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Phone 691-320-6547 Fax 691-320-6571

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## Mori files answer to Olter claims of fraud in Transco shares case

Mori's "sister" files an affidavit saying that Olter knew how many shares he was selling

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Palikir, Pohnpei - Weno, Chuuk** – Mihpel Olter Susaia has sworn in an affidavit signed on February 4 and filed as exhibits in two separate legal actions saying that her first cousin Barney Olter first offered to sell his Transco shares to her for the same amount of money that FSM President Mori paid.

Motions on the matter of the Transco shares and their disposition are currently being adjudicated both in Chuuk and in Pohnpei. The Chuuk matter was a legal action filed by President Mori against Transco defendants and contends that CEO Myron Hasiguchi and other Transco officials conspired to block the transfer of shares into Mori's name so that Hasiguchi could buy the shares for himself.

Barney Olter filed a civil action against President Mori at the FSM Supreme Court in Palikir alleging amongst several other charges, that he was defrauded by the President in the deal that resulted in a bill of sale for over 2000 shares of the stock. Olter said that Mori knew, because of his position and because of insider information as a share holder in Transco how many shares Olter owned when he made the deal to sell "all of his shares" for \$3000. The civil action said that Mori's superior knowledge led him to sell the shares for 1/3 of their par value.

The affidavit sworn to by Mihpel Olter was filed as support for the President's claims in both actions. She said that before she and her husband Akilino Susaia left Pohnpei in May of 2008 so that he could assume his position as FSM Consul in Hawaii, her natural first cousin Barney Olter approached her offering to sell his inherited shares in both Transco and Ponape Transfer and

Storage Company (PT&S). She bought the PT&S shares but told Barney to sell his shares to Manny Mori.

Mihpel Susaia is the promised sister of President Mori's sister Dorothy Mori Philip. "Dorothy and Manny are families to me and me to them," she said in the affidavit. Her deposition said that it was through her that Barney learned that Mori's family in Chuuk owns shares and at one time operated and managed the Transco company.

She said that Barney specifically offered to sell her the Transco shares for \$3000 and showed her a dividend check stub for "\$1000 plus" which was the most recent dividend payment received from the shares. The check stub indicated that there were three stock certificates in Transco.

She said that Barney told her that his late

See "Transco Shares" on page 4



### High School champions compete in week of champions in Pohnpei

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### Chuuk Peace Memorial Ceremony commemorates "Operation Hailstorm"

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## Conservation groups stand up for world's last stand of Terminalia trees in Kosrae

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Tofol, Kosrae** – A small crowd of conservation minded people gathered in the courtyard outside of the Kosrae governor's office to witness a historic event. Three conservation agencies in Kosrae signed a memorandum of understanding to begin cooperative efforts to establish a conservation easement in order to preserve the Yela Ka Forest and its surrounding ecosystem in Tafunsak, Kosrae.

Olivier Wortel wrote perhaps the best description of the Yela Ka Forest. He said, "Imagine a tropical forest on the equator



that filters 300 inches of rain every year filled with towering trees that rise into the blue sky like majestic, ancient columns of life and diversity. A place that has remained undeveloped since the beginning of time, where nature and island ecology have been allowed to run their course undisturbed for generations. The forest is thick with the sounds of moving water, breezes through the canopy of leaves high above, and the hooting of fruit pigeons, and whistling song birds. It is shady and cool and

wet. Ferns, lichens, and moss drip with moisture. In front of this forest lies a swath of magnificent, green mangroves where mud crabs and juvenile barracuda, groups of mullet and rabbit fish thrive, and beyond them a nursery of sea grass beds that extend for a mile out into coral-rimmed and fish-laden blue holes. Further still is a deep opening into one of the world's most colorful reefs teeming with giant parrot fish and

See "Terminalia" on page 6



### FSM Police rescue stranded Japanese fishing vessel

Story on page 3

# Chuuk commemorates the 65th anniversary of "Operation Hailstorm"

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

Weno, Chuuk – Representatives from Chuuk, the United States, and Japan gathered on February 17 at the Blue Lagoon Resort to commemorate the 65th anniversary of "Operation Hailstorm" the US strike force operation that resulted in the liberation of Chuuk from Japanese occupation. The now peaceful and tranquil Chuuk served as a backdrop to the morning's event. 65 years ago it was the scene of what Colonel Michael Korman of the

US Army called an operation that had as much importance as Pearl Harbor in keeping peace.

The Japanese held the islands of Chuuk as a major logistics center and was the operating home base for the Imperial Japanese Navy's Combined fleet. They had held the islands since the end of World War I and no foreigners had been allowed there. On February 4, 1944 the United States sent a pair of PB4Y reconnaissance aircraft to gather aerial photos of what was then called the Truk Lagoon. The aircraft were based at the recently conquered air-

strips in the Marshall Islands which were in range of Truk. The aerial photographs showed that Imperial Fleet warships were present in the Lagoon. Knowing that US and Allied Forces air superiority depended on the destruction of Japan's operation center in

Truk, Admiral Raymond Spruce ordered an attack by Task Force 58 a U.S. Fleet Carrier Force Battle Group consisting of five fleet carriers and four light carriers able to fly 500 aircraft. Assisting the carriers was a large fleet of seven battleships, and numerous cruisers, destroyers, submarines and other support ships.

Before dawn on February 17, 1944 a squadron of Hellcat fighters took off from the carriers to ensure that the US would have air domination over Truk Lagoon. They found that the Japanese Combined fleet was gone and the skies were virtually unprotected. Over 250 Japanese aircraft were destroyed, mostly on the ground. Many of the aircraft were in various states of assembly. Over the course of the next two days US forces sank Japanese ships in the lagoon with a combined weight of 220,000 tons.

According to Colonel Korman over 2000 Japanese troops lost their lives, 120 Chuukese people were killed. 30 US servicemen were also killed in the battle. Their names were read at the Chuuk Peace Memorial Ceremony on February 17, 2009.

Mr. Luke Mechenuk was in Weno on that day in 1944. He said that at 6 o'clock in the morning sirens started to sound and he and the people with him thought that it was just more Japanese planes coming in.

When they looked up and saw that it was US planes and not Japanese planes a loud cheer went up from the crowd but that cheer was short lived. Soon the machine-gun fire began and bombs started dropping from the US planes. The Japanese at the airstrip were trying to fire back but they didn't seem to have a chance. Mechenuk said there were at least ten fires downtown and that many people died including children.

Most of the Japanese ships were sunk on the first day and in the evening the planes left. Mechenuk said that the next day the US planes returned and sunk the remaining three or four vessels.

Mr. Kabayashi, a Japanese citizen also spoke and told the crowd that he comes to Chuuk every year to be there on February 17. It was on that day in 1944 that Kabayashi-san's father was killed in the battle for Truk Lagoon and he always to comes to Chuuk to honor his father.

