

The KASELEHLIE PRESS

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ANZAC Day in Pohnpei

Lest we forget

STORY ON PAGE 7



CPO Scott Campbell reads an ANZAC poem while Chanelle Tallon and CPO Dean Moore stand at ease

ANZAC Day - 25 April - marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War.

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

“These young soldiers of the ANZACs fought and fell in their thousands on battlefields in many foreign lands. It is in the name of the ANZACs and their remarkable example of self sacrifice that we gather to commemorate and reflect on ANZAC Day. ‘lest we forget.’”



Coast Guard Ulithi Atoll, Yap

Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia conducts boater safety training while assisting in clinic construction

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Governor Ehsa signs landmark environmental regulations

Governor Ehsa signs regulations during a ceremony on April 20 to initiate an aluminum can recycling project and to ban plastic shopping bags in Pohnpei.

A six cent recycling deposit will be added to the price of soda, beer, and other beverages packaged in aluminum cans. The law and the regulations say that the deposit fee is not a tax. The original seller will be required to account for each can sold and pay the six cent fee into the recycling program by the 10th of each month.

STORY ON PAGE 6



EPA Cleans up

Two large dump trucks and a small pickup wound their way around the island to collect trash.

Story on page 3

Governor Ehsa minces no words on PUC and the power crisis

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

April 24, 2012

Peilapalap, Pohnpei, FSM—During a private interview this afternoon from questions The Kaselehlie Press presented in advance by his request, Pohnpei's Governor John Ehsa did not mince words on the topic of Pohnpei's power crisis.

He said that he called the current special session of the Pohnpei State Legislature so that decisions could be made on several measures including the PUC bill that The Kaselehlie Press reported on in its last issue that would give him the power to dismiss PUC's entire Board of Directors.

"It wasn't even reported out and I submitted it over a month ago," he said. "And after no action I called the special session, hoping they would take it up, at least give me a decision and give me an indication on what to do next."

"The non-action puts me in a stalemate because I want to continue to work with them along the way, bring them along so that I'm not doing anything that they don't like, and this bill was a compromise between declaring an emergency and not doing anything."

We asked him if he intends to dismiss the PUC Board if the bill passes. He answered with one very direct and hard to misunderstand word, "Absolutely!"

The Pohnpei State Legislature passed a resolution during Governor Ehsa's first administration that gave him the power to work with PUC to find a solution. It was on the basis of that resolution that he established an energy task force.

He said that if he had declared a state of emergency, which he has not done he would have had the power to work around PUC.

"The real problem with PUC is really not the generators because generators are commodities that can be purchased. But audit report after reviews after reviews have indicated the lack of fiscal responsibility, management of PUC. The lack of maintenance at the power plant is a universal (comment) from all the visitors who have come to look at the situation so that they can provide their own proposals on how to resolve, all of them have said, you know 'Those generators must be replaced.' There is no more hope to maintain what we have. It's just going to be too costly. It's gone too far."

We asked the Governor why he would dismiss the board and who he would put on the board if he did so.

"Basically the board has not been supportive of this administration. A good example is the hydro, the proposal to rehabilitate the Nan Pil Hydro plant. It was unfortunate that they didn't want to cooperate with my intention to kind of do things a little bit differently; bring in private investment to operate the

Nan Pil Hydro plant. They would sell the power to PUC. PUC would put their money on it and sell, thereby reducing the consumption of fuel and hopefully reducing the cost of power to the public.

"Unfortunately, I really do not know the reasons that they didn't want this venture to go forward but they did not want to go forward. They refused to furnish the keys to the private company so they (could) begin. When I asked for the keys they refused to give (them) to me.

"Rumor on the street that I hear and in the sakau bars and elsewhere is that I was going to get rich," he said with eyebrows raised.

We told him that we had heard that rumor as well and asked him if he was saying categorically that was not happening.

"I don't see how and my regret is that perhaps they don't really know me because historically, for 23 years I lived outside of Pohnpei prior to 1995, and moving to Pohnpei I immediately worked for the National Government so, there was really no involvement at the State level for me except when I became Governor. That's the only explanation I can give as an excuse is that they really don't know who I am, and therefore there was that suspicion that I was going to get rich....

"Anyway, the lack of cooperation of the board is the reason I would like to replace them. I will replace them with people who we can work together."

He did not name names.

If his proposed bill passes in the Pohnpei State Legislature, Governor Ehsa said that he will definitely renew his efforts to rehabilitate the Nan Pil Hydroelectric plant.

"I will renew that effort to do the Nan Pil AND Madolenihmw AND Kitti because the potential for us is great. It's really so sad that we are not taking advantage of this God given resource," he said.

"The latest word from that company (the company with whom he had signed an MOU to rehabilitate and operate the Nan Pil plant) is, as long as the current management and board of PUC exists they will not do business with PUC. And again, that's why it's important that some restructuring take place to attract companies and donor assistance, loan assistance. Any kind of financial assistance will not be given to PUC at the current structure and management," he asserted.

Governor Ehsa confirmed that the State has been in negotiation with FSM Petroleum Corporation (FSMPC) as a possible power supplier. He said that though the MOU signed by the State Government, PUC, and FSMPC that he announced in a press conference a year ago has technically expired, in February the MOU was revived by leadership. The energy task force has completed a report on a recommendation on a "way forward" based on the expired

MOU.

"So the task force has recommended and reserved three Caterpillar containerized 1.1 megawatt generators. They're in Los Angeles as we speak...they are set aside awaiting payment. FSM Petro has mobilized between \$4 and \$5 million as necessary to purchase these generators. Once the generators arrive they will be operated by a new company (separate from FSMPC or PUC) that would provide the power to PUC."

"Now, FSM Petro or the leadership can look at FSMPC partnering up with a private company to operate a new company. It would still be a public corporation but perhaps contracted out and over time locals could be trained to man it."

He said that other outside companies have been contacted and have expressed interest in operating a power plant in Pohnpei.

"FSM Petro, because it is our own company, that's our first choice. However, there are other companies. We do have at least three proposals for companies to come in under that same scenario of providing power and

selling kilowatt hours to PUC for PUC to distribute.

"So while FSMPC is now being looked to for the initial financial support for the emergency need that we have, the task force report recommends long term investment in power generation capacity of up to 12 megawatts," he said.

He said that Pohnpei law allows for private generation of power but that distribution is limited to PUC.

He said that the rumor that at least one Chinese company with whom he has had contact has expressed an interest in stepping into the Pohnpei power market is true.

"One of the companies and perhaps the first company that I initiated discussion with on the possibility of stepping into Pohnpei and generating power is called Temis. It's actually a Taiwanese power company that is already in Guam generating power and managing GPA (Guam Power Authority) and so I thought that since they're already

See "Ehsa Power" on page 12

The Kaselehlie Press

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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EPA Organizes an Island Wide Clean Up

Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia

During the six days leading up to Earth Day, April 22, Pohnpei EPA organized an Island wide cleanup project. Starting on Monday April 16, two large dump trucks and a small pickup wound their way around the island to collect trash, which had previously been bagged and set alongside the road. Each Municipality and Kolonia was tasked with spreading the word that people should pick up the trash alongside the road and on their land. Altogether over the course of the week, the trucks made 45 round trips between the collection sites and the dump.

Events like this are great and commendable, but there is still much work to do. "The



environment is something that needs to be taken care of daily by billions of individuals – including the 36,000 residents of the State of Pohnpei. Every one of us 36,000 has the power to make a difference, for better or worse, in the environment every day". US Ambassador Prahar said at the Pohnpei State Earth Day celebration on Friday April 20. "It's clearly much more efficient to prevent trash than to try to pick it up and dispose of it properly."

Earth Day was first created and observed in the United States on April 22, 1970, to highlight a growing public concern about ecological crises. Earth Day focused the nation's political agenda on urgent environmental issues. The US EPA, Environmental Protection Agency, was created as a result of the Earth Day movement. As a result of the work of the US EPA the US established a strong set of enforceable laws that protect the air, water, and land from industry and people who choose not to act responsibly. Today Earth Day is celebrated around the world and the movement is making progress in educating people and governments about the importance of acting responsibly and making a difference in preserving our Planet.

FSM Postmaster General announces Saturday postal hours

*By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press*

April 13, 2012
Federated States of Micronesia—Post Offices in the FSM will be open for business on Saturdays. FSM Postmaster General Ginger Porter Mida made the announcement in a memo dated April 10, 2012 and was effective beginning on that day.

The memo said that business hours on Saturdays will be 9:00 A.M. through 2:00 P.M. every Saturday.

All post offices will be able to accept packages for mailing. In Chuuk, Yap, and Kosrae packages can also be picked up on Saturdays. Because customs clearance procedures are different in Pohnpei than in the other FSM States, packages will not be available for Saturday pickup in Pohnpei.

U.S. Removes Hazardous Waste from Yap



Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia

The U.S. Embassy, U.S. Coast Guard, the Department of State's Office of Oceans, Environment, and Science, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have worked together with the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, FSM Office of Emergency and Environmental Management, and Yap State Environmental Protection Agency to complete the process of removing a number of batteries and equipment containing hazardous materials from the USCG Long Range Aids to Navigation (LORAN) station in Yap. The LORAN station closed in 1986.

The materials were properly handled and documented in order to comply with international, FSM, and U.S. laws regarding the proper transport of hazardous materials on open-ocean and across international boundaries.

On April 18, the materials from the LORAN station were placed in shipping containers and shipped from Yap.



KAMAGAR!



KINISOU CHAPUR!



KALAHNGAN!



KULO MA LULAP!



Founder Frank Lyon mapping the Trust Territories in 1975...

Mahalo!

LY★N

...for the privilege of "Improving Island Life" since 1961...

Vandals in Pohnpei tear down their own history



By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

April 23, 2012

Pohnpei, FSM—Officials of the Pohnpei Historic Preservation Office (HPO) exclaim, “Stop destroying your history or face the consequences!” They are worried that by the time vandals are done, there won’t be much left of the historic building they hope to one day use as a museum and as their headquarters.

The designated museum site was originally constructed for use as an elementary school during the time of Japanese occupation of Pohnpei. The building is situated directly across from the Spanish Wall Ball Park and adjacent to the headquarters of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC or, as it is more commonly known in Pohnpei, the “Tuna Commission”).

