

# Micronesian Presidents agree to paddle in the same direction

## RMI representative says of relationship with the US, "I submit that all is not well."

By **Bill Jaynes** Pohnpei, FSM – *The Kaselehlie Press* The spirit of cooperation amongst leaders at the 8<sup>th</sup> Micronesia Presidents' Summit "makes me proud to be a Micronesian," said Pohnpei's Governor Ehsa at the opening ceremony for the meetings held in Pohnpei on November 19. The Micronesian leaders present were President Emanuel Mori of the Federated States of Micronesia, President Tommy E. Remengensau, Jr. of the Republic of Palau, and Tony deBrum, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The leaders from Guam and Saipan were due to arrive on the afternoon flight.

Ehsa, though not a Micronesian President was the first speaker at the opening ceremony and welcomed the group to his island. He told a story about two brothers who always did the opposite of each other, each wanting to be stronger than the other. When they got into a canoe to get breadfruit and coconuts from another island as their father had charged them to do, they sat in the canoe facing each other. When one brother turned around so did the other. They found out that only when they faced in the same direction were they able to go anywhere. He challenged the Micronesian leaders to work together so that Micronesian countries could get some-

where together that would make all of Micronesia a better place for its people.

Much was made about the fact that each of the leaders, including Governor Ehsa had graduated from Chuuk's prestigious Xavier High School, a school that has produced many of Micronesia's leaders.

Mr. deBrum apologized that the President of RMI could not attend the summit. He chuckled and said that perhaps the fact that his country was represented at the summit by a non-President would be bal-

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### FSM hosts the Fifth Veterans of Foreign Wars Day Celebration

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FSM's President Manny Mori, Republic of Palau's President Tommy E. Remengensau, Jr., Pohnpei's Governor John Ehsa, and RMI's Minister of Foreign Affairs Tony deBrum at the 8th Micronesia Presidents' Summit in Pohnpei

# Consumers to get a protector in Pohnpei

By **Bill Jaynes**  
*The Kaselehlie Press*

**Peilapalap, Pohnpei** – Consumers in Pohnpei are as little as one month away from having a protector in Pohnpei, a protector with sharp eyes and teeth.

Vallerio Hallens of Pohnpei State's Office of Economic Affairs has put in motion plans to fulfill the vow he made when he was sworn in four months ago. Paper work has been processed to advertise the position of

Consumer Protection Officer for the State.

The Pohnpei State Legislature has appropriated the funds necessary to send the new officer to Guam for two weeks of training on weights and measures verifications and to buy the proper tools for the job. Hallens has already made arrangements with the Guam Department of Taxation and Revenue for that office to train the new employee. The new officer could

be fully trained and on the streets protecting Pohnpei consumers as early as one month from now.

Gone will be the days of fish markets having one improperly calibrated scale for purchasing fish and another for selling fish; or the sneaking suspicion that \$5.10 worth of fuel at the pump is just shy of a gallon. Maybe in the future, the mark on the side of the one gallon gas can that says "One

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### Chuuk holds first annual diabetes health fair

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### Pohnpei's Governor John Ehsa holds the second press conference of his term

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# International Monetary Fund recommends FSM economic changes

By **Bill Jaynes** *Pohnpei, FSM* – An International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission led *The Kaselehlle Press* by **Kenneth Kang** of the Asia-Pacific Department visited Pohnpei and Yap during November 12-21 for consultation discussions. The mission met with a wide range of people from the government as well as the private sector to discuss the economic outlook and the policies needed to promote sustainable growth.

On November 21 the three representatives of the IMF held a press conference with members of the media based in Pohnpei. Mr Kang, who is the Deputy Division Chief of the Asia and Pacific Department was joined by team members, Martin Sommer, an economist with the World Economic Studies Division of the IMF, and Raynold Moveni, an Advisor to the Executive Director. The group explained that there are 184 member countries of the IMF including the Federated States of Micronesia. The IMF conducts regular assessments for its member countries to help promote policies that will contribute to sustainable development. The IMF also provides technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of governments to implement sound policies.

A full report on their assessment will be available some time after the beginning of the year.

The press release from the IMF gave a forecast saying that “in the near term, economic activity is likely to remain weak. Falling commodity prices and disbursements under the Compact should give a modest boost to growth, but the tight financial situation among the states, particularly Chuuk, and the difficult business environment are likely to

weigh heavily on the economy. Although so far shielded from the global market turmoil, the FSM faces risks from a protracted global slowdown through weaker exports, tourism, worker remittances, and its overseas investments. In this environment, policymakers face the difficult challenge of making progress in adjusting to the decline in Compact funding while advancing structural reforms to support growth.”

As in the past the IMF has recommended a number of economic policy changes in the FSM. One of the very first things that needs to be done is for the country to save for the future more than it has done in the past. Based on an analysis of the impact of declining Compact funds and the amount of projected Trust Fund earnings, among other factors the IMF preliminarily recommended that the FSM should, by the year 2011 begin setting aside for the future, \$11 million every year.

“You can spend it now or in the future,” said Kang. But if it’s spent now it won’t be there in the future.

It’s a big hurdle for the FSM to clear. Last year the combined total deficit for each of the States and the National Government was

over \$7 million. If last year’s deficit is the standard then the FSM needs to develop a surplus of \$18 million that could be set aside for savings. Some fairly dramatic belt tightening is recommended.

The IMF said that 60% of total employment in the FSM is in the Public Sector where the salaries are, on average, double those of people working in the private sector. They said that not only should the government evaluate salary levels for government employees as compared to the private sector they should scale down the size of government significantly.

The FSM is a Freely Associated State with the United States and receives assistance under the Compact of Free Association. The Republic of the Marshall Islands is another freely associated state. There, 50% of employed people work for the government. In the rest of the Pacific, in countries without Compact money government size is closer to 25%. Without Compact money the FSM could not afford the size of government that it currently has; neither could the RMI.

The IMF continues to encourage tax reform saying that a Value Added Tax (VAT), a net revenue tax, and a Unified Revenue Authority would be a more streamlined and business friendly tax system and would bring to the FSM an additional \$8 million per year in round figures. They encouraged the FSM to move forward as quickly as possible on the tax reform.

Kang said that during their visit they discovered that some business owners are waiting for the new tax structure before investing in infrastructure. Waiting on the tax reform, he says, is costing the FSM a great deal of money besides the tax revenue that is being lost.

\$8 million is a great deal of money but it is still not enough. Somewhere an additional annual revenue resource of approximately \$10 million needs to be found. As in years past the IMF recommends that the FSM should work hard to make business easier to do in the FSM. To help, they recommended that the justice system be reviewed in order to streamline the process of judicial review for contract enforcement, a process that currently takes nearly 1000 days from the filing of a complaint until the final ruling. An IMF survey of business conditions throughout the world ranked the FSM dead last in the Pacific partly because of that reason. For the good of the FSM economy this, among other things have to change.

Kang said that the FSM needs to develop a more open Foreign Investment Policy to attract big investors to the region. He recommended that it might help if state laws on foreign investment were more synchronized. Pohnpei’s foreign investment environment is one of the most restrictive in the Pacific. Kang said that Yap had made some progress in that area and as a result they are seeing more tourists. When Foreign Investment Boards are filled with business people with a vested interest in keeping competition out the Board stands as a roadblock to investment.

Kang said that some countries have stepped back from the Investment Board model and used other creative means of regulating foreign investment.

Despite Pohnpei’s restrictive foreign investment policy Kang said he had seen great improvement there and the Foreign Investment Board had just undertaken a study to help them regulate foreign investors.

When asked whether he thought that Petrocorp, the new public corporation would be a good or a bad thing for the FSM, Kang said that he considered Petrocorp as a model for the way public corporations should be set up. First, they took a commercial loan instead of a subsidy from the government itself, second they agreed to pay Gross Revenue Tax. Those factors among others mean that the corporation must run profitably. Many other public corporations have been drains on the FSM and the IMF recommends that the FSM should seriously consider shutting down the public corporations that don’t succeed. Not only did those corporations lose an aggregate of over \$8 million last year but they received government money in the form of subsidies to do it.

The IMF recommended commercial agriculture development to help to ease the import burden for food. A robust agricultural sector, besides supplying the needs of the island from local resources could go so far as to develop into an export item, another recommendation of the IMF.

Right now the FSM is strapped with high shipping rates. Because ships come to the FSM full and leave empty the FSM pays nearly double price for shipping. If it could develop an export market ships could leave the FSM full and shipping costs would go down which in turn would drive down the cost for consumer goods in the FSM.

Kang said that Yap’s move to set up a trust fund was a good one. Mr. Sommer agreed but warned that trust funds can carry associated costs with them. The IMF group suggested that one way to minimize costs for trust fund management would be to establish one board of trustees to manage all of the trust funds in the FSM in order to minimize cost for each of the various trust funds.

Kang said that one of the advantages the IMF brings with them when they come to do consultations is international experience. They are able to make recommendations based on their many international observations of both successful and unsuccessful development. When asked they could think of no other nation in the Pacific that has a Federation type of structure in which several different governments each have power to enact their own economic policies, sometimes disparately.

The IMF press release said “the authorities recognize these challenges and are moving the right direction. The key will be to build consensus for these reforms through closer dialogue with the public, legislative bodies, and the private sector.”

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**Bill Jaynes**  
Managing Editor

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## ...Protection

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Gallon" will be at the same place on every gas can in Madolenihmw or in Kitti that sells fuel that way.

Additionally, business people who arbitrarily mark up prices on imported items without regard for the law will soon do so at a much greater risk of being caught, and prosecuted.

Pohnpei State Law (3L-72-73), the Price Control Act, passed in 1973 was established mainly because the market pricing system that relies on competition rather than regulation to control prices was not working in Pohnpei. This was due to the fact that the market was too small for effective control other than by regulation.