When Truk Lagoon was destroyed US and Allied Forces had air superiority in the Pacific. Several thousand Japanese soldiers were marooned in Chuuk and had to fend off starvation until the end of the war.

Chuuk's Governor Wesley Simina said at the ceremony that he was grateful for the liberation but equally saddened by the loss of people during the battle. He said that his wish is for the absence of hatred in the world and absence of misunderstandings.



Kabayashi-san, Colonel Michael Korman, and Chuuk's Governor Wesley Simina observe a moment of silence after placing wreaths in the lagoon to honor those who perished during Operation Hailstorm.

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 Your Newspaper for Today and Tomorrow  
 P.O. Box 2222 Pohnpei, FM 96941  
 ph:(691) 320-6547 fax: (691) 320-6571  
 email: [kpress@mail.fm](mailto:kpress@mail.fm)

**Bill Jaynes**  
 Managing Editor

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# Ailing Japanese fishing vessel Tokuie Maru rescued at sea

the Marshall Islands.

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Federated States of Micronesia** - In the late afternoon of Friday, February 20 the FSM National Police received an email from the Japanese Coast Guard reporting that a Japanese fishing vessel, the Tokuie Maru was adrift in FSM waters. The vessel's captain reported that they were having unidentified engine problems and requested a rescue from the National Police.

Simion Weitto, Captain of the FSS Independence said that by 7:00 that evening his crew of 13 was steaming west to intercept the ailing fishing boat. On board was Benson Frederick and FSM police officer who, according to Captain Weitto speaks enough Japanese to serve as an interpreter.

They found the drifting vessel on Saturday morning at 9:50 at Latitude 09 degrees 27 minutes north Longitude 157 degrees 58 minutes east, 147 nautical miles from Pohnpei and just a few miles from the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of

Weitto, who has captained the FSS Independence for over 17 years, said that the weather was rough with seas of six to eight feet and gusts blasting at nearly 30 nautical miles per hour. It was too dangerous to board the Tokuie Maru in those conditions. He steered the Independence as close to the bow of the Japanese vessel as he could and crew members threw out a heave line, a thin rope that is tied to the much larger tow rope and used to haul over the tow line.

Weitto said that rescue operations of this type are always dangerous and are especially so in rough weather like they experienced on Saturday. The tow line snapped twice while the FSS Independence was returning to Pohnpei while towing the Tokuie Maru. Weitto said that whenever a tow line snaps when towing the snap back of the seriously strained rope has enough force to kill a person and to seriously damage equipment on board.

The first time that the tow line snapped was at 11:40 on Saturday night. It took crew members over two hours to make the I-splice in the rope and to get back under

way. It snapped again close to the Pohnpei

port at 1:30 in the afternoon on Sunday.

Both vessels arrived safely at the Pohnpei port at 7:00 on Sunday evening.

Weitto said that vessels rescued at sea are expected to pay the expense of the rescue.

He said that his crew members reported that the Japanese Vessel was in compliance with all FSM laws including hav-

ing a vessel monitoring system and a valid fishing license. He was told that there was 7 tons of fish aboard.



Above: Captain Simion Weitto of the FSS Independence

Left: The Tokuie Maru safely moored at the Pohnpei port



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## ...Transco shares

*Continued from front page*

father, Salter Olter who is also Mihpel's uncle told him that he owned over 2000 shares of the stock.

She said that she facilitated the offer of the sale of the stocks Barney had inherited and that President Mori, until that time had no idea that Barney had shares in Transco. She said that he was surprised and grateful that her family wanted to sell the family shares to him. "He (Mori) also understood that he was being offered 2000 plus shares for \$3000. My cousin and I also understood we were offering to sell Manny some 2000 plus shares for the \$3000, just like my cousin first offered them to me," the signed and sworn affidavit says.

"I was happy that the sale worked out very well and that I was able to help both my cousin and my brother Manny. When I heard Transco and Myron Hasiguchi tried to cheat Manny out of those shares, I called my cousin and asked him to keep his word with Manny, because there is more than money involved in the whole thing. We cherished and want our family relationship preserved," she said as her final words in

the affidavit.

The precipitating event in all of the legal actions was the bill of sale signed by Barney Olter that assigned the shares to President Mori. The bill of sale does not mention the number of shares that were sold to Mori and that seems to be the crux of the matter.

Mori's response to the case filed by Barney Olter said that he did not contact Transco to determine the number of shares that Olter owned because he already knew. It says that he likewise did not look into the probate matter at Pohnpei State Supreme Court.

His response said that Olter as the seller had a responsibility to know the value of his shares.

It also says that he did not abuse his office by inviting Olter to his office to complete the transaction. The location was simply a matter of time and convenience.

Tino Donre of Micronesian Legal Services is representing Barney Olter who has been named as a third party defendant in the action filed by President Mori in Chuuk. Donre has filed a motion to stay prosecu-

tion in the Chuuk case arguing that a disposition in the Pohnpei case filed by Olter in Pohnpei will also dispose the Chuuk case.

Sabino Asor, former Chief of Staff for President Mori is representing President Mori in the claim and counterclaim in Chuuk and also in the case filed against Mori in Pohnpei. He argues that the case in Chuuk need not be stayed because it already involves the issue of the validity of the original Bill of Sale between Mori and Olter and that Olter did not need to file the subsequent case in Pohnpei simply to challenge the validity of the same Bill of Sale already at issue in the initial case in Chuuk.

Asor, in an email to The Kaselehlie Press said, "Since Transco and Hasiguchi themselves in the counterclaim in the Chuuk case claimed [that] they added Barney Olter to the Chuuk case to 'prevent a multiplicity of suit', they should be true to themselves and oppose the filing of the subsequent case by Barney in Pohnpei instead of supporting Barney's Motion to Stay the Chuuk case [in order to] proceed with a subsequent case."

The Kaselehlie Press has not seen the affidavit filed and sworn to by Manuela Peter. Asor said that part of Mori's response in the Chuuk case was based on that affidavit.

Peter, according to Asor said that during the course of a possible settlement negotiation with Hasiguchi and Transco, Hasiguchi "boasted to the lady that she should settle with them (Myron and Transco) so they don't do to her what they are doing in their cases against Mr. Mori, which is to start several cases out of the same incident and involve a number of lawyers against Mr. Mori to delay the relief Mr. Mori sought in his initial case."

Asor, on behalf of President Mori has alleged collusion amongst the lawyers involved and has requested court admonishment of the lawyers if in fact the lawyers were encouraging their clients to use their company's unlimited financial resources to "engage in bad faith, dilatory tactics against Mr. Mori as reportedly boasted by their clients in Chuuk."

Attorney Michael J. Sipos is the attorney of record in Barney Olter's action against the President in Pohnpei. Attorney Steven V. Finnen represents Transco, et al., in Chuuk. According to the President's attorney, Sabino Asor, all are waiting for a court scheduling of a possible hearing in the Chuuk Trial Division on all of the filings received to date.

