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International Women's Day –

Putting things right!!

Story on page 4



The REAL Lihn Mwoakilloa performs at the International Women's Day celebration held in Palikir



A small part of the Lihn Mwoakilloa ladies group poses for the camera



The Pohnpei Ladies Club tied for second place in the entertainment category

FSM Congress urges President to withdraw from Pacific PNA fishing agreement if other island nations won't play fair

*By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press*

March 29, 2011

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM—As the representatives of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) make their way to Tuvalu for round table discussions, the much touted and largely lauded Third Implementing Arrangement is a shaky house of cards. The FSM representatives including the Secretary for Foreign Affairs will be traveling to the meeting armed with the full support of the FSM Congress to bring a tough message. On Tuesday, March 29 the FSM Congress made one of its strongest statements in recent memory when it passed a resolution requesting that the President urge three PNA countries to ratify and implement that arrangement without delay or to give notice to the Depository of the Nauru Agreement of the FSM's withdrawal from the Third Implementing Arrangement.

The Third Implementing Arrangement of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement was widely lauded particularly as it was able to accomplish what many other fisheries organizations had not—to effectively close down the roughly 2.8 million square miles of western and central Pacific high seas pockets to fishing. Islands Business magazine went so far as to name PNA as the Organization of the Year for 2010.

The Parties to the Nauru Agreement include the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. The EEZ's of those eight countries represent the world's most profitable waters for the tuna industry. The purpose of the Nauru Agreement is to ensure that the parties cooperate in the management of their respective exclusive economic zones so that their citizens can be assured of receiving the maxi-

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Japan, still giving even while they hurt



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FSM Celebrates 21 years of the Pacific Patrol Boat Program

By FSM Information Services and Bill Jaynes of The Kaselehlie Press

March 25, 2011

Dekehtik, Pohnpei—On March 24, 2011 President Mori joined the new Australian Ambassador Martin Quinn at the FSM Maritime Wing facilities in Dekehtik, Pohnpei to celebrate the 21st anniversary of the arrival of the first Pacific Patrol Boat in FSM, the FSS Palikir. The FSM National police from the Maritime wing and the crew of the FSS Palikir paraded in front of the dignitaries and crowd, to the sound of a bagpipe and drums. The FSS Palikir was draped in flags and decorated grandly for the event.

During his speech, President Mori expressed the deep appreciation and gratitude of the FSM government and its people for Australia's contribution of the three patrol boats that FSM utilizes for surveillance, search and rescue, medical evacuation, and research missions. He also expressed appreciation to the FSM Congress for the funding it has provided in the past to keep the boats running, and to the crew of the boats for their hard work. He challenged the present members of Congress to continue to respond positively to budget request for the operation of those vessels for the protection of the FSM EEZ.

Ambassador Quinn's remarks focused on the level of cooperation that exists between the two countries and the presence of Australian advisors with the Maritime police to ensure that the program runs smoothly. Ambassador Quinn said during his speech that the Pacific Patrol Boat program has been one of the most successful bilateral programs Australia has had with the Federated States of Micronesia, and that it stands as a symbol of our good relations and friendship.

Former President John Haglelgam who was the sitting President of the FSM when the FSS Palikir arrived in the FSM and who was instrumental in negotiating for the program also spoke during the ceremony. He spoke about how it was that the boats came

to the FSM and what fisheries enforcement in the FSM was like previous to that point.

Haglelgam said that prior to the arrival of the FSS Palikir, 21 years ago, FSM Marine Surveillance officers were operating from a sailing vessel. He asked the captain of that vessel how a sailing vessel could keep up with the high tech motor driven vessels. He said that the captain told him that they would attach themselves to a long line or to a net and when the fishing vessel pulled in their lines they brought them alongside as well as an extra added surprise.

Though there is still a long way to go for truly effective marine surveillance in the FSM, the Australian Government and the presence of the members of the Royal Australian Navy who have served as advisors has helped to bring FSM EEZ law enforcement out of the dark ages.

Haglelgam said that even though the boats are 21 years old, they still look like they did when they arrived 21 years ago. He should know. He was there.

After the speeches, Frederico Primo, Vice Speaker of the FSM's 16th Congress was invited to cut the cake prepared for the event and was handed a ceremonial saber to accomplish the task much to the crowd's delight. Afterwards a buffet table was opened for the dignitaries, sailors and their families to enjoy.

Also in attendance at the ceremony was former President Urusemal, members of the diplomatic corps and other members of the FSM Cabinet and FSM National Police force.



Australia's Ambassador Martin Quinn addresses the crowd



Pipes and Drum



FSM President Manny Mori and former President John Haglelgam

The **Kaselehlie Press**

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Bill Jaynes
 Managing Editor

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Congress passes a bill to establish an FSM United Revenue Authority

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlle Press

March 31, 2011

Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM—After several years of concentrated development efforts the FSM tax reform process is at long last on its way. The 16th FSM Congress today passed a historic bill (CB 16-154 CD 1) that will, if the President signs it into law, establish a new tax authority for the entire nation, the Unified Revenue Authority (URA).

According to the Congress Ways and Means committee report (CR 16-139) the bill that establishes the URA is the first of five tax reform bills for the FSM and is the “foundation of the greater tax reform initiative.”

URA will not actually be set up until a year after the President signs the bill into law if he chooses to do so by which time at least some of the FSM tax reform bills will have passed Congress scrutiny. On the floor of the Congress chamber during debate Senators said that it will be at least two and half years before the tax reform can be fully functional and the establishment of the URA is just the first of many steps including those legislative steps that need to be taken within each of the States.

The URA will be the sole tax entity in the nation and will replace out right all of the

taxing authorities that currently exist at the National and State levels. They will be responsible as well for the appropriate distribution of those collected revenues to the National and State governments on a percentage basis defined in the bill.

“The URA is meant to be an independent tax collection unit,” the Committee report said. In support of the URA’s “independent” nature the committee report said that the URA will be governed by six Directors, one from each State, one for the National Government and one non-voting member representing the private sector. The Committee report says that the board will hire a Chief Executive Officer who will be responsible for all operational aspects of the URA. “Because the CEO is hired by and remains at the pleasure of the Board only, the CEO is insulated from political influence,” the committee report claimed.

The report said “the other mechanism bolstering the URA’s independence is its funding. The URA’s operations will be funded directly by a portion of each government’s taxes collected. This will provide steady and adequate funding for the URA without depending upon yearly appropriations,” the Ways and Means committee report said.

The bill essentially outlines the qualifications and standards for selection of Board

members and lays down the fundamentals of the operation of the URA. It is sometimes difficult to remember when reading through the 49 page bill that the taxes URA will be responsible for collecting and distributing are not the same kind of taxes that are currently being collected throughout the FSM. The Congress Bills for each step of the tax reform have already been drafted and are currently being reviewed in committees.

“Your committee insists that in order for the tax reform to be successful and for the URA to collect each government’s taxes, the cost of URA operations must be equitably shared among the five governments,” the report said.

Employees of the URA would not be subject to the Public Service system. “This policy represents additional effort to make the URA an independent and powerful tax collector. It is imperative to efficient tax collection that the CEO and Board have control over the personnel responsible for URA operations,” the report said.

In terms of current existing revenue authority employees the bill says, “The Authority will offer contracts of employment to all existing revenue authority employees in good standing provided that the Authority is not required to hire the employees at the same salaries or to fill the same positions...”

The Committee Report recommending the passage of the bill was signed by the mem-

bers and dated March 29. It was adopted by Congress on that same day after considerable discussion by the ten members of Congress of the total membership of 14 who were present on that day.

A bill requires an affirmative vote from at least ten members and Senator Christain clearly stated that he would vote “no” to the passage of the bill on first reading because of substantial questions he had about the bill that had never been answered. Knowing that the bill was doomed to failure because of the “veto power” of that lone Senator, Congress deferred the first reading of the bill until the next day.

But on the next day there still were only ten Senators on the floor of Congress including Senator Christian but his questions had apparently been answered overnight. The vote was unanimous to pass the bill on its first reading. Because of the four missing Senators it was the only way it could have passed the first reading.

Congress voted to extend the already extended 6th special session by one day and on Pohnpei and FSM Cultural Day the remaining Senators passed the “URA Bill” on its second reading.

“I felt it was important for the 16th Congress to make the first important step for (FSM) tax reform before it adjourns,” Figir said during a telephone conversation later that afternoon.

Yap State Chief Morris Buchun has his final salute from officers

By **Donna Wrembeck**

On Saturday 19th March 2011, Yap State lost its highest ranking police officer when Chief of Police Morris Buchun passed away after a long battle with illness. Chief Buchun served in the Yap State Police Department of Public Safety for nearly 36 years, being the longest serving member in the history of the Yap State Police. October 21, 1975 to July 7, 2009.

Chief Buchun's body was taken from the family home on the afternoon of Tuesday 29 March to the Yap Mormon Church for a service with family, friends and those wishing to pay their respects. There was a large gathering at the church for a very dignified service very much like the man.

From the church, the funeral procession was given a full police escort. A police guard of honor escorted Chief Buchun to his final resting place. Police personnel gave a twenty one gun salute as a mark of distinguished respect of Chief Buchun. The State flag was presented to the family along with an official letter of appreciation for Chief Buchun's dedication and service.

Chief Buchun joined the service in October 21, 1975 as a Fireman 1, where he served for almost two years, on 30th January, 1977, he became a Yap Island Police Officer 1. In December 18 of 1977 he was promoted to the rank of Patrol Officer 3 with a quick succession of promotion through the ranks where in July 15, 1979 he was promoted from Patrol Officer 3 to Lieutenant. In October 1981 Chief Buchun was re-assigned to Fire Chief, where he held the position



until August 7, 1997. He was promoted further within the ranks of Public Safety and was appointed to the senior rank of Police Captain. Chief Buchun was promoted to Chief on July 7, 2009. During his career within the Department he was widely regarded as a friend, teacher, and leader to the many number of officers that had passed through the department and to those who are left behind.

