

Mobil is Not Into Price Fixing

By **Moneth G. Deposa**
Marianas Variety News Staff

MOBIL Oil Mariana Islands Inc. president Kamal Singh says his company is neither engaged in price fixing nor hoarding fuel supplies as alleged by Rep. Stanley T. Torres.

Singh said Mobil and its affiliated companies comply with the law.

Mobil, he added, “categorically rejects allegations that we are engaged in price fixing or hoarding our fuel supplies or cheating the people of the Northern Marianas. As subsidiaries of the global Exxon Mobil Corp, Mobil and affiliated companies operating in this region have a policy of strict compliance with all laws and regulations.”

According to Singh, Mobil believes strongly in an “open, fair, free-market competition” and that is the way it operates in the CNMI and elsewhere.

Mobil’s pricing policy is market-based and has been unchanged for many years, Singh said.

While the details are commercially confidential, he noted that gasoline prices in the CNMI are impacted by a number of factors, including changes in the world market, price

See “Fuel Price” on Page 7



Doug Domenech will head Insular Affairs at the US Department of the Interior

Story on Page 6



COM-FSM Students present original shadow puppet and choral work at the National Campus

Story on Page 7

Review of Congress Budget Shows Weaknesses Figir Commits to Documentary Policy Changes for Greater Transparency

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei – Speaker Isaac V. Figir recently requested the Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) to perform a review of Congress finances to see if there were any areas in which Congress could improve in their financial accountability to the people of the FSM. The results of that review were released to the public sometime during the week of May 5. The public can obtain a copy of the review which covers fiscal years 2005 through 2007, on the National Public Auditor’s website at:

<http://www.fsmpublicauditor.fm>.

National Public Auditor Haser Hainrick, in his cover letter to President Manny Mori, who was a Senator for a portion of the time period covered in the review, said, “Good governance requires the promotion of accountability and transparency in the use of government funds. However, we found that certain processes used by the Congress in budgeting, appropriating and spending of funds for their own operations did not establish clarity of purpose, accountability, and transparency.”

A close read of the review shows that ONPA FSM’s Acting Director of Finance and Ad-



did not accuse Congress or its members of violations of laws. Rather they pointed out that transactions involving Representation Funds, Delegation Office budgets, and Official Expense allowances were imprudently managed in terms of transparency. They said that the laws that govern these types of expenses overlap and are ambiguous at best

ministration, Juliet Jimmy, in her response to the review recommended that laws governing the use of those three types of funds be amended in order to eliminate overlapping uses for those funds.

Speaker Figir in his response to the review thanked the auditor for his recommendations to improve the allocation and management of funds for Congress. He said that Congress had begun the review process of the definitions of key expense types as evidenced by Congressional Bill 15-1 which was

introduced by Senator Dohsis Halbert in the first regular session of the 15th Congress. He said, “I now see that more comprehensive amendment is required. I undertake to complete this.”

The review says that this is the first review of the Congress budget that focused spe-

See “Representation” on Page 5

Asia Pacific Becomes a True “Fish Plane” in Pohnpei



photo by Mike Collins

On May 16 at 4:47 p.m. this Asia Pacific Airlines jet originating in Guam failed to negotiate a successful landing at Pohnpei International Airport and nosed into the water at the end of the runway. The front landing gear is broken. Decisions at press time were still being made as to how to remove the aircraft from the end of the runway.

Official PPA Statement on Page 3

UNICEF Report Says Pohnpei Has High Incidence of “Intentional Injury” of Children

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

A research paper apparently commissioned by UNICEF, based on data on intentional injury of children collected in Pohnpei, Tonga, and Vanuatu in 2000 and 2001 was finally released on April 30, 2008. It was erroneously entitled “Intentional Injury reported by young people in the Federated States of Micronesia, Kingdom of Tonga, and Vanuatu.” No data was collected anywhere else in the FSM other than in Pohnpei.

They said “In FSM, surveys were conducted in Pohnpei state only because of
 See “Violence” on Page 6



Complete text of President Mori’s State of the Federation address on Page 8

Ozone Treaty Helping Climate

Island Countries Propose Further Strengthening to Delay Sea-Level Rise

FSM Department of Foreign Affairs

Micronesia 15 May 2008 – Today the Federated States of Micronesia and Mauritius submitted formal notification to the 191 Parties to the ozone treaty, known as the Montreal Protocol on Substance the Deplete the Ozone Layer, urging new measures to strengthen the treaty at the Parties' next meeting in November. The target: emissions from old refrigerators, air conditioners in cars, homes, and office buildings, as well as foams and other products and equipment that contain chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's) and related chemicals.

Without controls on these emissions, the world's junk yards, dumps, and landfills—not mention yards and basements—will emit more than 7 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2015 from these chemicals, which cause double damage by destroying the stratospheric ozone layer, and trapping heat that is warming the Planet. In comparison, the Kyoto Protocol, the world's primary climate treaty, is seeking the reduction of 5 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent between 2008 and 2012, with diminishing prospects for achieving this modest target.

With the Kyoto Protocol struggling, and the negotiations on a post-Kyoto climate treaty not expected to finish until December 2009 at the earliest, Micronesia, Mauritius, and other low lying islands and coastal countries are looking for other ways to get fast climate mitigation. The Montreal Protocol is a key fast-acting strategy.

The central concern of low-lying island and coastal countries is the threat of sea-level rise from melting glacier and ice sheets, as well as thermal expansion of the oceans. Sea-level rise of several meters could come this century if summer ice in the Arctic continues to melt at its record rate. Loss of this ice and its ability to reflect heat back into space eventually will set off other feedback mechanisms that will accelerate the disintegration of the Greenland Ice Sheet, which will cause up to 7 meters of sea-level rise. Greenland's ice sheet doesn't have to melt to do this. If the surface melts and percolates to the bedrock where the ice rests, this lubrication will make it easier for gravity to pull the ice sheet into the ocean, according to experts on glacier dynamics.

Last year Micronesia and Mauritius worked with Argentina, Brazil, the US, and European countries to strengthen the Montreal Protocol and

turn it explicitly into a climate treaty. Their proposals, ultimately agreed by all 191 Parties, speeds up the phase out of HCFC's, a substitute for CFC that itself was damaging both the ozone layer and the climate system. The climate benefit of last year's successful proposal is a powerful 16 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent—several times the mitigation Kyoto seeks.

"Climate change is about our very existence—our existence as a country—a country with rich traditions that since time immemorial have helped unite our generous and peaceful people into a unique and successful society," said Ambassador Masao Nakayama, Permanent Ambassador of The Federated States of Micronesia to the United Nations in New York. "We now must ask ourselves, 'How long will our country, and our culture, continue to exist?'"

Micronesia and Mauritius are representative of all vulnerable countries around the world, including those in the Alliance of Small Island States, and the many other low-lying coastal countries that face the growing risk of extinction from abrupt climate change and the sea-level rise that it will cause.

Ambassador Nakayama added. "Immediate, 'fast-start' mitigation is the best adaptation strategy, and if we get started today, we can buy precious time to avoid passing the tipping points for abrupt climate change."

The abrupt melting and eventual disintegration of Arctic, Greenland, and Antarctic ice is "non-linear," and will occur when the climate system passes a tipping point by putting too many greenhouse gas pollutants into the atmosphere. Ambassador Nakayama explained, "A non-linear tipping point is like the final step we take as we walk off a cliff. Once we take that step, we are not able to go back. It is irreversible."

Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Environment for Mauritius, add, "We know we getting close to the point-of-no-return for abrupt climate change from the melting of the Arctic Ice and disintegration of the Greenland Ice Sheet, and we know that one of the best ways to slow this down is to strengthen the Montreal Protocol."

"We also can slow down climate change by attacking black carbon, or soot, which is killing millions of people around the world every year," said Mr. Seebaluck. He added that "other fast start mitigation strategies can target other man-made chemicals, including HFC's, SF6, and PFC", which are included in the Kyoto Protocol."

One leading climate scientist at NASA, Dr. James Hansen, calculates that the tipping point for abrupt climate change and devastating sea-level rise could be as close as ten years away. When we cross it, we will be irreversibly committed to up to 7 meters of sea-level rise in the coming decades, perhaps at the rate of ½ to 1 meter per decade.

Biogas Experts from Zhejiang Province Visit the FSM

Pohnpei Governor's Public Information Office

Pohnpei, FSM - On April 30, 2008, Acting Governor Churchill Edward, on behalf of Governor Ehsa who says that he supports alternative energy project of any kind, welcomed the biogas experts from Zhejiang Province, the sister state of Pohnpei. The following day, the Chinese delegation also paid a courtesy call on Mr. Kandhi Elieisar, Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

This project was the result of FSM President Mori's visit to China last year particularly to the rural areas of the Zhejiang Province where biogas energy is widely in use. In simple terms, pig manure and other biological waste substances produce methane gas which can be used as an energy source for cooking, household lights, cooling fans, and so forth.

President Morri has recommended the biogas pilot project from Zhejiang Province to be situated in

Chuuk and Pohnpei if these two States meet project requirements.

The Public Affairs Officer, Charge de affairs ad interim Mr. You at the China Embassy and biogas experts spent a day visiting five 5 potential biogas sites to determine whether Pohnpei State is a suitable place for the projects. The delegation of experts returned to China last Friday, May 2, 2008, where they will put together their survey report.

According to the Embassy of China, if everything goes right biogas experts will come to Pohnpei this month or next month and install two biogas projects for Pohnpei. These same experts will teach the locals the knowledge and skill of the trade so that when they leave, local people will be able to continue implementing this alternative energy production, and will be able to help set up more biogas projects for local households where the alternative energy is needed.

7.8M Earthquake Rolled Southwest China and Claimed Over 50,000

On May 12, 7.8-magnitude earthquake ravaged southwestern Sichuan Province and was felt in most parts of the country. The earthquake was the "most destructive" tremor and had the "most wide-spreading impact" since New China was founded in 1949. Chinese leader Hu Jintao urged governments at all levels to regard earthquake rescue and relief as the top priority at a high profile meeting late Monday evening.

A total of 6,100 troops along with four helicopters were dispatched by the Sichuan Military Area Command to quake-hit areas Monday afternoon, while armed police forces stationed in Sichuan province dispatched 3,100 personnel. 10 emergency medical teams were sent to quake-hit Wenchuan County in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The confirmed death toll in Sichuan alone was 19,509 by 4 p.m. Thursday. More than 50,000 people were feared dead in the earthquake.

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Managing Editor

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The United States Fights World Hunger

U.S. Embassy Press Release

"The American people are generous people and they're compassionate people. We believe in a timeless truth: To whom much is given, much is expected. And so therefore at home we are working to ensure that the neediest among us can cope with the rising food prices. And with the new international funding I'm announcing today, we're sending a clear message to the world: that America will lead the fight against hunger for years to come."

– President George W. Bush, May 1, 2008

Increase in Global Food Prices

Several factors have contributed to recent hikes in global food prices. These include increased demand in rapidly growing emerging economies; rising energy costs; several years of bad weather in Australia, China, and parts of Eastern Europe, which have hit wheat harvests especially hard; export restrictions imposed by several countries, some with significant commodity stocks; and, to a lesser extent, increased biofuel production, which accounts for only an estimated three percent of the 43 percent increase in global food prices.