The regulation said that an importer may include in his price to the buyer ONLY the following items and no others: cost of the goods; actual charges for inland and overseas freight; insurance; import taxes or duties; and a sum not greater than 50 percent of the cost of the goods. The allowable markup is for the first sale of a good after its arrival in Pohnpei. An import-

er who sells to a retailer in Pohnpei may mark up his price by a maximum of 50%. The second seller, the retailer may only mark up his price by 20% above the price he pays to the first seller or wholesaler.

There are civil and criminal penalties for business owners who violate the regulations. A violator may be required to void a sale that was illegally marked up above the limits and refund the price paid by the buyer, or refund the illegal portion of the price paid by the buyer. He may be required to additionally pay triple the amount of the illegal part of the price to the buyer.

The business person could also go to jail. If he or she willfully falsifies records, refuses to produce records or violates any of the terms of the regulation including the markup limits he can be fined not more than \$500, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. Each sale at an illegal price or other violations is considered to be a separate offense.

Hallens said that the officer's responsibilities would also include the regulation of repair shops. He said that complaints constantly come into his

office about unscrupulous repair shops that either overcharge or perform unnecessary or unauthorized work. He told me a personal story about paying \$750 for a new head gasket when he was not having an interchange of oil and water in his engine. The problem ultimately turned out to be bad spark plugs which cost about \$3 each to replace and one spark plug wire for about \$4.50.

He said that the Consumer Protection Officer might also work closely with the health department to establish regulations on food products that should be pulled from store shelves such as expired food products.

Hallens said that his office will set up a consumer hotline that people will be able to call in order to register consumer complaints.

The Consumer Protection Officer will have a great deal of power, power that could potentially be sold to business people bold enough to offer a bribe. A single Consumer Protection Officer could also possibly carry a personal agenda against certain businesses or business people and could unfairly wield his power through harassment. "Every business will be treated the

same," Hallens said. He said that they will be looking for a candidate amongst applicants with a reputation for impeccable ethics. The ideal candidate would have experience in both business and law enforcement, he said.

In 2008, the market is not much larger than it was in 1973 and the Price Control regulation still stands but there has been no one to enforce the regulation for well over a decade. No one seems to know with any certainty why that has been the case though conspiracy theories abound.

The Price Control law established a Price Control Commission in Pohnpei that would consist of five members appointed by the Governor with Legislative advice and consent. The members were to have been Pohnpeian citizens living in Pohnpei. No more than one of the five could have a controlling ownership or a managerial interest in one or more businesses in Pohnpei.

Some Governor at some time stopped appointing members and the commission simply ceased to exist. Now there will be someone to protect consumers in Pohnpei again.

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## ...Presidents

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anced by the fact that of the group he was the most senior graduate of Xavier High School.

President Mori challenged the leaders to live up to the motto of their common alma mater, "Ut Omnes Unum Sint--That All May Be One."

Each of the leaders spoke of the common challenges facing the Micronesia region. They spoke of the problems of accessibility and travel, communications speed, the international trade environment, energy dependence, and sustainable development.

President Mori asked the leaders to consider how they could work together on joint maritime surveillance plans, reciprocal labor and immigrations laws, communications infrastructure, development of capacity for public safety and the capacity to combat transnational crime, and for the environment through the Micronesia Challenge. He congratulated those who had signed on to the Micronesia Trade Commission and challenged those who had not signed on to do so in the interest of all of the countries.

All of the leaders agreed to discuss the possibility of making joint fuel purchases in order to get the best possible energy prices throughout the region.

Though much of the work on the Communique for the Summit had already been done before leaders arrived in Pohnpei, Mr. deBrum, of RMI asked that the leaders consider another topic for discussion. He spoke provocatively while members of the Australian, Chinese, Japanese, and U.S. Diplomatic Corps looked on. He called for the Micronesian leaders to consider what message they should send to the United States about the relationship between the Micronesia region and the U.S. under Compact II, "I submit that all is not well," he said.

He said that when people from outside of Micronesia fly over the island paradise they often think that everything is wonderful and Micronesians are happy because they are close to nature and to the ocean. "That is true," he said, "but what many people fail to realize is that world challenges are felt here too."

He said that there are those in the U.S. Government who still think of the Micronesian nations as Trust Territories rather than as sovereign nations. They think that Micronesians are incapable of

making their own decisions. He contended that new government leaders that will soon be coming into power in the United States might think that everything is okay unless Micronesian leaders say otherwise, and soon.

He said that "drop dead" deadlines assigned by the U.S. are a problem. "True relationships amongst friends must be dynamic," he said.

President Remengensau of Palau in his earlier comments said that one of the unique features of the Micronesian region is the people's commitment to traditional values and the preservation of culture within a framework of democracy. Referring to that comment, Mr. deBrum said that the traditional leaders of the Marshall Islands had met. The overwhelming message from the group was that the days of Micronesian countries seeking handouts are over.

"We have survived colonization, war, pestilence, famine and floods," he said. "Micronesia will survive again no matter what happens but we must work together going in the same direction."

The leaders continued their summit at the Nahlap Island Resort where they discussed their issues and concerns.

According to a press release by FSM Information Services (FSMIS) several presentations were given at the Summit including: Quarantine Standardization, The Micronesia Challenge, Fuel (Bulk Procurement of Petroleum), Extradition Treaties and Laws, Labor and Immigration, Airport Improvement Program (AIP), The Pacific Plan, Maritime Surveillance Operation (Patrol Boat Program), Trans Pacific Fiber Optic Cable, Regional and International Trade Related Issues, Micronesia Public Safety Training (Micronesia Police Academy), SPC/Northern Regional Office, Micronesian Village, Micronesia Center for Sustainable Development, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (Regional Coast Guard Project), Reform of PNA Fisheries Management, Framework for Economic Cooperation with Japan and Post-Kyoto Protocol.

A press release by FSMIS late on November 21, press time for the Kaselehlle Press, said that more detail on the issues would be available after all of the parties had signed the communiqué. The office, despite earlier promises and repeated requests for the information released neither the communiqué for the Presidents' Summit nor the communiqué for the Chief Executives Summit (see press release on page ?) in time for publication in The Kaselehlle Press.

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# Governor Ehsa stages his second press conference

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Peilapalap, Pohnpei** – At 11:00 on Thursday, November 20, Pohnpei's Governor John Ehsa staged the second press conference of his administration. In May of this year he promised to hold four press conferences per year. In his welcoming remarks he apologized for the delay in holding the second conference citing an extremely busy schedule. Notifications to the press for the November press conference were made just a few hours before it was scheduled to begin. In spite of that fact it was attended by all members of the media and was broadcast on V6AF Baptist Radio and on V6AH Pohnpei State radio whose content is streamed to the Internet. The diplomatic corps was also invited to the press conference. Not all members could make it due to the late notice for the event.

Governor Ehsa began the press conference with a prepared statement on events of his administration.

## **Pohnpei Constitutional Convention**

Governor Ehsa signed into law a bill calling for a Constitutional Convention for Pohnpei State. The Convention will consist of 29 delegates of which 23 will be elected from the local jurisdictions and 6 delegates will be elected at large. The election will take place in March 2009 to coincide with the FSM Congress election. A pre-convention committee consisting of 5 members will be established to plan and organize details for the Convention.

## **Public School Lunch**

He said that the Government still continues to seek funding for full implementation of the school lunch program with the goal continuing to be the provision of school lunches for all public school children at all levels up to 12th grade. In the meantime the State has implemented a new school lunch menu in support of a nutritious and balanced meal starting in November. He asked for the support, involvement and direct participation of all school parents and partners in the international community to fully and realistically implement the program.

## **Compact Infrastructure Development Project Implementation (IDP)**

The State Government prepared and submitted 24 infrastructure projects totaling more than \$100 million to the FSM National Government and the US Office of Insular Affairs for consideration. So far OIA has concurred for implementation of 10 projects. The projects include construction of new classrooms for Saladak School in U, Seinwar School in Kitti, Sapwalap School in Madolenihmw, Nett School in Nett, Sokehs Powe School in Sokehs and a new Primary Health and Dental Annex at the Pohnpei State Hospital.

New classroom construction contract



*Pohnpei's Governor John Ehsa during his second press conference*

awards are expected soon for Nahnpei Memorial High School in Kitti, Madolenihmw High School and Kolonia Elementary School.

It is expected that actual construction for some the projects will begin in early 2009. The Government also expects that there will be new IDP approvals in early 2009.

## **Infrastructure Maintenance Fund Project Implementation (IMF)**

An Australian ship repair company has been selected and a contract is being negotiated for a complete rehabilitation of the MS Micro Glory, Pohnpei's field trip vessel that provides life, education, and health support to the people in the islands. Ehsa said that the job will take 60 days and the Micro Glory will soon sail to Australia for its much needed repairs.

## **Power Generation**

Governor Ehsa said that the Pohnpei State Government continues to seek alternative and renewable energy sources to provide reasonably priced electricity to its people.

He said that Pohnpei Utilities Corporation is taking the lead in restoring the Nanpil Hydroelectric Power plant to operation. He said that they are awaiting the arrival of some parts and that when the plant is rehabilitated it is expected to provide about 30 percent of Pohnpei's power needs.

A Chinese company has expressed interest and will soon be in Pohnpei to commence construction of a Hydroelectric plant on

the Lehnmesi river in Kitti. Ehsa said that it is a new idea in Pohnpei to have a private company generate and sell power to Pohnpei Utilities Company but that it is an idea that is permissible by law and the price will be much cheaper than power generated by diesel. The new plant would generate 25 to 30 percent of Pohnpei's electricity needs.

The European Union has provided solar power systems to be installed in public facilities in all of Pohnpei's outer islands. The systems are being transported for installations by experts with support of the FSM National and Pohnpei State Governments. The first shipment to the southern islands has already left Pohnpei's big island. The systems for the remaining island will soon be in place. Ehsa said that all of the islands will have power by Christmas time.