## **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 three 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, March 27, 2009.
- 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 Sigrah, 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*

# Petrocorp Micronesia Assumes the Airport Refueling Operations in Yap

Petrocorp Micronesia announced today that it had commenced servicing the aviation sector in the State of Yap. The Corporation now provides aviation services and products to three airports in the FSM. Aviation services and refueling operations commenced today following a review of its Yap operations by Exxon-Mobil Aviation and Continental Airlines. "The transition could have been smoother but we were under time pressures so we did experience some service disruptions while we awaited Continentals inspection and verification of our systems and procedures. This has now been addressed and we can now focus on improving services and leveraging economies of scale in the FSM" says the Corporations Chairman, Mr. William Hawley. Aviation products including Jet Fuels are among the most critical products that Petrocorp distributes from the standpoint of exacting quality requirements. Strict precautions are taken to see that these products are maintained to the proper specifications and delivered safely into aircraft in the same condition. Mr. Frank Perez, Continental's nominated inspector completed the final review of systems, procedures and documentation this week.

"We have a strategic partnership with ExxonMobil Aviation (EMA) through a Technical Services Agreement ensures that we maintain product reliability through the diligent application of EMA quality assurance systems, however, the efforts of Mr. Perez and the Continental team were instrumental in minimizing any further disruptions in this transition" says Chairman Hawley.

Mobil Oil Micronesia Incorporated (MOMI) had ceased aviation refueling operations in Yap citing the small market with high costs did not continue to justify further investment in Yap. In 2004 a decision was made by the Yap State Government to invest in the facility and to train staff to ensure that essential air services to the State were maintained.

"Although MOMI continued to provide diesel and gasoline in Yap, a lack of aviation fuel drastically affected our access to essential air services. We experienced first hand the effect that this had on the people and businesses here in Yap, and had little alternative but to step in and provide the service. Any step backward toward embargo on cargo is not only against the spirit of the amended Compact, but an economic sanction of immeasurable proportions", says Yap State Governor Sebastian Anefal.

# Coast Guard Suspends Search for Missing Chuukese Boys

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam

GUAM— On Monday evening, Coast Guard Sector Guam suspended the active search for the two boys from Chuuk. The boys were last seen on Sunday Feb 15th making the 5 mile transit between the Islands of Pol-lap Atoll, which is approximately 150 miles west of Chuuk Lagoon. Chuuk Department of Public Safety officers conducted searches around the surrounding island but were unable to locate the boys or their canoe. Coast Guard Sector Guam was notified at 4:40 p.m. on Feb 18th.

After initial notification on Wednesday afternoon, the Coast Guard coordinated an extensive five-day search of the waters off Pular. On Thursday a Navy P-3 searched for six hours. On Friday at 522 PM a CG C-130 search aircraft conducted a search that located the drifting canoe with the two boys on board 128 nautical miles west southwest of Pollop Island. The C-130 dropped a survival pack to the canoe. The survival pack included food, water, and signaling devices. The C-130 lost visual contact with the canoe after the sunset and was not able to establish radar contact with the canoe. At 848 PM the C-130 departed the area because of limited fuel and returned to Weno. At 918 PM Good Samaritan vessel BRILLIANT CENTURY arrived on scene and located the canoe by sighting the high intensity strobe light that the C-130 had dropped to them. The vessel reported seeing one person in the water swimming. The crew attempted to rescue the person using heaving lines and a life ring, but they lost sight of the individual in the heavy seas. Saturday morning at 0129 AM a Navy P-3 arrived to search for the boys who were presumed to be in the water. Vessel BRILLIANT CENTURY was relieved by a smaller merchant vessel SANQUA early at 0251 am. Sunday, February 22nd the USCGC WASHINGTON arrived on scene.

In total, Seven aerial searches were flown by US Navy P-3 Orion aircraft based in Japan and a Coast Guard C-130 Hercules based in Barbers Point Hawaii. Two good Samaritan vessels the BRILLIANT CENTURY and the SANQUA assisted with the search in the rough weather along with the Coast Guard Cutter WASHINGTON from Guam. The Rescue Units covered an area over 5,900 square nautical miles, an area 30 times the size of Guam. While aircraft were successful in locating the canoe, darkness and severe weather conditions prevented the rescue of the two boys. "This was quite a difficult case – it was in a remote area with no search and rescue resources nearby and sea conditions were rough," said Capt Sparks, Sector Guam's commander. Our prayers go out the boys families."



## Federated States of Micronesia Telecommunications Corporation Signs Contract with Tyco Telecommunications to Construct an International Fiber Optic Connection

More than eight years in the planning, FSMTC has finally executed a contract with Tyco Telecommunications to construct an extension that will enable FSMTC to have international fiber connectivity to Guam. The extension will provide high bandwidth connectivity between the FSM and the rest of the world. The target date of completion is March 2010.

Using the latest undersea cable network technology, this connectivity will enable FSMTC to provide FSM with the same telecommunications access and services available in major countries and cities throughout the world. In particular, the extension will be comprised of a one fiber pair segment that will ultimately enable connectivity through another cable system back to Guam including access to multiple 10 Gbps wavelengths. Since Guam is a regional node, FSMTC will have a variety of onward connectivity options.

This extension represents phase one of FSMTC's submarine fiber cable network plans; the next phase being the development of a domestic inter island cable networks. However, all islands will be able to realize more reliable and expanded services such as improved voice calling and faster Internet as a result of the completion of phase one. Phase one marks the beginning of the deployment of modern submarine fiber networks that will serve government, commercial and private communities for many years to come.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### Senior Vice President/Chief Finance Officer

FSMTC VA NO: 02/09 CLOSING DATE: 02/27/09

It is the policy of the FSM Telecommunications Corporation that qualified FSM citizens be given first priority for employment consideration; with other Micronesian and U.S citizens utilized in positions for which no qualified FSM citizens are available.

**POSITION & SALARY**

Senior Vice President/Chief Finance Officer  
Exempt  
Depending upon qualification

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P.O. Box 1210  
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**DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

Responsible for the financial affairs of the Corporation. Serves as the Head of the Finance Department. Directs the financial affairs of the Corporation and prepares financial analyses of operation including financial statement for the guidance of the management. Responsible for the Corporation's financial plans and policies, its accounting practices, the conduct of its relationships with lending institutions and the financial community, the maintenance of the fiscal records, and the preparation of financial reports. The position involves supervision over general accounting, property accounting, internal auditing, cost accounting, and budgetary control. The position is performed under the direct supervision of the President/CEO.

