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happy new year!

Pohnpei businesses and employees descend on the Pohnpei Legislature

By Bill Jaynes
 The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—On the morning of December 14 many business owners in Pohnpei closed the doors of their businesses so that they and those of their employees who were

willing could attend the morning session of the Pohnpei Legislature.

Every business owner we interviewed said that employees present at the Chamber were given a choice to stay home for the morning or to accompany their employers to the Chamber. All of them said that the employees were

paid no matter which choice they made. We were not able to interview all of the business owners.

The crowd gathered at the Legislature Chamber to ask Senators to reconsider the passage of the Foreign Investment Act which passed its second reading on the previous Thursday and was ready for the Governor's signature. According to the Legislature's Chief Clerk the bill has not changed since we covered it in the February 3, 2010 issue of The Kaselehlie Press (Volume 10 Issue Number 5).

The motion to reconsider the bill passed and it was sent back to committee to be reconsidered in the January session which begins on January 10, the second Monday in January. Pohnpei Business Association members said that the Committee has promised to work with the private sector on the bill before

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Pohnpei State Legislature set to consider casino bill Micronesian Tourism Complex Development Act deferred until January session

By Bill Jaynes
 The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM— If a one year old bill is passed by the Pohnpei State Legislature (PSL) it would waive foreign investment permit requirements and would give a 55 year lease to a developer to build and operate a hotel/resort complex, a golf course, and a casino on public land in Lukop, Sapwalap, Madolenihmw, Pohnpei. Other than the Foreign Investment Act perhaps no pending legislation has sparked as much angst amongst residents of Pohnpei as LB 238-09 the "Micronesian Tourism Complex Omnibus Development Act of 2010."

Isipahu, the Nahnmwarki of Madolenihmw Kingdom registered his concerns in the first of several hearings with the Joint Committee assigned to research the bill. His Majesty Isipahu voiced opposition to the bill and to the concept of a casino in Madolenihmw. "He worries about the negative impacts that will take effect on the customs and traditions of Madolenihmw, on the environment, and on the social norms," the Joint Committee report said.

The Joint Committee assigned to assess the merits of the bill consisted of the members of the Committee on Resources and Development, the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, the Committee on Finance, and the Committee on Land.

The joint committee also met with representatives of the Catholic Church who voiced strong opposition to the proposed measure. Church representatives brought up the possibilities of money laundering activities, increased crime,

See "Casino Bill" on page 8



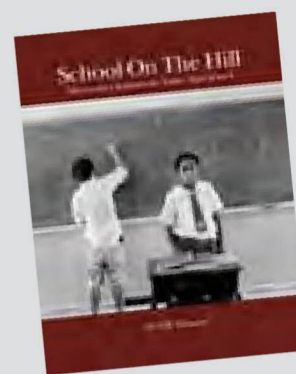
The land in Lukop that would be used for the Micronesian Tourism Complex was once used for the cultivation of rice crops. After rice crops were no longer produced on the land it became a government retaining area.

All of the rice that Pohnpeians eat is imported. Rice is no longer cultivated in Pohnpei.

In 1995 the Pohnpei State Legislature voted to allow the development of a five star hotel on the former rice lands of Lukop but that hotel project never got off the ground. The 1995 law expired before the proposed hotel and resort could be developed.

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Pohnpeian publishes first book



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FSM celebrates the 77th birthday of Japan's Emperor Akihito in Pohnpei

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—On the evening of Tuesday December 13, dozens of invited guests gathered at the home of the first full fledged Ambassador of Japan to the Federated States of Micronesia in order to celebrate the 77th birthday of His Majesty Emperor Akihito, the 125th Emperor of Japan. Though the Emperor's birthday was not until the 23rd the celebration was held early to accommodate the holiday schedule in the FSM.

Ambassador Shoji Sato characterized this year an "all important year for both Japan and the Federated States of Micronesia in a long and friendly relationship."

He spoke of President Mori's November visit to Tokyo where he attended FSM's Independence Day celebration organized by the FSM Embassy in Japan. While there, Mori had separate meetings with Prime Minister Kan and Foreign Minister Maehara.

Prime Minister Kan said that the FSM has always been a crucial and key partner of Japan in this region and the entire Pacific region. "Indeed, we take great pride in our historical relationship," Ambassador Sato reiterated.

The Ambassador, during his speech spoke of great progress in the two and a half years during which he has served as his country's representative. He spoke of the many development projects that are either well under way or are planned to be implemented in the very near future. "All projects are aimed to improve people's life in this country and to support them to tackle global issues like Climate Change," Sato said.

He listed several Official Development Assistance projects like the USD \$32.3 million Pohnpei International Airport Improvement project which will be complet-

ed in a matter of months; the Non-project Grant Aid in the form of diesel oil (USD \$2.2 million); the Solar Power system through Program Grant Aid for Environment and Climate Change (USD \$5.8 million). Those projects are all currently being implemented. The Japanese government is seriously considering aid for the field trip ship, the Caroline Voyager. Grants-in-aid projects which are aimed at supporting people's livelihood at the community level have also been implemented. As example, the Ambassador listed Agricultural Development in Kosrae, Development of Small Scale Fisheries in Yap State, Construction of a Multi-Purpose Women's Center in the state of Chuuk, and provision of school toilets to improve sanitation in Pohnpei State have all been completed. He said that those projects are often coupled with the support of technical assistance from JICA's JOCV volunteers and Senior Volunteers.

There are currently 26 JOCV and Senior Volunteers offering their expertise to the Federated States of Micronesia.

He spoke of his attendance at the most recent graduation ceremony at Xavier High School saying that he enjoyed it thoroughly. In the past years Japan has granted assistance to Xavier on a significant level including the construction of a Student Center, donation of personal computers, text books, a school bus, and a hybrid solar panel.

The Mabuchi Construction Company repaired and renovated Xavier's main building, the Mabuchi building. The Mabuchi Company originally constructed the building for use as a Japanese Naval Communication Center in 1938.

The Ambassador said that he has, during his time in Pohnpei, visited all of the high schools and elementary schools in Pohnpei and has presented a talk called the "Yakoso Presentation," in which students were exposed to Japanese culture. "Yakoso" means 'welcome' in Japanese, so I have carried out the presentations with a hope of

welcoming Micronesian students to Japan in the future," he said with his infectious and winning smile.

In closing the Ambassador said, "In the FSM, we have had cooperation from various Japanese organizations including JICA, OFCF, NGO's such as the Association for Micronesian Development, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, the Tokyo University of Marine Science and other universities, Rotary Clubs and so on. I would like to reiterate that all our organizations will con-

tinue with our efforts to strengthen the relations of our two countries. I firmly believe that our assistance to this country will contribute to the bright future of the FSM and Japan-FSM friendly relationship."

FSM's Assistant Secretary for Foreign Affairs Jane Chigyal spoke on behalf of the Federated States of Micronesia congratulating the Emperor on the occasion of his 77th birthday and thanking the Ambassador for all that Japan has done to benefit the lives of FSM citizens.



Japan's Ambassador to the FSM Shoji Sato



Assistant Secretary for the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs Jane Chigyal

The
Kaselehlie Press

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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FSM Football Association wins Australian Sports Grant

Australian Embassy

The Australian Sports Outreach Program (ASOP) has awarded the FSM Football Association a grant of \$10,000 (AUD) to undertake a project called "FSM Grassroot Soccer Development Programme" with the latest round of ASOP funding.

This grassroots project will set up youth and adult soccer leagues in each of the four FSM states by July 2011. The project has a plan to teach the sport of soccer at some of the elementary schools in each state so that youth leagues can be started. The Association's goal is to have at least four UEFA Level 1 qualified coaches present in each state by September 2010 and to have four state teams ready to compete in the next FSM Games, which will be held in Pohnpei in the summer of 2011.

Another objective of the project, as stated in the grant report, is to increase the awareness of the need for health and physical education in the FSM. In discussing the

grant award, Mr. Steve Finnen, President of the FSM Soccer Association, said that, "Soccer is a great sport for the FSM. The sport itself does not require huge size or specialized equipment. The speed and agility of our athletes makes this sport a natural for this country and we are hoping to build up the sport here in the FSM, so that ultimately our athletes can play on the world stage."



US Embassy issues Warden Message regarding reports of crimes against foreigners in the FSM

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—The United States Embassy to the Federated States of Micronesia has issued an alert to U.S. citizens residing in or traveling to the FSM. The warning says that the Embassy has received an increased number of reports of crimes against foreigners.

"While women traveling alone on roads have previously been targeted, now even women traveling in pairs are becoming targets," the warning says.

It also warns that there appears to be an increase of break-ins directed specifically toward foreigners. It says that they have received reports of multiple burglaries that occurred in the same household over a period of several nights.

"While such crimes can happen any time or any place, the Embassy encourages anyone traveling or living in the FSM to take extra caution during the holidays, when alcohol consumption is higher. Also be particularly careful while on the roads, as historically there is often a higher rate of accidents during this time of year.



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...foreign investment

Continued from front page
that time.

Apparently many Pohnpei residents hadn't heard the radio announcements that ran on December 14 regarding business closures. The announcement was placed by the Pohnpei Business Association on the State Radio station and began airing at 7:00 that morning. It was scheduled to run once every half hour.

Even without the announcement it didn't take long for Pohnpei residents to realize that something was different.

Some residents discovered too late that gas stations were closed. Some were forced to abandon their vehicles wherever they stopped after the last spark of their engine ignited its last fuel vapor.

Those residents reliant upon taxi services for transportation quickly discovered that some taxi companies were closed. Others discovered, perhaps not quite so quickly, that of the few remaining providers very few taxi drivers had fuel for their vehicles and no fuel was readily available.

Certainly fuel providers were not the only businesses closed on December 14.

Red eyed and white knuckled cigarette addicts; veins and tendons standing on their necks in bas relief, angrily shook the doors of store after store searching vainly for their next fix.

Retailers, wholesalers, grocers, restaurateurs, bakers, and morning donut sellers, most were closed on the morning of that day.

A large group of Nett Elementary School students out of school for lunch gathered in disbelief at the glass doors of the store where they were accustomed to go for their ramen and Kool-Aid lunches. The children didn't seem to understand, or perhaps didn't see the large phosphorescent, "Closed" sign in the window. They couldn't comprehend the darkness inside the store because it was unusual and they cupped their hands over their eyes peering through the glass.

Most of the championed "Mom and Pop" village roadside stores were open but since many of those stores operate on a "just in time" inventory control system and since many are supplied by bigger businesses that were closed there wasn't much inventory left to sell.