## **Economic Development**

A first ever strategic action plan for the development of agriculture in Pohnpei is being drafted and should be completed for implementation soon.

The management of the Pohnpei Public Market is now under the Office of Economic Affairs and work on re-opening the facilities has begun. He said that they plan on re-opening in two or three weeks.

## **Fisheries Development**

Ehsa announced the signing of the bill to create a new office for Fisheries and Aquaculture. He said that the law is part of the Administration's efforts to merge all

fisheries development functions under one umbrella and also to put more emphasis on the fisheries sector as it is a priority sector for the development of the State's economy. He said that the law was also motivated by the extremely poor performance of Pohnpei Fisheries Corporation and the Economic Development Authority and the fact that those entities were competing with the private sector.

He said that he has plans to do the same with the Agriculture and Tourism sectors.

## **Tourism**

He said that the Airport Improvement Project is ready to begin and had hopes that the project would make tourism the leading economic activity in Pohnpei.

He concluded his opening statement with a discussion about an FSM wide tourism development strategy and announced that he had taken the lead on the project.

Dave Arthurs of V6AF Baptist Radio asked if there was any plan for the maintenance of roads in Pohnpei the state of which is beginning to cause accidents as people divert around potholes into oncoming traffic. Ehsa said that he had submitted four requests to the National government and that all had been denied. He said that the problem is not a new one but was caused by lack of maintenance over the years and the lack of any real thought in the initial construction of roads. He said that he had ordered a stop on the construction of any new roads if there is not enough money to pave the roads. He said that the state lacks the funds and will have to take a long term approach to maintenance of existing roads.

The representative from the United States Embassy asked Governor Ehsa what his plan was for payment to Bob and Patty Arthur for a court judgment in their favor against the State. Previous administrations had steadfastly refused to make the payment. Ehsa said that the State is under a court ordered ruling to pay and that it must be done particularly since the interest is stacking up on the debt at the rate of \$180 per day. He said that he has resubmitted a bill to appropriate the funds. He said that he would continue to press for resolution on that case.

On the issue of PUC's ability to continue to supply power to Pohnpei he said that he had been assured that if the price of oil continues to drop or to at least maintain its current level the price of cash power would go down. Price adjustments, he said, would be on the 12<sup>th</sup> of each month and that he expected a decrease in price in December. He also announced that Secretary Kempthorne of the US Department of the Interior had acted to provide a half million dollar grant to PUC. \$150,000 will be used for the purchase of additional cash power meters and \$350,000 will be used for the rehabilitation of existing generators at the power plant.

## FSM hosts the Fifth Veterans of Foreign Wars Day Celebration

FSM Information Services

Bill Jaynes - The Kaselehlie Press

**Palikir, Pohnpei** – On November 11 the Federated States of Micronesia celebrated the 5<sup>th</sup> observance of its newest holiday, Veterans of Foreign Wars Day, in conjunction with the United States commemoration of Veterans Day. This was the first year that the FSM government was the host for this event, which had previously been hosted by the US Embassy.

The event was held in the Central Conference Room at the National Government Complex in Palikir and was broadcast live on V6AF Baptist Radio. The ceremony was presided over by Jane Chigiyal, Assistant Secretary of FSM Department of Foreign Affairs. In atten-

tion this year. She recognized veterans as “extraordinary Americans and Micronesians” and told the audience that “the legions of men and women in the Armed Forces, who have worked side by side like family and put their lives on the line for humanity, our Partners in Peace and Progress, have earned our profound respect and gratitude.”

Following the remarks by Ambassador Hughes, 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Frank M. Semens, US Army (Ret.) and President of the FSM Veterans Association took the podium but due to laryngitis was unable to give his speech. He was, however, able to join Acting Governor Churchill Edward in signing an MOU in which Pohnpei State dedi-



Pohnpei's Acting Governor, Churchill Edward and First Sergeant Frank Semens sign an MOU for a building designated for use by the Veterans Association by Pohnpei State

dance were Vice President Alik Alik, US Ambassador to the FSM, H.E. Miriam K. Hughes, Australian Ambassador Susan Cox, and Acting Governor Churchill Edward, along with veterans, acting service men and women and their friends and families.

Vice President Alik told the crowd that “the government has long realized the valuable contributions that our veterans and active service members have played at home, in our relations with the U.S. and the world at large, especially in the coalition’s fight against terrorism.” He went on to say “We are humbled by your sacrifice to leave your family and home... We are also indebted to your families for their own sacrifices.”

The Vice President highlighted a significant event in the bilateral relations with the U.S. in the recognition by insular area governments to “accord more attention to caring for America’s military heroes as discussed in the recently concluded Future of Health Care in the Insular Areas at the Leaders’ Summit held in Hawaii in September.” He said, “The FSM government will pursue the decisions made at the summit to insure that our veterans and active duty service members are not left behind.”

US Ambassador Hughes then took the podium and gave the history of the US Veterans Day celebration in the US and praised the initiative and partnership of the

ated a state building in Nett to the FSM Veterans Association to use as their headquarters for veterans’ activities. Vice President Alik commended Pohnpei State for taking this initiative and said that he hopes that other states will follow their example.

Perhaps the most touching moment of the ceremony was the placing of wreaths by FSM family members of soldiers injured or killed in the war against terror or currently in harm’s way in Iraq. Gathered dignitaries also place wreaths to honor veterans of foreign wars.

After the closing remarks, Mr. Gary Bloom from the US Embassy was on hand to assist veterans to register for benefits and to provide other necessary information. Any veterans who were not in attendance should contact Mr. Bloom at the US Embassy and be sure to register for benefits.

One veteran who was injured in the war in Iraq told the Kaselehlie Press after the ceremony that he had spoken with the head of the Veteran’s Administration in Hawaii. He was told that the V.A. needs to know how many people in the FSM are veterans, whether active or retired. It will help them to make a decision regarding their presence in the FSM. The veteran who asked that his name be withheld said, “Four times a year recruiters come to the FSM and get 30 or 40 people for the services. There are a lot of US veterans in and from the FSM.”

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## EXCEPTIONAL AND CHALLENGING CAREER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTANT RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE -PROGRAMME

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Under the guidance of the DRR, the Assistant Resident Representative Programme (ARR-P) acts as a manager of and advisor to Senior Management on all aspects of Fiji Multi-Country Office (MCO) Programme and practice areas. The main role is to manage the country Programme including continued monitoring of implementation. The ARR (P) leads the Programme team in strategic planning and identifies new Programme areas while ensuring consistency with United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and UNDP Multi-Country Programme Document priorities, and creative responses to emerging challenges and opportunities.

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Master's Degree or equivalent in Business Administration, Public Administration, Economics, Political Sciences, Social Sciences or related field. 5 years of relevant experience at the national or international level in providing management advisory services, hands-on experience in design, monitoring and evaluation of development projects and establishing inter-relationships among international organization and national governments. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages, experience in handling of web based management systems.

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United Nations Development Programme  
Private Mail Bag  
Tower Level 6, Reserve Bank of Fiji Building  
Suva, Fiji

Telephone: (679) 3312500  
Fax: (679) 3301718  
E-mail: registry.fj@undp.org

Additional information including the Post Profile and Results-Oriented Curriculum vitae format is available from the UNDP website: [www.undp.org.fj](http://www.undp.org.fj) or the UNDP Office. Candidates are encouraged to submit their application electronically along with an uploaded resume.

Only candidates for whom there is further interest will be contacted.

**Women candidates are encouraged to apply.**

\* The Fiji Office covers Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

## Two in Kosrae charged with theft of National Government funds

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Kosrae, FSM** – Charges for theft of FSM funds were filed on September 3, 2008 in the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia in the State of Kosrae against two residents of Kosrae working for the National Aquaculture Center.

Likiak Phillip who served as the Manager for the National Aquaculture Center in Kosrae is accused of stealing more than \$31,400 collected for the sale of clams in Kosrae over a two year period between April, 2005 and May 2007. Carolyn Benjamin is accused of stealing over \$400 in funds collected at the gift shop for sale of souvenir items during that time.

If convicted Phillip could face a jail term of up to ten years and a fine of up to \$100,000 dollars. Benjamin, if she is convicted would face imprisonment of up to a year and a possible fine of up to \$5000.

According to the document filed with the FSM Supreme Court in Kosrae, on

October 30, 2007, Detective Burt Talley and Investigative Auditor Sophia Pretrick met Phillip at the NAC conference room. After being informed of his rights and waiving them Phillip admitted that he had repeatedly received and failed to deposit money belonging to NAC and used the money for purposes other than what it was intended for.

Talley and Pretrick met on the same day with Benjamin who also was informed of her rights which she waived. Benjamin told the law enforcement officers that although she usually gave Phillip the revenue collected from the local sales she admitted to having occasionally taken money belonging to NAC in the approximate amount of \$200.

Although Carolyn Benjamin showed up for her initial appearance before the court on September 10, 2008, Likiak Phillip did not appear. Assistant Attorney General Lorrie Johnson-Asher, representing the FSM Government told the court that she had initiated proceedings to extradite Phillip back to the FSM. She did not request the issuance of an arrest warrant saying that attempts were still underway to locate Phillip.

The initial appearance before the court was to advise the defendants of their rights as a person accused of a crime.

Benjamin, after being informed of her rights was released on her own recognition after the FSM attorney said the Benjamin was not a flight risk. The release was subject to conditions. She cannot leave the state of Kosrae without written permission of the court. She had to inform the Justice Ombudsman, Mr. Marris Jackson, of her permanent residence and immediately provide new residence information if her residence changes. By the 12<sup>th</sup> she was required to surrender her passport to Mr. Jackson who would issue her a receipt.

