

The KASELEHLIE PRESS

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Pacific Island leaders meet for a PALM 6 summit in Japan

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

May 24, 2012

Tokyo, Japan—Leaders from throughout the Pacific region are in Tokyo for bilateral meetings between Japan and their countries prior to the opening of the PALM 6 summit in Okinawa.

There the leaders will freely discuss matters regarding response to natural disasters, environment and climate change, sustainable development and human security, people to people exchanges and maritime issues.

Full coverage of the PALM 6 summit will be in the next issue of The Kaselehlie Press.



President Manny Mori spends a few moments at the Micronesia booth at a Pacific Islands trade show in Tokyo

The cost of dialysis treatment in Pohnpei

In Pohnpei, Type II diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure and expensive dialysis treatments are the only solution after that happens.

The human cost of Type II diabetes related kidney failure is very high. "Most (dialysis patients) don't last five years," Dr. Hedson said. "We lost two people within the last three months."

See Story on page 8

Yapese aboard Coast Guard Cutter Jarvis visits home after 12 years.

"The feeling of seeing Petty Officer Raigeluw reunited with his family after so many years cannot be put into words,"

"When we arrived on shore I realized most of my uncles were staring at us from beyond the beach and had no clue who I was, especially because I was in my uniform," recalled Raigeluw. "I had to walk closer to them before they recognized me."

See Story on page 11

Water quality and inequitable fees gall Palikir community



It takes Lonney about 30 minutes of running the water at his home before the water begins to run clear again.



...at some point in history a PUC employee went to those homes to install meters but were chased off by angry property owners sometimes wielding machetes. **PUC employees never went back.**



On a sultry Sunday afternoon Kipar, Palikir residents gathered at the home of the Dionis Fretrick, Chief of the village. They were there to express their concerns to a representative of Pohnpei Utilities Corporation about the quality of the water they are receiving in the area and to talk about inequities in the charges for water service.

See Story on page 6

FSM Auditor calls CEPA management practice into question

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 22, 2012

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM—Chuuk’s Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) got its wish for an audit of their agency by the FSM Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) but not for the reasons they requested it. It was the first ONPA audit of ONPA since its establishment in 1993. The results were released on May 7, 2012.

According to the ONPA audit report, in February of last year, the Executive Director CEPA requested the audit so that the agency could fulfill the requirements of a Japanese Grassroots. ONPA decided that the grant amount was not big enough to by itself warrant an audit. However, CEPA has been in existence since 1993 and for a number of years has received sector grants. ONPA decided to do an audit for 2010 and 2011.

The sum total of ONPA’s four findings was that CEPA is not meeting its own

stated goals and that some money may have been inappropriately and perhaps illegally spent. Some of ONPA’s findings have been referred to its Compliance Investigation Division (CID) which could, if it finds criminal violations send its findings to the FSM Department of Justice for possible prosecution.

In his response letter, CEPA Executive Director Ismael Mikel vehemently disagreed with nearly all of the findings of ONPA. He called the findings “clearly erroneous” and invited the FSM Congress to look into the audit priorities of the ONPA despite the fact that it was the CEPA that initially invited the auditor to look at the books.

Kind K. Kanto, who was the Chair of the Board for the audit period contained in the report, agreed with all of ONPA’s findings and praised their referral of matters to CID.

Both Mikel and Kanto indicated in their responses that Chuuk’s environmental laws are unrealistic and unenforceable.

Kanto said that fine amounts are unrealistic with at least one law stating that the fine would be \$100,000 per day that a violation condition exists.

CID will be investigating \$8,000 of potentially unlawful payroll payments to the CEPA Executive Director for five months while the director was living in Hawaii. The CEPA Board had prohibited those payments but the Deputy Director signed and authorized payrolls reports to the Director despite the prohibition.

CID will also be investigating over \$22,000 worth of CEPA purchases from retail stores owned by CEPA management or their family members.

The report says that CEPA management submitted a 2011 budget that included a \$6,000 housing allowance for the Executive Director despite the fact that the Board had denied the director’s request for the allowance. The budget was approved and the Board didn’t know that the Director had received that allowance. Kanto said in his response that the board had decided that the housing allowance was inappropriate

partly because the rental payments were to be made to Mikel’s wife who owned and occupied the house where Mikel lived.

The Board did not review the proposed CEPA budget for the 2011 fiscal year.

CEPA has four divisions:
Conservation/Natural Resources
Water and Waste Water
Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste
Technical Support/Public Awareness

Total budgets for the audit period were tiny. The agency that is responsible for environmental protection issues in Chuuk’s “11 mangrove-fringed islands” and “14 low island atolls outside of the lagoon” as the ONPA report phrased it, has only 11 employees including the two top management positions to handle the monumental task. In 2010 the Agency’s budget was \$285,242 and in 2011 the budget was \$349,273. That money was provided by environmental sector grants from the Compact of Free

See “CEPA” on page 12

Climate change community outreach - Metipw, Madolenihmw

By **Yolanda Joab**

April 20-21, 2012

As a result of the Climate Change Adaptation and Planning Training held in January of this year by the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), the Micronesia Challenge, and Pacific Islands Marine Protected Areas Community (PIMPAC) a local Climate Change Outreach Committee was established and formed.



The purpose of this committee- to use the skills and tools learned in this training to conduct community outreach programs educating local communities about Climate Change Adaptation. In this committee are a number of community leaders and climate change/environmental related practitioners including organizations such as the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP), the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the FSM Dept. of Resource and Development.



The Climate Change Outreach Committee (CCOC) conducted its second 2 day outreach education and awareness program in the community of Metipw, Madolenihmw from April 20-21 2012; the first one being in Takaiaeu, Uh last month. This program attracted about 50 participants over the course of the two days from two neighboring community structures—Metipw and Dolapwail.

Equipped with the toolkit provided from the training, which includes a flipchart and group exercises the community members took part in the outreach proved to be a huge success.

The group activities among the community members involved them creating a Historical Timeline of disasters that affected the island and their communities, sharing their thoughts and experiences with the effects of climate change, identifying target resources that are at jeopardy, and coming up with possible actions that they can take. The open-ended discussions also proved these communities to be very knowledgeable about their environment and taught the CCOC things as well.

With the aim of raising awareness, educating, and community planning the CCOC is grateful to these two communities for their participation and wonderful hospitality and looks forward to upcoming outreach projects as well.

The Kaselehlie Press

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Falcam retires after 30 years of service

By Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum
Marine Corps Bases Japan

May 11, 2012

Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan — Landing on the flight line on a cloudy afternoon, Col. Leo A. Falcam Jr., deputy commander of Marine Corps Installations Pacific, taxied to Hangar 456 for the last time.

Marines, family and friends gathered at the hangar on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma May 4 to witness Falcam's retirement.

The attendees included generals and senior leaders from installations throughout Okinawa, who met to offer their congratulations on a career well served.

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, and raised in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, Falcam's career started in 1981 with his commissioning.

His first experience on Okinawa came in 1985 when he spent a year with Marine Refueler Transport Squadron 152, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, as part of the Marine Corps' unit deployment program.

In 1987, he returned to Okinawa and

served in many billets for VMGR-152.

"This is a very special place to me," said Falcam. "It has all been fantastic, from the Marines to my Okinawan friends. It has been a wonderful time, a special time."

From 1990 to 1998, Falcam attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff Collage and deployed to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Kenya.