Mordain David, Chief of Pohnpei’s Division of Historical Preservation, Tourism, and Parks said that the lack of restroom facilities in the historic building has been one of the principal reasons that the division has not yet made the move.

The building that once served as the common restroom facilities for the grounds is now inside the concrete wall that surrounds the Tuna Commission.

WCPFC Director Glen Hurry said that the Tuna Commission has never been recalcitrant on the restroom issue and that it long ago told the division that accessing those restrooms is not a problem.

All that needs to be done to eliminate the restroom problem is to install a gate in the WCPFC wall. Chief David was not able to say whether anyone from his division has ever made any attempt to overcome that particular obstacle.

As always, money has been an obstacle to the move and that matter has only gotten worse since vandals began to destroy the historic building.

HPO has been forced to try to incorporate the expenses for the move into its operating budget which is barely enough for the department to survive without the added expense of a move. Some time ago, HPO used part of its operating budget to buy a small stock of lumber, paint, and plywood for the interior renovation of what they still hope will be the museum.

HPO has previously applied for grants to fund the reestablishment of the museum but has been unsuccessful in all of its attempts to date.

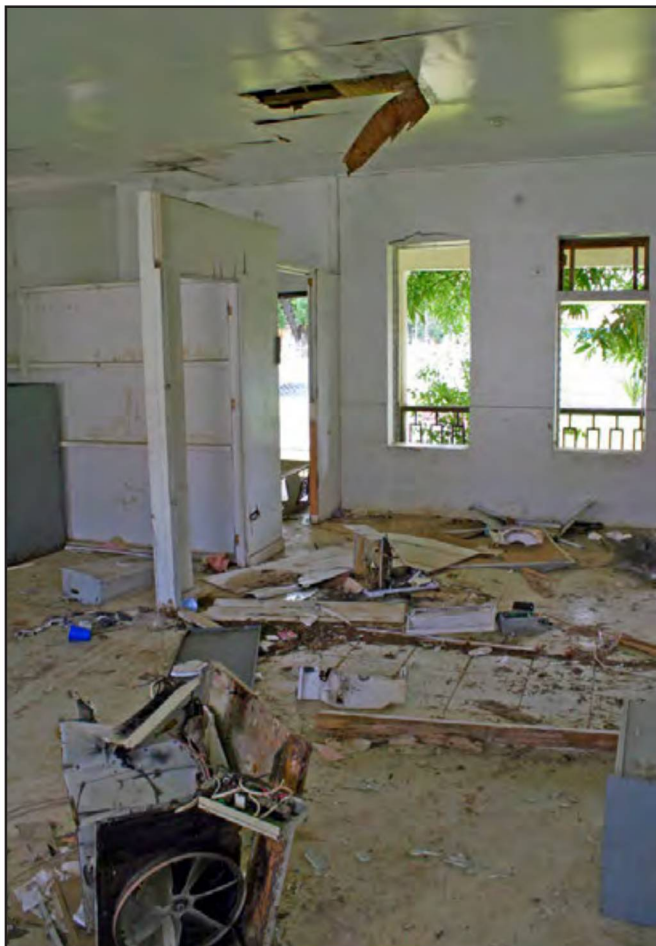
David said that an outside granting agency has said that they would seriously consider a funding proposal for a move into the designated museum site. His staff members say that DOH has not yet put together any funding proposal.

Evidence suggests that the impediments to establishing a new museum could have been knocked down before the building started to be knocked down by vandals. Chief David agrees that is now a matter of “deciding to go” and then doing the work necessary to make it happen.

The historic elementary school which was used for a while as the Pohnpei State Department of Human Resources is on the small list of Pohnpei’s registered historic sites.

Those sites include Nan Madol, the Spanish Wall, the German Bell Tower, the Japanese Agricultural Building on the grounds of the Pohnpei Botanical Garden, the Sokehs Mass Grave, the German Cemetery, Japanese artillery, and the Pohndollap Trail on Sokehs Ridge.

Several years ago, Governor Ehsa designated the historic elementary school for use as a museum to replace the Lidorkini museum that was torn down to make way for the Tuna Commission building.



“I’ve actually thought about maybe moving in or something to keep it safe,” said FSM Archaeologist Adam Thompson who is assigned to the Pohnpei HPO.

Considering the current condition of the building that is a grim prospect indeed.

Meanwhile, Pohnpei’s artifacts have been stored in a warehouse that can only be described as musty, dusty, damp, dark and dank.

Thompson says that he has been able to salvage some of what was stored in the warehouse and has moved those items to a safer place, his own home. But many of the artifacts that were stored in the warehouse have been lost to the elements and to bad storage methods.

Ne’er-do-wells in Pohnpei don’t seem to care in the smallest degree that the building they seem intent on destroying is part of their own history. They don’t seem to care either, or they simply do not know, that the building is slated to preserve, protect and display artifacts from their history for their future as well.

They have tagged the inside walls and some of the outside walls of the building with graffiti including several proud graffiti tags by a group that calls themselves the “Midnight Breakers,” spelled with a backwards “E.” Names and dates adorn the walls that vandals have not already torn down and even some that they have torn down.

The date March 2, 2012 figures prominently in some of that graffiti.

The vandals have torn down interior walls, destroyed drop ceiling panels, and strewn trash throughout the building. All of the glass louvers in the building are either broken or have been stolen. There are no security bars on any of the windows. The doors that remain are completely useless.

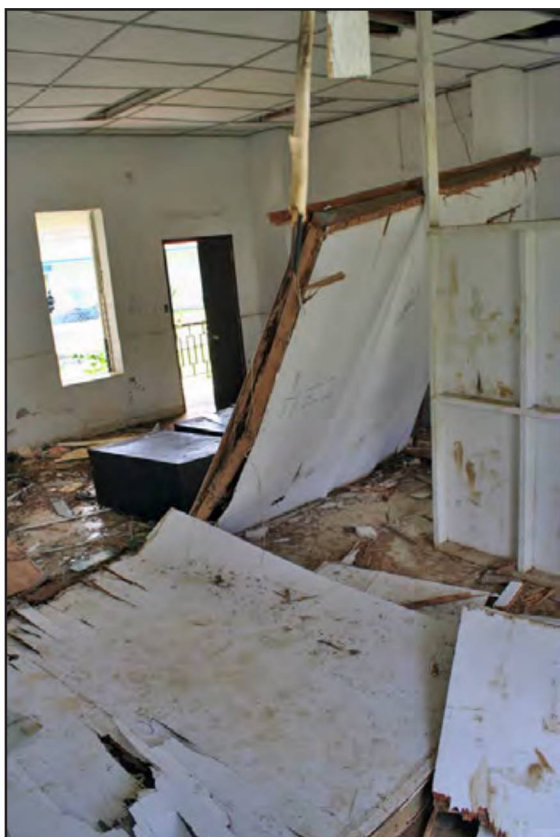
Apparently undeterred by the lack of bathroom facilities vandals have opted to occasionally use the floor inside the building for that purpose.

Names on the walls could lead to suspects in the crimes and the Pohnpei HPO has requested the assistance of the Pohnpei State Police Department to identify and prosecute the vandals as well as to keep the facility safe from further abuse.

Pohnpei State law says that vandals face heavy fines of \$1000, or one percent of the total cost for repairs, whichever is greater, for each and every day that their destructive activities on historic properties takes place. By law, a “historic property” is not just a site that is on the historic registry but includes ANY property “clearly recognizable as eligible for registration.”

HPO officials say that there are 764 sites that could eventually be registered as historic sites if there were enough members of the Historical Preservation Board for a quorum. For quite some time there have only been five members of what is supposed to be an 11 member board, one member for each municipality, Kolonia Town and the outer islands. A quorum is six members of the board.

Since it is currently almost impossible to tell which properties might someday be slated for historical preservation, would be vandals who want to avoid heavy penalties might do well to avoid defacing, destroying, or otherwise desecrating ANY properties in Pohnpei.



Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia conducts boater safety training while assisting in clinic construction

Fourteenth District Public Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard

April 14, 2012

Ulithi Atoll, Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM): USCGC SEQUOIA conducted basic Search and Rescue (SAR) and Boater Safety training to the residents of Ulithi Atoll on Thursday with the ultimate goal of preventing SAR cases in the region. As the closest long-range Coast Guard SAR asset to the atolls, SEQUOIA stressed the timeliness of missing person reports and what residents can do to assist the Coast Guard in looking for those missing at sea; because of the 350 mile distance between Guam and Ulithi, the earlier notifications are made to the Coast Guard, the greater the chances of a successful effort.

Upon arrival on the most populated island of Falalop, Petty Officer First Class Geraldine Cabrera and Petty Officer Jared Barnes explained the use and importance of various survival gear such as flares, signal mirrors, smoke producing devices, and other common distress signals. The trainers were able to reach out to the fisherman, recreational boaters, and children in the traditional "men's house," though only after requesting permission from the island chief. Through the training, they also distributed and explained standard Float Plans that contain critical voyage information to assist the US Coast Guard in the event of a missing boater.

Petty Officer Jonathan Edwards, SEQUOIA's Independent Duty Health Services Technician, was able to administer basic first aid and provide direction on the medical and hygiene products delivered to the islands. He also

worked with the island's health aid by providing basic training and guidance on common afflictions. He was available to respond to specific questions arising from the SAR training, such as best practices to avoid shark induced injuries and how to properly treat them.

Additionally, SEQUOIA partnered with Oceania Community Health (OCH) to deliver supplies destined to reconstruct the typhoon-ravaged clinic on the island of Federai in Ulithi Atoll. OCH, a non-profit organization based out of Hawaii, provided donations for SEQUOIA crewmembers to transport and offload to Ulithi to facilitate construction. The efforts saved months of construction time which would have otherwise been held up due to supply chain limitations. The majority of the supplies delivered to Ulithi consisted of much needed equipment, such as refrigerators, generators, tools, and barrels for water catchment.

The U.S. Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society on Naval Base Guam provided hundreds of additional necessities such as clothes, books, toys, and tools donated by military families serving in the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force on Guam.