The U.S. Government Takes Action

Rising prices have complicated worldwide food assistance efforts and made it more difficult for the United States to meet existing commitments, much less to help the growing number of people who need aid.

Nonetheless, President Bush recently announced that the United States will make available \$200 million more in emergency food aid through the U.S. Agriculture Department's Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust. Together with the additional \$770 million President Bush requested last week from the U.S. Congress to support food aid and related development programs, this adds up to nearly \$1 billion in new funds to bolster global food security. With other food security assistance programs already in place, the United States will likely spend nearly \$5 billion in 2008-2009 to fight global hunger. This funding will also allow the United States to help farmers in developing countries increase their productivity and improve distribution.

Other Countries Have Roles to Play, Too

The United States is working with other developed countries to secure commitments for additional food aid. We are working toward the conclusion of a successful Doha Round agreement, which would reduce and eliminate tariffs, other barriers, and market-distorting subsidies for agricultural goods, thereby making food cheaper and more available for consumers around the world. We are also urging countries that restrict agricultural exports to lift those restrictions. The United States will coordinate our efforts with international organizations and other donors while continuing to provide leadership on food issues.

United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) visits Yap

Department of Youth and Civic Affairs

Mr. David Gootnick, Director of International Affairs and Trade, and his Assistant Director Mr. Emil Friberg made a short stop over in Yap before going to Palau.

In a brief meeting with the Governor Anefal, the team explained the purpose of their short visit which aims at collecting relevant information on the US Compact implementation since its inception. According to the team, such information will be crucial to an upcoming US Congressional oversight hearing on the Compact Implementation.

During the two day visit, the team managed to meet with various government leaders and

officials including members of the Yap State 7th Legislature, Office of Administrative Services, Office of Budget and Planning, Department of Education and the Department of Health Services. In addition to general discussions on the Compact implementation process, the team was also keen in getting input from the State on the issue of sector grant carry over funds. Other issues discussed by the mission with the state included withheld infrastructure funds. According the Governor Anefal, the State of Yap is eager to see the Compact sector grants move despite the many stumbling blocks. Also of interest to the team was how the state is addressing the challenges on reliable energy in light of recent developments.

PPA Summary of Asia Pacific Airline Incident

On May 16, 2008, at approximately 1647 hours, Asia Pacific Airline, call sign N219NE, a Boeing 727-200 series originated from Guam, with 8000 pounds of cargo and 37,000 pounds of Jet-A fuel, and with five crew members on board landed on Pohnpei International Airport - Runway 9, and went off into the water at Runway 27, nose first.

The PPA Rescue Personnel immediately notified SAWRS and hurried to Runway 27- the Aircraft's resting point. Upon arrival at the incident site, the rescue team saw the aircraft nosed down into the water. The engines were turned off and fortunately, there was no fire or smoke visible on the aircraft.

After confirming that the site was safe, the rescue team approached the aircraft for inter-

rior inspections and confirmed that there was no fire with the interior as well and the crew members on board were safe without injuries.

In the process, Acting Airport Manager Beterigo Jacob was informed of the incident and the Emergency Operation Center was immediately activated.

Decisions on how to remove or salvage the aircraft from the resting site within the safety zone has been delayed until further notice.

Until then, the Pohnpei International Airport is declared closed by the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure of the FSM. Any inquiries may be directed to the Emergency Operation Center at Dekehtik Island, Pohnpei State.

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Pohnpei Women Take Action To Spread Health Awareness

On May 13-15, a Women's Health Workshop was conducted for Pohnpei Women Advisory Council (PWAC) members and any other interested women in Pohnpei, held at Mercedes Hall in Kolonia. Generally, Pohnpei women are concerned about health, especially in taking preventive measures against alarming diseases that have swept lives over the years. However, with limited access to opportunities where they could direct specific questions to resource staff about women's health, the workshop was an ideal opportunity for women to discuss and confront agency representatives about other issues that affected women such as the social security, pension plans, health insurance, communicable and non-communicable diseases, etc. The workshop was organized by the Office of Social Affairs, Women's Bureau under Ms. Rosestella Donre, Women's Program Coordinator in collaboration with PWAC headed by President Susana Sohs and Likend Pah U, Anako John. PWAC an NGO, comprised of the officers of the 18 women organizations ranging from 1-27 years in existence.



of PWAC over the years and how they can impact progress, the outlets of training opportunities and grants that could be tapped, the services available at the Women's Bureau, Office of Social Affairs, and the importance in collaborating with ALL the women in Pohnpei about issues that affect women. The 3 consecutive days brought together 67 women participants. The workshop was another opportunity for PWAC to present progress reports from each organization on projects activities ongoing and why. Special thanks to the Office of Social Affairs & PWAC, the Health Services Divisions, Social Security, Mi-Care, Agriculture & Island Food, and everyone who contributed in one way or another. With the alarming rate of health problems and rise in food price and gasoline, women in Pohnpei are encouraging similar workshops in the future.

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At the opening ceremony, Governor John Ehsa gave a moving speech in support of women's activities in Pohnpei and contributed some funds. Additionally, administrator SeNellie Singeo recognized the progress

FSM Olympic Swimmers Receive Training Scholarships

Photo and story by Jim Tobin

Ann King, Executive Director of the Oceania Foundation, presented FSM Olympic swimmers Debra Daniel and Kersin Hadley, two Samsung Oceania Sports Development Initiative Scholarships to train for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. The presentation was held on Thursday, April 24 at the COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus gymnasium during the 2008 FSM Olympic Talent Identification Workshop hosted by the FSM National Olympic Committee. Also present in the photograph is FSM National Olympic Committee President Berney Martin.



The FSM swimmers and coach Sweeter Daniel left Pohnpei on May 3 to Guam where they will train for the next 3 months in preparation for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games in August. The Samsung scholarship will fund the training expenses for the two FSM swimmers while on Guam. This is the first sport training scholarships the FSM has been awarded by a corporate sponsor. In 2006, Manuel Minginfel, FSM Olympic weightlifter, was awarded a three year Beijing Olympic Games Athlete Scholarship funded by the International Olympic Committee.

arship funded by the International Olympic Committee.

The FSM plans to send six athletes to this year's Olympic Games. Besides the two swimmers and one weightlifter, Jack Howard and Maria Ikelap will compete in the 100 meter dash in athletics and Keitani Graham hopes to compete in Greco-Roman wrestling in the 74 kilogram division. Graham and his Korean coach will be traveling to Rome and Serbia this month to compete in the final two Olympic wrestling qualifiers. Minginfel has been training since February in Noumea, New Caledonia the new site of the Oceania Weightlifting Institute. The Beijing 2008 Olympic Games will be held from August 8 to 24.

ANNOUNCEMENT WANTED STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE(SNS) COORDINATOR

The FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs wishes to contract a qualified individual to work with the FSM Bioterrorism Preparedness Program to coordinate development and enhancement of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) preparedness plans so that FSM is ready to receive US SNS supplies and is able to dispense medical supplies and drugs throughout FSM during emergencies.

- He/She will serve as Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator and Representative for FSM. Coordinate development, maintenance and review of SNS preparedness plans. Advisor to BT Coordinator, Secretary of Health and President in SNS Activation process. Coordinate SNS drills in all four states. Liaise with Exercise Coordinator to incorporate SNS plans in full scale exercises. Liaise with CDC SNS staff before, during and after emergency.
- Ensure that all RSS warehouse facilities have proper off-loading equipment and all warehouse staff are trained and oriented on SNS RSS operations. Develop an inventory list of office equipment and material handling equipment for each RSS warehouse and include in SNS Plans. Ensure that SNS Plans lists individuals who are authorized to sign for SNS material.
- He/She will organize testing of communication systems, primary and secondary (radio and satellite phones). Ensure communication equipment is in working order and forwards any problems in the states onto repair services in a timely professional manner. Ensure that designated leads and emergency managers are trained in the use of redundant communications equipment. Lead BT staff in manning the radio during an emergency.

Any person who is interested in the SNS Coordinator position is requested to submit a written expression of interest along with a resume of professional qualifications and salary expectation to the Secretary, FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs at the address below. **Deadline May 20, 2008.**

FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs
Bioterrorism Preparedness Program
P.O. Box PS-70
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

U.S. Compact Sector Grants to the FSM for the Month of April

United States Embassy to the FSM

For the seventh month of the current fiscal year, the FSM Department of Finance received Compact-funded grants from the United States Government totaling \$ 8,362,946. These payments were for Compact sector grants for Education, Health, Public Sector, Environment, and Private Sector Development plus Supplemental Education Grants for April of Fiscal Year 2008. The breakdown of these grants follows:

Sector Grants for FSM National Government

Education Grant (Quarterly Payment for the College of Micronesia-FSM)	\$ 950,000
Total Payment for FSM National Government:	\$ 950,000

Sector Grants for Chuuk State

Education Sector	\$ 1,324,142
Health Sector	\$ 931,454
Public Sector (Capacity Building)	\$ 114,458
Environment Sector	\$ 58,869
Private Sector Development	\$ 89,675
Total Payment for Chuuk:	\$ 2,518,598

Sector Grants for Kosrae State

Education Sector	\$ 196,550
Health Sector	\$ 197,884
Public Sector (Capacity Building)	\$ 54,049
Environment Sector	\$ 17,700
Private Sector Development	\$ 39,450
Supplemental Education Grant*	\$ 328,479
Total Payment for Kosrae:	\$ 834,112

(*This Amount consists of 2006 carryover funds)

Sector Grants for Pohnpei State

Education Sector	\$ 597,000
Health Sector	\$ 532,432
Public Sector (Capacity Building)	\$ 39,978
Environment Sector	\$ 53,406
Private Sector Development	\$ 17,940
Supplemental Education Grant ('07)	\$ 253,325
Total Payment for Pohnpei:	\$ 1,493,081

Sector Grants for Yap State

Education Sector ('07 & '08 Funds)	\$ 682,114
Health Sector	\$ 901,116
Public Sector (Capacity Building)	\$ 385,495
Environment Sector	\$ 59,502
Private Sector Development	\$ 18,000
Supplemental Education Grant ('07)	\$ 520,928
Total Payment for Yap:	\$ 2,567,155

TOTAL SECTOR GRANT PAYMENTS FOR FSM (Apr. FY 2008): \$ 8,362,946

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

Representation

continued from page 1

cifically on the Delegation Expense budgets, Representation Expense Allowance, Official Expense Allowance, and regular travel expenditures.

ONPA said, "Title 55 Chapter 2 Section 224B(3) of the FSM Code defines 'Delegation Office Expense' as expenses incurred in the course of delegation operations, including, *but not limited to*, official public relations, travel, entertainment activities or constituent services necessary to carry out the functions of a Congressional Delegation Office in the FSM States. Similarly, Title 55 Chapter 2 Section 224B(2) of the same FSM Code defined 'Representation Expense Allowance' as expenses incurred in the course of official public relations, entertainment activities or constituent services necessary to advance the purposes and goals of the National Government."

