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KASELEHLIE Press

PO Box 2222 Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone 691-320-6547 Fax 691-320-6571 kpress@mail.fm

Chuuk Governor Wesley Simina Faces Possible Impeachment

Impeachment Resolution is in Special Committee in Chuuk's House of Representatives

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

The Chuuk House of Representatives has formed a special committee to usher articles of impeachment against Governor Wesley Simina through the process. The resolution establishing the committee was introduced by Representative Roman Robert of the Northern Namoneas region.

The resolution, introducing the articles of impeachment says "over the course of the current administration, there have been

many indiscretions on the part of the Executive that have been illegal in nature...Despite attempts to resolve these matters in a less formal manner, the Executive has failed to rectify the situations before it...There appears to be multiply impeachable offenses on behalf of the Governor for various activities." It mentions "his neglect and the failure on his part to prevent them from spinning out of control."

At the top of the list of the allegations against Governor Simina is the accusation that Governor



Governor Wesley Simina at the National Inauguration Ceremony

Simina has failed to appoint a State Auditor. The Governor did appoint a State Auditor but that

individual was not confirmed by the legislative bodies.

The laundry list of accusations goes on to say that the Governor has not reported to the Legislature on the use of appropriated funds and that there is a legal requirement to do so. They say that he has "failed to respond to any resolutions by the House or the Senate required by the Constitution of the State of Chuuk.

See "Simina Impeachment" on Page 5

Sekere "Mystery" Taxi Driver Is Still a Mystery

Narson Narios Says That There Was Only One Vehicle Involved in the Accident That Put Him in the Hospital

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Witnesses to the accident were summoned to court on August 28 to testify in the case of Phillip Kilafwakun who is alleged to have struck six pedestrians on the Sekere bridge. Narson Narios was the second pedestrian to be directly struck by the out of control vehicle. He said that he was struck by the front bumper and thrown to the river bank as the vehicle

slammed into the guard rail.

Narios, who had been walking home after a volleyball game he'd participated in at Sekere Elementary School is still in the hospital with a broken leg. Doctor's have not yet told him how long he will have to be immobile but he most certainly can't go anywhere though he was given a summons to appear.

Dr. Hedson of Pohnpei State Hospital said that doctors in-

stalled a long surgical pin in his shin bone (tibia) and suspended his leg from the wooden bed frame so that his thigh bone (femur) can heal properly. He said that Narios' femur was not only broken but that it was also fragmented. The only way that an injury of that kind can be dealt with is by a long period of traction. "It will take quite some time to rehabilitate him," he said.

Dr. Hedson said that he has sent

pictures of the break to a team of orthopedic surgeons that are visiting Pohnpei from Australia September 10-20th. Narios will be their first patient. He said that the surgeons may have to operate and that if they do his injury might heal faster than if he lays in traction.

Because Narios could not be at Kilafwakun's trial it was postponed to a later date and all of

See "Taxi" on Page 4



Bill Jaynes - The Kaselehlie Press

Narson Narios contemplates a long hospital stay

Sexual Assault Charges Filed Against Eiken Saimon

KOAM-TV
Pittsburgh, Kansas

Neosho, MO - Eiken Saimon faces three first degree murder charges and six others in connection with a shooting rampage at the First Congregational Church in Neosho two weeks ago.

On Tuesday August 28th, prosecutors filed charges of statutory sodomy and statutory rape against Saimon.

Authorities said he was a suspect in a sexual assault case the Friday before the shootings.

On the 28th, charges in that case were made official.

Saimon is being held without bond in the Newton County Jail.



Associated Press Photo

Eiken Saimon being led to court on the day of his arraignment

A court hearing in the murder case that was scheduled for the 28th of August was moved to September 18th.

No date is set yet on the sex charges.

NEWS**Theft of Recyclable Metals Surges in Pohnpei****Recyclables, Not Quite Ready for Recycling are Being Stripped Throughout the Main Island**By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlle Press

A problem that is rampant across the Pacific has finally arrived in Pohnpei with the opening of a new business in Nett Municipality. Mai-Xiong Pacific International, Inc. has a Pohnpei State Foreign Investment Permit to buy and sell recyclable solid waste like metals, tires and other rubber, plastics, cans and other types of waste products. Their permit numbered 05-07 was issued on May 23. Police say that since that time metals of many kinds have begun to disappear throughout the main island.

Lt. Governor Jack Yakana said that he was in an acting capacity as Governor when he invited the company to the island to try to help clean up Pohnpei of scrap metals and other recyclables. The company wanted to be paid to take the task on but the government had no money to pay for the project. The company opened as a profit corporation in

Pohnpei and agreed that they would buy recyclables for export. The idea was for the company to purchase recyclables for less than they will receive when they export them to overseas recyclers.

FSM Recycling, partially owned by Yalmer Helgenberger of Pohnpei has been operating on the island for over three years. They have not been buying junk but have been collecting it from all over the island. In many ways the presence of both of the companies on the island is going a long way toward cleaning up the rusted hulks that are scattered throughout the island from ships and barges that have sunk in the lagoon to wrecked and abandoned cars on the roadsides.

There is a negative side effect as well. There had not been a market



Thieves stripped the insulation from Freon tubes and left it next to this pillaged air conditioner Nigel Jaynes - The Kaselehlle Press

for recyclables before the arrival of the company and thefts rarely, if ever occurred. When the company opened there was an instant market and thefts skyrocketed. In the last three months, according to Chief Joe Roby there has been a sharp increase in reports to Pohnpei State Police of theft of copper wire, copper tubing, batteries, and other items containing metal. Police were warned before the business opened that this type of theft might increase and that they should keep their eyes open for it.

Three employees of Pohnpei Utility Company were fired when they sold copper wire belonging to the utility to Mai Xiong. The stolen cable was returned to PUC

Thieves have even gone so far as to begin stealing the copper tubing that carries Freon between the outdoor and indoor components of split type air conditioners. They have begun cutting the tubing and the electrical cable and taking it away with them for sale, purportedly to the new company.

Before readers get the entrepreneurial theft bug you should understand that the copper tubing used in air conditioners is soft, hollow and very light. The tubing costs between \$1.00 and \$1.50 a foot depending on the size when it is bought new. Mai Xiong pays \$1.00 per kilo (2.2 pounds). For one air conditioner

tube you might make enough to buy "one piece of cigarette", about a dime but you will face criminal charges if you're caught and things are set up at Mai Xiong so that you will more than likely be caught if you sell stolen recyclables.

In a meeting with Mr. Xiong, of Mai Xiong he warned Lt. Governor Jack Yakana and Police Chief Joe Roby that metal thefts would increase after they opened the business. Though there is no law on the books requiring the Corporation to keep records of sales as there is in Guam Mr. Xiong made a gentlemen's agreement with the two high officials to keep records of all sales transactions. Those records have already resulted in several arrests for theft of recyclables that weren't quite ready for recycling.

In Guam it was those types of records that resulted in the arrest of Joseph Umiich Rosario Mafnas Elibosang who is accused of selling 7 Bronze plaques that were among 34 stolen from a World War II memorial honoring Chamorros and U.S. servicemen who died in the liberation of Guam from Japanese forces. The Chinese employee who bought the plaques for Xiong Family Recyclers has since been fired.

