management, the decision to use the product is being delayed until more information is made available on the use of the FCC or the fuel conditioner.

Feliciano M. Perman
General Manager/CEO
Pohnpei Utilities Corporation

Letter to the editor

An open letter to the people of the FSM from Oceania, Incorporated

*"All tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent."
Thomas Jefferson*

Two issues ago, the Kaselehlie Press contained a Letter to the Editor from Steven Kirchof stating that the FSM stands at a crossroads. By providing further detail I intend to substantiate points made in that letter.

I am not a politician, and have never harbored any aspirations to be one. In fact, this is the first political editorial I have ever written. By voicing my own opinion I hope to shed light and to bring about open discussion on what I believe to be a colossal impending disaster perpetrated upon the citizens of the FSM by its own Executive Branch of government as it attempts to sell out the future of the country for the benefit and gains of a select few.

I believe strongly in democracy and a free market economy. I cannot say the same for those who seek to ensnare the FSM into a debt-ridden, monopolistic ruse designed to benefit only the People's Republic of China.

A free market economy does not by itself solve all of a society's problems, but the complexity of social and economic issues facing the FSM requires multivariable answers and strategies that can only come about from open, divergent intellectual discussion rather than monopolistic thinking.

Free market economies are driven by a profit motive, which ensures competition and better-valued goods and services for its citizens. It encourages development, rewards creativity and innovation, and spurs new ideas and development in a risk-reward ratio.

Conversely, a State-run monopoly accomplishes none of these things; if anything such a system encourages status quo, rewards complacency, and discourages creativity and risk. It does so by stifling its greatest resource, the collective intellect of its citizens, by limiting freedoms, controlling the press, and jailing those who dare to oppose or speak out against the State. The first signs of this are the discarding of the laws designed to protect their own society's most vulnerable people.

Presently the FSM is faced with a multitude of problems and issues that cannot be solved with simplistic, non-integrating solutions. They require divergent resources working as a team to develop and implement ongoing,

sustainable strategies that are adaptable and flexible enough to meet the changing needs of a developing FSM. Oceania has proposed such a plan to the FSM, sourcing and utilizing such resources within the United States as finance, university-based research, governance, business and marketing acumen, and access to global partnerships.

Oceania does not intend to own outright the economic projects it proposes; in fact Oceania will invite competitive bidding on all endeavors in hopes of improving the product while at the same time maximizing the profits for the citizens of the FSM and the country itself. For example, if an Australian concern put forward a better proposal for building and operating an electric plant than a Taiwanese company, then the contract would be awarded to the Australians. If a Spanish entity outbid a company from the United States on fish farming, the Spanish would be offered the project. Each contract would be subject to public scrutiny and would improve and benefit from competitive bidding regardless of where or from whom the proposal originates. The result of such a process is a better, more desirable outcome with the higher residual profits being shared by the citizens of the FSM.

This has been at the heart of Oceania's proposal since its inception four years ago. The citizens of the FSM should find it as deeply disturbing as I do that the Executive Branch of the FSM refuses to meet to discuss this proposal, even though Oceania has gone through every proper channel and protocol to arrange such meetings.

Here, I suspect, are the troubling reasons. Oceania's proposals would be fueled by individuals' desires to succeed. In effect, it would give the people the ability to control their own destiny based on their own goals and desires. This would allow them to become truly self-determining and self-governed, rather than relying upon state assistance and foreign intervention.

Do the people of the FSM really want their children to inherit a large, unpayable guaranteed loan from a foreign government? Can anyone believe that there are no strings attached to such an arrangement?

Oceania's proposals contain no loans and no requirement of a loan guarantee on the part of the FSM. Our financing would come from interested global participants who seek to make a profit

i link For more information, Call
Headquarters, Pohnpei Tel:691-320-2740
Chuuk Office Tel:691-330-2333
Yap office Tel:691-350-2104
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Federated States of Micronesia Telecommunications Corporation

by doing business within the FSM. By using the profit motive, Oceania would place no restrictions on who participates on any economic project; indeed, the global invitation will uncover further ideas and introduce products to markets that no one single source can offer. The benefits of Oceania's proposal go to the citizens of the FSM, and to the future of the country.