To those who had the honor to know Morris Buchun both as the family man and the Chief of Police all admired and commented on the same thing, when Chief made a decision he never backed down, he was resolute and stood by his choices. He admired discipline, and demanded it from his officers. He will be sadly missed by all those who have known him and worked with him.

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International Women's Day – the rest of the story

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

Editor's Note: Within minutes after the first newspaper hit the stands in Pohnpei on March 21 the phone at The Kaselehlie Press began to ring. "Did you know that you put the wrong picture on the front page?" After fielding many phone calls from women who wanted us to "just get it right," some of them angry calls, we couldn't help but to know that we used the wrong photo on the front page to identify the women's group Lihn Mwoakilloa. It's embarrassing and I apologize profoundly not only to the Lihn Mwoakilloa women's group but to the Lien Palikir group whose picture

was actually on the front page. It's the difficulty of relying on only one source of information and I have certainly learned one thing for absolute certain. You don't mess with the women of Pohnpei! More power to them!!

March 30, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—As was reported in the previous issue of The Kaselehlie Press, on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 women from all over Pohnpei descended upon the FSM-China Friendship Sport Complex

at the Palikir Campus of the College of Micronesia to celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Women's day.

In the past, women's groups have performed dances on International Women's Day purely as a matter of organizational and cultural pride sometimes in the pouring rain at the Pohnpei Island Central School track. This year, however, the International Women's Day Awards Committee, chaired by SeNellie Singeo decided to award cash prizes

for the "best" dance or drama or other presentation. It was a last minute decision that turned the day into a competition rather than just a celebration of all things female.

The competition was tight. Lihn Mwoakilloa "won" the performance competition by only one judge awarded point. While it is true that Lien Education won the second place position what was not mentioned or known in the previous article is that the Pohnpei Ladies Club tied with Lien Education for second place with their presentation on banning the use of plastic bags in Pohnpei by using reusable canvas shopping bags instead. The group distributed bags with their

Top winners, Community Cleaning & Beautification Project

See "Women's Day" one page 8



First Place - Lielehle



Second Place - EMPWA



Third Place - Lien Ononleng



Japan was hit by one of the largest earthquakes ever recorded on March 11. The earthquake triggered a deadly tsunami that slammed into the east coast of Japan, leaving a huge swath of devastation in its wake. Thousands of people are dead and many more are still missing or injured; almost half a million people are homeless.

If you want to help victims of the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, the easiest way is to donate through SMS or text message from your mobile phone.

100% of your donation will go into this Relief Fund, which FSM Telecom will present to the Japan Embassy, along with its own donation on June 1st, 2011.

TEXT TO DONATE



Donate to Japan NOW. Here's how:

1. Create new SMS message
2. Enter the dollar amount (Ex: 5)
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You can donate up to \$100 at once or as many times as you like by texting in again. Donations will be deducted from your Mobile Prepaid Account.

Call your local FSM Telecom office for details.



Japan still giving even while they hurt

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

March 28, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—“Japan’s generosity in times of internal disaster and hardship is humbling,” an article from an East African publication proclaimed as its headline. Neither the record setting earthquake and devastating tsunami nor the continuing aftermath of that March 11 disaster have washed out Japan’s previous or future commitments to bilateral aid in East Africa.

What heartless soul would have blamed the government of Japan if they had hurriedly rescinded current monetary commitments in order to take care of their own tragic problems? But they have not done that in East Africa or anywhere else in the world in which they have made aid commitments including in the FSM.

If the events of March 23 through 28 in the FSM are any evidence, Japan’s commitments to the FSM through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects are as firm as ever despite Japan’s still gaping wound. In three separate signing ceremonies during that time, the Japanese government funded four separate programs in Yap, Kosrae and Pohnpei for a total amount of \$318,693 USD in grassroots humanitarian aid to the FSM.

The first of the ceremonies took place at 10:00 on the morning of March 23 in the chambers

of the Kolonia Town Council. Newly arrived Japanese Ambassador Eiichi Suzuki turned over a grant for a total of \$106,382 USD to Kolonia Town Mayor Marcelo K. Peterson during that ceremony. The grant mobilized the donation of two garbage trucks and also a vehicle for collecting recycling materials. Sapporo City of Japan donated the garbage trucks with no charge only requesting that Kolonia Town maintain the equipment regularly.



Mayor Marcelo Peterson and Ambassador Suzuki

Ambassador Suzuki said that as Kolonia develops it also has to deal with increasing sanitation problems. The project is aimed at helping Kolonia Town to deal with the increasing problem of waste management and also to help Kolonia to further expand its ongoing recycling program.

Mayor Peterson said that the people of Kolonia Town need to take the matter of waste management and recycling seriously and

challenged the editor of the Kaselehlie Press to run an ongoing series of columns about sustainable waste management and recycling in the newspaper in order to help keep the issue in the front of people’s minds.

The second of the three ceremonies took place at 10:00 on the morning of March 24 at Ambassador Suzuki’s residence in Nanpohnmal, Pohnpei. Kosrae’s Director of the Division of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Mr. Steven George accepted a grant in the amount of \$64,311 for the establishment of three payaos in Kosrae State. Payaos are fish aggregating devices that help to attract fish to a predetermined place for easier harvest.

Both George and Ambassador Suzuki said that the payaos would help Kosrae by “generating more fish” thereby allowing for a lower market rate for fish for consumers and that the payaos would lessen the consumption of fuel as fish would be concentrated in certain areas.

During the ceremony at the Ambassador’s residence, the Director of Kosrae’s Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, Mr. Weston Luckymis accepted a grant in



Steve George and Ambassador Suzuki sign grant paperwork

mentary matters of waste management that his government would like to pursue with the Japanese government. Ambassador Suzuki did not blanch as many might have expected him to do under his nation’s current tragic set of circumstances. He instead gave a sanguine smile and listened attentively as Luckymis finished his speech.

According to a press release from the Embassy of Japan to the FSM, on March 28, Ambassador Suzuki and Acting President of the College of Micronesia, Mr. Ringlen Ringlen signed off on a project that will benefit the people of Nel



Weston Luckymis and Ambassador Suzuki

the amount of \$95,000 USD for the purchase of a bulldozer for the Kosrae landfill. Kosrae’s is utilizing the Fuguoka method for landfill because of an earlier grant by the Japanese Government.

Luckymis and Ambassador Suzuki said that the bulldozer would help to reduce Kosrae solid waste pollution by helping to close down open dumpsites and concentrate all garbage to the Centralized Landfill.

Luckymis thanked Ambassador Suzuki and said that Kosrae has one more application for funding involving comple-

Village of Yap. The \$53,000 USD project will be administered by Cooperative Research and Extension of the College of Micronesia. The title of the project is “Project for Improving Pig Production in Nel Village.”

According to the press release, negotiations for the project “have been on-going for a while and both parties were very glad to finally reach the final stage.” The benefit to the people of Nel is stated as enabling villagers to gain a stable source of income, reduce their vulnerability to poverty, and to stimulate economic development in Nel Village.

The aid that Japan provides through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects is provided with the goal of improving the livelihoods of people across the world beginning at the grassroots level.



Acting COM President Ringlen Ringlen and Ambassador Suzuki

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat - Suva, Fiji

Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific

The Secretariat is looking to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced persons to work as **Executive Coordination Officer** who will be accountable to the Secretary General for:

- Efficient clearing of documents requiring the Secretary General’s attention, approval or action;
- Coordinating the preparation of speeches, briefs and other background information for the Secretary General;
- Providing Secretariat Support to the Executive and Senior Management Team; and
- Coordinating the preparation of policy papers on key issues as requested by the Secretary General or the Executive

Applicants should have a graduate degree in economics, law, public policy or other relevant discipline with at least 7 years relevant experience and knowledge of the workings of Pacific Islands Forum, the Secretariat and the place of Forum Island countries in the international trade and political arena. They must have an aptitude for the provision of high quality service with a flexible approach and a willingness to assist with a variety of other tasks within the Secretariat. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary will be in the range of SDR20,359 to SDR30,538 per annum. At the 1 March 2011 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD58,102 to FJD87,151. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free.

Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at www.forumsec.org. To be eligible for 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 can be sent electronically to jobs@forumsec.org.fj. Applications should be received by close of business on **Friday 29 April 2011**. Previous applications need not reapply.

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.



IOM • OIM

The International Organization for Migration

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Head Office for Micronesia - Pohnpei

IOM is an inter-governmental organization supporting the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in *disaster mitigation, relief and reconstruction* activities in the FSM & RMI. IOM works in close partnership with national and local authorities, international organizations, as well as, a large network of local non-governmental organizations in helping ensure that communities are well prepared for the next extreme natural event.

Position Title: Logistics Supervisor

Position Reference: PNI-003

Duration: Permanent, Full-time

Location: Pohnpei, FM

Deadline: Until position is filled

Salary Range: \$18,000 - \$20,400 Yearly

Responsibilities:

- Maintenance of an inventory management system and maintain records of the goods received stored and dispatched to/from the warehouse in Pohnpei. Ensure that accurate and transparent processes of inventory management are adhered to.
- Conduct field assessments throughout the FSM, where necessary to ensure goods can be delivered to the predetermined location within the specified time using existing resources. Use the data collected to develop distribution plans for these the FSM.
- Perform and/or arrange for the regular maintenance checks on all IOM vehicles, pre-positioned supplies and communication systems (ie. Satellite phones, short wave radios, generators, reverse osmosis units).
- Undertake duty travel when needed for the purposes of assessment, data collection, response, community liaison and local government liaison.
- Assist with procurement and logistical processes for goods and relief supplies into and out of the FSM and RMI.
- Assist in the collection of project-related data (ie. Building plans, utilities, etc.) from various State and National agencies as well as private corporations.
- Participate and represent IOM in workshops, trainings and meetings held by US Federal agencies, regional bodies, National and State Governments and other forums related to Program activities.