SEQUOIA's crew began the process of unloading 25 pallets of supplies from the cutter's cargo hold, breaking down the boxes and passing supplies to waiting skiffs by hand. The Commanding Officer, LCDR Greg Somers, met with the local leaders on Asor Island to request permission to transit Ulithi waters and described SEQUOIA's mission, striving to better understand their needs and looking ahead to future meetings. Each island in the atoll has its own Chief, with the reigning



The crew of SEQUOIA loading barrels for rainwater catchment onto a local skiff

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT



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EXPORT STRATEGY SPECIALIST- CONTRACT

The FSM National Government is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the position of Export Strategy Specialist. The Specialist will be accountable to the Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development to: work with an Export Strategy Consultant; organize national and state consultations in each of the states with all relevant stakeholders; consult with National and State stakeholders on the draft national export strategy paper when completed; consult with National and State stakeholders on the implementation plan and proposed funding arrangements; seek funding for implementation plan; implement National Export Strategy; and other duties deemed necessary.

Interested applicants should be highly motivated in assisting the FSM in moving forward the development and implementation of its export strategy, and possess the following: a post-graduate university degree in Economics, Business, Marketing, international trade law or other relevant discipline with at least 2 years of work experience in export development matters at the international or national level (preferably export strategy development in Small Island States), have an understanding of the current needs of the productive and export sector in the FICs/PACPS, understanding of supply-side constraints of the Small Islands States in terms of export and trade and how these can be mitigated.

In addition, knowledge of free trade agreements particularly Pacific Islands Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA), Pacific Area Closer Economic Relations (PACER and PACER Plus), Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the Compact of Free Association and demonstrated knowledge and experience in the Pacific Island Countries would be a plus.

The contract duration will be for one year, renewable based upon satisfactory performance and funds availability for the implementation of the strategy. The salary will be between \$15,000- \$18,000. The primary place of work will be at the FSM Department of Resources and Development, Palikir, Pohnpei.

For interested applicants, a letter of interest along with current resume should be addressed to the Secretary, FSM Department of Resources and Development at the above address or send electronically to eweirlangt@fsmrd.fm no later than May 16, 2012. Detailed information can be obtained from the FSM Division of Trade and Investment at (691) 320-5133 or email eweirlangt@fsmrd.fm.

Chief of the atoll and other islands in Yap State residing on Mogmog island in Ulithi atoll. The crew was able to interact and meet with the island residents, providing a once-in-a-lifetime chance for cultural exchange; crewmembers were able to trade candy, knives, watches, sunglasses, and other luxuries for shells, handicrafts, and Japanese glass floats.

SEQUOIA, based on Guam, is manned by a crew of seven officers and 47 enlisted personnel. It is the 15th Junper

Class sea-going buoy tender and the 10th "B-Class" cutter built by Marinette Marine Corporation in Marinette, Wisc. SEQUOIA's primary missions are maintaining aids to navigation, search and rescue, law enforcement, marine environmental protection and homeland security. It is 225-feet long with twin diesel engine propulsion, bow and stern thrusters and advanced maneuverability capabilities that make it the world's premier buoy-tending platform.



LCDR Greg Somers (right), CO of SEQUOIA, and LTJG Nick Monacelli (left) with the chief of Asor Island.

Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) presents credentials



FSM Information Services

April 19, 2012

Mr. Ashley James Carl presented his credentials as the Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) based in Pohnpei to Secretary Lorin S. Robert of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

FSM became a member of IOM during the 100th IOM Council Session last December 2011, joining a membership of another 145 countries. Mr. Carl manages IOM activities being implemented across the North Pacific Region from the head office based in Pohnpei.

The IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, promote international cooperation on migration issues, assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems, including climate change,

and provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need. With its presence in more than a hundred twenty countries, IOM promotes awareness of international migration laws and assists governments in the development of national migration legislation. IOM also carries out post-emergency relief and recovery, implements and advises on medical and public health programs, assists victims of trafficking, trains government officials in migration management, works to facilitate legal migration and helps with the temporary or permanent settlement of people who work abroad.

About his new capacity, Mr. Carl stated, "It is an honor to have been designated to this position by the IOM Director-General, Ambassador William Lacy Swing, and now to have my credentials officially accepted by the Government of FSM".

Mr. Carl said he intends to work closely with IOM's National and State counterparts under his new designation, many of whom he has worked with the past 3 years.

Witnessing the presentation of credentials at the Department of Foreign Affairs were Deputy Secretary Samson E. Pretrick, Deputy Assistant Jackson T. Soram and members of the IOM staff.

Governor Ehsa signs landmark environmental regulations

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

April 20, 2012

Peilapalap, Pohnpei, FSM—Officials from Pohnpei's Environmental Protection agency were on hand to witness the signing of important new environmental regulations. The regulations are for the implementation of two laws that were passed late last year. Governor Ehsa signed the regulations during the ceremony today to initiate an aluminum can recycling project and to ban plastic shopping bags in Pohnpei.

The signing of the regulations was timed to coincide with Earth Day which is April 22, a Sunday this year. All week EPA staff members and volunteers had been involved in a not particularly well publicized island wide cleanup campaign and the signing ceremony topped off the week of activities.

Rumors of a coming recycling incentive program have been circulating in Pohnpei since before the bill was even introduced well over a year ago. Though Lt. Governor Marcello Peterson who was then the Kolonia Town Mayor asked the newspaper not to publicize the coming program to help keep the start up costs down, word leaked out anyway. Some residents of Pohnpei have been hoarding aluminum cans waiting for the program to start up.

Kolonia Town has had an aluminum can recycling program for many years and some people, motivated only by a desire to conserve the earth's resources and to help keep Pohnpei clean have been donating their recycled cans to the Kolonia Town recycling center without any type of financial reward. Peterson felt that a recycling stimulation program to provide motivation for recycling would make the program much more successful. He worked with the EPA and the Pohnpei State Legislature to introduce the bill which passed in August of 2011.

The implementation of the law required the introduction and passage of supporting regulations and those were signed today. EPA Director Albert Roby said that the Kolonia Town

Recycling plant located behind Ellen's market is currently the only operating redemption center.

Essentially, a six cent recycling deposit will be added to the price of soda, beer, and other beverages packaged in aluminum cans. The law and the regulations say that the deposit fee is not a tax. The original seller will be required to account for each can sold and pay the six cent fee into the recycling program by the 10th of each month. The money will be deposited into an entirely separate fund that will not revert to Pohnpei's General Fund.

When those cans are turned in at official recycling redemption centers the person turning them in will be paid five cents for each can they turn in that is in good reusable condition. Regulations define the condition of the cans that are eligible for deposit redemption. They must be reasonably clean and should not contain any items of trash such as cigarette butts, paper, or betel nut. They must also be reasonably free of liquid.

The Kolonia Recycling Center is not yet ready to begin issuing refunds. Roby said that there are still a few details to put into place but that EPA hopes to be able to take care of those details by sometime next week so that they can get started.

Though the law is modeled after the highly successful Kosrae recycling program there are currently some essential differences. Roby said that in order to keep traffic to a minimum as the program starts up recycling centers will initially have a 500 can minimum. Many canned beverages are sold in cases of 24 cans. A 500 can minimum is just four cans short of 21 cases. A representative from the recycling program in Kosrae said that they have never had a requirement for a minimum number of cans though they'd like to see at least five cans as a minimum.

Roby said that the EPA is working on the requirements and Memorandums of Understanding for new collection centers and that as more collection centers come on line in the municipalities the minimum number of cans will likely be reduced.

Governor Ehsa called the recycling regulations a good start toward cleaning up Pohnpei. He said that it would be nice if such a program weren't needed because people were already motivated to take it upon themselves. "But unfortunately the regulations are needed because we don't," he lamented.

Peter Prahar, US Ambassador to the FSM reminded the participants that can drives can be good fund raising activities for local civic groups. He challenged educators to make concern for the environment a part of their curriculum. "Even the youngest child can be an environmental activist every day," he said.

Ambassador Prahar said that aluminum cans are highly recyclable and that it requires manufactures 95% less energy to recycle one can than it takes to create a new one. It has been estimated that 2/3 of aluminum cans that have ever been made in history are still in use today.

He said that while it is certainly more efficient to prevent trash in the first place than to pick it up after it has accumulated he takes heart in knowing that if a thoughtless person throws a can out someone will be along and will be financially rewarded for picking it up.

The second set of regulations signed today were the regulations for the law that passed in October 2011 that prohibits businesses from using plastic bags for merchandise with only a few exceptions.

Ambassador Prahar said that everyone thinks of those plastic bags as free but that in the U.S. retailers spend a combined total of \$4 billion a year for those "free" plastic bags. Further, plastic bags take over a 1000 years to decompose adding yet another cost for the disposal of those "free" plastic bags.

"And the real shame is that it's all completely unnecessary as Europeans demonstrate every day," he said. European shoppers have long been accustomed to carrying their own reusable shopping bags when they shop. Prahar said that he hoped that retailers in Pohnpei will realize the advantages to the environment and after a

suitable transition period will be proud to come aboard.

According to the regulations which imposes fines to retailers for the issuance of plastic shopping bags they won't have much choice.

Roby said that the EPA will be working with individual retailers to set individual deadlines for the implementation of the ban in their stores. He said that it will be taking into consideration the current levels of supplies of plastic bags that retailers already have on hand to guide them on a time when it will begin enforcing the law.

Carryout bags that will be permissible are reusable bags, recyclable paper bags, bags made from renewable compostable materials, bags that are fully biodegradable with five years of their manufacture, and durable plastic bags with a material thickness of at least five millimeters and sacks and satchels made of composite materials.

The ban does not apply to the original packaging material enclosed upon its manufacture. It does not apply to bags provided to carry chilled or frozen products. It does not apply to bags used by consumers inside stores to pack bulk items such as fruit, vegetable, nuts grains, candy, or small hardware items; to contain or wrap frozen foods; to contain or wrap flowers, potted plants, or other items where dampness may be a problem; or to contain unwrapped prepared foods or bakery goods. It does not apply to pharmacy prescription bags, or to laundry-dry cleaning bags or bags sold in packages containing multiple bags intended for use as garbage, pet waste, or yard waste bags.

The regulations also set out requirements for permits to import plastic bags and, establish penalties for intentional violation of the regulations.

At the end of the ceremony organizers presented reusable canvas shopping bags to each of the participants.

Ironically, the participants were also each provided with a sandwich snack served on Styrofoam plates and a juice drink contained in a collapsible aluminum foil bag.