They said that the absence of clear-cut and distinct laws defining each of the three types of expenses caused the amount of representation funds that each Senator had at his disposal to be much more than the \$35,000 allowed for that purpose in 2005 and 2006. Congress raised the Representation Expense Allowance per Senator to \$37,500 in 2007.

The review said that Congress did not follow its usual requirement that budgets be defined by line item when approving the budget for each of the four Delegation Offices. Because of that the total amount given to the delegation offices could be used any way they wanted.

The practice in Chuuk and in Pohnpei has been to divide up the Delegation Office expense amongst the individual Senators. In Pohnpei this meant that Senators received an additional \$21,616 on average in each of the last three years. In Chuuk, Senators received an average of \$31,107 per Senator on average in each of the last three years. This additional money, according to the review was used just as if it was an additional source of representation allowance for each Senator.

Yap and Kosrae Delegation Senators did not divide up the Delegation Office budget amongst themselves.

Senators who are also Standing Committee Chairmen of which there are six also received an additional \$6000 as an Official Expense Allowance for expenses relating to the committee that they chair.

The review said that Chuuk Senators who were also standing committee chairmen received \$69,000 in 2005, \$70,500 in 2006, and \$78,500 in 2007. A Pohnpei Senator who is also a committee chairman received \$54,000 in 2005, \$64,000 in 2006, and \$71,000 in 2007. The auditors said that under the current law it was difficult if not impossible to tell how those funds were used.

In 2005 and 2006 all 14 Senators presented affidavits for the Representation expenses. In 2007, 13 Senators presented affidavits to cover their expenses and one Senator presented actual receipts. A copy of the standard affidavit that Senators present at the end of a year was attached as an Appendix to the review. It essentially says that the undersigned Senator has spent the money

and that he spent it the way it was supposed to have been spent.

The auditor said that information is not enough for accounting purposes despite the declaration to the contrary contained in the affidavit itself. Essentially an affidavit should be used only as a last ditch measure when a particular receipt cannot be found. In that case the affidavit should contain the date of the purchase, the vendor, the amount, the specific item purchased, names of companions if the expense was for a meal, and the nature and purpose for the payment.

The auditor provided two hypothetical situations in which representation funds could be misused if an affidavit of the type Congress has been accustomed to providing is the only documentation that is available:

"Hypothetically," the auditors said, "a Senator could receive a cash advance of \$37,500 for Representation Expense Allowance but not spend the funds as allowed by FSM law. Since a Senator is allowed to close 100 percent of his advances by executing an affidavit, the Senator could merely execute a defective affidavit and no one could determine that the funds were not properly used. In this hypothetical case, the Senator may keep all or part of the cash advanced for his own use."

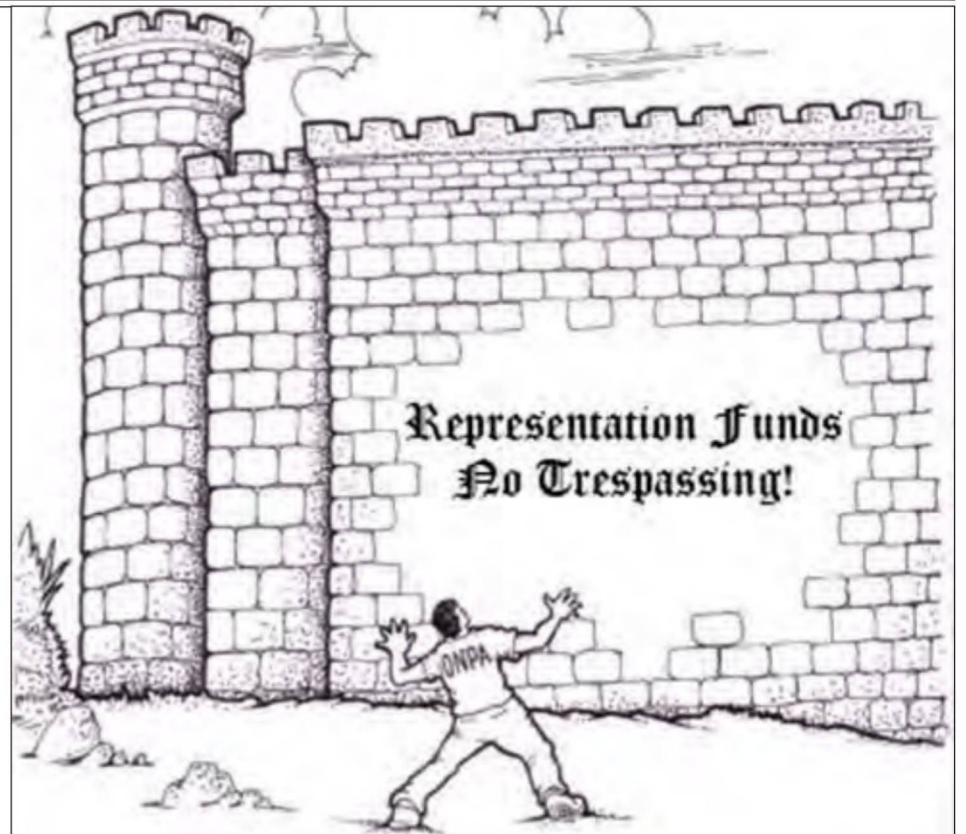
"In another hypothetical case, a Senator could employ a double-dipping scheme. In this scheme, a Senator actually spends the amount of advances received for Representation Expense Allowance, which is budgeted under the Main Office and gets the receipts and invoices from the vendor upon spending. However, instead of providing these receipts or invoices to close the cash advances received for Representation Expense Allowance, a Senator could present them for reimbursement under the Delegation Office funds and execute an affidavit to close the cash advance for Representation Expense Allowance. In this case, fraud and overpayment exists because one payment is claimed twice."

In the case of 41% (\$192,529) of ONPA sampled transactions of reimbursements made to Senators from Delegation funds there was no indication as to the purpose for the expenses recorded on the receipts. ONPA provided samples of the types of expenses documented by those receipts. The examples included airline tickets, groceries, restaurant meals, apartment rental, pigs, pianos, and alcohol.

The ONPA also noted concern regarding conflict of interest. They said that they noted \$28,171 worth of payments from Delegation offices' funds and Official (Committee) representation funds that were made to businesses owned by certain Senators or family members. Those payments included money spent for pigs, alcoholic beverages, food, and car rental. The review did not include the name of the Senators who had made payments that might indicate a conflict of interest:

"Senator A paid a total amount of \$12,451 to a business owned by him or his family member for the purchase of food items and alcoholic beverages. Moreover, Senator A did not indicate the purpose of buying such items."

"Senator B presented a reimbursement for a total of \$8,303 for various payments from his Delegation office funds and paid to the business establishments either partially or



fully owned by the said Senator or his family member. Likewise, these payments include food items, repair and fuel and the documentation did not specify the purpose for incurring the payments.

"Senator C presented a reimbursement for a total amount of \$5,050 for various payments made in Senator's spouse name from car rental, and a payment for food items (pigs) from his niece."

"Senator D presented a reimbursement for a total of \$2,367 representing payment made to a restaurant owned by him and his wife for a reception that the Senator hosted in honoring his constituents and food items (takeouts) for a Congressional committee meeting."

The review went on to say that there were fund disbursements that were not in compliance with the FSM laws and requirements. It said that there was \$35,709 worth of airline tickets that were not supported by a travel authorization. A TA is required for any travel that is paid for with government funds. ONPA said that the airline tickets were for constituents not employed by the National Government. They gave as example tickets that were issued for a group to travel from an FSM state to Hawaii to Los Angeles and back in the amount of \$5,172 that was not backed by the issuance of a TA.

Further, the review says that auditors found TA's totaling \$15,478 under the Travel Expense account that did not provide sufficient justification to establish the purpose of the trip. One TA for \$2550 indicated the following: "To amend original TA to obligate funds for airfare to allow the traveler to go to Majuro and back to Kosrae." Majuro was not indicated in the original TA and no purpose for the trip was stated.

They also noted that some reimbursements were made to Senators that appeared to be personal in nature. For example, they noted that one Senator reimbursed himself \$465 from his Official Expense Allowance for a membership for himself and his spouse at the Continental Airlines President's Club at the Guam International Airport. Another Senator requested and received a reimbursement amounting to \$599 from his share of Delegation Office funds for a repair of a

private vehicle.

For reasons that are not entirely clear, the review did not contain the name of any Senator in association with any of the questionable expenses ONPA used as an example.

The Speaker of the 15th Congress, Isaac V. Figir in his response briefly highlighted the proposed changes that Congress would implement "to ensure it remains an accountable, transparent body in which all transactions have clarity of purpose." It's a goal that he has on many occasions, declared to The Kaselehlie Press in both on the record and off the record conversations.

On the subject of the Delegation Expense Allowance, the Delegation Operation Budget he said that in the future the budget would be defined in line item set categories that would be able to be scrutinized in future reviews.

He committed to ensure that "the definition of representation funds will be amended, to clarify appropriate use of the funds. Representation funds will be allotted every quarter, and only after the previous quarter's funds have been reconciled."

He said the Administrative Manual for Congress would be updated and that it would include a requirement that original receipts and detailed explanations for all expenditures be presented as documentation for expenditures of all types. He said that new forms would be designed to ensure those requirements are met.

He declared that the use of one affidavit for all representation funds will cease.

Figir also committed to the creation of a conflict of interest register though he did point out that the small population of FSM meant that many of its people are related so that "traditional Western conflict laws do not fit. However, I appreciate the direct conflict of interests identified in our report." A conflict of interest register could be used to ensure that "no members may approve funds that will benefit, directly or indirectly, themselves or a family member."

He said that he looked forward to ONPA's follow-up review within twelve months.

...Violence

continued from Page 1

its accessibility and the interest of stakeholders in collecting adolescent health information. Given the social and developmental diversity of the states of the FSM, the findings can therefore only be generalized to students in Pohnpei."

The report said that "intentional injury presents a threat to the physical and psychological well being of young people, especially in developing countries, which carry the greatest part of the global injury burden. While the importance of this problem is recognized, there is limited population data in low and middle income countries that can guide public health action. The present study investigates the prevalence and distribution of intentional injury among young people in three Pacific Island societies, and examines behavioural and psychosocial factors related to risk of intentional injury."

The research paper concluded that among boys and girls aged 14 to 17 years, 62% of boys and 56% of girls in Pohnpei reported that they had been intentionally injured. Of the three countries surveyed Pohnpei had the highest rate of intentional injury of children. The Kingdom of Tonga reported 58% of boys and 41% of girls admitted that they had been intentionally injured. Vanuatu reported the lowest incidence with 33% of boys and 24% of girls admitting to that type of injury.

According to the research paper the prevalence of intentional injury declined with age in Vanuatu and Tonga but there was little evidence that the number of incidences of intentional injury declined at all as the reporting sample got older.

It says that "across the three societies, the major source of intentional injury among boys were 'other persons' followed by boyfriends/girlfriends and fathers. Mothers, boyfriends/girlfriends and other persons were primary sources of injury among girls." The report said that intentional injury was reported more often by those who had been bullied. It noted a statistical linkage for an increased risk of intentional injury in Tonga and Vanuatu for those in the sample that were regular smokers. They found a linkage in Pohnpei and Vanuatu for those who were "illicit drug users" though they didn't define what kind of "illicit drug" they were discussing.