Associate Justice Dennis K. Yamase is presiding over the court proceedings and presided over the initial hearing by telephone from Pohnpei. On behalf of Carolyn Benjamin the proceedings were translated into the Kosraen language. Her temporary attorney, Mr. Steve George of the FSM Public Defender's Office in Kosrae said on her behalf that she had understood the proceedings.

According to the Office of the National Public Auditor a trial date has not yet been determined and Phillip is still outside of the FSM.

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Fri Nov 28 9 am - 5 PM  
Sat Nov 29 9 am - 5 PM  
Sun Nov 30 noon - 5 PM

Mon Dec 1 9 am - 5 PM  
Tues Dec 2 9 am - 5 PM  
Wed Dec 3 9 am - 3 PM  
Thurs Dec 4 9 am - noon  
(plane departs in evening)

The clinic is located next to  
Napa, the apartment building  
to the left of the driveway.  
The apt closest to the water  
320-4707

# Bill in Pohnpei Legislature would allow for a fish processing plant in Dekehtik

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Peilapalap, Pohnpei** – A bill introduced in May to the Pohnpei State Legislature at the request of the Executive Branch is still under consideration by the Legislature (LB 66-08). If passed by both the Legislative and Executive Branches of Pohnpei State Government it would give Pohnpei Fisheries Corporation (PFC) a 30 year no cost lease agreement for land in Dekehtik for fisheries development. The designated site is the land currently leased to the Misko family for use as the Pwohmria Beach Resort.

The bill would also establish the China-Pohnpei fisheries project to be built on the site and would specifically waive the requirement for a foreign investment permit. The Government of the People's Republic of China would provide a grant of up to \$15 million for construction of a "fish processing plant". Pohnpei State Government would then sell the plant to PFC with the requirement that PFC leases the plant or outsources management of the facility to a company that will be designated in the grant from China.

According to a law that Governor Ehsa signed two weeks ago, PFC no longer

exists (*The Kaselehlie Press - Volume 8, Issue 24, Page 1*). The bill presented in May, that would establish the China-Pohnpei partnership made allowances for the fact that PFC might not be an entity when the law is passed, if it is passed. The bill often referred to PFC as, "Pohnpei Fisheries Corporation or its successor in state law." The former corporation was dissolved and its responsibilities were transferred to a new Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture (OFA) under the direct control of the Executive Branch.

The Chinese Partner designated in the grant from the Chinese Government would

run the fish processing plant for 15 years. It would pay the OFA \$1 million per year for 15 years with the possibility of lease amount renegotiations every five years. With the exception of the first year, OFA would then pay the Pohnpei State Government 95% of the collected lease payment. In the first year it would pay \$500,000 to the lease holders of the Pwohmria Beach Resort.

The bill would also add the fisheries processing plant at Dekehtik to the list of "state economic development priority projects" under the Pohnpei Development Plan. It was not on the list before. The other projects on the list are a premier hotel/resort complex at Lukop, Madolenihmw; a light industrial park at Palikir, Sokehs; a five star hotel complex in Kolonia; a coconut products development project at Pohnlangas, Madolenihmw; and projects within the Planned Development Zone at Dekehtik, Nett.

Nothing in the bill would preclude Oceania, Inc. from carrying out its previously announced plans to build and operate an \$80 to \$100 million cannery project that they said at the time of the announcement would employ up to 3000 people. The bill does not say that the China-Pohnpei partnership would operate as a monopoly.

Oceania, Inc is still involved in an ongoing lawsuit filed by Pohnpei State in June over a contract signed with the now defunct Economic Development Authority.



## Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia

Public Affairs Section  
P.O. Box 1286  
Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941  
Telephone: (691) 320-2187  
Fax: (691) 320-2186  
Email: [usembassy@mail.fm](mailto:usembassy@mail.fm)  
Website: <http://kolonia.usembassy.gov>  
**Media Release No. 33-2008**

November 21, 2008

### U.S. COMPACT GRANTS TO FSM IN OCTOBER 2008

For the first month of the current fiscal year, the FSM Department of Finance received Compact-funded grants from the United States Government totaling \$ 7,536,291. These payments were for Compact sector grants for Education, Health, Environment, and Private Sector Development plus Disaster Assistance, Supplemental Education and Infrastructure Grants for October of Fiscal Year 2009. The breakdown of these grants follows:

#### Sector Grants for the Federated States of Micronesia's National Government

Education Sector (FSM Department of Education)	\$ 100,000
Education Sector (College of Micronesia-FSM)	\$ 950,000
Health Sector (FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs)	\$ 130,000
Disaster Assistance Emergency Fund	\$ 228,138
<b>Total Payment for FSM National Government:</b>	<b>\$ 1,408,138</b>

#### Sector Grants for Chuuk State

Health (Chuuk MDR TB Outbreak)	\$ 325,000
Infrastructure (Chuuk Airport AIP)	\$ 97,084
Supplemental Education Grant (2007)	\$
<b>Total Payment for Chuuk:</b>	<b>\$ 422,084</b>

#### Sector Grants for Pohnpei State

Education Sector	\$ 1,275,000
Health Sector	\$ 1,025,000
Environment Sector	\$ 35,000
Supplemental Education Grant (2007)	\$ 811,441
<b>Total Payment for Pohnpei State</b>	<b>\$ 3,146,441</b>

#### Sector Grants for Kosrae State

Education Sector	\$ 435,000
Health Sector	\$ 405,000
Private Sector Development	\$ 70,000
Infrastructure (Kosrae Airport AIP)	\$ 179,628
<b>Total Payment for Kosrae:</b>	<b>\$ 1,089,628</b>

#### Sector Grants for Yap State

Education Sector	\$ 700,000
Health Sector	\$ 580,000
Environment Sector	\$ 50,000
Private Sector Development	\$ 140,000
<b>Total Payment for Yap State</b>	<b>\$ 1,470,000</b>

**TOTAL SECTOR GRANT PAYMENTS FOR FSM (October FY 2009): \$ 7,536,291**

These payments are made on a monthly basis, based upon requests submitted by the FSM Government on behalf of the national government, the four state governments and the College of Micronesia-FSM. The U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs administers these funds for the United States Government.

The above information is provided as a public service by the United States Embassy.

## Oops!

Sometimes the alphabet soup of governmental acronyms gets away from us or maybe it's just my tired fingers. In issue number 24 (the last issue) of the Kaselehlie Press on page one, the continuation should have read "See EDA and PFC on Page 3". On page 3 the headline should have read "... EDA and PFC". The EPA is the Environmental Protection Agency while the article had to do with the dissolution of the Economic Development Authority.

In the article on page 8 entitled "Pohnpei Legislature confirms some Ehsa nominees in special session" we were given incorrect information on the nomination of Tony Serapio. The Pohnpei State Legislature vote was 14 to 9 rejecting his nomination to the Pohnpei Port Authority board. We reported that he had been confirmed. We apologize for any inconvenience the error may have caused.

# FSM is Co-Host to Tenth Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit

FSM Information Services

**Palikir, Pohnpei** - This week, Pohnpei State and the FSM National Government played host to the 10<sup>th</sup> Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit or MCES held at the FSM-China Friendship Gymnasium at the COM-FSM National Campus. Delegates from Guam, CNMI, Palau, the Marshall Islands, and all four of the Federated States of Micronesia, plus participants from the FSM National Government, met in committees for two days to prepare presentations and recommendations to the nine Principals involved in this year's Plenary Session of the Summit held on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.



Delegates at the Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit meet at College of Micronesia National Campus - Photo by COM student Rusi Lengsi

This year, Summit participants were; the President of Palau, His Excellency Tommy Remengesau, Jr., the Minister of Foreign Affairs from the Marshall Islands, the Honorable Tony deBrum, the Governor of Guam, the Honorable Felix Camacho, the Governor of CNMI, the Honorable Benigno Fitial, the Governor of Yap State, the Honorable Sebastian Anafel, the Governor of Chuuk State, the Honorable Wesley Simina, the Governor of Pohnpei State, the Honorable John Ehsa, the Governor of Kosrae State,

the Honorable Robert Weilbacher, and the chairman for the Summit, His Excellency Emanuel Mori, President of the Federated States of Micronesia, with assistance from Vice President Alik Alik.

Committee presentations were given from the Health Committee, the Regional Energy Committee, the Pacific Islands Regional Recycling Initiative (PIRRIC), the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future, the Regional Tourism Committee,

the Regional Invasive Species Council (RISC), the Pacific Workforce Investment Workgroup, the Regional Transportation Committee, Micronesia Challenge, and the Telecommunications Group, plus guest presentations from Exmar Offshore Co., Nippon Oil, Digicel Telecommunications, and the Rural Internet Communication System.

During the Plenary session of the Summit, the Principals gave opening remarks, listened to committee reports, and dis-

cussed the recommendations from the committees. A Joint Communiqué was created from these discussions. The consensus of the Principals was that this gathering of Micronesian Chief Executives is very important to the region since as a group, they can leverage more resources and have a better chance of solving the challenges they face as a region, rather than by working separately. Of note is that this is the last MCES that Palauan President Tommy Remengesau, Jr. will attend since he is finishing his second term as President of Palau and has been elected to the Congress of Palau, and this was the first seating of Governor Wesley Simina of Chuuk.

The MCES concluded with a dinner reception at PCR Nantehlik where all of the Principals gave closing remarks. Unfortunately, the Joint Communiqué was not completed until late in the evening, and the signing took place at separate sites on Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008. A copy of this Joint Communiqué is available through the FSM PIO office by calling 320-2548 or emailing at fsm-pio@mail.fm.