Requirements:

- A university degree in a relevant field or alternatively a combination of relevant education and experience in this field.
- Experience working with an international organization, embassy or NGO is advantageous.
- Verbal fluency in the local languages of FSM would be a distinct advantage.
- At least 3 years of work experience in logistics, or a related field.
- Ability to manage a warehouse, including establishing and maintaining quality assurance procedures.
- Willingness to oversee distribution methods, including managing delivery schedules and the distribution of goods when required.
- Enthusiasm to learn how to maintain equipment, to minimize corrosion and deterioration.
- Ability to prepare clear and concise reports and a high level of computer literacy.
- Personal commitment, efficiency, initiative, drive for results, respect for diversity, creative thinking.
- Ability to work effectively and harmoniously with colleagues from varied cultures and professional backgrounds.
- Able to work under tight timeframes and during weekends and overtime, when required.
- A thorough knowledge of oral and written forms of English with a proven track record of writing reports and/or professional correspondence.
- Knowledge of one of the languages of the indigenous languages of FSM or RMI would be considered an advantage.

Position Title: ITC Administrator

Position Reference: PNI-004

Duration: Permanent, Full-time

Location: Pohnpei, FM

Deadline: Until position is filled

Salary Range: \$15,600 - \$18,600 Yearly

Responsibilities:

- Ensures that all hardware and software are maintained and function properly, and recovers any lost or accidentally deleted data.
- Manage IT needs and interventions with all staff across all IOM offices in the region.
- Plan and prioritize systems implementation of IT infrastructure changes; install systems, network components and software;
- In close coordination with ITC helpdesk, administrate and monitor IT Servers and services (ISA/Proxy, Exchange, File server, Antivirus server, PABX, Cisco switches, routers and Cisco firewall... Etc).
- Monitor systems and networks (LAN, WAN) and perform essential maintenance such as: server controls, data integrity tasks (back-up, disk space etc). Install and update hardware and software.
- Design any local applications if required, including databases.
- Plan and supervise the installation, operation and administration of security for the various system and network components, including protection against viruses, access to Internet, and implementation of IT disaster recovery services, among others.
- Provide assistance and/or training on use of IT to end-users, Local Administrators and IT assistants.

Requirements:

- University degree, preferably post-graduate degree in computer Engineering, Computer science from an accredited academic institution or a combination of relevant education and professional experience.
- Holder of an MCP (Windows/Exchange Server) or MCSA certification an advantage.
- Up to 3 years of professional experience in networking environment (LAN/WAN) and first level network/desktop support.
- Experience in the administration of Windows and Exchange Servers (2000/2003) in a multi-site environment, TCP/IP, Cisco devices, MS Office, Antivirus Software and IT utilities.
- Commitment, efficiency, flexibility, self-motivation, respect for diversity, creative thinking and strong organizational skills.
- Ability to work effectively and harmoniously with colleagues within a team from varied cultures and professional backgrounds.
- Able to work under tight timeframes and during weekends and overtime, when required.
- A thorough knowledge of oral and written forms of English with a proven track record of writing reports and/or professional correspondence.
- Knowledge of one of the languages of the indigenous languages of FSM or RMI would be considered an advantage.
- IOM encourages applications from qualified female applicants

To Apply: Interested persons must post, hand-deliver or email the following documents to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Mandatory Application Documents:

1. One page Statement of Interest
2. Curriculum Vitae or Resume
3. Contact Information of at least 3 references
4. Copies of academic transcript/s – **Do Not Send Originals**

Mail to:

International Organization for Migration
PO Box K2644
Pohnpei, FM 96941

Hand Deliver:

Pohn Umpomp Building, 2nd floor
(next to the US Embassy)

Email to:

HRmicronesia@iom.int

Due to the high volume of applications received by IOM, only short-listed candidates will be contacted directly.

... PNA

Continued from front page

mum benefits from their resource. It's a front of solidarity for the good of all of the citizens in the eight member nations in the Pacific.

The Third Implementing Arrangement which the FSM signed in 2008 and Congress ratified early this year set additional terms and conditions of access to the exclusive economic zones of the parties, including a requirement that fishing vessels licensed to fish in any of those EEZ's be prohibited from fishing in the high seas as a condition of their licenses. Though Congress only ratified the Third Implementing Arrangement in January the FSM has been implementing that arrangement as part of its licensing agreements since it was signed in 2008.

But the Third Implementing Arrangement of that agreement is currently wobbly at best. The only way that the PNA can be effective at all is if all of the eight member countries act in concert and consistently across their EEZ's but that has not been happening.

Kiribati which has the largest EEZ in the region, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands which together represent the most productive tuna fishing grounds in the region have not yet ratified or implemented the Third Implementing Arrangement of PNA. They have been issuing fishing licenses for their EEZ's that allow the license holder to fish in the high seas pockets.

The high seas pockets are those areas that lie in the area of water that is outside the domain of any country. The EEZ's of the Pacific Island countries extend out 200 miles from the land borders of those countries. Those waters are unregulated since they are not in the legal control of any country. The third implementing arrangement of the PNA essentially says, "Fine, we can't stop you from fishing the high seas pockets but if you do you will not be able to fish our much larger waters as well." That tactic only works if all of the countries ratify and implement the Third Implementing Arrangement.

FSM Senators toyed briefly with the idea of blacklisting the vessels that have been fishing the otherwise closed high seas pockets but ultimately decided that plan was not nearly strong enough and is ineffectual in terms of eliminating the economic disadvantage that arises because of the non-compliance of the three member nations.

Senators also wondered if the timing for the resolution was right with the PNA roundtable just around the corner. Speaker Isaac V. Figir said that he had discussed the matter with President Mori and was told that the resolution would be extremely helpful in its negotiations at that meeting.

The Congress resolution said that because of the current practices of Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands the Federated States of Micronesia "is thus placed at a competitive disadvantage with respect to the terms it can offer in fisheries agreements."

The same could be said about any other member nation.

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

Opening Date: March 25, 2011
Closing Date: April 25, 2011

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT 2011-001-A



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

POSITION & GRADE: Junior Auditor, Grade 4
LOCATION: FSM Development Bank, Corporate Office
SALARY: \$16,515.20 per annum, higher salary may be considered depending upon qualification

SUMMARY: *Assists carry out the role of the Internal Auditor. The work involves conducting performance, financial, and compliance audit engagements; providing consulting services to the organization's management and staff, providing input to development of the annual audit plan; and conducting special compliance reviews as required. The Junior Auditor maintains all organizational and professional ethical standards and works as the lead staff Auditor on all audit engagements under the immediate supervision of the Internal Auditor.*

GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (Illustrative only):

The Junior Auditor assists the Internal Auditor in carrying out the following core duties;

1. Examine the effectiveness of all levels of management in their stewardship of the Bank's resources, to promote growth, and to ensure compliance with applicable Bank policies and procedures.
2. Review and recommends improvement on management controls designed to safeguard the Bank's resources, to promote growth, and to ensure compliance with applicable Bank policies and procedures.
3. Review and recommend improvements on the Bank's credit process and administration.
4. Review Management's effectiveness in putting in place risk mitigating measures on its credit extensions and to ascertain if such measures are in accordance and compliance with the lending policy.
5. Conduct random reviews on outstanding credits to ascertain compliance to loan conditions.
6. Conduct special compliance review and audits as the Board may require from time to time.
7. Perform other duties as needed.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES: None

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE: Bachelors Degree in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration or related field from an accredited college or university; two to four years financial experience and/or training in accounting/auditing and/or industry; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

The noise level in the work area is typically that of a moderately quiet office environment.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

All applications, curriculum vitae, and at least three letters of reference shall be completed and submitted to: The FSMDB Corporate Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei with mailing address as follows: FSM Development Bank, P.O. Box M, Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941 by mail; by fax to 320-2842 or in person at the FSM Development Bank's Corporate Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei on or before April 25, 2011.

SPECIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Includes, but not limited to the following:

1. Assists in identifying and evaluating the organization's risk areas and provides input to the development of the annual audit plan
2. Performs audit procedures, including identifying and defining issues, developing criteria reviewing and analyzing evidence, and documenting client processes and procedures.
3. Conducts interviews, reviews documents, develops and administers surveys, composes summary memos, and prepares working papers.
4. Identifies, develops, and documents audit issues and recommendations using independent judgment concerning areas being reviewed.
5. Communicates or assists in communicating the results of audit and consulting projects to management and the board of directors.
6. Pursues professional development opportunities, including external and internal training and professional association memberships.
7. Performs related work as assigned by audit management.
8. Makes recommendations on ways to improve audit work procedures.

OTHERS: Good mathematical skills, analytical, written/verbal communication and interpersonal skills. Work well in groups. System knowledge and familiarity. Ability to adapt to change quickly and multitask.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally required to stand, walk, sit, and talk or hear. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 10 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include ability to read volumes of text and data.

... Women's Day

Continued from page 4

logo on them on that day.

The International Women's Day included much more than entertainment. Besides the speeches the women also participated in role plays on topics such as how to share knowledge with their daughters, how to respect, how to use "maing" when called upon, and other topics.