Mr. Roy Gong, manager of Mai Xiong said that he's had a good number of people leave and never return when they found out they couldn't sell their wares anonymously.

He doesn't like to think of FSM Recycling as competitor's referring to them as partners on the island though they are separate companies. He said that he recognized one of their partner's employees attempting to sell scrap to his company. He told the man that he would be glad to buy the scrap if he brought a note from Mr. Helgenberger saying that it was okay.

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US Agrees to Reinstate Zip Codes for FAS Countries

By **BILL JAYNES**
 The Kaselehlie Press

Koror, Palau - Postmasters from the Freely Associated States met August 21 through 24 in Koror, Palau to discuss all things postal. Present at the meeting was Mr. Paul Vogle, the Managing Director, Global Business, and Senior Vice President of the United States Postal Service. During the meetings he announced that for a variety of reasons USPS has decided to reinstate the zip codes for each of the FAS countries.

The reversal will not happen immediately and not all services are being reinstated. Vogle says that the service should be restored sometime between November, 2007 and the first of next year.

According to FSM Assistant



For quite a while the only thing correct on the Post Office sign in Kolonia was "FSM Post Office". Sometime between November and the beginning of the year the zip code will once again be valid.

Postmaster General Jack Jack, Mr. Vogle told the group that the USPS received a large number of complaints about the previous cancellation of the zip code particularly from the Chamber of Commerce in the Marshall Islands. The complaints all centered on the economic hardship that the previ-

ous cancellation had caused.

When the zip codes were cancelled all postal services in the FAS countries went to an international rate so that postage rates for parcels increased dramatically effecting nearly everyone in the islands, most particularly, those who relied on

the US Postal Service to deliver packages for their businesses.

Money Order, and COD service will not be reinstated. Express Mail service will still be available but will not carry a three day delivery guarantee, likely due to abuses in the past. Mr. Jack said that a few years ago thefts were discovered in the FSM system. He said that the employees involved had been fired, the Postal Service reimbursed the US Government for the thefts and that the former employees are still in the process of reimbursing the FSM Postal Service.

What will be reinstated is Domestic Priority Mail. Tracking will be available along with that service. Postal insurance, registered, and certified mail service will also be reinstated.

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Operation Rai-Balang II Proves A Resounding Success

Two Suspected Illegal Fishing Vessels Were Apprehended During the Operation

Press Release
FSM National Police

A joint operation named "Rai Balang" between the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, Australia and the United States Navy during the period 15-19 August has resulted in the apprehension of two foreign flagged tuna long-liners one in FSM's Western Exclusive Economic Zone and the other with Palau's Eastern waters. Both vessels are suspected of having switched off their VMS automatic locator communicators which made them invisible to FSM and Palau enforcement officers and are alleged to be illegally targeting shark and failing to report by-catch found onboard.

The Taiwanese flagged long liners Jin Jiann Lih 22 and Sheng Yi Hsing No. 16 which are licensed to operate in FSM and Palau respectively were detected by a U.S. Navy P-3 Orion surveillance aircraft participating in the joint operation. The positions of the two vessels were passed to FSM Patrol Boat (FSS Independence) under the command of Commander Robert Maluweirang and the Palau Patrol Boat (PSS H.I. REMELIUK) under the command of Lt Albert Yangowemau. The

two patrol boats quickly responded and successfully intercepted the fishing vessels at sea. Upon inspection of the fishing vessels, the patrol boat Commanding Officers apprehended the vessels and escorted them into Yap and Koror respectively, for further investigations by national authorities.

Reports from Palau suggest that the captain of the Sheng Yi Hsing No. 16, Tsai Wuen Teng, a Taiwan national, is currently in custody for attempting to bribe the boarding officer. A search of the vessel revealed approximately 94 shark bodies, 10 shark heads and 650 shark fins.

The USN aircraft also reported other licensed fishing vessels inside FSM waters which were not reporting on VMS as required under their permit conditions. Shark fishing is illegal in the FSM and Palau under each nation's National Code.

FSS Independence is currently alongside the Palau Patrol Boat base in Koror for a well deserved rest. They will return to Pohnpei after refueling and provisioning with support from the Australian Navy Advisers in Palau. Operation Rai-



Balang II is an Australian funded series of joint operations between FSM and Palau which allows the patrol boats from our two countries to apply the Niue Treaty Subsidiary Agreement in an enforcement operation along our common sea border. The operation was coordinated by Chief of Division of Marine Law Enforcement Ellender Ngirameketii and Australian Maritime Surveillance Advi-

sor Lieutenant Commander Dave Hannah. FSM's participation was directed by Chief of Police, Colonel Pius Chotailug with the assistance of Australian Maritime Surveillance Advisor Lieutenant Commander Mark Sorby. The United States (U.S.) Navy once again provided outstanding support to the operation through the participation of the P3 (P-3) aircraft.

...Taxi

continued from page 1

the participants were sent home. Narios said that if he had been able to be there he would have told the court that there was no other vehicle present on the bridge on that day.

Kilafwakun told Police that a taxi driver raced him to the bridge and made it across without incident and left the scene but that he had been driven off the road which caused the accident. One of the victims said the same thing to The Kaselehlie Press when we spoke with her.

Narios said it wasn't like that at all. He said that he was walking in the same direction that the car that hit him was going. He was walking on the right side of the road. The car came down the road on the left side at what he said was a high rate of speed. It spun and hit a female pedestrian on the other

side of the road. He said it hit him head on with the front bumper knocking him over the guard rail and next to the river below. The car continued on to hit the guard rail and then went nose first over the embankment.

Police say that they have not found the "mystery" taxi driver and the owner of the taxi company that Kilafwakun named said that Police had not talked with him.

Kilafwakun's car burned at midnight on the night of the accident. Charges have not yet been filed for that crime.

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...Impeachment

Continued from Page 1

It accuses him of violating the "Restrictive Measures Act" in several ways. According to the Articles of Impeachment he has not only hired his friends as employees of the State Government but he has hired more people than the budget allows. The Articles say that he has in this way contributed to Chuuk's current financial crisis. They say that he has continued to hire employees using contracts that have not been ratified by the Senate.

Apparently, shortly after the Governor took office two years ago many vehicles were purchased for the Government. The charges say that he has allowed those vehicles to "roam around freely despite pertinent restrictions imposed by Chuuk State Law," and that practice has also contributed to the financial crisis of the State.

The committee says that the Governor has allowed the State to fall deeper into debt during his administration and that he has ignored the advice of the Legislature "of the impending economic doom that the State of Chuuk is in."

The allegations call into question Simina's vehement defense of what the Articles call his "estranged" Director of the Department of Administrative Services, Mr. Winiplat Bisalen despite the deepening debt in the State. The Articles say that Bisalen "has contributed more than anyone else in the history of driving the State into financial mishaps" and that because of his actions during the years 1990-1997, and again during 2005 to the present the State of Chuuk is practically in the state of financial insolvency.

The articles say that under Bisalen and hence the Governor's watch, the issuance of bounced checks are out of control and that the common people refer to the current Administration as "the 'Hang Over' Administration for being 'too busy' to attend to the genuine problems which are eating away the very existence of the State of Chuuk."