Opening Date: November 1, 2008  
Closing Date: November 30, 2008

## Vacancy Announcement Kosrae Port Authority General Manager

**This position reports directly to the Port Authority Board of Directors. The General Manager supervises and directs to activities of the Port Authority.**

### QUALIFICATIONS and REQUIREMENTS

- A highly thorough knowledge of management of seaport and airport operations.
- Outstanding ability to develop sound, practical and modern port management procedures.
- Strong ability to induce effective performance by the Authority's employees and to maintain their morale, training and development at a high level;
- Must have experience at supervisory levels; plus a four year degree in business management or public administration from an accredited college, strong command of written and spoken English, neat and highly presentable and of excellent manners;
- Must have a minimum of (10) years experience in seaport or airport management, or related field..
- Have experience in the selection of technical consultants and in administration of consulting contracts
- Have experience in preparation and administration of operating and capital budgets including analysis and development of rate structures.
- Possess honesty and complete integrity and a high sense of personal and professional ethics.
- Have good health and a high energy level serving as a motivator and example for supervisory staff and employees.
- Be self confident and a secure individual while not being overbearing or antagonistic.
- Be an initiator being comfortable in working with limited direction and wide latitude of action while keeping the board informed.
- Possess and exemplify personal and professional characteristics of behavior and leadership which will motivate and set high standards for staff and employees.
- Have the ability to design and effectively carry out supervisory development and employee training programs.
- Possess the ability to maintain and promote positive interpersonal relationships with all persons.
- Be an administrator who follows a management style which involves a "no surprises" approach in the presenting of all the facts and alternatives to the Board and one who is proactive and anticipates areas of concern.
- Be comfortable with field activity.
- Be an effective listener, and one who is accessible and easy to talk with.
- Be able to provide strong leadership, supportive counsel and personal development encouragement to Authority personnel
- Be sincerely interested in serving the Authority for a reasonable time period, sufficient to see that Authority is properly organized and that the initial objectives of the Board are met.

### DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Directly or thru delegations to subordinates, plans, organizes staff, directs and coordinates all activities of the Authority;
- Ensures that all rules of the Authority are enforced;
- Submits reports on the affairs of the Authority as required by the board;
- Keeps the Board advised of the needs of the Authority;
- Approves demands for payments of obligations within the purposes and amounts budgeted by the board;
- Preparing or causing to be prepared all plans an specifications for the construction and repair of works and facilities operated by the Authority;
- Oversees the construction of any additions, modifications in or replacement of any part of the Authority's facilities;
- Selects, hires and terminates employees of the Authority;
- Contracts for professional, legal, accounting, technical and advisory services;
- Plans, organizes, and controls the activities of Authority employees;
- Develops accounting system, procurement manual, personnel procedures to be used by the Authority;
- Ensures that all Authority funds are properly accounted for and are spent only for necessary and proper expenses of the Authority;
- Oversees the transition of management of the ports and airport from the State Government to the Authority.
- Ensures that KPA conducts updates its emergency plans and conducts emergency exercises for airport and seaport contingencies as required by applicable regulations.

### Salary

Salary: \$20,000 to \$25,000 per annum based on qualifications.

### How to Apply

Please send a copy of resume to Bruce Howell, Chairman, KPA Board of Directors. Resume can be sent through email to BruceHowell@mail.fm, fax to 691-370-3058 or mail to P.O. Box 960, Kosrae State, FM 96944. Resume must be received by the closing date in order to be considered.

For additional information, Call the KPA office at 691-370-2154.

## President Mori visits Japan

*FSM Information Services*

**Tokyo, Japan**—President Emanuel Mori recently headed a delegation to Japan from November 7-11 to attend events organized by the FSM Embassy in Tokyo, which included a celebration on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan.

On the evening of November 7<sup>th</sup>, a reception was held at Toranomon Pastoral Hotel where dignitaries from the Government of Japan, representatives of the private sector and civil society, friends from the diplomatic corps, FSM supporters and FSM citizens residing in Tokyo attended. Speaking before the guests, President Mori said that the last twenty years have been comprised of events of mutual assistance, cooperation, and exchanges between Japan and the FSM. "The bilateral relations have dynamically developed during the short period and there is much that we have achieved together, therefore we have reasons to be proud and to celebrate our achievements," President Mori noted.

State Minister of Foreign Affairs Madam Sieko Hashimoto spoke on behalf of the Government of Japan, asserting the solid and warm bilateral relations and emphasizing that the Government of Japan is looking forward to actively promoting the good relationship that both countries have come to enjoy. Along with the President and Madam Hashimoto, former Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori, who is the Chairman of the FSM-Japan Parliamentary Friendship League and

who recently visited the FSM, offered a toast congratulating both countries on the many achievements over the past twenty years of bilateral relations.

Also in Tokyo to take part in the event was an eight-member cultural delegation from Yap State. The dancers first performed at the International Cultural Week in Aichi and 2<sup>nd</sup> Minato City Fair of Commerce and Tourism before performing at the evening reception hosted by the FSM Embassy.

In Tokyo, President Mori had courtesy calls on Japan's Prime Minister Taro Aso and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Hirofumi Nakasone. Prime Minister Aso conveyed sincere greetings and warm welcome to President Mori and his delegation and expressed gratitude and appreciation to the people and government of the FSM for nurturing the strong and warm bilateral relations. PM Aso also expressed the Government of Japan's deep appreciation to President Mori for receiving Japan's former Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori to the FSM last September and reaffirmed Japan's commitment of ¥200 million (about \$2 million US) under its Non-Project Scheme to assist the FSM with its economic reform for energy needs. In separate meetings with the PM and Minister of Foreign Affairs, both Aso and Nakasone thanked President Mori for the FSM support for Japan's non-permanent membership on the United Nations Security Council and at other regional and international bodies.

President Mori also visited Kochi Prefecture, where his family has ancestral links. In Kochi, the President met

with the Governor and Mayor of the Prefecture, as well as members of the Mori family.

The FSM and Japan established formal diplomatic relations in 1988 and continue to enjoy excellent bilateral relations with growing cooperation in the areas of human resources development, education, health, fisheries and the environment. To further promote these interests, the Government of Japan recently upgraded their Embassy

in the FSM with a full-fledged resident ambassador.

Accompanying President Mori on this visit were Secretary of Foreign Affairs Mr. Lorin S. Robert, Secretary of Resources and Development Mr. Peter M. Christian, Pohnpei Governor John Ehsa, and R&D Assistant Secretary for Trade & Investment Roger S. Mori. The President and his delegation departed Tokyo on November 11, 2008.

### BJ Petrus and Marla Ongeset to Attend USA Presidential Inauguration

The Washington Center for Internship and Academic Seminars sent an invitation letter to President James in June 2008 to nominate two students from the College of Micronesia-FSM to attend the Presidential Inauguration program in Washington, D.C during the week of January 10-20, 2009. This ten-day program consists of lectures, small group meetings, a bus tour of Washington, a program reception at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, a visit to Washington's latest new attraction, the Museum, and a special Washington Center performance by political humorist Mark Russell at George Washington University.

A Presidential Inauguration Selection Committee consisting of Vice President for Student Support Services Ringlen Ringlen, Mariana Ben-Dereas, Chair, Social Science Division, Delihna Manuel-Ehmes, Social Science Instructor, and Penselynn Etse, Counselor, met after receiving the required completed forms from interested students and selected Mr. BJ B. Petrus and Ms. Marla Ongeset. The names of these two students have been submitted to Dr. Michael B. Smith, President, Washington Center for Internship and Academic Seminar.

### COM-FSM Board of Regents to hold 4th Quarter meeting in Pohnpei in December

The Board of Regents will be having their 4th Quarter meeting during the week of December 1-4, 2008 in Pohnpei. The major agenda of this meeting will be to review and adopt the College's Fiscal Year 2010 operational budget. The Board will also be reviewing some policies that will be recommended to them by the administration. The Board has also directed the administration to work with its money managers, Citibank and Smith Barney, to conduct an investment workshop for members of the Board and the management team at the College. The workshop has been organized and it will be conducted on December 1, 2008 in Pohnpei.



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## European Commission Ambassador to the FSM presents credentials

FSM Department of Foreign Affairs

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei: November 14, 2008** – In a brief ceremony held in the President's Cabinet Room, H.E. Wiepke van der Goot presented his credentials to President Manny Mori today as the new Head of the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities to the Federated States of Micronesia.

In remarks after the official presentation of his letters of credence and letters of recall of his predecessor, H.E. Roberto Ridolfi, Ambassador van der Goot affirmed his dedication to further strengthening the good relations between the FSM and the European Union. The Ambassador noted that the 2000-signing and subsequent ratification of the Cotonou Agreement by the FSM Government, which encourages active participation of government, private sector, non-governmental organizations and the civil society, marked the start of privileged relations between the FSM and the EU.

Ambassador Van der Goot made special reference to significant progress in renewable energy being implemented in all four states of the FSM, ongoing support to the environment through non-state actors, and advancements with the disaster management program and Fisheries Partnership Agreement.

Ambassador Van der Goot emphasized that as relations between the FSM and EU are not limited to development cooperation, he is committed to an expanded political and trade relationship. He underscored the FSM and EU's many shared common values, not least of which is climate change. As a commitment between the two regions, the Ambassador was pleased to note that a joint declaration among Pacific Island Forum Member States and the EU will

## UN Officials to Launch Joint Presence

**FSM, 27 Nov-01 December 2008** - Three top United Nations officials will visit the Federated States of Micronesia this week, to launch the Joint Presence of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). They will also hold talks with counterparts on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other current and emerging development issues. Toily Kurbanov is based in Suva and works for United Nations Development Programme as Deputy Resident Representative for the Fiji Multi-Country Office. He oversees UNDP's programme and operations in nine (9) countries - Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Prior to coming to the Pacific he worked at the UNDP Headquarters in New York. He is a graduate of Harvard School of Government

soon be signed that addresses the challenges posed by climate change, including priorities for mitigation and adaptation.

In responding remarks, President Manny Mori stated that he was pleased to accept the letters of credence accrediting Ambassador Van der Goot as the third representative of the European Commission to the FSM. He identified the accreditation as a testament to the ongoing mutual interest to further develop engagement at the international, regional and bilateral levels.

