

The KASELEHLIE PRESS

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Pacific Partnership kicks off in earnest in the FSM

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

July 6, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—Since early June a crew of engineers out of Gulfport, Mississippi has been working hard in Pohnpei on projects in Temwen, Wone, Palikir, Parem, Ohmine, and Saladak. On July 3, the rest of the Pacific Partnership team members caught up with the advance team of engineers and support staff when the “USS Cleveland” arrived in Pohnpei, FSM.



Triage at Nanpei Memorial School



Photo By Kristopher Raddler

An MH-60S Sea Hawk flies over the port of Pohnpei, FSM which is the final stop for Pacific Partnership

For a variety of reasons the vessel was unable to dock at Pohnpei’s port which means that while crew members can get to shore for work they can’t get to the island during their “off hours.”

“We determined there are no suitable locations for the ship to anchor or moor in Pohnpei, so the ship and crew will remain underway during this mission port,” said Lt. Jacqueline Ellis, Cleveland’s navigator. “Besides that, Micronesia has quite a few coral reefs, and as stewards of the environment, we have to make sure that we don’t harm the wildlife and their habitat.”

“The entire Pacific Partnership team is excited to get our mission started in the Federated States of Micronesia,” said Capt. Jesse A. Wilson, Commander, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 23 and mission commander of Pacific Partnership 2011. “The fact that we are arriving in FSM with

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High level U.S. interagency delegation visits the FSM

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

July 1, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—A high level delegation from the United States made a four hour stop in the FSM this afternoon. Kurt Campbell, US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Admiral Patrick M. Walsh, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, Brigadier General Richard L. Simcock, II, Principal Director of the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Asia & Pacific, and Nisha Desai Biswal, U.S. Agency for International Development Assistant (USAID) Assistant Administrator for Asia were the U.S. senior leadership representatives.

The inter-agency visit was part of a six day Pacific Island tour which included Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, and the Freely Associated States: the Republic of Palau, the FSM, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

“It would be hard for us to underscore the excitement that we feel as we embark upon this really, truly unprecedented trip. We are leaving as a joint interagency team representing the three prongs of American commitment – our diplomacy, our defense, and our development efforts...in each one of these stops, we are looking to underscore our strong, strategic, our political, our military, our historical, and indeed our moral commitment to the Asian Pacific region,” Assistant Secretary Campbell said.

His remarks came during a telephone conference with Pacific Island journalists that took place on June 24. Journalists from throughout the Pacific region were invited to join the four representatives for a short press conference related to the trip.



U.S. high level delegation meets with U.S. Army Specialist HB Bermanis who was seriously injured in Iraq in 2003

“Too often when we say Asia-Pacific, it is the second word, Pacific, that gets short shrift, and this mission is an attempt to underscore our enduring deep commitments to the region across a whole host of issues: the welfare of the people that live there, a commitment to education, to people-to-people exchanges, to the pressing challenges of climate change, and indeed the enduring defense and security

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College of FSM to offer Nursing Program



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“Biggest Loser”



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Peaceful protestors told to put their sign away

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

July 4, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—The opening ceremony for the Pacific Partnership at the Pohnpei State Government complex was not marred by protestors but by the handling of those protestors possibly in violation of their right to freedom of speech and their right to peaceful demonstration. Pohnpei State Government appears to have had nothing to do with the way those demonstrators were handled.

The opening ceremony event occurred on the Fourth of July, U.S. Independence day.

A small group of Filipinos brought a melamine board approximately the size of a full sheet of plywood (4 feet by 8 feet) proclaiming that they had been mistreated by a Japanese corporation operating in the FSM. The sign asked for U.S. intervention.

The protest sign was not related to the events of the day but to an ongoing contract dispute between those Filipino workers and Penta Ocean, the company contracted to extend the runway at Pohnpei International Airport.

Before the Pacific Partnership event began the group was apparently told to move the sign out of the way of spectators gathered at a tent assembled at "stage right." The protestors complied and leaned the sign against a light post situated across a complex driveway. The sign was still in full view of the front steps of the Pohnpei Government

Complex which served as a stage for the opening ceremony but it didn't obstruct anyone's view of the ceremony.

Perhaps ten minutes later and still before the ceremony began the protestors picked the sign up and put it into a vehicle.

Weiner Lewis who works for the Micronesia Red Cross Society said that he was the one who told the Filipinos to put the sign away. "It was inappropriate for this event," Lewis said. "They said they wanted to meet with the Governor and I told them that they should just set up an appointment."

Lewis is not a Pohnpei State Government employee but apparently his words and his stature as a Pohnpeian were enough to cause the Filipino's to abandon their protest and to stand idly by for the rest of the ceremony with their sign hidden away.

Lt. Governor Churchill Edward said that Lewis acted on his own volition and was not operating as a mouthpiece of the government. Edward said he saw the sign and later looked around and saw that it was gone.

The workers claim that they were hired for a full year by a recruiter in the Philippines but that when they got to Pohnpei with the barge, Penta Ocean management said that the workers had completed their contract. They paid the workers for more than the time they had served, and made arrangements to send them home. But the workers didn't go saying that they were owed a full year's wages based on the contract they signed in the Philippines. They said they would take nothing less.

Penta Ocean offered to have their attorney depose the workers (to take their testimony on record in order to preserve it) and offered to pay to send them home ostensibly so that they would not continue to rack up expenses while the case was decided. At least one of the crew members accepted that offer, giving testimony before he left that he was never under the impression that the contract he signed in the Philippines was for a full year of service but only until the job was completed. He testified that his impression was that once the barge landed in Pohnpei they had done their job.

The remaining members of the crew continued to stay at the Pacific Skylite Hotel and their meal and hotel bills have only continued to rise. Proprietor Yalmer Helgenberger filed suit against Penta Ocean at the Nett Municipal Court seeking approximately \$70,000 for the Filipino crew's meal and hotel bills along with other forms of relief.

Martin Jano was initially the attorney for the crew members and filed suit on their behalf against Penta Ocean at the Pohnpei State Supreme Court.

The Law Firm of Ramp and Mida, attorneys for Penta Ocean filed a motion saying that the matter was one of maritime law. The Pohnpei State Supreme Court ruled in their favor and the case has now been removed to the FSM Supreme Court. There is no guarantee that the FSM Supreme Court will agree that it has jurisdiction and that court could decide to send the matter back to the State Court

Since Attorney Jano is barred from practicing at the FSM Supreme Court the crew members consulted Micronesia Legal Aid and are now being represented by Salomon Saimon.

Resolution on the matter could take years.

Accrediting Commission places college on probation

The College of Micronesia FSM

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior (ACCJC) placed the College of Micronesia-FSM on probation and required the college to submit a follow-up report by March 15, 2012.

According to ACCJC policies, the accreditation status of the college continues during the probation period.

The decision to issue a sanction to the college was made by the commission during their June 8-10, 2011, meeting where the commissioners reviewed the follow-up report submitted by the college and the report of the team that visited the college on April 11-13, 2011.

The effective date of the probationary period was June 30, 2011, and will continue until the commission reviews the college's March 15, 2012, follow-up report and arrive at another decision.

According to the action letter from ACCJC President, Barbara Beno, probation is issued when the commission finds that an institution deviates significantly from the commission's eligibility requirements, accreditation standards, or policies or fails to respond to conditions imposed upon it by the commission.

The reports by the college, the visiting team and the commission's action letter are available online at <http://www.comfsm.fm/accreditation/archives.html>.

Deadline

Submissions of articles, advertisements, community service items and other items for the next issue of The Kaselehlie Press is:

July 20, 2011



Pohnpei vehicle owners!

If your last name begins with a "K" or an "L" your vehicle registration is due for renewal before the end of July.

The **Kaselehlie Press**

Your Newspaper for Today and Tomorrow

P.O. Box 2222 Pohnpei, FM 96941
 ph:(691) 320-6547
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Bill Jaynes
 Managing Editor

KPress is looking for dedicated correspondents in Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, and Kosrae. We will pay you for articles and collection of ads. Contact us at the numbers or email above.

I want to have a 26 issue subscription sent by First Class Mail to:

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“Biggest Loser” losers still winners

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

July 8, 2011

Palikir, Pohnpei—Norleen Oliver of the FSM’s Department of Health Services said during a ceremony at the Central Building on June 30, that the “Biggest Loser” competition started as a friendly incentive wager between her and a friend about who could lose the most weight. Oliver said that after the birth of her child she was having a difficult time shedding the extra pounds she gained during the pregnancy and that the wager was a demonstration between the two women that they were serious about losing weight for their own health.

The more the two talked about their wager the more it seemed to them that since obesity is a huge problem in the FSM many people besides themselves might benefit from a motivational tool to lose weight and the “Biggest Loser” competition was born. The “competitors” in the Biggest Loser competition paid \$50 each to register and at the end of six months weight and waist loss results were compared and a “winner” in one of two categories was announced. Each prize winner took home \$300 in cash.

There have been two six month rounds of

the competition. Norleen Oliver was the winner in the highest percentage weight loss and Louisa Helgenberger, who said that she shed four inches from her waist line won the competition for largest waist size loss.

The organizers of the competition said that for the next round of competition they are decreasing the registration fee from \$50 to \$10 in order to attract more people to participate.