Develop, analyze, and interpret statistical and accounting information in order to appraise operating results in terms of profitability, performance against budget, and other matters bearing on the fiscal soundness and operating effectiveness of the Corporation. Maintains the accounting systems and keep books and all transactions and assets. Maintains the accounting system and safeguard the Corporation accounting records and its assets from being misused or fraud. Establishes objectives and policies for the Corporation and prepares reports that outlined its financial position in the areas of income, expenses, and earnings. Established accounting procedures for the Corporation and prepares Financial Statements on a periodic basis as required by Title 21 of the FSM Codes. Coordinates and directs the preparation of the budget and financial forecasts and maintains other planning and control procedures including the cost accounting system and analyzes and reports variances. Responsible for tax planning to ensure compliance on tax requirements with Federal, State, payroll, and other applicable taxes. Responsible for evaluating the performance of Finance personnel. Recommends training requirements for subordinates; keep the staff at the highest level of skill necessary to meet Corporation needs and objectives. Furnishes and updates management on the financial reports; determines depreciation rates to apply to capitalized items and advises management on desirable operational adjustments. Supervises the Collection functions of the Corporation. Responsible for the Corporation Retirement Plan. Serve as Plan Administrator for the Plan. Performs other related duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Graduated from a recognized college or university with a Bachelor degree in accounting, business administration, or related field plus at least 7 years of progressively responsible accounting work experience including two (2) years experience in a supervisory capacity.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Applications can be obtained from and returned to: FSM Telecommunications Corporation Headquarters, Kolonias, Pohnpei FM 96941 any of the FSMTC offices in Chuuk, Kosrae and Yap.

## ...Terminalia tree

Continued from front page

reef sharks and silver trevally, where the nutrient rich fresh water meets the warm abundance of the sea. Now, let us get back into the forest, where shafts of tree-filtered sunshine simmer onto the myriad streams and rivers that peacefully glide through the untouched valley down from the world's lowest elevation cloud forests and watershed of the steep-ridged mountain range above, where river eels and freshwater shrimp abound, where the flying fox and the wild boar roam. This is not the stuff of fantasy, but of reality, or perhaps a little of both. And this place exists, in Micronesia, on the geographically isolated island of Kosrae..."

Kosrae's Governor Robert Weilbacher and Lt. Governor William O. Tosie were present at the signing ceremony along with several other notable dignitaries from the Kosrae Legislature and from local leadership. Dr. Sean Austin of The Nature Conservancy called the event an auspicious occasion and said that the rest of the FSM is looking for a workable conservation model and that the nation's eyes are on Kosrae.

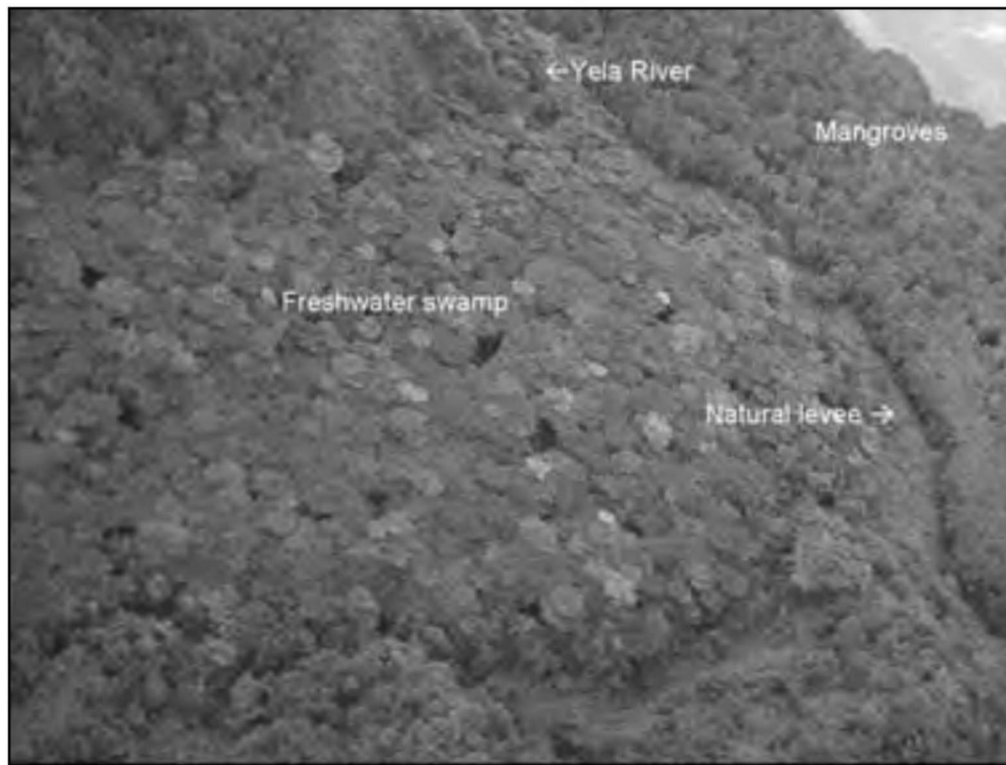
The Yela Environment Landowners Authority (YELA), The Kosrae Conservation and Safety Organization (KIRMA) and the Kosrae Conservation and Safety Organization (KCSO) instead of simply having a meeting to verbally agree to work together developed a written Memorandum of Understanding laying out each agency's specific responsibilities in the project. The six page document was drafted by Kosrae's Attorney General J.D. Lee.

10 traditional landowners and their families consisting of approximately 200 peo-

ple own the 84.39 acres of the Yela Ka Forest. Recognizing that even inadvertent activities

in the watershed could damage the pristine stand of terminalia trees and the ecosystem that it feeds they formed YELA in 2006 in order to work together toward the goal of preserving the area. They developed a unique concept of working toward a Conservation Easement that would be used in order to protect the area while simultaneously providing an economic benefit to the landowners.

Essentially the concept is similar to that of a Utilities Easement except that the purpose of the Conservation Easement is to set aside the area for conservation. Landowners would be paid a fair market value for their land and the area would be maintained for strict conservation in perpetuity.



Dr. Tholman Alik, Executive Director of YELA said that a company from Guam had recently concluded an appraisal of the area and that YELA is waiting for the outcome of a few court cases before it can proceed with the concept. Their goal is to have the easement in place by 2010. If YELA and the other agencies are successful the Conservation Easement would be the only one of its kind in the FSM.

Dr. Austin said that the model could be used in other places in the FSM to preserve areas of biological significance. He said that the plan would be a significant contribution to the Micronesia Challenge. The Micronesia Challenge is a Micronesia wide commitment to preserve 20% of the forests and 30% of the reefs in Micronesia by 2020.

The Yela watershed is the largest and perhaps the most valuable intact landscape remaining in Kosrae. Left undisturbed, it will

Ka Forest and its ecological wealth from all potentially harmful activities.