The International Women's Day was more than just a celebration of the role of women in Pohnpei, it was also a celebration of all of the wide and varied accomplishments of the 25 separate but united women's groups, each one a Non Governmental Organization (NGO) in itself.

The Pohnpei Women's Advisory Coun-

cil (PWAC) was the principal organizer of the event. They are not however, as was previously reported, a part of Pohnpei's Office of Social Affairs although the Office of Social Affairs does provide technical assistance to the group from time to time.

When the women gathered on March 11 for the first ever awards celebration, in addition to the presentation of awards, the women took part in a serious training presented by Lucille Apis Overhoff on how to write grants in order to raise necessary funds for the work that the NGO's are doing in the community. Lucille Apis Overhoff who works for the Global Environmental Facility Micronesia Small Grants Program taught that seminar and the women groups walked away with invaluable information.

The women also heard a presentation given by the Conservation Society of Pohnpei on conservation of Pohnpei's watersheds.

Since 2009 the women's groups have participated in Community Cleaning and Beautification project coordinated by the PWAC. At the March 11 awards ceremony held at the Pohnpei Administration building all of the groups received at least a \$200 prize for participating in the project. The Pohnpei Environmental Protection Agency evaluated the clean-up efforts on the communities of the individual women's groups and awarded three top prizes for 2011. Lien Ononleng was awarded the third place prize of \$300 for their community cleaning and beautification efforts. EMPWA received the second place award of \$400 and Lielehle was the top prize winner for all of their efforts toward the program during the last year. The original amounts for those prizes had been set at \$200, \$300 and \$350 but Mr. Ferny Perman and his family donated \$300 that allowed the awards committee to sweeten those prizes to the above listed amounts. Mr. Perman's name was inadvertently left off of the list provided by Mrs. Sin-

geo. Each of the top three prize winning groups also received an Environmental Protection Agency "Special Award" of \$50, \$75, and \$100 respectively.

Though the Administrator of the Office of Social Affairs, SeNellie Singeo said that the women had voted to include the March 11 awards ceremony event as an annual occasion a PWAC spokesperson later said that no vote had actually ever taken place. The March 11 ceremony was something that was tried for the first time this year and nothing had yet been decided about the possibility of future awards ceremonies to be held on that March 11 in the future.

ICTV has been running the video of the International Women's Day celebration and the awards ceremony since shortly after the celebration. Videos are available for purchase from KCC Store and Ambros video.



FSM PETROLEUM CORPORATION

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

LICENSED DEALERS / RESELLERS IN POHNPEI STATE

The FSM Petroleum Corporation invites expressions of interest for licensed Dealers from interested parties, including current independent service stations, to become preferred and licensed reseller of FSMPC energy products and services in the State of Pohnpei. The licensed resellers will work closely with the Corporation with a primary aim of:

- Improving the availability of and accessibility to FSMPC branded fuels / lubricants and services to the identified community in which a licensed dealership is issued;
- Ensuring strict adherence to safety and environmental standards, and improving the reliability of the supply chain; and
- Developing a sustainable business model that offers opportunity for further growth, expansion and investment.

The Corporation will issue Dealership License with access to Corporation's technical and business support to selected Parties in the following communities / areas:

- Kolonia Town: 5 Licenses – Service Stations
- U: 1 License – Service Station
- Sokehs / Sekere: 1 License – Service Station
- Kitti: 1 License – Service Station
- Madolenimw: 1 License – Service Station.

In selecting those parties that will become licensed dealers, the FSMPC is looking at:

- Established commercial operations that are registered to conduct business in Pohnpei, have a proven business model, a sound client base, and been in operation for over five (5) years preferably in petroleum retail;
- Demonstrated financial strength to invest in this business opportunity, having access to strong finances - working capital (minimum of \$80,000) and to achieve a total monthly sales volume in excess of 25,000 gallons;
- Demonstrated ability to provide customer-friendly services and systems that are flexible enough to accommodate any future expansion and growth; and
- Be able to commit to meet all FSMPC SGBP and safety standard requirements as well as local statutory and regulatory compliance requirements.

All proposals are to be sealed and marked "**Licensed Dealer / Reseller Business Opportunity**" and hand delivered to Pohnpei Terminal facility addressed to:

Chief Executive Officer
FSM Petroleum Corporation
P.O. Box 1762
Pohnpei FM 96941.

Expressions of interest from Parties who wish to undertake this exciting business venture are invited to submit a **handwritten** Letter of Interest and complete a *FSMPC Reseller Application Form*. A copy of the letter and completed application can be emailed to petrocorp@fsmc.com. The Expression of Interest closes on Friday 20th April 2011 at 4pm. FSMPC will treat all EOI in the strictest confidence, and it reserves the right to accept, reject or negotiate with one or all bidders.

For all enquiries and to obtain FSMPC Reseller Application Form, please contact the Commercial Manager at telephone 320-6364 or email: mkramon@fsmc.com.



FSM PETROLEUM CORPORATION

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS

The FSM Petroleum Corporation invites Expressions of Interests from all interested Parties who wish to become Authorized Distributors (AD) in the States of Yap, Chuuk, Kosrae and Pohnpei. The Authorized Distributors will work closely with the Corporation with a primary aim of:

- Improving the availability and accessibility of energy products and services to communities in remote locations and municipalities;
- Reducing the costs, improving the safety and environmental standards, and improving the reliability of the supply chain; and
- Developing a sustainable business model that offers opportunity for further growth, expansion and investment.

In selecting the Authorized Distributor, the FSMPC is looking at:

- Established commercial operations that are licensed to conduct business in a State, have a proven business model, a sound Client base, and been in operation for over five (5) years;
- Demonstrated financial strength to invest in this business opportunity, having access to strong finances - working capital (minimum of \$50,000) to achieve a total weekly sales volume in excess of 5,000 gallons;
- Demonstrated ability to provide customer-friendly services and systems that are flexible enough to accommodate any future expansion and growth; and
- Be able to work within and meet FSMPC safety standard requirements as well as local statutory and regulatory compliance requirements.

All proposals are to be sealed and marked "**Authorized Distributor Business Opportunity**" and hand delivered to our fuel Terminal facility in each State addressed to:

Chief Executive Officer
FSM Petroleum Corporation
P.O. Box 1762
Pohnpei FM 96941.

Expressions of interest from Parties who wish to undertake this exciting business venture with a dynamic Corporation that is dedicated to professionalism and work to international standards are invited to submit a **handwritten** Letter of Interest and complete a *FSMPC Reseller Application Form*. A copy of the letter and completed application can be emailed to petrocorp@fsmc.com.

The Expression of Interest closes on Friday 20th April 2011 at 4pm. FSMPC reserves the right to accept, reject or negotiate with one or all bidders.

For further information and to obtain FSMPC Reseller Application Form, please contact the Commercial Manager at telephone 320-6364 or email: mkramon@fsmc.com.

K Press Perspective

Congress Agenda Item 21—“and sometimes we can laugh...”

Sometimes Item 21 on the Congress Agenda is the only thing I have to look forward to during a session. Knowing that it is coming helps me to keep from pitching forward from my squeaky folding wooden seat and planting my nose between two of the vertical bars supporting the waist high railing that separates the gallery from the Congress floor and drooling a great pool of slobber at my feet.

“Persevere!” I scream, and reinforce the admonishment with a great stinging slap on the cheek. “This is the business of government. They have to do this stuff. Stay awake! Item 21 – Miscellaneous Business is coming!”

“Miscellaneous” is a wonderful word really. If you don’t know where to file a particular bit of information, file it under “Miscellaneous.” That concept applies to the Congress Agenda. No one in the chamber truly knows for absolute certain what any Senator will say during the Miscellaneous Business agenda item. As a result, Item 21 is often grand theater for those of us in the gallery.

It is true that Item 21 often falls flat as a dénouement and I end up disappointed. Sometimes I am left with the feeling that I have just read 600 gazillion pages of a Stephen King novel only to find out at the end of the book that the villain was some non-existent completely unbelievable freakin’ monster spider that had nothing whatsoever to do with the rest of the story. But even that kind of ending is stimulating in a bizarre, “throw the book across the room” kind of way.

“Miscellaneous” is completely unpredictable and that’s what I like about Congress Agenda Item 21. The fact that I know it’s coming keeps me awake even during the times when Congress is doing the mind numbing work of amending a bill in order to add an “s” to a word along with 17 other technical changes; or when they are subtracting \$5,241.21 from one public project and giving \$3,112.10 to another project in a place to which I’ve never been, and an additional \$2,129.11 to another project in another place of which I’ve only heard about; or when they are obliterated...I mean, suspending the rules that might impede their action, or reminding themselves that they’ve already suspended the rules that might impede their action, probably in order to avoid legal problems they’ve had over one or more of their bills in the past where they broke their own rules; (but if they’re going to suspend the rules every time they might possibly apply shouldn’t they just vote to write them out of their rulebook anyway?) or when they’re making motions and voting on whether they should read the journal which they couldn’t do even if they wanted to (which they fortunately don’t) because the journal won’t be ready for at least another week

and if they didn’t make a motion and vote to suspend the reading of the journal they’d never get anything done because they’d only always be waiting for and then reading the journal; or when Liwiana, the Chief Clerk has to fire up her impeccably strong and clear but still only human voice yet again in order to read yet another title of another bill that everyone in the room has right in front of them or....well you get the picture.