In order to keep the competition fair for those people who are only slightly overweight the competition measures percentage of body weight loss rather than total pounds lost. For instance, a person who begins the competition weighing 300 pounds would need to lose 30 pounds in order to lose 10% of their body weight while a person who weighs 200 pounds at the beginning of the competition would only need to lose 20 pounds. A person weighing in at 150 pounds would need only to lose 15 pounds.

The participants and other interested individuals listened as DSHS representative made presentations on non-communicable diseases. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are diseases brought on by lifestyle issues such as alcohol and tobacco use, or obesity. NCDs are the biggest cause of death for FSM citizens.

Philippine president sells his Porsche

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine President Benigno Aquino III says he has sold his Porsche because it has become a security risk — and not because of criticism that it was inappropriate for a leader of a poor country.

Critics say the 50-year-old bachelor president's \$102,000 thirdhand sports car is a sign of insensitivity.

Aquino told reporters Tuesday he sold the car for the same price he bought it.

But he said that too much news reports and commentaries about the car have made it "an advertisement that, 'Hey, here I am.'"

He said he felt vulnerable in the Porsche and so he relegated it to the garage where it would just deteriorate. He says, "It was time to let somebody experience it also."



Photo By FSM Information Service

One biggest loser competition winner Norleen Oliver of the FSM’s Department of Health Services and DHS Secretary Vita Skilling

INVITATION TO BID Request for Quotation - Desktop PC's

The Federated States of Micronesia Telecommunications Corporation (FSMTC) is requesting submission of quotations for the procurement of Fifty (50) Business Grade Desktop Computers complete with Monitors, Keyboards and Mice from reputable and qualified suppliers. Responses to this request for quotation will be accepted from both local and international vendors, however where viable, all efforts will be made to award the winning response to a local supplier.

Pick up a copy of the RFQ (Request for Quotation) at your local FSM Telecom office or download a copy from the FSMTC website (www.telecom.fm) for a detailed list of the minimum specifications for the desktop computers subject to procurement. Where an alternate solution has been specified, an explanation of why the alternate was specified is mandatory in the response. Any response that fails to meet the specification or offer no explanation of alternate configurations will be immediately dismissed.

The selection process will take into consideration various aspects, including but not limited to: total cost, delivery, proximity to the specification, warranty and local vendor reputation.

All submissions are to be made directly to the FSMTC ISD Department through the following channels:

Email: thubbard@fsmtc.fm
Post: P.O. Box 1220, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941

The deadline for accepting of submissions will be: close of business on July 2, 2011. Extensions to the deadline can be requested in writing and will be reviewed on a case by case basis. For further information or questions, please contact Tyler Hubbard through the channels detailed herein.

U.S. gives FSM lowest rating in trafficking in persons report

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

June 27, 2011

Washington D.C.—The 2011 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report conducted by the U.S. State Department downgraded the Federated States of Micronesia from the Tier 2 Watchlist to the Tier 3 list, the worst possible rating of a country's efforts in the fight against Human Trafficking. A country ranked at Tier 3 in the report "face restrictions on non-humanitarian, nontrade-related assistance from the United States, and in certain cases, restrictions on funding for participation of government officials and employees in education and cultural exchanges."

The FSM debuted on the annual TIP report in 2009 and was at that time placed on the Tier 2 Watchlist for activities in 2008. The FSM government did not heed warnings and made no substantive changes in its policies or laws regarding the international problem of human trafficking. Lacking any progress, in 2010 the FSM was again placed on the Tier 2 Watchlist. In the absence of a waiver, countries that have appeared on the Tier 2 Watchlist for two or more years are automatically downgraded on the third year during which no progress on Human Trafficking policy, law, or enforcement was made.

Waivers were granted to 13 countries that had appeared on the Tier 2 Watchlist for two or more consecutive years prior to the 2011 report. Waivers can be granted if 1) the country has a written plan that, if implemented, would constitute making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with the TVPA's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, and 2) is devoting sufficient resources to implement that plan.

"No tier ranking is permanent," the report said. "Each and every country can do more, including the United States. All countries must maintain and increase efforts to combat trafficking."

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) defines human trafficking as:

- a. Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- b. the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

A victim need not be physically transported from one location to another in order for the crime to fall within these definitions.

Countries evaluated as belonging to the tier 3 category are countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards of the TVPA and are not making significant efforts to do so.

"Little data on the scope of human trafficking in FSM is available, as the government has not conducted any inquiries, investigations, studies, or surveys on human trafficking," the report said. It was this "lack of effort" factor more than any other that caused the FSM to be downgraded to the worst possible rating on the TIP report.

"During the year, the government did not investigate or prosecute any trafficking cases, made no efforts to identify or assist victims of trafficking, and failed to make efforts to prevent trafficking or increase the general public's awareness of trafficking during the year," the report reiterated.

It wasn't that the FSM had nothing to investigate, they either simply failed to do so or didn't report on their efforts.

In the case of the human trafficking and prostitution conviction in Guam earlier this year of Korean national Song Wa Cha, young girls, some of them under the age of 18 were lured to Guam with the promise of a good job in a store or a restaurant. When the girls arrived their passports were confiscated, their phone calls were monitored; they were beaten, starved and ultimately forced into prostitution.

The FSM started an investigation that might have led to criminal prosecution of the male FSM citizen who allegedly served as a recruiter for Song Wa Cha but that investigation fizzled out. No one in any FSM law enforcement agency picked up the prosecutorial ball after former Assistant Attorney General Kembo Mida resigned from the FSM Department of Justice or after former National Police Chief Pius Chotailug passed away.

That Guam conviction was mentioned in the TIP report.

The TIP report said that the Pohnpei State Police department received reports that FSM women and children were prostituted to crew members on Asian fishing vessels in Micronesia inside the FSM's territorial waters. The report did not say that the fact that police received reports necessarily means that the women were victims of Human Trafficking rather than just willing and opportunistic prostitutes taking advantage of a chance to make a few dollars from lonely visiting fishermen.

Prostitution is already illegal in the FSM but prostitution is not Human Trafficking. Human Trafficking can involve prostitution and because it so often does human trafficking is often

confused with prostitution and vice versa. They are different crimes that can sometimes be linked.

Prostitution is the selling of sexual acts. Human Trafficking involves coercion by force, intimidation, debt bondage, or any other way a person might exert their will over another individual that leads the victim to feel that they have no choice but to do what they would not otherwise do; to submit to involuntary servitude.

The TIP report essentially said that the reported transport of women and girls to fishing vessels for the purposes of prostitution could be more than just the offer of a ride to a person intent on breaking prostitution laws but could be human trafficking.

The TIP report had several recommendations for the FSM:

- A. Publicly recognize and condemn incidences of trafficking;
 - a. For example, senior government officials can speak out publicly against trafficking crimes and the government's efforts to combat human trafficking.
- B. Draft and enact a comprehensive anti-trafficking law applicable in all four states;
- C. Conduct anti-trafficking public awareness campaigns;
 - a. For example, produce and launch a campaign to disseminate information on criminal punishments for human trafficking, as well as distribute information in places of prostitution to alert clients that women in the sex trade may be nonconsensual victims.
- D. Monitor the practices of overseas employment recruiters, and investigate and prosecute recruiters who may be engaged in fraudulent recruitment that leads to trafficking.
 - a. The Compact of Free Association (Amended) already requires the establishment of a registration system for overseas labor recruiters.
- E. Make efforts to criminally investigate, prosecute, and punish trafficking offenders;
 - a. Evidence of serious and sustained efforts to prosecute and punish sex and labor trafficking offenders will be a critical indicator of progress for the 2012 TIP Report.
- F. Adopt proactive procedures for the proactive identification of trafficking victims among vulnerable populations, such as foreign workers in the FSM, such as those on fishing boats, women in prostitution, and potential migrants to the U.S.;
 - a. A minimum sufficient victim identification procedure would include the use of social workers and/or other professionals trained specifically in victim identification to interview those in vulnerable groups for evidence of trafficking. Victims should not be expected to self-identify due to shame or fear of retribution from their traffickers or punishment by the government, thus the need for trained personnel to interview potential victims.
- G. Train officials on human trafficking and how to identify and assist trafficking victims;
 - a. Effective identification of victims is key to a strong victim protection effort. From our experience, victims are often reluctant to step forward and sometimes are not fully aware that conditions they experienced amount to human trafficking. Ensure officials and all front-line responders who are in contact with women and girls in prostitution and migrant workers employ systematic, standardized procedures to assist them in detecting indicators of trafficking.
 - b. Victims should receive appropriate protection services, including counseling, medical, and other appropriate rehabilitation assistance, regardless of their immigration status.
- H. Conduct anti-trafficking public awareness campaigns;
 - a. For example, produce and launch a campaign to disseminate information on criminal punishments for human trafficking, as well as distribute information in places of prostitution to alert clients that women in the sex trade may be nonconsensual victims.
- I. Make efforts to notify foreign workers of their rights, protections, and ways they can report abuse.

"The Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report is the U.S. Government's principal diplomatic tool to engage foreign governments on human trafficking. It is also the world's most comprehensive resource of governmental anti-human trafficking efforts and reflects the U.S. Government's commitment to global leadership on this key human rights and law enforcement issue. It represents an updated, global look at the nature and scope of trafficking in persons and the broad range of government actions to confront and eliminate it. The U.S. Government uses the TIP Report to engage foreign governments in dialogues to advance anti-trafficking reforms and to combat trafficking and to target resources on prevention, protection and prosecution programs. Worldwide, the report is used by international organizations, foreign governments, and nongovernmental organizations alike as a tool to examine where resources are most needed. Freeing victims, preventing trafficking, and bringing traffickers to justice are the ultimate goals of the report and of the U.S. Government's anti-human trafficking policy."

