

The KASELEHLIE PRESS

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International Women's Day March 8, 2013



By Marstella Jack and Leah Briones

Kolonia, Pohnpei – The annual celebrations of International Women's Day this year was again organized by the Pohnpei Women Council and was kicked off with the first ever Urohs en Pohnpei (Pohnpeian skirt) competition.

Past annual celebrations have involved fun competitions amongst the 27 women groups that make up the Pohnpei Women Council. Up to 2012, the competitions centered on cleaning and beautification of the different communities' home villages. This year the Council decided to showcase the display of "mengin pehn lih en Pohnpei" (indigenous talents of Pohnpeian women). In addition to the Urohs en Pohnpei, the competitions included sale exhibits of local food crops, handicrafts, potted plants, fish, rare fruits including herbal plants and other items such as flower decorations made of pandanus leaves and wine cups made of coconut shells. All locally manufactured by the women's groups themselves. One group displayed for sale the fruit "Durion" which is very expensive in Japan and more of which we hope to see become available in the market stands in town.

The intent of the competition was to encourage Pohnpeian women to start thinking about how they can make a livelihood from selling their products

See "Women's Day" on page 8



First place Urohs winners, Mand Women in Action

Lien Ponsapw (Sapwuahfik) dancers with green and black clothes, **Lien Education (Kempahn Kamarain)** member **Second place Tent Display prize winners**



EMPWA member happy that EMPWA won first place in display competition



Second place winners of Urohs Competition-Lien Madolenihmw

Perman claims violations of election law in Pohnpei's ED #1

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

March 21, 2013

Pohnpei, FSM—Ferry Perman, who ran for FSM Congress against incumbent Dohsis Halbert in Pohnpei's Election District One has filed a petition for a revote and recount based on several allegations that the election was not properly conducted. His petition was supported by four sworn affidavits from election workers and one from an employee of Nihco print shop who swore that on Election Day he filled an order for 200 additional ballots.

According to the election results certified by the National Election Office, Perman lost the election by 218 votes. Halbert garnered 2,489 votes while Perman received 2,271 votes according to the ballot box counts.

A total of 4,771 votes were cast in Election District One. Eleven of the votes were "write-in votes".

None of Perman's allegations accused his opponent of wrongdoing.

Perman's petition says that the law requires all ballots to have been printed no later than 50 days before a general election or 35 day before a special election. He included an affidavit from an employee of Nihco print shop

who said that he printed 200 additional ballots on Election Day and that the ballots were picked up at 2:00 in the afternoon.

He claims that the Pohnpei Election Commissioner admitted in correspondence that the polling places in Sekere and Lewetik both requested additional ballots.

Perman's petition also says that on the evening before Election Day a tabulator at the Nanmal Palikir polling place discovered that the Election Board Chairperson had opened the ballot box with no one else present. In her affidavit the tabulator reported that she discovered on Election Day that the ballot box contained 50 additional ballots.

The affidavit of the Election Board Chairperson for the Roie polling place said that when she delivered a ballot to a homebound woman the poll worker discovered that the ballot had already been marked next to candidate Halbert's name. She erased the mark and gave it to the woman so that the voter could cast her vote. When the poll worker returned to the Roie polling place she saw a voter who was holding five separate ballots in his hand. She confiscated all but one ballot and discovered that the four ballots she confiscated were marked next to Halbert's name. Erasing the

marks, she put the extra ballots back with the supply of ballots.

Albert Welly, the Director of the FSM National Election office said in his response to Perman's petition that FSM law requires that the winning candidate must be allowed seven days to respond to a petitioner's allegations. Until today Perman had been operating on the assumption that those seven days began on the date of Welly's letter which also said that his office had informed Halbert and had hand delivered a copy of Perman's petition to Halbert. But Welly told The Kaselehlie Press today that he didn't start counting the seven days that Halbert had to respond to the petition until the 20th of March.

"I don't know if it's right or not," Welly said, "but candidates have seven days after we call the election to file any petition. Then the winning candidate has another seven days to respond." He said that he "called the election", meaning that his office certified the results of the election, on the 14th of March. His interpretation of the law is that Senator Halbert has until the 27th of March to file a response to Perman's petition.

Senator Halbert has not yet filed any response to the petition and has been off island since last week. At press time he had not yet returned and was unavailable for comment.

Marstella Jack, Attorney for Perman said that if Senator Halbert does not respond to the allegations he waives his right to do so. She said that according to the law, the National Election Office would then have to consider the petition without Halbert's response. What will happen at the National Election Office is unclear but Perman said that if he doesn't have a response by the end of Friday, March 22 he will file a civil action at the FSM Supreme Court.

Because Perman's allegations include the possibility that ballot boxes may have been stuffed with extra ballots he said that he made a formal request for a copy of the signature sheets for the polling places. He said that Mr. Welly told him that he could not have a copy of those signature sheets without a court order.

Mr. Welly said that he requested legal representation for the National Election Office from the FSM Department of Justice but Secretary April Skilling informed him that it would be a conflict of interest for the AG's office to represent the Election Office.

Secretary Skilling was out of the office when we called for an explanation of that legal opinion and did not return our phone call before deadline time.

Mr. Welly said that his office was forced to use its scant budget in order to hire a private attorney to represent them and to give them guidance on the matter. They hired attorney Joe Phillip.

Mr. Welly neither confirmed nor denied whether any of the Perman's allegations were true. He said instead that he felt that it would be important to consult the Election Office's attorney before saying anything further about the situation.

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Bill Jaynes
 Managing Editor

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Onoun airstrip ready for landing

By *Bill Hagen*
The Cuthbert Project

After several weeks of delay due to the rains the Onoun airstrip is now ready. It has been cut, cleared and swept and now looks better than it has for years. This was an island community effort by people realizing the necessity of having access to better transportation services. Too often people in need of medical services are required to take a small boat the 130 miles to Weno, or do without if the weather is bad. The airport also provides necessary support services to "Northwestern High School" which serves several hundred students from the "Northwestern" islands.

Bushcutters, chainsaws, spare parts, machettes and gas were delivered by The Cuthbert Project in January and now after hundreds of man hours spent on the airstrip it is ready for Caroline Island Air to begin service once again.

[Editor's note: Alex Tretzoff, pilot for Caroline Islands Air said that the last time he flew to Onoun the condition of the runway nearly took the landing gear off of his plane. After that experience he pulled the plug on flights to Onoun. He was excited to hear that the runway is ready again and looks forward to making his next trip. He said that no one had told him about the rehabilitation of the runway.]



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NOFA warns that fee enforcement could hurt Pohnpei economy

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

March 15, 2013

Pohnpei, FSM—Members of the National Offshore Fisheries Association (NOFA) have written to Governor Ehsa in an effort to engage him in “a constructive dialogue on issues of great concern” to the organization. Specifically the members of the organization are concerned about the State’s announced intention to enforce a law requiring exporters of fish to pay a transshipment fee on top of the transshipment fee they already pay to Pohnpei Port Authority. They say that if that law is enforced the member companies will be forced to take their fish to other ports that do not charge the fee.