Contrariwise, the benefits of the PRC proposal go to a select few.

It has always been Oceania's view that the people of FSM should be the drivers of the economic engine. Our proposals include preferential treatment of FSM citizens and companies through tax incentives. For example, FSM captained and crewed fishing boats would be given special preferences on tariffs or export fees. Granting this type of economic advantage to a country's own citizens is a common practice worldwide.

The way to predict the future is to study and acknowledge the past. Don't allow the PRC to do the same to the FSM as they did to the economies of Saipan and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Allow the wealth and resources that are contained in the FSM to be carefully managed, branded and

marketed worldwide. Then, instead of the FSM being stripped of its resources as quickly as possible, those resources will be sustainable and enduring as global demand for them builds. The international developers of these projects will want to reinvest their profits in the FSM for years.

If you accept the PRC proposal, I contend that the very ability to write this kind of opposing opinion in an open forum would be in jeopardy. Giving all the FSM treasures to one entity ensures only one possible outcome: that the FSM will remain undeveloped and in debt, thereby providing no legacy for its children and no provision for the survival of its culture.

I started this letter with a quote from Thomas Jefferson, perhaps the greatest intellect among America's founding fathers, imploring his fellow citizens of good conscience not to remain silent. Freedom must be earned and doesn't come without cost. Rise and be heard; ask your elected government representatives if selling the future of your country to China for \$20 million in loans is a deal you can afford.

Bob Rosen
Oceania, Incorporated

K Press Perspective

“Scary” Letters

I’m not begging for any sympathy here which I suspect is a good thing since I wouldn’t likely get any even if I were, but sometimes the decisions that an editor must make are difficult.

For instance, not every letter to the editor that we receive is full of joy and happiness. It is the rare letter indeed that arrives at the office of The Kaselehlie Press that says, “Dear Editor, This morning I woke up and the sun was shining. The birds were singing; the neighbor’s pigs were blissfully silent for a time. I realized in a flash, an instantaneous and blinding epiphany, that my life is wonderful and I am very fortunate to be living it. Sincerely, Pollyanna Purebred.”

Actually, I can’t recall a single letter like that but then that only makes sense. Nothing motivates an otherwise reluctant writer to sit down and pound out a Letter to the Editor like angst and controversy; or pomp and circumstance as the case may be for writers with obstreperous egos.

It’s one of the editor’s jobs to determine which if any letters he or she will choose to publish and how much of the letter will see print.

Newspaper editors come in all shapes and sizes and their choices display varying degrees of courage. I don’t know a lot of newspaper editors but of those I do know not one of them is even remotely like the editor character in the Spider Man series. Neither are they particularly nerdy, owlsh, or bookish per se. Most of them fall somewhere near the midpoint on that continuum because editors are people; not caricatures of people, just people.

We do not always agree 100% with the contents of every Letter to the Editor.

I have no way of knowing for certain whether or not other editors live as I do with a nearly constant ethical war raging in their minds. Perhaps other editors long ago signed a peace treaty with their minds that allows them to sleep at night and so in terms of collective editor mindsets I will not generalize further. I can only really speak about what goes on in my own head as an editor but even on that topic I cannot do so with any great sense of real confidence.

I do know that I am my own worst editorial enemy. I brought my own scarred and battered baggage with me to the position. I’ve romped up and down on those bags in a fury. I’ve set them adrift and scuttled them. I’ve tied them to a stake, doused them with kerosene and danced while they burned. I’ve shot them, knifed them, and thrown them in front of screaming and monstrous gravel trucks. In desperation I even once tried to lose them by giving them to an airline to handle. But like the very best Samsonite suitcases from days of yore when weight limits were practically unheard of for travel, they have sprung back from each and every abuse, slightly worn but still fully

capable of opening their gaping and hinged maws and sucking me down entire.

No question about it. I am no Julian Assange. Had it been my decision to maketo publish or not to publish U.S. State Department communications those secrets would most likely still be encrypted and classified. I would still be in the process of warring with myself about my personal responsibilities in the matter.

I’m not telling you anything you don’t already know but saying it is catharsis for me; a surprise attack on my baggage; something those bags didn’t expect and don’t know how to defend themselves against; like a drug addict who is trying to quit his habit dragging the police around to show them all of his favorite hiding places for drugs so that he can’t use them anymore. It doesn’t keep him from finding new hiding places but it’s a step in the right direction and I appreciate your willingness to listen.