U.S. Embassies around the world submitted the information for the reports including in the FSM.

Including the FSM 23 countries were placed on the lowest tier ranking. They were Algeria, Burma, Central African Republic, Congo (DRC), Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Iran, North Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Papua New Guinea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Turkmenistan, Venezuela, Yemen, and Zimbabwe. Afghanistan and Iraq were both placed on the Tier 2 Watch List.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands was evaluated for the first time and was placed on the Tier 2 list. Palau was also placed on the tier 2 list as were Fiji, Timor-Leste and Tonga. Kiribati was placed on the tier 2 watch list. Most other Pacific Island nations were not evaluated.

According to a press release by the U.S. Embassy in the FSM Speaker Isaac Figir and President Manny Mori both verbally committed to developing and instituting laws to protect against human trafficking in the FSM during the current session of the FSM Congress. Their commitments came during a meeting with Dr. Kurt Campbell, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs in Palikir on July 1, 2011.

Special Election 2011 Results: State of Chuuk and State of Kosrae

FSM Information Services
July 05, 2011

Chuuk State Results

	CANDIDATE	ED#1	ED#2	ED#3	ED#4	ED#5	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
1 -	Ben Enlet	596	456	781	1,798	299	3,930	21%
2 -	Joe Suka	473	406	881	223	85	2,068	11%
3 -	Mark Mailo	436	1,837	837	296	119	3,525	19%
4 -	Setiro Paul	434	369	916	1,903	917	4,539	24%
5 -	Wesly Simina	1,615	600	908	1,369	382	4,874	26%
TOTAL VOTES CAST		3,554	3,668	4,323	5,589	1,802	18,936	100%

The above tables of election results were issued by the FSM National Election Office in Pohnpei on July 4, 2011.

According to Mr. Emilio Eperiam, National Election Office Assistant Director, the Kosrae results have been certified by the Kosrae Election Commissioner. The Chuuk results have not been certified, pending counting of Honolulu mail ballots as of the morning of July 5, 2011.

Assistant Director Eperiam further added that the National Election Director will certify all results

	1%	3%	27%	26%	11%	0%	32%
Kosrae State Results	C. Phillip	F. Skilling	R. Sigrav	R. Andrew	R. Weibacher	William T.	Y. George
TOTAL----->	17	83	885	838	367	15	1049
Lelu	3	26	302	23	82	3	64
Tofol	3	20	207	39	52	0	64
Malem	5	8	88	63	25	1	373
Tafunsak	5	18	199	213	152	4	176
Walung	0	1	11	34	5	2	7
Utwe	0	6	33	370	19	0	76
Hon. SPP0	3	11	27	16	5	134	
Guam SPP	0	0	9	54	5	0	91
Pohnpei SPP	1	1	17	8	6	0	56
Mail							
Travel Vote	0	0	8	7	5	0	8

after final confirmation is obtained from the State offices.

As of today, Mr. Wesly Simina and Mr. Yosiwo George are deemed the winners from Chuuk and Kosrae respectively.

For more information, please contact the FSM National Election Office at 320-7805.

FSM students visiting Japan

TOKYO, Japan (FSM Embassy News) — The FSM students met the former Prime Minister, Yoshiro Mori, on their visit to the diet building. Asked by the former Prime Minister if any of them intended to become President of their country, the students avidly raised their hands. Former Prime Minister Mori welcomed the students and assured the delegation of Japan's continual support for the program.

Since its inception in 2001, the National Institute for Youth Education has been conducting student exchange programs with the Micronesian

Countries and has this year marked its 10th Anniversary. This year 39 students and 8 chaperons from our four states participated in the exchange.

The students, ranging from 9 to 14 years of age, arrived in Japan on the 18th of June and departed 1st of July, 2011. Except for their excursion trips, the group was lodging at the National Olympics Memorial Youth Center located in central Tokyo.

"We went to many places" commented one student, and that was no understatement. On their

itinerary were tours to the National Diet Building and a visit to the Tokyo Tower among many others. As a young lady from the Yap delegation remarked, "the only thing I had trouble with... was the fast pace and early starts".

On the 23rd of June, they visited Shoto Junior High School in Shibuya Ward of Tokyo where they took part in cultural exchange and other programs. Aside from interacting with their Japanese peers, the students engaged in sports activities among themselves as well as with students from our neighboring countries of the Republic of Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Through these activities, the students

were able to forge domestic and international bonds of friendship. As a representative from Yap commented "the friendship formed among Micronesians and Japanese is strong."

The students also visited Nagano Prefecture, famous for its highlands located in the center of the Honshu Island, via the bullet train on the 24th to 26th of June. The students took a cable car ride to Kumagatake where they enjoyed snow, for some, a first time experience. "We did so many things, like touch the snow!" remarked a young lady from Kosrae.

At Nagano, the students also took part in youth exchange and home stay programs. The trip to Nagano proved to be a memorable event as a young lady from Kosrae noted, "we really liked our trip.. , and we already miss our host family..."

The group returned to Tokyo on the 27th of June. On the same day they attended a farewell reception with representatives from the Japanese Government and from the three Embassies of Micronesian Countries. All island groups entertained one another with speeches, songs, and dances.

Reflecting on their visit, a young lady from Chuuk remarked "I really think the 10 days experience (has) strengthen our friendship." It was not surprising to find that she was not the only one who felt the sentiment. "I have mixed feelings, I am happy to go home but am sad to leave all (my) friends..." commented a young man from Yap.

Although most of our student groups left Japan on the 28th of June, due to the limited flight availability to our State of Kosrae, the Kosrae delegation stayed for extra days in Tokyo where they participated in further activities, including a visit to the embassy.

Although this program has been ongoing for a decade, this was the first time that students visited the embassy. The Kosrae delegation was welcomed by Ambassador Fritz and the whole embassy staff. The Ambassador gave a short briefing on activities as well as roles and responsibilities the mission is undertaking and urged the students to excel in their school work, "as one day, you might be here in this position".

The National Institute for Youth Education also sends Japanese students of similar age group to our country on an annual basis. This year in July, Chuuk State will be hosting the Japanese student delegation visiting FSM.



The Secretariat seeks a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the position of **Export Promotions Officer**. The officer will be accountable to the Director of the Economic Governance Programme.

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat



This position will be responsible to the Trade Commissioner of Pacific Islands Trade and Invest based in Auckland, New Zealand for:

- Developing and executing business strategies with the objectives of identifying and sourcing viable export capable and ready clients, and the establishment and management of close professional relationships with the Pacific and New Zealand private sector;
- Identify, develop and maintain strategic partnerships with relevant Government, private sector agencies and/or non-Government organizations in Pacific island countries and New Zealand; &
- Develop promotional material and other PT&I documents.

Applicants should have a University degree in public policy, politics, environment, economics or a related discipline with at least 5 years relevant work experience dealing with climate change or environment policy in the Pacific Island Countries or in a similar environment. Applicants with experience working in an export promotion agency and with New Zealand enterprises, particularly in export promotion or facilitation. Applications should have the ability to work alone with other professionals with minimal direction and supervision is essential. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary will be in the range of **SDR 22,754 to SDR 34,131** per annum. At the 1 June 2011 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to **FJD64,114 to FJD96,171**. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at **www.forumsec.org**. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country, a national of an European Union Member Country, or a national of an Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Member country.*

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Private Mail Bag, Suva and can be sent electronically to **jobs@forumsec.org.fj**. Applications should be received by close of business on **Friday 29 July, 2011**.

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages both men and women to apply.

*Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Pacific Partnership medical services begin at Nanpei Memorial School

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

July 7, 2011

Kitti, Pohnpei—Pacific Partnership medical missions kicked off in full force today at Nanpei Memorial School with a wide variety of free out-patient, non-surgical services.

Commander Kay Hewitt, PP11 Officer in Charge of the Nanpei medical site whose home base is in Bremerton, Washington said that the Nanpei Memorial School site is ideally suited to the kind of operation the Pacific Partnership was running. "It has a cool breeze, and the traffic flow is just perfect," she said. "We've definitely dealt with much worse."

She said that it would have been nice to have power at the school but strictly speaking they didn't need it.

Pohnpei Utility Company which seems to be having great difficulties as of late but is not talking much about it scheduled a daily power outage for the area from 8:00 in the morning until 12:00 noon.

Pohnpei residents could take advantage of the free medical services offered by the multi-national team which included optometric (corrective vision aids) and dental services, adult health care and pediatric care (medical care for children.) The facility also had a pharmacy stocked to meet anticipated medicinal needs.

As in any operation there are glitches and break downs in communication but when Cmdr. Hewitt gave us a tour at 10:00, one hour after services began, none of those glitches were evident and the program was working

like a well oiled machine at least from an outsider's point of view.

But that view was also the view of some the patients to whom we spoke. We asked one Kitti resident who was next in line to see an optometrist if he had been waiting long, "Not at all," he said. "It's really good!"

Other patients echoed his enthusiasm at the efficiency of the operation and the excellent treatment they had received.