From 1998 to 2000, Falcam returned to Okinawa and was assigned to G-3, operations and training, III MEF, as a current operations officer. During this time, he deployed to Australia and East Timor.

In 2000, Falcam was appointed commanding officer of VMGR-152, and shortly thereafter took command of MCAS Futenma. In 2002, he joined 1st MAW's current operations staff.

From 2003 to 2005, Falcam attended language courses in the states and the Argentine National Defense College in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Falcam returned in 2005 to Okinawa to take command of MCAS Futenma once more.

He later became the chief of staff for Marine Corps Base Camp Butler and

Marine Corps Bases Japan.

Following the deactivation of MCBJ, he became the deputy commander of the newly formed MCIPAC.

"Each time I have been out here, I have been able to work with some outstanding professionals," said Falcam. "It is thanks to them that I had success."

During the ceremony, Falcam was presented the Legion of Merit medal, a certificate of commendation from Commander in Chief President Barack Obama and letters of appreciation from both the Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos and the Commanding General of MCIPAC and MCB Camp Butler, Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri.

"Today is a glorious day," said Talleri. "Today, a great Marine and a great friend retires after over 30 years of service to his country."

MCIPAC is better because of Falcam, said Talleri. The Marines of this command say thank you for everything that Falcam gave to the Corps and his country.

"This will be an exciting place to be in the future," said Falcam. "That means to be ready. Not paranoid, just ready; and the MEF is well postured to be ready."

Secretary Henry leads FSM delegation to the 2012 Forum Trade Ministers Meeting in Majuro

FSM Information Services

May 17, 2012

Palikir, Pohnpei - The Secretary of the FSM Department of Resources and Development, Mr. Marion Henry, is in Majuro to attend the 2012 Forum Trade Ministers Meeting (FTMM) on Friday, May 11 at the International Convention Center. The Meeting will deliberate on trade and trade-related issues, including the 10 years Strategy to promote Pacific trade and investment in selected markets, and progress in negotiations for the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus between Forum Island Countries, Australia and New Zealand. It will also address the latest development in the establishment of a regional trademarks application system as well as traditional knowledge and intellectual property rights.

The FSM Government has identified trade and investment as one of the priority areas that could enable the achievement of its Strategic Development Plan objectives by providing opportunities for the FSM to address trade issues, enhance trade and trade-related infrastructure and

See "Majuro meeting" on next page

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President Mori shares summary analysis of key indicators of the 2010 FSM census

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, FSM — President Manny Mori shares the FSM "2010 Census Key Indicators" through a May 18 letter to FSM Congress Speaker Isaac V. Figir, FSM Chief Justice Martin G. Yinug, and the Governors of the four FSM States of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae.

According to the summary, the FSM population is 102,843, comprising of 52,193 males and 50,650 females, with a population decline rate of 0.4 percent the last ten years. The decline represents about 4,000 persons. It is claimed that the decline results from high

level of out-migration from FSM along with "decreasing level of fertility (women having less children)".

In terms of household size, the census also shows an average decline in family size from 7 in 2000 to 4 in 2010, which may result from factors including preference by couples for smaller family size, drop in fertility and delaying of marriage (or when to have children), the analysis indicates.

Other indicators in terms of education patterns, the size of FSM labor force and population density by States are also provided.

The census report has been drafted and is under review before it is published later this year or early 2013. Tabulation tables without analytical texts can be requested from the Office of SBOC.

...Majuro meeting

Continued from previous page

strengthen the private and productive sector through aid for trade resources and other trade development packages. All of these will enable the FSM to increase domestic production to respond to the local demand and potentially supply the subregional markets.

Secretary Henry and other regional colleagues held the 4th Forum Island Countries Trade Ministers Meeting (FICTMM) on Thursday, May 10, to coordinate their views and position before meeting with their partners from Australia and New Zealand.

The 2012 Forum Trade Ministers Meeting will be attended by Ministers and Head of Delegations of the 16 Forum Countries and New Caledonia.

Yap State Public Auditor hires new investigator

Office of the Yap State Public Auditor is pleased to announce the hiring of Leelkan P. Southwick, an Investigator for the new Compliance Investigation Division (CID).

Leelkan was previously working for Canter & Associates in Los Angeles, California for 6 years as a Marketing specialist before moving to Yap State and worked over a span of 3 ½ years as a part-time Instructor for business courses at the College of Micronesia, Yap campus.

Leelkan possesses strong analytical and interpersonal skills which CID will have the fortune to utilize. In addition, her achievement of having a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) and Bachelors of Arts degree in Business Administration from Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles strongly complements CID.

Leelkan stated that it's exciting to be part of something that is very important to have in the government and that she believes that this division could help shape the government's direction in a positive way forward.

Chief Sophia Pretrick stressed that she is very fortunate to have Leelkan on board and looking forward to work with her.



Accompanying Secretary Henry to the 2012 Forum Trade Ministers Meeting are Mr. Ernest Weirlangt, Assistant Secretary for Trade and Investment and Mr. Jean Bertrand Azapmo, Trade Policy Analyst.

For more information, please contact the Department of Resources and Development at telephone number (691) 320-5133.

EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITY



The FSM Petroleum Corporation is a progressive state owned enterprise that values diversity and inclusiveness, and is committed to harnessing the local talent of Micronesians. We operate throughout Micronesia, with operations in Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Yap and Guam. The company employs some of the best people in the industry, and has a mission to develop and train our people to be the best at what they do in the Region.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer, your principle responsibilities will be to support the efficient operations of the FSMPC group of companies, and in particular to manage our Stakeholder Engagement Program. This exciting career development opportunity is available to a suitably qualified professional, and based at our Head Office, Pohnpei, Kolonia, FSM.

The Executive Assistant will work closely with the Chief Executive Officer, and will be accountable for the coordination of all aspects of our domestic and international engagement programs, including:

- Quarterly Board Meetings;
- Quarterly engagement with State Leadership;
- Annual engagement with the Chief Executive Council;
- Quarterly Risk Management Committee meetings;
- Manage the corporate Training & Events Calendar;
- Staff Travel arrangements and Logistics; and
- Manage the CEO's calendar of commitments.

Qualifications & Experience

- We are seeking an individual that works well under pressure, well spoken, and able and willing to take personal leadership for their professional development. They will have an attention to detail with a sound understanding of protocol and the elements of running a successful meeting.
- Due to the nature of the work you must be accurate, enthusiastic, responsible, and have the ability able to travel throughout the Region to engage effectively with our operating units across Micronesia.
- You would be able to converse in the vernacular of at least one of our major operating locations and have a high proficiency in the English language;
- You would need to have graduated college, with a Bachelors Degree in journalism or marketing. Alternatively, extensive experience managing and coordinating high level events, engagements, and corporate training programs will also be considered.

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- QUIZ - Where in FSM is this Wine Shop?



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The answer to this question is
on Page 12

Launch of PTCN website

Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre

The criminal environment in the Pacific region is constantly changing, particularly where transnational crime continues to pose an increasing threat to Pacific Island countries.

It is generally recognised that crime does not recognise International borders. A criminal in one part of the world this morning can be a criminal in the Pacific this afternoon. With the advent of technology, the widespread use of the Internet and the freedom of travel between nations it is of particular importance that police be vigilant and be prepared for any crime trends happening in the region.