“They” say that confession is good for the soul and so here is mine. As an editor, letters like the one by Steve Kirchof of Oceania that I published two issues ago, and the ones by Dr. Giuseppe Cuboni and Bob Rosen that I chose to publish in this issue scare the willies out of me, especially under the back drop of impending national elections. Elected officials are much more easily provoked at campaign time.

There, I’ve said it. Sometimes articles scare me. I had to put bombs in my baggage this time just so that I could lay out some of the content of those letters for print. A nuclear device was required before I could manage to press the “send” button that sets the presses in motion BUT it’s my job to publish, and freedom of speech is still the rule in the FSM whether I entirely agree with the content of editorials or not. I am no where near omniscient and differing points of view are important.

Having said all of this I don’t mean to cast aspersions on the content of the Letters to the Editor contained in this issue or to in any way diminish them. That’s not what I’m saying here and if I’m giving the reader that impression I apologize to the two writers of those letters.

I never solicit Letters to the Editor on any specific topic. I take them as they come and I don’t publish them all and I NEVER publish letters from unidentified sources.

The opinions and accusations in the letters of this issue are strong and strong accusations always worry me.

As an example, in February of 2008 Resio Moses made “on Journal” allegations during a Congress session that some FSM government officials including members of Congress and the members of their families who traveled with them had been offered and had accepted bribes while visiting Hong Kong.

It was a big story that died an ignominious death due to starvation. No special inves-

tigatory committee was ever established and no government officials ever made any statements that would resolve the accusations. In fact, the only statements that were ever made essentially accused me of writing a misleading headline. Senator Peter Sitan even read into the Congress Journal a statement about the headline devoid of any mention of the accusation.

Retrospectively I agreed that the headline was unintentionally misleading and apologized for it but the focus was then on me and my coverage of the accusation rather than on the accusation itself. It never appeared in the newspaper again partly because there was never any new news on the matter and partly because I was somewhat “freaked out” on a personal level.

Every now and then some FSM citizen asks me whatever came of the accusations. I can only respond that as best I know, nothing was ever resolved. The problem was ignored to death but the smell of it still lingers in the air like a rat that consumed poison and wandered into a hidden space to die and to rot and to stink.

Not so the recent accusations Congress made regarding high level members of the executive branch who, Congress said, had broken the law by violating the Financial Management Act. Speaker Isaac Figir told me several weeks ago that he was not going to convene a special committee of Congress to investigate those alleged violations but that he had asked the Office of the National Public Auditor to conduct an investigation.

I want you to know that just today I verified that fact with the ONPA. I was told that an investigation into those violations is currently underway and that a final report should be out within the next couple of months. I was assured that as soon as the report is available we will receive a copy of it for publication.

In the FSM, some editors who worked for newspapers that are now defunct have ultimately resorted to “taking the low road” by choosing to write and to publish allegations and rumors probably out of frustration that authoritative sources have refused or have simply been slow to speak with them.

I, in an attempt to take the “high road” have

committed no less an egregious sin by occasionally not publishing what probably should have been published simply because I have not been able to get authorities to speak on the record and was unwilling to risk a postulation; a supposition.

Certainly there must be some middle ground between those two approaches that doesn’t open up The Kaselehlie Press to the possibility of becoming a “defunct newspaper.”

You need to know what is going on and what the issues are in this, your country. In this new decade I will continue on my crusade to kill off any excess baggage I am carrying that might act to keep me from publishing news items that need to be published even if they scare me just a little bit. I commit to being more diligent in my effort to gather the true facts in an unbiased way without agenda. If I have problems with authoritative sources who refuse to answer or return phone calls or to answer questions I will tell you about those incidences, at least when I can do so without publishing libelous statements.

I also commit to better follow up reporting when it is possible to get follow up information on stories we’ve previously covered.