Something similar happened at the Chuuk port several years ago. According to Peter Sitan who was the director of FSM’s National Oceanic Resources Management Agency (NORMA) at the time, lawmakers in Chuuk decided to increase the transshipment fee. The fee jumped from about \$1.50 per ton to \$3.00 to \$5.00 dollars per ton depending on the type of vessel. As a result, even though lawmakers eventually rescinded the increase, fishing companies stopped using the Chuuk port and have not returned.

OFA’s January 21 letter announced that it would begin to enforce an old law that requires fishing companies to pay a 10 cent per kilo transshipment fee, \$90.91 per ton, over 18 times the amount of the increase in Chuuk that previously caused transshippers to abandon its port.

Marco Kember of Caroline Fisheries Corporation said that the Pohnpei Port Authority (PPA) recently increased the transshipment fees it charges from \$1.75 to \$2.00 per pound. He is under the impression that the transshipment fee that Pohnpei’s Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture (OFA) announced that it would begin to collect as of January 21 would be in addition to the Port’s fee. He said that so far OFA has not pursued collection of the fee from CFC but that if it does, CFC will simply have to transship their fish at another port.

According to Nick Solomon, the President of the National Offshore Fisheries Association, another port won’t be difficult to find because to the best of the group’s combined knowledge, no other country in the Pacific charges a similar transshipment fee.

The members of the Association include National Fisheries Corporation, Caroline Fisheries Corporation, Inc., Diving Seagull, Inc., and Luen Thai Fishing Venture, Ltd. NOFA members represent only a small portion of the fishing companies that currently transship their catches in Pohnpei, each of them injecting thousands of dollars into Pohnpei’s economy on every visit.

NOFA’s letter speculated on the reasons

that Pohnpei State had not previously enforced the law requiring fish exporters to pay a transshipment fee. The “lack of enforcement may have been due to legal review which cast doubt on the constitutionality of the law, or based on the fact that implementation of the law would adversely affect the development of a fisheries industry in Pohnpei.”

“The decision by the Government now to start enforcing this law as of January 21, 2013, is troubling to the association and the member companies,” the letter continues.

Kember says that when the transshipment fee law was passed in Pohnpei it was intended for longline fishing vessels. At the time there was no law against purse seiners transshipping their catch at sea and pretty much all purse seiners were doing so. But a law was later passed that prohibited transshipment at sea and Pohnpei’s law was then in effect for Purse Seiners as well. However, until OFA’s announcement in January, it had never been enforced.

NOFA says that its members are very happy with the services that are provided by Government agencies and by local vendors and agents that supply services and provisions. Pohnpei “has turned into a large regional base for offloading/transshipping from a number of fishing companies, not only the members of this Association, but also many additional reputable international fishery companies.”

The letter points out that the members of the association valuably contribute to Pohnpei’s economy through payments of current taxes and fees, purchases of services and goods from local businesses, as well as salaries paid to local employees.

During a hearing at the FSM Supreme Court on February 1 of this year, Luen Thai’s Vice President Derrick Wang testified that since it took a lease to operate the former Pohnpei Fisheries Corporation facility in Dekehtik the company spent approximately \$6.8 million that directly benefited Pohnpei State and the FSM. He said that money was spent for lease payments, license fees, import taxes, income and other taxes, and other government agency fees. In indirect payments he estimated that the company had spent an additional \$20 million in payments to Pohnpei Utilities Corporation, FSM Petroleum Corporation, and salaries for the company’s 110 local employees.

NOFA points out that the global market for commercial fishing is highly competitive. The members of the Association are all profit making businesses who must meet the demands of their customers who expect to pay the globally established prices for fish that they buy. It says that the companies have contracts with purchasers based on previous pricing that does not factor in the substantial transshipment fee that the Government now says it will charge.

“The fishery business is very competitive

the Village
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and we are competing with other producers around the world. We cannot simply pass on costs and expect our purchasers to pay. They will simply purchase from other suppliers,” the NOFA letter says. “We must take all steps to continue to be competitive. Though we prefer to transship out of Pohnpei and conduct the necessary provisioning here, if Pohnpei makes our product uncompetitive, we will have no choice but to transship elsewhere. It is a matter of simple economics.”

NOFA has asked for a meeting with the Governor’s office, appropriate State agencies, and the Legislature in order

discuss the matter so that “a mutually agreeable resolution can be reached.”

According to NOFA, so far OFA has only collected transshipment fees from Luen Thai which recently paid the fees under protest for several containers loaded with fish. Even after they paid the fees, OFA would not provide necessary stamps that would enable the company to export its fish unless Luen Thai would also agree to pay the fee on a retroactive basis for all fish it exported since June of 2006. OFA only provided the stamps releasing Luen Thai’s containers after a Supreme Court ruling ordered them to do so.



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Australian volunteer helps FSM to build soccer program

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

March 19, 2013

Pohnpei, FSM—62 year old Stan Foster, an engineer and surveyor by trade, has been playing or coaching soccer for over 50 years. As a volunteer with Australian Volunteers International he is currently posted in Yap to work with the Yap Sports Council under the direction of Mikail Loyola to help the State develop Soccer.

Foster is currently in Pohnpei for a two week visit during which he has been training current Pohnpei State players, helping to develop and train potential coaches, and conducting clinics at High Schools and at the College of Micronesia FSM. He worked with the Pohnpei State team on the evening of Thursday, March 14, and he conducted a two hour clinic for aspiring coaches at 2:00, Sunday, March 17.

Foster also has been in Pohnpei assisting the FSM Football Association (FSMFA) to prepare for an announced visit of the Asia-Pacific Football Confederation (AFC). The AFC team was scheduled to have come in order to evaluate the process of the application FSMFA submitted for membership in FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association).

The timing would have been perfect for the AFC visit. FSMFA had scheduled a game at 5:00 on Thursday, March 21 between the Pohnpei State team and a combined team of players from Chuuk and Yap. The AFC visit was to have coincided with a meeting of all the



Board members of the FSM National Olympic Committee, and of course, Stan Foster is here.

The Thursday night game will still happen but the AFC team will not be here. Last weekend the AFC team announced that they had to postpone their visit.

There will be another opportunity at a later date and there has been some discussion of a visit to Yap by the AFC team possibly during the Yap games. Still, there may not be another time when all of the key players in FSM Soccer will be on island at one time.

Foster said development of soccer is one of the few team sports that doesn't depend on physical height and is the FSM's best chance of entering team sports on an international level. "Basketball and volley ball are great sports," Foster said, "but because of height they'll probably remain at the level of domestic competitions," Foster said.

Soccer players practice moving balls down field

Stan Foster gives Roger Nakasone a few pointers

Foster has only been in Yap for two months of his 18 month commitment which ends in July of 2014 but already he has been very impressed with the natural ability of FSM athletes. He said that he was recently in Ulithi and his clinics went really well there. "They had no inhibitions. They did things with the ball naturally that you usually have to be trained to do," he beamed.

He said that kind of natural ability is great to have but to get to the next level players would have to learn the discipline of the sport, the strategy of the game, and teamwork. He said that in many other countries soccer is part of the everyday lifestyle from early childhood on. It's why he recommended that FSM begin to



focus any soccer program on children at the elementary school level.