Monitoring crime and crime trends takes a coordinated approach from police across the Region. This was first addressed in 2002 when the Pacific Transnational Crime Network (PTCN) was established. The PTCN is a multi-agency, multi-national network across 13 Pacific Island Countries.

The hub of the PTCN is the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre (PTCCC), based in Apia, Samoa. The PTCCC coordinates the flow of intelligence from across the PTCN.

The work of the PTCCC is

supported by Transnational Crime Units in Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Niue, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands and Kiribati.

Like time and technology have progressed so has the work of police to keep pace with modern times. Police have turned to technology and the Internet to assist in monitoring crime trends, sharing information and warning their neighbours when a crime is detected and there is a risk that crime will spread. Crimes such as drug trafficking,

environmental crime, money laundering, human trafficking, transnational cyber fraud, child abuse and the like.

The PTCN has today launched a website in Apia, Samoa to enhance understanding of transnational crime threats and increase awareness, of the PTCN to target transnational crime threats regionally and globally. The website address is www.ptcn.ws

“It is always comforting to see law enforcement supporting law enforcement through operations, training, capacity development and sharing of technology as they address law and order issues on both a domestic and international front to make our communities a safer place”

The web site will assist in enhancing the partnership arrangements with law enforcement agencies throughout the Pacific and provide our communities with information to increase safety and security.

Chairman of the PTCN Board of Management Deputy Commissioner Walter Kola from the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force, encouraged law enforcement agencies and the community to access and make use of the web site.

Summer Programming at the Pohnpei Public Library

“Dream Big-READ!”

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Intermediate A (Registration Required)	Teen (Registration Required)	Intermediate B (Registration Required)
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Pohnpeian Oral History Hour (FREE!)	Special Event (FREE!)	Story Hour (FREE!)
5:30-6:30	Young Adult (Registration Required)	Early Literacy/ Family (Registration Required)	

Early Literacy/Family : 0-5 years old Intermediate: 1st-6th grade
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CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (Designate)

Reporting to the Chief Financial Officer, your principle responsibilities will be to support the efficient operations of the FSMPC group of companies, and to improve and enhance our Financial Operational Excellence program.

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- Proactive Working Capital Management;
- Contracting and Procurement Policies and Procedures;
- Management Information Reporting;
- Balanced Scorecard;
- Insurance Strategy; and
- Risk Management.

We are seeking an individual that works well under pressure, is able and willing to take personal leadership for their professional development.

Qualifications

- Due to the nature of the work you must be accurate, enthusiastic, responsible, and have the ability able to travel throughout the Region to engage effectively with our operating units across Micronesia.
- You would be able to converse in the vernacular of at least one of our major operating locations and have a high proficiency in the English language;
- You would need to have recently graduated college, with a Bachelors Degree majoring in accounting and/or finance OR have an equivalent level of professional exposure and experience; and
- Ideally, you would have commenced, or plan to commence your credits towards the achievement of a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

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Water quality and inequitable fees gall Palikir community



By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

May 15, 2012

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM—On a sultry Sunday afternoon Kipar, Palikir residents gathered at the home of Dionis Fretrick, Chief of the village. They were there to express their concerns to a representative of Pohnpei Utilities Corporation about the quality of the water they are receiving in the area and to talk about inequities in the charges for water service.

Though some who spoke during the meeting were obviously passionate the tone seemed more subdued than one expected given the problems with the water system and even problems with each other.

The meeting was three weeks ago and though the PUC representative at that meeting said that he would take the concerns back to PUC to come up with a solution Kipar residents still have heard nothing.

A community representative called a PUC Board member on Sunday, May 13 and was told that that community has to write a formal letter to the Board and to the General Manager of PUC.

Arthur Lonney represented the community in an interview with The Kaselehlie Press a few days after the meeting.

He said that he has recently been seeing more absenteeism of students complaining of stomach aches and diarrhea. Lonney is the Principal of Palikir Elementary School.

He explained the background of the Palikir water system. When the FSM National Capital complex was built, the surrounding community agreed to allow access to land for needed infrastructure to supply the complex in return for piped water. Their view is that the National Government reneged on that promise. In 2005, the National Government turned over the water system to PUC and PUC began installing meters and adding new water services to the area.

The water to the community is now supplied by a well and the water is pumped from that well by an electrically powered pump. Lonney said that whenever the power goes

out, as it has often done in recent months as PUC has attempted to deal with the electrical generation crisis, the water just sits in the pipes.

Lonney said that he has been told that whenever the pump has been shut down for whatever reason the system is supposed to be bled at the pump. He said that he suspects that has not been done after each of the power outages.

When water service returns after it has been out for any period of time the water runs muddy brown. It takes Lonney about 30 minutes of running the water at his home before the water begins to run clear again. Like many of his neighbors his water usage is metered and some community members are getting tired of paying bills for unusable water that just goes down the drain.

Water meters are another problem. Lonney said that not all homes have meters. Those in the community who are required to pay for their water usage are upset that some of their neighbors are not required to pay. He said that the main reason some neighbors don't have meters is that at some point in history a PUC employee went to those homes to install meters but were chased off by angry property owners sometimes wielding machetes. PUC employees never went back.

Community members also think that there are leaks in the pipe. When water is flowing through the pipe water leaks out into the ground but when there is no water flowing through the pipe ground water leaks into the pipe; ground water that might carry harmful contaminants.

Lonney said that residents have noticed since the Palikir National Government complex was built that the water quality in the rivers has deteriorated. He thinks that is due to runoff from the septic tanks on the property, runoff that is not only in the rivers but also in the ground water.

He said that the PUC representative who attended the Sunday afternoon meeting told the community that another problem is that the main water pipe is too small to adequately supply the water needs of the community. That representative promised that he would take their concerns back to PUC so that they can develop an action plan to resolve the problem.

Lonney said that is good but PUC has known about the water system problems for a long time and until the Sunday meeting they didn't even know who to contact. "They keep charging us but no solution has come up," he said, and shook his head.

Go local, healthy American diplomacy

Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia

A new legacy is in the making on Pohnpei. U.S. Ambassador Peter A. Prahar's wife, Amy Prahar, has supported Pohnpei's "go local" food campaign with her green thumb and a willingness to share her knowledge with the local farming community. Under Mrs. Prahar's guidance a small, but very productive garden has evolved from the rocky terrain surrounding the Ambassador's Residence, considered by local farmers as low in nutrients and unsuitable for cultivation.

Since arriving in Pohnpei more than two years ago, Prahar has been enriching the soil at the Residence with compost from organic materials, including kitchen waste, grass, and fallen leaves and twigs. The soil has become progressively more fertile. Today almost two dozen varieties of vegetables now flourish in what was originally rocky, nutrient-poor land. The garden provides most of the vegetables required for daily consumption in the Prahar household as well as for the larger dinners for official guests at the Residence.

In an effort to expand the variety of vegetables available for the dinner table, Prahar began experimenting with cool weather crops last year. Thanks to a favorable trade wind and less rainfall than usual during late 2011, head cabbages which do not normally grow in the tropics, successfully grew to maturity. Additionally, Prahar, her chef, and the gardener were surprised when asparagus seeds sprouted with fern-like leaves. Asparagus typically grows in much cooler climates, such as in Central Europe. To successfully grow asparagus Prahar had to conduct a large amount of Internet based research as well as call on the staff of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Pohnpei for technical advice.