The Kaselehlie Press doesn’t hear about every news story. There is no way that we could. We’re simply too small. However, YOU can help us to hear about more of them. If you know of a news story you’d like to see us pursue please feel free to pick up the phone and call us at 320-6547 or email us at kpress@mail.fm or fsmkpress@yahoo.com. I cannot promise you that I will be able to pursue every tip successfully and I won’t promise you that you will always like every story I write based on your tip but I will make every effort to try to get the facts and to report on what I find, if anything, in a factual manner.

Oh, and by the way, keep those “scary Letters to the Editor” coming. I can’t promise that I will publish every one of them, particularly if they are libelous, and I may edit for length if necessary but I’ll try to keep my fears at bay as best I can.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Crossword - She went that way

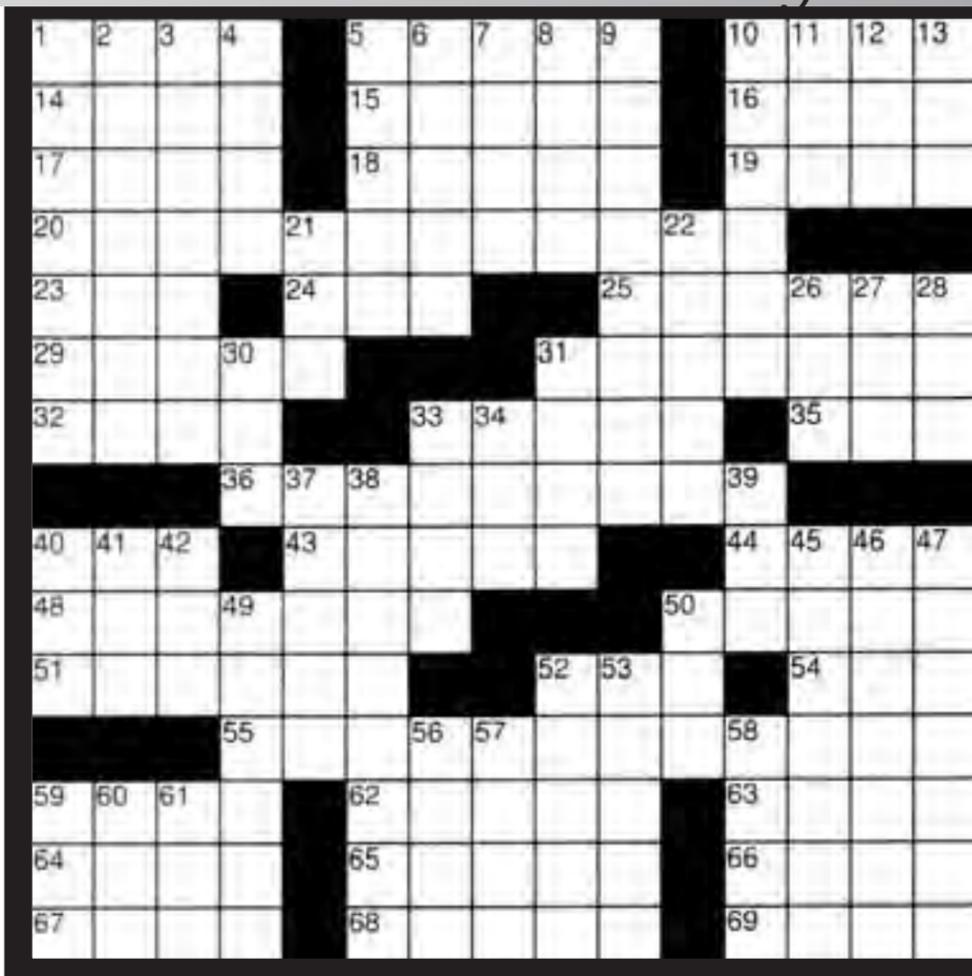
ACROSS

- 1. Bandleader Arnaz
- 5. Quiz answer
- 10. Event for the RAF
- 14. Big show
- 15. Agent Ness
- 16. Go no further!
- 17. Blow one's top
- 18. Pale purple
- 19. Grills
- 20. She went downhill
- 23. Tick off
- 24. Six-legged lifter
- 25. Customize
- 29. Interjection of the Bible
- 31. Enter
- 32. Garden site
- 33. Night driver's bane
- 35. Preamble's second word
- 36. She went Under the Tuscan Sun
- 40. Gambler's prize
- 43. Assurance
- 44. Lots of money
- 48. Morale
- 50. Flat hat
- 51. "Relax"
- 52. It helps shape
- 54. Physician flock
- 55. She went to TV and movies
- 59. Rhymed word for Rudolph