Item 21’s unpredictability is sometimes the perfect end to a deadly dull technical session. It was during the item 21 agenda item that the venerable and dearly departed Vice Speaker Resio Moses made an accusation of bribery against some members of Congress and against some members of the Executive Branch. Nearly all of Senator Peter Christian’s most memorable speeches have come during Item 21. Sometimes those speeches have been not only memorable but even shocking for an outside observer. Former FSM President Senator Joseph Urusemal is a veritable fount of Item 21 surprises and great stories. Senator Peter Sitan once delivered a prepared statement about responsible press that was aimed straight at the red faced editor of The Kaselehlie Press who was sitting not 10 feet behind him in the gallery while he spoke. That happened during Item 21. Certainly I wasn’t asleep then. No Senator I have ever known has been exempt from surprising and even great Item 21 moments.

My all time favorite Item 21 statement changes from day to day just like my “favorite song” or my “favorite artist.”

Currently my all time favorite statement came on Friday, March 25 and as is often the case, Speaker Isaac Figir delivered it off the cuff when he addressed Congress with his tongue firmly lodged in his cheek, or in his beetle nut. I’m not sure which.

Now keep in mind that I didn’t know that what he said was going to be one of my all time favorite Item 21 statements so I wasn’t taking verbatim notes. I’m using quotes here just to preserve the flavor of what he said and I’m taking artistic license. The Journal will show what he actually did say. Many pardons if I completely foul this up but Speaker Figir essentially said:

“Sometimes when I go to a store in Yap I put my dollar bill down to pay for my item and the clerk holds that dollar bill up in the air and looks through it with a scowl on her face and then she puts it down on the counter and grabs a marker and I think to myself, ‘What’s the problem here? Do I look like a counterfeiter?’ and she takes the marker and she scratches it across the dollar bill and then she holds it up in the air again and looks at it real close and she

See “K Press Perspective” on page 12

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

The FSM Development Bank hereby gives public notice that the parcels described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

Parcel no. 082-H-01, “Fitemachey” situated in Dachngar, Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 2,916 square meters, Cadastral Plat No. 082-H-00, as described in Certificate of Title issued on March 6, 2011, Doc. No. 5523 at the Registrar, Yap State.

Parcel no. 082-H-03, “Muut Nu Fitemachey” situated in Dachngar, Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 1,274 square meters, Cadastral Plat No. 082-H-00, as described in Certificate of Title issued on March 6, 2011, Doc. No. 5524 at the Registrar, Yap State.

Parcel no. 082-H-06, “Fitemachey” situated in Dachngar, Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 3,688 square meters, Cadastral Plat No. 082-H-00, as described in Certificate of Title issued on March 6, 2011, Doc. No. 5525 at the Registrar, Yap State.

Parcel no. 083-H-07, “Muut” situated in Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 135 square meters, Cadastral Plat No. 083-H-00, as described in Certificate of Title issued on March 6, 2011, Doc. No. 5526 at the Registrar, Yap State.

Parcel no. 009-H-26, “Minef” situated in Ngolog, Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 1,400 square meters, Cadastral Plat No. 009-H-00, as described in Certificate of Title issued on March 6, 2011, Doc. No. 5522 at the Registrar, Yap State.

Parcel no. 007-H-04, “Balegangiy” situated in Balebat, Rull Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 1,064 square meters, Cadastral Plat No. 007-H-00, as described in Certificate of Title issued on March 6, 2011, Doc. No. 5521 at the Registrar, Yap State.

- There is no minimum bid amount for the parcels. Bids may be placed on one or more parcels.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “April 14, 2011 Land Auction” by delivery to any FSM Development Bank branch on Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk or Yap.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2011.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the bid.
- All bid submissions must clearly state the bid amount for each parcel.
- The winning bidder shall be conveyed title through deed transferring title to the land including all improvements on the land, upon delivery of a cashier’s check in the full amount of the bid payable to the “FSM Development Bank” no later than ten (10) days after notice is given.
- The winning bidders must be eligible to hold title to land in the FSM.
- If the winning bidder fails to remit payment within the required time, the award will be granted to the next highest bidder and the same conditions will apply.
- Parcels are offered for sale “as-is” with no guarantees or warranties as to their condition whatsoever.

Questions may be directed to Nora E Sigrah, email: noras@fsmdb.fm, FSM Development Bank, Pohnpei, phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-6533, website: www.fsmdb.fm or the FSM Development Bank, Yap Branch Office in Colonia, Yap.

Guest Perspective

Disaster Preparedness is Everyone's Business

Almost three weeks ago the world's fifth strongest earthquake struck Japan followed by high magnitude aftershocks and a Tsunami. The Government of Japan has confirmed that 10,482 people have died and more than 16,621 people remain missing. Although there is no firm figure on the number injured, the United Nations reported that at least 2,766 people have been injured. Furthermore, the Government reported that 18,778 buildings were destroyed and over 118,137 damaged either by earthquakes, tsunami or fire. It's predicted that the number is likely to increase once an assessment is carried out throughout the tsunami affected areas. Although the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) escaped the impact of the tsunami, the magnitude of the impact indubitably highlights the importance of understanding natural disasters and their consequences. If there's anything we can learn from the devastating events in Japan, it is worthy of consideration to capture one valuable lesson: what can be done to mitigate the risk of disaster?

Natural disaster continues to shake our lives and the damage it has caused is barely comprehensible. Tsunamis engulf entire islands, typhoons wipe clean, broad stretches of land, and ash covers large regions from erupting volcanoes. It is indisputable that these natural phenomena present some of the greatest challenges mankind has faced throughout history. In fact, the disasters that occurred long before humans appeared on the stage explain that our planet is fragile and its history is rich in disasterous events. Ever since the media has been able to deliver the overwhelming views of disasters throughout the world to our television screens, these questions have risen to prominence: how can anyone handle the wave of catastrophic events that surround us? How do people respond to disaster? More importantly, is it possible to prevent disasters?

It has been estimated that around 3.4 billion people worldwide are at a high risk of being exposed to at least one hazardous event each year. This number, however, does not present an equal figure of affected areas in low and high income countries; with death and injury as a consequence of disaster concentrated in developing, lower income countries. An estimated 53 per cent of worldwide disaster-related mortality occurs in low-income countries; these countries, however, represent only 11 per cent of hazard-exposed nations. This raises a legitimate question: why do developing countries suffer much greater cost when natural hazards occur, whereas developed countries are able to cope with an acute disruption?

Disasters are not natural. They only occur when natural hazards intersect with human vulnerability to respond to, and recover from natural phenomenon. Natural hazards, on the other hand, are unavoidable phenomenon which play a vital role in the earth's dynamic equilibrium; they are part of the natural system. The threshold for determining what transforms natural hazards into disasters relies upon the capabilities and resources of a community to respond and to mitigate the

adverse impact of natural hazards.

Indonesia provided a reminder of how disasters can be prevented. After the devastating earthquake in Central Java on May 27, 2006 one of the most prominent newspapers in Indonesia reported that earthquakes alone do not kill people. Poor construction of houses and buildings are the primary culprits, together with the lack of preventive measures and preventive education. This explanation precisely describes the role of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR): the concepts and practices of reducing disaster risks through the systematic analysis and management of the causal factors leading to disasters. If there had been no people or property where the natural hazard took place, the story of an earthquake in Indonesia would be a very different tale. But instead the earthquake struck an area that is particularly vulnerable and hazard exposed, resulting in widespread destruction of homes, infrastructure, and ecosystems. The case of Indonesia illustrates the nexus between vulnerability and hazard exposure, which highlights the importance of DRR. During the period of 2004 through 2010, the 10 most significant disasters on record led to over 176,564 deaths and an affected population of almost 9 million, causing an estimated damage of US\$12 billion. The ubiquity of disasters in Indonesia and other parts of the world suggest that it may not be possible to prevent the occurrence of disasters, but there may be ways to build in resilience in order to mitigate their impact. This can be done by learning lessons from other natural disasters and the derivation of related disaster reduction strategies.

The East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region is extremely vulnerable to hazard exposure, ranging from earthquakes to tropical typhoons. It is estimated that since 1990 the impact of natural disasters in the region have caused more than \$50 billion in damage and have affected more than 2 billion people. The climate change issue has been a major concern particularly for Pacific island countries, where the impacts of sea level rise and other hazards put human security at risk. Due to its location Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is predominantly vulnerable to natural disasters such as landslides, flooding and tidal surges. At the border of the Pacific typhoon belt, the region is also affected by storms and typhoons, which typically take place between November and April each year. In the absence of an actual disaster in the FSM region, are we entitled to dismiss the lessons from other natural disasters? A line which we often hear time and time again from weeping victims of devastating natural disaster is: "Everything I have is gone....my mother, my wife, my kids.... they all have died". This statement should be a poignant reminder of the impacts of natural disasters and the harm done to humankind; for if we disregard the lessons given by others, history will repeat itself.

The horrendous stories of natural disasters in Indonesia, and recently in Japan leave us one vivid question to answer: what can we do to prevent the risk of disasters? Due

to the fact that every single community is vulnerable to at least one type of disaster, it is imperative for every single person in the community to be aware and prepared. While Governments, civil protection agencies and the international humanitarian community play an important role in emergency relief, the majority of humanitarian assistance typically provided during a crisis is delivered by the communities themselves. For this reason, communities should develop their own disaster preparedness plans, which incorporate evacuation plans. That is, Disaster Risk Reduction should not only be left to the experts, but to every member of the community. There are many roles that each of us can play in mitigating the effects of the disasters. This includes gaining knowledge about personal disaster preparedness, educating vulnerable communities with vital information relevant to disaster mitigation such as, identifying hazard prone areas and escape routes and seeking out information about the government officials and civil protection agencies that are responsible for the Disaster Management. Preparing for disasters is everybody's responsibility, with the entire community being equal contributors. Whether it is the community in which you live or work, each of us has a responsibility of protecting our community and increasing its readiness.