President Mori went on to mention that the recent crises in the financial, energy and food sectors have proven that while the FSM is geographically isolated, it is not protected from the effects of globalization. He expressed confidence that through the Ambassador, the FSM Government would be able to employ the assistance of the European Union to help address the challenges faced by the international community.

The President conveyed appreciation for the EU's bilateral and regional assistance in key sustainable development sectors of the FSM. He also noted the timing of the Ambassador's visit, noting that renewable energy experts will be visiting sites in the FSM identified to receive EU assistance. President Mori expressed confidence that the renewable energy project would help alleviate the economic burdens being shouldered by many citizens due to the current high cost of fuel.

Ambassador Van der Goot has an extensive background of management and consultant positions in areas of rural development and agriculture, including advisory roles for various developing countries in Africa and the Pacific. He is based in Suva, Fiji.

(Cambridge, MA) and the Russian Academy of Economics (Moscow, Russia).

Dr. Isiye Ndombi, UNICEF Representative, is an expert on health and nutrition. A national of Kenya, he has worked for UNICEF in Botswana, Eritrea, Tanzania, and Thailand, and most recently in Papua New Guinea. He has been in his present position based in Suva, Fiji since February 2007.

Mr. Najib Assifi, UNFPA Representative and Director of Country Technical Services Team, is a national of Australia. During a 30-year career, Mr. Assifi has worked in Australia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand. As part of the UNFPA regional team, he has provided technical advice to virtually all countries in Asia. Based in Suva since 2005, he has a background in public health and communication.

## FSM Consul: Amending Compact Will Help FAS IRs

By Junhan B. Todeno  
Marianas variety

FEDERATED States of Micronesia Consul General to Guam Gerson Jackson says amending the Compact treaties with the U.S. is the only way to address the concerns of the spouses of Freely Associated States citizens who will lose their "immediate relative" immigration status when the federalization law is implemented in June. The FAS IRs are asking the FAS governments to waive the five-year residency requirement so they can be FAS citizens.

The FAS are Palau, the Marshall Islands and the FSM — Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap.

"The mandated five-year reviews of the FSM and Marshalls' Compact treaties are currently ongoing, which could offer the long-term solution to the spouses of FAS citizens in the CNMI," Jackson told Irene N. Tantiado, United Workers Movement, NMI president.

Jackson said Tantiado should communicate with the FSM Compact Review Committee or its Marshalls counterpart. Under the federalization law, Tantiado said

FAS IRs will be considered nonresidents. "This is where we need your help. After the permit of the IRs expires and they cannot find a job, they will be forced to leave CNMI," she added.

Most of these FAS citizens and their alien spouses have been married for five, 10 or 15 years and it is estimated that there are about 300 FAS citizens married to alien spouses, she said.

In her letter to Jackson, Tantiado asked the FSM to address two "critical issues":

1) The need to include FAS IRs in the proposed amendments to the CNMI immigration system which will now allow a two-year permits.

Tantiado said they have already launched a signature campaign among the FAS citizens to ask the CNMI Immigration Division to include their IRs in the proposed amendments.

2) Grant FAS political status to the IRs which is the only long term solution that will allow them to have a stable immigration status in the CNMI.

FAS citizens can reside, work and study anywhere in the U.S. and its territories.

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# Marshalls Chamber Of Commerce Wants Action On Fiber Cable Changes

By Giff Johnson on Majuro Pacific Magazine

The Marshall Islands Chamber of Commerce has called on the Marshall Islands government to aggressively respond to an American company that has changed the financial terms of a proposed agreement for a submarine fiber optic cable making it virtually impossible for the country to afford the high-tech telecommunications upgrade.

In a resolution issued to Marshall Islands President Litokwa Tomeing this week, the Chamber urged the government to “deny the two American companies that are to own and operate the Army’s underwater fiber optic cable the use of its 200-mile exclusive economic zone until such time as the originally negotiated terms of use by the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are restored.”

Officials with the National

Telecommunications Authority confirmed that 11th hour changes to financial terms for a fiber optic cable make it impossible for the Marshall Islands to participate, despite years of discussions and negotiations to be part of the deal.

“The cable doesn’t look to be as much of a done deal as one month ago,” Majuro attorney David Strauss, a board member of the National Telecommunications Authority, told the Marshall Islands Chamber of Commerce Friday.

Marshall Islands Foreign Minister Tony deBrum said in an interview earlier in the week that he is asking the U.S. government to intervene and assist. “We were assured we’d get a fair shake on the deal, but they moved up the deadlines and increased the costs,” he said. If the U.S. government, the Army and the two island governments stand together, it may be possible to make the deal doable for the Marshall Islands and FSM,

deBrum said.

The National Telecommunications Authority has been negotiating with the U.S. Army and its contractors over the past three years to secure extension of a branch of the fiber cable to Majuro and Ebeye, the two urban centers in the Marshall Islands.

The Army is spending \$100 million to bring the fiber optic cable from Guam to Kwajalein to dramatically upgrade communications at the Reagan Test Site.

National Telecommunications Authority officials have been alternately talking and negotiating with the Army and TKC Ltd., the company managing the bidding for the Army on the fiber optic cable project, Strauss said. The agreement for the Marshall Islands earlier called for a \$15 million investment for a 25-year use period. But when officials from Hannon Armstrong, TKC’s parent, joined the talks earlier this month, they changed the terms to \$18 million for 10 years, Strauss said.

“Right now, there is no way we can do the fiber optic cable,” Strauss said. “They made an offer that we can afford to reject.”

## Catch 8 Tournament

On November 29, 2008, the Pohnpei Fishing Club is holding its final tournament of the year

### Budweiser Catch 8 Tournament

Budweiser and Ambros, Inc., in Guam are supporting the tournament with \$1,700.00 in prize money.

The qualifying fish species are Marlin or other billfish, Yellowfin tuna, Skipjack and other tuna, Mahi Mahi, Wahoo, Barracuda, Rainbow Runner, and Trevalley.

The boat that catches the most of the eight different qualifying species will win \$500. Second prize is \$250.

The angler who catches the largest fish of each species will win \$100.00.

Registration for the tournament is from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 28, 2008, at PCR Nahntehtlik Restaurant.

The entry fee is \$25.00 per boat. Weigh in is from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at PCR Restaurant.

**Come join in the fun!**

## Astronomical Tide Prediction November 26 - December 9, 2008

	Pohnpei		Chuuk	
<b>Wednesday</b>	11/26 02:11AM 2.9 07:40AM 1.2 02:27PM 4.5 09:16PM 1.1	12/03 12:32AM 1.2 06:05AM 2.3 10:41AM 1.7 05:47PM 4.0	11/26 01:50AM 0.2 05:09AM 0.1 01:27PM 2.1 09:52PM -0.1	12/03 06:47AM -0.1 04:20PM 1.9
<b>Thursday</b>	11/27 02:42AM 2.8 08:05AM 1.1 02:54PM 4.6 09:48PM 1.0	12/04 01:15AM 1.3 07:04AM 2.3 11:21AM 1.9 06:28PM 3.7	11/27 02:07AM 0.1 05:22AM 0.0 01:48PM 2.2 10:11PM -0.2	12/04 06:26AM 0.0 04:40PM 1.7
<b>Friday</b>	11/28 03:12AM 2.7 08:29AM 1.1 03:20PM 4.7 10:19PM 0.9	12/05 02:06AM 1.4 08:31AM 2.4 12:28PM 2.2 07:22PM 3.4	11/28 02:21AM 0.1 05:39AM -0.1 02:11PM 2.2 10:34PM -0.2	12/05 03:09AM 0.1 04:48PM 1.5
<b>Saturday</b>	11/29 03:42AM 2.6 08:53AM 1.1 03:48PM 4.6 10:49PM 1.0	12/06 03:06AM 1.5 10:12AM 2.7 02:50PM 2.4 08:44PM 3.0	11/29 02:33AM 0.0 05:58AM -0.1 02:37PM 2.2 11:03PM -0.2	12/06 03:27AM 0.2 03:46PM 1.2
<b>Sunday</b>	11/30 04:12AM 2.5 09:18AM 1.2 04:15PM 4.5 11:21PM 1.0	12/07 04:09AM 1.5 11:21AM 3.1 05:20PM 2.2 10:31PM 2.8	11/30 02:43AM 0.0 06:16AM -0.2 03:03PM 2.2 11:37PM -0.1	12/07 03:42AM 0.2 01:24PM 1.2
<b>Monday</b>	12/01 04:44AM 2.4 09:43AM 1.3 04:43PM 4.4 11:55PM 1.1	12/08 05:06AM 1.4 12:10PM 3.5 06:44PM 1.8	12/01 02:52AM 0.0 06:31AM -0.2 03:29PM 2.1	12/08 03:56AM 0.2 12:40PM 1.4 08:48PM 0.3 11:56PM 0.4
<b>Tuesday</b>	12/02 05:21AM 2.4 10:10AM 1.5 05:14PM 4.2	12/09 12:00AM 2.7 05:56AM 1.3 12:53PM 3.9 07:41PM 1.3	12/02 12:19AM -0.1 03:00AM 0.0 06:43AM -0.1 03:55PM 2.0	12/09 04:09AM 0.2 12:41PM 1.7 08:57PM -0.1