- 62. Mental picture
- 63. Now, and I mean it!
- 64. Jellystone resident
- 65. Manchester moola
- 66. List of eats
- 67. Part of an REM, Marcel's, or Pink Floyd hit title
- 68. Condition
- 69. Previous

DOWN

- 1. Can't stand
- 2. Past due
- 3. Dot
- 4. Kirk's birthplace
- 5. Criminal
- 6. Like a Pisan tower
- 7. Sprightly song
- 8. Fly high
- 9. And so on
- 10. Classic poser
- 11. Is no longer
- 12. Kind
- 13. Monty Python opener
- 21. Feh!
- 22. Gobbled up
- 26. Portion
- 27. How pretty!
- 28. Hwy.
- 30. What happened next?
- 31. Desalinization slag
- 33. Wildebeests
- 34. Musician Paul
- 37. Presumptuous greeting



- 38. Blood lines
- 39. Meadow mama
- 40. Free pitch, for short
- 41. Decide on
- 42. Bolo, for one
- 45. Large Asian lake
- 46. Humiliates
- 47. Remain
- 49. Collect
- 50. 39 Down comment
- 52. Disrespecter
- 53. Actress Witherspoon
- 56. Porn
- 57. Lithe Lipinski
- 58. Glower
- 59. Rope-climbing place
- 60. Pub pit stop
- 61. Arrogance

K Press Puzzle Pleasure



A n g l e s e a r c h

In an Anglesearch, the words hidden in the diagram are not in a straight line. Instead, each term bends at an angle, and no two words cross each other. The terms in this puzzle all pertain to volleyball. We've outlined **GAME** as an example.

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|-------------|------------|
| Action | Exciting | Participate | Rules |
| Activity | —Game— | Play | Score |
| Beach | Hits | Points | Serve |
| Championship | Pairs | Position | Sport |
| Compete | Park | Return | Strive |
| | | | Teams |
| | | | Tournament |
| | | | Victory |
| | | | Winners |



Employment/Contracting Opportunity PA (Program Assistant) Yap

Period of Performance:

90 day probation. Expected start date: March 1, 2011 (subject to clearance of background check)

Salary Range:

\$13,754 – 18,158, depending on experience and salary history

Basic Function of Position:

Under the supervision of the Pohnpei based PTO (Programming and Training Officer), the PA provides day-to-day support to Peace Corps volunteers in Yap. S/he develops and monitors volunteer projects and local community relations and manages all aspects of operating the local office.

S/He:

- Provides overall volunteer support in Yap, including monitoring volunteer location, weekly check-ins with outer island volunteers, assisting volunteers with health and emergencies, mentoring and coaching volunteers to ensure their success, helping volunteers integrate into the local community, updating volunteers on Peace Corps policy, etc.
- Manages administrative and logistical needs critical to running the local office and supporting volunteers, including procuring goods needed and submitting invoices to head office on a timely basis, maintaining the Peace Corps vehicle, monitoring and logging use of Peace Corps resources, arranging travel logistics, processing paperwork, etc.
- Communicates with the Pohnpei based PTO, and other staff to update them on volunteer activities and challenges and local needs. Requests appropriate support and guidance as needed.
- Develops Yap Peace Corps volunteer sites that match Peace Corps goals, support country goals, and have partners that will work closely with the Peace Corps volunteer to integrate them and help make them successful.
- Recruit, train and monitor relationships with host families who meet safety and cultural goals of host family
- Conducts site visits to volunteers in Yap / outer Islands, on a regular basis. Communicates with host agencies, families, & and communities. Trouble shoots issues that effect volunteer effectiveness, satisfaction, and safety. Will receive strategic direction and mentoring on making these visits from the PTO, who will at times accompany the PA.
- Communicates and cooperates with Yap governments, host agencies, community partners, and local NGOs. Works closely with and updates Yap Liaison officer. Represents Peace Corps to local community.
- Coordinates logistics for training, oversees local language/cross-cultural tutor, coordinates training sessions, responsible for effective local training of volunteers.
- Understands direction of Peace Corps FSM/Palau and implements policies in Yap State.
- Cooperates with PAs in Palau, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae to share ideas and help maintain program consistency.