The report came from population surveys with students aged 11-17 in the three countries. In Pohnpei, the sample size, or the number of people surveyed for the project was 1,495, while Tonga had a sample size of 2,808 and Vanuatu had a sample size of 4,474.

They concluded that "intentional injury was reported extensively in these three populations. Interventions directed towards the school environment and which take into account the role of bullying and drug use need to be considered."

The article said that health and education authorities in the three countries have agreed to collaborate with UNICEF in the

See "Injury Study" top of next page

Doug Domenech Will Head Insular Affairs at Interior

Department of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne has named Douglas W. Domenech to be Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs.

Domenech, who currently serves as Secretary Kempthorne's Deputy Chief of Staff, will provide policy-level leadership for Insular Affairs, a position that had been held by David Cohen, who resigned in January 2008 to pursue opportunities in the private sector.

"I have full confidence in Doug, whose commitment to this Administration, management expertise, background and knowledge will be invaluable in carrying out our responsibilities for the U.S. territories and freely associated states," Kempthorne said.

"I am honored to be given this assignment," said Domenech, who will serve in both capacities. "This is an indication that Secretary Kempthorne cares deeply about the welfare of the insular areas and wants island issues handled directly in his immediate office."

Domenech, who joined the Bush Administration in July 2001, previously served as Interior's Deputy Director of External and Intergovernmental Affairs. From 2002 to 2006 he served as White House Liaison to the Interior Department before being promoted to Deputy Chief of Staff.

Domenech, who was born in the United States, is of Puerto Rican descent and lived in the Dominican Republic, Panama, and Puerto Rico as a child. He has a degree in Forestry and Wildlife Management from Virginia Tech and worked on national and state natural resource issues for 15 years prior to his appointment.

Among his duties at the Department, Domenech represents the Secretary on the Advisory Board of the Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico, and often travels to the U.S. Virgin Islands on Interior business. He also represents the Department on the President's Task Force on Puerto Rico Status and on the U.S. delegation to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

"I look forward to working with Nik Pula and his fine team in the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA)," Domenech said.

"Secretary Kempthorne's appointment of Doug Domenech to Insular Affairs is indicative of the Secretary's strong interest and support of issues affecting the U.S.-affiliated areas," said Nik Pula, OIA Director. "I know this will be welcomed by the leaders and the people of the islands."

Pula also thanked Deputy Secretary Lynn Scarlett and Associate Deputy Secretary James Cason for their support of the Secretary on island issues.

"We are very happy to work with Doug who is a familiar face in the OIA corridor. His enthusiasm, experience and energy will be a great asset to our office as we continue forward," said Pula.



Newly appointed Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs, Mr. Douglas W. Domenech

ANNOUNCEMENT

WANTED LABORATORY COORDINATOR

The FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs wishes to contract a qualified individual to work with the FSM Bioterrorism Preparedness Program to coordinate all hospital and public laboratory quality assurance and to implement a quality management system in FSM laboratories. The laboratory coordinator will ensure that all health laboratories satisfy the requirements as outlined in the HRSA and CDC Bioterrorism and Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreements.

- He/She will serve as the lead person for coordinating all activities related to quality assurance and capacity building of FSM hospital and public health laboratories, including all laboratory trainings for medical laboratory personnel.
 - He/She will develop and implement work plans according to the goals and focus areas defined under the CDC and ASPR Bioterrorism Preparedness Cooperative Agreements and to International Standards for Medical Laboratory quality and competence (ISO 15189).
 - He/She will ensure that all health laboratories satisfy the requirements as outlined in the CDC and ASPR Bioterrorism Cooperative Agreements and provide assistance as required for the management of the bioterrorism and emergency preparedness office.
- Any person who is interested in the Laboratory Coordinator position is requested to submit a written expression of interest along with a resume of professional qualifications and salary expectation to the Secretary, FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs at the address below.

Deadline May 26, 2008.

FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs
Bioterrorism Preparedness Program
P.O. Box PS-70
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941
Fax: (691) 320-8460/ 320-5263

“The Seeds We Sow” at COM-FSM

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei – May Day, the first of May was appropriately celebrated at the China Friendship gym of the College of Micronesia’s national campus with a “performance of music and shadow-puppet drama by the students of the National Campus.” It was attended by upward of 200 spectators.

According to the program “shadow puppet drama is an important and pervasive form of traditional performing arts in many Southeast Asian cultures. Called wayang kulit in Indonesia (and especially on the islands of Java and Bali), shadow puppet theater blends ancient myth cycles with contemporary social issues and is accompanied by traditional styles of instrumental music and singing. Our performance of ‘The Seeds We Sow’ is a contemporary Micronesian version of this significant form of World Theater.”

The music for the performance and most of the lyrics performed by the choir were written by Brian Diettrich who teaches music at the campus. Song titles whose lyrics included “Means to Me” with lyrics by Diettrich and music adapted from Keili Reichel, “Far Away”, “On the Sea”, “High Above Flying Free”, “Floating, Rolling, Tossing, Turning”, “Where the Sleeping Lady Lays” with Diettrich lyrics set to an old Scotch Folksong entitled “Loch Lomond”, “Magic Place” and “We Want to See the Islands with lyrics by Jonathan Gourley’s Poetry Class at COM.

The script for the shadow puppet drama was written by the ever enthusiastic Anna Dolan who teaches several writing related courses at the National Campus. She trained the puppeteers who worked from three separate overhead projectors to manipulate the puppets that she had made for the drama.

Besides the beautiful choral music which was surprisingly sung in unison, and the fun



puppetry, one of the highlights of the evening was the voice of the narrator Maybeleen Apwong who told the story in beautiful style with engaging and enthusiastic voice inflections that kept the audience attentive. If I still worked at the radio station instead of the newspaper I would actively seek to hire her for her voice.

The story centered on a Pohnpeian girl who, because of the collapse of her mother’s mental health felt that suicide was the only way out for her. She was rescued from that terrible decision by a whale who took her from the middle of the ocean to Chuuk, a frigate bird who gave her a ride to Yap and promised to “find her mother’s soul”. A pig in Yap taught her the importance of a future saying something to the effect of “all of my relatives have been cooked in an ummw and eaten. If anyone should commit suicide it’s me but I’m glad I never did. I have beautiful children that may one day change the world!”

After her conversation with the pig in Yap she gets a ride from a Turtle to Chuuk, but she was thirsty and when she found a coconut floating on the waves she cracked it on the turtle’s head. It was a Yapese turtle with impeccable navigation skills that disappeared when he received the blow to the head.

Our heroine and her turtle chauffeur end up in Kosrae having accidentally bypassed Pohnpei. Of course, the sleeping lady wakes up, along with the anatomically correct “sleeping boy” and hearing that our heroine is on the island, they throw her all the way back to Pohnpei.

There the frigate bird returns with her mother’s soul and everyone is happy again.

The story was funny and it carried an important message. The presentation lasted less than an hour and the students did an astounding job!

...Injury Study

development of a Lifeskills program for adolescents. They say that their report gives the opportunity to examine the extent of intentional injury in populations with high proportions of children and adolescents “which are experiencing challenges related to globalization, including economic changes and greater interaction between traditional values and western behavioural mores.”

The report says that there was some variation in the age ranges used in each country. They said they surveyed 14 to 17 year olds in Pohnpei, 11 to 17 year olds in Tonga, and 12-17 year olds in Vanuatu. They said that they didn’t include primary schools in Vanuatu or Pohnpei because of “varying literacy levels.” They also said that all of the surveys were conducted in the local languages.

They pointed to a study conducted in the FSM in 1992 that said that harsh punishment by parents for particular behaviors, including disrespect and disobedience was acceptable provided that it was restrained and did not result in serious injury. They said that it was not possible in the study to determine whether injuries inflicted by a parent resulted in culturally acceptable levels of physical discipline, or whether the physically administered disciplinary actions exceeded that level.

Individual responses to the survey were closely guarded and extremely confidential.

...Fuel Price

continued from Page 1

of crude oil, local government regulations and taxes, the regional gasoline supply and demand balance, transportation costs to the region, local distribution and marketing costs and competitive market forces.

“Our region relies on imports of fuel obtained from the global/regional market and the delivery of those products to our region follows a long, complex, and costly supply chain,” Singh said. “Mobil has no option but to pay the ruling market price for the gasoline and other fuels we supply into the CNMI and elsewhere in Micronesia.”

Singh added that the prices of crude oil and petroleum products can be quite volatile and swing dramatically on a week-by-week or even day-by-day basis.

“Mobil’s approach is to dampen such swings and set the price of gasoline and other products to our customers based on a longer term average of market prices rather than those which may apply on the day we load the particular product on a ship,” he said.

Mobil, he added, tries to “avoid significant changes for the customers, both when prices are going up and when they are coming down.”

However, he said, “as everyone is aware, the price of petroleum has increased significantly over recent months and while Mobil understands that its customers — the community generally and governments — it cannot avoid similar increases in the CNMI and other countries throughout Micronesia.”

NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

Pursuant to an order of the FSM Supreme Court entered November 20, 2007, public notice is hereby given that each of the 3 parcels of land described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

Parcel One: Parcel No. 56-B-05 located in the Kipar area of Sokehs Municipality, consisting of an area of 30,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 056-B-00.

Parcel Two: Parcel No. 45-E-12 located in the Lohd-Powe area of Madolenihmw Municipality, consisting of 12,551 square meters, more or less, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 045-E-00

Parcel Three: Parcel No. 64-D-14 located in the Mesihou area of Madolenihmw Municipality, consisting of 5,317 square meters, more or less, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 064-D-02.

- There is no minimum bid amount for any of the parcels.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “FSMDB Land Auction” by personal delivery to FSM Development Bank, Corporate Office, 2nd Floor of the Namio Building, Kolonia, Pohnpei.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 13, 2008.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, and e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the bid.
- All bid submissions must state a bid amount separately for each parcel. Bids may be placed on one, two or all three of the parcels.
- The winning bidder for each parcel will be notified in writing by FSM Development Bank. Each winning bidder shall pay the full amount of the bid by delivery of a cashier’s check payable to the FSM Development Bank no later than 10 days after the winning bidder is notified.
- 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.
- FSM Development Bank reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
- The properties are offered for sale “as-is” with no guarantees or warranties as to its condition whatsoever.
- The winning bidders will take title to the parcels through a quitclaim deed issued by the FSM Development Bank.
- Questions concerning this auction may be directed to Nora E Sigras, Legal Counsel at the FSM Development Bank, PO Box M, Pohnpei, FM 96941, phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-2842, email: noras@fsmdb.fm, website: www.fsmdb.fm

FSM President's State of the Federation Address

President Emanuel Mori - May 12, 2008

Uwa mochen uwei ach kapong en ai fansoun,
"Tirow me Fairo NAPANAP
Fiti ach en netin Soufon me mennin
Ngeni Samach Kot won neng
Puan ngeni ami chechiach me
Atongach meinisin

Speaker Figir and Honorable Members of the 15th FSM Congress, Vice President Alik, Chief Justice Amaraich, and Associate Justices of the FSM Supreme Court, President Haglegam, President Nena, President Falcam, and President Urusemal, Vice President Ismael, and Vice President Killion, Speaker Henry, Speaker Fritz, and Speaker Christian, Governor Simina, Governor Anefal, Governor Weilbacher and Governor Ehsa, Dean and Members of the Diplomatic Corps, National and State Officials, Members of the clergy, private sector and NGOs, Families and friends and my fellow citizens

Good Morning to you all.