Foster also conducts clinics and coaches at the High School level. He was pleased to see that the College of Micronesia FSM has added an elective Soccer class and he conducted a well

See "AVI Soccer" on page 11



Pohnpei Ladies Club in collaboration with Pohnpei Women Council and the Cultural Day Organizing Committee

Proudly invites you to the first ever Pohnpei Women Arts Exhibit, featuring the artwork of our very own Pohnpeian artist Yvonne Neth and various other local skirts and handicrafts

**March 31st 2013
@ 5pm - 9pm**

2nd Floor John Sonden Building (former MiCare Office)

Trio Chicago and & Friends to perform March 27

American Embassy
Kolonja Pohnpei

The U.S Embassy is proud to present Trio Chicago & Friends in Pohnpei. The group will perform at Pacific Mission Fellowship, across from Cliff Rainbow, on Wednesday March 27 at 7 PM. The concert is free and open to the public. Seating is limited to the first 300 people.

The group performs pieces that are written by famous American Jazz musicians, however the program is mainly rooted in American Classical music. The program incorporates not only Classical compositions but also various styles and genres of music that influenced American composers since the early 20th century such as Copland, Gershwin and Bernstein to present with music by Joplin, Stravinsky and Ellington. The performance also includes music by some of the living jazz artists such as Metheny and Corea who were influenced by both Classical and ethnic music from cultures around the world. To the listeners who may not be familiar with 'American' music, our program will provide an exemplary and entertaining overview.

Trio Chicago & Friends is an American music ensemble praised for its annual tours to remote parts of the globe as cultural ambassadors. The group has been consistently recognized for its stylistic versatility in concerts, and for its master classes and teaching interchanges with local students. TC&F features American music by composers such as Gershwin, Ellington, Bernstein, Copland, Pat Metheny, Cole Porter and Irving Berlin.

The group is led by one of Chicago's leading violinists, Elliott Golub who graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Music with a Bachelor of

Music Degree and from the Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University with a Master of Music Degree. He was concertmaster of Chicago's Music of the Baroque Orchestra for 35 years and was soloist with the ensemble in a wide variety of repertoire. He is now concertmaster emeritus.

Co-founder Marlou Johnston, who plays the viola and violin, has been concertmaster and soloist with the Kankakee (Illinois) Symphony Orchestra since 1982. She was formerly concertmaster of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. In 2004, she received the Distinguished Achievement Award from Carleton College (Minnesota) for "outstanding accomplishments and leadership in the field of music."

Flutist Laura Hamm has studied with Jean Pierre Rampal and James Galway, and received a master of music degree and a certificate in flute performance from Northwestern University. She has participated in numerous music festivals throughout the world. Ms. Hamm is on the faculty of the Music Institute of Chicago.

Soprano Suna Avci is currently a doctoral candidate at Indiana University. She has performed numerous major roles in on-campus opera productions at Indiana and Northwestern universities as well as solos with professional organizations such as Richmond Symphony, Apollo Chorus, and Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra. She currently studies with Costanza Cuccaro.

Pianist Susan Chou is a doctoral candidate in Piano Performance at Indiana University, where she was awarded a full scholarship to study with Menahem Pressler. In addition to giving numerous solo and chamber recitals, she has worked with famous musicians such as Cliff Colnot, Julian Martin, Ursula Oppens, Miriam Fried and Victor Yampolsky

Trio Chicago
& Friends

Wednesday
March 27
at 7 PM



The U.S. Embassy in Kolonia is proud to present a free concert at the Pacific Mission Fellowship Auditorium, across from Cliff Rainbow Hotel.

Seating is limited to the first 300 people



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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposal for the construction of Reinforced Concrete Box Cuherts along the Circumferential Road Segment RS4 situated at the municipality of Tafunsak will be received by the Director of Transportation and Infrastructure, until 2:00 p.m. on April 16, 2013, at which time the opening of the bids will take place and the bids will be publicly read aloud. A pre-bid conference is scheduled on March 28th, 2013 at 9:30 A.M., at the office of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, Administration Building, Tofol, Municipality of Lelu, Kosrae State, FSM. Prospective bidders who did not attend the pre-bid conference shall be automatically disqualified to participate in the bidding process.

A copy of the contract documents, detailed drawings and scope of works can be obtained from the DT&I, upon payment of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00), to the Treasurer, Kosrae State. This payment is not refundable. The original receipt of payment must be presented to the Secretary, Div. of Engineering and Design DT&I prior to the release of the Contract Documents and Technical Specifications.

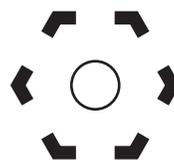
The bids must be submitted in a sealed envelopes bearing on the outside the name of the bidder, his address, the name of the project, and the date and time submitted. If forwarded by mail; the sealed envelope containing the bid, shall be marked as directed above. must be enclosed in another envelope properly addressed with the notation "BID ENCLOSED" on the surface thereof.

All bids must be accompanied by a **Bid Security in the amount of Five Percent (5%)** of the total bid price of each proposal; such guarantee to be forfeited should the bidder to whom the contract is awarded fails to execute and deliver a contract, in a prescribed form in accordance with the bid documents. Bid Security may, be a Bid Bond, certified check or cashier checks, made payable to the Government of Kosrae State. The bid bond of the winning bidder shall be retained as a Performance Bond and may be returned upon satisfactory completion of the project or earlier at the option of the contracting officer. Each bidder shall be skilled and regularly engage in the general class or type of work as called for. Each bidder must complete, sign and furnish the Bidder's Qualification Statement, and other required documents along with the submission of the Bid Proposal. In submitting the bid proposals, the time duration for completing the project must be properly indicated. Bids that does not comply with the above requirements as well as other requirements mentioned in the Bid Documents shall be classified as non-responsive bids.

The Contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive/responsible bidder at the Owner's options identified in section III "Proposal to the State of Kosrae for the Construction of Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts along the Circumferential Road Segment RS-4 Project". The State of Kosrae reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in the bidding.

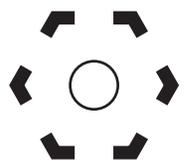
Citizen Bidders must comply with all procedures and conditions set forth in the FSM Public Law 2-65, as amended.

This Project requires compliance with Executive Order 11246, entitled, "Equal Employment Opportunity", as amended by Executive Order 11375 and as supplemented in the Department of Labor regulations (41 CFR Part 60).



LYNDON H. JACKSON
Governor, Kosrae State

3/15/13
Date



MERIP and the University of Hawaii work together to monitor water quality on the Nanpil River

By *Simon Ellis*
Director Marine and Environmental Research Institute of Pohnpei

Close to the Pohnpei Surf Club, on the Nanpil River, a water quality sensor is quietly taking samples, every 4 minutes, measuring what is happening in the water. The project, a collaborative effort between the Marine and Environmental Research Institute of Pohnpei (MERIP) and the University of Hawaii's Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS), is designed to provide information on the effects of land clearing and weather events on Pohnpei's inshore waters.