Qualifications Mandatory

- Fluency in English. Must be an excellent oral and written communicator and a good listener.
- Minimum education level: Bachelor Degree or local equivalent
- Must be well connected in Yap and outer islands and skilled at developing and maintaining relationships with Yapese, Ulithians, and Americans. Must be comfortable working with nationals of all FSM/Palau States.
- At least 3 years of related work experience in a multi-cultural environment.
- Demonstrated experience mentoring volunteers, employees, or others to be successful.
- Experience managing an office or operation for at least one year.
- Self-sufficient, motivated, and able to operate effectively with no day-to-day supervision. Demonstrated effectiveness at meeting deadlines, managing priorities, multitasking, and operating well under pressure.
- Excellent computer skills (proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel)
- Language/cultural skills in Yapese and Ulithian.

Desired

- Demonstrated experience, as a contractor or direct-hire employee, in U.S. Government agencies or Peace Corps.
- Experience working/cooperating with Peace Corps volunteers
- 2 years minimum experience managing employees.

Submission Requirements

In order to be considered for this Peace Corps PSC position, interested individuals must submit their **resumes** and a **cover letter addressing how they meet the mandatory qualifications** by email ONLY.

applicants@fm.peacecorps.gov
Tel: 691-320-2531

Resumes must be received no later than Feb 4, 2011.

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

P. O. Box 2222

Pohnpei, FM 96941

phone to: (691) 320-6547

email to: FSMKpress@yahoo.com

- 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 Kia's 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

Want Energy? Eat Tapioca

By *Kathay Larsen*
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

Believe it or not, tapioca, also known as cassava, is not indigenous to Pohnpei. It was brought to our lovely Pacific Islands, likely by the Spanish people of Mexico. We have benefitted from this “crop sharing”, as tapioca is one of our favourite local foods here. It is easy to grow and equally easy to fix for your family. What you may not be aware of however, is that tapioca is a great food to eat if you need energy! Tapioca also contains vitamin C, potassium and dietary fiber.

Tapioca is full of carbohydrates. This provides the body with energy. The need for energy is a basic life function. Energy helps to keep you warm. Without energy, you are unable to walk very far, or work very long.

You won't feel like visiting with family and friends as you will always be tired. You won't even have the drive to dance, as is so important here! As Island Food Community of Pohnpei has taught you before, vitamin C helps to keep your body tissues healthy and strong, fighting off infections and healing wounds faster. Additionally, it helps process iron in the body. Potassium's function is to maintain proper amounts of bodily fluids in your blood. Fiber, as you know, is very important as it maintains proper function of your digestive system, preventing constipation and giving you regular bowel movements. It is helpful for lowering cholesterol, and preventing cancer and heart disease.

It's important not to forget the value of the tapioca leaves, when you are cooking. Tapioca leaves contain large amounts of provitamin A and vitamin C. It is so important that children get adequate amounts of provitamin A in their diets as it promotes healthy and healthy eyes. It helps to prevent disease. The



leaves are rich in fiber.

Tapioca can be preserved by several methods if necessary. You can place the roots in shallow holes and surround them with damp sawdust, finally covering with soil. You can also peel, wash and slice thin pieces and put them out in the sun to dry. Fermenting the tapioca increases its amount of Vitamin B. You need to peel, wash and cut into large slices. Next, put the slices in a plastic bowl and cover with water, making sure that none of the tapioca is sticking out of the water. Put a lid on and leave for about five days. When the tapioca gets very soft to the touch, drain the water and leave the tapioca in the sun to dry. When dry, pound the tapioca, taking out the fiber strings, then mix well, the fermented tapioca with a bit of grated fresh tapioca and grated coconut. Wrap the pieces in banana leaves and steam

or uhmw for about an hour. You can eat right away, or save for up to a week.

Finally, you can freeze tapioca by peeling and cutting into serving sized pieces, seal in plastic bags and freeze until you are ready to take out and cook. Be sure you cook frozen – don't let thaw.