As I stand before you today on the occasion of the first year anniversary of this administration, I want to begin by giving praise and gratitude to the almighty, our heavenly father, for his grace, his love, and for his kindness. I want to thank the almighty God for welcoming the souls of our beloved ones who have departed and for caring for us the living. Vice President Alik and I, as well as our families are ever humble and grateful for the many blessings bestowed upon us and for the opportunity to serve at the helm of our nation. Thank you very much indeed and I hope you will continue to remember us in your prayers. We do need your prayers and guidance.

Please allow me to pay my personal respect and courtesies to our traditional leaders, our elder statesmen and other community leaders throughout the federation. In particular, my special recognition to the traditional leadership of Pohnpei, the host state of our nation's capitol.

I would also like to thank and extend courtesies to the 15th Congress, through you Mr. Speaker, for inviting me to give the State of the Federation address today. To me personally, this is a historic occasion, and I am truly grateful and appreciative of your kind consideration especially during the first year of our administration.

It is my earnest hope that this address this morning is only one of the many occasions where we can further strengthen and solidify the bonds of cooperation and friendship that we have enjoyed together as public servants. The people of this nation expect no less from us.

May I also thank our development partners and friends, the United States, Japan, the People's Republic of China and Australia for their generosity and support. With our special relations with the United States through the Compact of Free Association, I want to take this occasion to reiterate the importance that we attach to our U.S. treaty relations. The FSM Government takes great pride in the special relationship which has sustained us, enriched us, and has made us a strong small island democracy in the Western Pacific.

We cannot mention our Compact relations without recognizing with pride and gratitude the service of about 1,000 of our young men and women on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. Many of them are in harm's

way in Iraq and Afghanistan. Some have suffered grave wounds and some have paid the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives in service for our freedom and freedom around the world. We salute them all and their families.

It is my intention my fellow citizens and friends to up date and to inform you of what this administration has accomplished in its first year in office in terms of our successes, as well as, how we as a Nation will face the remaining challenges.

But, let me make it very clear at the outset, Mr. Speaker, that the successes, and the remaining challenges for that matter, are all ours together. The accomplishments for these past 12 months are a result of our good working relationship with the Congress, as well as all our leaders in the Federation. Vice President Alik and I will continue to view our collective successes from that perspective. I thank the leadership of our nation, at all levels, for your support and contributions.

Mr. Speaker and my fellow citizens and friends,

With the support of Congress, I am pleased to inform you that our re-organization of the Executive Branch of your national government is now in place, reflecting the commitments I made during my inaugural address. All the department secretaries and office directors are in office, the only remaining are those of board members of our independent agencies and authorities. I thank you, Speaker Figir and members of the 15th Congress for your support, and I am looking forward to working with you to ensure that the remaining vacancies are filled and completed.

Under the re-organization, the new departments and offices are functioning well, performing their assigned duties and responsibilities. These are the Department of Health and Social Affairs, Department of Education, Office of Statistics, Budgeting, Overseas Assistance, and Compact Management, known as (SBOC), Office of Environment and Emergency Management known as (EEM), and Office of National Archives, Culture, and

Historic Preservation known as (NACH). As newly created departments and offices, we will continue to monitor their performances and make adjustments and fine-tuning where necessary so that we can maximize efficiency.

As guiding principles of the re-organization, we have streamlined the departments' and offices' duties and responsibilities for greater focus. We have upgraded important portfolios such as environment, culture, and education in view of the enormous challenges we face in these areas.

In doing so, however, I am fully conscious of the fact that the national government is only a facilitator and coordinator for the states. As such, the national government can be expected to reach achieve sustainable economic growth only insofar as it is an effective coordinator and facilitator of state policies.

The Office of SBOC is working closely with the Office of Insular Affairs of the United States Department of Interior in monitoring and overseeing the implementation of federal programs as well as the sector grants under the amended compact.

While the tasks have not been easy, we are determined to do our part such as meeting stringent compact reporting requirements, but most importantly, we must assure the American tax payers that their hard earned monies are well spent and in good use.

The new Office of EEM is coordinating and working closely with FEMA for our public assistance programs and emergency needs. It is also working closely with the Department of

Resources and Development and international agencies in addressing the critical issues of our fragile environment, including issues of sea level rise, shoreline destruction, water and sanitation, to name a few.

Complementing the works at the national level, I commend the efforts being done at the community level in addressing environmental issues. I encourage the good works that our citizens are doing, the involvement of the NGOs, as well as those efforts undertaken at the grass root level.

I am also pleased to note, Mr. Speaker that the new Office of National Archives, Culture, and Historic Preservation (NACH) is functioning well. As a matter of fact, that office is currently pursuing a major construction project that will bring all its programs and activities, including a proposed national museum and archives, under one roof.

You will recall in my inaugural address when I spoke of my belief that it is possible to continue striving for national development while preserving our national identity – our cultural values which have been the fabric of our social stability and harmony. History of government program and activities are recorded in documents and those very documents should be preserved in archives. It is for this reason that I have given culture and archives a cabinet level office in the face of growing concern of losing our character and identity as a people and as a nation. I now ask Congress to support the funding of the National Museum.

Mr. Speaker, under the amended compact, education and health are priority areas which are now commanding our attention after being re-organized into two separate departments. Needless to say, these are two important sectors where greater cooperation and coordination are needed the most by the states and national government, as they are shared areas of responsibility of our governments.

As critical sectors of the amended compact, both departments are working closely with the Office of SBOC and other relevant offices at the national, as well as their state counterparts, to ensure their timely and effective implementation. This also includes the other federal assistance programs through the Department of the Interior that have contributed immensely to our social development.

In addition to the challenges for Education, as stated in my inaugural address last year, I want to add another challenge to the Health Sector, and that is a proposed referral hospital for this nation. It will save both lives and financial resources and I therefore ask Congress to favorably consider its funding.

Related to the achievement of the re-organization and to the broader issue of compact implementation, is the infrastructure sector and its Program Management Unit (PMU) which is now relocated to the Office of the President.

After prolong discussions and exchange of views on the best administrative arrangements for PMU, I am pleased to inform you that PMU is now up and running. In this regard, please allow me to reiterate my personal thanks to all the Governors for their support and cooperation, through the Chief Executive Conference resolutions, in moving this sector forward. There is no doubt that we all want to see immediate implementation of the infrastructure projects, with the hope that we can begin to realize and enjoy their benefits. The infrastructure sector is one of the most important sectors as it stimulates and boosts socio-economic activities in the nation.

There is over \$100 million sitting idle for infrastructure projects. We must begin to accelerate the use of these grant funds in order to

catch up with the proposed schedule of project implementation; for job opportunities and income to our citizens, and for the overall growth in our economy. It is up to each of the States to identify their own projects and I encourage them to accelerate their programs by establishing clear objectives and bench marks for expenditures.

So that there is no misunderstanding about this administration's overall infrastructure development policy, I wish to assure you, Mr. Speaker that the Department of TC&I remains the lead agency in developing policies and ensuring that all funded public projects are in compliance with the requirements of our national infrastructure development plan.

Mr. Speaker, my fellow citizens and friends,

Upon taking office a year ago, you will recall, we were faced with formidable challenges and looming financial crisis that threaten to break our spirit as a people and undermine our unity as a nation. I am of course referring to the financial situations in our sister States of Chuuk and Kosrae.

The reforms undertaken in both States have become one of the most difficult tasks for this administration. But thanks to all the support, understanding and cooperation of our collective leadership, I can say with some degree of comfort that we have made some significant progress thus far in both states.

Of particular significance is my deep respect and appreciation to the Municipal Governments in Kosrae for their sacrifices in giving up their share of funds to the State Government so that the reforms in Kosrae that they have devised for themselves can go quickly forward.

The national government and Chuuk State Leadership entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on July 19, 2007, detailing a financial and structural reform agenda for Chuuk State. Among other things, Chuuk State agreed to balance its budget, eliminating 400 positions from its payroll, restructure its executive and legislative branches, and undertake austerity measures to control its budget and reduce its debt obligations. Chuuk State should be complimented on the ongoing success of this program, however, I will continue to challenge the leadership to accelerate the pace of its efforts in order to be able to complete implementing these needed reforms this year.

In our efforts to implement reforms in Chuuk and Kosrae, I would like to acknowledge the generous support and assistance extended by our development partners and friends – United States, China, Australia, and Japan. Your support is very much appreciated, and I can assure you that it has contributed so much to the outcome of these reforms.

I take this opportunity also to acknowledge and to thank Pohnpei and Yap State Governments for their good work and fiscal discipline in managing their financial resources.

Mr. Speaker,

I have made mention of re-organization of the Executive Branch, reforms in Chuuk and Kosrae, as our joint achievements which have become our pre-occupations since assuming office. There are of course other achievements, but in the interest of time, please allow me to briefly acknowledge some of them in no order of priority and importance.

Participation in Regional and International Forums

Since taking office, I have continued the efforts of my predecessors in participating in

regional and international forums that are critical and are of interest to the nation. This is especially true in areas of the environment and sustainable development where our participation has not only strengthened our diplomatic relations, but has afforded us the opportunity to contribute to the discussions of global and regional issues as well as to access the stream of technical assistance and financial resources available.

Corporate Registry and Captive Insurance Programs

Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge the success of Corporate Registry Program in Japan, and to thank Congress for the passage of the Captive Insurance bill, another related program. I am pleased that we have received the first payment of our corporate registry program to which I thank our advisors and all those involved in the program.

The Submarine Fiber Optic Cable:

This important telecommunications project continues to be a challenge in terms of securing funds needed to implement the domestic connection or the second phase of this project. From the very beginning of my term, I have devoted much effort in meetings and discussions with various offices and individuals who have the expertise we need to help implement this project.

From these consultations, I have organized and established a high level working group to continue exploring the ways and means that this country can utilize in making this project a reality. I will submit to Congress the group's report when it is finalized.

I now call on the Congress to support the Executive Branch efforts to develop this regional project with the governments of the Republic of Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Manpower Development:

In my inaugural statement, I alluded to the need to develop our human capital as it is the most important long-term investment for us to undertake. Providing good education and the necessary skills to our children will not only provide the manpower needs of both public and private sector of the Nation, but will make them competitively marketable anywhere they decide to live around the world. Their achievements will be our contribution to themselves and to mankind no matter how small or little they may be. In order to achieve this lifelong dream, we must address the need to improve the COM-FSM system with a balanced emphasis on both academic and vocational education.