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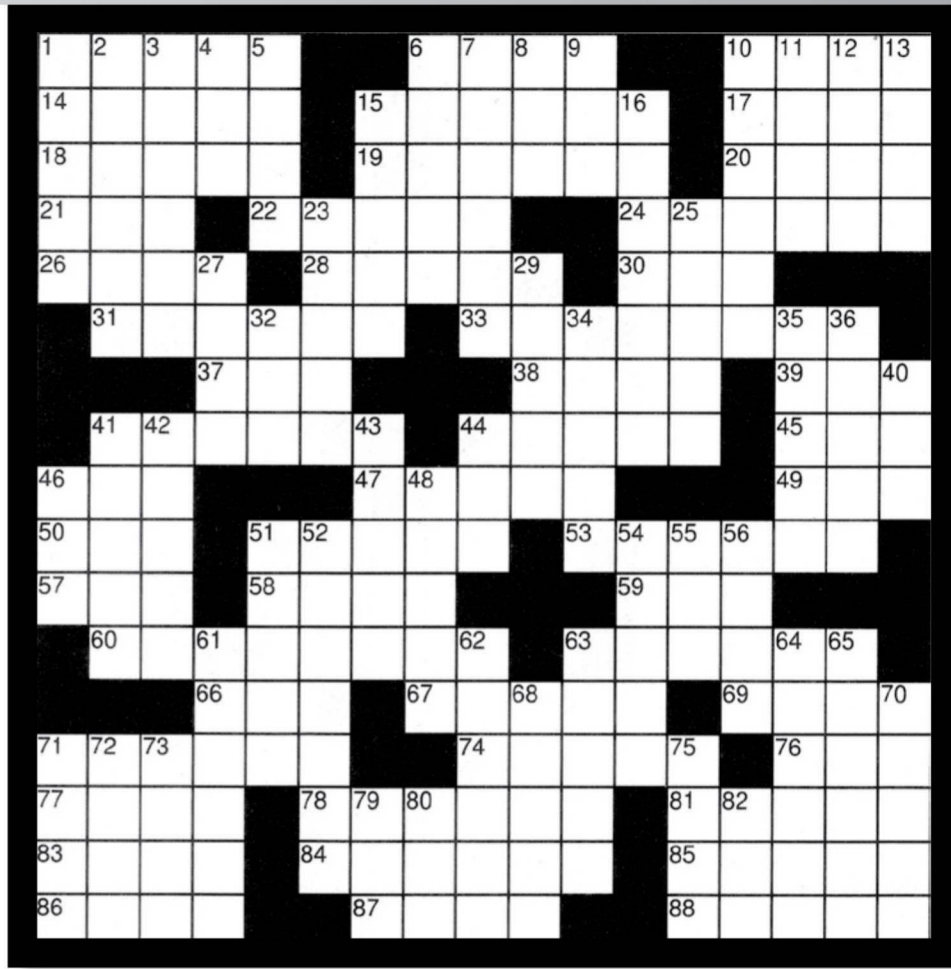
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# Crossword - Life Story

**ACROSS**

- |                         |                                    |                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Aesop's tale         | 63. Side of the head               | 12. Facial distorter             |
| 6. Hearty meal          | 66. Give a reason to edit          | 13. Superior                     |
| 10. Meat loaf serving   | 67. Pizza need                     | 15. Funny look                   |
| 14. Like a firefly      | 69. Auction cry                    | 16. Rockefeller and others       |
| 15. Hi-fi piece         | 71. Like a dazed look              | 23. Well, yes and no             |
| 17. Mexican munchie     | 74. Diagonal mark                  | 25. Not on time                  |
| 18. Light pancake       | 76. Train segment                  | 27. Trampled                     |
| 19. Illness             | 77. Upper room                     | 29. Edit code                    |
| 20. Has title to        | 78. Concert souvenir               | 32. Not up to par                |
| 21. British ritual      | 81. Ease up                        | 34. Type of shield               |
| 22. Resume item         | 83. Zoning unit                    | 35. Dignified                    |
| 24. Quarry items        | 84. Slims down                     | 36. Toweled off                  |
| 26. Religious faction   | 85. Ousts a king                   | 40. Cranberry source             |
| 28. Put off             | 86. "The Lady or the Tiger" choice | 41. Fine looker                  |
| 30. ___ sale            | 87. Dessert in Wonderland          | 42. Depleted                     |
| 31. Reduce              | 88. Removes a layer                | 43. Divine food                  |
| 33. Priest              |                                    | 44. Type of ever-green           |
| 37. Stale               |                                    | 46. Rip-off                      |
| 38. Feathered friend    | <b>DOWN</b>                        | 48. Like some rocks in the water |
| 39. Eye, poetically     | 1. The ___ of Life                 | 51. Stories                      |
| 41. Disorder            | 2. Concurs                         | 52. Hide from other spies        |
| 44. Like a diva         | 3. Whiten                          | 54. Assists an assassin          |
| 45. Life story          | 4. Prune                           | 55. Moll's feature               |
| 46. Precious one        | 5. Flock members                   | 56. Openings                     |
| 47. Chico's chum        | 6. Corn holder                     | 61. Torment                      |
| 49. Part of a trip      | 7. One who does win-dows           | 62. Samples products             |
| 50. Shrill bark         | 8. Paleontologist's concern        | 63. Russian royals               |
| 51. Male singer         | 9. United                          | 64. Pinpoint                     |
| 53. One way to run      | 10. Larry or Moe                   | 65. With glee                    |
| 57. Deposit             | 11. Croquet site                   | 68. Vigilant                     |
| 58. Taverns             |                                    |                                  |
| 59. Goat's goodbye      |                                    |                                  |
| 60. Pigeonhole an actor |                                    |                                  |



- |                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 70. Attire                    | there                |
| 71. Happy                     | 82. Grump's harrumph |
| 72. Like Lucy, to Desi        |                      |
| 73. Height increaser          |                      |
| 75. Stage stealers            |                      |
| 79. Cereal grain              |                      |
| 80. You might get a treatment |                      |

## K Press Puzzle Pleasure

### Many Moons

While Earth has only one MOON, Mars has two, and Jupiter has 16. The puzzle below contains the names of some of the many moons in our solar system.

- |            |            |          |         |
|------------|------------|----------|---------|
| ANANKE     | DIONE      | METIS    | RHEA    |
| ANDRASTEIA | ELARA      | MIMAS    | SINOPE  |
| ARIEL      | EPIMETHEUS | MIRANDA  | TELESTO |
| ATLAS      | EUROPA     | MOON     | TETHYS  |
| CALLISTO   | GANYMEDE   | NEREID   | THEBE   |
| CALYPSO    | HIMALIA    | OBERON   | TRITON  |
| CARME      | HYPERION   | PASIPHAE | UMBRIEL |
| CHARON     | IAPETUS    | PHOBOS   |         |
| DEIMOS     | LEDA       | PHOEBE   |         |



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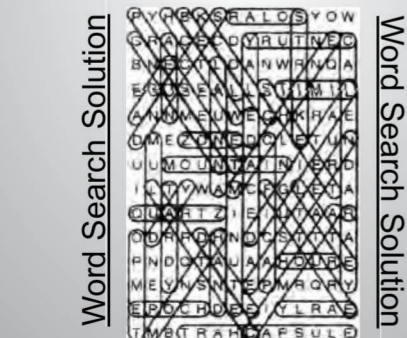
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome. For details, call 320-8365.
- Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Cliff Rainbow Restaurant at 6:30p.m. Public Welcome.
- The Christian Ministerial Association of Pohnpei meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office.
- Devotions every Sunday 9:30 a.m. at the Bahai Center in Dolonier. For details, call 320-2182.
- Habitat for Humanity Pohnpei holds their meetings every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sei Restaurant.
- Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. at PCR Nantehlik.
- St John's Catholic Church in Kosrae conducts services every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For further information, call 370-3240 or 370-3209.
- FANGO holds its monthly Issue Based Dialogue (IBD) on the last Wednesday of each Month at the Sei Restaurant at 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.. The public is welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon holds its weekly meetings every Wednesday at 12:00 Noon at the Truk Stop Hotel Restaurant VIP Room. You are welcome to attend and can contact us at: rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com

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

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### Puzzle Pleasure Previous Issue's Solutions



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## Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea communities are keen to GO LOCAL

By Dr. Lois Englberger  
Pohnpei Island Food Community

As part of a project led by Dr. Graham Lyons, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)/Harvest-Plus, the Island Food Community of Pohnpei was recently involved in awareness workshops in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea (PNG), from October 6 to 17, 2008, focusing on yellow- and orange-fleshed banana and sweet potato, their health benefits, and also the many benefits of local foods.

How exciting to see the interest there about the Pohnpei "Go Local" campaign and the findings the Pohnpei carotenoid-rich foods and their many health benefits. Participants also were enthusiastic about the "Let's Go Local" song, written by Gibson Santos of Pohnpei.

In the Solomon Islands, five workshops were held from 6-10 October, 2008, in the Malu'u area of northern Malaita, with about 320 participants in total and arrangements made by the Kastom Gaden Association (KGA).

In addition to Dr. Lyons and Dr. Englberger,

the other facilitators included Dr. Wendy Foley, Flinders University, Australia; Roselyn Kabu, KGA; Lawrence Atu, International Potato Centre; and Nelson Alatale, Ministry of Health, Malu'u.

The trainings in PNG centered in the Lae area, Morobe, October 13-17, 2008, and also created much interest, with 370 participants. The National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) assisted greatly in the arrangements and the facilitators included: Elick Guaf, NARI/Lae; Rosa Kambuou, NARI/Laloki; Ms Wila Saweri, Eileen Dogimab, and Daniel Olen, all from the Department of Health, based in Port Moresby; Ms. Maria Linibi, NARI/Lae-PNG Women in Agriculture Development Foundation, Mr. Seniorl Anzu, NARI/Lae, and Ms. Josephine Yaga, NARI/Lae.

Again the interest was remarkable. During the World Food Day October 16 week, Women's groups from Sandaun and East Sepik promoting the "Go Local" message were featured twice in "The National" newspaper and Dr. Lyons spoke on the national radio. A third article titled "Let's go, grow local" was printed in the Post Courier, with excerpts as follows:



"The Family Poverty Rehabilitation Association Mama (FPRAM), a dedicated women's group in West Taraka (Lae) hosted a workshop promoting local food on 14 October 2008, with outside speakers. There was great interest in the "Let's Go Local" message, with participants enthusiastically singing along "Let's Go-Grow-Eat- and Stay Local!"