ANZAC Day in Pohnpei – Lest we forget

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

April 25, 2012

Pohnpei, FSM—Residents and visitors to Pohnpei joined thousands of Australians throughout the world to commemorate ANZAC day in a dawn service at the residence compound of the Royal Australian Navy on the shore of the Nett River.

The service, hosted by Chief Petty Officer Dean Moore and Scott Campbell began at 5:30 in the morning and was followed by a traditional “gunfire breakfast.”

The invitation says “ANZAC Day – 25 April – marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. These young soldiers of the ANZACs fought and fell in their thousands on battlefields in many foreign lands. It is in the name of the ANZACs and their remarkable example of self sacrifice that we gather to commemorate



and reflect on ANZAC Day. ‘lest we forget.’”

CPO Dean Moore opened the dawn service. “Time dims the memory of ordinary events but not great events. In a nation’s history, great events, whether in peace or war live in our memories regardless of time. They are deemed great not necessarily for what they achieve, nor for whether they are reckoned to be victories or successes.

“Rather, the great events are distinguished by the quality of the human endeavor they call upon by the examples they create for ordinary men and women, and by the legends they inspire.

“So it is with ANZAC Day.”

He spoke of the history of the fateful battle in Gallipoli, Turkey during which more than 11,000 ANZAC’s were killed.

“Gallipoli was quite simply a tactical and devastating defeat. But the achievements of the ANZACs were to be measured other than on the battlefield. It was not just that Australians and New Zealanders were serving overseas in the name of the fledgling nations for the first time. By their commitment, their courage and their comradeship, the ANZAC’s set standards that inspired their countrymen for generations to come. The legends they established gave fresh voice to new feelings of national pride in both young nations and the news of their suffering, on reaching the homes of anxiously awaiting families, brought people together in way they had no known before...”

“...We remember on this day those who fell in both world wars, in conflicts in Korea, Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam and while on service with international peacekeeping forces and those in the middle-east fighting the war on terror.

“But it was Gallipoli which gave us pride, not in war, but in the knowledge that Australians and New Zealanders, put to the test, would not fail. That spirit and tradition sustained our forces in many later battles and trials, and in many ways, sustain us now.

“And tradition is important. Suppose our troops had performed badly at Gallipoli, lost their nerve and their morale? How much more difficult would it have been for those who followed. The Gallipoli tradition laid down the rules and still helps us today to face new challenges.

“Duty, patriotism, individual sacrifice, and the affirmation of the Australian and New Zealand relationship are the enduring legacies of Gallipoli and all subsequent conflicts involving our two nations.

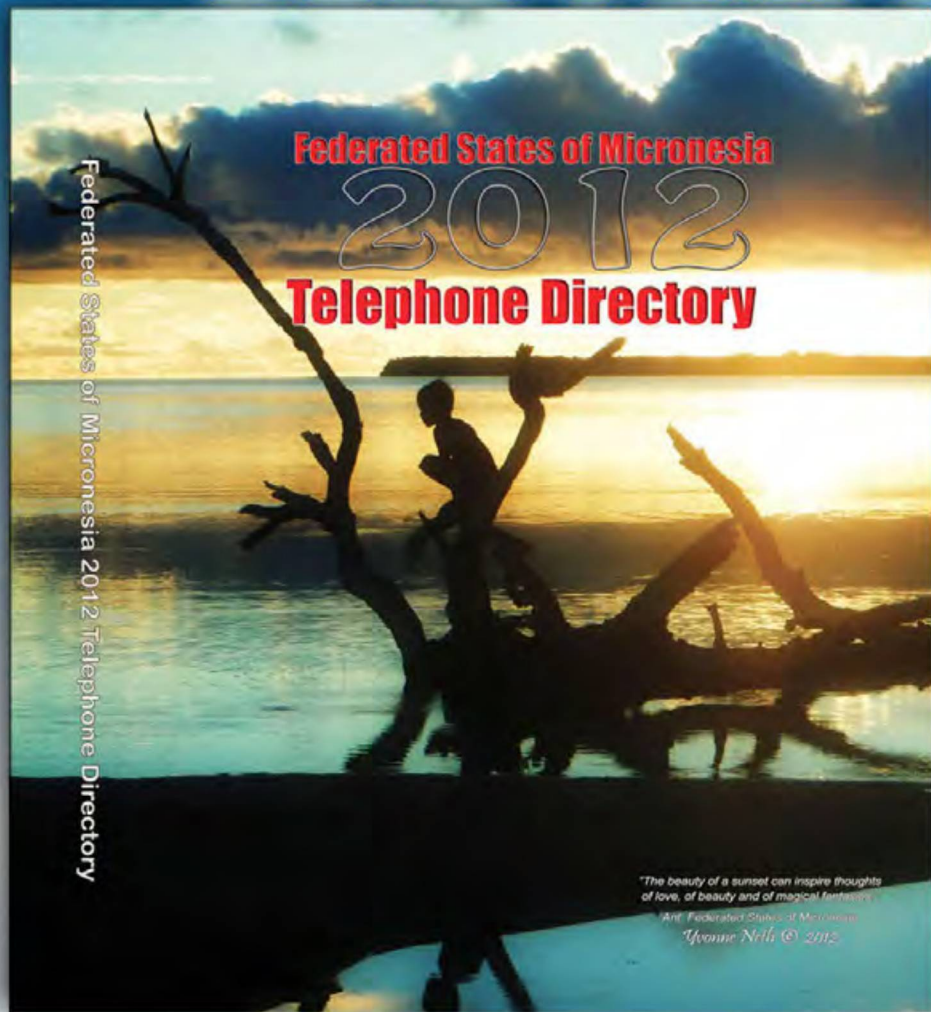
“The men and women who forged the ANZAC spirit made sure that those who led them earned their respect. They all understood the values of independence, freedom and fairness and—above all—possessed a willingness to defend these things if need be. Because freedom only survives as long as people are willing to defend it.

“That is the spirit the ANZAC’s handed down to us. If we lose that ANZAC spirit, we lose all.”

Flag bearers for the dawn service were Chanelle Tallon who raised the New Zealand flag and Jack Bricknell who raised the Australian flag during the ceremony as the sun came up.

Charge d’affaires Mr. Sam Upritchard presented the ANZAC requiem. CPO Scott Campbell read an ANZAC poem. Father Dave Andrus prayed and led the participants in the Lord’s Prayer. Commemorative wreaths were placed on the ANZAC memorial stone and plaque by representatives of various groups.

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Enhancing school preparedness and resilience

The International Organization for Migration (IOM)

On April 11 – 13, 2012, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), with funding support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and in coordination with the Pohnpei State Department of Education (PDOE), organized a three-day training entitled "School Emergency Planning and Preparedness Training", which was held at the PDOE Training Center. PDOE requested the IOM to assist in arranging this event. Out of the 29 invited educational institutions, 26 schools were present throughout the training, and all of these were elementary schools.

The primary objective of the training was to develop School Emergency Protection Plans, a corollary to the fire evacuation drills and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Education Pilot Project. Moreover, the emergency protection plans are a requirement for school accreditation under the FSM National Department of Education (NDOE) standards.

On the first day of the training, the opening remark was given by Mr. Pete Leon Panuelo, Chief of Elementary Division, PDOE and Mr Ashley Carl, Chief of Mission, IOM. Subsequently, IOM staff provided briefings on natural hazards, such as fire, tsunami, typhoon, landslide and flood hazard, and medical emergency.

Enthusiastic discussions involving the participants, the IOM team, and National and Pohnpei State Government representatives also occupied each module presented during the course of the training.

of the event, Ms. Rihna Jimmy of PDOE also shared her knowledge regarding emergency preparedness; particularly from the health perspective.

During day two and three of the training the principals and other school staff started preparing their school emergency management plans for their respective schools. IOM provided a user friendly template, which the participants could use to address the key considerations and emergency operating procedures.

Additionally, on the third day, the six schools: Awak, Kolonia, Nett, Ohmine, Sekere and Saladak Elementary School, who had also participated in the GEAR-UP Program, had the opportunity to share their experiences from the fire response drills that they had accomplished with assistance from IOM and Pohnpei State DOE, during March. By providing their personal insights, other school principals appreciated the simple, but critical, procedures involved in conducting fire response drills, and were motivated to organize these for their own schools.

The event concluded with the awarding of certificates handed out by Ms. Jimmy and Ms. Whitney Hoot, IOM Project Supervisor for the DRR Education Pilot. With the generous funding support of USAID, IOM was also able to provide the participants with education materials produced under the DRR Pilot Project; including 50 copies of each disaster preparedness series comic book, including the landslide, typhoon and tsunami hazards. In addition, a climate adaptation and disaster preparedness coloring books, stickers, community and school banners, and four different instructional poster designs were provided to the principals.

IOM will review the newly drafted School Emergency Plans to provide further technical input and then all the plans will be submitted to PDOE for their final approval. Following PDOE approval, all the plans will be returned to the 26 principals of the participating schools to ensure that they have standard operating procedures easily accessible, thus making their schools and surrounding communities safer.



Representing the Office of Environment and Emergency Management (OEEEM), Mr. James Lukan and Ms. Oleen Poll participated in the training. Mr. Wayne Mendiola of FSM Department of Education was also present during the course of the training. Assisting in the facilitation

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HURRY WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

Regional Bank reviews 2011 results, elects Palau's VP new chair

Pacific Islands Development Bank (PIDB)

(Tofol, Kosrae). The Board of Governors of the Pacific Islands Development Bank (PIDB) held its annual meeting on April 9, 2012 in Kosrae. Board Chairman, Governor Ehsa of Pohnpei, welcomed everyone with special recognition to Secretary of Finance of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Alfred Alfred Jr., serving as proxy for the RMI government. The main agenda items include the Review of the Bank's 2011 Performance, 2011 Audit Report and Bank's membership and capitalization. At the meeting, RMI made its second installment payment of \$250,000 increasing its membership capital to \$500,000 in less than eight months. Board Chairman Ehsa said "we thank the leadership of RMI, both past and present, for their commitment and foresight and we welcome them with open arms to PIDB", adding that PIDB is ready to process loan applications in the Marshall Islands. During the year, Kosrae State also infused an additional \$30,000 equity, increasing its membership capital to \$730,000. Chairman Ehsa also thanked the leadership of Kosrae for its continued commitment especially during these difficult times. CNMI, Guam, Palau, Pohnpei, and Yap have already fulfilled their \$1 million pledged membership capital while Chuuk State has \$251,000. The membership requirement is \$1 million in paid-in capital.