The resolution cites the payment of \$35,000 to Bisalen's brother as a member of the Pulowot Municipal Council as an official expense of the State.

It also cites the payment of ap-

proximately \$900,000 out of the Education Grant from the Compact Sector Grant for Pulowot Reconciled Compact I funds for "some kind of unknown investment" without any authorization from that municipality. The impeachment articles say that there were other illegal disbursements from that fund and that Bisalen justified the expenditure saying that his Reconciliation Supervisor did it without his knowledge and during his absence. JEMCO demanded reimbursement of the funds, some \$1,058,000 from the State of Chuuk which, the articles say, "almost paralyzed the Department of Education for a time and has now obliged the State Government to pay the municipal government back that same amount which no one (in heaven or on earth) knows where to get it from."

clude by accusing Governor Simina of the crime of "Misconduct in Public Office", in that "he committed illegal acts under the color of office, willingly neglected to perform the duties of his office as provided by law."

At press time the resolution is in special committee and if it is adopted will establish a special committee consisting of one representative from each of the five Senatorial regions of Chuuk State. The members are named as Representative Roman Robert from the Northern Namoneas Region, Representative Steven Hallers from the Southern Namoneas Region, Representative Bino Raphael from the Faichuuk Region, Representative Mikeas Olap from the Mortlocks Region, and Representative Martin Edward from the Northwest Region.

The impeachment articles con-

Public Service announcement from the Australian Embassy, Pohnpei

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FSM Postal Services Releases Micronesia Red Cross Society Stamp

By **BERT RICHLYBRINKENBERG**
The Kaselelie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei – Government officials, Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS) employees, volunteers, and community members gathered to celebrate the unveiling of a collection of stamps commemorating the MRCS on August 20th, 2007 at the FSM capital.

The MRCS series includes four distinct stamps, each one containing a picture of MRCS relief work around the FSM. The stamps celebrate the 9th anniversary of MRCS in Micronesia, and can each be purchased at Post Offices around the country for 90 cents each.

MRCS was established in 1998 when the FSM Congress passed legislation formally recognizing the organization. Recognized operations did not begin until November 2003 when the organization met the 10 criteria that were stipulated by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The postage stamp concept was developed over the course of sev-

eral years and was a collaboration between the government and MRCS.

While attending the General Assembly for the organization held in Korea two years ago, Mrs. Penny Weilbacher, member of the MRCS board, discovered that many chapters around the globe had issued their own stamps. Mrs. Weilbacher proposed that MRCS follow suit with its own stamp when she returned to Micronesia.

The primary goal of the stamp issuance is to spur awareness of the organization.

Mrs. Weilbacher acknowledged shortly after the unveiling ceremony that she hoped a certain percentage of the sale of the stamps would benefit the MRCS. Mrs. Sizue G. Yoma, Executive Director MRCS, echoed this hope: "it was never decided upon. We discussed the topic at meetings with the government over the last months."

Philatelic Bureau Manager, Masatomo S. Mori, said in conversation after the unveiling that



the government would not be contributing any portion of the sales to the MRCS. He asserted that the purpose of the stamp is to "commemorate the existence of this organization [MRCS] in Micronesia."

The National Government recently donated a vehicle to the Red Cross and has already provided a good amount of funding for the organization.

MRCS officials and volunteers in conversations after the ceremony

talked about an idea to purchase the stamps directly from the Post Office and to resell them from their Kolonia Office. The idea was informal and markups on the sale of the stamps that would help the organization to provide its core programs were not decided on that day but at least one person mentioned the possibility of selling the stamps for \$5 for the set of four.

MRCS provides emergency preparedness service, disaster recovery, health education, and many other services in the FSM.

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U.S. Embassy Donates Radio Equipment to FSM Stations

US Embassy Press Release

Pohnpei, FM - August 17 - U.S. Ambassador Suzanne Hale paid a final visit today to V6AHAM Radio Station in Pohnpei, where she made a special presentation of a shortwave radio set, complete with coaxial cable and antenna system, for use by Pohnpei Public Radio in its daily news service. The new equipment will improve reception of Voice of America (VOA) radio programs transmitted from the Philippines for rebroadcast over Pohnpei airwaves. Ambassador Hale delivered similar equipment to V6AK AM in Weno and V6AI AM in Colonia during her farewell visits to Chuuk and Yap States last week. She will make one more presentation to V6AJ AM in Tofol next week when she pays her final visit to Kosrae State. The four radio receiving systems were funded by a grant from the Office of Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Island Affairs in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

The Voice of America is a multimedia international broadcasting service funded by the U.S. government through the Broadcasting Board of Governors. This year



VOA marks 65 years of broadcasting around the globe, having first gone on the air in 1942.

VOA broadcasts more than 1,000 hours of news, information, educational, and cultural programming every week to an estimated worldwide audience of over 115 million people. Its popular programs include "World News Now," "Talk to America," "Issues in the News," "Music Mix" and "Washington Report." "Special English" uses a limited vocabulary of 1,500 words read at a moderate pace to broadcast news and

features to different parts of the world seven days a week. This allows listeners to sharpen their American English skills while learning about the world and hearing the latest news. By writing to special@voanews.com or logging onto www.voaspecialenglish.com, Internet users can read texts, listen to programs, obtain schedules, frequencies or the Special English Word Book online, and receive other features by email.

Present to receive Ambassador Hale's donation today were: Mr. Henry Saimon, Vice-Chairman,

and Mr. Augustine Damarlane, Secretary, Board of Directors, Pohnpei Public Broadcasting Corporation; Mr. Heinrich Stevenson, Pohnpei State Public Information Officer; Mr. Hiroso Santos, V6AH AM Pohnpei Public Radio Station Engineer; and Mr. Casiano Shoniber, Director, Pohnpei Department of Education. In a statement of appreciation the recipients remarked, "The entire board and management of Pohnpei Public Radio extends their sincere appreciation for this kind donation by the U.S. Embassy."

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NEWS**FSM Prepares for 3rd Police Deployment to Solomon Islands**

With the professional reputation of FSM Police extremely high throughout international police agencies working in the Solomon Islands, the FSM prepares two more police officers for deployment to that Pacific nation.

And no one is more proud than FSM National Police top cop, Chief Pius Chotailug.

"Formal briefings and feedback I have received on the performance of FSM police who have been deployed to the Solomon Islands have shown that our officers are very well respected within the international policing community", Chief Chotailug said.

The deployment mission is formally known as the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI). The FSM has been providing officers for that initiative since the beginning of 2006.

FSM National Police Officers Grokly LIPAI and George SKILLING comprise the third contingent to the Solomon Islands and are currently finalizing their preparations for deployment. They leave the FSM in the next 10 weeks and will be posted for up to 12 months.

Chief Chotailug went on to say, "FSM police who have been deployed to the Solomon Islands have been granted wonderful opportunities to perform their duties on special assignments. In 2006, FSM National Police Officer, Andrew Ratloilug was the first Pacific Islander police officer to be appointed as a member to the highly specialized Close Protection Unit for the Solomon's Prime Minister".

Investigator Kelly Samual, who was deployed at the same time, was assigned the important role as technical advisor to the Criminal Investigation Division. His duties played a critical role in the successful conclusion of a number of high profile investigations.