One of the glitches involved an advance communication that "most Pohnpeians" speak English which is not necessarily true in Kitti. Local interpreters were brought in to help solve the problem. Since the Pohnpeian language sometimes lacks words that are easily translated into English to describe symptoms from which a patient might be suffering the translation process was quite slow.

Another unanticipated "glitch" was that the Pohnpei Department of Health Services requested that they be given a copy of the medical record of each patient's visit for filing at the Pohnpei State Hospital. That record, which is confidential, will be filed at the hospital in the event that Pohnpei doctors need to treat a patient seen by the Pacific Partnership team in the future.

What the requirement meant for the Pacific Partnership team was that instead of recording each patient transaction on a handheld electronic device as they otherwise would have done they had to fill out an NCR (no carbon required) form by hand which takes longer than doing it on the electronic device and slows down the process. Also, electronic records are immediately entered into a database for the Pacific Partnership while hand written records will need to

See "Nanpei" on next page



The Secretariat seeks a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the position of
Climate Change Coordination Officer.

The officer will be accountable to the Director of the Strategic Partnerships & Coordination.

This position will be responsible to the Regional and International Issues Adviser for:

- Respond quickly and effectively to requests from FICs and Forum Secretariat Senior Management for the provision of advice, correspondence, briefings, media statements and reporting;
- Coordinate and organize meetings, workshops and training seminars including preparation of meeting and workshop papers and materials;
- Provide services and technical advice, either directly or through consultants, development partners or other counterparts;
- Monitor and report on mandates from Leaders, Economic Ministers, Environment Ministers and other relevant Ministers, and on frameworks including the EU-Pacific Joint Initiative in Climate Change; and
- Develop and deliver work programs and budgets, and prepare periodic reports according to requirements.

Applicants should have a University degree in public policy, politics, environment, economics or a related discipline with at least 5 years relevant work experience dealing with climate change or environment policy in the Pacific Island Countries or in a similar environment. Applicants with working experience to focus upon contemporary climate change issues within the region, including an understanding of broader development and sectoral issues (eg. economics, gender, and social issues) would be desirable. Applications should have the ability to work alone with other professionals with minimal direction and supervision. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance The salary will be in the range of **SDR 22,754 to SDR 34,131** per annum. At the 1 June 2011 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to **FJD64,114 to FJD96,171**. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at www.forumsec.org. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country, a national of an European Union Member Country, or a national of an Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Member country.*

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Private Mail Bag, Suva and can be sent electronically to jobs@forumsec.org.fj. Applications should be received by close of business on **Friday 29 July, 2011**.

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages both men and women to apply.

**Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.*

Pacific Islands
Forum Secretariat





...Nanpei

Continued from previous page

be entered by hand into a computer at a later date.

When asked if the Nanpei medical site team would have statistics on the types of illnesses treated by the time the Pacific Partnership team is scheduled to leave the FSM on the 14th, Cmdr. Hewitt said, "No way. We'll be able to tell you how many people we served and general statistics but it will be a while before we will be able to get the records into the system."

She said that because the USS Cleveland will be underway outside Pohnpei's reef for the duration of the mission, the team had to leave the ship at 4:00 in the morning in order to be ready to start serving patients by 9:00 in the morning. The team doesn't get back to the U.S.S. Cleveland until after 8:00 in the evening, "just in time to hopefully get a quick shower and fall into bed," Cmdr. Hewitt said.

Yet another "glitch" concerned a scheduled performance of the Pacific Fleet band that was to have happened at 10:00 in the morning. As the Kaselehlie Press topped the hill in Palikir we saw band members offloading anvil cases full of musical gear at a local store. On arrival at Nanpei Memorial School we were told that the covered truck the band had rented had overheated on the way up the hill and their performance was delayed while they made other arrangements.

The team had initially intended to do triage (a process for sorting patients into groups based on the urgency of their medical needs) inside the waiting room which was located inside the

Nanpei Memorial School cafeteria. Ultimately that process was relocated to a tent situated between the Elementary School and the High School.

After patients entered the waiting room, intake officials, sometimes with the help of translators took a patient's medical information and then referred them on to the proper room in the facility where they could be treated. The pharmacy is the last stop and patients carried their own medical record with them from station to station.

Specialists in back pain were on hand inside the waiting room to help people who suffering from those kinds of symptoms and to give information on back pain problems.

Dental patients were referred directly from triage to the waiting room for dental services. Dentists performed extractions and offered dental information. No cleaning or filling services were available.

An advance planner said that the second day of service at Nanpei Memorial School served far more people than the first day after word of mouth after the first day. He said that even with more people the efficiency and service was still top notch in his estimation.

The Pacific Partnership team will be at Nanpei Memorial School until July 9, two days before this newspaper is published. Another medical team will bring their smiles, expertise, and efficiency to Lukop Elementary School in Madolenihmw from the July 11 to 13. Yet another team will serve Pohnpei medical needs at the Pohnpei State Hospital from July 12 to 13.

The U.S.S. Cleveland is scheduled to leave Pohnpei on July 14.

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Churchill B. Edward

For Governor, Pohnpei - 2011

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Audit says Chuuk's non-insured patient medical referral program mismanaged

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

July 1, 2011

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM—In both human and fiscal terms one would be hard pressed to find a more heart wrenching and difficult program to administer than the Chuuk State Off-Island Medical Referral Program for Non-Insured Patients (NIP Program). The sheer number Chuuk's citizens without medical insurance is staggering. Of Chuuk's 53,000 people nearly, approximately 39,000 people have no medical insurance, 75 percent of the population.

In human terms how does one go about telling the family members of a patient without insurance that their loved one's cancer or other illness is incurable and that they are not eligible for the program; that they are going to die? Without proper equipment how would doctors even begin to make that kind of determination?

What does one say to family members of an uninsured patient who could be cured with proper off island treatment when there is no money due to mismanagement?

The recently released Audit of the NIP Program conducted by the Office of the National Public Auditor does not answer those questions. It did acknowledge that those human issues make the program difficult to administer but those difficulties were exacerbated (made even more severe) by the fact that the program has been mismanaged since its inception in 2007.

The NIP program was set up to provide for off island treatment for Chuuk's citizens who needed it but who had no money and no insurance to pay

for medical treatments that could save their lives. It was established by the Chuuk State Department of Health Services (DHS) and funded by a U.S. Sector grant in 2007. The budget for 2007 was \$200,000. In 2008 and 2009 the annual budgets for NIP were increased to \$300,000, and in fiscal year 2010 increased to \$400,000 for a cumulative total of \$1.2 million by the end of the 2010 fiscal year.

Since its existence the program has funded 48 patients for off island medical treatment.

DHS entered into an agreement with a third party administrator (TPA) to facilitate and manage medical services in the Philippines to the patients referred for treatment there. The program guidelines designated the Philippines as the only place to which uninsured Chuuk patients could be referred. \$250,000 was advanced for the TPA to draw from when reimbursements of medical cost were slow.

Under the NIP program names of patients who are potential beneficiaries are submitted to DHS by local physicians. The cases requested are reviewed by the NIP program medical referral committee. If the patient is approved for coverage they receive medical benefits in the Philippines and travel benefits plus a stipend, for the patient plus an accompanying escort who is usually a family member.

The DHS Director and Assistant Director, along with three physicians sit on the referral committee.

Auditors say that of the \$1.2 million dollars the flowed through the program over the course of four years, expenditures of \$415,578, approximately

35% may not have been in compliance with the program's own regulations.

It said that of the 48 patients funded from the program:

- \$62,589 was expended on just seven patients, of which \$122,589 exceed the per patient program limit. Furthermore, \$174,000 of the total \$262,589 was expended for just five of the seven patients who were treated for conditions specifically excluded by the NIP program; three of the five patients treated for excluded condition died shortly after their return to Chuuk.
- \$68,148 was expended on four patients with medical insurance who were therefore not eligible.
- \$26,168 was expended for travel to Hawaii in violation of the Sector Grant.
- \$58,668 was expended in overcharges and unsupported charges. These include physician fees not supported by receipts, payment of service fees to the TPA beyond the maximum allowed. It said that 70% of TPA submitted vouchers lacked documentary support. The audit said that the TPA overpaid stipends to patients, and paid irregular fees; for example, the program paid for refundable room deposits and the refunds did not return to the program.
- The \$250,000 advance to the TPA is largely at risk of loss since DHS did not retain control of the account and significant amounts of claims are now disputed between the TPA and DHS.

The NIP program requires patient beneficiaries who have the financial wherewithal to do so to share in the cost of treatment. DHS did not implement that requirement.

DHS failed to monitor and did not approve treatment for problems diagnosed while patients were at the off-island hospitals resulting in significant charges for medical treatments that were entirely different from the condition approved by DHS.

The audit did not make a judgment about whether or not the unauthorized treatments were medically necessary. They said only that before the extra treatments were delivered at the off island hospital the medically qualified referral committee should have reviewed the recommended additional treatment to determine whether those treatments should also be funded.

"The audit recognizes the limited local capability in Chuuk to properly diagnose patient medical problems but also reported that DHS did not have a procedure to review and approve or not approve for problems diagnosed at off-island hospitals."

The audit also said that NIP program regulations and guidelines were not shared with those departments and offices that needed to be aware of them. As example, the Chuuk Funds Control Commission (CFCC) had never received a copy of the NIP program requirements, something that has now been remedied. As a result, CFCC did not use those regulations for compliance purposes and authorized the expenditure of \$14,153 for nine airfares for patient treatment in Hawaii. CFCC had been unaware that the NIP program specifically requires that off-island treatment occur in Hawaii.