The sensor measures, among other things, water temperature, the amount of salt in the water (salinity), and the cloudiness of the water, also called turbidity. When it rains heavily in Pohnpei, large amounts of silt and dirt are washed from cleared land into the Nanpil estuary, and the sensor is able to measure how much silt and fresh water is coming down the river. This silt eventually makes its way out to the lagoon and settles on inshore coral reefs, where it damages and can even

kill corals. Without healthy coral reefs, Pohnpei's fish populations will decline, leading to less locally available food for residents. Sadly, improper land clearing to plant sakau, a plant of immense cultural importance, could be leading to less fish for people to eat.

Over time, it will be possible to use the information provided by the sensor to see if more silt and dirt are coming down the river after heavy rains. If there is, it may be an indicator of more land being cleared in the Nanpil river basin. The K-Press recently reported on land clearing being a possible cause of water shortages in the Nanpil reservoir. The information provided by the sensor over time will also help to determine if this is the case. In areas that have been cleared of trees, the land does not hold the water when it rains. Instead, the water flows quickly to the ocean so that in times of low rainfall, the reservoir will have less water.

The PacIOOS program is sponsored by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a division of the United States Department of Commerce, which also funds the weather station in Pohnpei. PacIOOS is the largest of 11 US federally mandated Regional Ocean Observing Systems and includes Hawaii, Guam, CNMI, American Samoa, FSM, RMI and Palau. For more information please go to www.pacioos.org or www.meripmicronesia.org.



Pew applauds unprecedented conservation win for sharks and manta rays at CITES

The Pew Charitable Trusts

Bangkok, Thailand— Five species of sharks and two species of manta rays will now be subject to international trade regulation under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES, a move that could save these threatened species from total collapse.

The required two-thirds of the 177 CITES member governments voted to protect these animals—the oceanic whitetip and porbeagle sharks, three species of hammerhead sharks, and the two species of manta rays—marking an increase in the number of sharks protected by CITES from three to eight species.

“This is a major win for some of the world's most threatened shark species, with action now required to control the international trade in their fins,” said Susan Lieberman, director of international environment policy at The Pew Charitable Trusts. “This victory indicates that the global community will collaborate to address the plight of some of the most highly vulnerable sharks and manta ray species. Today was the most significant day for the oceans in the 40-year history of CITES.”

Lieberman added that the gridlock created by those who oppose such controls has been broken. Sharks are primarily traded to Asia for use in shark fin soup. Manta rays are caught and killed for their gill rakers—the part used to filter their food from the water—to make a purported Asian health tonic.

“The tide is now turning for shark conservation—with governments listening to the science and acting in the interest of species conservation and sustainability,” said Elizabeth Wilson, manager of Pew's global shark campaign. “With these new protections, oceanic whitetip, porbeagle, and hammerhead sharks will have the chance to recover and once again fulfil their role as top predators in the marine ecosystem.”

Pew added that this commitment by the global community to shark conservation needs to be fully implemented and enforced, and it should be coupled with national and regional efforts to ensure a sustainable future for these and other top oceanic predators, all of which are critical for the health of the wider marine ecosystem.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, 143 shark species are threatened with extinction, but few management measures exist to protect them.

PACIFIC PLAN REVIEW 2013

SEEKING PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS ON THE PACIFIC PLAN

www.pacificplanreview.org

The Pacific Plan Review Team, led by the Right Hon. Sir Mekere Morauta, KCMG, former Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, is seeking written public submissions from individuals or organisations on the future directions of the Pacific Plan.

As a guide to possible topics, submissions should refer to the issues identified by the Review Team in their “Proposed Review Methodology” and their “Current Lines of Enquiry”. These issues include:

- The strategic underpinnings of the Pacific Plan
- The impact of the Pacific Plan thus far
- Policy and priority setting under the Pacific Plan
- The extent to which the Pacific Plan influences strategic direction and budgeting by stakeholders
- Ownership of the Pacific Plan
- Implementation, monitoring and reporting on the Pacific Plan
- The strategic interests and priorities of Smaller Island States (SIS) in regional coordination and integration
- The relationship between sub-regionalism and regionalism.

All key documents related to the Review are available at the Pacific Plan Review website www.pacificplanreview.org under the ‘Review Scope/Team Approach’ tab.

Submissions can be made via the Pacific Plan Review website or by emailing ppreview@forumsec.org.fj and must be received before **15 May 2013**.

...Women's Day

Continued from front page

as well as to provide a central market venue. The venue enabled the women to sell their products that they normally would not have been able to sell because of the distance of their homes and gardens from the markets in town.

The program started 2 hours later than planned so some have commented that perhaps the next competitions should also include a component on "punctuality"!

This year's celebration was adorned by the most vibrant dances yet and was graced with a massive public attendance, including dignitaries, families and yes, a number of men counterparts.

International Women's Day celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women. Every year on 8 March, events ranging from political rallies, business conferences and local women's craft markets are held throughout the world to inspire women and recognize their achievements. International Women's Day importantly honors the work of the 'Suffragates' back in the early 1900s which composed mainly of women who sacrificed much to win women's right to vote.

This year's international theme, "The Gender Agenda: Gaining Momentum", was very timely for Pohnpeian women. The Pohnpei Women Council has seen much progress in recent years on its efforts to bring the Gender agenda to the forefront of policy formulation. Governor Ehsa has approved use of a

government building to house the Council headquarters so that "real" progress on the ground can begin in terms of providing the much needed support services to survivors of family violence. AusAID is providing funding support to renovate the building. However, the theme itself should also serve as a reminder that although the gender agenda is indeed gaining momentum in Pohnpei, there remains great gender inequality for women in Pohnpei, one which we must all strive to correct. Specific mention was made during this year's celebrations that underscored the pending bill in Pohnpei Legislature against Family Violence (L.B. 22-12) and urged its passage in the next session in May 2013.

The Pohnpei Women Council wishes to take this opportunity to thank the judges. Kalahngan muledek to Mrs. Chongkoz

Quinn, Mrs. Wanpen Ordonez and Ms. Emi Chutaro. Appreciation also goes to all the sponsors for their kind and generous donation. Special recognition goes to Senator David Panuelo for his generous and continuous support to the annual celebrations.

List of Winners:
The winners in Urohs competition go to Mand Women in Action-1st place \$500; Lien Madolenihmw-2nd \$200; and Lien Dolonier-3rd \$100, and the Tent display prizes go to EMPWA-1st \$200; Lien Education-2nd \$150; Lien Kolonia Town-3rd \$100. Special recognition goes to the Lihn Mwoakilloa group for their extra effort in punctuality, solidarity and pride in their continuous showcase of locally manufactured jewelry!!