Aren Palik, Bank President & CEO, presented the Bank's 2011 operational results and performance with audited



Seated from left: Carson Sigrav (Kosrae), Kerai Mariur (Palau), Lourdes Leon Guerrero (Proxy for Judith Won Pat, Guam), John Ehsa (Pohnpei), Telo Taitigue (Proxy for Eddie Calvo, Guam). Standing from left: Sebastian Anefal (Yap), Thomas Pablo (Pohnpei), Henry Falan (Yap), Lyndon Abraham (Kosrae), Diego Benavente (CNMI), Secilil Eldebechel (Palau), Alfred Alfred Jr. (RMI Proxy), Aren Palik (Bank President).

financial statements, stating that 2011 was both historic with the attainment of Marshall Islands membership and successful with Total Loans grew by 15% or \$952,247; Total Assets increased by 7.6% or \$643,545; and Stockholders' Equity grew by 5.6% or \$362,791. On earnings, the Bank realized a Return on Asset of 2.4%, increasing Retained Earnings by 46% to \$685,469 and a Return on Equity of 3.1%. Finally on asset (loan) quality, the Bank recorded a loan delinquency of 0.9% with zero loan charge offs. Over the past six years, PIDB's loan delinquency has averaged 1.6% and total actual loan charged offs was \$19,222,

representing prudence in loan management and administration. The Bank also had another clean "unqualified" audit, and the Bank has increased its scholarship program. "While we are continuing to strengthen and diversify our balance sheet and earnings, the bank remains fragile and the future portends real challenges for the Micronesia sub-region", Palik said. He added that the Bank's greatest challenge is to increase its capacity, especially capitalization, in order to increase assistance to its members. Recognizing this challenge, the Board two years ago organized a Task Force to focus on this issue and seek ways to increase

the Bank's capital and financial resources. Palik also reported that the Bank will begin issuing loan applications in the Marshall Islands in May this year and Marshallese will be able to apply for commercial, consumer, and residential housing loans.

Before adjourning, the Board reorganized and elected Vice President Kerai Mariur of Palau as Chairman, Governor Benigno Fitial of CNMI as Vice Chairman, and Speaker Judith Won Pat of Guam as Secretary. New Chairman Mariur thanked the outgoing officers for their services

LDS Church Donates Sewing Machines to Ohwa International Christian Academy

Nett, Pohnpei- To assist the Ohwa International Christian Academy in their efforts of teaching self-reliance to their students, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon Church) presented 15 sewing machines, 3 fishing spears, goggles, fins, snorkels and underwater lights as a humanitarian donation to the school on April 18, 2012. They also provided the materials necessary to begin their first sewing projects.

The idea behind this donation is to teach the students how to design their own clothes, sew their creations and sell them on the local market. They will learn how to budget, market and perpetuate their own business. They will also learn how to maintain the sewing machines and develop the life skills necessary to provide for their future families.

The fishing supplies were donated to augment a previous donation by the Church of a boat, outboard engine and fishing nets to the school that has helped provide fish for the students for several years now.

Michael T. Ringwood, Asia-North Area President for the Church, presented the donation to Saped Santos, Vice Principal of Administration for Ohwa ICA. Senator Shelten Neth expressed sincere appreciation on behalf of the school for the donation

of love provided by the Church. Fasi Jimmy, Board of Director and Joseph Villazon, Pohnpei State Director of Education, were also present during the presentation and offered their words of thanks to the Church.

According to Bill Davis, Micronesia-Guam Service Center Manager, humanitarian projects are funded by donations of members of the Church and others. The Church is actively involved in humanitarian relief and development activities throughout the world. These include emergency relief assistance in times of disaster and humanitarian programs, such as the one made to Ohwa, that strengthen the self-reliance of individuals, families, and communities.



Michael T. Ringwood, Joseph Villazon, Saped Santos

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT



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EXPORT STRATEGY CONSULTANT-SHORT TERM

The FSM National Government is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced person for a short term consultancy intended to assist the FSM Government to develop the National Export Strategy. Detailed information can be obtained from the FSM Division of Trade and Investment at (691) 320-5133 or email eweirlangt@fsmrd.fm.

Interested applicants should possess a post-graduate university degree in Economics, Business, Marketing, international trade law or other relevant discipline with at least 5 years of work experience in export development matters at the international or national level (preferably experience on export strategy development in Small Island States), have a deep understanding of the current needs of the productive and export sector in the FICs/PACPS, understanding of supply-side constraints of the Small Islands States in terms of production, export to overseas markets and how these can be mitigated. In addition, knowledge of free trade agreements particularly Pacific Islands Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA), Pacific Area Closer Economic Relations (PACER and PACER Plus), Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the Compact of Free Association and demonstrated knowledge and experience in the Pacific Island Countries would be desirable.

The consultant would be required to undertake, among other things, the following: Identify selected products for export development, strategies to enhance production, and modifications that must be made to adapt them for overseas markets; review and assess potential countries targeted for sales development; develop a detailed time frame and cost for implementing each element of the strategy; other work specified by the Department.

The consultant will work under direct supervision of the FSM Department of Resources and Development (Division of Trade and Investment), which will coordinate the visits to FSM States, and all consultations with relevant National and States Government Officials (trade, customs and tax, tourism, fisheries and agriculture), as well as Non State Actors. For some activities under the project, the national counterpart will be required to work directly with the Division of Resources Management and Development. A local counterpart will be working with the consultant to ensure transfer of knowledge and successful implementation of the strategy, as well as sustainability of the project.

The short term consultancy will be no longer than 45 days. The salary will be US\$22,500 to cover services. International and domestic travel will be included in contract.

For interested applicants, a letter of interest along with current resume should be addressed to the Secretary, FSM Department of Resources and Development at the above address or send electronically to eweirlangt@fsmrd.fm no later than May 16, 2012.

COM-FSM Quality, Sustainability, and Success: A Framework for Planning and Action

President Joseph M. Daisy, Ed.D.
April, 20, 2012

Lihk me pwoohng a loahl soh.
—from Some Ponapean Proverbs

I'm told that proverb translates as "Outside it is night but not inside." It was supposedly referring to one who could master himself in a difficult situation. We are in a difficult situation, but I believe we have the inner strength to become its master. In the short time as president, I learn and continue to learn each day, the ways in which the college is successful, and the ways in which the college needs to become stronger, more effective and efficient, and to improve, to ensure the academic and operational components of COM-FSM are of high quality.

In this regard, much of my education is in part thanks to you. Through our engagement and through our frank and candid discourse both the strengths and areas for improvement have been revealed. For your contribution to informing me as president, please accept my thanks. Only through continued reflective dialogue and communication with each other, and with our external constituents can we foster a culture of inquiry, a culture of assessment, and embed in our learning community a culture of continuous improvement.

As I continue to be honored to serve you as president, my service and my responsibility to lead this college depends on our commitment to work together to "confront our challenges and create our future." In the investiture remarks shared with you on February 6, 2012, it was my intent to provide the community with a pathway for the college to achieve the goals to which we aspire. Any good map needs clear markers. In this presidential white paper I am setting forth those markers to guide us along our way.

Our Mission and Our Future

The College of Micronesia-FSM is a uniquely Micronesian and globally-connected, student-centered institute of higher education committed to developing the Federated States of Micronesia into a stronger, more economically independent nation, one recognized as a leader in the Western Pacific region and across the globe. In order to fulfill that Mission the college must define its own vision for quality, sustainability, and success and thereby serve the FSM by providing an educated citizenry to ensure the nation's quality, sustainability, and success. To this end—and in order to refine, define, renew and establish new principles that will guide the college through 2025—we will together engage in a college and stakeholder-wide Vision Summit in August of 2012. This Vision Summit will begin the process of developing our new strategic plan: Wasahn Kamarain: 2013-2017.

The Work Begins Today

Now we must take up the hard work of those promises made. We must deliver on the promises that we make through our college's Mission. We must now operationalize our core values, the values to which we reaffirmed our commitment on February 6, 2012. This task we must achieve together. Please be mindful that "each of us, regardless of our position, yet because of our profound responsibility to this college and the students we serve, has a deep and abiding obligation to create its future."

Our Journey and Our Destination

This "presidential white paper" sets forth a roadmap of our work for the balance of this calendar year and more broadly for years to come.

First and foremost, we must take immediate steps to more fully comply with ACCJC/WASC standards and demonstrate the proficiency of our Institutional Effectiveness efforts.

The ACCJC Rubric for Evaluating Institutional Effectiveness is a key tool to use in that effort. But we must strive to move beyond those standards, finding those best practice methods within higher education that are the best fits for our students and our circumstance here in the Pacific. We should also pursue other U.S. and international measures of assurance. Above all, we must maintain our focus on student success, our commitment to measuring of student outcomes and continuously improving student performance to meet the needs of the FSM.

Pride and Progress

We have not been standing still. Much work has been completed by the entire college community. We have seen the effective and fruitful work resulting from our relatively new participatory governance structure. We have witnessed a significantly improved level of participation in the deliberations of our college-wide committees. Our curriculum committees have reviewed and revised course syllabi and articulated student learning outcomes consistent with the ACCJC's Student Learning Outcomes Rubric. We have completed a number of other plans that address the college's needs, both present and future.

We have improved telecommunications capacity to support the work of governance committees; the college has completed phase one of its program prioritization; the Board of Regents and the college have improved the level of engagement of external stakeholders through quarterly (town hall style) community meetings; and we have established a physical resources contingency fund to address unanticipated needs. For all that, we recognize the collective efforts of faculty, staff and administration and thank each and every one who has brought us so far in such a short time. These accomplishments have been meaningful and are a vital foundation for our ongoing quest for continuous quality improvement at COM-FSM.

Yet, while we acknowledge how far we have come, we still have much to do. While the efforts of the college to embrace the Standards of Accreditation as an integral part of the college's commitment to quality and to improvement is well underway, and planning began long before I joined you as president, the planning process needs further guidance and focus. This is most starkly evidenced by the ACCJC's most recent Action Letter.