A report written by Katie Friday of the Institute of Pacific Island Forestry said that a road could be potentially built in the area but designers would have to be extraordinarily careful in the design of it to be certain that its presence wouldn't significantly alter the delicate ecosystem. Further, she said in her report, unless the road was meticulously maintained all of the advance planning in the world would not protect the ecosystem for the future. She was not willing to make any recommendations on a road until a detailed environmental impact study is done. So far no environmental impact study has been performed in the area although significant scientific study has been conducted there. Not enough information is on hand to determine what effect a road in the area would have.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding signed on Friday YELA would be the grantor of the Conservation Easement of behalf of the title owners and beneficiaries.

KCSO would be the grantee of the Conservation Easement. KCSO is a non-governmental agency under the guidance of a Board of Directors. KCSO would hold and manage the easement and maintain certain rights to enforce the terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement.

KIRMA is a semi-autonomous agency of the Kosrae State government with duties equal to the Environmental Protection Agencies of the other states of the FSM. It's mandate is to "Protect the environment, human health, welfare and safety, to abate, control and prevent pollution or contamination of air, land and water in accordance with Chapter 4 of Title 7 of the Kosrae State

Code and commission regulations by balancing the needs of economic and social development with those of environmental quality, and to ensure that economic and social development in Kosrae State is environmentally sustainable, and preserve the State's forests and wildlife and regulate activities that affect them."

KIRMA would be a party to the Conservation Easement, charged with the duty to enforce compliance with the Conservation Easement under special circumstances described in the terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement.

The MOU was signed on behalf of YELA by its Executive Director Dr. Tholman Alik, on behalf of KIRMA by its Program Director Mr. Robert H. Jackson, and on behalf of KCSO by Administrative Officer Ms. Lelean W. Olter. YELA Project Manager William William was the Master of Ceremonies for the signing ceremony.

The activities of the conservation groups are funded in part by support from the Micronesian Conservation Trust, Micronesian Small Grant Program of NZAID and UNDP, the German Life Web, and the European Union.

continue to provide a supply of firewood from its mangrove forest and fish from its offshore waters. It will continue to provide habitat for the endangered Micronesian pigeon which has few other refuges on the island. With the largest remaining stand of *Terminalia carolinensis* (locally known as Ka) in the world, the natural beauty of a wild and undisturbed wetland will attract tourists, even if seeing it requires hiking for some distance from the ends of the existing roads.

Only Kosrae has large stands of Ka remaining, and the Ka forest in Yela is the largest and least disturbed in the world. Ka trees dominate the vegetation because of the characteristic water quality of the swamp and the length of time that it is flooded. The mangrove forest that borders the Yela Ka swamp is also relatively undisturbed.

A circumferential road, a major infrastructure development by the State of Kosrae is being proposed and engineered to go through the Conservation Areas. This proposed circumferential road will be constructed through, across, or around the Conservation Areas. The completion of this circumferential road has been halted because YELA is trying to protect the Yela



Presiding Justices Camillo Loket and Mitasy Aisek of the Chuuk State Supreme Court swear in three new members of the bar in Chuuk. Kent Cheipot, George Isom, and William E. Minkley studied together for the Chuuk State bar exam in the early morning hours before beginning work each day at the Public Defender's office

## Collector looking for Collectable Coins

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Tim McVey at 320-7493

## Ambassador Noreén of Sweden meets with Speaker Figir

*FSM Congress*

**PALIKIR, POHNPEI. February 18, 2009** – Ambassador Stefan Noreén of the Kingdom of Sweden paid a courtesy visit to Speaker Isaac V. Figir of the 15th Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia on Tuesday - February 17, 2009, where they discussed issues of mutual concern.

Among the issues discussed was the area of fisheries to which Speaker Figir shared with the Ambassador concerns that certain fishing practices may not be agreeable to the economy and future lives of the FSM.

Another issue raised was developments in the private sector, an area Ambassador Noreén touched on during his last visit in the Spring of 2007. Speaker Figir relayed that it remains an area of continuing challenges for the FSM and that it still need assistance and consultation. The Ambassador floated the idea of Foreign Direct Investment as something that could be beneficial to businesses in the FSM and could stimulate the economy. He commended the expansion of the Pohnpei runway in that it would accommodate larger aircrafts and enable further means of aiding the economy.

The discussions also touched on the World Maritime University in Sweden, where years ago some FSM citizens received training and the possibility of re-establishing this network to enable the participation of interested FSM citizens.

An issue of mutual concern to both nations is the matter of climate change. Speaker Figir first and foremost, thanked Ambassa-

dor Noreén for the European Union (EU) assistance in the areas of renewable energy, especially in the donation and installation of solar panels.

The Speaker underscored the realities of climate change, especially rising sea levels, and its effects on the FSM which is comprised mostly of low-lying islands. He explained that for people living on these low-lying islands, these realities have cause relocation of families because of flooding and salt-water intrusion and damages to daily subsistence. Ambassador Noreen agreed that awareness of climate change is critical and he encouraged the island nations to remain active by keeping their voices heard.

Speaker Figir applauded the EU for taking the lead in the issue of climate change and for its position on Renewable & Alternative Energy. He commended Sweden for taking a stance and making Climate Change an issue of priority when they assume the Presidency of the European Union.

With both sides reaffirming their shared interest and commitment to climate change, the visit concluded with Speaker thanking Ambassador Noreén for his visits to the FSM. Accompanying the Ambassador on the courtesy visit to the Speaker's office was Mrs. Grazyna Noreén and staff from the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Kingdom of Sweden and the FSM established diplomatic ties on August 17, 1992, with Japan as the Embassy station for which the Swedish Ambassador to the FSM is based.

## Kosrae Chamber of Commerce leading by example

**Kosrae, FSM** - When Chamber members commented that the unpaved passenger pickup area at the airport was a muddy mess and created a bad first impression for island visitors, the Chamber Board took action.

Soliciting donations from Chamber members and others in the business community, the Board also asked Kosrae State to donate labor and equipment.

The first phase of the paving project was complete the last week of December. The tremendous response to the fund raising effort means that the Chamber can move into phase two of the project. Continuing the paving up to the road and put-

ting in much needed drainage. The second phase is in the planning stage and is hoped to be completed by the early spring.

Project donors include, Kosrae Chamber of Commerce, FSM Congress, Kosrae State, Kosrae True Value, Kosrae Nautilus Resort, Bank of the FSM, FSM Telecom, Hilla's Store, Black Micro Construction, Kosrae Village Ecolodge, Kosrae Utility Authority, Senny's Enterprises, FSM Development Bank and Kosrae Terminal & Stevedoring Company.