To learn more about growing asparagus, Mrs. Prahar visited an asparagus farm in Showa Mura, a farming village located in the Gunma Prefecture on the northwest side of Japan's main island, Honshu. There she met Kiyoshi Shimegi who has been growing asparagus for years. Shimegi was generous with his time and expertise. He gave her a tour of his farm and explained some of the finer parts of cultivating asparagus. In Gunma, Japan, the crop is grown in a green

house and, if cultivated properly, can start producing within two years. The asparagus plants can produce edible spears for more than a decade.

One of Prahar's favorite vegetables in the garden is a dark green and reddish-purple spinach, which was originally given to her while visiting Salapwauhk village. Salapwauhk is located high in the mountains of Pohnpei. She now calls the spinach salapwauhk spinach, because of where she was originally introduced to it.



Salapwauhk spinach

While in Japan she visited a restaurant in Tokyo, specializing in vegetable dishes unique to Okinawa. It was there that she discovered salapwauhk spinach was originally from Okinawa. In Japan, this spinach is called handama. Most likely, the spinach was introduced to Pohnpei during the Japanese administration.

Handama grows extremely well in Pohnpei's climate and requires little care. Mrs. Prahar and her chef have been serving this fresh vegetable in salad and pasta, cooked in soups, and stir fried. Its plain and fresh taste comes with a slight stickiness. When cooked, the purplish color dissolves into the dish or soup. In Japan, handama is a traditional medicinal plant used to improve blood and to lower cholesterol. Besides being a nutritious edible plant, the dark green and reddish purple leaves make it an attractive ornamental plant as well. This perennial crop is dense and non-vining. Although the Prahars now know the original name of this spinach, the Prahars continue to use the name Salapwauhk spinach at the Residence as a thank you to the kind people in the high mountains.

Two other vegetables bitter melon and okra are mainstays in her garden and the household menu. Prahar originally found these vegetables in the local farmers market. After researching and learning more about the nutritional and health value of these two vegetables she began to serve bitter melon and okra with Salapwauhk spinach, a combination she calls the "Three Musketeers." She also ensures the three vegetables are the cornerstone of every tour and meal served at the residence. Prahar describes the "Three Musketeers" as a powerful mixture, which, like the original three French swashbucklers, are soldiers who fight for the people. They thrive in Pohnpei and require very little care. As Prahar likes to say, "All these plants ask for is to be eaten." Prahar hopes the



Mrs. Amy Prahar and Mr. Kiyoshi Shimegi

"Three Musketeers" will spread and find their way, along with other nutritious and healthy foods that can grow on this island, to dinner tables and beyond.

To succeed in her goal of spreading the value of the "Three Musketeers" and the relative ease of growing them she has provided numerous interpretive tours of her garden. In the last two years, hundreds of individuals have had the opportunity to tour her garden and learn from her experiences in creating a garden that produces an abundant amount of healthy food and promotes the healthy "Go Local" eating campaign.



Bitter melon and okra

"Yap Robo Day" robotics competition in Micronesia

Habele

High school students in Yap, Micronesia held an inaugural robotics exhibition last week, ushering in a new era in math, science and engineering education on the remote Pacific Island.

Student teams from Yap Catholic High School and Yap SDA school designed and built robots from VEX robotics over the course of the 2011-12 school year. The kits were a gift from the Habele Outer Island Education Fund. The schools also received instructional materials from Habele as well as remote technical support from US students attending Chaminade Prep in California.

"Yap Robo Day" as it was called, was held at the Community Center in Colonia, Yap. Nearly 100 parents, students, educators and public officials came to watch and support the teams. Their robots were able to pick up plastic rings, carry these across the arena, and carefully position the rings onto small poles of different heights.

Despite weeks of careful planning and preparation, both teams faced a range of minor

technical challenges the day of the event. Motors overheated, remote control frequencies overlapped and certain robot parts did not function exactly as planned. Still, the exhibit provided both teams a chance to show their families and members of the community all their hard work.

"This was a great day for the students," explained Larry Raigetel of Habele. "We saw real science on display as both teams used reasoning and experimental observation to identify problems, make corrections, and integrate new knowledge into what they'd already learned."

Rev. Michael P. Corcoran, S.J., the principal at Yap Catholic High School, echoed Raigetel's excitement. "Looking back on the whole experience, I must say that it was excellent for our students."

"Our students had a sense of pride and accomplishment," Corcoran continued. "I think the final-week's frustrations and consequent adjustments were one of the best aspects of the whole semester. It was like watching engineers deal with real world problems!"

Habele has already begun to solicit donations in order to fund the program for the 2012-13 school year. The US-based organization also supports low-income students enrolled at Yap Catholic and other private schools across Micronesia through tuition scholarships. The charity was established by former Peace Corps Volunteers and does not seek -and will not accept- funding from government sources. This year it also awarded funds to Waa'gey, a program that passes on traditional skills of canoe carving and weaving to students on Yap.

"We have limited resources, but we will continue to target them to programs and projects that work for students," explained Neil Mellen, a US-based Habele Director. "Too few students graduate from high school in Micronesia, and just a fraction of those who do are career or college ready. The success of the robotics teams remind us that every student across the Pacific is capable of excellence."



The high human and financial cost of dialysis treatments

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

May 17, 2012

Pohnpei, FSM—Pohnpei's blood sucking machines take a break only on Sundays. Monday through Saturday at least one of Pohnpei's five dialysis machines works to strain the waste products from the blood streams of patients whose kidneys would do the job if only they could.

Kidneys fail for a variety of reasons including gout, but in Pohnpei, Type II diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure and expensive dialysis treatments are the only solution after that happens.

Dr. Johnny Hedson, Pohnpei's Chief of Medical Services wants the people of Pohnpei to know that Type II diabetes is completely avoidable. As Benjamin Franklin said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Type II diabetes is not anyone's destiny. It can be completely avoided through proper diet and sufficient exercise.

Dr. Hedson says that even after a person is first diagnosed as having Type II diabetes the disease can be managed but that many people in Pohnpei don't manage the disease even after they have been diagnosed. Management of the disease is on a continuum. In the early stages a person can control the processing

of their blood sugars through diet and exercise. If that isn't enough there is an oral medication that can be given that increases the efficiency of the body's insulin. He said that even then a person need not be on the oral medication for life. If a person changes his or her lifestyle to include a healthy diet and sufficient exercise the need for the oral medication can be eliminated.

But some people still mismanage the disease by not being consistent with their medications. When that happens ultimately they will find themselves dependent on direct insulin injections. He said that an insulin dependent patient can "put off their death for a long way down the road" if they manage their disease with vigilance by monitoring their blood sugars properly and handling their insulin injections in a timely manner. Even then and probably especially then, proper diet and sufficient exercise are important to put off kidney failure until years later.

Gout is a hereditary disease that allows uric acid crystals to build up in the blood stream producing inflammation and painful kidney stones. A person is or isn't predisposed toward gout. It's not a matter of choice. Gout depends on genetics.

But the majority of kidney failures in Pohnpei are the result of a combination of improper diet and lack of exercise that leads to Type II diabetes, the type of

diabetes that is not genetically inherited; the kind of diabetes that a person can choose to have or not to have depending on their lifestyle decisions.

The function of kidneys is to filter everyday waste products from the blood stream and funnel that waste to the excretory system. Without functioning kidneys waste builds up in the blood stream and a person will die.