Pohnpei Business Association member David Panuelo said that PBA members debated long and hard about their decision to close their businesses on December 14. He said that members were especially concerned about the needs of consumers. They didn't want it to seem that they were punishing consumers when they chose to close their businesses in order to attend the Legislative session. He said that members made sure that emergency needs were met on that day.

At 9:30 on that morning, dozens of people in the red shirts of the INS Store marched up the main street of Kolonia Town on their way to the Pohnpei State Legislature Chamber. Hundreds of other people met them there for the 10:00 session.

The crowd caught most of the Pohnpei Senators completely off guard. Since not one of the Pohnpei Senators we called for comment returned our phone calls, that observation is strictly anecdotal and is based on the bemused and bewildered looks on Senators faces as they pushed their way through the crowd in order to enter the chamber.

Though business owners knew exactly why they were there at least some of their employees did not, at least not precisely. Of the seven employees in the crowd that we talked to on that morning, each of whom worked for different businesses, exactly seven of them thought that their bosses were opposed to foreign investment.

But representatives of the Pohnpei Business Association, Incorporated (PBA) an organization consisting of approximately 22 of Pohnpei's major importers and retailers said that PBA is not against foreign investment.

"We are not 'anti' but we need an in depth study. We want to know specifically what needs to be fixed," exclaimed Willy Hawley PBA's chairman. He said that JEMCO has withheld Private Sector Development funds as a result of Pohnpei's current Foreign Investment law but PBA has never understood what about the Foreign Investment Act that is currently in place needs to be fixed in order to release those funds.

"We welcome competition," he said. "But there is already competition in Pohnpei."

"No one mentioned the word 'strike' or 'demonstration' when we talked about attending Tuesday's session," said Frank Panuelo, PBA member. "We wanted to take our employees to the session which meant that we had to close our businesses."

Apparently some business owners didn't get that memo. Some employees showed up at the Chamber with protest signs, some printed on the white side of calendars provided by Japanese suppliers that said, "Support Local Business," or "Practice Democracy," or "Serve Your People," or "Elected Leaders Must Support Local Business." One sign seemed to sum up the sentiment of business owners, "Don't Sell Us Out!"

Regarding the Foreign Investment bill that is up for a reconsideration vote Hawley said that business owners object to the abolishment of the Foreign Investment Board which essentially means that the private sector would have no representative on decisions regarding Foreign Investment Permits. PBA also objects to foreign investment decisions being made by a Registrar of Corporations or by Cabinet members who are controlled by the Governor. "It's too much power for one man," Hawley said.

Panuelo said that last year at around Christmas time the business community was invited to a hearing by the committee considering the Foreign Investment Act. During that meeting the committee promised that they would do in depth studies about the impact of the proposed bill and that the business community would be invited for their input before the bill was put up for consideration. Then last Thursday they passed the bill but, Panuelo said, the business community was never invited back again for their input and no "in depth" study was ever done.

"This is the system that my children will have to live with," said Larry Adams on the grounds of the Pohnpei Legislature. "There have been no studies and that's not acceptable!"

Hawley said that between now and January 10 the Pohnpei State Legislature has committed to hearing the concerns of PBA regarding the Foreign Investment Act.

Pohnpei consumers have not organized and were conspicuously absent from the proceedings on December 14.

Of the dozens of comments made on the online Micronesia Seminar Forum on the subject of Pohnpei business closures the overwhelming majority of them appear to have been from consumers who think that Pohnpei business owners have too much power especially in terms of product pricing but also in terms of political clout.

One citizen consumer wrote an email to The Kaselehlie Press saying that a prominent business owner told him in a "moment of foolishness" in early November that he gave a Senator credit and uses that for political leverage. Certainly the information is hearsay in that the "citizen consumer" did not know the name of the Senator and would not divulge the name of the business owner. He said, "I am absolutely sure that the statement was true. I am absolutely sure that I do not want to be called into the Legislature or court to divulge the name."

Whether or not the "citizen consumer's" statements are true, the very fact that he made them combined with the comments from "MicSem" and other comments from "consumers on the street" are indicators of consumer dissatisfaction with the status quo as far as Pohnpei business goes.

There seems to be a current groundswell of consumer angst in Pohnpei and some consumers have used the December 14 business closures to fuel their burning desire for better

prices. Amongst consumers there seems to be very little sympathy for the business community in terms of foreign investment and the competition it might bring which consumers think would introduce heretofore unknown levels of competition that would lower prices.

"Pohnpei is way off of the transportation routes," Hawley rebuts. "The cost of doing business here has more than doubled in the last five years." He said that transportation costs alone for a 40 foot container now stand at approximately \$9000.

"It was about five or six thousand dollars then," PBA Treasurer Apdin Peter says.

Most of Peter's comments during the interview with PBA were preceded by the words "off the record," which is a shame since he has a great deal of insight into Pohnpei business.

"The cost of doing business in Pohnpei is very high," he continued. "We pay for permits and also seven or so different other taxes."

"People think that the Pohnpei Business Association is closed and does everything in secret," a PBA member said. "We're not like that."

"The Pohnpei State Legislature has said that they need to find a way to raise \$18 million (of annual revenue) by the time the U.S. Compact expires. They're looking to Pohnpei businesses to do it," Hawley said.

"Maybe we should talk about cutting expenses in the government," another member said. "Maybe they should just take all the games off of the computers and then see how many employees they need."

"And when the economic s*** hits the fan (in Pohnpei) who will still be here," yet another PBA member asked? "It'll be us. We'll still be here."

"Where else would we go," Hawley asked?

What's in the "Pohnpei Foreign Investment Act of 2008 ~~9~~ ~~10~~ 11?"

7-101 – Title

7-102 – Five pages of important definitions

7-103 defines what businesses need to obtain a Foreign Investment Permit

1. Noncitizen sole proprietorships
2. Noncitizen corporations
3. Noncitizen partnerships
4. Noncitizen joint ventures; and
5. Any other noncitizen business association

7-104 Powers and duties of the Registrar of Corporations

1. To receive applications for foreign investment permits, obtain recommendations from officers of the Pohnpei Government and other interested groups and leaders, make studies, investigations and inquiries, and decide which applicants shall be granted a permit
2. To ensure compliance of all noncitizens doing business in Pohnpei. He is empowered to subpoena witnesses, records, books and documents

7-105 Establishment of the DRP-FIP

1. The Discretionary Review Panel on Foreign Investment Permits will provide oversight and assurance as to the activities of the Registrar of Corporations and would consist of the Attorney General, the Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Administrator of the Office of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Executive Director for the Environment Protection Agency, and the Administrator of the Office of Economic Affairs. When the DRP-FIP considers permits with respect to commercial fisheries or aquaculture, the Administrator of the Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture would replace the Administrator of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

7-106 Application for a FIP

1. Application and fee of \$250 is to be filed with the Registrar of Corporations except for the following areas of investment in which case the fee is \$50:

See "Foreign Investment Act" on next page

...Foreign Investment Act

Continued from previous page

(a) Preferred Joint Venture Sector applicants
(b) Applications for alternate energy businesses irrespective of the category or sector of investment

(c) (RESERVED)

2. Applicants should use the registrar issued form which should contain:

(a) Name of business, form of business organization, officers, directors, and proposed and existing stockholders and their citizenship

(b) Location of principal office in Pohnpei

(c) Purpose, scope and objective of the business activity and explanation as to why the business activity fits within the category of investment for which the permit is sought

(d) Any additional information relative to the applicant that the Registrar of Corporations may require which may include but is not limited to:

(a) Specific benefits to the economy of the state

(b) Employment preference to be accorded to citizens, the initial number of citizens to be employed, and the training programs to be offered to citizens in managerial and other programs

(c) A listing of total capital anticipated to be invested initially, identifying borrowed funds and their sources for each of the five years prior to and after receipt of the permit and from where such capital funds have been or will be obtained

(d) Any other information the applicant may deem appropriate

(e) Applicants for noncitizen corporations including joint stock companies should include:

(a) A certified copy of the articles of incorporation, charter and bylaws of the corporation

(b) An affidavit sworn by an authorized officer of the corporation stating the amount of its authorized stock within 60 days of filing

(c) Designation of a person residing in Pohnpei upon whom process may be served

7-107 Categories of economic sectors

1. Open "Pohnpei Green List" category

(a) Preferred Joint Venture – no special criteria needs to be met for a permit issued to a business in which not less than 60% of the total equity is held by citizens of the FSM

(b) Initial Capitalization Sector – with few exceptions foreign investment with an initial capitalization of \$250,000 or more, or \$50,000 in the case of a professional service, no further equity requirements nor special criteria is needed for a permit.

(c) Special Investment Sector – Subject to the capitalization requirements of the Initial Capitalization Sector no special criteria needs to be met for a permit to be issued to a business in which not more than 49% of the total equity of the business is held by noncitizens for businesses in the following economic sectors:

(a) Service Industries

(b) Retail Trade

(c) Exploration, development and extraction of land-based or marine-based mineral resources

(d) Exploration, cutting and milling of naturally occurring timber resources

2. Discretionary "Pohnpei Amber List" category:

(a) Proposed businesses can be granted a permit if they don't meet the citizenship equity, or that have less initial capital than the requirements of the above sectors only upon written concurrence of a majority of the members of the DRP-FIP upon a finding that the applicant business will be of significant benefit to the economy of Pohnpei. Such a permit might carry special conditions which could later be waived if the business eventually meets "Green List" requirements.

3. Prohibited "Pohnpei Red List" category

(a) [RESERVED]

4. Temporary Category

(a) A permit may be issued by the Registrar for a temporary duration when a business would be of significant benefit to the economy of the state, and is requested in connection with a project undertaken by the FSM National government, the Pohnpei government, a local government of Pohnpei, an enterprise licensed to business in Pohnpei, or a non-profit organization authorized to conduct religious or humanitarian activities in Pohnpei. The permit may carry special conditions including restrictions on side-contracts not related to the project. A permit of this kind may not exceed a period of 36 months.

7-108 Criteria for review of application; conditions of certain permits granted to applicants – Registrar, by regulations issued shall prescribe the criteria for the review of applications and conditions that may be attached for permits Amber list and temporary permits.

Section 7-109 Duration of permits

1. Permits will be valid for the following extent of time (excluding Amber list or Temporary permits which will be valid for the term prescribed on their permits):

(a) Professional services – 10 years

(b) Businesses who meet capital investment criteria for a 55 year leasehold under Chapter 5 of Title 41 of the Pohnpei Code – 55 years

(c) All other businesses – 25 years although a business that later meets the criteria for a 55 year leasehold can apply for a 55 year permit.