# MARY BERMAN

**Attorney**

*Chinese Spoken*

*Experienced in immigration Law*

Tel: (691) 320-2210

P.O. Box 163

Kolonia, Pohnpei

Email: [mberman163@yahoo.com](mailto:mberman163@yahoo.com)

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# Public High Schools, OHWA compete in annual Championship Week



By Michaela Corr

*"I wear this red hat to convey my respect for Madolenihmw. I wear this white shirt to show my roots in Kittu. And I stand before you today on these steps that belong to PICS."*

FEBRUARY 9th, 2009 - Chief of Secondary Education Solpasio Salvador spoke these words at the Pohnpei State Track to commence the Department of Education's 2009 Secondary Championship Week. On this bright and clear morning, Salvador addressed a sea of fresh-faced teenagers hailing from Pohnpei's three public high schools: Madolenihmw High School, Nahnpei Memorial High School (Kitti), and PICS High School. The Department of Education also invited athletes from OHWA Christian Academy in Madolenihmw to participate in the games. In all, five groups (PICS was divided into two teams) partook in softball, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, track and field, and an essay contest with hopes of being crowned the 2009 Overall Champion.

As the opening parade entered the Pohnpei State Track from its northernmost corner, spectators observed a multi-colored procession, as teams sported their school colors with pride: Madolenihmw in red, Kittu in white, PICS I in maroon and black, PICS II in blue, and OHWA in green. All competitors were dressed for the occasion; however, if points were awarded for best hairstyle, the girls of PICS I softball and their matching braids would have taken home the bacon. Athletes and coaches marched single file down the well-trodden homestretch, relishing in the pomp and circumstance yet eager to begin what would prove to be a thrilling week in Pohnpei sports.

The Opening Ceremony, with a perseverance-themed keynote address by Lieutenant Governor Churchill Edward, served as a spring board into a week of competitive play, dramatic finishes and surprising upsets. Immediately after the program, the games were in full swing: outfielders took their positions at the Spanish Wall Field, setters and spikers readied themselves in Pohnpei State Gymnasium, and writers sat in PICS Cafeteria, pencils in hand, poised for the signal. In the afternoon, the court belonged to the ballers, who utilized speed, agility, and strength to propel their teams to the next round.

Table tennis was a shoe-in for PICS I and II, as the other schools could not field teams; however, in several other events, competitors had to fight tooth and nail to progress to Tuesday's quarters, Wednesday's semis, and (if lucky) Thursday's championship game.

With all schools displaying a high level of athleticism, this year's competition tested teams normally assured victory. On the softball field, Madolenihmw is a notorious powerhouse; nonetheless, this reputation did not stop the PICS I boys from giving them a run for their money in Thursday's championship game. However, PICS I's hopes to end a Madolenihmw dynasty were snuffed when a routine catch became a tragic error in the final inning of play. The Girls' Slow Pitch Division mirrored the Boys' with a one-two Madolenihmw- PICS I result, leaving NMHS to grab third.

In boys' basketball, PICS I's talented bunch could not fend off a determined PICS II squad, who ended the tournament with a perfect 4-0 record. With PICS II claiming first and PICS I second, the boys from NMHS were able to fend off the rest and grab third. In the Girls' Division, PICS I proved to be the powerhouse, sweeping their division and leaving NMHS and MHS to collect second and third, respectively.

And there was never a dull moment on the volleyball court. While all the teams in the Boys' Division displayed considerable athleticism, NMHS and PICS played a notch above, extending the series into Friday to resolve their similar 3-1 tournament records. In the end, NMHS would be crowned victorious, ousting PICS I from its throne as the 2008 champions. However, it was the NMHS Girls whose David-like courage against a Goliath OHWA squad that is most deserved of praise. Despite facing an older and physically stronger group, the primarily underclass Kittu troop played with a determination that brought a screaming crowd to its feet. The record books list an OHWA - NMHS final standing; however, those present at the final game will never forget the champion-like talent displayed by both teams.

On Friday, after the other sports had crowned their champions, it was the trackies time to shine. Although NMHS is renowned for fielding a dominant track squad, this year the other schools provided considerable competition. While the girls of NMHS claimed five titles (100M, 200M, 100M Hurdles, Discus, 4x100M Relay), their male counterparts did not get an athlete on top of the podium. Leading the Boys' Division was PICS I, a hard-working bunch that nabbed eight of the thirteen possible titles (400M, 1500M, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put, Discus, 4x100M Relay, 4x400M Relay). PICS I's efforts were complimented by their female teammates, who posted six victories of their own (400M, 800M, 1500M, Long Jump, Triple Jump, 4x400M Relay). MHS (Boys: 800M, Javelin; Girls: Shot Put, Javelin) and OHWA (Boys: 100M, 200M) rounded out the meet with four and two wins, respectively.

On Friday afternoon, a sun-scorched assembly of athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators waited earnestly for the announcement of the week's final standings. As the results boomed over the sound system, PICS I and its supporters rejoiced: with 285 points, they had secured the title of Overall Champion. After PICS I, Nahnpei Memorial took second place (199 points), Madolenihmw grabbed third (94 points), and OHWA (87 points) and PICS II (60 points) rounded out fourth and fifth, respectively.

It was a considerable victory; nonetheless, the efforts of the runner-ups were not in vain. While PICS I may have been crowned Overall Champion, each team displayed moments of brilliance, which, when woven together, convey the sizeable athletic prowess of this island's youth. From the pitcher's mound to the three-point arc, from the long jump pit to service line, those in attendance were offered a glimpse of Pohnpei's future as formidable player in Pacific athletics.

The potential for greatness is there; it's just waiting to be harnessed.

"I wear this red hat to convey my respect for Madolenihmw. I wear this white shirt to show my roots in Kittu..."

## Pohnpei State DoE 2009 Championship Week (Secondary Division)

### TRACK & FIELD

EVENT	BOYS	GIRLS
100M	Ketsem Kapiriel (OHWA) - 11.44	Ashley Abiner (NMHS) - 13.65
200M	Donbert Perez (OHWA) - 23.33	Ashley Abiner (NMHS) - 29.06
400M	Marihda Ardos (PICS I) - 1:16.60	McCaffrey Gilmete (PICS I) - 58.46
800M	Marihda Ardos (PICS I) - 3:23.36	KC Henry (MHS) - 2:27.34
1500M	Relolisa Saimon (PICS I) - 6:45.43	Rico Rico (PICS I) - 5:08.81
100M Hurdles	Erika Alanso (NMHS) - 25.11	Reason Elias (OHWA) - 16.69
110M Hurdles		NMHS - 58.83
4x100M Relay	PICS I - 44.72	PICS I - 5:39.14
4x400M Relay	PICS I - 3:55.83	Amanda Wendolin (PICS I) - 3:54M
Long Jump	Stanley Sosar (PICS I) - 5.57M	Amanda Wendolin (PICS I) - 8.41M
Triple Jump	Stanley Sosar (PICS I) - 11.66M	Amelia Sanel (MHS) - 5.92M
Shot Put	Romeo Suwei (PICS I) - 9.89M	Ivangelynn Andon (NMHS) - 47ft
Discus	Mortain Mauricio (PICS I) - 77.5ft	Tracy Rudolph (MHS) - 75.8ft
Javelin	DX Tihpen (MHS) - 139.4ft	