It is timely that we consider together this idea of improving our vocational education programs at the college level. Without a doubt, we can become an active participant in the military build-up in Guam, if we provide the necessary vocational training programs to our students so that they can find employment opportunities. I now call on all our development partners, state and national leaders, private sector and NGOs to support the establishment of a vocational facility-preferably at the former PATS High School.

MiCare and Social Security

I wish now to call your attention to the urgency in resolving the issues relating to the financial survivability of both MiCare and the FSM Social Security System. The challenge here involves the availability of adequate funding for these programs. MiCare is now operating with a deficit and the Social Security program obligations exceed the fund's ability to make future payments. I seek your cooperation and assistance to appropriate the funds needed to ensure the survival and continuity of these important programs. We owe this to our citizens who depend on this government to assist in providing affordable health care and a secured retirement.

Energy Policy and Petro Corp.

I would like to address now one of biggest challenges facing this country. The rising price of fossil fuel has literally supplicated all our efforts of moving our economy forward. The unprecedented increase in the price of fuel at the pump or in your electricity bill may be the most obvious for any person to notice. For a common household, these rapid and unrelenting increases in the price of fuel have deprived our citizens the basic necessities of life.

The Petro Corp is now organized, and I would like to thank all the Governors, especially Governor Ehsa and the Pohnpei Legislature for their bold decision to join the rest of the States in this important undertaking.

For the government, we are faced with the challenge of adjusting the wages and salaries of our employees. This, I believe should also be the same challenge for the businesses in the private sector. We can not continue to overlook this problem of rising fuel prices. The government has to increase the minimum wage or provide for a cost of living adjustment to take account for this disparity in income and the price of this basic commodity. I, for one, believe that salary adjustments are needed now to help ease the pain that our rank and file employees are feeling these days. I therefore ask for your support of the needed salary adjustment of our National Government employees.

It is my intention to establish quantifiable objectives to reduce our nation's dependency on fossil fuels. We must decrease our overall use of fossil fuels and sustain our needs by exploring alternate sources of clean energy. We should use our own renewable natural resources, including solar power, ocean thermo energy and power generation from waves and tides, bio-gas and hydro-electric power generation.

Mr. Speaker, energy is now the topic of much

discussion in our Micronesian region. In the recent Micronesian Summit meeting in Palau, I affirmed our keen interest to host the new Secretariat of the new regional energy committee that will be mandated to address energy issues in our region. I ask Congress support to our effort.

National Food Policy

The high cost of fossil fuel and other factors have caused an increase cost of basic food stuffs upon which many of our citizens have become dependent. Families are now spending over 30% of their income merely to feed themselves and their children. These outrageous cost increases for basic and necessary food items will have a disastrous impact on the budget of all families and we must look for immediate long term solutions. One important first step that we can all implement is import substitution. I support policies which promote the use of healthy and affordable local food instead of imported rice, meats, and frozen or canned goods. Self sufficiency should be a goal of our national food policy. I ask all our development partners, private sectors and NGOs to work together with our people to address this urgent challenge.

Coordination with the State Governments:

Our constitution clearly established and delineated the jurisdictions relative to government's structure and functions. The National Government is the facilitator for economic growth and has primary responsibility in conducting of our foreign affairs. Clearly this is a straight forward restatement of the constitutional provisions regarding the sphere of responsibility for each level of government but it has become a challenge when the issue includes such delicate and sensitive issues as the regulation of foreign investment, tax regimes and financial reforms, and so forth.

Today I wish to repeat the request I made in

See "Mori Speech" on page 12



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K-Press Perspective

Just a Few Thoughts

The K-Press Perspective has been absent from The Kaselehlie Press for several issues. I've been battling with many issues as of late and I can't seem to park on any one thing long enough to write a K-Press Perspective. There are many reasons for it and I'm not going to go into them all. Let me share a few things I've been thinking about, if you're interested. If you're not please feel free to just turn the page.

New Format for K-Press...

There is a glaring difference in the print format of the Kaselehlie Press that I would be negligent not to comment upon. Before I do, however, please allow me to thank The Good News Press who for eight years printed the content of our paper. They worked with us and were good to us within the means that they had available to them. They do excellent work meeting the printing needs of people and businesses who need it on the island and I highly recommend them.

The printing needs for newspapers are simply different than most people require.

The bottom line for our decision to change printers is that we found one that could print The Kaselehlie Press at a cost that we simply couldn't ignore. Long before I became the managing editor of The Kaselehlie Press we were on the edge of extinction. The kind of savings that we were offered by our new printer might make it possible in the future to hire more reporters to help us get more news to you—news that matters to your everyday lives. That is our only goal!

Micronesians in Island Conservation...

I was privileged within the last few weeks to attend a retreat of the Micronesians in Island Conservation (MIC) network that was held in Guam this year. Next year the conference will be held in Pohnpei. MIC is a group of people who work on conservation issues throughout Micronesia, not just the FSM. Participants in the conference not only learn vital management skills that will help them as they try to help Micronesians conserve their own natural resources but they make connections with other people working in other countries that are doing the same types of things they are trying to accomplish in their own countries.

As a first time participant it was interesting to watch the relationships grow amongst the participants. They learned from each other if they were willing to do so. Participants included representatives from each of the four states of the FSM, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Guam, and Palau. A representative from Kiribati also attended. He was invited as a potential new member. All of the members of MIC hope that he comes on board, especially in light of the astounding conservation efforts that are taking place there.

Look forward to future articles in the K-Press on what is being accomplished across Micronesia as local people strive to conserve their own environment.

The Nature Conservancy has been funding MIC but the group is looking for funding sources that would make them self sufficient.

If you are interested in helping with finances you can contact Mae Adams at The Nature Conservancy in Pohnpei at (691) 320-4267.

Heroes...

This segue, just like the last one, seems a bit clunky, but in my mind it is natural. I have many heroes. I think of Willy Kostka, the recently deceased Dakio Paul, the Conservation Society of Pohnpei, the Yap Conservation Society, the Yela preserve in Kosrae, the Chuuk Conservation Society, and President Tommy Remengasau of Palau. Each of them has hero status in my mind.

I have heroes in the field of music—more than I can count. My parents are heroes for many reasons, especially considering all that I put them through as I was growing up.

The FSM has many people that I would consider to be my heroes. Some of them I have known. Some I have only heard stories about. I wish I had known. The nation's first, President Tosiwo Nakiyama is a man that I consider to be a hero though I never knew him. He led a fledgling country through a difficult and complex transition.

John de Avila Mangefel, Yap's first Governor and one of the driving forces behind the FSM Constitution is another of my heroes. I never knew him but everything I read about him makes me mourn the fact that I never did. His quick mind and quick wit puts him up there with my greatest of heroes.

I had breakfast this week with Gillian Doone who has the arduous task of trying to help Chuuk to get its finances in order. He has done it in spite of the threat of being fired that has come from both the Legislature and the Governor. The bicameral legislature wants its allowance of \$4500 but he says that Chuuk State law says that the allowance is illegal and he refuses to authorize payment to the 38 members. The matter is now in court.

Frankly, his tactics remind me of my wife's, another hero of mine. She's a saver and I'm a spender. I can't tell you the number of times that a financial emergency has arisen in our family, an emergency I've lost sleep over only to find that she has a stash of cash that she has been saving that saves us. Doone has done the same in Chuuk and rather than being happy about finding a reserve fund that Doone set aside, the Legislature wants to fire him.

He's one of my heroes.

Haser Hainrick and his staff are also my FSM heroes. Hainrick serves as the Director of the Office of the National Public Auditor. He has taken shots with grace from nearly everyone in the government. It's his (and when I say "his" I mean he and his staff's) job to point out when financial accountability is not...uh...happening. It's his job as well to gather information and present it to the Department of Justice when laws governing financial proceedings have been violated.

The ONPA and its Criminal Investigation Division are diligent in gathering evidence on those cases. It must be frustrating when they have worked long and hard gathering information only to have the information ignored. It must be doubly hard since Hainrick

has faced accusations in the past, accusations for which he has been cleared, that his audits have been politically motivated.

ONPA is not perfect but they, collectively are my heroes.

The Speaker of the 15th Congress of the FSM, Isaac V. Figir, of Yap has been repeatedly elected to Congress. His constituents must know what

they're doing. As the article that I wrote for the front page of this issue says, Speaker Figir requested that ONPA perform its first review of the Congress budget to see if there are ways that they could improve in terms of transparency. When it was found that there were many ways that they could improve Figir personally committed to be sure that amendments were made to CB 15-1 that would better define the laws that govern representation funds for Senators. Our latest information says that he introduced those amendments on the 14th of May.

In my opinion, Speaker Figir is one of the few people in the FSM that is in a position to influence the process that doesn't just talk about transparency but actually does something to be sure that it happens. The fact that he was one of the few, if not the only Senator

who didn't vote to declare reporter Sherry O'Sullivan persona non grata despite his stated feeling that she egregiously misquoted him in a news article that he still keeps on his desk, does not influence my opinion of him. He told me that even then he believed that there should be a free press in the FSM.

That's it for now...

As I was writing this opinion piece I was on a roll and started to go into many more subjects. Not only was the item becoming entirely too long it suddenly took a turn toward the negative and I've been trying to eliminate that from my life lately. It can be addictive.

Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press



OLYMPIC DAY RUN
JUNE 14, 2008

5K Walk/Run

7:00a.m., Saturday

Pohnpei - start and finish at Palm Terrace Shopping Center.
Runs will be also held at the same time in Yap, Kosrae and Chuuk.

\$5.00 registration fee, with t-shirts to all finishers



Seen Any Good Movies Lately?



By **N.N. ISAAC**
The Kaselehlie Press

If there's one thing you can count on, it's the eventuality of rain. If you live in Pohnpei where rainclouds should be tested for high-performance drugs, you'll agree that these daily deluges we've been having for the past month or so, are slowly creating a formidable situation that Westerners like to call "cabin fever." To help assuage the building stress caused by the recent attacks of inactivity and the sudden disappearance of the sun, check out these DVDs at the video store to accompany the sound of rain slowly filling the new swimming pool in your backyard.

Saawariya (2007)

Whenever I can, I like to watch foreign films. Subtitles don't bother me, and I derive deep pleasure from experiencing other cultures through the creative medium of movies. Watching "Bollywood" films however, is less like cultivating one's global edification, and more like stuffing your mouth full of creamy milk chocolate.

Newly out on DVD and Blu-Ray disc is an infectious, provoking tale about love and all the ugliness and glory it brings, called "Saawariya." Literally translated as 'beloved' or 'eternal soul mate,' "Saawariya" is the latest unique creation of acclaimed Indian director Sanjay Leela Bhansali, also known as SLB. This is the first Bollywood film to be produced and released by a Hollywood production company (Columbia TriStar Pictures), and is a marked departure from the formulaic "masala" style of Indian filmmaking that portrays action, comedy, romance, and drama all together in order to gain a wider audience appeal.

This movie's plot is inspired by a short story by Fyodor Dostoevsky entitled "White Nights," and the entire movie is told through the recollection of a jaded street-walker named Gulabji. Her name literally meaning "rose," Gulabji is played by the re-

nowned Indian beauty Rani Mukherjee, also known as the Queen of Bollywood. Salman Khan, notorious Bollywood bad-boy, also makes a starring appearance as the mysterious Imaan. Making their first acting appearances are newcomers Ranbir Kapoor and Sonam Kapoor as the story's two protagonists, Ranbir Raj and Sakina, respectively.