2. A business in good standing can apply for an extension during the last trimester of its current foreign investment period

7-110 – Procedure for granting permits

1. Registrar shall select a preliminary classification for each application keeping in mind the above classifications. Registrar will provide a copy of each application and his preliminary classification to each member of the DRP-FIP. Registrar will then conduct investigations and consultations as he deems appropriate

2. When Registrar is satisfied that his office has sufficient information he will determine the final category and sector and whether or not a permit should be issued. If a majority of the DRP-FIP determines within 10 working days they will notify the Registrar and the application will be reclassified.

3. Upon reaching a determination the Registrar will promptly grant or deny the applicant a permit

4. If the process is not completed within 60 days an applicant may submit a show-cause demand. The registrar shall answer the demand within five working days.

5. Registrar and DRP-FIP decisions are final provided that an applicant within 60 days may submit a supplemental application containing additional information which would be filed and reviewed in the same manner as an original application and provided further that a supplemental application requires a non-refundable filing fee of \$50

7-111 Service of process on noncitizen corporations

7-112 Duty to report on an annual basis

7-113 Duty to report changes in documents previously filed

7-114 Investigation by Office of the Attorney General – sets down the investigatory rights of the Attorney General

7-115 Application for amendment of permit

7-116 Abridgment, modification, suspension or revocation of foreign investment permit (see similar requirements in the Casino Bill except that a permit can be revoked or otherwise modified if a business engages in business activities outside of the scope of the permit)

7-117 Compliance with laws and regulations

7-118 Criminal penalties: less than one year and/or \$1000

7-119 State exemptions – The following businesses are exempt from this chapter:

1. Businesses excluded by an omnibus development statute...

2. Businesses that are subject to principal regulation by the national government under the FSM Constitution

7-120 Compact Exemption

1. Businesses owned by U.S. citizens or jointly owned between by FSM citizens and citizens of the U.S. may apply and be awarded a special Certificate of Compact Exemption which will exempt the holder from the provision of this chapter for the period that the certificate remains valid.

2. A \$10 application fee applies

3. The exemption shall apply only to the extent that citizens of the FSM are accorded the same privileges in the United States of America

4. The certificate remains valid until reciprocal privileges for FSM citizens doing business in the US are revoked or substantially regulated beyond that applied to average US citizens

5. Just the same, US citizens are encouraged to apply for a regular permit

6. Registrar shall annually review exemption certificates and report to the Governor and the Legislature on the issuance of exemption certificates and the impact of Compact exemptions on the economy of Pohnpei

7-121 Grace period for changed circumstances – a business that suffers changed circumstances outside the scope of the ordinary course of business (Death of a local partner as one example) has a grace period of one year to reapply for a permit.

7-122 Regulations, permits and licenses issued under previous authority

1. Regulations issued under previous versions of the Foreign Investment Act shall continue in force to the extent they are not inconsistent with the current provisions of this chapter

2. Permits and licenses issued under previous investment laws of the Trust Territory, Ponape District, and Pohnpei State shall continue in force and effect under the terms so stated on those permits until they expire or are modified by the Registrar, alone or in concert with the DRP-FIP based on this law.

7-123 Authorization for appropriation; administration

1. Financial appropriations guidelines for the act

7-124 Conflict of Interest

1. Requires disclosure of any financial interests in businesses applying for a permit and prohibits that person for having any further participation in those particular proceedings.

2. Those considering applications can have no interest, even by familial relationship with an applicant business for three years following the granting of a permit

3. Other ethical guideline

Current employees of the Foreign Investment Board would on the effective date of this act, become employees of the Office of the Attorney General and assigned to the Registrar of Corporations unless terminated for cause or on account of the insufficiency of budgetary allocations for personnel in the annual Comprehensive Budget Act.

This "summary" is intended to give a fairly comprehensive summary of what is contained in the bill but it is no way intended to be a replacement for a reading of the actual bill. Summarizations by their very nature leave out details that might be important to know. 56-08 is 26 legal pages long.

The editor of The Kaselehlie Press has not been trained as a lawyer. It is possible and even likely that this summary has changed the meaning of some aspects of the proposed bill. Any errors or omissions introduced by my summarization are purely unintentional.

Unfortunately, the Pohnpei State Legislature does not have a website where constituents can read the original text of 56-08. The Chief Clerk of the Pohnpei State Legislature provided us with a hardcopy of the proposed bill with amendments that I used to summarize the bill's contents.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

“School On The Hill” Focuses On A Micronesia Success Story

2LDK Media

Xavier High School, located on a scenic hill in the Federated States of Micronesia, has been educating Pacific Island leaders for nearly 60 years. Now for the first time there is a book that examines the Jesuit college preparatory boarding school and why it has been a continuing education and leadership success story.

“School On The Hill – Micronesia’s Remarkable Xavier High School” by Floyd K. Takeuchi is now for sale at on-line bookstore Lulu.com. It is published by 2LDK Media.

Takeuchi spent a month living on the Xavier campus in Chuuk, FSM photographing and doing research for the 180-page book. The result is an in-depth look at the unique school. The book has 159 photographs and eight essays about Xavier and its 175 students, who come from the FSM, Palau, Marshall Islands, Guam and the Philippines.

“Before I spent time at Xavier, I knew it was successful, but I didn’t know how the Jesuits were able to train such outstanding leaders. The book shares the ‘secrets’ of Xavier: high expectations; discipline; rigorous academics; and, a faith-based community that emphasizes respect,” says

Takeuchi.

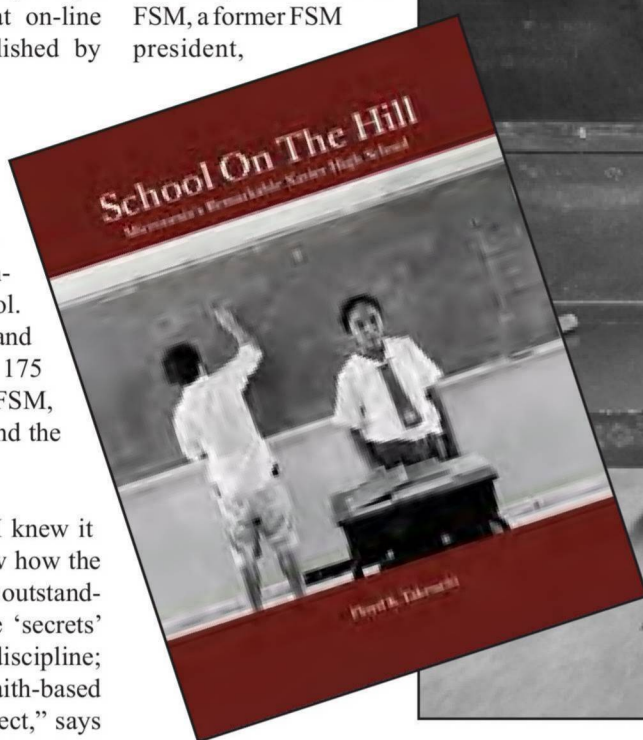
“Xavier’s story is an important one, particularly in the Western Pacific,” adds Takeuchi. “It is a model for success, despite having few resources, at a time when there are so few examples of educational excellence in the region.”

Xavierites include the current president of the FSM, a former FSM president,

two former Palau presidents, diplomats, senators, lawyers and senior community leaders. The co-ed school, which has grades 9-12, typically attracts nearly 1,000 applicants for 50 spots in a freshman class.

Takeuchi is a journalist who has covered

Pacific Island issues, particularly in the Micronesian region, for more than 33 years. Takeuchi was born and raised in the Marshall Islands. He is the co-author of *Majuro – Essays from an Atoll*, which is sold exclusively on Amazon.com.



Proud Pohnpeian author publishes her first book in the United States



By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM—110 pages of large print and double spaced, “My Interview with God through the Blood of Jesus Christ,” Kilara Phillips’ first book isn’t a big book but she wrote it and she is understandably proud of that fact.

Kilara, the sister of Rullens Phillips, was born and raised in Mapusi, Pohnpei. Though she currently lives in Cincinnatti, Ohio in the United States she came home to visit family for the holidays and stopped in to talk about her new book. She said

that the concept for the book had been incubating in her mind for seven years immediately following her conversion to Christianity but that when she finally did sit down to start writing it took her four or five months.

The book was self published using the services of Lulu.com. Only 200 copies were printed. She brought several copies of the book with her which are available for sale for \$10 each if interested readers can catch her while she is still on island. Otherwise, it can be purchased online at www.lulu.com/buy.

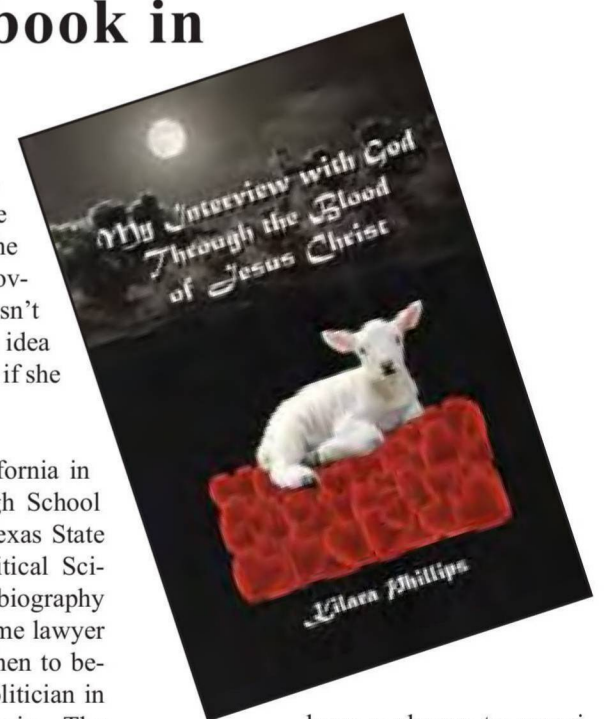
She said that the book was only recently published and because she is in Pohnpei promotional efforts have not yet begun in earnest. She intends to get to that as soon as she returns to Cincinatti where she works for Dell Computer Company. She said that she sold approximately 100 copies to her co-workers but doesn’t know how long it will take her to break even on the self published work. “I keep giving away copies to friends and family,” she said.

Unlike a good number of professional writers who have a daily regimen of writing, Kilara said that she just writes “when it

comes.” She has an idea for another book that is currently germinating in her mind and hopes to get started on that soon. She writes on a laptop computer. She hopes someday to also write a novel but like most writers she doesn’t want to talk too much about the idea for fear that it will lose its energy if she talks about it.

Kilara moved to Stockton, California in 1979 where she completed High School after which she attended East Texas State University and majored in Political Science. Her “back of the book” biography says that her dream was to become lawyer on the international scene and then to become the first famous female politician in the Federated States of Micronesia. The dream changed after she interned in a politician’s office in Texas, served as a clerk of courts in the supreme courts of Pohnpei and as secretary legal aid in an attorney’s office in Fort Worth, Texas. After those experiences she decided that the world of politics was “too rich for my blood.” She gave that up and became a dedicated mother to her son Manny Beckett.