"Since then, every FSM officer who has been deployed to Solomon Islands has continued to perform to such a high standard, other international police quickly recognized the skills and abilities of our officers", Chief Chotailug added, quoting from performance

evaluation briefings he has received.

Officers Delincoln Norman and Ricky Falcam were the second team deployed to the Solomon Islands. They are presently back in Pohnpei on short leave and will be returning to the Solomons on August 30 to complete their tour of duty. They will be returning home to Pohnpei in November this year.

During a recent briefing of their duties to Chief Chotailug, Officers Norman and Falcam spoke of their roles in providing community policing services, liaison with Royal Solomon Islands Police (RSIP) and assisting in complex investigations. Officer Falcam has been appointed the welfare and liaison officer for all international Pacific Island police personnel deployed to the Solomon Islands.

While both officers from the FSM are currently deployed to the Solomons, Officer Norman stated that neither he nor Officer Falcam have much personal contact. "I am based at a provincial post on a western province island and Ricky is at the RAMSI Headquarters in Honiara. It takes about 3 hours by plane for me to travel to Honiara." Officer Norman told the Kaselehlie Press.

It appears the excitement and adventure offered with the challenges associated with deployment on RAMSI is what appeals to many police officers. Interest in being selected for deployment was very high among National Police.

Criteria for selection are very strict. Officers must have no less than 5 years policing experience, be extremely physically fit and pass an intensive medical examination. Additionally, they must be prepared to face the challenges of being away from their families for a long period of time.

Duties in that Pacific island nation are also not without certain dangers. During the riots in the Solomon Islands in April 2006, FSM Police on deployment played a very front line role in helping restore calm on the streets.

On most occasions, FSM police officers have been deployed to provide policing assistance to remote and isolated communities in the Solomon Islands. Officers are



Officer Falcam (center) and Officer Norman (right) show Chief Chotailug (Left) deployment locations in Solomon Island.

required to trek up to 6 hours through the jungle to reach isolated villages in order to respond to calls for police assistance. On these patrols, officers must carry all their own water, food and shelter. They camp out in these villages for several days then continue the patrol to the next village.

Barely able to contain the pride he has for his officers, Chief Chotailug concluded by saying, "There is no doubt in my mind that Officers Lipai and Skilling will continue the tradition of performing to the highest standards while on deployment. Their work will not be without challenges, but the opportunity to gain this type of experience comes by very rarely

in an officer's policing career".

Footnote: FSM Police Officer Andrew Ratloilug's appointment to the Solomon Island's Prime Minister's Close Protection Unit in 2006 should not have come as a surprise to many people. In late 2004, Investigator Ratloilug was selected to attend the highly specialized Dignitary / VIP Protection Unit training course offered by the Queensland Police Service, in Australia. Performance Assessment reports provided by the Queensland Police showed that in a number of topic areas, Investigator Raloilug topped the entire group. Overall for the whole training, he was ranked in the top percentile for the class.

Correction:

The article in the last edition, "Heart of a Surfer" was to have been credited to the Conservation Society of Pohnpei rather than Alloys Malfitani

ISLAM
A Misunderstood Religion


Islam teaches:
Peace, Love, Harmony,
Unity of mankind, Brotherhood,
Equality and Justice

**LOVE FOR ALL -
HATRED FOR NONE**

Websites: www.alislam.org
www.mta.tv

For FREE books
email:
ihkauser@yahoo.com

or write to
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
1477 W. 8th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11204 U.S.A.



Police Warn of Nigerian Style Financial Scams

Press Release
FSM National Police

Recently, there have been reports of Nigerian style financial scams being forwarded through out the Pacific. These scams are intended to trick unsuspecting people into forwarding, money, credit card details or bank account details to the criminal organisers of the scheme. If any scheme seems too good to be true then it probably is.

Please advise anyone who receives an email or letter that is suspicious to delete it and not to forward any money or bank account details.

Scam 1: Email scam sent via the internet

Hello,

My name is Fred Park and i want to know if your agency can organise photography for our client who are getting married in Vanuatu. I want to know if you can take photo sessions for 6 - 9 hours of the wedding from the church to the reception. I also will want to know your charges and also if you will need any form of transportation from your location to the wedding location. I want you to send me the cost for your services on hour bases.

Please send me cost in US\$ dollars and also advice me if you accept Visa and Master Credit cards for payment for settlement of bills. I await your quick response.

Fred

Scam 2: Lottery Scam – Personalised letters sent by the Postal system

UNITED BENEFITS Aus\$45,000,000 Lottery.

International Postal Notice from United Benefits

Pohnpeians, Your Input is VITAL!

The College of Micronesia-Pohnpei Campus is planning forums where candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor can answer your questions in a live debate setting. In order to make these events as effective as possible for you as you make your voting decisions in November we need to know what questions you might have for the candidates. Consider the following possible issues:

- Compact issues as they relate to Pohnpei
- Education
- Health
- Infrastructure
- The FSM Federation
- Economic Development
- Environment
- Law Enforcement and Justice

You can share your questions with the committee by calling the COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus at 320-3795 and asking to speak with Merins Hadley Race. Your questions and your identity will be completely confidential. Your questions may or may not be chosen as questions that will be asked of the candidates.

Though candidates will be briefed on the general subject matter of questions they will receive at the Forums, the specific questions will remain confidential until the forums are held.

The College of Micronesia will not endorse any candidate nor intimate that any one answer by any candidate is better than another. Forums will be held in Pohnpeian.

CHECK OUT THESE GREAT PHONES!



OPINION**B N N**

By Bermin F. Weilbacher

bnn_fsm@yahoo.com

*The opinions expressed in the BNN Column are those of the author.***The political wheel is picking up grease and moss...**

Now I have seen banners/posters of the Governor and Lt. Governor aspirants (they are not candidates yet until they officially submit their nomination petitions) for the November 2007 general election. With this many so far, there is bound to be a run off.

For Governor: Del Pangelinan, John Ehsa, Feliciano Perman, Jack Yakana, and RufinoMauricio.

For Lt. Governor: Bert Rodriquez, Churchill Edward, Kiyumi Albert and Solpiso Salvador.

THEY ALL HAVE ONE MESSAGE IN COMMON—Menlau sewese usada “John Doe” ohng Kepina or Keriau en Kepina. Please vote for “John Doe” for Governor or Lt. Governor.”

These aspirants have been canvassing any spot on this island where there is a crowd—funerals, church services, fund raising activities and the sakau bars. None of them has so far made his/her political platform public; at least I have not heard any. But I hear from the coconut wireless that a public debate is being set up and this might be the medium whereby these aspirants would reveal their platforms; when they become candidates, that is. Details will be reported when available but for now, hope you can absorb the constant bombardment of political education that is being aired on the government radio station V6AH.

**100 million dollars, 3000 jobs!!!
A Van Camp or Y2K?**

Did you read what the Kaselehlie Press reported in the last edition?

The KP did a superb job of reporting on a mammoth undertaking that is being planned for this tiny dot in the huge Pacific Ocean.