Despite its global release and U.S. marketing, *Saawariya* was a box office bomb in India. Some think its commercial failure was due to the fact that it is not a "masala" Indian movie. Others also think it was director SLB's reputation for creating works of art that had a negative over-hyping affect on the reception of this atypical Indian film.

Saawariya is not a perfect movie. At times it feels like a tricked-out Indian version of Baz Luhrmann's *Moulin Rouge*, and even that movie was theatrical enough. Yet, what great romance is without its generous helpings of oozing cheese and bright yellow corn? More importantly, the lyrics and music in this movie are as stunning as its exotic actors and gorgeous set. Director SLB meticulously uses striking tones of green, blue, yellow, black, and white to weave a surreal tapestry that showcases the many moods of this moving love story. The music for this film is so memorable; you'll likely be singing its title song for hours on end. Replete with Indian beauties and a transporting musical score, *Saawariya* is pleasing to the eye, ear, and heart.

If you enjoy Indian musicals and theatrical romances, you will definitely enjoy this movie. *Saawariya* is rated PG for thematic elements, brief nudity, some language and incidental smoking.

Untraceable (2008)

A high-tech serial killer seems unstoppable in the suspenseful crime thriller, "Untrace-

able," newly out on DVD.

In this movie, an elite FBI team of tech-savvy agents wage war on cybercrime by investigating and prosecuting criminals on the internet. Agent Jennifer Marsh, played by Diane Lane (*Under the Tuscan Sun 2003*) heads the investigation of an untraceable website that broadcasts gruesome live murders. Colin Hanks (*King Kong 2005*) plays Marsh's partner, Agent Griffin Dowd, and Billy Burke represents the local police in the investigation as Detective Eric Box.

Here is yet another horror flick exploiting the serial-killer angle. The only difference now is that instead of the methodical killer stalking the streets in his tinted van with a bloody knife, he methodically surfs the internet and kills with a click of his mouse. As silly as that may sound, "Untraceable" is genuinely creepy and is sure to keep you on the edge of your seat for at least 89 of this movie's 101 minutes.

It's more than probable that there are computer techies out there who would be highly annoyed with Hollywood for making hacking look easy or unrealistic. It probably stems from the same reason why most doctors scorn hit medical TV shows and movies. Nevertheless, "Untraceable" is sure to thrill and entertain a good majority of computer users out there as it attempts to grapple the latest trends in horror movies: voyeurism and technophobia.

I recommend "Untraceable" for a fun, terrorizing ride, with consideration that it is "just a movie" and was probably written by a really old man. This movie is rated R for grisly violence, torture, and some language. To sum it up, all one can do about the weather is kick back and calmly let nature run its course through your newly planted herb garden. In the meantime, happy viewing, and don't forget to be kind, rewind, and watch for these movies on DVD.

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POHNPEI STREET TALK

A recent report said that 62% of boys between the ages of 14 to 17 and 56% of girls had been physically hurt by someone else at some point in their life (for example, fighting with peers, or discipline from authority figures). The survey was conducted in 2001. Do you think those numbers are still accurate? Do you think they're too high or too low? How many of your friends have been hurt that way?



**"I think it's much higher!
... and I think it's the girls beating
up the boys.
I would say that most of my
friends were hurt that way."**

Alfons



**"Aw... these numbers are
definitely going up now. More
people means more abuse and
Pohnpei is growing fast."**

Likiak Ittu




**"I think the numbers
are lower nowadays.
Only 2 or 3 of my
friends were abused."**

Lance Welly




**"There are much more
people being abused now.
Most, maybe all my friends
have been abused like that"**

Billy Mendiola



**"I think the numbers are the same.
Micronesia doesn't have child
abuse laws. You can beat your
kids with sticks and knives, etc. I
think it's wrong and there should
be a law against it."**

Ryan Kuor



**"I think it's higher now than
before. Not too high, but
definitely higher. ... maybe ten
or so of my friends have been
abused."**

J.J. Vincent

Photos By Nigel Jaynes

Astronomical Tide Prediction May 21 - June 3, 2008

	POHNPEI, KOSRAE		CHUUK	
Wednesday	21 Wed 03:28AM 4.4 10:22AM 0.9 03:50PM 2.6 09:05PM 1.1	28 Wed 01:34AM 2.2 08:18AM 3.2 03:52PM 1.4 10:46PM 2.8	21 Wed 02:21AM 2.4 10:31AM 0.1 02:34PM 0.3 06:20PM 0.2	28 Wed 05:27AM 1.6 04:38PM 0.4
Thursday	22 Thu 03:55AM 4.4 10:54AM 0.9 04:21PM 2.5 09:29PM 1.2	29 Thu 04:03AM 2.2 09:55AM 3.0 04:50PM 1.4 11:41PM 3.1	22 Thu 02:47AM 2.4 11:05AM 0.1 02:46PM 0.3 06:33PM 0.1	29 Thu 03:27AM 1.4 04:41PM 0.4
Friday	23 Fri 04:24AM 4.3 11:29AM 1.0 04:55PM 2.4 09:55PM 1.3	30 Fri 05:49AM 1.9 11:24AM 2.9 05:40PM 1.3	23 Fri 03:14AM 2.4 11:48AM 0.1 02:54PM 0.2 06:44PM 0.1	30 Fri 01:13AM 1.4 08:05AM 0.8 10:10AM 0.9 04:47PM 0.5
Saturday	24 Sat 04:55AM 4.2 12:08PM 1.1 05:35PM 2.3 10:24PM 1.5	31 Sat 12:26AM 3.6 06:57AM 1.5 12:34PM 2.8 06:24PM 1.2	24 Sat 03:42AM 2.3 12:47PM 0.1 02:53PM 0.2 06:50PM 0.1	31 Sat 12:46AM 1.7 08:18AM 0.5 12:22PM 0.7 04:53PM 0.5
Sunday	25 Sun 05:30AM 4.0 12:52PM 1.2 06:26PM 2.2 11:00PM 1.7	01 Sun 01:07AM 4.0 07:51AM 1.1 01:31PM 2.8 07:05PM 1.1	25 Sun 04:12AM 2.2 06:44PM 0.1	01 Sun 12:53AM 2.0 08:53AM 0.2 01:48PM 0.5 04:57PM 0.4
Monday	26 Mon 06:11AM 3.8 01:44PM 1.3 07:40PM 2.3 11:53PM 1.9	02 Mon 01:48AM 4.3 08:40AM 0.7 02:21PM 2.7 07:45PM 1.0	26 Mon 04:41AM 2.1 06:04PM 0.2	02 Mon 01:13AM 2.3 09:34AM -0.1
Tuesday	27 Tue 07:04AM 3.5 02:46PM 1.4 09:21PM 2.4	03 Tue 02:29AM 4.6 09:26AM 0.5 03:08PM 2.7 08:24PM 0.9	27 Tue 05:09AM 1.9 04:50PM 0.3	03 Tue 01:41AM 2.5 10:19AM -0.3

...Mori Speech

continued from page 9

my inaugural address to the State Governments to work with the National Government towards the improvement of our laws and rules regulating foreign investment. We must continue to work together and develop the most appropriate framework whereby proper controls are put in place ensuring equitable ownership and participation of our local entrepreneurs.

Tax Reform

I renew my plea to the five governments to accelerate our Tax Reform efforts in accordance with the schedule of implementation as recommended by the Tax Reform Task Force in order to realize new sources of revenue for government operations.

Mr. Speaker, my fellow citizens and friends,

Looking back into the one-year span in office, my confidence in the vision that I referred to in my inaugural address and in the nation and our people remains strong.

I acknowledge these are challenging times - crises on the horizon - some are not of our own making, they are unforeseen, unexpected, and unavoidable. And yet they affect all of us, impacting everything we do.

But in the end, we shall prevail because of the strong resilience of our leaders and our people. We shall prevail because of our ability to achieve consensus at the end of the day. Indeed, it is the spirit of cooperation among the leadership as well as citizens of this nation that will take us forward.

It is unavoidable that there are, and there will be issues on which we will disagree. This is the nature of a healthy democratic system. Nevertheless, we can all approach the great

work of the nation with pride in the accomplishments of those who have gone before, and with confidence in ourselves to carry out the great responsibility that we have assumed.

That pride and confidence will serve us, if they stand on an underlying faith in our Creator, as we humbly proceed to make the best of the paradise that has been granted by our Creator, to us, as stewards of His creation.

People from outside our islands may come to visit and enjoy, and we welcome them. Our donor partners may continue to provide critical development assistance and we are grateful. But the stewardship responsibility, now and for the generations to come, lies on our shoulders alone.

In this respect, Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the first anniversary of our administration, I renew my appeal to all of us to join together this day, with renewed common cause and common purpose to work together one and all in the same spirit of unity that has inspired us all. If I had a single keynote to stress here today, it would be the crucial importance - indeed the necessity - that we bring a genuine working spirit of unity in the executive branch and the legislative branch, and with our private sector partners as well. Unity is a word that falls easily and often roll off our tongues, but we must live it, not just speak of it.

Let us make ourselves all that we can be, given that we live by God's grace, in the most wonderful corner of His creation.

God bless the Federation

Thank you.
Kulo Mulalap
Kalahngan
Kamagar
Kinisou Chapur

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12		
13					14					15					
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	55	56								57					
58				59		60	61			62					
63			64		65					66		67	68	69	70
71					72					73					
74						75				76					

I HATED THIS MOVIE

ACROSS		DOWN	
1. Football maneuver	42. Noble steed	1. Golf goal	37. Skittish
5. Roman ruin feature	44. Urgent	2. Scarfed down	38. Really want
9. Handle with ____	45. Scout's badge	3. Grass square	39. Agreeing word, when doubled
13. Sitting on	47. <i>Strangers on a</i>	4. Like an X-File	41. Small cut
14. Ricochet	49. Blemish	5. Land parcel	43. Inexpensive metal
16. At an end	50. Crunchy	6. "Go team!"	46. Capture
17. Have a go at again	52. Local, to a tourist	7. Tot spot	48. Doting babysitter
18. African charger	54. Oompah dances	8. Whet	51. Small key
19. One-time dance craze	57. Knob	9. Gear component	53. Lollipop licker
20. Lode load	58. Bitter brew	10. Declares openly	54. It might vibrate
22. "All ____ are off"	59. Innocent or guilty	11. Majestic	55. Oil producer
24. Bankroll	62. "I hated this movie," e.g.	12. Wear away	56. Flood toiler
25. Jab	63. Donate	15. Slogan	60. Pupil's poser
27. Skirmish	65. Ooze	21. The Great Barrier ____	61. Model T, e.g.
29. Game participant	67. Hiatuses	23. Thus and ____	62. Benefit
31. Artist's attire	71. Level	25. Feather	64. This ____ up
33. Groove	72. ____ tots	26. Western	66. A ____ of thieves
34. More than partially	73. Subject for a class	28. Halt, but leave marks	68. What happened next?
36. Weld	74. Swamp grass	29. Brit's baby buggy	69. Babe, for one
40. Clergy's closer	75. Monastery member	30. Daiquiri liquor	70. Home to a 69 Down
	76. Nervous	31. Show bad table manners	
		32. Talking bird	
		35. Oodles	

K-Press Puzzle Pleasure

Quotable

U	F	B	T	B	D	I	T	B	L	R	S
U	V	B	E	N	N	R	E	M	A	I	N
K	N	E	A	T	O	B	L	U	L	E	G
E	K	T	U	U	T	T	M	E	V	S	G
V	U	H	M	O	D	E	N	H	K	H	A
O	L	O	O	F	A	T	R	A	M	B	M
M	M	U	M	P	A	E	E	T	H	M	B
E	H	G	K	N	D	P	D	P	O	T	K
R	G	H	D	G	S	I	V	V	F	E	B
F	M	T	H	T	B	U	O	D	L	L	A

Puzzle A

This quote is from American President Abraham Lincoln. The words in the Puzzle are grouped together as shown in the list below.

- | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| -BETTER TO- | -SILENT AND- | -A FOOL- | -SPEAK- | -REMOVE- |
| -REMAIN- | -BE THOUGHT- | -THAN TO- | -OUT AND- | -ALL DOUBT.- |

Square Nines

Puzzle B

Find 3x3 squares in the puzzle which contain, in no particular order, the nine letters of the words listed below.

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

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| -COURTSHIP- | -FORTNIGHT- | -PROVISION- | -TRUCKLOAD- |
| -DOOR PRIZE- | -GRILLWORK- | -RADIO WAVE- | -VAPORIZED- |
| -ENDURANCE- | -MILLBOARD- | -SLIP COVER- | |

SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

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NOTICE OF GOVERNMENT SALE OF VESSEL

F/V "ORYO MARU"



In accordance with Civil Action Number 2003-021 issued by the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia:

The Fishing Vessel "Oryo Maru" is offered for sale to interested persons in 'as is condition'.

The vessel is currently located at the Pohnpei Port, FSM National Police Maritime Wing.

Offers by persons wishing to purchase this vessel must be received no later than close of Business on **June 20, 2008**.

For additional information and to arrange inspections, please contact FSM National Police at: Telephone number 320-2628 or email: nphq@mail.fm

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

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

Just for Fun

Computers are getting smarter all the time: scientists tell us that soon they will be able to talk to us. (By "they" I mean "computers": I doubt scientists will ever be able to talk to us.) — *Dave Barry*

The sandwich dates back to the time man discovered he could not live by bread alone. — *Unknown*

To err is human, but it is against company policy. — *Unknown*

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

P. O. Box 2222
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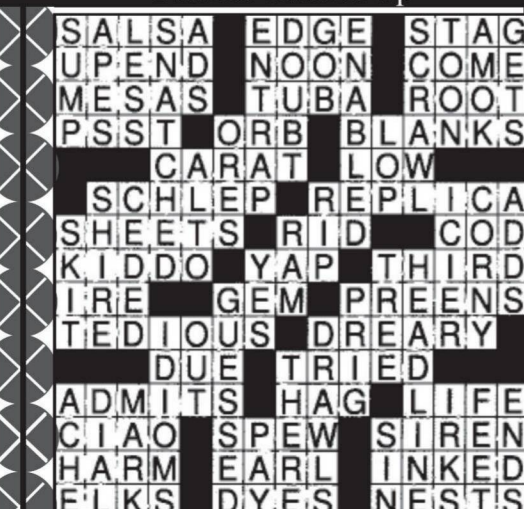
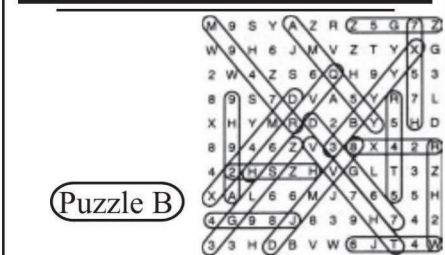
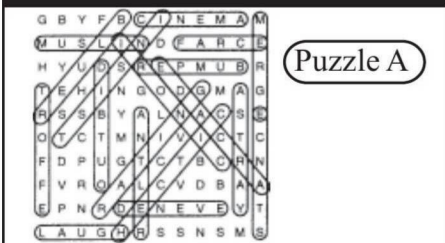
CALL ☎ 320-3868 or 320-5058

The deadline for Ads, News Items,
or Letters to the Editor for the next issue
is May 30, 2008

K-Press Puzzle Pleasure

LAST Issue's Solution

LAST Issue's Solution
Gets All Gussied Up



Pohnpei Banana Booklet is Presented on the GFU Global Website

By **Dr. Lois Englberger**
Pohnpei Island Food Community

The Pohnpei Bananas: A Photo Collection: Carotenoid-rich Varieties booklet is now presented on the website of the Global Facilitation Unit (GFU) for Under-utilized Species and is visible to people around the world.

Paul Bordoni, GFU Scientific Assistant, based in Rome, Italy, contacted the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) and indicated a keen interest in the many Pohnpei banana varieties. He wrote, "We are very interested to feature Pohnpei bananas - it is a great topic further to being very important to livelihood improvement. That makes us like it very much!"

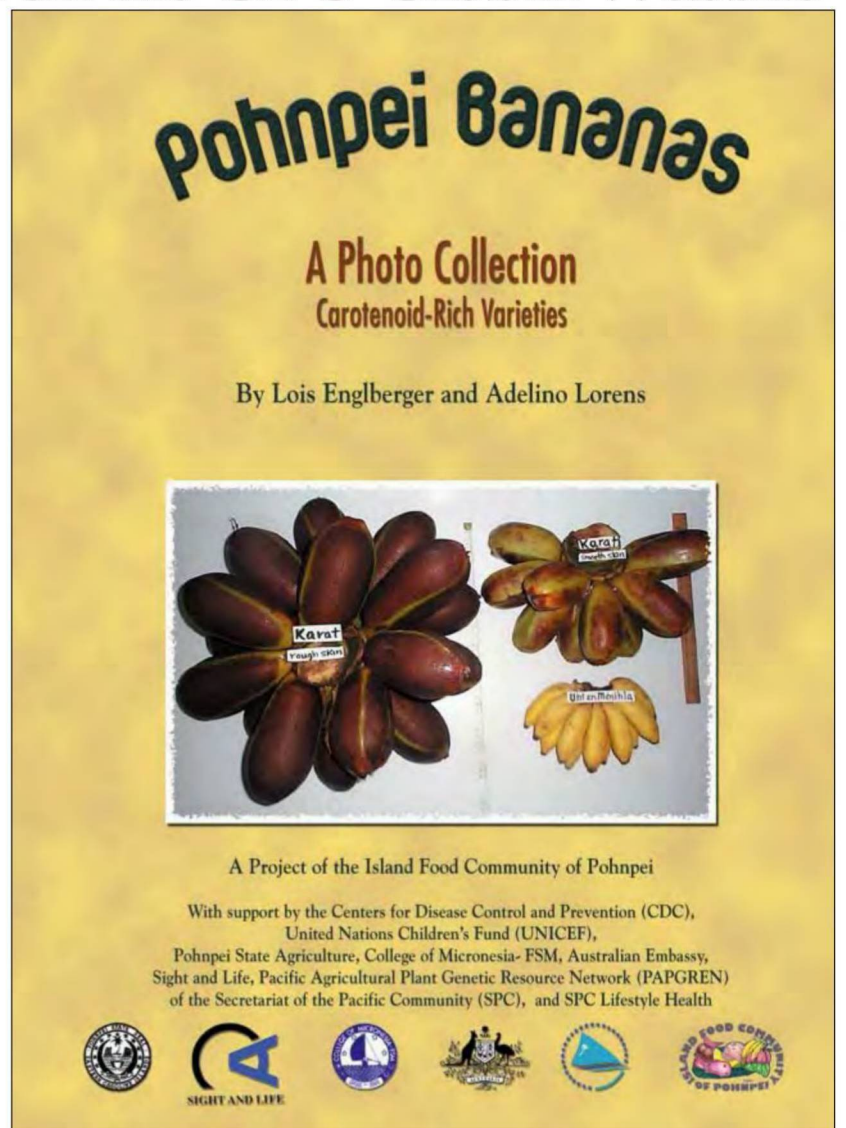
The booklet is highlighted on the GFU homepage under "Recently Uploaded Publications": www.underutilized-species.org. The introductory page is presented here: http://www.underutilized-species.org/record_details.asp?id=1032

Photographs of 31 varieties of bananas are featured, including *Karat*, the State Banana of Pohnpei. Two kinds of *Karat*, the smooth-skinned and the rough-skinned, are featured on the cover of the booklet, along with *Utin Menihle*, the popular dessert banana.

The introduction of the booklet states: "Studies have shown that yellow or orange coloration of the edible flesh is a good indication of high carotenoid content in bananas. Pohnpeians are encouraged to plant and consume more of the high carotenoid types in order to help protect themselves and their families against vitamin A deficiency [causing vulnerability to infections], anemia [weak blood], diabetes, heart disease, and certain cancers."

The booklet can be purchased locally at Palm Terrace, Pohnpei Tourism Office, and the IFCP Training Center, with proceeds going to island food promotion. The booklet is featured at the IFCP website: www.islandfood.org. Copies for group teaching are provided for no charge.

Thanks are extended to the funding and other support by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), UNICEF, Pohnpei Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs, College of Micronesia-FSM, Australian Embassy, Sight and Life, Pacific Agricultural Plant Genetic Resource Network (PAPGREN), and Secretariat of the Pacific Community.



Recipe of the Week (taken from the Pohnpei Bananas booklet)

Daiwan Banana Pancakes

- 3 cups flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 cups water, or as needed
- 1 to 2 cups ripe Daiwang banana (4 to 8 fruits)
- Oil for frying

1. Mix flour, baking powder and sugar together.
2. Add water to the flour mixture and mix well.
3. Mash banana and mix into the flour and water mixture.
4. Coat the frying pan with enough oil for lightly frying.
5. Add a few spoonfuls of batter and fry, one side at a time.

Pohnpei Banana Varieties Go to New Zealand for Resistant Starch Analysis

An exciting new research project has been started as a collaborative project between the Island Food Community of Pohnpei and University of Auckland in New Zealand, under the leadership of Professor Conrad Perera. This is to assess five varieties of Pohnpei bananas in the mature green stage: Karat, Daiwang, Utin Kerensis, Utin Ruk and Inahsio, analyzing for content of resistant starch. Adelino Lorens, Chief of Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs, and Chairman of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, and Dr. Lois Englberger, IFCP Research Advisor, assisted in the sample preparation. Resistant starch refers to the starch that acts like fiber in the body and resists being digested as other starch. Recent research indicates that resistant starch is likely to provide many health benefits, including diabetes control, weight and energy management, and increased bioavailability of essential minerals, including calcium. Green cooking banana has been found to contain substantial amounts of resistant starch, but it is not known whether different banana varieties vary in the amount of resistant starch that they contain. Therefore, the results will provide insight on whether some varieties of green cooking bananas have particular health benefits.

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