Next Steps

We have further still to go to demonstrate to ourselves and to the ACCJC that we have reached the Proficiency level of Institutional Effectiveness in the areas of program review, planning, and student learning outcomes. Once that is accomplished we must maintain our recent momentum and move rapidly to achieve the Continuous Quality Improvement level. We must re-dedicate ourselves to reaching these goals through the following steps:

1. Formally assessing our recent round of planning, program review, and SLO efforts to demonstrate that we have completed a full planning cycle.
 - Conduct an immediate and comprehensive assessment of the most recent Strategic Plan, its components, processes, and outcomes. This assessment will inform our on-going planning work and must be completed by the end of May 2012, with recommendations for action by COM-FSM governance bodies and stakeholder groups and must then be reported to the ACCJC before its June 2012 meeting.
 - Complete a review of the status of Student Learning Outcomes at COM-FSM. That review will form the basis of a report due to the ACCJC in October 2012 and also serve as an important evidentiary base for our Master Plan for Integrated Assessments (MPIA), which will include broad, purposeful institutional dialogue about SLOs, the alignment of course SLOs with program and degree SLOs, and special emphasis on authentic assessment.
2. Insuring that we engage in an ongoing, robust and purposeful dialogue about institutional effectiveness. That discussion must be based on evidence and informed by widely disseminated, data-informed analyses.
 - Complete the current dialogue about institutional effectiveness, communications and governance, especially by revising our recent communications survey (April), re-issuing it (April 2012), engaging the college community in a review of its results May 2012, and implementing recommended changes (June – August 2012).
 - Put in place the recommended changes as we begin the new academic year next fall. By December 2012 we should have the next round of assessment in the form of a follow-up communications survey. Then the cycle will begin again as we will have closed the second assessment loop.
 - Engage all stakeholder groups in a continuing cycle of dialogue based on the findings of our assessments.
 - 3. Engaging in a systematic and regular review of the allocation of resources to assure that we fulfill our mission and maintain institutional effectiveness. In light of the significant financial constraints we face as a result of the JEMCO decrement, more than ever before it will be essential for us to integrate our finances with our planning process. An ongoing, transparent financial planning process which informs our integrated planning process will enable us to prioritize our broad educational objectives and effectively deploy our human, physical, technological and financial resources.
 - Review immediately the alignment of our operational and financial plans for FY 2013 and if necessary re-prioritize these plans. We must also carefully review the financial resources in our plan implementation through FY 2015.
 - Institute program reviews for all non-academic areas beginning in FY 2013 and link the results of academic and non-academic program reviews to resource allocations that will achieve our institutional learning outcomes.
4. Maintaining a focus on student success and improving student outcomes
 - Provide ongoing, regular, and structured opportunities for a purposeful and robust dialogue about student learning.
 - Fully align Student Learning Outcomes with those at the program and institutional levels.
 - Provide evidence of ongoing and systematic assessment of Student learning Outcomes and use that evidence for continuous quality improvement.
5. Setting concrete goals to reach Proficiency level for all three ACCJC Institutional Effectiveness Rubrics by December 2012 and Continuous Quality Improvement level by Dec. 2013
 - Assure that results of all program reviews are integrated into institution-wide planning by August 2012.
 - Assess, review, and refine program review processes by August 2012.
 - Assure that Learning Outcomes are specifically linked to program reviews by December 2012.

Our Future in Our Hands

On February 6th, 2012 we joined together for the first time. We reaffirmed our commitment to teaching and learning, our commitment to research and scholarship, our commitment to the mission, and our commitment to our core values.

Let us continue this journey with dedication and focus to confront our challenges and create our future; a future ensuring quality, sustainability and success for COM-FSM, the students we educate and the nation we serve.

This we will do, and in this we will succeed. To succeed, we must all work to ensure that we are upholding the mission of the college and working toward the collective vision that we set for the institution. We must assess and continuously improve our institution's quality and work to achieve greater success of our students.

We will undertake this work together. We must all participate. We must communicate well. This is the job that has been entrusted to us by our community and our nation of behalf of our students and their families



Pohnpei Library Week 2012

Friends of the Pohnpei Public Library

This year Pohnpei Public Library celebrated its 24th anniversary with a "Library Week," from April 9 through 13. The theme for this year's celebration was "DREAM BIG."

Two Schools visited the Library to participate in the events on Thursday and Friday. Lukop and Sapwalpw 4th graders had the opportunity to come to the library for a tour and story. Fourth graders heard stories from guest readers Tania Sufficool and Laurie Eastup.

On Friday evening, the library held a special celebration to commemorate the anniversary and to recognize essay and art contest winners. The program began with an invocation from Sen. Ishmael Lebeh. He also went on and welcomed everyone to the ceremony.

This year we were fortunate to have two keynote speakers. The first Keynote was Dr. Rufino Mauricio, he talked about the theme and asked the students to share their ideas about their big dreams. One of the students responded by saying that she dreams that there will be world peace.

The second speaker was Professor Susan

Moses who shared a story with the audience entitled "The Little Red Hen." Moses also talked to the students about how important it is to read in order to achieve our dreams.

The program ended with the presentations of awards to the students who were selected as winners for the art and essay contest.

Art winners were Milan Preston Porter, CCA, Kindergarten; Rhea Mae Buensalido, CCA, 1st grade; Vernica David, Ohmine School, 2nd grade; James Olmos, Kolonia School, 3rd grade; Morena David, ESDM, 4th grade; Sheffy Ezekias, CCA, 5th grade; Jance Henry, Palikir School, 6th grade; John John, ESDM, 7th grade; Destiny Etse, SDA, 8th grade; Nate Anson, NMHS, 9th grade; RoxeAnne Fredrick, NMHS, 11th grade; and Brittney Itimai, 12th grade, SDA.

Essay winners were Jenna Helieisar, PCS, 2nd grade; Roseleen Iohp, Kolonia School, 4th grade; Sidney Nanpei, Ohmine School, 5th grade; Hersiann Ligo, Nett School, 6th grade; Natalia Lohn, Ohmine School, 7th grade; Sonsha Padock, CCA, 8th grade; Avriel M. Merencillo, CCA, 9th grade; Ellisa Marie Hadley, CCA, 10th grade; Siorine Pahmer, MHS, 11th grade; and

Kevin Jr. Kiyoshi Ihara, CCA, 12th grade.

Pohnpei Public Library wants to express its gratitude to the following individuals, businesses and organizations for their contributions and support that made this Library Week successful.

Businesses were Ace Hardware, Ace Office Supplies, Amcres, Blue Nile, China Star Restaurant, Dollar-Up Enterprises, Happy Mart, MicroPC.fm, Palm Terrace, Panuelo Enterprises, Pitt Stop, Pohnpei Clean Living, Pohnpei Computer Consulting, Scooby's and XIX Store. Organization and Individual Volunteers and Contributors were Dr. Rufino Mauricio, Ms. Susan Moses, Carol Hayes, Cori Jo Jahnsen, Janelle Santos, Kenneth Girrard, Laurie Eastup, Lori Wohlgemuth, Tania Sufficool, Janet Panuelo and the College of Micronesia-Pohnpei Campus.

Friends of the Pohnpei Public Library would also like to take this opportunity to thank the following for their contributions to Orphan Magazine Program and to the wish list on Amazon: Aaron Nighswander, Alex Zuccarelli, Alison Stenger, Ava Neth, Emanuele Taibi, Ira Shiflett, Kira Neth, Amy Prahar, Marstella Jack, Michael Benjamin, Terry Hoot, Yvonne Neth, Lara Studzinski, John P. Ranahan, Jean Ranahan, Cheri Zuccarelli, Adam Thompson, Anthony J. Zuccarelli, Diane Isherwood, Janet Isherwood, Elaine Isherwood, Richard MacNeace, Chris Hilbert, Dreamworlds Beyond Time and Eugene Joseph.



Professor Susan Moses reads "The Little Red Hen"

National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) holds its 5th Meeting on Trade and Trade-related Matters in Palikir

FSM Information Services

April 24, 2012

The fifth meeting of the National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) was held in Palikir, Pohnpei on April 17-18, 2012. In attendance were Vice President and Chairman of the NTFC, the Honorable Alik L. Alik, former Vice President Redley Killion, Secretary Marion Henry of the FSM Department of Resources and Development (R&D), representatives from the State and National governments, private sector, and relevant Non-Government Organizations (NGO). The Chairmanship of the meeting was deferred and the meeting unanimously voted for former Vice President Killion as Chair.

The objective of the meeting was to consider two main issues: a) the Trade in Services (TIS) Protocol to the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA), with a focus on the final draft legal text and FSM's final draft Schedule of Commitments and (b) the negotiations for the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between Pacific African Caribbean Pacific (ACP) States (PACPS) and the European Union (EU), focusing on options available to the FSM for the continuation of the negotiations.

The opening formalities were presided over by the Vice President. In his introductory remarks, Vice President Alik welcomed the participants

and thanked them for availing themselves for the meeting. He reiterated the important role that trade and investment could play for the FSM's economy, in light of the declining and eventual expiration of the financial provisions of the Compact. In this regard, he specifically highlighted that the Trade in Services Protocol to the PICTA and the EPA could potentially contribute to the sustainable growth of FSM's economy, by providing opportunities for the FSM to increase its participation in sub-regional and regional trade in services, and to take advantage of the duty free and quota free access to the European market, especially for fisheries products and other niche products. Vice President Alik also reiterated the National Government's firm support of the private sector through the FSM Association of Chamber of Commerce (FSMACC) as shown by the FY2013 budget submission and financial support for the past two years; and provided an update on the status of the tax reform, which is also very important to FSM's trade and the economy as a whole.

The NTFC was provided with an overview of the negotiations for the Trade in Services Protocol to PICTA, which was concluded in February 2012 in Nadi, Fiji and were briefed on the key elements of the Protocol, in line with current domestic laws and regulations applicable in the FSM and FSM's international obligations, and the potential implications and changes that would need to be undertaken in order to bring the laws and regulations

applicable in the FSM in compliance with the Protocol.