Center Image - Lien Ponsapw (Sapwuhfik)

Clockwise from top left corner - Lien Dolonier Girls, Lien Madolenihmw, Pohnpei Women Council President Susana Sos (Luwein), Lien Health (Kempahn Roson Mwahu), Lien Alem (UCCP affiliate), Mona Lisa (Ines) of Mohdenleng

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- ◆ Touch Panel: Capacitive
- ◆ Ext device: WIFI, GPS, Bluetooth, FM
G-sensor, L-sensor
- ◆ Camera:
Front: 2.0MP Back: 3.2MP
- ◆ Speaker: 8Ω/0.5W*2
- ◆ T-Flash: support to 32G
- ◆ Audio Jack: 3.5mm
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Announcement: Employment Opportunity

Assistant to the Country Liaison Officer (Palikir, Pohnpei)

The World Health Organization (WHO) is seeking a qualified individual to serve as the Assistant to the Country Liaison Officer (CLO). The successful applicant will be assigned to the WHO Country Liaison Office for Northern Micronesia. The Assistant will provide secretarial and administrative support to the CLO and other staff in the Country Office.

Job description:

- Screens incoming correspondence, documents and reports and routes to the CLO, including relevant background materials; ensures proper distribution and follows up on deadlines; takes/transcribes correspondence, reports etc. from dictation, tapes and manuscripts, using word processing software, and takes notes at meetings and prepares minutes; drafts/prepares general correspondence, briefing notes, background materials etc. on brief instruction or own initiative, and types/formats statements, reports, and studies including statistical tables and other materials; verifies that outgoing correspondence is presented in accordance with WHO style, check language, grammar and accuracy prior to submitting for signature and clearance; Opens, organizes and maintains general project files with appropriate systems for any follow-up actions;
- Sets up schedules of appointments for the CLO and visitors; places and screens telephone calls and answers queries with discretion; maintains workplans/project activities in GSM, assists in recruitment of temporary advisors, arranges meetings and seminars, makes travel arrangements, assists in APWs, provides inventory and fixed asset reporting; In the absence of the CLO, assumes administrative responsibility for the day-to-day, routine operations of the office;
- Performs other related duties as required or instructed, including providing support to other areas of work.

Educational and experience requirements:

- Equivalent to graduation from secondary school with secretarial/administrative training.
- Five years experience in secretarial/administrative posts
- Experience in administrative support positions in WHO or another UN agency an asset. Experience in Oracle-based or other Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems an asset.

Details of the proposed position:

- Salary for this position will be \$ 9,348.00 Net per annum (paid monthly); Duration of position: One year

Applicants interested in interviewing for this position should submit a cover letter and resume/CV in person, by mail, or email to the following address no later than April 30, 2013: →

Ms. Jane Wallace
PO BOX PS70, Department of Health and Social Affairs
Mogethin Building, Palikir, Pohnpei, FM 96941
Email: wallacej@wpro.who.int

Xavier High School thanks FSM for funding support in honor of its 60th anniversary

FSM Information Services

March 15, 2013

Through a February 22 letter to President Manny Mori, Fr. Rich McAuliff S.J., director of Xavier High School in Chuuk, expressed gratitude to the FSM National Government for its donation of \$60,000 through Public Law No. 17-74, signed on February 12, 2013.

Fr. McAuliff said, "On behalf of everyone here at Xavier – faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and especially the students of Xavier, I want to express once again, Xavier's heartfelt thanks for the very generous donation of the FSM National Government to Xavier High School, on the occasion of our celebrating 60 years of quality education in Micronesia".

In the letter, The Jesuit director of

Xavier High also pointed to the fact that four FSM students attending Xavier recently attended the prestigious Junior Statesmen of America Program late February as an indication of the school's commitment to quality education in Micronesia. "I hope this is a sign of evidence that the \$60,000 donation to Xavier is money well spent", Fr. McAuliff said in linking the donation to a specific learning outcome.

The donation was initiated by the FSM Congress which has four Members who trace their high school formation experience back to Mabuchi Hill, the nest for the Jesuit-run institution.

The four Xavier students who attended the Junior Statesmen Program last month were Johnny Dhoew, Branden Yamase, Isabel Ambuyoc and K-Andrea Limol.

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Celebrating International Women's Day – Chuukese Style

By Kiki Stinnett

Friday, March 8th, was International Women's Day and the Chuuk Women's Council (CWC) joined women around the world in celebrating this special day by honoring ten (10) Courageous Chuukese Women and highlighting their achievements in Chuuk State.

The CWC membership selected ten (10) Courageous Women based on their active roles and contributions in their professional, family, community, church, State and National government lives.

To begin the day, over 300 women met in a "March-A-Thon" to represent the solidarity of women within our communities. Walking together and singing, this moving symbol of women unity walked to Anderson field from the old Stop & Shop parking lot. Fiin Alisi Mama Emiko Souleung christened this special event, including the awards ceremony, of the Courageous Women.

Ms. Kiki Stinnett, President of CWC, gave an overview of International Women's Day and honoring the selected "Ten (10) Courageous Women" of Chuuk and recognized their courage and leadership for the advancement of women and their roles. The "Ten (10) Courageous Women" included the following women:

Sr. Faustina Nedelecis now 75 years old. Celebrated her Golden Jubilee August 21, 2010 where family members, the Catholic Church, government leaders and community leaders joined the festivities to honor her accomplishments on Fefan. Sr. Faustina has over 50 years' experience working and helping children, youth, men and with women. She is passionate and committed to promoting education learning and her commitment to advancing women's involvement in the church and community.

Tersita Aten served as Chuuk State First Lady during the period of 1978 and 1986 when her late husband was Governor. During her term as first lady she was very instrumental in the formation of the Chuuk State Red Cross and continues to support the FSM Red Cross today. She graduated from Lorreto Academy High School in Kansas and maintained her position as Executive Secretary for the Department of Public Safety until she retired. She is the founder of the Club 20 that promotes education and focuses on fundraising to secure funds for High School Scholarships. They also recognize Outstanding Students at all the High Schools



during Graduation Ceremony every year.

Maria William is a true "Woman of Service" as described by her daughter Julia William. Maria William began her career in Education as a teacher's aide at the St. Cecilia School. After a number of years as a teacher's aide she moved to Iras Elementary School and began teaching. During her time at Iras, she furthered her personal education at the College of Micronesia, Prell Program, and by attending the summer programs held by Eastern Oregon College in Chuuk. She eventually became the Principal of Iras and held this position for many years, until her promotion to Superintendent for the Northern Namoneas Elementary School. In addition to her educational career, Ms. William is a busy member of the community served at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish faithfully, while fulfilling many commitments to her busy life and family of 12.

Yurie Gouland was born July 2, 1943 and is the mother of 14 children. She is a former Chuuk State First Lady and was the founder of the Chuuk Women's Council. She remains a faithful Advisor to the CWC, raised her children and numerous grandchildren religiously, and is actively involved with serving the church that carries her father's name "Keter Memorial Church". Mrs. Gouland is an accomplished and dedicated public servant who has done justice to her role as First Lady of Chuuk State.