“Yet, I felt I was drifting as a lost soul in this world until I became acquainted with Jesus Christ, my Saviour. I praise God that I am still breathing and have found Jesus in my life. My message today is, have faith in Jesus Christ and his Father, so you can



have a chance to experience their peaceful love in your lives.”

And that is the goal of the book, she says. She hopes that the book will lead people to realize that God is faithful and hopes that readers will be lead to trust him and to go to the Holy Bible to seek him there.

She said that she found out about Lulu.com’s services through a man at work who had also self published using Lulu.com. She paid an editing fee, a printing fee and also a one time promotional fee which Lulu will use to promote her book at book shows and online.

Happy New Year!

—Message From H.E. Ambassador Zhang of the People's Republic of China to the Federated States of Micronesia

As the holiday season approaches, I would like to extend, on behalf of the Chinese government and people, together with my staff of the Embassy in the FSM and in my own name, the best wishes to the government and people of the FSM. May your holiday season and the New Year be filled with much joy, happiness and success!

The year 2010 has witnessed a great leap in the cordial friendship between China and the FSM: mutual political trust been further enhanced; high level visits remained vigorous; mutual cooperation in economy, education, culture and human resources have achieved great success. In addition, the people-to-people exchanges were greatly promoted. Through participating in the Shanghai World Expo in China, the FSM has promoted itself greatly. More and more Chinese people get to know this beautiful Pacific island country and are deeply amazed by its unique culture and pristine sceneries. All these achievements would not be possible without the close and efficient cooperation between the governments and peoples of our two countries. Let me take this opportunity to say a big "thank you" to all of those who have been involved.

The world today is still facing with a lot of challenges. Global economic recession, poverty reduction, environment protection, climate change and so forth could never be properly addressed by a single country alone. The cooperation among the international community is indispensable.

China and the FSM are both developing countries. We are friends and brothers and sisters. As friends, we trust each other, support each other, help each other and learn from each other. Although China is not rich, we remain committed to help the FSM in its nation building and development within our own capacity.

According to the Chinese lunar calendar, the year 2011 will be the Year of the Rabbit—a peaceful, lovely and smart creature. There is a Chinese proverb describing swiftness in action, "As fast as the rabbit runs and as swift as the wild duck starts flying". Let us move as fast as a rabbit runs to develop our friendly relations to a new high. Let us work even harder for the peaceful development and common prosperity.

May the FSM enjoy prosperity and its people well-being! May the friendly and cooperative relations between China and the FSM be further strengthened!

We wish you a joyous holiday season and a happy new year!

ZHANG WEIDONG
Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary
of the People's Republic of China
to the Federated States of Micronesia

We seek a Management Accountant to be responsible for developing the annual and revised budgets and forecasts, managing all aspects of the Forum Secretariat's donor funding and providing timely and accurate monthly project reports and advice to project managers.

Pacific Islands
Forum Secretariat



The Management Accountant is responsible to the Team Leader Finance for the following major functions;

- Annual and revised budget process;
- Cash flow management;
- Donor fund management;
- Monthly project reporting;
- Annual achievement reporting; and
- Liaising with and training of project managers

Applicants for Management Accountant should have an Accounting degree with at least three years experience as a management accountant or similar. Experience in project and donor fund management would be beneficial to applicants interested in the position of Management Accountant. However, all applicants should be able to demonstrate initiative, proactiveness, excellent interpersonal skills and an orientation towards delivering outputs in a timely manner.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary for these positions will be in the range of SDR20,359 to SDR30,538 which according to the December 2010 exchange rates are equivalent to FJD58,467 to FJD87,183. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at www.forumsec.org. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum Member Country*.

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Private Mail Bag, Suva and applicants are encouraged to apply online by following the links in the advertisement on the Secretariat's website. All applications are due by Monday 31 January 2011.

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

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

...Casino Bill

Continued from front page

prostitution, environmental damages, "and the crushing of the fundamental Pohnpeiian social values," all of which, they say, could be by-products of a casino operation in Pohnpei.

But the Joint Committee report on the bill said that in most other hearings witnesses supported the idea including the hearings held at the Madolenihmw Municipal Government as well as in Lukop and Sapwalap where the casino would be located. Kitti, Nett, U, and Sokehs witnesses also voiced their support for the project which would "generate jobs, upgrade infrastructure, and further develop our economy," the committee report (324-10) says.

Committee members also made hearings available to Outer Island Chiefs, Pohnpei business leaders, and to the general public. The Committee Report said that witnesses at those meetings supported the project as well.

The most persistent complaint about the proposed bill during public hearings seems to have been in regards to proposed relocation compensation for the 16 families who are currently living on public land in Lukop.

Witnesses in Madolenihmw and in all of the other municipalities said that they strongly oppose relocation compensation for those "who wrongfully enter government retained areas."

The Joint Committee proposed amendments to the omnibus bill that would eliminate language allowing compensation for the relocation of squatters.

Many of the witnesses in the municipalities also said that an environmental impact study should be conducted.

On June 25, 2009, Governor John Ehsa signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Taiwan with Unicom Star International Holdings Limited (USIHL), a subsidiary of Hotung International Group. According to earlier reports (see Kaselehlie Press, Volume 9, Issue 17, July 22, 2009) the MOU that he signed expires this Christmas day. The terms of the MOU have not been met because the Legislature has not yet passed a bill on the development project.

As far as Pohnpei government press releases go, USIHL is currently the only investor interested in the development project though the legislation under consideration never mentions USIHL.

If the bill passes, USIHL would be invited to submit a comprehensive business plan along with an environmental impact study for the proposed Micronesian Tourism Complex. Other potentially interested parties would also be invited to submit proposals.

All of the proposals and Environmental Impact Studies would then be reviewed by a consultant who would be hired by the Executive Branch whose reports would then be submitted to the Legislature for consideration.

But then the PSL has proposed significant investment changes for the requirements for the project. The changes were based on a sub-committee visit to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) in which members visited the "Tinian Dynasty," a hotel and casino and also met with CNMI legislators.

"Tinian Dynasty" has 438 rooms and no golf course. The outlay for that project was approximately \$110 million.

The original bill submitted in Pohnpei by Fernando Scaliem at the request of Governor Ehsa on December 22, 2009 set the minimum investment for a 1000 room resort hotel with

casino and golf course at \$50 million. The Joint Committee report said those figures were unrealistic based on the investment made in CNMI. They have proposed an amendment to the omnibus bill that would require a minimum investment that would triple the minimum investment from \$50 million to \$150 million and that would decrease the number of rooms from 1000 to 300.

At press time, Pohnpei's Governor John Ehsa was off island for the Micronesia Chief Executive's Conference in Palau. Lt. Governor Churchill Edward said that as far as he knew the developer who has thus far expressed the greatest interest in developing the Micronesian Tourist Complex had not yet indicated whether or not they would still be interested based on those terms. The committee report did not say whether that company had been contacted before the terms were changed.

CNMI legislators cautioned the visiting Pohnpei legislators to set provisions into the Pohnpei bill that would safeguard against negative impacts. In Saipan, commercial gambling was extended to the availability of poker machines which were also allowed to be placed in areas outside of the Tinian Dynasty casino. "This created a bad effect on the lives of the CNMI people," the joint committee report said.

The Joint Committee report (324-10) said, "Considerable discussion is also made (in the bill) on how to protect the local people from becoming addicted to casino gaming. The bill in its current wording says that only hotel guests may play in the casino. The Joint Committee believes that the current wording which limits players to hotel guests only, does not totally prevent local people from playing in the casino. Some may become hotel guests, which would enable them to play."

The Joint Committee settled upon a definition of what it means to be a "hotel guest" in order to combat the problem: "'Hotel Guest' means, in the context of casino gamblers, any

guest of the Micronesian Tourism Complex possessing a passport and who is not a resident of Pohnpei."

It is not at all certain whether the new wording would stand up to any Constitutional challenge to it. Rather than trying to limit the possibility that Pohnpei residents might be able to gamble at any new casino they tried instead to completely eliminate the possibility.

The committee also divided the pending bill into two separate titles.

Of the 38 legal sized pages that make up the bill, Title I is only four and a half pages long and covers introductory matters and processes that, according to the report should begin immediately.

Title II, which fills the remaining pages, relates to the lease of public lands, the conduct of the gaming casino operations and gaming taxes and other details. Title II provisions would not be implemented until after Title I requirements have been fulfilled. Title I requires that a bill be passed to specifically activate the provisions of Title II along with any refinements in that portion of the bill that need to be made at that time. The entire bill would be repealed if Title II is not enacted by 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2013.

Senators Joseph M. Edgar, and Naiten O. Philip did not sign the committee report. Senator Ishmael L. Lebehm signed the report and indicated that he did not concur. Senator Francisco L. Ioanis' signed the report in two places with the capital initials, "DNC." Since those are not his initials one can be left to assume that he does not concur either. Senator Magdalena A. Walter signed the report but qualified her signature with the words, "with some reservations."

The bill has been deferred to the January 2011 session.

What's in the "Micronesian Tourism Complex Omnibus Development Act of 2010 11?"

Title I

to be implemented immediately upon passage of 238-09

Section 1-2 Thirteen points describing the purpose and intent of the bill

Section 1-3 Notices of Interest; Proposals for Development; Required Contents; Independent Review; Transmission:

1. Governor must make a public announcement inviting potential investors to submit Notices of Interest. A non-refundable fee of \$500 would be required with each filing.

2. After deadline for (NOI) submission Governor invites the submitters by certified mail to present a detailed proposal to Pohnpei Government which must include:

(a) A qualified professional environmental study covering the entire project;

(b) A comprehensive business plan for the operation of the project; proposed amount of investment; anticipated labor force for construction and operations phases broken down into resident and non-resident employees;

(c) Anticipated revenues on a 10-year schedule

3. Business plans must be returned to the Governor's office within one year of the postmark on the certified invitation to do so. The deadline can be extended for good cause but no longer than one additional year.

4. After the receipt of the proposals the Governor is to hire an independent third party consultant to review all of the proposals. The consultant is to prepare a fully researched report on feasibility and soundness of the proposals to include economic, social and environmental impact of the project on Pohnpei, and to suggest refinements to the proposals and amendments to the law in order to optimize the purposes of the Act.

5. Upon receipt of the consultant's report the Governor is to transmit draft legislation for enactment of Title II of the Act. All received documentation is to accompany that legislation along with recommended amendments to the Act.