I am talking about a tuna cannery with investment of up to 100 million dollars and offering up to 3000 jobs that the State's Economic Development Authority is working with a foreign company, an American company called Oceania, to bring to Pohnpei. That sounds magnanimous if it can be

pulled off. I am for it 10001 percent if it creates jobs for the local population. But don't be surprised if skeptics in and outside of government kill yet another potential foreign investment project. Remember the Y2K Project where the ground breaking took place before everything was in place? It fizzled out before it could get started. My point on things like these is like they said, “You cannot have your cake and eat it too.” We have to sacrifice a few things here and there for the overall good of all, no?

“Noah's Ark still without a telephone...”

The most potent source of the local sacred brew can be found, not in the 151 proof Bacardi Rum or Cognac or Lavasier but at the new sakau bar that has attained the historic name of “Noah's Ark”, or Market en Nan Wahr as the locals call it. It is the one I went to on August 1, 2007 for its opening. The actual name is NMJ for Noah/Epina Joseph (husband, wife and last name).

There the customers sit in a quickly put together tin roof shed with a thatched roof extension—I mean who wants to spend thousands of dollars if a few hundred bucks can do for a bar? The toilet is local, about 50 feet downhill, with the door wide open and you have a panorama of nature in front of you while doing your thing.

The road is asphalt paved past it and PUC extended a power line also passing it and a drop line to their home down below the hill. But the Noah's Ark Sakau Bar nor the residence have a regular telephone yet because, as you recall in my last BNN Column, Marcelina Epina is still waiting for a home telephone installation that she applied for back in 1985!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I am told that TCOM wooed her with a free cell phone in lieu of a home phone but Noah tells me that it is costing them a bunch. In fact they told me that they spend more than \$20 a month for calling cards. A home phone costs \$8.00 per month. She and her husband and nearly a dozen children live and survive from what the land can offer—bananas, taro, etc.

There's tons of money sitting idle...

If you went to the State Finance Office, where they collect payments and release checks, you will almost always find the clerk there sifting through a pile of checks before she finds yours. I am sure the same is true at Palikir and perhaps even more as it is located out of town.

I got curious this time so I asked, “How much is that pile of checks worth?” The response was, “Oh, sometimes \$100,000.00, could be less, could be more sometimes...”

A hundred thousand dollars and nobody claims it?

“Maybe they don't need the money because we call them but they never come.” Who is “them?”

I asked. “Mostly the business sector.”

Coed jail???

I didn't realize that our Correctional Facility (jail in layman's term) in Pohnpei State is co-ed? Did you know that?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**Driving in Pohnpei?**

Hi! Good story on the speeding taxi. I could write you a column on careless driving for each newspaper issue. First, one about how the agreements between the taxi drivers and the owners of taxi companies may be the cause of unsafe driving, because drivers are encouraged to maximize profits by maximizing the number of trips made. Or they are encouraged to earn a particular amount in order to earn ownership of the taxi they are driving.

Another issue on how drivers fail to signal before turning, and the hilarious/scary/outrageous effect on drivers who are following/trying to pass the nonsignalers.

And one article on the people who drive around with itty-bitty babies being held out the window, by adults who should know better. One car drove suddenly into my side of the road near the hospital (where the road is bad) and my daughter and I both heard the soft “plop” noise made as a baby's ear struck my left-hand side view mirror. Talk about scary. I looked in my rearview mirror and saw a very surprised-looking six-month-old baby looking around to see what had hit him. Margaret says the baby turned its head just as we passed, so its ear (instead of its nose, I presume) struck the mirror.

And then one about all the un-

derage kids whose parents allow them to start to drive, at age 13, or 14, when the law says that age 16 is the lower limit. One policeman's son, underage and unlicensed, destroyed my husband's car when the kid sped around a corner and across onto the wrong side of the road and thence into the ditch, and of course my husband was charged instead of the kid (but not convicted) because it was a policeman's son who was involved. I took photos which showed the path of the tires on both cars, and I delivered them to the public defender and to the state attorney, which did NOT result in any disciplinary action against the police, of course.

And let's not forget to have a column about kids driving cars that are nothing more than moving boom-boxes. One that patrols our neighborhood sounds like the movie music for Jaws. Duh-duh. Duh-duh. (etc.) I suppose it does not occur to the police that this violates at least one criminal statute. (Try and argue with them. I have, repeatedly.) There's a worse one that patrols Kolonia Town. I feel sorry for the Kolonia residents, who may be trying to put children to sleep, or having a headache, or whatnot.

Sincerely,

Mary Berman

FSM's Ieske Iehsi Elected Officer Of Association Of Pacific Ports

Association of Pacific Ports

The Association of Pacific Ports (APP) elected new officers for 2007-08 during this month's Annual Conference in Mazatlan, Mexico, including Pohnpei Port Authority General Manager Ieske Iehsi.

Iehsi is the former Foreign Affairs Secretary of the Federated States of Micronesia, and has extensive executive experience in the FSM national government and the former U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. A native of Pingelap atoll in Pohnpei state, Iehsi was graduated from the University of Hawaii-Manoa and Harvard University.

Commissioner Joe Johnson from the Port of Stockton, California, was unanimously elected 2007-08 APP President. A port commissioner since 2000, Johnson has 30 years of financial industry experience. He has served as CEO/ President of three banks, including the Union Safe Deposit Bank in Stockton.

Johnson is a member of the Independent Community Bankers of America.

Delegates also elected the following APP officers for 2007-08:

- First Vice President: Ding-Hsun Hsiao, Director General, Keelung Harbor Bureau, Taiwan
 - Second Vice President: Jane Gregory, Board Director, Nanaimo Port Authority, British Columbia, Canada
 - Third Vice President: Kim Puzey, General Manager, Port of Umatilla, Oregon
 - Past President: Alfonso Gil Diaz, Director General, Port of Mazatlan, Mexico
- Regional representatives were also elected to the APP Executive Committee:
- Walt Barham, Commissioner, Port of Longview, Washington
 - Gary Brett, Board Director, Port Alberni Port Authority, B.C., Canada
 - Mario Cordero, Commissioner, Port of Long Beach, California
 - Dick Dodge, Commissioner, Port of Redwood City, California
 - Ieske Iehsi, General Manager, Pohnpei Port Authority, Federated States of Micronesia.
 - Mike Giari, Executive Director of



"Pohnpei Port Authority is enthusiastic of Mr. Iehsi being elected as an officer of Association of Pacific Ports representing Pacific and Asian region. Globally FSM is so small to be noticed on the world map and I am sure being an officer of APP will help FSM and Pohnpei presence on the world map."

the Port of Redwood City, California, USA was elected as Executive Staff Representative on the APP Executive Committee.

The 2007 APP Annual Conference brought together port leaders from Canada, Mexico, Micronesia, Taiwan, and the United States to strengthen Pacific port partnerships and learn more about timely port industry issues (security, technology, facility expansion,

rail development, ferry terminals, dredging, board/staff relations, expanding trade with Asia, etc).

The Association was founded in 1913 to promote increased efficiency and effectiveness for Pacific ports located in areas tributary to the Pacific Ocean. Outgoing APP President Alfonso Gil Diaz, who serves as Director General of the Port of Mazatlan, presided over the conference.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: National Climate Change Coordinator
Project: Second National Communication
Project Duration: 3 years
Salary: \$18,000 - \$23,000 - Depending upon qualification

The NCCC will manage the project on a day-to-day basis and is accountable to the executing agency (DEA) for the planning, management, quality control, timeliness and effectiveness of the activities carried out, as well as for the use of funds. The NCCC will ensure the regular monitoring and feedback from activities already under implementation.