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Guest Perspective

My thoughts on the recent altercation in Chuuk involving a US Citizen

A U.S. citizen was recently involved in an incident in Chuuk that is being thoroughly investigated by agents from the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Naval Criminal Investigation Service (NCIS), Guam based military personnel and the U.S. Government.

Rumors about what happened, what didn't happen, who was the victim, who assaulted who and why, what the police did or didn't do, and what is going on now are all over MicSem and have reached the U.S. mainland in other mediums. Speculation on this issue bears little resemblance to facts and it serves no valid purpose. It brings to mind the saying "not all people repeat gossip, some improve on it".

In an effort to quell rumors and to assure those interested that the matter is being thoroughly and fairly investigated, I offer up some facts in this matter. I also do this as a 32 year resident of Micronesia – mostly in Chuuk, a law enforcement profession having done two (2) terms as the Chuuk Director of Public Safety here, as the President of the Chuuk State & FSM National Chambers of Commerce, and as a business owner concerned about the harm these types of incidents has on our image to

the outside world and on our economy.

On Thursday evening, March 17, 2011, a U.S. citizen female visitor staying at a local hotel in Chuuk was involved in an altercation with a local male and the female suffered a black eye from a punch to the face.

It is unclear whether or not the female asked that the police be called but regardless, the police never showed up. There was no resolution of this incident that Thursday evening.

The following evening, Friday, March 18, issues continued and the police were called. In the end, the visiting female was arrested, handcuffed, and transported to the police station by State Police Officers in the back of one of their police pick-up trucks. After some period of time, the female was transported to the State Hospital where she remained until the following morning – Saturday, March 19th.

About 9:00am that Saturday, the owners of the hotel at which the U.S. citizen was staying called and asked that I check on the female. They mentioned only that she had been arrested the night before. I found

the female at the police station where she had gone to recover her laptop computer, her camera, and her wallet which had been taken from her the night before.

My observations were that the female had a black eye, numerous bruises and was unable to walk without assistance due to an injury to one of her knees.

The police returned her personal belongings while I was there. The State Ambulance returned her to the hotel where she was staying, helped her pack up her dive gear and clothes, then transported her to the airport where she caught her flight out that afternoon.

At this point I would like to point out that I was not present at the hotel where the incidents took place on Thursday or Friday nor am I part of the on-going investigation by the Chuuk State Government or by the U.S. Government. However, I have some insights into these matters and offer a few observations.

First of all, there is an obligation on the part of hotels and other facilities that accommodate visiting travellers to care for and look out for the best interest of their guests. In

this case, you have a female visiting a foreign country where she was alone, knows no one, is not familiar with our culture & customs, and doesn't speak the language and who clearly was on the losing end of a physical confrontation.

Because the police did not respond, investigate, and document the incident when it first occurred Thursday night it went unresolved and spilled over into Friday night. This led to the female's arrest, detention, and to making a very bad situation worse.

Some of the MicSem discussion seems to suggest that the victim in this incident was to blame. She was in the U.S. military, was tough and able to take care of herself. Even if she stuck her nose into something that was none of her business - let me say clearly and without hesitation, none of this matters as it relates to us taking care of visitors to our islands and to how the police do their jobs.

We in the tourism business have an obligation to take care of and protect the visitor to our islands. The police have an obligation

See "Guest Perspective" on page 12

Let's pray for all Japan Earthquake and Tsunami victims. We can also help by making donations via SMS or text message.

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① ② ③



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Board Accepts COM-FSM President's Resignation

The COM-FSM Board of Regents has accepted the resignation of Spensin James as president and chief executive officer of the college. This is made in response to a request made by the president.

According to instructions from the board chair, the Vice President for Student Services, Mr Ringlen Ringlen, immediately assumes the role of acting president.

In his resignation letter of March 10, 2011, President James thanked the board for allowing him to work with the members for over seven years.

According to his letter, the president wishes to continue his relationship with the college as a faculty member. Before becoming an administrator, the president served as a professor with the math and science division.

... K Press Perspective*Continued from page 9*

scratches it again with her yellow, invisible marker and finally I ask her, 'What are you doing? Is there a problem?' and she looks at me, shakes an accusatory finger in my face and whines 'Ooooooh, you're one of them!'"

Howls of laughter rang out on the floor and in the gallery...

But I guess you had to have been there. Oh, wait, that's my job. Okay, well, let me give you the context.

Floor Leader Senator Joe Suka led that particular Item 21 conversation off by saying that four more businesses in Chuuk have decided to refuse any business dealings with the FSM National Government without prepay because the FSM National Government is notoriously slow in paying its bills. He made his statement very seriously for the journal because of his concern that if the FSM National Government Finance and Administration office does not pay the government's bills in a timely fashion then the FSM National Government is only paying lip service to the idea of developing the private sector in the FSM.

Senator Urusemal "one upped" the Floor Leader when he said that no National Government office currently operating in Yap State can get credit for any purchase from any business in Yap State because of the slow payment processes of the National Government. He said that some Yap businesses are still waiting for payments on purchases made by the National government several fiscal years ago.

Now, go back and re-read my current all time Item 21 statement by Speaker Figir, five paragraphs above and you should get the joke. Sometimes laughing is just a way to avoid unproductive wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Sometimes at the FSM National Government it's not just slow pay, it's no pay. How often have businesses heard that "we lost the invoice and so could you please just make another one?" How many times have businesses been asked to be complicit in outright fraud because a "lost invoice" was for an expense incurred during a previous fiscal year which is now closed and a government representative wants a business to postdate the invoice as if the expense occurred during the new fiscal year?

Early this fiscal year I chose to write off a small receivable because the Executive Branch "lost an invoice" for an advertisement it "purchased" close to the end of the 2010 fiscal year. Its representative told me the only way we'd get paid was if we changed the date of the invoice to the new fiscal year. I hadn't thought of such a simple thing as changing an invoice date as fraud before but it struck me then and I wasn't willing to be complicit in it.

And the weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth about the whole "slow pay" or "no pay" problem is most applicable when one realizes that the only businesses that can afford to succor themselves at the fat sow government teat are the ones that already have plenty of money. Those businesses can use their amassed capital to bide them through the long dry spell during which the government, which is not actually fat but is still incongruously the largest economic sector in the FSM continues to make promises that it will pay its obligations; promises that are not kept for months at a time.

Do "Mom and Pop" or small businesses operating on a shoe string budget have a chance to compete in that environment? No way! They don't have the capital to stay afloat while the government plays bureaucratic games with their money. Those very small businesses will have long since spent or obligated the money the government owes them for their services or products by the time they finally do receive it.

But that's okay; the government doesn't often buy from very small businesses anyway. Right?

And so the "haves" eventually end up having more and the "have nots" end up having what they've always had, only less of it. These are just some of the things that revolutions are often built upon. I shudder to think about that possibility but I have heard smatterings of talk on that subject.

On March 25, 2011, other Senators logged in on the issue, but it's not a new issue and Senators said so. Senator Christian said

that the problem has been a mainstay of Item 21 conversation and that instead of constantly talking about the issue it's time that Congress steps in and does something about the problem of slow or no payment of government obligations to FSM businesses.

I love Congress Agenda Item 21. Anything can come up and sometimes we can laugh about it for a short while.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor
The Kaselehlie Press

...Guest Perspective*Continued from page 11*

to perform their duties and responsibilities in the most professional manner regardless of their personal likes and dislikes and other non-incident related factors.

Chuuk, like the rest of the beautiful islands in Micronesia, are full of wonderful people who value the visiting tourist regardless of nationality and care very much about their safety and welfare.

Unfortunate incidents involving U.S. citizens and other foreigners have occurred in all our islands and efforts have gotten underway immediately to conduct a professional, through investigation and where appropriate make the necessary changes to ensure such incidents do not happen again. It's the way of the world.

This latest incident in Chuuk will be no different. The Governor has suspended the Director of Public Safety pending the outcome of an ongoing investigation. The police and our Attorney General's Office are cooperating with the investigators who have come to Chuuk from off island to look into this matter. The hotel where the female stayed is cooperating with the authorities regarding their actions and things done and not done over the course of Thursday and Friday nights.

What will certainly come out of this incident, and it's something that can be shared with all of us in Micronesia, is that when visitors come to our islands and something unfortunate happens to them, we all have an obligation to act in a way that reduces the impact of their misfortune rather than making it worse.

I would like to close by saying that Chuuk is filled with warm, caring, hospitable residents and is truly as safe as any place in Micronesia and the rest of the world. This recent incident is an unfortunate one which the State and others are investigating and when done, the facts will be known. In the meantime, to speculate on who did what to whom serves no legitimate purpose and is in no one's best interest.

William Stinnett

• invitation to bid •

1. The Pohnpei Utilities Corporation (PUC) is now soliciting 2 sets of proposals for guaranteed supply of High Performance Diesel Engine Lubricating Oil, Hydraulic Oil and Solvent. One set for a period of one year (12 months, 365 days) and another set for a period of two years (24 months) for the Nanpohnmal Power Generating Plant. Diesel engine lubricating oil, Hydraulic Oil and Solvent must comply with the properties, standards and specifications set forth in the technical specification. The Pohnpei Utilities Corporation is referred to in the document as "the Purchaser".
2. To ensure uniformity one set of bid must provide cost per barrel or drum (a fixed price per barrel or drum for one (1) year supply) another set must provide cost per barrel or drum (a fixed price per barrel or drum for two (2) year supply). Step-up price during the duration of the contract will not be accepted.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain one (1) complete set of the bidding documents from the office of the Pohnpei Utilities Corporation at the address given below. The documents could be email to the eligible bidder upon request to the email address below:

General Manager
Pohnpei Utilities Corporation
P.O. Box C
Kolonja, Pohnpei, FM 96941
Federated States of Micronesia
Telephone: (691) 320-2374
Fax: (691) 320-2422
Email: pucgm@mail.fm &
pucopes@mail.fm

4. In the case of submission by international courier, you are asked to take special note of the remoteness of the Federated States of Micronesia, the frequency of airline transportation services, and the effects which these factors have on mail and courier services.
5. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of two percent (2%) of total bid price and must be delivered in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders on or before 4:00 p.m. April 29, 2011, Pohnpei time and will be publicly opened immediately thereafter. All bidders are responsible for the time difference.
6. The Pohnpei Utilities Corporation will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.
7. Bids will be opened in the presence of those bidders who choose to attend in the Conference Room, Pohnpei Utilities Corporation, Kolonja, Pohnpei FM 96941.
8. The Pohnpei Utilities Corporation reserves the right to reject any/all bids that are deemed as not in the best interest of the corporation.