Chineina Graham was born April 7th, 1946. Her collegiate career included the College of Micronesia and the University of Hawaii. Her education focused on elementary education, including summer professional trainings from 1962-1977. Chineina has also worked in a multitude of business functions, including serving as a legal counselor & consultant for the Micronesia Legal Services Corporation, officer and advisor to many local organizations and charities including CWC, Tobacco Coalition, and was founder and Vice President of Ship/Hoops. Chineina has also dedicated her life to being an exemplary mother, having 3 children, one of whom competed as an Olympic wrestler in the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Tanceney Raynold served as the first Chuuk State Government Women



Interest. During that time she also served on the FSM Women Advisory Council and as Vice President for CWC. She graduated from Mizpah Christian High School and has always been very committed to public service and continues to promote Christianity and Education in Chuuk. She is also co-founder of the Nukuno Christian High School on Tonowas Island.

Carmina L. Billy was born July 14, 1954. Educated in Guam, Carmina served as Assistant Coordinator for the Early Childhood Education Program for the Chuuk State Department of Education. Within the community, she personally organized and currently serves, as the Advisor to the Inamwoto Ramalum Women's Association. Carmina is the Chairperson for the CWC Board.

Dr. Rita Mori, born January 22, 1954. She earned her undergraduate degree from Grand Valley State College in the U.S. and her medical education was pursued in Pohnpei with her post-graduate studies being completed in Fiji. Dr. Rita is the acting obstetrician and gynecologist at Chuuk State Hospital and provides training to local NGOs regarding maternal-child health. Dr. Rita owns and runs a local clinic and pharmacy with her husband. She is a member of the Pacific Basin Medical Association, the Chuuk Medical Association, the Pacific Society of Reproductive Health, President of the Club 20 and Advisor to CWC.

Eleanor Setik, RN, N.P., was born January 1, 1957. She completed her collegiate study at the College of Micronesia in Nursing, continued her undergraduate degree at UCLA Women's Health Center where she earned her Nurse Practitioner license. Currently, she is based at Public Health in the Chuuk State and serves as the HIV/AIDS Coordinator. She is actively involved in the Chuuk Women's Council, and serves as Vice Chairperson and for the Chuuk State Health Services Quality Assurance Committee.

Dr. Dorina Fred-Reselap was born July 8, 1967. Doria attended the College of Micronesia's School of Nursing where she earned her AS in nursing. She worked for Chuuk State Hospital as a nurse until completing the University of Hawaii at Manoa Pacific Basin Medical Officer

Training Program in Pohnpei. She finished the program with a MBBS and returned to Chuuk to work in Public Health. Currently, Dr. Reselap serves as the MDRTB physician at Chuuk State Hospital. Her work with MDRTB earned her the CDC's National Award for Humanitarian Assistance to Patients. She has also served as an officer for the Chuuk Medical Association.

CWC used this day to highlight the strength and capacity of Chuukese women with a Track & Field competition that included about 300 women who were divided into seven (7) competitive teams. Each team wore their own colorful headbands which identified them to the delight of their many cheering fans.

The various teams signified a specific issue within the community unique to women or an issue the women of Chuuk have been actively involved in during this year. These issues included Domestic Violence (Yellow), Tuberculosis (Maroon), Beautification (Purple), HIV/STI (Red), Diabetes (Blue), Cancer (Pink), and Nutrition (Green).

The seven (7) teams competed in a number of track and field events which included the 60 & 100-meter dash, the Pinchiri, a walking race, a relay race, and the crowd's favorite, the Tug-O-War. Prizes were given out to all who participated.

When the dust settled and the cheering died down, the Domestic Violence team won the day and took the coveted 1st place award along with the bragging rights that goes with winning - but only until next year!

Hopefully, this event will encourage continued vigilance on the part of all the women of Chuuk, and the Chuuk Women's Council, to stop or significantly reduce the instances of Domestic Violence over the next year and to continue strengthening the voice of women in Chuuk!

A Special Kinisou Chapur is extended to FSM Congressman at Large, Wesley Simina, who sponsored this worthwhile event. CWC also expresses their appreciation to the local business that donated and contributed to the success of the event.

JICA commences Preparatory Survey on the Project for Improvement of Domestic Shipping Services in FSM



Signing of Minutes of Discussion between JICA and FSM Government



Surveying of Caroline Voyager by Preparatory Survey Team of JICA

On March 11, 2013, Minutes of Discussion on the Preparatory Survey on the Project for Improvement of Domestic Shipping Services in the Federated States of Micronesia was signed by Dr. Masahiko Furuichi, JICA Survey Team Leader, and by the authority of Mr. Samson Pretrick, Acting Secretary FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, as well as Mr. Phillip Joseph, Acting Secretary of FSM Department of Transportation, Communication, and Infrastructure. The objective of the Project is to improve the safety and reliability of domestic sea transportation by building a new passenger/cargo vessel. As FSM Department of TC&I is the implementing department for the mentioned project, Secretary Francis Itimai appointed members for a working group to discuss all issues pertaining to the mentioned project. Members include Maritime Transportation Division Assistant Secretary Mr. Leo Lokopwe as Chairman, Captain Yoshino Weilbacher, Captain Mathias Mangmog, Captain Patrick Peckalibe, Mr. John Tiegmai, and Mr. Louis Malfin.

...AVI Soccer

Continued from page 5

received clinic with the class on March 13.

elementary school students will likely be the future of soccer in the FSM. "It's possible that after a few years of coaching, FSM could produce soccer players who could be competitive in the international arena," he said.

He says that ideally, for development of soccer in the FSM it should seek financial support in order to hire full time development officers to develop a program at the elementary school age level. There should be training for coaches, and ideally, a couple of soccer fields on each island.

Foster said that for several years he has

been aware of the good work of Australian Volunteers International. He started hearing about their work during the five weeks each year since 2000 that he spent in Syria as an archaeologist. Four years ago, as he began to approach retirement age he started looking at opportunities with AVI looking for a job that would be a good fit for him.

When Yap requested an AVI volunteer to come to Yap to help build a soccer program he knew it was the perfect match for him.

Foster said that in many ways his placement in Yap is a pilot program in the FSM. He said that right now he plans to write a "pretty positive report" about the way he has been treated and the way the program has developed. He hoped that AVI might consider the possibility of sending more volunteers in the future to do soccer development work.

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Handing over ceremony for Farming Project in Kosrae State

Embassy of Japan

On March 11, 2013 the Government of Kosrae received two excavators and one loader truck through its Division of Agriculture and Land, Department of Resources of Development and Economic Affairs. The items were granted through the Embassy of Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. The project amount of \$120,490 USD was first signed over to Kosrae Government on July 30, 2012 but the items were finally handed over during this ceremony.

The equipment will provide rental service for farmers for construction of farm roads and drainage. Since farming plays a major role in Kosrae's development, health issues, and food security; the granting of the equipment gives a great boost to Kosrae's efforts towards economic strength, stable development of agriculture, and people's health.

Governor Lyndon Jackson received the grant on behalf of Kosrae Government. Counselor Masaki Tani represented the Embassy of Japan.



FSM Women In Business Network (WIBN)

15-16 March 2013, a meeting was held in Chuuk comprising of Pohnpeian and Chuukese women business owners to look at the establishment of an FSM Women in Business network (WIBN). Due to funding constraints, women business owners in Yap and Kosrae were not able to attend this meeting, but there is high optimism that funds will be secured to bring them onboard at the next meeting. The new network is based out of Chuuk State, and plans are underway to establish chapters in the other FSM states.