Section 1-4 Effective dates; requisite implementation statute; sunset provision

1. 238-09 takes effect upon Governor's approval with or without his signature

2. Title II takes effect after enactment of a statute of implementation and not until after the all requirement if Title I have been fulfilled

3. Any purported actions undertaken by any party on Title II provisions before Title II is enacted by statute are null and void

4. 238-09 is repealed in its entirety if Title II provision have not been enacted by statute before January 1, 2014

Title II

to be implemented by specific statute after Title I provisions of 238-09 are met

Part A - Land

Section 2-1 Amends Chapter 10 of Title 42 of the Pohnpei Code adding a new section 10-162

1. Gives authority to the Public Lands Trust Board of Trustees to execute a 55 year lease agreement for the designated land in Lukop, Sapwalap, Madolenihmw. Specifies that the hotel should have not less than 300 rooms and should be constructed in three phases. The minimum investment shall be not less than \$150 million.

2. Waives some land requirements

3. Requires a survey prior to execution of any lease

4. Lease term is 55 years

See "Omnibus Development Act" on next page

...Omnibus Development Act

Continued from previous page

5. Requires the lease agreement to contain a reversion clause on cessation of active land use; another reversion clause if each phase of the construction is not commenced or completed within three years of schedule.

6. Improvements become part of real property and are subject to reversion, however the Public Lands Trust may at its discretion provide for reimbursement for value of all or a portion of any improvements

Section 2-2 Amends Chapter 10 of Title 42 of the Pohnpei Code adding a new section 10-163

1. The Public Lands Board is authorized and directed to designate and declare for lease certain public lands located in Madolenihmw for agricultural and residential-related uses (ostensibly this is land that could be used for squatter relocation purposes.)

Part B - Gaming

Section 2-3 Twenty five definitions including one defining "Hotel Guest" in the context of casino gamblers as any guest of the Micronesian Tourism Complex possessing a passport and who is not a resident of Pohnpei.

Section 2-4 Amends the Pohnpei code to allow for commercial gambling in Pohnpei ONLY for operators in possession of a license

Section 2-5 Amends the Pohnpei code in a similar fashion to Section 2-4 except in regards to the KEEPING of a commercial gaming establishment.

Section 2-6 Technical change to the code regarding Bingo Violations

Section 2-7 Technical change regarding local option to further restrict gaming to exclude a license holder from any further local restrictions

Section 2-8 Regards the establishment of a Pohnpei Casino Gaming Commission

1. It would consist of the Director of the Department of Public Safety; the Director of the Department of Treasury and Administration; the Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources; the Administrator of the Office of Economic Affairs; and the Local Chief Executive from the municipality in which a casino is located.

2. A member of the Commission cannot have a financial conflict of interest

3. The Chairman of the Commission will be chosen from amongst the member

4. Majority decision rules except in the case of a casino or interim casino authorization which requires four votes

Section 2-9 Amends Chapter 1 of Title 70 of the Pohnpei Code add a new Section 1-110 entitled Power and Duties of the Pohnpei Casino Gaming Commission

1. Gives the Commission to the right carry out the provisions of the Chapter; Commission amongst other duties may

(a) Issue rules and regulations

(b) Issue licenses

(c) Conduct hearings, compel attendance of witnesses, and administer oaths and affirmations

(d) Impose license fees

(e) Issue and enforce administrative orders

2. Commission staff

(a) The Commission must hire an executive director who would be attached to the Office of Economic Affairs which office would provide primary technical assistance and staffing to the Commission.

(b) May hire other staff as necessary

Section 2-10 Above Pohnpei code amended to include a new section 110 entitled Rules and regulations

1. Rules and regulations established by the Commission shall take into consideration the social and cultural context of Pohnpei

2. At a minimum rules should include:

(a) A Code of Ethics for Commission members and staff

(b) A means to ensure the suitability of owners, operators, and employees of casinos

(c) Means to ensure that casino gaming has the least possible impact on the social and cultural life of Pohnpei

(d) Means to exclude non hotel guests at the casino and individuals who are under 18 years of age

(e) Removal of undesirable from the casino

(f) Civil penalties for violations

Section 2-11 New Section 1-112 added to above code entitled Licenses

1. Commission sets criteria

2. Only ONE license will be issued in Pohnpei State

3. Individual licenses

(a) May license or regulate the employment of individuals by or on the casino

(b) May determine which types of employment require licensing.

4. Term of licenses

(a) Good for 30 years unless surrendered or revoked

(b) License does not bestow property right

(c) Authorizes the Governor to enter into contracts with the licensee to set minimum guarantees regarding future changes to the law in terms of licenses and exclusivity arrangements.

(d) Allows for inspection and monitoring procedures

(e) No license may be sold or otherwise transferred

(f) Rules for abridgement, modification, suspension or revocation of license

(a) License is subject to such if:

(i) The application contains false information

(ii) The licensee bribed or unlawfully influenced any member of the Commission

(iii) The licensee presented false information to the Committee in support of the application

(iv) Violations of Pohnpei national or local government law

(b) Describes the procedure by which license may be revoked, abridged modified or suspended.

Section 2-12 License fees

1. Casino License Fees

(a) Casino license fee, a one time charge not to exceed \$100,000 and is not refundable

(b) The municipality where the casino is located may charge and annual fee not to exceed \$50,000

(c) Commission may impose other annual fees not to exceed the amount necessary for the administration of this chapter

Section 2-13 New chapter "Investigations"

1. The Commission is to investigate the applicant for a gaming license. If they already hold a license in the U.S. that investigation shall be limited to determining the validity of that license

2. A license holder can request the Commission to investigate any person involved in the potential sale, lease, transfer, change in ownership, or other change related to the license

3. The Commission may require the applicant to reimburse them for above investigatory expenses

4. The Commission may at any time investigate the holder of any license with or without notice to the holder. Expenses of such an investigation would not be reimbursable

Section 2-14 adds a chapter "Detention of violators"

Section 2-15 adds a chapter "Exclusion or removal" which allows an operator to exclude or remove an undesirable person from a casino. A casino operator can establish and enforce a dress code.

Section 2-16 adds a chapter "Immunity for detention, exclusion or removal which provides that no civil or criminal action shall lie against any person for action reasonably taken under (2-14, or 2-15)

Section 2-17 adds a chapter "Entry by law enforcement officers" which provides officers a right of entry to enforce the law

Section 2-18 adds a chapter "Gaming by Commission and licensees prohibited."

1. No member, officer, employee, or agent of the Commission and no officer of the Pohnpei Government shall be allowed to gamble in any way that is associated with the casino

2. No member, officer, employee, or agent of the Commission and no officer of the Pohnpei Government can be an employee of or have any business or financial association with or interest in any casino or casino service provider licensee or any business reasonably related to the such licensee

3. No owner, lessee, operator, manager, officer, employee, agent, or other person associated with a casino is allowed to play any game in the casino.

Section 2-19 adds a chapter "Administrative Penalties"

1. The Commission may provide, by regulation, civil penalties of regulations. No penalty may exceed \$50,000 and a range of lesser penalties shall be provided for minor or intermediate violations. Regulations may provide that each day that a violation continues constitutes a separate violation.

Section 2-20 adds a chapter "Gaming Commission Revolving Fund"

1. Establishes within the Treasury a Gaming Commission Revolving Fund separate from other Government funds and administered by Treasury and Administration

2. All funds collected by the Commission would be deposited in that fund which would then be used to fund the activities of the Commission.

3. The sums in the fund would be continually appropriated as though incorporated in the annual Comprehensive Budget Act. The Chairman of the Commission must report to the Legislature on or before October 15 each year on all expenditures.

Sections 2-21 – 2-29 set forth criminal penalties for all manner of newly defined criminal offenses both for a "natural person" or an entity such as a casino operator.

1. Newly defined crimes include:

(a) Willful evasion of license fees; other acts an omissions, penalties include five years in prison and/or a fine of not more than \$100,000. The fine for other than a natural person could be as high as \$5 million

(b) False statements to the Commission: Five years and/or \$25,000

(c) Unlicensed gaming unlawful: Five years and/or \$25,000 fine. Fine for an organization \$100,000

(d) Keeping a commercial gaming establishment in violation of 238-09: Five years \$25,000 fine or \$100,000 for organization

(e) Swindling or cheating an amount \$75,000 or more: ten years and/or \$1,000,000.

See "Omnibus Development Act (2)" on next page

...Omnibus Development Act (2)

Continued from previous page

- (f) Swindling or cheating an amount \$10,000 or more: Five years and/or \$500,000
- (g) Swindling or cheating an amount \$1,000 or more: Three years and/or \$100,000
- (h) Swindling or cheating and amount less than \$1000: Three years and or \$10,000
- (i) Unlawful use or possession of devices to obtain an advantage: Five years and/or \$25,000
- (j) Possession of such a device inside a casino: Three years and/or \$10,000
- (k) Unlawful operation of cheating games and devices by a licensee or employee of the casino: personal Five years and/or \$25,000; corporate \$100,000
- (l) Unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, or service of gambling device: Five years and/or \$25,000
- (m) Employment without license or registration or knowingly employing such person: personal Six months and/or \$10,000; corporate \$100,000
- (n) Gaming by certain persons prohibited: under 18 players: six months and or \$1000; allowing underage play: personal One year and/or \$10,000; corporate \$500,000; subsequent violations: Two years and/or \$50,000; corporate \$1,000,000
- (o) Gaming by persons not hotel guests: Six months and/or \$1000; allowing such person to play: personal One year and/or \$10,000; corporate \$500,000; subsequent violations: personal Two years and/or \$50,000; corporate \$1,000,000
- (p) Same types of jail time and/or fines for any personal prohibited from casino gambling
- (q) Placing, sending, transmitting, relaying wagers to another person prohibited under certain circumstances: two years and/or \$25,000

Part C - Taxation

Section 2-30 adds a Gaming Tax to the Pohnpei Code

1. Definitions
2. Imposition of gaming tax – a 5% tax assessed on the sale of all gaming services in Pohnpei. The gaming tax shall be imposed on the entire amount made available for wagering in the casino to the purchaser of the gaming services. The Commission may issue regulations further defining those transactions that constitute a sale of gaming services which, upon concurrence of the Governor shall have the force and effect of law.
3. Gaming tax allocation – 75% of taxes would be deposited into Pohnpei’s general fund; 25% would go into a separate revenue fund to be available for future legislative appropriation for the maintenance of law, order, and public safety.
4. Tax to be stated and charged separately from gaming services

Part D - Concluding Provisions

- Section 2-31 Establishment of Micronesian Tourism Complex with not less than 300 lodging rooms
- Section 2-32 Agreement Authorized – Governor is authorized to enter into an agreement(s) with and investor to build the complex
- Section 2-33 Omnibus Act – Foreign Investment Act is waived with respect to the Complex
- Section 2-34 Liquor license – Local government will not have the power to regulate the manufacture, sale, or consumption of alcoholic beverages within the Complex
- Section 2-35 Compliance with existing laws required except as provided within this act
- Section 2-36 No financial interest of Pohnpei State – the State will have no financial interest in and will not act in any commercial capacity with the Complex. At all times the Government of Pohnpei shall act in it governmental, regulatory capacity with respect to the Micronesian Tourism Complex.