Crossword - Fill It Up (CLUELESS CROSSWORD)

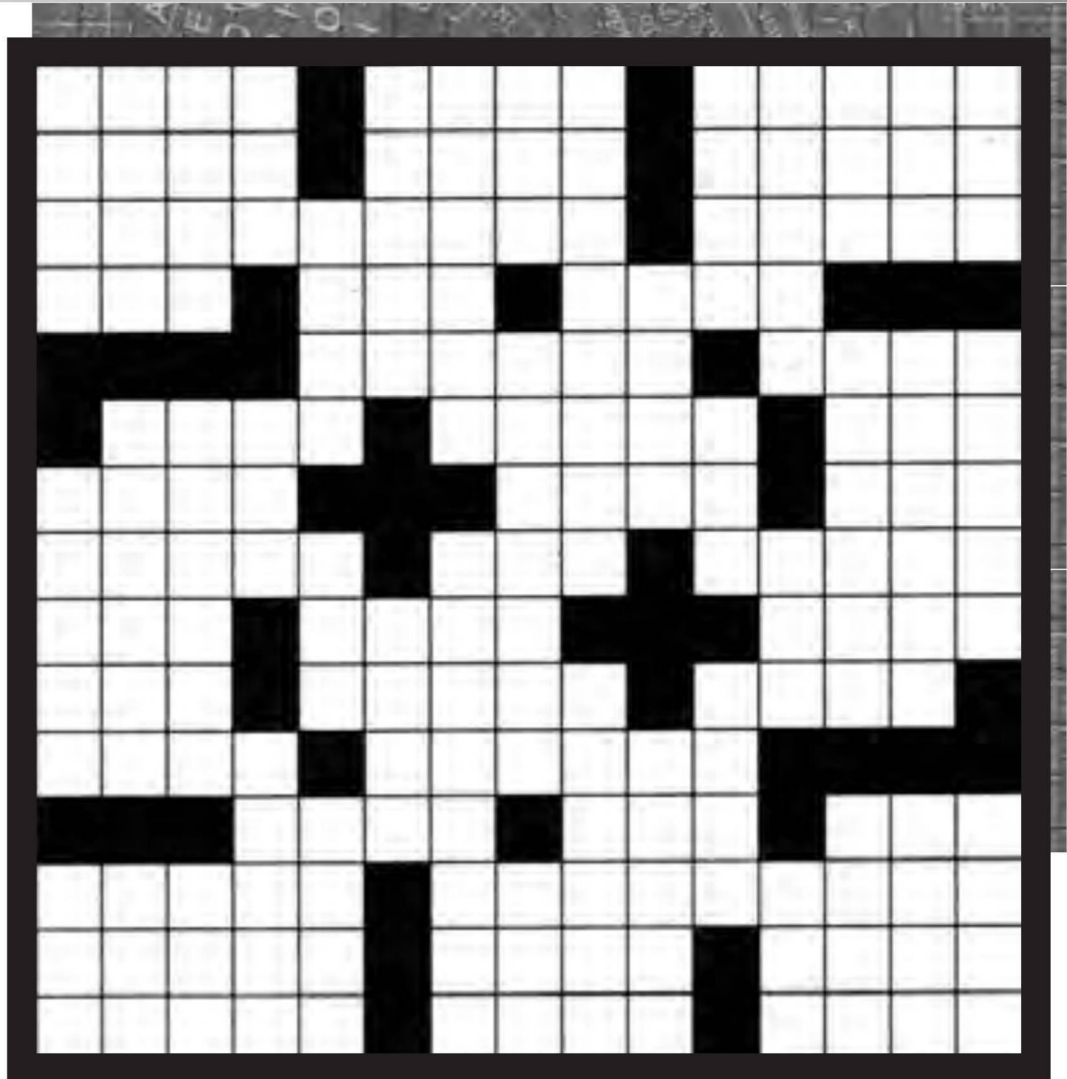
- 3 LETTERS**
- ACT
 - AGO
 - AHA
 - AND
 - AXE
 - BIT
 - BRA
 - EAR
 - INN
 - MAP
 - MAT
 - OAR
 - OIL
 - ONE
 - PIE
 - PRO
 - PUT
 - RIM
 - RIP
 - ROW
 - SEE
 - TAN

- 4 LETTERS**
- ALOE
 - AMEN
 - ATOP
 - CHAI
 - EGOS
 - ARGO
 - EYED
 - FARE
 - FETA
 - GALA
 - GLEE
 - IDEA
 - MADE
 - MESA
 - NINE
 - NIPS
 - ODOR
 - PERT
 - RAVE
 - RISE
 - SAME
 - SEMI
 - SINS
 - STAB
 - STEW
 - SWAM
 - TAXI
 - THEM
 - UNTO
 - WEPT

- 5 LETTERS**
- AGAPE
 - AGILE
 - AMBLE
 - ELDER
 - GALES
 - MANIA
 - NOTED
 - PEARL
 - PLEMP
 - PRIME
 - SPOOF
 - STOLE
 - STUNT
 - TABBY
 - TIGER
 - TITLE

- 6 LETTERS**
- AMULET
 - EMBLEM
 - FELINE
 - IMPALE
 - NARROW
 - PROMPT
 - STUPID
 - WALNUT

- 7 LETTERS**
- PICCOLO
- 8 LETTERS**
- ATTRACTS
 - MIDNIGHT
- 9 LETTERS**
- CALIBRATE
 - OVERRULED



K P r e s s P u z z l e P l e a s u r e

Just Words

After you've circled the 51 words in the puzzle below, the unused letters, when read from left to right, will spell out

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

the name of the actress who won the 1996-97 Emmy for lead actress in a drama series and the name of her show.

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

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

... more words

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

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

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

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

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 Pohnpei, FM 96941 phone to: (691) 320-6547 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

Australian Embassy supports the Island Food Community of Pohnpei with grant

Australian Embassy, Pohnpei

March 25, 2011

The Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) has been awarded a \$20,000 grant under the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) Small Grants Scheme. The grant will enable the IFCP to conduct training throughout FSM with communities on the benefits of growing & eating local foods.

The project, entitled "Go Local in FSM: Scaling Up the Promotion of Local Island Food for Health and Other Benefits", will also address the growing problems related to poor diet and non-communicable diseases. The main focus areas will include food security and climate change adaptation.

Australian Ambassador Martin Quinn handed over the cheque to Chairman of the IFCP Board of Directors, Adelino Lorens, at an IFCP Board of Director's meeting on Monday 28 March 2011. Acting Executive Director, Dr. Lois Englberger, gave short remarks thanking Australia for the funding that will help continue the important work of IFCP.

Ambassador Quinn stated that Australia was happy to support local food consumption in the FSM and joined the members of the IFCP Board for a lunch made entirely of local food.



Astronomical Tide Prediction April 4, 2011 - April 17, 2011

	Pohnpei				Chuuk				
Monday	04/04		04/11		04/04		04/11		
	03:30AM	4.2	07:30AM	3.4	02:29AM	1.9	05:19AM	1.9	
	09:44AM	0.9	04:42PM	1.8	09:05AM	0.4	07:31PM	0.1	
	03:37PM	3.7			02:38PM	1.4			
Tuesday	04/05		04/12		04/05		04/12		
	03:52AM	4.3	09:56AM	3.3	02:45AM	2.1	06:10AM	1.7	
	10:11AM	0.9	06:12PM	1.6	09:34AM	0.3	07:21PM	0.1	
	04:00PM	3.5			02:57PM	1.2			
Wednesday	04/06		04/13		04/06		04/13		
	04:15AM	4.3	12:44AM	2.6	03:04AM	2.2	11:18AM	1.6	
	10:40AM	0.9	05:18AM	2.2	10:05AM	0.3	07:23PM	0.2	
	04:24PM	3.3	11:49AM	3.4	03:12PM	1.0			
Thursday	04/07		04/14		04/07		04/14		
	04:41AM	4.3	01:05AM	3.0	03:25AM	2.2	02:36AM	1.3	
	11:11AM	1.1	06:38AM	1.8	10:41AM	0.4	06:30AM	1.1	
	04:48PM	3.1	12:50PM	3.7	03:21PM	0.9	12:22PM	1.7	
Friday	04/08		04/15		04/08		04/15		
	05:09AM	4.2	01:32AM	3.5	03:49AM	2.2	01:57AM	1.4	
	11:47AM	1.3	07:28AM	1.3	11:27AM	0.5	07:17AM	0.8	
	05:14PM	2.8	01:36PM	3.9	03:12PM	0.7	01:07PM	1.6	
Saturday	04/09		04/16		04/09		04/16		
	05:41AM	4.0	02:02AM	4.0	04:15AM	2.1	01:53AM	1.7	
	12:33PM	1.5	08:11AM	0.9	08:21PM	0.2	07:59AM	0.5	
	05:43PM	2.5	02:16PM	4.0			01:46PM	1.5	
Sunday	04/10		04/17		04/10		04/17		
	06:22AM	3.7	02:33AM	4.4	04:45AM	2.0	02:04AM	2.0	
	01:47PM	1.8	08:51AM	0.7	07:57PM	0.1	08:41AM	0.3	
	06:27PM	2.2	02:53PM	3.9			02:20PM	1.3	
		11:26PM	1.8	08:48PM	0.8			07:42PM	0.4

ANOTHER CLASSIC
LIMERICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY
TRASHBUSTERS

A short tempered mad woman, Desplatt
Put up with Jack Spratt an obese cat,
Till it chased a mouse
And shook the whole house.
Mad, Desplatt cooked Jack Spratt in cat fat

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Let's Go Local Spurs Up Action at the Calvary Christian Academy

By Emihner Johnson

The Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) is coordinating an Environmental and Educational awareness program in the Schools for the School Year 2010-2011 called Youth to Youth (Pwoulopwul ong me Pwulopwul). This year seven schools and partner agencies were selected to participate in this program. The target grade is the sixth grade classes.