A person can live with only one functioning kidney and kidneys can be transplanted but Dr. Hedson says that the Department of Health gave up on the idea as a solution because it is cost prohibitive.

"Even in the Philippines it costs \$70,000 just for the transplant but there's more expense after that," he said. After a transplant a patient needs to take medications to keep the body from rejecting the transplanted organ. The medications alone cost about \$2000 a month per patient. One person in Pohnpei had a transplant and that person is still on the medication several years later.

In Pohnpei hemodialysis is the only treatment available for a person whose kidneys have failed.

Hemodialysis is a process whereby the entire blood content in a patient's body is filtered by a machine outside of the patient's body. A person on dialysis will

need the expensive treatment every other day for the rest of their life. Without it they will die.

When asked the average age of the 10 patients who receive hemodialysis treatments in Pohnpei Dr. Hedson said that if he had to guess, which he would have to do, he would guess that the average age is in the low 40's.

Dr. Hedson is worried about the increasing use of its five dialysis machines.

The human cost of Type II diabetes related kidney failure is very high. "Most (dialysis patients) don't last five years," Dr. Hedson said. "We lost two people within the last three months."

He said that once dialysis becomes necessary a patient's quality of life goes down significantly. Three days each week a dialysis patient must spend a significant part of their day at the hospital hooked to a machine. Just about the time that a patient recovers from the general feeling of "unwellness" that follows hemodialysis treatment they have to go back for another treatment.

The treatment is also very expensive in terms of dollars and cents. There is no insurance program in the FSM that covers the expense of dialysis treatment.

Continued on next page

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...Dialysis

Continued from previous page

Each of the dialysis machines costs over \$30,000, a small price compared to the price of some other medical equipment. Each time the machine is used for a hemodialysis treatment it costs \$123 excluding the cost of medical personnel and utilities costs. Dr. Hedson said the actual cost for each dialysis session is closer to \$140.

The two most expensive items on the list of supplies needed for one hemodialysis treatment are the coil (the filter) which costs \$26 a piece, and a medication called Epogen which costs \$45 per dose. Dr. Hedson said that Epogen is given to dialysis patients to increase the efficiency of their red blood cells after the treatment. The other \$52 worth of supplies is for various kinds of needles, syringes, tape, bicarbonate, acetate and a laundry list of other supplies including vinegar and bleach.

It costs just over \$22,000 per year to administer dialysis treatments for just one patient. Dr. Hedson said that last year Pohnpei State Hospital spent a total of approximately \$70,000 for dialysis treatments. This year the cost will be closer to \$220,000 to treat the ten people who currently receive the treatment three times each week.

Pohnpei State's Department of Health spends more on average per patient on an annual basis than in the South Pacific and its average annual per capita health spending is less than \$200. "Compare that to the U.S." Dr. Hedson said "They (their hospitals) spend an average of \$7,000 per patient. That figure should tell you the challenges we face in Pohnpei." He also said that in the U.S. it costs approximately \$300 per hemodialysis treatment.

Dr. Hedson said that last year the Department of Health provided health care for over 32,000 people with a budget of approximately \$6 million, a per capita health care cost of \$187.50. Most of the Department of Health's budget came from U.S. Compact Health Sector grants which are on a declining scale until 2023 when those grants will disappear altogether.

Dr. Hedson said that developing a plan to deal with the high cost of dialysis treatments in an environment where funding is on the decline is going to be a tough decision for leaders to make. He said that the Department of Health cannot simply cut off the expensive treatment because people will die of renal failure. "There are moral questions the leaders will have to decide," he said.

Of course the best solution would be if Type II diabetes were wiped off the map in Pohnpei through healthy diets and sufficient exercise.

Yapese Student Receives Gates Millennium Scholarship

By *Arlynn Chugen*
The Kaselehlie Press

Yap High School (YHS) Class of 2012 senior Prescilla M. Mangarfir received the Gates Millennium Scholarship, making her the fourth student to be awarded from Yap High School.

Ms. Mangarfir has attended Yap High School for four years. During this time, she has divided her time between her regular high school classes and Upward Bound classes. As a senior, Ms. Mangarfir has participated in various workshops and has taken several classes at the Small Business Center in Colonia.

When asked about challenges she faced while being in high school, Ms. Mangarfir mentioned the difficulties she faced in her English Literature class. The honors class proved to be challenging but Ms. Mangarfir recognized the vitality of the class and made the decision to not drop it. "I knew my weakness," she says but she also knew that overcoming such weakness would only help her succeed.

Indeed, Ms. Mangarfir completed the 20-sum page GMS application and submitted it early this year. Ms. Mangarfir along with some of her classmates began the long, rigorous process of completing the application and securing letters of recommendations months prior to the scholarship submission deadline.

Ms. Mangarfir plans on studying medicine and becoming a doctor. Her ultimate goals involve coming back to Yap in order to help to improve the Yap State hospital or to start her own medical practice.

Ms. Mangarfir believes that GMS will help her with achieving her educational goals. She adds that "GMS plays a small portion to success" and that "motivation is the primary key to achieving [one's] goals."

Since its awarding in 2005, GMS has helped students from Yap with their educational and career goals.

Julian F. Tharngan, a 2006 YHS graduate and GMS recipient received his Bachelor's Degree from Chaminade University of Honolulu in 2011. 2007 YHS graduate and GMS recipient Ignatius Kenmanglay received his Associate's Degree and is currently attending the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and is working towards obtaining a degree in Architectural Engineering.

In 2010 Yapese students, XHS alumnus Michael Kigimnang and Yap SDA alumnus Zandra Falmeyog, received the GMS. Both are currently working on their undergraduate degrees.

Yap State Public Auditor's (OPA) "FRAUD HOTLINE"

Office of the State Public Auditor
Yap State Government

The Office of the Yap State Public Auditor's (OPA) Compliance Investigation Division has established a "FRAUD HOTLINE" for the general public to use in reporting possible fraud, waste and mismanagement in government. Information from the public is a valuable part of Yap OPA's endeavors to encourage effective and efficient administration of public funds, property and programs.

The Hotline number is 350-8310, and is available twenty-four (24) hours a day, every day of the week, by answering machine. All calls to the Hotline remain confidential.

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Report FRAUD, WASTE &
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DR. ELIUEL K. PRETRICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Fall Semester 2012 CLOSING DATE JUNE 1

1. Purpose

The primary purpose of the Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick Memorial Scholarship is to encourage citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) to pursue a post secondary education and receive a 4-year University Bachelor of Arts or Science (BA or BS) Degree in Physical Education or Sports Administration.

2. Number of Scholarships, Amount, and Limitations on Awards

One (1) scholarship, in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be awarded.

3. Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia.
- Must have completed an Associate's Degree with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and is currently enrolled college student.
- Must have been accepted for admission into an accredited four-year institution, majoring in Physical Education or Sport Administration.
- Must enroll as a full-time student.

Please send all information to:

Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick Memorial
Scholarship Committee
PO Box PS319
Paliker, Pohnpei FM 96941

For further information, please contact your school counselor, financial aid advisor or Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick Scholarship Committee.