This “summary” is intended to give a fairly comprehensive summary of what is contained in the bill but it is no way intended to be a replacement for a reading of the actual bill. Summarizations by their very nature leave out details that might be important to know. 238-09 is 38 legal pages long.

The editor of The Kaselehlie Press has not been trained as a lawyer. It is possible that this summary has changed the meaning of some aspects of the proposed bill. Any errors or omissions introduced by my summarization are purely unintentional.

Unfortunately, the Pohnpei State Legislature does not have a website where constituents can read the original text of 238-09. The Chief Clerk of the Pohnpei State Legislature provided a hardcopy of the Committee Report supporting the bill as well as a hardcopy of the proposed bill with amendments that I used to summarize the bill’s contents.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

To the General Public and to all MiCare Members and Subscribers:

Genesis Hospital wishes to respond to the Public Announcement to MiCare Members and Subscribers published in this paper in the November 29 to December 12, 2010 issue. The announcement contains some inaccuracies and is misleading in a number of respects.

The MiCare Administrator, Mr. Nena S. Nena, unilaterally suspended compensation to Genesis for ultrasound services on June 23, 2010. This suspension was done prior to any investigation that we are aware of by MiCare. After the suspension, Genesis continued to provide ultrasound services, but had to bill its patients directly for those services, even if they had MiCare insurance. This policy continued for several months.

On or about October 14, 2010, Daniel Rescue, Jr., at the FSM Department of Justice, issued an opinion, recommending that the suspension be lifted. Instead of lifting the suspension, MiCare Administrator, Mr. Nena S. Nena put out the notice in the November 29, 2010 newspaper. Genesis responded to this notice by letter to the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Arthy Nena on December 1, 2010. Mr. Arthy Nena responded on December 6, 2010, informing us that the suspension on ultrasound services had been lifted.

Genesis Hospital wishes to inform the public that ultrasound services are now available and under coverage by MiCare at Genesis Hospital. The delay in lifting the suspension, despite the FSM Department of Justice opinion, has never been adequately explained by MiCare. Genesis Hospital wishes to state that the suspension of coverage of our ultrasound services was done solely at the instigation of MiCare and Genesis Hospital is not responsible but regrets any inconvenience this has caused.

Dr. Merlynn Abello-Alfonso
Owner/Medical Director

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Letters to the Editor

Not in Our Name; Not for Pohnpei

How would you feel if someone threw a party at your house, charged admission and didn't invite you, much less inform you? Well that, in a nutshell is what this Administration is attempting to do with its "top priority" plan to establish a 1000-room hotel-casino resort on Pohnpei.

The Governor argues that a casino would generate millions of dollars in revenue and hundreds of jobs. This may well be true. But going back to the analogy above, what good would the profits be if, in the course of the party, your house was trashed? And, since you weren't told there'd be a party and you weren't even invited, chances are you wouldn't even get a cut of the sales.

For all the hype about revenues and jobs, one very crucial point – indeed, we daresay this is the crux of the whole matter – has been totally ignored. Did anyone ever ask us, Pohnpeians, if we want a casino on our island? For that matter, has anyone ever asked the people of Lukop Village in Madolenihmw Municipality, who stand to be displaced, if they are willing to give up their homes so that high rollers from who knows where can try their luck at the baccarat and roulette tables?

Has anyone even considered the sentiments of His Majesty, the Hon. Kerpet Hebel, Isipao the Nanmwarki of Madolenihmw, who has publicly expressed his opposition to the casino?

If there is one thing Pohnpei takes pride in, it

is in the preservation of our culture and traditions. So precious are these to us that we have even enshrined our traditional laws as part of our legal statutes. Part of that tradition is that no major decisions are ever undertaken without consulting and getting the consensus of the Traditional Leaders and the people of Pohnpei.

And yet we have members of the Pohnpei Legislature crowing that the bill to establish the casino is on the verge of garnering the full support of the chamber.

Last we looked at it, we thought we lived in a state governed by the rule of law, where public office was a public trust, not a license to do whatever one wanted, whether or not the electorate agreed.

And yet here we have the spectacle of an Administration and a Legislature insisting that Pohnpei will have a casino without even asking us whether we want one or not, or whether we are prepared for one. In fact, the Governor and members of the Legislature seem to have even forgotten that opening a casino without a referendum is unconstitutional.

Is it any wonder Pohnpeians are growing restless, with a growing number vowing that any senator who backs the casino bill will automatically be voted out?

Sadly enough, this Administration talks only of revenues and jobs, as if the casino's presence on Pohnpei would usher us into a

golden age of prosperity and happiness. The truth is there are always two sides to the coin. And this Administration has showed us only one side.

Have we heard anyone in this Administration ever discuss the potential social costs of opening a casino on Pohnpei? Has anyone in this Administration even told us that Guam, the most advanced island in the Micronesian region, has refused to have anything to do with casinos?

Has this Administration ever talked of the many studies and articles written about the experiences of Atlantic City or Las Vegas beyond the garish lights? Has anyone in this Administration ever told you that US cities that have allowed the operation of casinos have invariably witnessed dramatic increases in crimes like murder, rape, robbery and car theft, not counting domestic violence and child abuse and neglect?

Has anyone in this Administration ever discussed how gambling can become an addiction like drugs? That research on Nevada has shown that pathological gamblers can spend up to an average of 45 percent of their monthly income in what eventually becomes a losing proposition? Or of the other problems associated with habitual gambling, like racking up huge debts one is unable to pay, not counting the taxes and even utility bills they eventually neglect to pay? Or that states where casinos operate have the highest rates of home foreclosures and bankruptcies? Or that, very often, pathological gamblers turn to crime – fraud, embezzlement, drug dealing, theft – to come up with the money to

pay their debts? Or that the criminal activities associated with gambling eventually cost the taxpayers who have to dish out more for police, courts, probation officers, and the costs of keeping offenders in jail? Or of the economic losses that habitual gamblers cause not only their employers but the state and society itself?

This Administration is trying to blind us with bright lights and promises of prosperity, proclaiming that they are bringing in the casino because they care for us. Nothing can be further from the truth. If they truly care for Pohnpei and the Pohnpeians, they would be honest with us. They would consult us, openly discuss the matter with us and, most important, abide by what we, Pohnpeians, believe is right for Pohnpei.

Alas, we do not see this happening here. All we see are lies, subterfuge and hypocrisy. All we see are narrow political, financial and personal interests being advanced in the guise of the people's interests.

But the people of Pohnpei are not blind and we certainly are not fools. We say, no, you will not run roughshod over our rights and our lives. No, you will not make a mockery of our laws and of governance. And no, we will not allow you to get away with this, not in our name. No way to a casino for Pohnpei.

Ringlen Wolphagen

Power crisis in Pohnpei – there are solutions and savings immediately available!

I read with interest the article in the November 29 – December 12 issue of the Kaselehlie Press canvassing various power generation issues on Pohnpei and interviewing PUC GM Feliciano Perman. My name is David Loughnan and I am the President of Your Earth Pacific Corporation.

Obviously access to reliable and affordable electric power is one of every government's main responsibilities these days and the residents of Pohnpei are rightly concerned that everything possible should be done to ensure their best interests are being served. Power generation plant and operations are in very similar shape all over much of Micronesia (right across the Pacific, really), with ageing diesel generators carrying most of the load. Even in the medium term, this remains the most practical and affordable option and so, it becomes very important that these generators are always operated and maintained to minimise breakdowns and to guarantee efficient use of expensive, imported diesel fuel.

Our company consults widely to other

power utilities in FSM, addressing these exact issues and there are in fact a range of measures that could be employed immediately that would produce significant improvements for PUC. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to persuade the management of PUC to enter into meaningful discussions with us, despite strong support from other, senior Government officials.

Power generation on Kosrae is very close to an identical scenario as Pohnpei. Our recommendations have been followed closely there since mid-2010 and the results are a matter of public record and speak for themselves. The problems faced are also basically identical and are related to the unavoidable problems associated with transporting and storing diesel fuel in the Tropics. In layman's terms, the fuel degrades to the point where it can no longer allow the generator to perform to manufacturer specifications or with expected reliability, due to constant fuel related problems (typically about 50-70% of down time).

This is not the fault of the fuel companies. The fuel presumably leaves their refinery

in perfect shape but undergoes a long journey, being moved from tank to tank constantly until it gets into your car or power station. Water, organic and non-organic impurities are picked up or develop all along the way and the fuel gets worse and worse. Typically, any engine being forced to burn degraded fuel will run rougher, use more fuel, produce less power and torque, produce nasty exhaust emissions and be less reliable. We have made many representations to the senior managers of the PUC outlining that we believe this is the major problem they face and that our product can restore the diesel being used in power generation on Pohnpei to manufacturer's specification but so far, we have not been able to attract their attention.

The story on Kosrae could not be more different. Kosrae Power GM Fred Skilling and Operations Manager Robert Taulupe agreed to use our Fuel Conditioner product (FCC) and this is what they had to say – "FCC has been great for Kosrae, over the past six months we have consistently saved more than 10% of our fuel costs, our engine efficiency has increased by over 3% but most importantly, our fuel related maintenance has drastically reduced".

See "Power crisis" on next page



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Opinion Editorial**For a Good Education***Peter A. Prahar*
U.S. Ambassador to the FSM

I recently participated in the turnover ceremonies for three new school buildings in Kolonia, Kitti, and Madolennihmw. They are the first school buildings completed with funding provided under the Amended Compact of Free Association. At the heart of this agreement between the United States and the Federated States of Micronesia stands the American people's hope to make real improvement in the lives of the people of the FSM. These schools offer solid evidence of that commitment.

These new buildings also demonstrate the increasing capacity of the FSM and its private companies to manage and complete large construction projects. Conforming to the highest standards of design and construction, the buildings should last for decades with as little costly maintenance and repair as possible. Durability and low operating costs must be essential elements of all infrastructure improvements, especially with direct financial support under the Amended Compact ending in only 13 years.

However, as I reminded audiences at all three turnover ceremonies, quality buildings alone cannot assure that the students in them receive a good education. A good education requires a strong, coherent curriculum; professional and dedicated teachers and principals; students motivated to learn; adequate resources and facilities; and parents and communities that support and value education. In other words, taking possession of new buildings is not enough; the stakeholders must take ownership, too, of what takes place in these buildings.