The NCCC will be located within the Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) within the Department of Economic Affairs. The NCCC will work closely with the UNFCCC focal point, UNDP Programme Officer for Environment and the National Climate Change Country Team.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Prepare a detailed work plan and budget;
- Prepare and submit to UNDP and the DEA, regular progress and financial reports;
- Coordinate and oversee the preparation of the outputs of the Second National Communication;
- Ensure effective communication and adequate information flow with the relevant authorities, institutions and government departments in close collaboration with the NCCCT;
- Prepare the Terms of Reference for consultants and experts and ensure their timely hiring;
- Guide the work of consultants and experts and oversee compliance with agreed work plan and timely completion of tasks;
- Organize and coordinate the procurement of services and goods under the project;
- Assume overall responsibility for the proper handling of logistics related to all project workshops and events;
- Manage the Project finance, oversee overall resource allocation and where relevant submit proposals for budget revisions with the help of the UNDP officer;
- Undertake any other actions related to the Project as requested by the DEA and UNDP.

(Detailed Terms of Reference is available from the SD Unit)

HOW TO APPLY:

Send (preferably by e-mail) full resumé and three reference letters to:

Ms. Cindy Ehmes
Program Manager - Environment & Sustainable Development Unit
P.O. Box PS-12
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelors degree, preferably in the fields related to climate change and environmental management
 - At least 3-5 years of working experience in the area relevant to the project;
 - Demonstrated ability in managing projects, and in liaising and cooperating with all project stakeholders including government officials, scientific institutions, NGOs and private sector;
 - Familiarity with international organizations operations and structure;
 - Substantial experience in Government and in interdepartmental procedures
 - Familiarity with international negotiations and processes under the UNFCCC
 - Fluent written and oral communication in one of the Micronesian languages and English
 - Strong communications and interpersonal skills
 - Excellent computer knowledge (MS Office, Internet)
- It is the policy of the FSM Government that qualified FSM citizens be given first priority for employment consideration.

Phone: (691) 320-5133

Fax: (691) 320-5854

E-mail: climate@mail.fm; cehmes@dea.fm

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
12					13					14			
15					16					17			
18				19					20				
				21				22					
23	24	25	26					27		28	29	30	
31								32					
33					34			35					
				36				37					
38	39	40			41					42	43	44	45
46					47					48			
49					50					51			
52					53					54			

SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

Search For Gold

- ACROSS**
1. Study at the last minute
 5. Implore
 9. Strawberry seed
 12. Ace in the
 13. Easter animal?
 14. Mesozoic, e.g.
 15. Foal food
 16. listen up!
 17. Comes before Ia
 18. Search for gold
 20. Sole
 21. Highly trafficked place
 23. Sermon spots
 27. Peruse again
 31. Bose and Anjou
 32. Pageant topper
 33. Closer to pushing the envelope
 35. Holy
 36. Shrimp dish
 38. Zits
 41. Disobeyed
 46. Cow's comment
 47. Ticklish color
 48. Trendy tea drink
 49. Explorer's need
 50. "... but just this
 51. Word on a towel
 52. Cry at a bullfight
 53. High school attendee
 54. Desires

- DOWN**
1. Use a knife in the kitchen
 2. Noise from the crowd
 3. Low female voice
 4. Predicament
 5. Theater workers
 6. Do a double take
 7. Hose holder
 8. Large deer
 9. Coin for Carlos
 10. It might rust
 11. Imported ale
 19. Astronomer's unit
 20. Songlike
 22. Not wholesale
 23. King Kong, for one
 24. Was CEO for _____
 25. Chasing game
 26. end one's slumber
 28. Carol Burnett's thing to tug
 29. "We the World"
 30. Mom's mate
 34. Canyon
 35. "Wiser words were never
 37. No-no for words
 38. Armory stash
 39. Santa's "Sorry!"
 40. Not yup
 42. Twinging
 43. "My Country 'Tis of
 44. Get via hard work
 45. Badmouth
 47. Cauldron

Word Search - 49ERS

The 49ers we're focusing on in this puzzle use helmets and padding rather than sifters and pickaxes to earn their living because they are football players who are or have been members of the San Francisco 49ers.

- BARTON, Harris
- BRODIE, John
- CLARK, Dwight
- COOPER, Earl
- CRAIG, Roger
- CROSS, Randy
- DEBERG, Steve
- FLOYD, William
- FRANCIS, Russ
- GREENE, Kevin
- HALEY, Charles
- HANKS, Merton
- HICKS, Dwight
- HOLT, Pierce
- JONES, Brent
- LOTT, Ronnie
- MONTANA, Joe
- NORTON, Ken

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

- PARIS, Bubba
- SANDERS, Deion
- SAPOLU, Jesse
- SPURRIER, Steve
- STOKES, (J.J.)
- PLUMMER, Gary
- RATHMAN, Tom
- REYNOLDS, Jack
- RICE, Jerry
- ROMANOWSKI, Bill
- STUBBLE-FIELD, Dana
- TAYLOR, John
- TURNER, Keena
- WASHINGTON, Gene
- WATTERS, Ricky
- WILCOX, Dave
- WRIGHT, Eric
- YOUNG, Steve

Law Office of



ANDREA S. HILLYER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
P.O. Drawer D, Pohnpei, FM 96941
TEL: (691) 320-6400
FAX: (691) 320-6485
email: ahillyer@mail.fm

KASELEHLIE PRESS

Bill Jaynes
MANAGING EDITOR

Tel: (691) 320-6547 P.O. Box 2222
Email: kpress@mail.fm Pohnpei, FM 96941

MARY BERMAN

Attorney

Tel: (691) 320-2210 P.O. Box 163
(691) 921-4236 Kolonia, Pohnpei
Email: mberman@mail.fm FM 96941

RELIGION

The Place of Fear in Christian Life

It is more than ten years since a Peace Corps Trainee disagreed with a remark I made about why so many Pohnpeians became Christians in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth. He insisted that all religion is founded on fear. My quiet answer was that my personal religion was not based on fear. Today if I were to speak in arithmetic terms, I would say that in Christian life hope accounts for ninety-five percent and fear for about five percent.

There are many places in the Bible which would lead us to believe that there is much to fear. And there are many places that speak of God's love and our hope. Let me try to explain how I see things.

There really is no place for fear of eternal punishment by an angry God. I will not speak of whether or not God becomes

angry. There certainly is ample room in the Scriptures for anthropomorphic descriptions of God but I see God as so mysterious that I dislike too much talk about God. However, God has revealed that He is love which is beyond our understanding to measure. But a God who is love would not punish a person he loves if there were no good results to be expected from the punishment. Such would be the case in eternal punishment. I will take up below how I see the possibility of eternal suffering which is not a punishment by God but the fruit of one's own free choice to reject God. It is not something imposed by the divine judge but something which in a sense is imposed by the sufferer himself. But more on this below.