The program allows for a maximum expenditure of \$20,000 per patient but overspent that amount by as much as \$41,352 for one patients and \$122,589 for seven of the programs total of 48 referred patients. Six more uninsured Chuukese citizens in need of critical off-island referral could have been funded for treatment with the overspent amount.

The complete 31 page audit and management responses can be found online at www.fsmopa.fm.

The Secretariat seeks a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the position of
Trade Policy Officer (WTO).

The officer will be accountable to the Director of the Economic Governance Programme.

This position will be responsible to the Permanent Representative (WTO) and based in Geneva for:

- Respond quickly and effectively to requests from the Permanent Representative, FICs and Forum Secretariat Senior Management for the provision of advice, correspondence, briefings, media statements and reporting on issues related to WTO negotiations;
- Coordinate and organize attendance and representation at meetings, workshops and training seminars on issues related to WTO negotiations and EU engagement, including preparation of meeting and workshop papers and briefings;
- Provide services and technical advice, either directly or through consultants, development partners or other counterparts;
- Develop and deliver periodic reports according to requirements; and
- Support engagement with relevant EU-based organizations and stakeholders, particularly the ACP Secretariat and EU-based Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives.

Applicants should have a University degree in economics, finance or international trade with at least 5 years relevant work experience dealing with trade and economic research and policy in the Pacific Island Countries or in a similar environment. Applicants must have experience working in a Pacific island policy agency and experience on Pacific island country trade negotiations. Experience working in a regional or international environment would be desirable. Applications should have the ability to work alone with other professionals with minimal direction and supervision and the ability to meet tight deadlines is essential. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary will be in the range of **SDR 22,754 to SDR 34,131** per annum. At the 1 June 2011 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to **FJD64,114 to FJD96,171**. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at www.forumsec.org. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country, a national of an European Union Member Country, or a national of an Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Member country.*

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College to offer new nursing program at National Campus

The College of Micronesia FSM

The College of Micronesia-FSM will begin offering its own nursing program beginning fall 2011, in response to the shortage of nursing personnel throughout the FSM health care system.

The FSM has been sending nursing students to the College of the Marshall Islands for many years. For the first time, COM-FSM has developed its own nursing program in response to this need. Currently, the college is equipped to offer the program at its National Campus. The multi-entry, multi-exit program educates students for work as nursing assistants (NA certificates), practical nurses (PN certificate), or graduate nurses (associate of science degree RN). Graduates of the PN and RN programs must also apply to the FSM Board of Nursing for licensure. Nursing assistant courses begin August 15. Practical nurse courses will begin spring semester, January 2012, and RN level

courses in August 2012. The extension of the program to the other campuses is in the planning stages.

Students interested in a nursing career may begin college coursework on any COM-FSM campus following the general admission procedures. Acceptance into the nursing program includes pre-requisite courses and other requirements. Contact the COM-FSM AHEC offices for more information. The newly appointed Nursing Program Director is Kathy Benjamin, RN, MPH, who formerly was the Director of Nursing at Pohnpei Community Hospital. She and AHEC assistants Silverina Pretrick (National Campus), Yvonne Pangelinan (Chuuk Campus), Rosalyn Reynold (Kosrae Campus), Counselor Cindy Edwin (Pohnpei Campus) and Student Services (Yap Campus) can provide information about the various levels of nursing programs offered.



Nursing Program Director, Kathy Benjamin, RN, MPH, shows visiting Pohnpei 7th grade students from the Xavier sponsored Higher Achievement Program how to use a stethoscope to listen for heartbeats

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A year has passed since our loved one was called to his eternal rest. Join us on July 15, 2011 at 5:00 PM at the Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church to remember and honor him in prayer.



Bernard Thoulag

March 27, 1951- July 07, 2010

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

2 Timothy 4:7

...U.S. Delegation

Continued from front page

challenges of unlawful fishing and other challenges that plague the region as a whole," Assistant Secretary Campbell continued.

The Kaselehlie Press asked the first question of the press conference:

"I read an interesting quote from a speech given by Secretary Clinton in early March. She said in her speech in front of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, 'The Pacific is the West's to lose, and we've been doing a good job of it. It is up to us to say 'no more.' I'm just wondering, does this trip that's occurring or will occur very shortly, does this have to do with a new realization of a U.S. policy in the Pacific or this is a reiteration of an old policy? And are things going to be changing in terms of U.S.-Pacific relationships?"

Assistant Secretary Campbell responded quickly, "Well, thank you very much, and I think it's an important question. Let me just simply say that the United States has never left the Pacific. We've been engaged actively there for decades, and we will continue to do so as General Simcock has indicated going forward. It is also the case that we welcome the involvement and engagement of other nations in the Pacific, particularly when we can work together in joint endeavors that involve transparency, and that at their core are about improving the lives of the people of the Pacific. And so that's one of the reasons why we're very much looking forward to discussions with our Chinese friends in Hawaii over the course of the next several days to underscore our goals in the Pacific and our desire to find

arenas in which we can work together.

"And so I think our overall determination here is that the United States does want to step up its game generally in the Asia-Pacific region given that we all, I think, recognize that much of the history of the 21st century will be written out – written in this key arena.

"And we believe that it is important that the United States as a resident power and a deeply engaged economic player demonstrate on a regular basis our commitment to play a strong and enduring role – not just in Asia, but as I said earlier, in the Pacific as well."

(The complete transcript of the press conference can be found on line at www.state.gov/p/eap/rls/rm/2011/06/167388.htm)

U.S. Embassy officials say that upon arrival in the FSM, the U.S. delegation traveled to Palikir for a call on FSM President Manny Mori, member of the Executive Cabinet, and other senior government officials.

Afterward the delegation called upon Congress Speaker Isaac Figir, Vice Speaker Berney Martin, and Senator Dohsis Halbert.

Discussion with the F.S.M. National government highlighted the strong U.S.-F.S.M. relationship, especially the close defense and security relationship under Title III of the Compact of Free Association. Assistant Secretary Campbell thanked F.S.M. national leadership for the longstanding bi-lateral cooperation, reinforcing the U.S. commitment to the 3-D engagement with the F.S.M. through the Compact relationship and beyond.

Assistant Secretary Campbell cautioned F.S.M. on the potential impact of the F.S.M.'s Tier 3 ranking in the 2011 Trafficking-In-

Persons Report. He warned that a failure to improve this ranking could limit the F.S.M.'s access to certain U.S. Government programs and funding. Both President Mori and Speaker Figir promised to move this session on anti-trafficking legislation. A/S Campbell welcomed this commitment and noted that full implementation and enforcement of any new legal framework would be equally important. The delegation further conferred about F.S.M. migration and Compact Impact in Hawaii and Guam and other parts of the U.S. In addition, Compact implementation, maritime security, climate change adaptation, and the new USAID Pacific Headquarters in Papua New Guinea were discussed. Admiral Walsh and Brigadier General Simcock expressed the expectation of a successful Pacific Partnership 2011 program in the F.S.M. and especially thanked F.S.M. leadership for the service of its citizens in the U.S. military. Additionally, Assistant Secretary Campbell looked forward to follow up at the Pacific Island Forum in Auckland in September, and promised to make this U.S. high-level Pacific Island Tour an annual event, including other U.S. government agencies.

In route to Kolonia, USAID Assistant Administrator Biswal visited the USAID disaster storage warehouse in Sokehs. As the lead U.S. agency providing disaster relief and reconstruction to the F.S.M., USAID stockpiles crisis response supplies for timely access. Additionally, the U.S. delegation viewed the newly-constructed Kolonia Elementary School. Completed last year, the Kolonia Elementary School was part of a three school, 4.5 million dollar Infrastructure Sector Grant under the Amended Compact.

Following the school visit, Campbell and his delegation were received by Pohnpei State Governor John Ehsa and Director of Health Services Dr. Elizabeth Keller at the Pohnpei State Public Hospital. Assistant Secretary Campbell, joined by Assistant Administrator Biswal, held a roundtable discussion with environmental non-government organization leaders from Micronesia Conservation Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Conservation Society of Pohnpei, and the Island Food Community of Pohnpei. The conversation highlighted NGO efforts to promote conservation at the local and regional levels, challenges faced by low-lying remote atolls, and tools and support available for effective conservation efforts.

Admiral Patrick Walsh and Brigadier General Simcock met with the advance team for the Pacific Partnership and toured Ohmine Elementary School, one of the sites slated for construction work next week when the USS Cleveland arrives.

Following these meetings, the entire U.S. delegation traveled to Pohnpei International Airport, where they met F.S.M. citizen U.S. Army Specialist HB Bermanis, who was injured while serving in Iraq in 2003.

The U.S. Embassy arranged for The Kaselehlie Press to briefly follow up with Assistant Secretary Campbell at the airport just before the entourage departed for the Marshall Islands. We asked Dr. Campbell whether or not there was any possibility that financial arrangements under the Compact of Free Association might be extended past 2023.

He shook his head and said that he couldn't answer that question, that there is currently no plan for the possibility of extending financial arrangements past 2023. "I can tell you that I am personally concerned that the FSM is not on track for sustainability within the next ten years," he said.

We asked him if there were any plans to bring Compact of Free Association relations between

the United States and the FSM under the direction of the State Department as opposed to the Department of the Interior.