Moreover, the Meeting reviewed the proposed commitments to be undertaken by FSM under the Trade in Services Protocol, with a focus on specificities and peculiarities for each of the FSM's jurisdictions. They also discussed the prospects for signing and ratifying the Trade in Services Protocol for FSM and noted that the Trade in Services Protocol represents a source of legal certainty and predictability for the development and expansion of future trade in services between FSM and the FICs; and that becoming a Party to the Trade in Services Protocol would provide current and potential investors interested in achieving economies of scale at the regional level to consider FSM as a possible destination. In this regard, the NTFC urged the review of the Trade in Services Protocol to be completed by the responsible Departments by the end of May 2012 to facilitate the authentication, signature and ratification of the Trade in Services Protocol to PICTA.

With regards to the EPA negotiations, the NTFC was provided an update on the ongoing negotiations between PACPS and the EU including the recent PACP meeting in February 2012 in Nadi, Fiji, as well as the recent exchange of communications between PACPs and the EU. They were also briefed on the recent first formal trade consultations between the Freely Associated States (FAS) and the US, as required under Section 244(c)

of the amended Compact, which took place in March 2012, in anticipation for the conclusion of the EPA negotiations. Furthermore, the NTFC considered options available to FSM, which includes Fisheries, Substantially All Trade (SAT) level, Development Cooperation, Most Favored Nation (MFN), and Non-Execution clause.

They also discussed options for the pursuit of the EPA negotiations, focusing on the draft conditional market access offers and the merits for pursuing the iEPA or the EPA. The NTFC endorsed FSM's draft and final Market Access Offers (MAO) and directed the FSM Department of R&D to continue pursuing its current negotiating position in the EPA, and tasked the National Government, in consultation with the State governments, to identify FSM's EPA implementation needs and to prepare Aid for Trade (Aft) projects for submission at the Regional Aft Round Table Meeting. They also urged the National Government to include trade and trade-related activities as one of the priority areas in the National Indicate Program for EDF11, and reaffirmed the importance of addressing behind-the-border issues, including (Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) requirements, as well as the requirement to establish competent authorities to certify products exportable into the EU market). Finally, the NTFC reaffirmed that proactive State and National Government policies aiming at attracting investments and improving the Business Enabling Environment in the FSM will be crucial to take advantage of preferential market access.

Accreditation team begins visit at College

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (April 23, 2012)— The two commissioners from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College (ACCJC) commenced their three-day visit of the college today. Dr. Steven Kinsella, chair of the team and Ms. Susan Murata, team member, will complete their visitation of the college on April 25, 2012.

Dr. Steven Kinsella has been the Superintendent/President of Gavilan Joint Community College District since January 2003. He has been in the California community college system since 1991 when he joined the Los Angeles Community College System. Dr. Kinsella became the Chief Business Officer of Gavilan College in 1996. He left Gavilan to become the Vice President of Administrative Services, at Monterey Peninsula College and later the Vice Chancellor of the West Valley - Mission Community College District. Dr. Kinsella is a licensed CPA in California and received his Doctorate in Business Administration from Golden Gate University.

Dr. Kinsella is a retired United States Marine who served a combined 23 years of active and reserve duty. He attained the rank of Major after working his way

through the enlisted and Warrant Officer ranks.

Dr. Kinsella serves as a Commissioner to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. Dr. Kinsella also serves as a Trustee at Golden Gate University.

Ms. Susan Murata has worked on four campuses within the UH System for over 22 years and has been the Head Librarian at Kapi'olani CC since 2001. In addition to her duties as Head Librarian, she is also responsible for the computer labs, the testing center, as well as the Library & Learning Resources of the college. She has served on several campus committees including Strategic Planning, Long Range Development Plan, Budget, and Program Review. She has served as co-chair for Standard I for the KCC Accreditation Self-Study in 2006.

She chairs the University of Hawai'i Library Council for the 10-campus system and was recently selected as the University of Hawai'i's nominee for the 2010 Governor's award for Manager of the Year.

Before their departure on the 25th, the team will hold an open session with the college community on April 24, 1 – 2 pm at the Media and Instructional Technology Center.

The ACCJC will review the College's accreditation status during its June 2012 meeting, after a review of the College's

Follow-Up Report and the report that will be submitted by the two-member visiting team.

Through its June 30, 2011, Action Letter, the Commission placed the College of Micronesia-FSM on Probation status. 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 Commission cited the following standards for the College's current accreditation status:

- Improving Institutional Effectiveness and Leadership and Governance. Under this recommendation, the College was recommended to evolve its communication efforts to ensure broad-based participation and encourage purposeful dialogue in which all stakeholders participate in the exchange of different point of view and reflections that lead to genuine communication and participatory governance;

- Improving Institution Effectiveness. The College was recommended to the various plans of the College be integrated into the development of a comprehensive long-range educational master plan that is linked to and includes a long-range budget plan;

- Physical Resources. The College was recommended to develop a facilities master plan that reflects the institution's long term educational goals and plans and is linked to an identified, reliable, and ongoing funding that supports the total cost of facilities ownership; and

- Financial Resources. The College was recommended to systemically integrate financial resources planning with various college plans into a comprehensive master plan that is directly linked to the budget planning and allocation process.

The College has responded to these recommendations in its March 15, 2012, Follow-Up Report.

The team is currently conducting meetings with members of the college community.

...Ehsa Power

Continued from page 2

in the area that I would talk to them. They are very much interested in doing the same thing here in Pohnpei."

We asked the governor how much if anything he know about generators that were supposedly "donated" to PUC.

"I have also heard those rumors. I have not been informed officially by CFC nor PUC of these generators arriving as donated," he said.

"I know that if (they're) from CFC there is also an added concern because Pohnpei State is a shareholder of CFC. And there was a letter that I sent [to CFC] on August 19 of 2010 requesting \$1.5 million. That letter has never been responded to, however the rumor has it that it is based on those letters that they decided to not respond to me but to deal directly with PUC and I have yet to be briefed on what the specifics of these generators are; whether the purchase of the generators are going to affect the share values of Pohnpei State—stake at CFC."

He said that he and the members of the Pohnpei State Legislature have a lot of questions regarding the major purchase by CFC.

"There is also "unclear" about what commitments have been made by PUC because there is nothing really clear. Rumor has it that one (of the generators) PUC will

buy, and if so I don't know what authority was used to commit funds because there was never a purchase order or any such thing like that. But some of these issues related to the proper purchase of these quote unquote donated generators, we are still looking into them, he said.

"I have not officially accepted them because I do not know the effect on our shares and I do not know how this decision... as a shareholder of CFC, I know that they operate as a business...but there was never a communication back in response to my letter that 'this is how it's going to happen.' As of today, no explanation from PUC or CFC to the Governor or the Legislature as to...(what the status of those generators is.)

He said that he has no knowledge of PUC having installed either of the generators.

"They (PUC) are not telling me anything. I know that I met with the task force which they are part of. PUC was here, Acting Manager, and one board member and I told them not to touch those generators until it is made absolutely clear what they are. Because people are saying they are donated. We do not believe, because how can we donate to ourselves? Because CFC is owned by Pohnpei State as well."

He said that he wasn't absolutely certain at the moment, how many shares of CFC Pohnpei State owns but he thought when pressed that the percentage was 49%.

He said that former Governor Johnny David is the chairman of the CFC board.

Letter to the editor Stop thrashing the life out of our oceans, foreign fishers!

Dear Editor

This week from Wednesday, April 25, Alotau Milne Bay province will play host to the fisheries ministers of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) where they will talk about the future of our tuna fisheries and ways to conserve this precious gift which is being thrashed by greedy foreign fishing companies.

Last year I was a Pacific activist on Greenpeace's largest ship, the Esperanza, defending four pockets of international waters that flank more than a dozen of our island homes. Papua New Guinea has two such pockets next to its waters in the north. These waters are known hotspots or gateways for illegal fishing vessels that literally steal fish from PNG waters. We were on a peaceful mission to stop these illegal fishing and be on the lookout for Fish Aggregation Devices (FAD) and purse seine fishing vessels both banned from these areas by PNA.

A FAD is a deadly fish magnet and is a very unsustainable way of fishing. Designed to attract tuna these devices not only attract baby tuna but other species as well, such as sharks and turtles which are all scooped up in a huge net, in one fell swoop.

Within four days out at sea, we had come across eleven FAD's. We later found a purse seine with no registration or markings illegally fishing close to PNG waters.

FADs are not the only problem. Our mission was also to unmask the destructive nature of longline fishing vessels that come and go from these high seas pockets as they please and are well known for their illegal fishing habits.

Longline fishing boats use a fishing line that is over two hundred kilometres in length and has over twenty thousand hooks. There are over three and half thousand longliners registered to fish in the Pacific. Longliners are supposed to catch only tuna but most target other fish including marlin and sharks. I witnessed firsthand a four hundred pound marlin thrashing around desperately fighting for its life entangled in a longliners hooks.

I saw hundreds of shark fins in sacks stacked to the ceilings in the freezers of these longline boats. To see this was heartbreaking. It brought a man of my size to tears. It inspired me to do something. That day I freed the marlin. But I was not able to free the sharks or the baby tuna from the longliners and the purse seiners fishing around FADs. One man can do only so much but a group of Pacific nations can achieve much more.

The meeting of the PNA ministers and officials in Alotau Milne Bay has the power to stop this plunder. I have seen the devastation and plead to the PNA to stop it. The PNA must act now and work together with other Pacific countries to continue to ban the use of FADs and purse seine fishing in the high seas pockets and to also ban longline fishing in these waters. We must ensure that our future generations do not have to bear the burden of our mistakes. Lets us act today and protect our children's future.

*Apisalome Waqanisau
Suva, Fiji Islands.*



JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia (Bank of FSM)



Position: Information Technology Manager

Principal Responsibilities:

- Plan, design, organize, direct, control and evaluate the operation of information systems and network infrastructure, including managing the Information Technology department and coordinating projects or delegating responsibilities to IT consultants and vendors.
- Will serve as the primary Bank contact for all activities related to information technology, including interfacing with bank regulators and auditors.
- Develop information technology policy, procedure and practices manual to comply with corporate and regulatory policies.
- Responsible in maintaining, coordinating, and implement Information Technology disaster recovery plan and procedures, including recommending upgrades of equipment, software and procedures.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in the field of computer information system or related discipline.
- 5-10 years related IT experience with at least 3 years of experience in project management and/or supervisory function. Candidates with experience working in a financial organization will be an added advantage.
- Solid working knowledge of network infrastructure and information system technologies, including experience in administering or supporting Microsoft Windows Active Directory (2008/2003), Microsoft Exchange, Citrix, server virtualization (VMWare), Microsoft SQL, and DoubleTake is required.
- Candidates with experience in configuring or administering firewalls, routers and switches preferably Cisco will be given an advantage.
- MSCE preferred, MCSA required.
- Candidates with experience working in a multi-cultural setting or had previous work experience in the Pacific region will be given an advantage.
- Excellent communication skills in English both written and spoken are required.