What, then, must be done to achieve a good education?

For the Communities:

Care for schools falls to the community as a matter of pride. Trash should not clutter the grounds, nor should graffiti mar the walls. The restrooms should function. The classrooms should have appropriate instructional materials and equipment. A fresh coat of paint should greet the incoming classes in September each

year. This level of stewardship proclaims with deeds rather than words that the community values education.

The community must also demand outstanding performance from everyone involved. It is not someone else's problem if a school is not open on time or closes early. It is not someone else's problem if the teachers do not show up or the students cut class. It is not someone else's problem if the school falls into disrepair, if the toilets do not work, or if there is no water. It is the community's problem, too, and the community needs to give a strong voice to its concerns.

For the Parents:

The education of a child does not rest just with the teachers in a school or the administrators at the Department of Education. The single most important factor in a child's success in education is parental involvement. A child's parents and other caregivers need to be integral parts of a child's education. Parents are the child's first teacher and are in a unique position to provide support, encouragement, interaction, and stimulus.

Parents should demand excellence from the public education system. They also should support their children's teachers' efforts in the classroom.

Parents should meet with their child's teachers regularly to stay current with their child's learning progress. Parents must address any discipline problems their child has, for these harm not only the child's progress but disrupt the entire learning environment. If their child comes home early from school, or if there is no school that day, then something is terribly wrong. Parents need to find out what happened and make sure that the lost school hours are made up. They must never accept that their child has been denied part of his education, not even one class.

If the child has homework, of course, parents should make sure it gets done. Beyond that, if parents have the financial means, they should provide additional educational materials such as books, magazines, and the Internet. Above all, though, parents must make sure their child

knows that they think what he is doing is vitally important. It does not cost any money or require any special resources to make sure that a child understands that he has nothing more important to do when young than to get the best possible education.

For the Teachers:

Teaching well is a tough job and, frankly, one that often does not get the rewards and recognition it deserves. Teachers must deliver well-structured, sequential programs in well-managed classes, day in and day out, for a minimum of 180 days of academic instruction per school year. The teachers' professionalism in shouldering this tremendous responsibility determines how well the students learn the material and maintain their learning momentum.

Those working in education must be committed to a lifetime of learning as well as teaching. Teachers who lack their formal teaching credentials should complete their degree and certification programs as quickly as possible. It does not end there, though. Teachers must keep up with developments in their fields. Workshops, summer education opportunities, and distance learning courses all offer opportunities for continuing education.

Accreditation, though, will never replace dedication. All teachers should renew their commitments to their careers and to the children placed in their care. Just showing up for work is not enough. A teacher must bring dedication to the classroom every day for every class

For the Principals:

The community has entrusted the schools with the educational development of their children. Principals have the responsibility to ensure that this trust is fulfilled. Experience has demonstrated again and again that principals, and the leadership they provide, are the keys to overall success in education. The principal's performance makes the difference between a school that fails its students and one that enriches them.

Principals must also make certain the teachers are, in fact, delivering well-structured, sequential programs in well-managed classes. They should recognize and reward outstanding teachers. They must deal appropriately with those

teachers who cannot, or will not, meet the community's expectations of excellence.

Principals must ensure the students and teachers are working in sanitary, well-maintained facilities that support learning and demonstrate the value the community places on education. They should encourage the parents' meaningful involvement in their children's learning. Lastly, principals must lead the whole community in supporting the school, its staff, and its students.

For the Students:

I have never met an adult who complained that he studied too hard in school. That tells me two things:

First, as adults we have gained enough perspective to realize some fundamental truths: education is essential to a life of economic opportunity and choice; education is vital to ensuring the well-being of our families and communities; education is fundamental to our self-respect and the earning the respect of others; and education is crucial to our personal and professional happiness.

Second, as adults we see what an incredible opportunity we were given as children to learn and grow intellectually. Further, we can see that how well we embraced this opportunity largely determined the options available to us in later life.

With this in mind, I say to the students, "Study, study, study. Encourage your friends and brothers and sisters to study. Take away as much as possible from your school experience. It is a true once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, one which will impact your entire future. And remember that it is very hard as an adult to get a second chance."

Now the Difficult Work Begins

I was proud to represent the United States at the turnover ceremonies for the new school buildings. Now the difficult work begins. It is up to the community members, the parents, the educators, and the students to do what it takes to ensure a good education. It is they who will either succeed or fail in the effort to prepare for the highly competitive environment of the 21st century.

...Power crisis*Continued from previous page*

This great result has been achieved by adding our FCC product into their existing fuel reserves and with just a little extra care, the generators on Kosrae have been running as though they had refinery-fresh standard diesel fuel. Smoother running, less fuel to produce the required power outputs, lower exhaust emissions and far, far fewer fuel-related maintenance issues. The Kosrae management have agreed to share their detailed findings and observations with their colleagues on the other islands and we had hoped by now that this may have persuaded PUC to at least evaluate every option, especially one so highly recommended by local people they know and trust.

Had we been able to persuade the PUC to follow Kosrae's lead, we estimate the savings in fuel and maintenance would be running at a figure somewhere approaching USD\$1 million p.a. Think how important this money could be in addressing other pressing issues for the citizens of Pohnpei!

I was especially saddened to see the escalating cost of maintenance at PUC and to hear about the ongoing issues with power outages that I witnessed first hand on my last trip to Pohnpei in early December. Our view is that the problems and wasted expense being experienced on Pohnpei are largely avoidable. We believe that they mostly stem from the ongoing presence of degraded fuel that our FCC product could permanently address, for the benefit of everyone on Pohnpei. FCC will pay for itself three, four or five times over through gains in fuel economy and efficiency and pay for

itself all over again through cutting maintenance expenditure.

Our hope is that this independent verification from Kosrae of the actual performance of FCC and the operational turnaround through restoration of fuel quality will persuade the PUC to engage in proper discussions with our company at the earliest time. Doing nothing makes no sense to us at all. If there is the hope of a ready-made way to increase operational efficiency and reduce expenditure while cutting downtime, why would this not be allocated the highest possible priority?

Further to the continuing sustained results in Kosrae, Hawthorne Pacific the regional CAT dealer in Guam has been appointed as a distributor after extensively trailing FCC earlier this year and on my most recent visit to Pohnpei ACE Hardware have agreed

to become the on island distributor of FCC. Both of these highly respected operations would not have become distributors without complete faith in the product.

To the management and board of the PUC, please allow the good citizens of Pohnpei the opportunity to experience the proven benefits that FCC will bring to your power plant by way of reduced fuel usage, reductions in fuel related maintenance, reductions in exhaust smoke emissions and a more reliable delivery of power services. We look forward to being given the opportunity to work with the PUC to replicate the wonderful results already achieved on Kosrae.

David Loughnan
President
Your Earth Pacific Corporation

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THIS NEW YEAR

DANCE AND BE MERRY...

BUT

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A message from The Kaselehlie Press

K.P. Krazy Corner

Inspiration **Island** not all who wander are lost
English Why are there 5 syllables in monosyllabic?
101: Why does fat chance = slim chance
think about it:

Me Time: I have an inferiority Complex but not a very good one...
Mama i am openly gray
Says:
Daffy De nition: COWS - Very moooooody animals
Papa S says: I'm not old I'm experienced



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COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

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

P. O. Box 2222 phone to: (691) 320-6547
Pohnpei, FM 96941 email to: FSMKpress@yahoo.com

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome. For details, call 320-8365.
- Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Kia's Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. Public Welcome.
- The Christian Ministerial Association of Pohnpei meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office.
- Devotions every Sunday 9:30 a.m. at the Bahai Center in Dolonier. For details, call 320-2182.
- Habitat for Humanity Pohnpei holds their meetings every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sei Restaurant.
- Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. at PCR Nantehlik.
- St John's Catholic Church in Kosrae conducts services every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For further information, call 370-3240 or 370-3209.
- FANGO holds its monthly Issue Based Dialogue (IBD) on the last Wednesday of each Month at the Sei Restaurant at 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The public is welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon holds its weekly meetings every Wednesday at 12:00 Noon at the High Tides Restaurant. You are welcome to attend and can contact us at: - rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com
- Pacific Mission Fellowship - A Bible-based English Worship Service Invites you to join us on Sundays for worship at 9am - 11am, Children's Church for the kids too! Call: 320-2496



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Go Local Agroforestry and Health Community Project

Moves Forward

By Mona J. Tara

The second Go Local Agroforestry and Health Community and Partnership meeting was held on November 24, 2010, at 9:30 am at the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) Training Center located in the Botanical Garden in Kolonia, Pohnpei.

The purpose of the meeting was an update and discussion on project goals and objectives. Overall, the project aims for an enhanced use of present agroforestry plantations, without endangering the native forest, which protects the water shed areas. The focus is on awareness, planting local tree crops, in particular focusing on nutrient-rich varieties of banana, breadfruit, coconut, pandanus, fruit trees, and expanding the use of the energy-efficient charcoal oven.

By an increase of awareness about the health benefits of growing and consuming local foods, there is great potential to protect the traditional agroforestry, which has been shown in the past to have great sustainability. At the same time, communities can protect their people avoid health problems, such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer, which have become so prevalent throughout the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and is causing suffering and loss of resources to families and the government.

Representing the communities were: Asime Anstein and Sadao Kihleng from Rohi, U; Kiped Albert and Podis Pedrus from Mand, Madolenihmw; Antreas Alfons from Rohi, Kitti; and Heinrich Mateak from Pohnrakiet village. The partners were: Saimon Lipai, Pohnpei Forestry; Gibson Santos, USDA, NRCS; Welsiher Hagilmai, College of Micronesia/FSM Cooperative Extension Services; Adelino Lorens, Pohnpei Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs, and Emihner Johnson and Mona J. Tara from IFCP.

The partners shared with the communities what assistance they can provide and how they can provide it. Community representatives and partners agreed that it was a good meeting and a local food lunch was served after the meeting.

The same project is working with communities in the other FSM states, Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap, as described in Kaselehlie Press (KP) articles, respectively March 31, June 14 and June 28, 2010 and has been carried out to Mwoakilloa (KP August 23, 2010).

Thanks are given to USDA US Forestry, AusAID, Papa Ola Lokahi for their support for this program, FSM national and state partners as ngo's and the community support. Let's go local!

Set your Sites on Seafood

Kathay Larsen
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

As Pacific Islanders know, seafood is one of the best tasting, most readily available foods here on the islands. Did you know however how healthy seafood is for you? WOW – great tasting and high in nutritional value – what more could you want?