"That would be impossible," he said. "It's just too complex. I can say that the State Department will continue to be fully engaged in the Pacific region including with the FSM."

Kurt Campbell became the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs in June 2009. Dr. Campbell has served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asia and the Pacific, a Director on the National Security Council Staff, Deputy Special Counselor to the President for NAFTA in the White House, and White House fellow at the Department of the Treasury.

Admiral Patrick Walsh is the 32nd Navy officer to command PACFLT since its establishment in February 1941. With headquarters at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, PACFLT is the world's largest fleet command, encompassing 100 million square miles and consisting of approximately 180 ships, nearly 2,000 aircraft and 125,000 Sailors, Marines and Civilians.

Brigadier General Simcock serves in Office of the Secretary of Defense, Asia and Pacific Affairs as the Principal Director, South and South East Asia. Previously, Simcock served as the Legislative Assistant to the Commandant at Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps.

Nisha Desai Biswal was sworn in as USAID's Assistant Administrator for Asia on September 20, 2010. Prior to her appointment, Biswal served as the Majority Clerk for the State Department and Foreign Operations Subcommittee on the Committee on Appropriations in the U.S. House of Representatives.



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Seven Congressional Acts signed into law by President Mori

FSM Information Services

July 05, 2011

President Manny Mori on June 29 and 30, 2011 signed seven Congressional Acts into law. Congressional Act No. 17-02 has become Public Law No. 17-02. This legislation further amends Title 2, Section 201 of the FSM Code, requiring Congressional action on Presidential nominations to occur within two consecutive sessions or 30 days after nominations' submission to Congress, whichever occurs later. Nominations not confirm within the specified period of time will be deemed rejected by Congress. The amending bill was introduced by Senator Joseph J. Urusemal.

Congressional Act No. 17-08 has become Public Law No. 17-03. This law amends Title 21, Chapter 2, Section 208 "Tax Liability" of the FSM Code. This amendment renders FSM Telecommunication Corporation (FSMTC) subject to taxation under gross revenue tax – GRT. The amending bill, which failed to pass the last session of the Sixteen Congress, was jointly introduced by Senator Tony H. Otto and Senator Bonsiano F. Nethon.

Congressional Act No. 17-06 has become Public Law No. 17-07. It is an amendment to Section 8 of Public Law No. 15-11, which has an unexpended portion for "Grants, Subsidies and Contributions" in fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. As attested to by the Department of Finance, funds available therein can be tapped until fully expended. This amendment allows for the purchase of a school bus, sporting facility upgrade, and procurement of school supplies in Pohnpei State. The bill was introduced by Senator David W. Panuelo.

Congressional Act numbers 17-03, 17-04, 17-05, and 17-07 propose various changes to appropriations from the Sixteen Congress for economic projects and social programs in all the four States in FSM. These changes merely redistribute existing amounts from one project or program to another. No additional funds are incurred.

For CA No. 17-04, (PL No. 17-04), President Mori expressed his appreciation to Congress for putting in place an "appropriate modification" to make "appropriation and implementation process more fair and transparent".

The President remains concerned that repeated amendments to public projects and programs "could be taken as uncertainty and flaw" on the part of planners and leaders.

For detail information, please contact Department of Finance at 320-2640, Office of SBOC at 320-6260, or the Information Office at 320-2548 or www.fsmpio.fm.

Ambassador Van Der Goot to make farewell visit to the FSM

FSM Office of SBOC

On July 23, 2011 Ambassador Wiepke Van Der Goot accompanied by the Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific intends to visit the Federated States of Micronesia to personally say farewell to FSM National and State Leaders. The Ambassador will officially complete his tour of duty as Head of Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific in August 2011.

The Ambassador will be accompanied by his wife Mrs. Ida Van Der Goot and Mr. Malcolm Ponton, Programme Manager. The Delegation is slated to arrive in Kosrae July 23rd, followed by visits to Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap.

During his visit, the Delegation intends to take part in the opening ceremony for the European Union (EU) funded Emergency Operation Centers for Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Chuuk. Funded under the 9th European Development Fund B-Envelope, the Disaster Risk Reduction Preparedness project aims to provide emergency operation and communication centers in order to build resilience and response recovery efforts during disaster. The Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) is the implementing agency; its in-country implementing partner is the Office of Emergency & Environmental Management (OEEM). The project is estimated at €1.4 million.

It is also anticipated that handover ceremonies will be arranged for the official transfer of REP-5 solar projects to the State Governments. The Support to the Energy Sector in Five ACP Pacific Islands (REP-5) is a €4.081 million project that has provided the schools and health facilities of the outer islands of the FSM with photovoltaic solar systems with the objective to improve the socio-economic conditions by increasing access of outer island populations to adequate, affordable and environmentally sound electricity.

This will be the Ambassador's third and final visit during his tenure as Head of Delegation for the Pacific Region.

For more information about the upcoming visit or EU funded projects in the FSM, please contact the Office of the National Authorizing Officer at the Office of Statistics, Budget and Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance & Compact Management (SBOC) at (691) 320-6260 or email fnimea@sboec.fm.

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Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat



The Secretariat seeks a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the position of **Trade Policy Officer (Small Island States)**.

The officer will be accountable to the Director of the Economic Governance Programme.

This position will be responsible to the Trade Policy Adviser for:

- Respond quickly and effectively to requests from FICs, with a particular focus on Small Island States, and Forum Secretariat Senior Management for the provision of advice, correspondence, briefings, media statements and reporting;
- Coordinate and organize meetings, workshops and training seminars including preparation of meeting and workshop papers and materials;
- Provide services and technical advice, either directly or through consultants, development partners or other counterparts, to develop trade policy frameworks in response to national needs;
- Monitor and report on mandates from Trade Ministers; and
- Develop and deliver work programs and budgets, and prepare periodic reports according to requirements.

Applicants should have a University degree in economics, finance or international trade with at least 5 years relevant work experience dealing with trade and economic research and policy in the Pacific Island Countries or in a similar environment. Applicants should have experience working in a Pacific island policy agency. Experience with Pacific island country trade negotiations and experience in a regional or international environment will be highly regarded. Applications should have the ability to work alone with other professionals with minimal direction and supervision. Applications should have the ability to meet tight deadlines and possess high-quality bureaucratic writing skills. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary will be in the range of **SDR 22,754 to SDR 34,131** per annum. At the 1 June 2011 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to **FJD64,114 to FJD96,171**. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at www.forumsec.org. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country, a national of an European Union Member Country, or a national of an Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Member country.*

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Private Mail Bag, Suva and can be sent electronically to jobs@forumsec.org.fj. Applications should be received by close of business on **Friday 29 July, 2011**.

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages both men and women to apply.

*Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Rotary Club of Pohnpei changeover

By **Melner S. Isaac**
President, Rotary Club of Pohnpei

In Rotary International, July 1st marks a new Rotary year cycle. Every Rotary Club, District including Rotary International is subject to elect and induct its new officers and board of directors, etc., each and every Rotary year.

Below are the new elected officers and board members of the Rotary Club of Pohnpei who were inducted during a changeover dinner party on Saturday, June 25, 2011 at Club Cupid to serve in their respective positions for RY2011-2012.

Officers:
Melner S. Isaac, President (RY2011-2012)
John Schroer, Immediate Past President

Praise Santos, Secretary (RY2011-2012)
Noel Boylan, Treasurer (RY2011-2012)
John Schroer, President-Elect (RY2012-2013)
Board of Directors:

Loren Peterson, Board Member
Steve Finnen, Board Member
Carrie Boylan, Board Member
As a Club President, I am also honored and pleased to announce that the following members have accepted the chairmanship appointments by the president to the Club's services committees and certain positions below;
Taylor Santos, Chairman - Community Services Committee
Loren Peterson, Chairman - Club Membership Committee
Noel Boylan, Chairman - Club Rotary Foundation
Steve Finnen, Chairman - Vocational Services Committee

John Schroer, Chairman - International Services Committee
Alison McConnell, Historian
Tony Mix, Sergeant At-Arms
Assistant Sergeant At Arms, Honorary Member Bob Mcgrath.

In my induction remarks that night as the new Club President, I concluded with the following statements and I quote...

"Unfortunately, I cannot promise you anything tonight but I can only promise you one thing... 'I WILL DO MY VERY BEST...' to 'REACH WITHIN TO EMBRACE HUMANITY', locally and globally as possible. Therefore, I join RI President, Kalyan Banerjee, District 2507 Governor, Akio Katakura and Assistant District Governor/Pacific Basin Group, Cindy Mori to challenge and encourage everyone in our Club to do the same!



Pohnpei Department of Public Safety release May crime figures

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

June 30, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—Pohnpei State Police Chief Joe Roby made good on his longstanding and often renewed promises to deliver crime statistics for the State of Pohnpei in a letter delivered to The Kaselehlie Press today. The letter, which included crime statistics for the month of May, said that Chief Roby is committed to providing those statistics to the newspaper for publication each month on an ongoing basis.

The statistics list nine types of crimes that were reported in the month of May. The 91 cases of disorderly outstripped by far all other instances of Pohnpei crime.

12 cases of assault and battery were reported in the month of May. 50 percent of those cases occurred in Nett. Sokehs followed at 25 percent. Kolonia had 17 percent of the cases and Madolenihmw had 8 percent. Kittu reported no cases of assault and battery.