- Penny Weilbacher Chairperson
pweilbacher@yahoo.com
- Jim Tobin
Secretary-Treasurer fsmnoc@mail.fm
- Moses Pretrick
Committee Member
MPretrick@fsmhealth.fm
- Lore Nena
Committee Member
lnena@comfsm.fm
- Suzie Yoma
Committee Member
mrsc@mail.fm

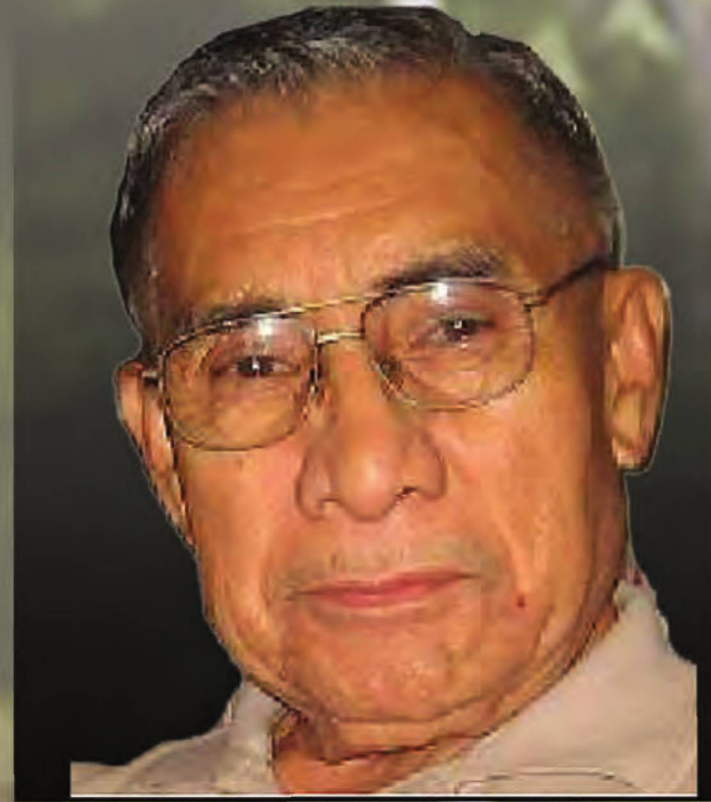
OLYMPIC DAY 5K WALK/RUN Saturday, June 16, 2012 7:00a.m., Saturday

Pohnpei - start and finish
at Palm Terrace Shopping Center.
\$5.00 registration fee,
with t-shirts to all finishers

Walk / Run will be held on all 4 FSM States



In Memory



Major Frank M. Semens
8 - 11 - 34 to 5-12-12

On behalf of our family, we would like to express our special thank you and kalahngan to those who shared their prayers, love, wisdom, and condolences with our family after the passing of our father, Major Frank M. Semens. It meant so much to our family and our children. We are touched and humbled by the outpouring of support from so many good hearted people....

Our special thanks to the U.S. Embassy, the Pohnpei State Department of Public Safety, the Police Commission and to all the family members here on Pohnpei and on Guam.

A 12-year journey home

By Lt. Stephanie Young
United States Coast Guard

Located 430 miles south of Guam in the Western Pacific Ocean, is a small, coral atoll made up of 22 islands called Woleai. Part of the Federated States of Micronesia, the atoll's inhabitants are isolated from the rest of the world with their only means of communication being a VHF radio.



Woleai is a unique place in the world; everything on the atoll is communal and there are different clans, each with their own chief. Above each clan chief are three paramount chiefs that rule the island. While Woleai Atoll is a place many of us have never heard of, or will likely never visit in our lives, there are approximately 1,000 people who proudly call the atoll "home." Petty Officer 2nd Class Kensley Raigeluw is one of these people.

Raigeluw is currently stationed aboard Coast Guard Cutter Jarvis, a high-endurance cutter that routinely deploys to the Pacific – from Russia to Panama and everywhere in between. While the crew travels great distances, they were recently able to take a brief departure from their primary mission to reunite Raigeluw with his native soil. It was the first time Raigeluw visited home in 12 years.

It's hard to imagine a young boy growing up in such an isolated environment finding his way into the U.S. Coast Guard. But Raigeluw's journey started with a chance encounter when he was just eight and Coast Guard Cutter Basswood came to the atoll. "I still remember watching their small boat driving up to our beach and my whole community having a party for their crew," recalled Raigeluw. "They took me on a tour of their ship and all I can remember is thinking that it would be so cool to be one of them, sailing around the world."

While more than a decade has passed since he has returned, he has strong memories growing up in Woleai, where people live off the land and ocean.

"One of my fondest memories growing up was sitting on the beach in the evening with my father and uncles and learning celestial navigation," said Raigeluw. "To this day the people of my island learn to navigate by the stars."

Raigeluw left Woleai in 2000 to attend college in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, followed by the University of Hawaii in Hilo, Hawaii. He earned this opportunity by being one of two people from his island who achieved high enough scores on a college aptitude exam.

Years later, in September 2005, Raigeluw was looking into joining the Army, but happened to see a Coast Guard banner online. It immediately reminded him of the Basswood and he made the decision to join the Coast Guard.

After college he enlisted in the Coast Guard, attending boot camp in Cape May, New

Jersey – 9,000 miles away from his native atoll. After graduating from boot camp, he was assigned to Station Rio Vista, Calif., and now Jarvis, bringing him back full circle to the place where he was born.

Anchored offshore, Jarvis' crew launched both their small boats loaded with donations of canned foods, medical supplies and gifts. When asked what emotions he felt being home after 12 years, with his crew besides him, Raigeluw could only recall one – happiness.

"The day when my ship sailed to Woleai was one of the best days of my life. It is hard to explain how overwhelmed I was with happiness," said Raigeluw.

"When we arrived on shore I realized most of my uncles were staring at us from beyond the beach and had no clue who I was, especially because I was in my uniform," recalled Raigeluw. "I had to walk closer to them before they recognized me."

When word got out one of their own was there, the whole village came out to greet him.

"The feeling of seeing Petty Officer Raigeluw reunited with his family after so many years cannot be put into words," said Capt. Webster Balding, commanding officer of Jarvis. "It's one of those things in life that just really makes you appreciate your family, our maritime service and our nation. I believe my heart grew today, definitely a once in a lifetime experience."

The visit lasted just hours as the cutter had to get back to the mission at hand. But before departing, Raigeluw presented a gift to his family – a photo album containing pictures of his wife and two sons, whom his parents have never met.

While the visit was short lived, Raigeluw will hold onto the memory of his homecoming forever, adding the experience to his already unique perspectives from growing up on Woleai Atoll.

While Raigeluw may have come from a far away place, who he is and what he stands for is something we can all identify with.

"My family has been seafarers for generations; they have sailed all throughout Oceania. Going to sea is in my nature and fits well with my service in the Coast Guard," said Raigeluw. "In my upbringing, my parents instilled the importance of service to others. I take to heart the Coast Guard's core values of honor, respect and devotion to duty."



FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
DEVELOPMENT BANK
Corporate Office
P.O. Box M
POHNPEI, FSM 96941

Opening Date: May 14, 2012
Closing Date: June 13, 2012

POSITION RE-ANNOUNCEMENT No. 2012-003-A

It is the policy of the FSM Development Bank that FSM citizens be given first priority for employment consideration with other Micronesians, U.S. citizens, and other nationals utilized in positions for which no qualified citizens are available.