Some examples of ocean-life that fall under the seafood category are shellfish like oysters, mussels, clams, lobsters, crabs, prawns, and shrimp. Other types of seafood would be squid, octopus, sea cucumber, and seaweeds.

Seafood is an excellent source of protein and the protein in seafood is more easily digested than other meats as their muscle fibers are softer. Going hand in hand with protein, seafood is extremely low in fat. Pig for example contains some protein content (not as much as shellfish), but it is so very high in fat that it is not a healthy choice for your protein food. Also the fat that is found in seafood is important for our bodies as it is shown to be the type that protects against heart disease and lowers cholesterol.

Seafood is found to contain large amounts of Vitamin B complex. This helps the body utilize the protein properly and efficiently. The niacin found in seafood assists in releasing energy from foods that are carbohydrate rich. Seafood is an important source of iron as well, which is necessary for keeping your blood healthy. Trace minerals such as zinc, selenium, fluoride and iodine are found in seafood like clams, oysters, mussels, crabs, lobsters, prawns, etc. The minerals are important for releasing energy, assisting the body repair tissue when injured, reducing the toxic effects of some chemicals in the body, preventing tooth decay and maintaining a healthy thyroid gland.

When purchasing shellfish, make sure that it is fresh, has been cooked or preserved. They should have the right colour and texture. If purchased frozen, first let the item thaw and make sure the flesh looks right. When fresh, the seafood should be bright and the flesh has to be see-through or white, while springing back after you poke at it – not mushy or too soft. The smell is a good indicator or freshness as well. It should smell a bit like seaweed, but not too strong. Once you are ready to eat it, keep in mind that the taste should be mild and pleasant. If it does not taste right, don't continue eating it.

Unfortunately, as oysters, clams and mussels feed by filtering the surrounding water and ingesting microscopic plants and animals, it is very important that if you eat these, you completely clean them and keep them cold prior to cooking and eating them. The waters these types of ocean life live in is not clean, like it used to be as people dump their garbage in lagoon areas, and these creatures are feeding off these unclean waters. Eating them without proper preparation could make you very sick.

As there are so many types of seafood to eat and a seemingly endless variety of ways to cook them, you will never tire of this food.

Astronomical Tide Prediction December 27, 2010 - January 9, 2010

	Pohnpei			Chuuk		
Monday	12/27	01/03	12/27	01/03	12/27	01/03
	01:18AM 0.9 07:30AM 2.8 12:51PM 1.7 07:06PM 3.3	02:56AM 2.3 08:00AM 1.0 02:50PM 4.4 09:51PM 0.4	12:56AM 0.0 04:08PM 1.4	01:54PM 2.2 10:39PM -0.5		
Tuesday	12/28	01/04	12/28	01/04	12/28	01/04
	02:00AM 1.1 08:38AM 2.8 02:16PM 1.9 07:57PM 2.8	03:30AM 2.4 08:39AM 0.9 03:23PM 4.5 10:19PM 0.3	12:38AM 0.2 03:00PM 1.1 11:41PM 0.1	02:21PM 2.2 10:45PM -0.4		
Wednesday	12/29	01/05	12/29	01/05	12/29	01/05
	02:50AM 1.3 10:09AM 3.0 04:51PM 2.0 09:28PM 2.3	04:01AM 2.5 09:15AM 0.8 03:55PM 4.5 10:46PM 0.3	12:44PM 1.2 10:45PM 0.0	02:47PM 2.2 10:53PM -0.3		
Thursday	12/30	01/06	12/30	01/06	12/30	01/06
	03:56AM 1.4 11:38AM 3.2 07:07PM 1.6 11:52PM 2.0	04:31AM 2.7 09:49AM 0.8 04:23PM 4.4 11:11PM 0.4	12:14PM 1.5 10:23PM -0.3	04:06AM 0.1 07:06AM 0.0 03:11PM 2.1 11:00PM 0.2		
Friday	12/31	01/07	12/31	01/07	12/31	01/07
	05:13AM 1.4 12:43PM 3.6 08:08PM 1.2	05:00AM 2.7 10:20AM 0.9 04:50PM 4.2 11:35PM 0.5	12:28PM 1.8 10:22PM -0.4	04:09AM 0.3 07:43AM 0.1 03:32PM 2.0 11:07PM -0.1		
Saturday	01/01	01/08	01/01	01/08	01/01	01/08
	01:25AM 2.1 06:25AM 1.3 01:33PM 3.9 08:48PM 0.9	05:28AM 2.8 10:50AM 1.1 05:14PM 3.9 11:57PM 0.6	12:59PM 1.9 10:25PM -0.5	04:19AM 0.4 08:14AM 0.2 03:50PM 1.9 11:13PM 0.0		
Sunday	01/02	01/09	01/02	01/09	01/02	01/09
	02:17AM 2.2 07:17AM 1.1 02:14PM 4.2 09:21PM 0.6	05:57AM 2.8 11:19AM 1.3 05:35PM 3.7	01:26PM 2.1 10:32PM -0.5	04:35AM 0.5 08:41AM 0.3 04:01PM 1.7 11:16PM 0.0		

Island Drink with Drinking Coconut and Coconut Embryo

By Konsalasion Abraham

This recipe received 1st prize at the 2010 World Food Day Healthy Cooking Competition.

Ingredients:

Juice of 1 drinking coconut, medium size
1 cup of coconut embryo (pahr), grated or pounded
1/2 cup of the soft, white flesh of a drinking coconut (pounihpw)

Directions:

Mix all the ingredients thoroughly and serve.
**For a cool taste, keep in refrigerator and serve.

Enjoy the Island Drink.

Note: The juice and flesh of the drinking coconut and the embryo (pahr) are all good sources of vitamin C, which helps our body fight infection and also helps absorb some forms of iron, needed for building blood cells for our body. What a healthy food!

For more information on coconut, its nutrient content and healthy recipes, see the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) Pacific food leaflet no. 4 titled Coconut. A copy can be obtained from the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) or you can access the pdf file from this website: http://www.spc.int/hpl/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1, then go to the Resources link and then to the Nutrition link.





Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia

Notice of Inactive Bank Accounts

Bank of the FSM currently maintains accounts for the following individuals & groups:

Michele D Wells	P.O. Box 98	Tofol, Kosrae
Lilliana S Segal	1221 Ala Alii	Honolulu, Hawaii
Timothy Hill	P.O. Box 786	Tofol, Kosrae
MLSC for Truk Coop	P.O. Box D	Weno, Chuuk
Mibs/Pibc Alumni Chuuk	P.O. Box 748	Chuuk
Merien Sirasy	P.O. Box 55	Chuuk
Nobuo Namelo	Fefan Island	Chuuk
Eot Housing Authority	P.O. Box 1292	Weno, Chuuk
Gospel Beam	P.O. Box 727	Weno, Chuuk
Magdale Richard	General Delivery	Chuuk
Hellen Welle	P.O. Box 772	Weno, Chuuk
Paskal Likky	General Delivery	Chuuk
Rural Development	P.O. Box 98	Colonia, Yap
Rural Development	P.O. Box 98	Colonia, Yap
HPO – Medecine	P.O. Box 117	Colonia, Yap
Pacific Petroleum Corporation	P.O. Box 969	Colonia, Yap
Re-Tegailap Association	P.O. Box 491	Colonia, Yap
Danka ledgerwood	P.O. Box 1183	Colonia, Yap
Ignacio T Giltmag	P.O. Box 42	Colonia, Yap
MLGT Org	P.O. Box 1036	Colonia, Yap
Fusayo Kobayashi	P.O. Box 2241	Kolonia, Pohnpei
PATS Foundation Program	P.O. Box 160	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Koyo Matsudaira	P.O. Box 829	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Augustine Garae	P.O. Box 2277	Kolonia, Pohnpei
John D Ainslie	P.O. Box 9	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Elvaristo Igisomar	P.O. Box 1726	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Kosrae PNI Youth	P.O. Box 1091	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Weijie Lin	P.O. Box 697	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Transparency Micronesia, Inc.	P.O. Box 2283	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Pohnpei Baseball Association	P.O. Box 501	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Alissa R Takesy	P.O. Box 791	Kolonia, Pohnpei
Pwihn En Ignacio Sarawi En St Peter	General Delivery	Pohnpei

As required by FSM law, the Bank wishes to inform these customers that accounts will be closed and the funds transferred to the FSM Secretary of Finance in January 2011. If your account appears on this list, you can avoid having your funds turned over to the Secretary of Finance by making a deposit or withdrawal to the account before December 31, 2010.

Kosraean:

In fwal nuke pusren Masap lun FSM, Bank FSM inge akkalemye nusin Customers nukewa ,ma e akkalemyeyuk lung inge la account lowos ma akkalemyeyuk inge e tufwa kauli a money ka an ac tuhfeh itukyan nusin Secretary lun Finance ke FSM National Government ke January 2011. In oralla account se lom an tia putatyan nuke oakwuk ku oiya se inge, kom enenu in tuku nu Bank FSM oralla sie deposit ku withdrawal nuke account san meet liki December 31, 2010.

Chuukese:

Sia awora ei esinesin ngeni ami kei aramas, mwicheichen aramas, ika sopai mi affat itemi assan pun faan pungun annukun FSM, masowan ami kei accounts epuene lo ngeni ach ewe FSM Finance lon January 2011, ika pwe ese wor mwokutukutun uttut (withdrawal) ika isonanong (deposit) lon me mwen December 31, 2010. Ach anean pwe kopwe chuuto rech ach sipue annisfengen won om kei account.

Yapese:

Tan e Motochiyal nu FSM, Bank e badag ni nge yog ko pi customer rok ney ni rayan I January 2011, maran close nag e pi account ney, man pii e salpiy riy ko FSM Secretary ko Finance. Fa'an ra be mug e account rom ko re list ney, ma rayog ni dabni pii e salpiy rom ko Secretary ko Finance faanra ngamub mu deposit fa mub mu withdraw nag e salpiy ko account rom u m'on ko December 31, 2010.

Pohnpeian:

E kosonndier sang ni ruwes en kosonned en FSM me FSM Bank udahn pahn pakairkiheng aramas oh pwihn en aramas me sansalehr powe, me epwelpen amwail tungol de sapwellimomwail nekinek nan Bank en FSM pahn katoktokidi nan sounpwong en January pahr 2011. Mwoni koaros me patpato nan nekinek pwukat pahn kesepwillang FSM Secretary en Finance. Ma mwaromwi iang sansal powe ah komwi kak pwaredo de ketido oh kapidohi de kasauwada omwi tungol de sapwellimomwi nekinek sang nan FSM Bank mwohn December 31, 2010 ma komw sohte kupwuriki omwi tungol de sapwellimomwi nekinek en kepideklang FSM Secretary en Finance.