Duty Station:

Bank of FSM, Corporate Office, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941

Reporting:

Report to the Senior Vice President/Chief Operations Officer

Remuneration:

Salary and benefits will be competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Application:

To apply, send a cover letter and CV with the names and contact details of three referees to mweital@bofsm.fm or by post to Human Resources Department, Bank of the FSM, P.O. Box 98, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941.

Opening Date:

April 23, 2012 Closing Date: Open until position filled.



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But - now that we've got one, what do we do with this dead horse?

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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.
- 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



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Island Food Community of Pohnpei started a new project with Saint Paul Elementary School

By *Chizuru Seki (JICA)*
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) started a new project called the School Healthy Lifestyle Project supported by Division of Public health of Pohnpei Department of Health Services at its target school, Saint Paul Elementary School.

This project is designed to pilot a school in Pohnpei to educate students to stay healthy. The project will include planting (traditional agroforestry) healthy local foods for sustaining the students' health.

By planting local foods, the students' physical activity level will increase; and more healthy local food will be available for them to eat by harvesting crops from the school garden. Moreover, it will help increase their knowledge about the traditional agroforestry and healthy local foods of Pohnpei. The project will also supply the school playground with sporting goods to motivate the students to increase physical activity.

On April 10th, 2012, IFCP staff Mrs. Emihner Johnson, Acting Executive Director, and Ms. Chizuru Seki (JICA Volunteer), Community Development Worker, made a first visit to 4th grade classroom of Saint Paul Elementary School to introduce the project and conduct an awareness presentation.

It started with the health crisis that FSM is facing now. One in three adults in FSM has diabetes; many people are suffering from cancer and heart diseases; and the vitamin A deficiency is prevalent among young children.

The reasons for this health crisis from IFCP's point of view were then explained: change in diet (consumption of less local food and more imported unhealthy processed food) and lack of physical activities. Since there was no record of diabetes on the island when the US navy conducted the research after World War II, these two reasons could be the biggest contributions to the health crisis in FSM.

The IFCP's solution to this health crisis is to "Go Local." By planting, growing, maintaining, harvesting, cooking and eating more local food, people will get enough physical activities and nutrition that their body needs.

To build a healthy body, we need to have a healthy lifestyle. IFCP will keep working with 4th grade at Saint Paul Elementary School to increase the knowledge of local food and help them making the healthier choices in their life.

Up to now, IFCP made several visits to Saint Paul and supplied planting materials including spades, garden rakes, sickles, a garden hose, a water cooler, and knives. They had planted six bananas of yellow flesh high beta carotene cultivars, namely, Karat and Utin Iap. The students had good exercise by cleaning up their garden and digging deep holes in the ground for the bananas.

IFCP would like to thank its partner school, Saint Paul Elementary School Division of Public health of Pohnpei Department of Health Services.

Special thanks are given to IFCP funding sources: SPC CePaCT, Australian Embassy, SPC Healthy Life-Style, Division of Public Health of the Pohnpei Department of Health Services, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).



Pohnpei Catholic School visited Island Food Community of Pohnpei Gene Bank in Madelonihmw

By *Chizuru Seki (JICA)*
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

On April 19, 2012, Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) and 6th grade students and teachers of Pohnpei Catholic School (PCS) went to the IFCP Gene Bank at FSM Pilot Farm in Pohnlangas, Madelonihmw.

PCS is IFCP's partner school for 2011-2012 Youth to Youth (Pwoulopwul ong me Pwulopwul) Environmental and Educational awareness program which is coordinated by Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP). The visitation to the Gene Bank is the second field trip PCS students and teachers took as a part of this program.

At the Gene Bank, there are various cultivars of giant swamp taro, bananas and Pandanus. The Gene Bank serves for conserving rare cultivars of these crops, increasing awareness of local crops, and research purposes.



Pohnpei Catholic School 6th grade students at IFCP Gene Bank

Mrs. Emihner Johnson, Acting Executive Director of IFCP, and Mr. Semes Silbanuz led PCS students and teachers to a tour of the Gene Bank. As they walked through the Gene Bank, they explored many cultivars of giant swamp taro, bananas and Pandanus as well as vegetables grown in the pilot farm.

After the tour and lunch, PCS students presented the IFCP CHEEF song to the workers of the pilot farm.

The IFCP CHEEF song sings about the benefits of local food: CHEEF benefits (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy and Food Security). This song will be performed by PCS 6th grade students at the Environmental Fair scheduled in May 2012.

IFCP would like to thank its partner school, PCS and a coordinator of Youth to Youth program, CSP for this great opportunity to increase the awareness of local food and its many benefits in school.

We would also like to thank Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs for the Pilot farm tour and a healthy snack of cucumbers, and Ms. Shannon Christian of Cliff Rainbow for providing the transportation for this field trip.

Special thanks are given to IFCP funding sources: SPC CePaCT, Australian Embassy, SPC Healthy Life-Style and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).



Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific



The Secretariat seeks suitably qualified and experienced persons to fill the following vacant positions in its Strategic Partnerships & Coordination Programme.

- Programme Implementation Officer
 - Media Officer
 - Communications Officer
- Disabilities Coordination Officer
 - Gender Issues Officer

1. Programme Implementation Officer (Band 9)

This position will be responsible to the Director through the Development Cooperation Adviser for:

- technical support for the implementation of declarations from Taiwan/ROC Summitry Processes and Dialogue;
- funds management of Regional Funding Assistance/Programmes;
- policy implementation and advocacy;
- quick and effective response to requests from executive and Forum member countries for the provision of correspondence, briefings, media statements and reporting; and
- the development and delivery of agreed work programmes and budgets, and preparation of reports.

Applicants should have a University degree/Post Graduate qualification in development economics, development studies and/or related areas with at least 5 years relevant work experience in development cooperation and project/programme management in Pacific Island Countries.. Applicants should have the ability to work well with a small team of professional staff and strong interpersonal skills and sensitivity to the diverse needs of those in a multi-cultural environment. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

CLOSING DATE: 18 May 2012

2. Media Officer (Band 9)

This position will be responsible to the Director for:

- coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of partnership and communication initiatives under the Pacific Plan;
- providing suggestions and advice on communication issues and on strategies for addressing them; and
- the preparation of speeches, briefs, press releases and other documents.

Applicants should have a University degree in the fields of media and communication with at least 5 years relevant work experience in Pacific media and communications, institutions and processes, an excellent communicator and strong analyst, experience in writing and editing of speeches and press statements. Applicants with experience on working through other professionals, institutions and people would be desirable. Applicants should demonstrate the ability to meet deadlines, and to organise, coordinate and prioritise conflicting demands. and

CLOSING DATE: 25 May 2012

3. Communications Officer (Band 9)

This position will be responsible to the Director for:

- the provision of on-going advice on communication issues and strategies, taking into account individual audience needs;
- managing production and dissemination of PIFS communications material;
- devising and implementing strategies for efficient and sustainable maintenance of Forum Secretariat website; and
- developing Forum Secretariat communications strategy.

Applicants should have a University degree in the fields of media and communication with at least 5 years relevant work experience in Pacific media and communications, institutions and processes, an excellent communicator and strong analyst, experience in writing and editing of speeches and press statements. Applicants with experience on working with and through other professionals, institutions and people would be desirable. Applicants should demonstrate the ability to meet deadlines, and to organise, coordinate and prioritise conflicting demands.

CLOSING DATE: 25 May 2012

4. Disability Coordination Officer (Band 10)

This position will be responsible to the Director through the Social Policy Adviser for:

- monitoring the implementation of the Regional Strategy on Disability and of disability related initiatives in the Pacific Plan;
- providing assistance to the Social Policy Adviser on regional disability issues with special emphasis on the preparation of relevant papers in support of ministerial and officials meeting on disability;
- coordinating the timely implementation of the outcomes of the 2005 Regional Workshop on Disability; and
- monitoring and coordination of all regional disability actions undertaken by donors and development partners.

Applicants should have an advanced degree related to social policy, with an emphasis on education and human resource development. Qualifications in economic development and planning and familiarity with donor and development partner procedures would be desirable with 5 years relevant work experience in dealing with national, regional and international Disability policy and planning issues in a development context in Pacific island countries. Applicants should have demonstrated ability to formulate policy advice and the coordination and oversight of Disability programmes or projects, with a focus on contemporary human resource development issues in the Pacific region. Applicants should be able to provide quality advice at the highest levels.

CLOSING DATE: 8 June 2012

5. Gender Issues Officer (Band 10)

This position will be responsible to the Director through the Social Policy Adviser for:

- gender mainstreaming of PIFS programmes, including coordinating the implementation of gender-related initiatives under the Pacific Plan;
- advancing the implementation of the CROP Gender Strategy;
- advancing the implementation by member countries of gender commitments; and
- supporting stakeholder collaboration & coordination.

Applicants should have an advanced degree in gender and development or a closely related field with at least 5 years relevant work experience in the area of gender and development, preferably in the Pacific region or a similar environment. Applicants' familiarity with donor and development partner procedures, as well as experience in the delivery of adult training and/or the organization of workshops, including the preparation of relevant policy papers, together with communications and media experience and the ability to work in a multi-cultural and diverse environment would be desirable. Applicants should have the ability to organise, coordinate and prioritise conflicting demands, and meet deadlines. Applications should have sound knowledge of wider regional development issues as they relate to gender.

CLOSING DATE: 22 June 2012

All positions are based at the Secretariat's headquarters in Suva, Fiji.

The appointments will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. Using the April 2012 exchange rates, the annual salaries for these positions will be in the range of:

- SDR 23,653 to SDR 35,479 (equivalent to FJD64,590 to FJD96,884) for Band 9 ; and
- SDR 26,646 to SDR 39,970 (equivalent to FJD72,763 to FJD109,148) for Band 10.

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 these positions, applicants must be a national of a Forum 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 4pm on the closing dates.

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.