17 cases of burglary were reported in May. Kolonia had 41 percent of the burglary cases. 29 percent occurred in Nett, followed by Sokehs at 18 percent and Kittu at 12 percent. There were no reported cases in U or Madolenihmw.

There were 12 cases of appearance in public under the influence of alcohol. Kolonia had 75 percent of those cases follow by Sokehs at 17 percent and Nett at eight percent. U, Kittu, and Madolenihmw had not reported cases of the crime.

18 cases of careless driving were reported. Of those, 50 percent were reported in Kolonia. 33 percent were in Sokehs followed by Nett at 11 percent and U at six percent. Kittu and Madolenihmw had not reported cases.

20 people were accused of underage drinking in May. The legal drinking age is 21. 45 percent of those were in Kolonia. Nett had 35 percent of the figure followed by Sokehs at 15 percent and Kittu at 5 percent. No cases were reported in U, or Madolenihmw.

Every municipality reported at least one of the 91 total reported cases of disorderly

See "DPS" on next page

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Dr. Joseph will be coming to Pohnpei and will be available to service all your animal - veterinary needs while on island.

For those people on islands other than Pohnpei, please contact Dr. Joseph ASAP.

If you need anything - or want me to bring something for you please let me know.

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Sept 2 - Sept 12

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... DPS

Continued from previous page

conduct in the month of May. Kolonia had 47 percent of those cases followed by Nett at 24 percent, Sokehs at 18 percent, Kitt at six percent, U at three percent, and Madolenihmw at two percent.

Only U and Madolenihmw were exempt from the 18 reported cases of malicious mischief in the month of May. Kolonia and Sokehs each reported 28 percent of those reported crimes. Nett reported 33 percent and Kitt reported 11 percent of the total number of reported cases.

Kolonia reported a total of 70 percent of the ten cases of carrying an open container of beer or liquor on a public road. Sokehs followed with 20 percent. Nett reported 10 percent of those cases. Madolenihmw, Kitt, and U had no reported cases.

Of the 13 total cases of driving while under the influence of alcohol, a whopping 85 percent occurred in Kolonia. Nett followed at 15 percent. No cases were reported in any of the other municipalities.

There were nine reported cases of theft. 56 percent of those were in Nett. 22 percent occurred in Kolonia. Sokehs and Madolenihmw reported 11 percent of those occurrences. None were reported in Kitt or U.

Chief Joe Roby said that he would be sending the June statistics to The Kaselehlie Press within the next week.

... Pacific Partnership

Continued from front page

Chief Machinist's Mate Salper Rodriguez, a Pohnpei native and Cleveland crewmember, makes this visit even more special. If that weren't enough, we have a member of the 2011 United States Naval Academy graduating class, Eugene Amor, who has returned to his native country and is playing a lead role in our mission here."

All five branches of the U.S. military services have participated in the Pacific Partnership. Only the U.S. Coast Guard is absent in the FSM from the current mission. They have served the FSM many times before in many capacities including search and rescue. U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marines are represented in the FSM Pacific Partnership in force along with several NGO's including Operation Hope. Civilian volunteers from throughout the world are also part of the mission.

Besides the United States the multinational team includes military representatives from Australia, Canada, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Spain, Timor-Leste and the United States.

New Zealand joined the Pacific Partnership during their first two country visits. Captain Wilson said that it was the first time in decades that U.S. and New Zealand military forces had worked together in any capacity.

During the planning phase for the FSM operation, a Japanese military vessel was also to have arrived in the FSM for the Pacific Partnership mission but the devastating March 11 earthquake off the coast of Tohoku and the subsequent tsunami put a halt to those plans. The Japanese government remains committed to humanitarian assistance despite their own hardships. Japanese military representatives including several doctors joined the Pacific Partnership team during their previous country mission in Timor Leste and continued with them to the FSM where they are currently serving the needs of the FSM people.

Captain Wilson said during an arrival morning interview at the U.S. Embassy that when the Pacific Partnership vessel "USS Cleveland" arrived in Tonga, the first country served by Pacific Partnership 2011, a rainbow formed on the port side of the ship. "All of us took it as a sign that this would be a blessed mission," Captain Wilson said. The photo of that rainbow taken from one of their helicopters has served as a kind of

"icon for the mission."

On the Fourth of July, U.S. Independence Day, the Pacific Partnership kicked off its operations in the FSM in a ceremony on the front steps of the Pohnpei Government Complex. Rains threatened to make the ceremony a dismal event but as soon as the ceremony began the rains let up and have not been back in full force since that day.

Reverend Bender Endicar gave the invocation and the FSM and US National Anthem was played by a stellar brass band from the U.S. Armed forces. Pohnpei's Governor John Ehsa gave opening remarks followed by FSM's President Manny Mori. Ambassador Peter Prahar's remarks were followed by those of Captain Jesse Wilson.

Chaplain Lt. Phillip Ridley ceremonially presented a representative gift from "Operation Handclasp." Though only four boxes of donations were actually at the ceremony Lt. Ridley said that the boxes represented 63 crates of donations; not boxes but crates of boxes. The crates included supplies that would be given to the Micronesia Red Cross Society for distribution and higher tech medical donations that would be given to the Pohnpei State Hospital for their use. The donations also included school supplies for Pohnpei school children.

Chaplain Ridley gave the benediction.

In the afternoon, Pacific Partnership softball teams challenged local softball players to friendly competitions. Mission Commander Captain Jesse Wilson threw out the first pitch after which Nett thoroughly thrashed the first Pacific Partnership team 32 to 6. The score was a bit closer when the second visiting team faced the softball titans from Madolenihmw but was still an embarrassing 22 to 8.

Meanwhile the U.S. Embassy sponsored a celebration at the Spanish Wall that took place at the same time as the beatings were taking place. They served food and Peace Corps volunteers offered face painting and bean bag toss games for the children.

After the dust had settled from the local softball players running the bases 54 times in three hours U.S. Ambassador Peter Prahar delivered a stirring Independence Day speech.

The Pacific Fleet brass band followed with selections of music that covered many eras. After which the pop band rocked the crowd to Motown, James Brown, Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and several other well know tunes while spectators danced on the ball field and in the stand



The Secretariat seeks a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the position of **Trade Policy Officer (Aid for Trade)**. The officer will be accountable to the Director of the Economic Governance Programme.

This position will be responsible to the Trade Policy Adviser for:

- Respond quickly and effectively to requests from FICs and Forum Secretariat Senior Management for the provision of advice, correspondence, briefings, media statements and reporting on issues related to Aid for Trade;
- Coordinate and organize meetings, workshops and training seminars on issues related to Aid for Trade, including preparation of meeting and workshop papers and materials;
- Provide services and technical advice, either directly or through consultants, development partners or other counterparts;
- Monitor and report on mandates from Trade Ministers; and
- Develop and deliver work programs and budgets, and prepare periodic reports according to requirements.

Applicants should have a University degree in economics, finance or international trade with at least 5 years relevant work experience dealing with trade and economic research and policy in the Pacific Island Countries or in a similar environment. Applicants must have experience working in a policy agency and experience working in a regional or international environment. Applicants should have the ability to work alone with other professionals with minimal direction and supervision. Applicants must have a strong understanding of aid effectiveness concepts and reporting requirements. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary will be in the range of **SDR 22,754 to SDR 34,131** per annum. At the 1 June 2011 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to **FJD64,114 to FJD96,171**. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at www.forumsec.org. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country, a national of an European Union Member Country, or a national of an Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Member country.*

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**Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.*

Pacific Islands
Forum Secretariat



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

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

P. O. Box 2222 phone to: (691) 320-6547
 Pohnpei, FM 96941 email to: 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**

President Mori issued Administrative Directive on Information and Communication Technology

FSM Information Services

July 01, 2011

On June 8, 2011, President Manny Mori issued an Administrative Directive to all departments, Offices, and Agencies of the National Government of the FSM, reaffirming as a policy direction for his administration the need for all departments, offices, and agencies to "proactively" collaborate in the area of Information and Communication Technology toward the achievement of these two main goals:

1. The establishment of a competitive and liberalized communication environment in the next 2 to 3 years in the FSM.
2. The implementation of a broadband submarine fiber optics capability for all States in the FSM within 4 years.

A Telecommunications and Submarine Fiber Optics Task Force has already been established comprised of high level members from the Department of Justice, Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Statistics, Budget Economic Management, ODA and Compact Management (SBOC), Department of Resources and Development and the Chief of Staff.

The Directive was followed by a Presidential Memorandum on June 9 to all departments, offices and agencies outlining the on-going engagement between the FSM and the World Bank in the area of communication technology. The President also pointed out that the FSM and the World Bank are in discussions regarding a "Terms of Reference" for technical assistance from the World Bank. The technical assistance will target establishing policy and regulatory framework for competitive telecommunications, initiate technical assessment and business plan for Submarine Fiber Optics capacity enhancement to the three states not currently connected to broadband fiber optics, and assessing financial and technical improvements for the FSM Telecommunications Corporation. The FSM became one of the 187 member countries of the World Bank in 1993.

The Task Force will hold monthly meetings and report to the President on ways to move forward on the initiatives and priorities in Information and Communication Technology on a regular basis.

For more information, please contact FSM Information Office at fsmpio@mail.fm or the Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure at 320-2865.