If one sees the Second Coming of Christ as the completion

of the Lord's loving work of salvation, it is easy to understand why Luke says that when we see the signs of the coming, we should stand erect and raise our heads because our redemption is at hand. When we pray every day, "Thy Kingdom Come," we are praying for the fulfillment of the work of Jesus Christ. I suppose there can be some fear in those who look forward in joyful hope to the Coming of Our Lord and Savior. But more than a grain of fear indicates a weakness in our faith in God's goodness and power.

If we look deeply into the phrase, "fear of the Lord" we may find that what we are speaking about here is the word *awe*. Awe is something like fear but it is also close to respect. Perhaps the Pohnpeian word *wahu* is the closest to awe. Awe is the feeling I have in the presence of a great man or woman, a person of impressive personality. We surely should experience awe in God's presence.

Of course, all human beings experience fear at times. Since the Christian is a human being, we would expect the Christian to experience these human fears which I would not classify as religious. I speak here of natural disasters and acts of human perversity (or a mixture of both). These refer to this-worldly harm. We speak of fear of typhoons, the violence of drunken persons, nuclear bombs, tidal waves and tsunamis. I add disease, false lovers, wars, etc. I repeat that these are not really religious fears.

There is no doubt that we should fear the this-worldly painful consequences (not punishments) of going against the long experience-based and Providence-guided wisdom of the human-Judeo-Christian tradition. The experience and reflection on that experience on the part of God's people over the ages resulted in what we call the commandments of God because it was God who was teaching his people to pass on their wisdom to us so that we could avoid much of this-worldly affliction. A loving God was and is behind their experience. God does not say no just because he so desires but because he knows that this or that is bad for his people. Nothing is bad because God said so. God says so because it is bad. We should fear the this-worldly pain of ignoring these loving wisdom statements.

I have had an experience of a certain fear whenever I have left a pass through the reef and moved into the ocean. It seems to me that there was a fear of the unknown. I always knew what was new inside the lagoon but did not know what was in the depths of the ocean. Perhaps there were things there that could frighten me. It was the fear of the unknown. Death too is an unknown. We have no practice sessions for death. Because it is so unknown, a certain amount of fear is connected with death. Christian faith, of course, takes away some of the rough edges of that fear, but it remains a fear.

If I allow myself to be drawn into bad habits and attractions, the very much needed conversion, withdrawal, cleansing, healing, even growth can be at least somewhat difficult and hard to go through. Fear of this "withdrawal" might keep me from entering in to something which it might be painful to abandon. On the other hand once I am in the wrong situation, the very difficulty of the struggle to extricate myself could keep me from trying to do so.

I was told by my mother that when I was very small, so young that I do not remember, I stubbornly insisted on leaving the safety of a sidewalk in front of our house to step down into a street along which many cars were passing. My mother could not reason with me. She in her care for me took a small branch of a bush

See "Fear" on Page 14

Tide Table September 5 - 18, 2007				
POHNPEI, KOSRAE			CHUUK	
Wednesday	05 Wed	12 Wed	05 Wed	12 Wed
	09:40AM 1.6 10:51PM 3.3	03:28AM 4.3 09:45AM 0.7 03:51PM 4.0 09:47PM 1.0	08:47AM -0.5 11:19PM 1.6	02:24AM 1.9 09:04AM 0.1 02:56PM 1.4 08:29PM 0.3
Thursday	06 Thu	13 Thu	06 Thu	13 Thu
	08:14AM 1.3	03:50AM 4.2 10:01AM 0.7 04:11PM 4.2 10:14PM 1.0	08:54AM -0.5	02:40AM 1.7 09:02AM 0.2 03:07PM 1.6 09:00PM 0.3
Friday	07 Fri	14 Fri	07 Fri	14 Fri
	12:40AM 3.6 08:21AM 1.0 02:40PM 2.5 06:57PM 2.0	04:11AM 4.0 10:16AM 0.8 04:32PM 4.2 10:40PM 1.1	12:22AM 1.8 09:03AM -0.5	02:52AM 1.5 09:00AM 0.2 03:21PM 1.7 09:30PM 0.3
Saturday	08 Sat	15 Sat	08 Sat	15 Sat
	01:30AM 3.9 08:36AM 0.8 02:42PM 2.8 07:43PM 1.6	04:28AM 3.7 10:29AM 0.9 04:52PM 4.2 11:05PM 1.3	12:57AM 1.9 09:07AM -0.4	03:01AM 1.3 08:56AM 0.2 03:37PM 1.8 09:59PM 0.4
Sunday	09 Sun	16 Sun	09 Sun	16 Sun
	02:06AM 4.2 08:54AM 0.7 02:55PM 3.2 08:19PM 1.3	04:44AM 3.4 10:41AM 1.0 05:14PM 4.1 11:32PM 1.5	01:24AM 2.0 09:08AM -0.2 03:25PM 0.8 06:38PM 0.6	03:04AM 1.1 08:51AM 0.1 03:53PM 1.9 10:30PM 0.5
Monday	10 Mon	17 Mon	10 Mon	17 Mon
	02:36AM 4.4 09:11AM 0.7 03:12PM 3.5 08:50PM 1.1	04:56AM 3.1 10:51AM 1.2 05:36PM 4.0	01:47AM 2.0 09:07AM -0.1 02:55PM 0.9 07:21PM 0.5	02:58AM 0.9 08:46AM 0.0 04:12PM 1.9 11:04PM 0.6
Tuesday	11 Tue	18 Tue	11 Tue	18 Tue
	03:03AM 4.4 09:28AM 0.7 03:31PM 3.8 09:19PM 1.0	12:04AM 1.8 05:04AM 2.8 10:57AM 1.3 06:03PM 3.7	02:07AM 2.0 09:05AM 0.0 02:50PM 1.2 07:56PM 0.4	02:38AM 0.8 08:43AM -0.1 04:33PM 1.8

...Fear

continued from page 13

and hit the back of my bare legs when I stepped down into the street. I cried but soon I stepped down again. Then came the same punishment repeated until I apparently decided that my stubbornness was not a good thing. This was a teaching punishment, similar to preventive medicine which might be distasteful. It was an act of love on my mother's part. I can see how the loving God could well administer to us medicinal or teaching punishment to help us to avoid hurting ourselves badly by our immoral acts. I have every suspicion that most of us have experienced something of this kind of loving punishment from God. Since it hurts, it will also be feared.

Finally I come to the most serious of fears. Honestly it is not a fear of God although we may speak that way. Our hearts are made for God and the possession of God for eternity. Without this possession a human being would be miserable. The loving God invites all men and women to this possession of Himself. This is God's desire for all of us. Now we have been given by God the great gift of human freedom which makes us like God. It is precisely this freedom which enables us to accept

God's invitation or reject it. If we reject it, we will not possess God because God will not force us or suppress our freedom. If we end up in misery, it is not an avenging God who punishes us but simply the result of the exercise of our awesome human freedom. God may bombard us with His light to make us choose Him. Using human terms, I may say that God may plead with us. But if mysteriously we refuse, we end up without the only one who can satisfy our longings. Awesome indeed. It should be clear that I will not fear God but rather my own freedom. I personally don't know if anyone has ever chosen this misuse of freedom, but this is something to fear. I should fear myself and not God.