### SOFTBALL

Boys (Fast Pitch)	Girls (Slow Pitch)
1. MHS	1. MHS
2. PICS I	2. PICS I
3. OHWA	3. NMHS

### BASKETBALL

Boys	Girls
1. PICS II	1. PICS I
2. PICS I	2. NMHS
3. NMHS	3. MHS

### VOLLEYBALL

Boys	Girls
1. NMHS	1. OHWA
2. PICS I	2. NMHS
3. PICS II	3. PICS II

### TABLE TENNIS SINGLES

Girls	Boys
1. Abileen Lickie (PICS II)	1. Mitch Sackryas (PICS I)
2. Tisha Diopolus (PICS I)	2. Tommy Lee Obed (PICS I)
3. Yourdina Saick (PICS I)	3. Anthony Andon (PICS II)

### ESSAY WRITING

Freshman:	Sophomore:
1. Pamela Frederick (NMHS)	1. Telsie Peter (OHWA)
2. Alston Abraham (MHS)	2. Riamae Hermuth (PICS II)
3. Janitaruth Philip Cantero (OHWA)	3. *TIE* Christopher Hansen (PICS I) & Tamika R.G. (NMHS)
Junior:	Senior:
1. Charlamagne Johnson (PICS II)	1. Darril Weital (OHWA)
2. Rose Mudong (MHS)	2. Rosmina Pablo (NMHS)
3. Ben Jackson Amor (PICS I)	3. Mandy Lae Santos (MHS)

### TABLE TENNIS DOUBLES

Girls	Boys	Mixed
1. T. Diopolus/Y. Saick (PICS I)	1. S. Simon/D. Dick (PICS II)	1. T. Obed/S. Charley (PICS I)
2. S. Chaley/H. Matak (PICS I)	2. M. Sackryas/B. Obed (PICS I)	2. M. Sackryas/T. Diopolus (PICS I)
2. K. Sackryas/K. Lekka (PICS II)	3. F. Yamaguchi/J. Joseph (PICS I)	3. A. Andon/K. Sackryas (PICS II)

### FINAL SCORE

- Overall Champion - PICS I High School (285 points)
- First Runner Up - Nahnpei Memorial High School (199 points)
- Second Runner Up - Madolenihmw High School (94 points)
- Third Runner Up - OHWA Christian Academy (87 points)
- Fourth Runner Up - PICS II High School (60 points)

...And I stand before you today on these steps that belong to PICS."

Photos by Erin O'Connor-Brown and Michaela Corr



**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT  
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY**

**How To Apply:** Submit your resume to:  
The Nature Conservancy  
Palau Field Office  
2nd Fl. Carlos Saliu Buidling  
Medalaih, Koror, Republic of Palau

**Position Title:** Deputy Director  
for Conservation  
**Location:** Palau  
**Closing Date:** March 31, 2009

You may also submit your resume as attachment via email to: [tnc@palaunet.com](mailto:tnc@palaunet.com)

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:** Oversee all technical aspects of conservation, protection, science, and stewardship and will provide vision, leadership, strategic direction and resources to the work of TNC and its partners in the implementation of the Micronesia Challenge (MC) in the Micronesia Challenge jurisdictions (FSM, Rep of Palau, Marshall Is., Guam and CNMI). She/he will work closely with Gov't and partners in the region to ensure the development of strong marine, terrestrial and institutional building programs and will focus on catalyzing alliances with partners and agencies which contribute to the implementation of conservation strategies needed to achieve the MC Goal. She/he will also work with the Micronesia Program Director to recruit and lead a team of outstanding staff, assist with fundraising efforts, undertake financial and grant management oversight and resolve program management issues. She/he may work in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult and hazardous terrain, and under physically demanding circumstances. This position may require frequent travel domestically and/or internationally and may require evening and weekend hours.

**REQUIRE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:**

- Demonstrated experience influencing, developing and implementing conservation policy and plans
- Demonstrated leadership and visionary qualities and able to work effectively with and through others in a decentralized and geographically dispersed organization
- Successfully experience in partnership development including extensive networking with high-level conservation contacts
- Proven interpersonal, communication and negotiation skills
- Ensures program accountability and legal compliance
- Supervises staff at remote locations
- Develops and administers budgets and ensures sound financial performance
- Writes requests for proposals for grant/contract funding for program
- Develops long-term strategies and achieves strategic goals and objectives

**BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

- BA/BS degree and 7 years experience in conservation practice or equivalent combination of education and experience
- Experience in certain aspects of fundraising: identifying donor prospects and donor cultivation (if required)
- Experience in managing complex or multiple projects, including managing finances and coordinating the work of the other professionals and partners
- Experience in partnership development (partners, community, government, etc.

**Notice Of Start Of Case Under Chapter 3 Of  
Bankruptcy Code  
PACIFIC FOODS AND SERVICES, INC.**

<b>Debtor's Address:</b> P.O. Box 692, Kolonia Pohnpei FM 96941	<b>Date Case Filed</b> January 26, 2009
<b>Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Debtor's Attorney:</b>	Ron Moroni Xerox Building, Suite 203 Hagatna, Guam 96910 (671) 477-7061
<b>FILING CLAIMS</b>	<b>Deadline to file a proof of claim</b> July 30, 2009
<b>Date, Time And Location Of Meeting Of Creditors</b>	<b>MARCH 13, 2009, at</b> 11:00 am Seabreeze Hotel, Kolonia, Pohnpei

**START OF CASE.** An application for discharge of debts under chapter 3 of the Bankruptcy Code has been filed in this court by or against the person named above as the debtor, and an order for relief has been entered. You will not receive notice of all documents filed in this case. All documents filed with the court, including lists of the debtor's property, debts, and property claimed as exempt are available for inspection at the office of the clerk of the court.

**CREDITORS MAY NOT TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS.** A creditor is anyone to whom the debtor owes money or property. Under the Bankruptcy Code, the debtor is granted certain protection against creditors. Common examples of prohibited actions by creditors are contacting the debtor to demand repayment, taking action against the debtor to take money owed to creditors or to take the debtor's property, and starting or continuing foreclosure actions, repossessions, or wage deductions. If unauthorized actions are taken by a creditor against a debtor, the court may penalize that creditor. A creditor who is considering taking action against the debtor or the debtor's property, consult 31 F.S.M.C. 106 and may wish to seek legal advice. The office of the clerk staff is not permitted to give legal advice.

**MEETING OF CREDITORS.** The debtor's representative, as specified in Bankruptcy Rule 2003, is required to appear at the meeting of creditors on the date and at the place set forth above for the purpose of being examined under oath. Attendance by creditors at the meeting is welcomed but not required. At the meeting, the creditors may examine the debtor and transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting. The meeting may be continued or adjourned from time to time by notice at the meeting, without further written notice to the creditors.