Astronomical Tide Prediction July 11, 2011 - July 24, 2011

	Pohnpei				Chuuk			
Monday	07/11		07/18		07/11		07/18	
	07:37AM	1.3	04:42AM	4.1	12:01AM	1.8	03:26AM	2.1
	12:51PM	1.9	11:22AM	0.4	10:11AM	-0.2	10:55AM	0.0
	05:37PM	1.4	05:20PM	3.0			04:19PM	0.6
Tuesday	07/12		07/19		07/12		07/19	
	12:59AM	3.7	05:09AM	3.9	12:34AM	2.0	03:44AM	2.0
	08:25AM	0.9	11:45AM	0.6	10:16AM	-0.4	10:59AM	0.1
	01:58PM	2.0	05:50PM	3.0			04:32PM	0.8
Wednesday	07/13		07/20		07/13		07/20	
	01:48AM	4.0	05:32AM	3.6	01:07AM	2.2	03:57AM	1.7
	09:01AM	0.6	12:06PM	0.7	10:25AM	-0.4	11:00AM	0.2
	02:42PM	2.2	06:19PM	3.0			04:50PM	0.9
Thursday	07/14		07/21		07/14		07/21	
	02:30AM	4.2	05:52AM	3.3	01:40AM	2.3	04:01AM	1.5
	09:34AM	0.4	12:26PM	0.8	10:33AM	-0.4	11:00AM	0.2
	03:18PM	2.4	06:52PM	3.0			05:13PM	1.0
Friday	07/15		07/22		07/15		07/22	
	03:08AM	4.3	12:30AM	1.6	02:10AM	2.4	03:50AM	1.3
	10:03AM	0.3	06:10AM	2.9	10:39AM	-0.3	10:57AM	0.2
	03:50PM	2.6	12:45PM	1.0			05:45PM	1.1
Saturday	07/16		07/23		07/16		07/23	
	03:42AM	4.4	01:17AM	1.9	02:38AM	2.3	03:13AM	1.2
	10:31AM	0.3	06:24AM	2.6	10:45AM	-0.2	10:53AM	0.1
	04:21PM	2.7	01:06PM	1.1	04:12PM	0.3	06:36PM	1.2
Sunday	07/17		07/24		07/17		07/24	
	04:13AM	4.3	02:52AM	2.1	03:04AM	2.3	01:51AM	1.2
	10:58AM	0.3	06:25AM	2.2	10:51AM	-0.1	10:45AM	0.1
	04:51PM	2.9	01:34PM	1.3	04:10PM	0.5		
		10:18PM	0.9	10:05PM	2.9	07:49PM	0.3	

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Island Food Community of Pohnpei held its 2nd Annual General Meeting

By **Chizuru Seki**

Island Food Community of Pohnpei

On Friday, June 24, 2011, the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) held its 2nd Annual General Meeting. Over a hundred participants attended this meeting held at IFCP's training center located in the Pohnpei State Botanical Garden.

The meeting started with a warm welcome from the chairman of the IFCP board, Mr. Adelino Lorens. The purpose of the meeting was to share the work of IFCP and to discuss how we can work together to promote island food for its many benefits and to address the serious nutrition-related health problems here in Pohnpei. Mr. Lorens announced the sudden departure of Dr. Lois Englberger, Acting Executive Director and Researcher due to her health status. IFCP was proud to announce its new Acting Director, Ms. Emihner Johnson who is also the IFCP Local Food Educator.

The progress of IFCP was presented by Ms. Johnson in her power point presentation. This year, IFCP has conducted 64 workshops and 41 school visits which make a total number of 7663 participants and students. Local food posters, the IFCP GO LOCAL red pen, yellow banana pencils, Beta-carotene Food Chart, Go Local songs and more awareness materials were used at each visit.

Currently IFCP is carrying out two main projects: "Go Local Agroforestry and Health Improvements" and "Banana and Pandanus Characterization." The first project focuses on increasing production and consumption of local foods in order to gain all their CHEEF benefits (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy and Food Security) and also raise awareness of the understanding about the CHEEF benefits through media at all age groups and levels. With the

second project, IFCP is listing and documenting, along with photos, the descriptors or characteristics of Pohnpei bananas and pandanus varieties for better understanding on those plants to protect their gene bank and biodiversity.

The work of IFCP was spread via Kaselehlie Press newspaper articles, radio press releases and IFCP website: <http://www.islandfood.org/>.

The IFCP Go Local Campaign has attracted regional and international attention. There are interests to replicate our program elsewhere.

For participants who attended the meeting for the first time, the presentation was like an eye-opening. It was their first time to hear the information on "Go Local" standard talk.

After the meeting, participants enjoyed a local food meal served on local plates (banana pseudostem).

To continue and expand its successful work, funding is the biggest issue IFCP is facing. IFCP is thankful to the US Forestry, Australian Government and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)-Cepact, which are its present funding sources.

In addition, IFCP thanks its local partners and funding and support agencies throughout the world as well as its current annual individual members, institutional and life time members. These include: Life-time Members: the World's Vegetable Center (AVRDC), Palm Terrace, College of Micronesia-FSM Cooperative Research Extension, ACE Hardware, Biodiversity International-Rome, and Pohnpei Port Authority and Institutional Members: Yap State Agriculture, the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, Australian Embassy, Ace Office Supply, Moylan's Insurance, NAPA and Genesis Clinic and Pharmacy.

Now, IFCP is continuing to promote the benefit of local food and moving forward with its new Acting Director and its supporting board members.

Let's join together and let's go local.

The IFCP GO LOCAL Red Pen Message was Spread among JICA Volunteers throughout FSM

By **Chizuru Seki**

Island Food Community of Pohnpei

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) FSM Volunteer General Meeting was held on June 24th and 25th. On Friday, June 24th, 2011 at the Small Business Development Center, College of Micronesia-FSM Pohnpei Campus, a couple volunteers presented their activity reports. Over 80 people (JICA volunteers and invited guests) attended this meeting.

From throughout FSM, 33 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) and senior volunteers (SV) gathered together in Pohnpei at the JICA FSM Biannual General Meeting to share the progress of their activities. Six JOCV volunteers and senior volunteers from each of the four FSM States presented their activity reports. Also, reports on the JICA Micronesia Math Seminar 2011 in FSM and J-AWARE: JICA's Activity on Waste Audit Research were made by the JICA-FSM Mathematics Teacher's Group and the Environment Group respectively.

The Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) participated in this event and distributed its GO LOCAL red pen, promoting the benefits of local food and red pen messages.

IFCP GO LOCAL red pens were given to each participant at the reception table before the meeting started. Many JICA volunteers were wondering why the pen came in red and not in yellow (since IFCP greatly promotes consumption of yellow-fleshed bananas which are high in beta-carotene).

Chizuru Seki, JOCV and Community Development

Mr. Engly Ioanis, a Board Member of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, enjoys local snacks at the JICA General Meeting

Worker at IFCP, answered this question while presenting the red pen message during the first break. The color red indicates a health crisis in Federated States of Micronesia. It is an alarming color that tells that now one in three adults in FSM are suffering from diabetes.

The IFCP GO LOCAL red pen also carries another message: "Let's Go Local." For a solution to a health crisis in FSM, IFCP encourages people to grow, harvest and eat more local food. By taking care of local food, you will get the exercise you need. Furthermore, local foods are rich in fiber, minerals and vitamins, which help you to be healthy.

At the meeting, the IFCP GO LOCAL red pen message was passed on to not only people in Pohnpei but also those volunteers from the other states of FSM: Yap, Chuuk and Kosrae. It is very important to spread the Go Local messages at the national level. IFCP thanks JICA FSM for this great opportunity to promote the importance of local food throughout FSM.

The IFCP also thanks its funding supporters, the US Forestry Service and Australian AusAID Small Grant Scheme.



Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) members gathered together for its 2nd Annual General Meeting on June 24th, 2011

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 <small>Ref. 7902 PRICE: \$2,550 TOYOTA SPRINTER Year 1998 AT 1,500cc PETROL</small>	 <small>Ref. 7930 PRICE: \$2,690 MITSUBISHI PAJERO IO 4WD Year 2000 AT 1,800cc PETROL</small>	 <small>Ref. 7870 PRICE: \$3,550 HONDA CR-V 4WD Year 1998 AT 2,000cc PETROL</small>

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Visiting Performance by Guangdong Art Troupe of
the People's Republic of China in the Federated States of Micronesia

友誼頌 Ode to Friendship

Performance Time & Venues
Pohnpei: July 16 (Saturday) & 17 (Sunday) 6:30 - 8:00 PM
FSM - China Friendship Sports Center,
COM National Campus
Chuuk: July 20 (Wednesday) 10:00 - 11:30 AM
Saramen Chuuk Development Center

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Co-organizers

Guangdong Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Republic of China
Guangdong Department of Culture of the People's Republic of China
Guangdong People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Federated States of Micronesia

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A Show of Friendship and Cooperation between Peoples of China and the FSM;
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High level performers in China PLUS
Thoughtful arrangement by China and the FSM

would bring thrilling and exciting taste for you through Dancing, Acrobatics, Martial Arts and Instrumental Performance of Chinese Traditional Musical Instruments presented on the performances at 6:30-8:00 p.m. on July 16th and 17th in FSM-China Friendship Sports Center, COM National Campus together with "Stick Dance" from the FSM, and 10:00-11:30 a.m. on July 20 in Saramen Chuuk Development Center.

warmly and sincerely welcome and thank you for enjoying. **Admission free!**