The objectives of the network is to bring together experienced business owners and new and developing entrepreneurs, particularly those operating mom and pop shops to exchanges ideas on how to strengthen their businesses. Of importance is the special emphasis given to the training of grassroots women to start and maintain small businesses in the volatile textile sector. The new network extends sincere appreciation to AusAID-Pacific Leadership Program and Vital Voices for the funding support given to realize the establishment of FSM Women in Business Network.



Sitting are the First Lady Bersita Elimo and Mrs Linda Heldart, wife of the Lt. Governor of Chuuk. Standing way at the back are Chief of Staff Wilfred Robert and Keiwo William, CNI Director and Senator-elect for Chuuk Legislature.

Letter to the Editor

Disaster hit Justice Department at the Capitol

Typhoon April Fool originated from Florida on October 2012 and hit Palikir a few days later. The eye of Typhoon April Fool targeted the FSM Department of Justice building in the executive branch of the national government. Typhoon April Fool hit FSM Department of Justice at such great magnitude that it wiped out important documents and some employees disappeared under its rage. The typhoon hit so hard important documents including sets of 4-drawer filing cabinets to fly out of the building. Some landed in the garbage bin out front, and some landed across the street in the TC&I building. Some dedicated employees were also hit hard by the typhoon and instantly evaporated, while one person is still in critical condition. A couple was blown straight across to the island of the sleeping lady and survived. They are in good hands with the Kosrae State Government, and rumor has it that they will be returned to Palikir once the area has been cleared of Typhoon April Fool.

Typhoon April Fool is still hovering around the capitol area looking for where to further unleash its

devastating damage. The big question is: WHY HASN'T THE PRESIDENT DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR FSM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE? Doesn't the President care about the safety of the employees in the Department of Justice? Does he want more people to evaporate from the wrath of this disaster? The non-action would cause further damage than simply arresting the disaster now. You should step down from that chair and step out of Palikir.

Palikir, in the Pohnpeian language, literally means to "carry someone on your back." And carrying someone on your back implies that you care for his/her safety. You have shown nothing in this respect.

POHNPEI MET----- Ih mwomwen atail pahn apwalih sapwenlimatail tohn doadoahk met, typhoon (mwekid sapairair) pahn lel Pohnpei a kitail ahpw sohte ketkiheng wiepe oh mweidehng en kawehla mour en aramas?

*Elizabeth Hallens Gallen
A Concerned Citizen*

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

After you've circled the 51 words in the puzzle below, the unused letters, when read from left to right, will spell out the name of the actress who won the 1996-97 Emmy for lead actress in a drama series and the name of her show.

- | | |
|--------|----------|
| DORM | HILL |
| DRIVE | HOLE |
| DUPE | INVERT |
| FAME | JOKE |
| FAULT | LAND |
| FAVOR | LAUD |
| FINE | LIBERATE |
| FIVE | METE |
| FLEE | NARRATE |
| FOLLOW | OPERA |
| FOOL | PANDER |
| GAIN | PASTE |
| GARB | PROP |
| GEAR | QUART |
| GOAL | ROVE |
| GOBBLE | WHILE |
| GOURD | WHISK |
| GUEST | WRIST |
| HEIST | ZEALOT |

- | | | | |
|---------|-------|--------|-------|
| AGILITY | BANG | CHORD | COAT |
| ARDOR | BLOAT | CHURCH | CONCH |
| BANE | BOXER | CLIP | DIME |

FLAUNT your solving skills by seeing how fast you can ZOOM through the puzzle and circle all 53 words listed below. The unused letter, read left to right, will reveal the name of the actor who won the 1996-97 Emmy for lead actor in a comedy series and the name of his show.

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| ACHE | FILE |
| ALMS | FLAUNT |
| ALTAR | FOAL |
| BAND | FOIL |
| BELL | GALE |
| BETTER | GROAN |
| CANDOR | HARP |
| CORK | HIDE |
| CORN | HOME |
| CRAMP | IDLE |
| CRAYON | IMBUE |
| CRUMB | IMPACT |
| DABS | JEER |
| DANGER | JOIN |
| DEAL | KAISER |
| DEMUR | KELP |
| DESIST | KIDNEY |
| DIRE | LAMA |
| ENVY | LANE |
| FEEL | LASH |

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

- | | |
|---------|--------|
| LATE | SATIRE |
| LEGEND | SCAT |
| PALM | VEND |
| PEAT | WIND |
| ROUND | WISH |
| RUIN | ZOOM |
| SALLUTE | |

Expressions

If you can finish this puzzle quickly, you can DECLARE yourself a master word search solver. Each word below refers to a mode or manner of expression. We won't take up any more of your time with our BANTER; we'll just let you get right to the solving

- | | | | | |
|----------|---------|--------|-----------|-------|
| AFFECT | CHAT | EXCUSE | NOTE | SNEER |
| ANNOUNCE | CHORUS | FIB | ORATE | SPEAK |
| ASSERT | DECLARE | GREET | PAGE | SWEAR |
| BABBLE | DELIVER | HERALD | PROMISE | TALK |
| BANTER | DEMAND | INDITE | QUIP | TELL |
| BECKON | DENY | INSIST | QUOTE | UTTER |
| BID | Dictate | INVOKE | REFER | VOICE |
| BLURT | ECHO | JIVE | REITERATE | WARN |
| BROACH | EVOKE | MIMIC | SAY | YARN |

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

Opportunities Announced for Study in Australia in 2014

13 February 2013

The Australian Ambassador in Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and Republic of the Marshall Islands, His Excellency Martin Quinn, is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the 2014 Australia Awards Scholarships provided under the Australian Governments overseas aid program.

Australia is offering around 2,300 students from over 90 countries the opportunity to study at Australian institutions in 2014, with around 2 awards available to candidates from the FSM, Palau, and Marshall Islands.

The best and the brightest students will be selected on the basis of demonstrated leadership qualities, academic achievement and their potential to impact development in North Pacific. Last year 2 scholars were selected from the FSM and Marshall Islands to study in Australia in 2013.

Australia Awards Scholarships provide recipients with the opportunity to obtain a tertiary qualification at one of Australia's world class universities. They also provide recipients with the chance to experience life in Australia and build strong links with Australian people and organisations.

The Australia Awards Scholarships offer future leaders the chance to strengthen their knowledge and leadership skills, with the goal of contributing to development in their home country.

Australia Awards Scholarships open on **1 February 2013** and close on **30 April 2013**.