Tapioca tastes good and is very healthy, but remember that it does not contain an adequate supply of protein. You should eat with fish or meat to get all of the nutrients you need from your meal. Cooking this delicious food, along with some fish will be a wonderful meal for your family. Try it tonight!

Acknowledgements are made to the South Pacific Food Leaflet No. 5, on Cassava, 1995.

Astronomical Tide Prediction January 10, 2011 - January 23, 2011

	Pohnpei				Chuuk			
Monday	01/10		01/17		01/10		01/17	
	12:18AM	0.7	02:05AM	2.0	04:56AM	0.7	01:19PM	2.0
	06:28AM	2.8	06:58AM	1.2	09:06AM	0.4	09:44PM	-0.5
	11:49AM	1.5	01:58PM	4.0	04:04PM	1.5		
	05:55PM	3.3	09:04PM	0.6	11:17PM	0.0		
Tuesday	01/11		01/18		01/11		01/18	
	12:39AM	0.9	02:43AM	2.3	05:25AM	0.8	01:50PM	2.2
	07:03AM	2.8	07:49AM	0.9	09:29AM	0.6	10:00PM	-0.6
	12:24PM	1.7	02:35PM	4.3	03:53PM	1.3		
	06:13PM	3.0	09:32PM	0.3	11:17PM	0.0		
Wednesday	01/12		01/19		01/12		01/19	
	01:02AM	1.0	03:17AM	2.5	06:08AM	0.9	03:51AM	0.2
	07:50AM	2.7	08:33AM	0.7	09:45AM	0.8	06:17AM	0.1
	01:14PM	2.0	03:12PM	4.5	03:13PM	1.1	02:21PM	2.4
	06:28PM	2.6	10:02PM	0.1	11:14PM	0.0	10:20PM	-0.6
Thursday	01/13		01/20		01/13		01/20	
	01:30AM	1.1	03:50AM	2.8	01:45PM	1.1	03:58AM	0.3
	09:07AM	2.7	09:14AM	0.6	11:02PM	0.0	07:10AM	0.1
	03:28PM	2.1	03:48PM	4.6			02:51PM	2.4
	06:19PM	2.2	10:32PM	0.0			10:41PM	-0.5
Friday	01/14		01/21		01/14		01/21	
	02:13AM	1.3	04:22AM	3.0	12:29PM	1.3	04:14AM	0.4
	11:05AM	2.9	09:53AM	0.5	10:29PM	-0.1	07:53AM	0.1
			04:22PM	4.6			03:19PM	2.3
			11:02PM	0.1			11:00PM	-0.4
Saturday	01/15		01/22		01/15		01/22	
	03:52AM	1.4	04:55AM	3.1	12:28PM	1.5	04:33AM	0.6
	12:26PM	3.2	10:32AM	0.5	09:51PM		08:33AM	0.2
	08:19PM	1.3	04:57PM	4.4	-0.2		03:43PM	2.1
			11:32PM	0.2			11:14PM	-0.2
Sunday	01/16		01/23		01/16		01/23	
	01:11AM	1.8	05:29AM	3.2	12:51PM	1.8	04:55AM	0.7
	05:48AM	1.4	11:11AM	0.7	09:37PM	-0.4	09:12AM	0.3
	01:16PM	3.6	05:30PM	4.0			03:58PM	1.8
	08:38PM	0.9					11:16PM	0.0

Coconut Fruit Punch

By *Consalsion Abraham*

This recipe was submitted in the 2010 World Food Day Healthy Cooking Competition.

Ingredients:

Juice of 1 medium drinking coconut
1/2 cup crushed fresh pineapple
Juice of 4 calamansi (karer tik) citrus fruits

Directions:

Mix all the ingredients, and serve.

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Fiji Water sued over claim that product is “carbon negative”

By Leslie Guevarra
Greener World Media

LOS ANGELES (Reuters/Pacific Media Watch): A Southern California woman has sued the Fiji Water Company in a class action complaint that alleges the firm's claim of having a carbon-negative product amounts to false and misleading advertising that sways consumers to buy the pricey bottled water.

The law firm Newport Trial Group filed the suit on December 20 in US District Court in Santa Ana on behalf of Southern California resident Desiree Worthington, who is described as having purchased Fiji Water repeatedly in the past four years -- a period that roughly coincides with the start of FIJI's carbon-negative marketing campaign.