POSITION & GRADE: Human Resources & Facilities Manager, Grade 6
LOCATION: FSM Development Bank, Corporate Office
SALARY: \$21,361.60 per annum, higher salary may be considered depending upon qualification

SUMMARY: Responsible to the President/CEO for personnel, facility management and administrative services of the organization including but not limited to providing directions for the development of personnel and administrative policies and procedures including the development and maintenance of the bank's administrative manual, and ensures compliance to personnel rules and regulations, coordinates employment activities such as hiring, performance reviews and training. Oversee the overall upkeep and maintenance of the bank facilities and other duties as assigned.

GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (Illustrative only):

include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

1. Identifies legal requirements and regulations affecting Human Resources (HR) functions and ensures policies, procedures, and reporting in compliance at the Bank's various locations.
2. Assists Managers and Division Heads in planning the staffing requirements of their branch & units. Recruits, interviews, tests (when appropriate) and refers qualified candidates for vacant positions in the organization.
3. Develops and administer employee orientation programs to acquaint employees with the Bank, its policies, procedures, goals & objectives. Conducts and assures that such programs are conducted effectively in the organization.
4. Assists Managers and Division Heads in identifying training requirements in their respective units. Develops and administers effective training programs to satisfy such requirements, and to otherwise enhance the efficiency and productivity of employees.
5. Develops and administers salary administration programs that will attract and retain qualified employees within business parameters, and to ensure compliance and equity within the organization. Develops and recommends effective merit pay budgets and salary plans.
6. Develops and administers a performance management program to encourage the development of employees' job performance.
7. Develops, administers and maintain the Bank's benefits programs such as life, health, and disability insurance, retirement plans, vacation, sick leave, leaves of absences, and employee assistance.
8. Administers personnel transactions to assure compliance with policies, procedures and approved plans and budgets for Human Resources. Keep records and files pertaining to the Bank's Human Resources: benefits plans participation and personnel transactions such as recruitment, promotions, transfers, performance reviews, terminations, and employee statistics.
9. Administers employee separation notices and related documentation, and conducts exit interviews for the Corporate Offices to determine reasons behind separations; assures that such interview are conducted effectively at other locations.
10. Responds to inquiries regarding Human Resources policies, procedures, and programs. Advises management in appropriate resolution of employee relations issues.
11. Investigates accidents and injuries occurring on the job, and prepares reports to insurance carrier.
12. Participate in budget preparations to ensure Human Resources operation needs are included in the overall Corporate budget.
13. Edits and publishes the Bank's Newsletter; Writes articles and edits those written by others. Ensures layouts are appropriate, information is correct, and that spellings are accurate.
14. Responsible for the upkeep, maintenance and all other matters relating to the bank's facilities including negotiates, develop, recommend and administers all service contracts relating to the upkeep and maintenance of the bank's facilities.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES: NONE

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE: Must have at least a Bachelor's Degree in business and/or management or in any related field from a recognized College or University; and a minimum of 5 years of HR and Administrative work experience.

SKILLS: Must have excellent communication skills. Ability to speak and write English fluently, analyze and interpret in simple terms general business periodicals, professional journals, technical procedures, policies or governmental regulations. Ability to write in concise manner business correspondence, required reports and procedure manuals. Ability to effectively present information and respond to questions from groups of managers, clients, customers, and the general public clearly. Must be a people oriented person with excellent listening skills.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

All applications, curriculum vitae, and at least three letters of reference shall be completed and submitted to: The FSMDB Corporate Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei with mailing address as follows: FSM Development Bank, P.O. Box M, Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941 by mail; by fax to 320-2842 or in person at the FSM Development Bank's Corporate Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei on or before June 13, 2012.

...CEPA

Continued from page 2

Association with the United States which, since 2005 provided over \$3 million in grants to CEPA.

In 2004 the FSM in consultation with State EPA's developed nine strategic goals as part of the FSM's Strategic Development Plan (SDP). CEPA, like other FSM State EPA's were responsible to work toward the accomplishment of the nine goals. In 2009 FSM departments developed a detailed five year Environment Sector plan. States agreed with the SDP goals "and CEPA was again responsible to work toward accomplishment of all nine strategic goals," according to the ONPA report.

But the audit found that CEPA did not staff operations and did not initiate budget proposals for full implementation of six of nine Environment Sector goals under the SDP.

The ONPA audit also concluded that CEPA has not enforced many environmental laws and regulations and that as a result Chuuk's environment continues to be in danger from illegal environmental practices.

"The auditors found some instances of 'cease and desist' orders being issued by CEPA for offenses, but CEPA did not follow through to ensure compliance or to levy fines and penalties through the two years tested by the auditors and likely for much longer," the audit said.

The report included three pages of pictures that demonstrated CEPA's negligence in enforcing its environmental protection mandate. The pictures show examples of the kind of environmentally damaging practices that continue to exist in Chuuk. The photos in the report were taken only on Weno, the State Capital.

They showed examples of illegal dumps, oil spills, sewage flowing into the streets, and unauthorized dredging and land expansion. They were but a few examples of environmental degradation that CEPA might have been able to stop including "dynamite fishing" had they enforced the laws and regulations for which they are responsible.

ONPA recommended that CEPA management should "exhibit a stronger will to:"

- Plan and develop methods of communicating the benefits of a clean environment and document details of the activities performed to accomplish that educational purpose.
- Enforce existing laws by imposing fines and penalties as required.

In its third finding ONPA found that required quarterly reports were not used effectively, a seemingly duplicative finding. But the auditor said that the reports, which are a quarterly requirement of the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs which manages the sector grants, were compiled by division managers and that CEPA upper management did not review or sign off on the reports. Reports went to State and National budget offices and the FSM Office of Environmental and Emergency Management (OEEM) was not consulted and not included in the distribution of the reports.

"Significant issues facing Chuuk were not reported in the quarterly reports," the ONPA audit said. For instance the reports centered primarily on activities conducted in Weno with a small sample of activities conducted in a few of the lagoon islands.

The audit said that the performance of some of the activities reported were unrealistic. "For instance," ONPA cited as an example, "one of the activities to be performed by the division of Water and Waste Water was the testing of water quality (in Weno), yet the island-wide power outages which were constant throughout the two years that we audited, caused the test results to be meaningless.

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Fond memories of Layleen Oliver A tribute from two friends and colleagues

Our lives were turned upside down on Friday in Suva, Fiji and Zagreb, Croatia, when we first heard the very sad news of Layleen's passing. In fact, our emails were overflowing with messages of concern and caring for Layleen from Pohnpei to Australia and beyond.



We were Layleen's 'bosses' for a time at the Australian Embassy but, if truth be known, we depended on Layleen as our guide to all things 'Micronesian' to make sure we did not put a foot astray. She did this with kindness so we never even knew we were being 'corrected'.

But Layleen was much more than a work colleague. She was a daughter, a wife and a mother as well as sister, cousin, auntie to her extended family. And she cared for those in the Embassy as though we were a part of that same family. We loved her for all her strengths, her sense of responsibility, loyalty, her devotion to her kids, family and friends.

She was the one with the huge shoulders there for everyone to cry on. She just looked after everyone and sometimes forgot to look after herself. She worked so hard for us and for everyone to make their lives better.

She could still laugh like a naughty girl sometimes and brighten up the day for all of us.

We will never forget those beautiful swinging hips when she took to the dance floor at Miskos and tried to teach us to dance Pohnpeian style!