For further information on the Awards go to <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/australia-awards/>

For online applications and guidelines please go to www.fsm.embassy.gov.au

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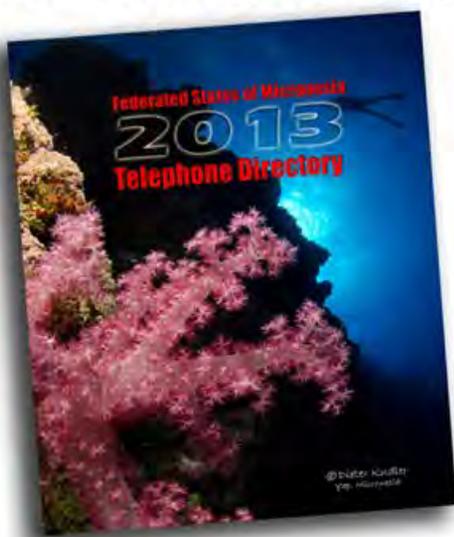


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- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome.
- Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Kia's Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. Public Welcome.
- The Christian Ministerial 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 320-4015.
- 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.
- 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

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“Let’s Go Local” reaches to Southern Outer Islands of Pohnpei

By *Chizuru Seki (JICA)*

Island Food Community of Pohnpei

Neglect of traditional food crops is a continuing issue along with the heavy dependency on low nutrition imported food among people in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

Consequences of this trend is shown in the serious health problems (diabetes, cancer, heart diseases, and vitamin A deficiency) reported in recent years and people’s deteriorating understanding of their own traditional food crops.

In addition to health problems and loss of traditional knowledge, neglect of traditional food crops makes people vulnerable to global issues of rising food prices, climate change, coastal erosion and more.

These problems apply to not only people who live on the Pohnpei Island, which has easier access to imported food, but also “remote” outer islanders who are fond of eating unhealthy processed imported food.

“Let’s Go Local,” is the slogan of Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) for promoting cultivation and consumption of traditional local food crops. IFCP believes that “going local” will help us cope with this critical situation requiring immediate action.

In March 2013, the importance of “going local” was delivered to the Southern outer islands of Pohnpei State.

It was made possible with the current IFCP projects: Go Local Traditional Agroforestry for Climate Change and Health Improvement funded by US Regional Environmental Office Award Grant, US Embassy and Pohnpei State Government Subsidy, and “Go Local” Promotion and Utilization of Pandanus Food Crop for Climate Change Resiliency funded by AusAID Small Grants Scheme (SGS), Australian Embassy.

The Caroline Voyager left Pohnpei on March 10, 2013. IFCP Office Manager, Mona J. Tara, and IFCP JICA Volunteer, Chizuru Seki, met with women of Sapwuahfik on the way to Nukuoro Atoll on March 11. During the short stay on Sapwuahfik Atoll and four days stay on Nukuoro Atoll, they conducted the IFCP presentation at communities and a school, and introduced IFCP current projects.

The importance of “going local” for the CHEEF (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy and Food Security) benefits were introduced to people in Sapwuahfik and Nukuoro Atolls to increase positive attitudes toward producing and consuming local food, knowledge of healthy local food choices, awareness on food security and climate change.

The pandanus planting project was also brought to the attention of outer islanders.

This is the expansion of a similar project started on the two Eastern outer islands of Pohnpei, Mwoakilloa and Pingelap Atolls, in the past year. The pandanus project on Mwoakilloa and Pingelap drew the attention and interest of mayors of the other outer islands.

In the project, Pandanus, especially rare varieties, are to be collected, distributed, and planted by community members along the shoreline, which is vulnerable to coastal erosion, for the protection and to increase biodiversity and protect some of the varieties which are at the verge of extinction.

During this trip, a baseline survey was conducted with each household on the two atoll islands. The survey includes household’s eating patterns, varieties of tree crops, health knowledge and waist circumference, which is an important health indicator for overweight and obesity. From the survey, it seems like there are very few yellow- and orange- flesh bananas growing on both islands (detailed results will come out soon).

Community members have shown a great interest in giant swamp taro flour as well. On the outer island, giant swamp taro, mwahng, is an important staple food. Giant swamp taro flour can be used as a substitute for imported white flour.

IFCP donated its Energy Efficient Local Charcoal Oven to each community to try this simple, healthy, environmentally friendly and inexpensive way to prepare meals. It can help communities to process local food at a small-scale. Some community members were excited to use the oven, others requested a demonstration of baking banana bread with giant swamp taro flour in the oven for the next visit.

The first IFCP visit to two of southern outer islands accomplished many objectives thanks to all the people who helped and assisted in this trip.

IFCP would like to give great appreciation to the people of Sapwuahfik (especially the women’s group, acting chief, two ladies helped with baseline survey), people of Nukuoro (mayor of Nukuoro Municipality and his family, Ms. Cynthia Leonardo, Principal of Nukuoro Public Elementary School, Nukuoro Mayor’s rep. in Pohnpei) and also the Caroline Voyager crew and people who traveled with IFCP.

Acknowledgments are given to project funding agencies: US Regional Environmental Office Award Grant, US Embassy, Pohnpei State Government Subsidy, and AusAID Small Grants Scheme (SGS), Australian Embassy.

Special thanks also to Children’s Healthy Living Program (a USDA grant to University of Hawaii), Australian Volunteer International (AVI) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for their current funding support.



Women of Sapwuahfik

People of Nukuoro



Controlled ozone-depleting substance training to be held at FSM OEEM facilities

FSM Information Services

March 19, 2013

With assistance from the United Nations Environmental Programme, the FSM Office of Environment and Emergency Management (OEEM), in collaboration with the Division of Customs and Tax, FSM Department of Finance and Administration, is organizing a 3-day workshop on Controlled Ozone Depleting Substance (ODS) to be held from April 22 to 24, 2013.

The objectives of the training are to: a) Increase awareness of controlled ozone depleting substances; b) Enforce FSM current ODS Regulations; c) Provide an overview on newly established licensing and quota system for ODS; d) Provide an overview of Customs regulations, monitoring and control systems for ODS in other countries in the region; e) Provide opportunity for customs and law enforcement officials to detect and identify different types of refrigerant using tools and equipment provided by United Nations Environment Programme.

The training will bring together officers in the areas of customs, law enforcement and border control from state and national governments at the OEEM facilities in Palikir.

On September 19, 2012, at the occasion of the 25 anniversary of the Montreal Protocol and the signing of the FSM Regulation for specific implementations of the protocol, President Mori highlighted FSM’s role in the global effort of phasing out ozone depleting chemicals to ensure a habitable home for future generations of Micronesians.

The upcoming training is part of strengthening capacity building for key officials with direct impacts on ways to fulfill responsibilities under the Regulations and the Montreal Protocol.

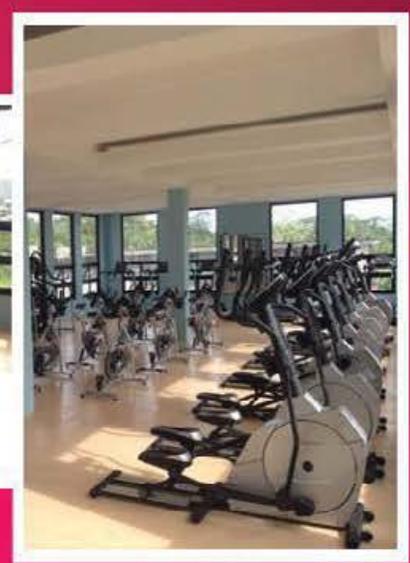
For further information, please contact the OEEM at 320-8814 or write fsmpio@mail.fm.



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