As a participating agency, the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP), on March 4, 2011, met with its partner School, Calvary Christian Academy (CCA) to finalize the schedule and activities that will be carried out between these two partners for this awareness program focusing on "Let's Go Local".

The Local Food Educator from IFCP, Emihner Johnson, started the classroom awareness with the 6th graders of CCA on the benefits of growing and eating local food emphasizing the C H E E F (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy, Food Security) benefits, and the nutritional values of our very own local foods such as Karat, which has 2230 microgram of beta-carotene, and Akadahn, which has 515 microgram beta-carotene (rice has no beta-carotene at all). Foods rich in beta-carotene help protect against non-communicable diseases like cancer, diabetes, and heart disease, as well as vitamin A deficiency disorders and anemia.

After hearing the facts and benefits of eating local foods, the sixth graders of CCA along with their teacher, Mrs. Charleen Abraham, established a local food policy: every Wednesday and Friday is designated for the class to eat local food, either at snack time or/and at lunch time.



CCA student Samuel Adams wins his Karat prize

How exciting to see a local food policy and putting local food promotion put into action!

Through these practices the six graders will help and prevent noncommunicable disease (NCD) as well as gaining the other CHEEF benefits that would extend to their families and their perspective communities.

In preparation for the Youth to Youth fair scheduled for May 2011, IFCP and CCA sixth graders and teacher are working on initiatives on how and what to address or exhibit at the fair.

Thanks are given to the US Forestry and Secretariat of the Pacific Community Centre of Pacific Crops and Trees, and Global Environmental Facility for funding support. Special thanks also go to CCA Principal, Mrs. Jenny John for support.



CCA 6th graders happily go for yummy local food



Charleen Abraham, CCA teacher who spurred on action for local food promotion and Emihner Johnson, IFCP

Survey on tsunami awareness in the Pohnpei

Pohnpei Department of Public Safety

March 23, 2011

Kolonia, Pohnpei—The Pohnpei Department of Public Safety (DPS) participated in a community survey on tsunami awareness on March 16, which was led by International Organization for Migration (IOM). The aim of the survey was to investigate the effectiveness of existing early warning systems, particularly for vulnerable low-lying coastal communities, following the Pacific-wide tsunami warning on March 11.

The IOM approached DPS to participate in the inter-agency survey, which also included representatives from the municipal police departments and the Micronesian Red Cross Society (MRCS). The survey was designed to ascertain whether members of the community had received the tsunami warning on March 11; and if so, whether they had received the warning within a sufficient time to take appropriate action, such as finding higher ground. The survey was also used to gather data on the methods of tsunami warning dissemination, such as radio, television and text messaging.

The pre-deployment briefing was

conducted at the IOM office, next to the US Embassy, and the punctual attendance of all the police officers, and other attendees, ensured that deployment to the field occurred during the morning. The inter-agency assessment covered the majority of the municipalities, and all questionnaires were submitted prior to close of business. The analysis of the data will be conducted with the assistance of IOM and then representatives from all of the police stations, the DPS, the MRCS, together with other disaster management stakeholders will be invited for a presentation of the results.

The devastation from the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan is a tragic reminder of the power of such natural hazards. As a nation composed of many small islands, including many that are low lying, it is critically important that the FSM evaluates and, if necessary, enhances existing disaster preparedness measures. The survey will enable the Disaster Risk Management community to identify areas requiring improvement in the current early warning systems in Pohnpei State. Moreover, the engagement of a number of disaster management actors will mean that information on disaster preparedness trends and innovations can be shared, resources shared wherever possible and the coordination of efforts to ensure Pohnpei is a safer place.

PIDB board reviews 2010 Results, elects new officers

Colonia, Yap - The Board of Governors of the Pacific Islands Development Bank (PIDB) held its annual meeting in Yap on February 28, 2011. Board Chairman and Governor of Yap State, Sebastian Anefal, called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone to Yap with special recognition to new Board members including Speaker Judith Won Pat representing Guam Legislature, Speaker Henry Falan representing Yap State Legislature, Speaker Lyndon Abraham representing Kosrae State Legislature, and Lt. Governor Carson Sigrah representing Kosrae State Executive Branch.

Major items included in the meeting agenda include review of the Bank's 2010 operational results and performance and its 2010 independent audit report, review of the bank's 2011 Budget and Goals, and the Bank's capitalization and capacity which is vital to its core activity of lending.

Aren Palik, Bank President & CEO, presented the Bank's 2010 operational results and performance with a summary highlighting a 9% growth in Total Assets, 12% growth in Loans, 1.5% Return on Assets, 3% growth in Stockholders' Equity, and a strong asset (loan) quality with a 1.8% delinquency ratio and zero loan charge offs for the year. The Bank has consistently held its delinquency ratio below 3% over the past five years. He also reported that the Bank had a clean audit with an unqualified audit opinion. Palik said, "we have been successful in restructuring our balance sheet and position the Bank for continued and sustained growth while strengthening our earnings capacity, but we are far from fulfilling

the Bank's mission and purpose." He added that the Bank has seen an increasing demand for its products and services against limited capital and loanable funds. Board Chairman Anefal said, "in order for PIDB to forge a greater and lasting impact on the development of our member islands, PIDB must increase its capitalization and capacity". The Board last year created a task force whose primary task is to work on the Bank's capitalization and funding. In this meeting, the Board reviewed the activities and progress of the Task Force. The Bank's 2011 Budget and Goals projects significant increases in loan activities including implementation of a Student Loan Program and expansion of its ongoing scholarship program.

While the structure of PIDB remains the same, four new members representing Guam, Yap, and Kosrae were introduced in the meeting. The Board also approved the nomination of former Kosrae Senator Ilai Abraham to represent Kosrae on the Bank's Board of Directors, replacing Senator Gibson Siba.

Prior to adjournment, the Board elected Governor John Ehsa of Pohnpei as Chairman, Vice President Kerai Mariur of Palau as Vice President, and left the Secretary position to be filled by one of the members from CNMI. Incoming Chairman Ehsa said, "I thank all of you for electing me to take over this challenging job, and I will do my best to continue the excellent work and leadership of Governor Anefal". The Board selected Kosrae State as venue for its next annual board meeting. For information about Pacific Islands Development Bank, you may visit www.pacificidb.com.



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Headquarters • P.O. Box BW • Hagåtña, Guam 96932

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONDITION

(at December 31, 2010 / \$ in thousands)

Assets		Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	
Cash and due from banks	\$ 32,102	Liabilities:	
Federal funds sold	10,000	Deposits:	
Interest bearing deposits with banks	59,375	Non-interest bearing	\$ 232,956
Total cash and cash equivalents	101,478	Interest bearing	656,319
Interest bearing deposits with banks	1,150	Total deposits	889,275
Investment securities available for sale	191,312	Accrued interest payable	233
Investment securities held to maturity	28,366	Federal funds purchased	-
Federal Home Loan Bank stock, at cost	2,198	FHLB advances	15,000
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses	611,139	Other liabilities	1,741
Accrued interest receivable	5,723	Total Liabilities	906,249
Premises and equipment, net	18,713	Commitments and contingencies	-
Goodwill	783	Stockholders' Equity:	
Other assets	28,739	Common stock	1,830
Total Assets	990,601	Additional paid-in capital	13,683
		Retained earnings	70,532
		Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,403)
		Common stock in treasury, at cost	(290)
		Total Stockholders' Equity	84,352
		Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 990,601

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA BRANCHES

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

At December 31, 2010 / (\$ in thousands)

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,098	Deposits:	
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses	15,384	Non-interest bearing	\$ 16,801
Accrued interest receivable	48	Interest bearing	66,015
Premises and equipment, net	967	Total deposits	82,816
Other assets	-	Accrued interest payable	24
Due from Headquarters	65,366	Other liabilities	23
Total assets	\$ 82,863	Commitments	-
		Total Liabilities	\$ 82,863

STATEMENT OF INCOME

Year ended December 31, 2009 / (\$ in thousands)

Interest income:		
Loans		\$ 1,298
From related parties		133
Total interest income		1,431
Interest expense:		
Savings deposits		489
Time deposits		79
Total interest expense		568
Net interest income		863
Provision for loan losses		78
Net interest income after provision for loan losses		785
Non-interest income:		
Service charges and fees		463
Other income		353
Total non-interest income		816
Non-interest expense:		
Salaries and employee benefits		734
Occupancy		304
Furniture and equipment		97
General, administrative and other		827
Total non-interest expenses		1,962
Net income (loss)		\$ (361)