Pohnpei will surely miss this lovely, gracious and talented daughter.

We both wish we could be there to share the times ahead with you. To you, her parents Reed and Estelle Oliver, her husband Chan, and children Sean and Chanelle, and to the Embassy staff who knew her well, you are in our hearts and minds. There will be good times to remember and bad times when we all will miss her terribly.

Remember Layleen may not have spent much time on this earth but what she did in her time made a difference in people's lives and will remain in our hearts forever. She is safe in God's hands now.

Love to you all
Janet Whitaker and Susan Cox

Mel's Wine Rack Tafunsak - Kosrae

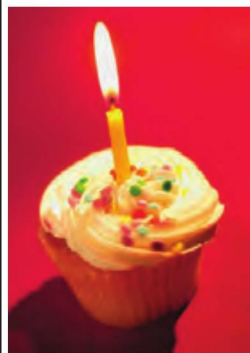


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OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PUBLIC AUDITOR

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Annual Audits of the Federated States of Micronesia (5 Governments)

Fiscal Year 2012-2014

The Office of the National Public Auditor for the Federated States of Micronesia invites interested professional accounting firms to submit written proposals to conduct the annual audits of the National and four State Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia for FY 2012, 2013, and 2014.

The audits will include financial and compliance audits of the Federated States of Micronesia pursuant to the Single Audit Act of 1984, as amended, OMB Circular A-133, and the Amended Compact of Free Association between the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States of America, for FY 2012, 2013, and 2014.

The audits will cover each reporting entity of the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia as defined by U.S. Public Law 99-239 TITLE FOUR, Article VI, Section 461 (d). The audits will be performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, provisions of the Amended Compact of Free Association between the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States of America and its related agreement for Implementation of Economic Assistance Programs and Services, and Federal auditing standards in the United States; including the Government Auditing Standards, issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO); the Single Audit Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-502), as amended; and Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations, issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as amended.

In addition, the auditor will be expected to follow the recommendations of the AICPA State and Local Government Committee as set forth in the accounting guide, Audits of State and Local Governmental Units, Revised Edition.

Proposals must be post-marked no later than June 15, 2012, and received at the FSM Office of the National Public Auditor at the address below, no later than 4:30 p.m., Pohnpei local time, or June 29, 2012 if by postal delivery.

A full version of the RFP document can be accessed at www.fsmopa.fm, or by contacting: →

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Pohnpei Catholic School presented the CHEEF benefits of local food at Youth to Youth Fair

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

On Friday, May 18, 2012, Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) supported its partner school, Pohnpei Catholic School (PCS) at Youth to Youth Environmental Fair coordinated by Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) (COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus, Pohnpei).

In 2011-2012 school year, IFCP was working with PCS 6th grade to help them become more aware of the benefits of precious local food on the island. In-class educational awareness focusing on CHEEF benefits of local food were conducted couple times; and students took two fieldtrips, one is to IFCP training center and banana collection garden at Botanical Garden, Kolonia in March and the other is to IFCP gene bank at FSM Pilot Farm in Pohnlangas, Madelonihmw in April.

Based on the knowledge they gained through those experiences, they explained the importance of "going local" to other students at the fair.

"Culture. To keep our culture intact, we must keep eating and planting (our local) food... We not only plant for consumption but to promote our culture by presenting the first harvests to our chiefs..."

"Health. There are two major causes of health crisis: change in diet and change in lifestyle. The solution of preventing this health crisis is by going local which means to plant, grow, harvest, cook, and eat local food."

"Environment. Grow and eat local food... when you eat a banana or drink a coconut, the banana peel and coconut shell can be used as fertilizers

when they decompose. Let's not forget that planting prevent erosion."

"Economy. If we go local, we can save more money. ...you go to the markets and buy our own local food; the money stays here in Pohnpei. ... we need to spend more money on our local food and buy less imported food. This will really boost our economy."

"Food Security. We must plant local food in case catastrophes occur. If such problems should happen, we are prepared to face these problems because we have cultivated our local food in advance."

They also sang their original "go local" song along with the "CHEEF" song.

"We call this "a better life"
"When we have so many local food"
"Cooking, sharing, showing love"
"This is a better life on a tiny tropical island..."

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 Ms. Shannon Christian of Cliff Rainbow for providing the transportation for this fair.

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



6th graders of Pohnpei Catholic School sang local food related songs at Youth to Youth Environmental Fair

Go Local! Go Math! at Ohmine Elementary School

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

On Tuesday, May 15, 2012, Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) concluded its joint project with Ohmine Elementary School, "Go Local! Go Math!"

Go Local! Go Math! project started in October 2011 with these purposes:

- To find out the current students' food consumption pattern during recess and at lunch
- To increase the intake of local food during recess and at lunch
- To decrease the intake of unhealthy imported food during recess and at lunch
- To increase students knowledge of local food and its benefits
- To help students learn measuring and counting with objects such as local food, which may lead students to use their five senses to understand the concept of numbers

All four classes of 4th grade at Ohmine Elementary School participated in the baseline survey (October) and the evaluation survey at the end of the project (May). Once a month health/nutrition related lessons (Nov. to Apr. except March) were conducted to two classes of 4th grade. Other two classes were set as a control group (without intervention).

Once a month health/nutrition related lessons included:

- IFCP standard talk (the health crisis in FSM, the causes of the health crisis, Let's go local! campaign and CHEEF benefits of local food)-it is also conducted to a control group.
- Three food groups for Healthy Eating (Energy, Protective, Bodybuilding food)
- Additives (sugar, salt and fat) in unhealthy imported food and daily sugar and salt intake recommendations
- Policy making (classes received the intervention created a policy)
- On Mondays and Fridays, we do not eat ramen, Kool Aid®, koko and candies.
- We do not eat powder Kool Aid®. No Red Fingers in our class!
- Going Yellow video
- Roles of fiber and giant swamp taro flour making
- Economy and Food Security (planting a yellow flesh banana)
- Baking banana bread
- CHEEF story (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy and Food Security)
- Physical Activity-dancing

The evaluation survey revealed that the intake of local food and imported food did not show obvious changes. However, a significant change was seen in the intake of powder Kool Aid® (licking Kool Aid® powder, eating it with ramen, etc). While the intake of powder Kool Aid® stayed the same among the students without intervention, the intake of powder Kool Aid® was significantly decreased among the students with intervention.

This indicates that the students followed their policy. Also, these findings may indicate that the students' intake of food items much depends on the environment they are in as well as the knowledge of healthy local food.

When students decided not to eat any powder Kool Aid®, they were able to make an action by not buying it. However, even if they wanted or decided to eat more local food, local food might not be available at home and was not available at school.

The increase in health/nutrition related knowledge was seen in classes with intervention.

In conclusion, health/nutrition related educational awareness will help students to understand the benefits of local food. More importantly, to get the best result of the classroom education, the environment that students can make actions should be provided, which means that healthy local food and snacks should be available on school premises.

The overview of the project and the survey results were presented to Ohmine Elementary School teachers. More detailed result will be available at IFCP.

IFCP would like to thank the principal, the vice principal, teachers and students of Ohmine Elementary School, especially 4th grade teachers and students, as well as their JICA volunteer, Ms. Haruko Maruyama who was also a coordinator and a conductor of this project.

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



Students baked banana bread with taro flour which they grated and did physical activity-dancing for their health (Ohmine Elementary School)

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