The "CHEEF" benefits of local food were pointed out: Culture, Health, Economy, Environment, and Food Security. The health benefits of orange- and yellow-fleshed varieties of sweet potato and

banana were stressed [protection against cancer, heart disease, diabetes, vitamin A deficiency/infection and anemia], that these contain beta-carotene, a provitamin A carotenoid, whereas rice contains none. A lady from FPRAM happily showed that she had one of these bananas [like Karat]. Mr. Peter Wagu and Mr. Nelson Kaupa from the organizing committee said that this workshop was the first of its kind to have speakers from outside."

So let's all go local! Thanks are again extended to all involved.

## World Food Day and World Diabetes Day join forces as health and food security top the list as the most important issues we face today

By Kathay Larsen  
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

World Food Day 2008 was held on November 14, 2008 at Pohnpei Agriculture, located inside the Botanical Garden in Kolonia Town. This year was again a great success as over 150 farmers and homemakers took part in the crops and healthy cooking competitions. Children from 22 Pohnpei elementary schools participated in the essay and art competitions. Many local organizations and vendors brought important informational material, handicrafts and food for the public to enjoy. Participants and spectators alike came from all around the island to participate in the festivities. Public Health was on hand, providing diabetes screening, free of charge to the public.

Farmers began bringing in their crops and livestock at 8:00 in the morning on the 13<sup>th</sup> so the judges could start the long evaluation process for each of the categories. Livestock contestants began to arrive at 7:00 the morning of the 14<sup>th</sup>. There are several categories and several judges for each category. There are many different criterion for evaluating the crops and livestock. Categories included five (5) varieties of yam, five (5) sub-categories classified as other root crops, sixteen (16) varieties of banana, seven (7) varieties of fruits, thirteen (13) varieties of vegetables, twelve (12) sub-categories classified as other crops, and eight (8) different types of livestock. In the crops category, farmer, Pedrus Abraham, went home with \$276.00. Kiumy Kilmete won \$214.00, and Pardolome Eram took home \$210.00. The top winners in the livestock competition were the Farmer's Club

COM-FSM at \$150.00, Jimboy Martin with \$100.00, and Wilfred Edmond who walked away with \$90.00.

In the closely followed yam category, there was a tie for first place in the Kehpin Peniou category. Weighing in at 240 pounds each, Pardolome Eram and Kiumy Kilmete smiled as they received the coveted first place. The first prize Kehpin Dolen Wai weighed 220 pounds and belonged to Pedrus Abraham. The Kehpin Namwuh Pwetepwet taking first place belonged to Ilario Ioanis and weighed 80 pounds. Next we had the Kehpin Namwuh Weitaha. The winner was Domisi Elias with his 95 pound entry. Last but not least, was the Kehpin Tomwara submitted by Edward Linus weighing 90 pounds. This was again another impressive year

Several women participated in the local food cooking competition again this year. They contributed more than 20 new, healthy, local food recipes for the community to start using in their own homes. The judges were looking for healthy ingredients (less salt, fat, sugar); healthy cooking method (steam, boil, bake, raw); tastes good and look good; use of local ingredients; food sanitation; and a recipe accompanying the dish entered. The five categories were ripe karate banana recipe, ripe daiwang banana recipe, swamp taro recipe, pandanas recipe, and any local food recipe. The entrant walking away with the largest prize in the cooking competition was Lolanda David. She won a total of \$150.00. Next came Thelsa Abraham who won \$120.00. Finally, Rekina Andon walked away smiling with \$100.00 in her pocket. As you can see, this

can be quite a profitable day for the participants.

Pohnpei elementary schools participated in both drawing and essay competitions, and prizes were awarded to all final entrants. The top writers at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level were invited to come to PICS High School to compose an essay. One entrant wrote in English, and one wrote in Pohnpeian. The theme was "Ieiasi Peinsakatail Iei Poadorapatail" - "Pohnpei Food Security". The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students were asked to draw a picture depicting this same message. Nett Elementary School produced the winning writers for both the Pohnpeian and English essays. Samantha Walter wrote the winning Pohnpeian essay, while Vanessa Hadley composed the winning English essay. Virgil Lorrin of Sokehs Powe was the winner for the drawing contest. Both of the essays were read by the respective students during the ceremony on Friday. First prize in the essay and drawing contest each won \$40.00.

Public Health was promoting World Diabetes Day (November 15, 2008), and had a booth offering free diabetes screening to the public. They were also giving away measuring cups, informational materials and t-shirts to raise public awareness about the importance of your health, proper nutrition and exercise. Public Health agreed to team up with Agriculture to bring this important message to the population of Pohnpei on World Food Day. Many people that day took time to have their weight recorded, their blood pressure taken and cholesterol checked. The day after World Food Day, November 15, Public Health

promoted World Diabetes Day by having a fun run/walk starting at the Spanish Wall in Kolonia Town. Island Food Community of Pohnpei provided the bananas for the event.

Warm thanks are given to the funding sources for World Food Day 2008: Pohnpei State Government, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and JICA Alumni Association of the FSM. *The JICA Alumni Association of the Federate States of Micronesia (JAA-FSM) was established on November 02, 2006 as a non-profit organization. Its purpose is to (1) strengthen friendship between JICA alumni and volunteers within and outside of the FSM; (2) develop relationship between JICA and the alumni with the frames of the Official Development Assistance Program of Japan; and (3) support economic, culture, scientific, and technical cooperation between the FSM and Japan. Any person who has attended any JICA training is eligible to be a member of the Association. For more information about the Association, its membership and activities, please contact Mr. David Manglay at the JICA office in Kolonia, at 320-5350/6750.*

We also wish to thank the World Food Day 2008 Committee: Pohnpei Agriculture, Office of Economic Affairs; Land Grant COM-FSM; SPC, DSAP; Department of Education; Department of Health; Department of Social Affairs; USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service; Island Food Community of Pohnpei; FSM Department of Resources and Development; and Department of Foreign Affairs

## First Annual Diabetes Health Fair in Chuuk

In celebration of World Diabetes Day, the Chuuk Women's Council (CWC) hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Diabetes Health Fair in Chuuk State. The Fair was held from 9:00am till 3:00pm in the parking lot of the Truk Trading Company (TTC) on Friday, November 14, 2008.

The Chuuk Women's Council organized this event and participants in this 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Diabetes Fair included 4 divisions of the Chuuk Public Health Services, College of Micronesia Land Grant, CWC/LMC Fin Anisi Abstinence Project, Chuuk HIV/AIDS Peer Educators, and the Salvation Army.

Participants set up a total of 6 tents with tables to hold displays, informational brochures, flyers and posters. Chairs, benches and tables were available for attendees to sit while receiving free blood screening, flu shots, vitamin A capsules, dental screening plus fluoride varnishing, counseling for diabetes, HIV/AIDS, Abstinence, and a presentation by the Salvation Army. A demonstration on Nutrition, the value of local foods, and food sampling was on display as well. In addition, 2 certified dieticians from Japan were present and a part of this Fair.

Over the course of this one day, 6 hour Fair, approximately 2,300 people cycled through this event and benefited from this Health Fair. Those who actually participated in the screenings, counseling, and



Photo by Kiki Stinnett

A resident of Chuuk receives a flu shot during the health fair in Weno

demonstrations received various incentives such as tee shirts (587), tooth brushes & toothpaste (48 pcs), foot care bags (36 pcs), measuring cups & spoons (174 pcs), grocery list magnet (100 pcs), balloons (100 pcs), photo albums (25 pcs), stickers (200 pcs), insulated cups (24 pcs), and pedometers (50 pcs).

700 participants signed up for the diabetes program with 339 receiving blood screening and all listening to presentations on diabetes prevention and treatment. 600 people signed up for and received Flu Shots, complete with a yellow shot card. Of this number who received Flu Shots, 500 received a free tee shirt. 139 Vitamin A capsules were given to children and 54

children received the dental screening/fluoride varnish and tee shirts.

200 people signed up for the Abstinence Project and in addition to the counseling and presentation, received tee shirts & stickers plus miniature hearts with bible verses support abstinence.

The main supporters for this 1 day Health Fair include AusAID, CDC, Pacific Diabetes Education Program, Chuuk Women's Council, Chuuk Public Health, Truk Trading Company and the Truk Stop Hotel.

Special appreciation is given to Ms. Christina "Kiki" Stinnett, CWC Diabetes

Coordinator, who was the overall coordinator for this 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Diabetes Health Fair, and to CWC planning committee members Jacinta Lippwe, Grace Serious, Nely Ruben, Moria Shomour.

Appreciation is also expressed to those from the Chuuk State Public Health Services, Eminher Johnson, Jackson Sinem, & Kiofy Oneisom who headed the Immunization and Flu Shot portion of this event.

And, from the NCD (Diabetes, Obesity & Hypertension) special appreciation is extended to Angie William and Larry Ekinon. Appreciation is expressed to Awreen Paul & Suanita Takiri for their effort in the distribution of Vitamin A capsules to children.

Appreciation is extended to Dr. Ayung, Gwen Assito & Kayleen Ruda from the Dental Clinic for their participation in the dental screening portion of this Fair.

Recognition is also extended to the HIV/AIDS Peer Educators Ivan Akapito and Winrose Haruo. Appreciation is also extended to Eva Cabella and Yosko Kim from the COM Land Grant, and to Susan Danis, Diana Manuel, and Sirene Killion of the LMC Fin Anisi Abstinence Project, and, advisor Antita M. Haruo.

The organizers would like to recognize the attendance and participation by 2 Japanese visitors who are dieticians and friends of the CWC and its efforts to improve overall health in Chuuk State.



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