Fiji Water announced the campaign in November 2007 as part of a broader plan to make the bottling, packaging and transportation of the product more environmentally responsible.

The initiative followed an onslaught of criticism of the bottled water industry.

An article in Fast Company earlier that year noted, “And in Fiji, a state-of-the-art factory spins out more than a million bottles a day of the hippest bottled water on the U.S. market today, while more than half the people in Fiji do not have safe, reliable drinking water. Which means it is easier for the typical American in Beverly Hills or Baltimore to get a drink of safe, pure, refreshing Fiji water than it is for most people in Fiji.”

On its site, Fiji Water says, “Since 2008, Fiji Water has been a carbon-negative brand. We are the first and only major bottled water company to make this commitment, under which we will continue to offset 120% of our

emissions. That means that we are not only mitigating our environmental impact but also making up for a little bit of someone else's.”

The method FIJI Water uses to calculate its offsets is at the heart of the recently filed suit.

The complaint says, “Defendants' carbon-negative claim is deceptive and misleading ... reasonable consumers of FIJI water understand Defendants' 'carbon-negative' claim as meaning that FIJI water's current operations remove more carbon from the atmosphere than they release into it. This is simply not the case; in reality, FIJI water's operations do not remove more carbon from the atmosphere than they release into it. Instead, they use a discredited carbon accounting method called 'forward crediting.'”

“To reduce their carbon footprint, corporations purchase carbon 'offset credits,' which is a generic term for any tradable certificate or permit representing the right of the purchaser to emit one ton of carbon dioxide. 'Standard offset credits' represent carbon reductions that have already taken place. By contrast, 'forward offset credits' represent carbon reductions that may or may not take place up to several decades in the future.”

The suit contends the carbon negative claim “induced countless consumers to pay a premium for bottled water” and cites comparative prices showing that Fiji Water costs about twice as much as other well-known brands of bottled water. Worthington, the only named plaintiff in the lawsuit thus far, “would not have purchased FIJI water at a premium if she knew that Defendants' current operations did not remove more carbon from the atmosphere than they release into it.”

Fiji Water, whose environmental practices

continued to draw fire even before the lawsuit, did not respond to requests for comment, but describes its offset program on its site. “To guarantee the quality and long-term benefits of our offset program, we have partnered with Conservation International (CI), a leading conservation organization, and invested in an extensive forest restoration project in Fiji. With the first 250 acres of new trees already planted and growing, the resulting 2,000-acre forest will deliver key global as well as regional benefits, including long-term carbon sequestration, preservation and restoration of natural wildlife habitats and

biodiversity in the region, protection of critical watersheds, and income opportunities for hundreds in local Fijian communities.”

Worthington's lawsuit also names Fiji Water's parent company Roll International Corporation as a defendant and seeks any legal and equitable remedies -- including monetary damages, statutory penalties, attorneys' fees and other costs -- deemed appropriate by the court.

The Newport Trial Group declined to comment on the suit.

Damarlane makes Dean's list at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

According to her mother, Mary Berman, Margaret Berman Damarlane, because of her grade point average, made the Dean's List at the US Coast Guard Academy for her first semester. She was awarded a Gold Star that has already been pinned to her uniform. Berman said in an email that her daughter's Academic Advisor ordered her to stop studying during finals. “Cadet Damarlane, you are studying too much. I order you to take this weekend off,” the advisor said: at least according to her Margaret's proud mother.

Congratulations to Margaret and to her family in Pohnpei!

Notable Quote:

The Brooklyn Public Library considered banning Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn due to their “coarseness, deceitfulness and mischievous practices.” A librarian there wrote to Twain asking him to defend his books.

Twain responded: “I am greatly troubled by what you say. I wrote 'Tom Sawyer' & 'Huck Finn' for adults exclusively, and it always distressed me when I find that boys and girls have been allowed access to them. The mind that becomes soiled in youth can never again be washed clean. I know this by my own experience, and to this day I cherish an unappeased bitterness against the unfaithful guardians of my young life, who not only permitted but compelled me to read an unexpurgated Bible through before I was 15 years old. None can do that and ever draw a clean sweet breath again on this side of the grave.”