God is so loving and powerful that it will never be easy for someone to experience this final loss. But it remains a possibility. A denial of this possibility is a denial of the existence of human freedom, that which is the basis of our dignity.

I return to what I said in the beginning. Human beings, and Christian human beings experience a mixture or an alternation between hope and fear. Hope and fear are part of our life but belief in the indescribable love of God causes the fear to be largely swallowed up by hope.

William McGarry, S.J.

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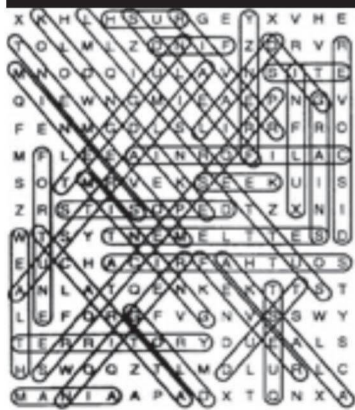
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COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office at 7:00pm. Public welcome. For details, call 320-2123.

Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Cliff Rainbow Restaurant at 6:30pm. 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 meeting every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sei Restaurant.

Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30p.m. Everyone welcome.

The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15p.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 PM to 1:00 PM. The public is welcome.

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

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HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Fe'i Bananas Achieve International Recognition Due to Their Rich Nutrient Content

By **AMYLEVENDUSKY**

Fe'i bananas, in particular *Karat* and *Utin Iap* of Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), have now achieved international recognition due to their rich nutrient content and unique flesh coloration (these bananas have other names in the other FSM states). These cultivars are considered as indigenous bananas in Pohnpei and Kosrae, well-liked for their taste, and are named in legends. However, they have been greatly neglected in recent years and there is concern about the rarity of *Karat* and other Fe'i bananas, due to the shift towards cultivating other banana cultivars, overall neglect of locally grown foods and consumption of imported processed foods.

As to nutrient content, the orange-fleshed *Utin Iap* and *Utimwas* contain the highest beta-carotene levels of any bananas in the world, with maximum levels at 8508 ug/100g, compared to the internationally marketed white-fleshed *Cavendish*, with 21 ug/100g. The yellow/orange-fleshed *Karat* contains up to 2230 ug B-carotene/100 g, over 100 times the level in the common *Cavendish*.

Fe'i bananas are characterized by erect bunches, purple sap and a deep yellow, yellow/orange or orange flesh. Fe'i bananas are described generally as parthenocarpic (non-seeded) edible bananas. Fe'i leaves are markedly narrower than those of many bananas.

Within Fe'i bananas there are many different bunch shapes and sizes, fruit shapes, skin types, flesh colors, tastes, and growth differences. For example, the lower pseudostem coloration of *Utin Iap* is blackish, distinctly different from the greenish *Karat*. *Karat* bunches are large, but *Utin Iap* bunches are often much larger, some requiring two men to carry. *Karat* fingers are fat and relatively short. *Utin Iap* fingers are even smaller. Although *Karat* peel is thick and mostly reddish-colored, *Utin Iap* peel is thin and copper-colored. *Karat* flesh color is yellow/orange whereas *Utin Iap* flesh is markedly orange.

Generally Fe'i bananas grow best in mountainous upland areas and are sometimes called "mountain bananas". They can grow on atoll islands but do not thrive well there. MacDaniels (1947) suggests that Fe'i bananas have been in Tahiti many centuries, perhaps before the Christian Era, whereas they were introduced into Hawaii fairly recently. Fe'i bananas have been in Micronesia for many years. Reports from Tahiti, Kosrae and Pohnpei indicate that Fe'i bananas were previously the main bananas consumed on those islands and were an important part of the diet. The famous French impressionist painter Gauguin featured Fe'i bananas in three of his canvases completed in Tahiti in the late 1800s.

Fe'i bananas are distributed almost exclusively in the Pacific region, following a belt from Indo-



Karat, the State Banana of Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.
Photo Jeff Daniells.

nesia (Molluccas) to Papua New Guinea (considered as possibly the origin of the cultivars), Solomon Islands, Micronesia, and further east to Hawaii and Tahiti. Fe'i bananas are found in the following regions: Papua New Guinea (PNG); Tahiti; Society Island; Fiji; Samoa; Eastern Indonesia; Irian Jaya; New Hebrides; New Caledonia; Vanuatu; Tonga; Cook Islands; Aitutaki; Marquesas; and Hawaii.

Dr. Lois Englberger, Island Food Community of Pohnpei; Jeff Daniells, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, South Johnstone, Queensland, Australia; Charlotte Lusty, International Network for the Improvement of Banana and Plantains; and Adelino Lorens, Pohnpei Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs are acknowledged and thanked for providing information for this article.

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Manuel Shows He's

World Class

By **ANTHONY UPTON**
Samoa Observer

Manuel Minginfel of the Federated States of Micronesia stole the day yesterday when the XIII South Pacific Games weightlifting competition started. He smashed 19 records to demonstrate what a world class performer he is.

Minginfel smashed the Oceania records, South Pacific Games records South Pacific Senior & Junior records as well as all Commonwealth records in the 56kg category at the Faleata Sport Complex. He won his country's first three gold medals, taking out the snatch with a lift of 124kg the clean and jerk with 152 and total score of 267.

A modest crowd at the faleata sports complex appreciated his efforts. Samoa's Head of State, His Highness Tuiatua Tupua Tamasese Efi presented the medals.

"I am just so happy with the results," Minginfel said.

"I achieved what I wanted to achieve and I couldn't be happier. "I hope the country is proud of me, because this performance was for them."

Yesterday's performance indicated that Manuel is on the right track to win silver, or gold, at the world championship in Thailand, in two weeks time. He is now ranked in the top two in the world.

"This event was my final trial. I now feel as I am ready for the world champs," he said. "I hope to win a medal and I am looking at gold."

Minginfel is based in Samoa, training at the Oceania Weightlifting Institute, under the watchful eye of weightlifting guru Paul Coffa.

Asked about Manuel's achievements yesterday, a smiling Coffa said "that seems like enough."

"I am very proud of him. He achieved what we wanted to

achieve and I couldn't ask for more than that. Minginfel is world class and he showed that today .

"I congratulate him on his success," Coffa said.

Coffa was in such a good mood that he lifted his Institute's gold medal target.

The Institute will now look to win 40 gold medals from 45; Coffa's target before the Games was 38.

"I am only going to spare five gold medals," a confident Coffa said.

River Training for FSM's only swimmer

By **MICHELLE MALONE**
Samoa Observer

Debra Daniel, 16, has been training in a river in preparation for the South Pacific Games. The only swimmer for FSM is excited to be here.

Daniel and her coach and mother Sweeter, have been traveling to the river, one hour from their home, twice a week since May in order for Daniel to train.

"I feel proud of her because she is the only one to represent our country." Daniel's mother said.

The journey from their home country to Samoa took five days. With only one airline flying out of FSM, mother and daughter, along with five wrestlers and one weightlifter, traveled via Guam, Korea and Fiji before reaching Samoa.

Daniel began swimming at a young age, and competing at age 14 at the World Championships in 2005 She swam in the 50m butterfly and 50m backstroke, and again in the World Championships in Melbourne earlier this year.

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