**PROOF OF CLAIM.** Schedules of creditors have been or will be filed pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1007. Any creditor holding a scheduled claim which is not listed as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated as to amount may, but is not required to, file a proof of claim in this case. Creditors whose claims are not scheduled or whose claims are listed as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated as to amount and who desire to participate in the case or to share in any distribution must file their proofs of claim. A creditor who desires to rely on the schedule of creditors has the responsibility for determining that the claim is listed accurately. Except as otherwise provided by law, in order to share in any payment from the estate, a creditor must file a proof of claim by the date set for above in the box labeled "Filing Claims." If the court sets a deadline for filing a proof of claim you will be notified. The place to file a claim, either in person or by mail, is at the office of the clerk of court. Proof of Claim forms are available at the clerk's office at any FSM Supreme Court.

**PURPOSE OF CHAPTER 3 FILING.** Chapter 3 of the Bankruptcy Code enables a debtor to reorganize pursuant to a plan. A plan is not effective unless approved by the court at a confirmation hearing. Creditors will be given notice concerning any plan, or in the event the case is dismissed or converted to a Chapter 2 case. The debtor will remain in possession of its property and continue to operate any business unless a trustee is appointed.



**AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP  
(ARDS) INTAKE YEAR 2010**

Eligible citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia are invited to apply for awards commencing in January 2010 for full time undergraduate and post-graduate study in Fiji and Vanuatu only. Awards cover tuition, accommodation and living expenses and airfares.

To be eligible to apply students must:

- Have completed the two year program at COM or due to complete by June 2009 with minimum GPA of 2.8, OR
- Be over 25 years with High School GPA 2.8 or above and minimum 5 years related work experience.

Students just finishing High School are NOT eligible.

Expression of Interest Forms are available at: the Australian Embassy website [www.fsm.embassy.gov.au](http://www.fsm.embassy.gov.au)  
the FSM Scholarship Office, 2nd floor AMCREC building, Kolonia  
Kosrae Dept Education Scholarship office, Alokoa Sigrah  
Yap Dept. Resources & Dev Scholarship office, Brian Southwick  
Chuuk Dept Education Scholarship office, Joyce Otoko  
the COM Financial Aid Office in Pohnpei  
the Australian Embassy, HE Building (next to See Breeze Hotel)

All completed Expression of Interest Forms are to be submitted to the Scholarship Boards mentioned above by 31 March 2009.

Opening Date: 1 March 2009  
Closing Date: 31 March 2010

## Xavier, just one of the bits of good news in Chuuk

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlle Press

**Sapuk, Weno, Chuuk** – It's no secret that bad news is oftentimes all too easy to find in Chuuk but the beleaguered state has many pockets of good news as well.

There's the story about Mechitiw, a village located about halfway between downtown Weno and Sapuk. The people of the village got together, donated land and solved all of the problems that needed to be solved so that they could have an elementary school built there. Mechitiw Elementary School was built as a result of the efforts of that community and today it is possibly the best maintained and attractive school in all of Chuuk.

Stories like these abound in Chuuk, home of some of the friendliest people in the FSM.

And then there's Xavier High School on Mabuchi Hill in Sapuk. The main structure on the campus is built like a fortress with imposing steel doors and window shutters installed on concrete walls more than a foot thick. The building once served as a main communications center for Japanese forces who occupied Chuuk from the end of World War I until the end of World War II. The place could be imposing but it is not. There is a sense of community and purpose on the campus.

Father Rich McAuliff, S.J. is the new principal of the school that a large number of

Pacific Island leaders proudly call their Alma Mater. Xavierites say with pride of themselves and their classmates, "Even when it rains we burn!"

McAuliff, though short in stature stands tall amongst Pacific Educators. He was part of a group that helped to resolve the problems that had led to sanctions by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges that caused the college in the Marshall Islands to lose its accreditation. He beamed when he said that the college recently regained its accreditation. "Everyone thought the college was dead but we didn't give up," said McAuliff.

With McAuliff's personal successes in the field of education and the impeccable reputation of Xavier High School it would be easy for its 152 students and their principal alike to sit back and congratulate themselves. But Xavier is not that kind of school. They are all about character building as well as participation in the community.

Students were recently asked at a meeting of the Christian Life Community at Xavier to consider the possibility of volunteering at the Sapuk Elementary School. 85 students volunteered to teach at the school and each morning between 8:00 and 8:45 in the morning, volunteers from Xavier High School can be found doing exactly that. McAuliff said that the program has sparked the interest of the students at the school and many of the students who had stopped coming to class have now begun to return.

Jesuit volunteers from Australia headed a group from Xavier to paint the school with paint provided by the Australian Embassy in Pohnpei.

Cathy Smithson, AusAID coordinator at the embassy said that at press time funding had been preliminarily approved by the Australian Embassy for another project at Sapuk Elementary. All that remains for that project to go forward is for final funding details to be organized. Smithson said that she is very close to having that done. The project would provide much needed bathrooms at the school, not the compost types of outhouses commonly seen in Sapuk but real flush toilets with a solar powered pump to get the water to a new septic tank that will also be installed because of the attentions of Xavierites and the Australian Embassy.

McAuliff is a bundle of energy. He said that over the weekend he was expecting a visit from a consultant that he hopes will help Xavier to establish a new AM radio station for Chuuk, one that will reach all of the islands. Public information has been a vital ingredient of life in Chuuk that has been, well, lets face it, if not erratic then completely absent. McAuliff hopes to help provide a solution to that problem. His efforts are only in their very early stages.

Chuuk has also had difficulty meeting the requirement that all teachers must be certified with either an Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science degree. It has been estimated that 35% of the over 900 teachers in the school system are not certified. Part of the problem, according to the newly elected chairman of the Board of Education, Ioanis Berdon is that many of the teachers cannot pass the College entrance exam in order to continue their education not be-

cause they don't know the subject matter but because they don't speak English.

During the summers Xavier students volunteer for the COMET program at Chuuk High School. COMET stands for College of Micronesia Entrance Test. Teachers who are not proficient in English come to the classes to learn English from Xavier students so that they can eventually pass the COM Entrance Test for admission to the college.

As to the rumor that Xavier is considering a move to the former PATS campus in Pohnpei? Father McAuliffe said that there is no truth to that rumor. He said that the rumor probably started because of a speech he commonly gives to Xavier Alumni. He said that the school is at a crossroads partially because of a decline in enrollment for students from Palau and from the Republic of the Marshall Islands because there are good competing schools in those two countries.

Xavier aims to stay in Chuuk and to continue to be a presence in the community there.

There are truly good things going on in Chuuk. Xavier is certainly not the only thing good that's going on in Chuuk. The Kaselehlle Press will cover more of them in future issues. They're not as hard to find as one might be tempted to think.



Photos by Bill Jaynes



Xavier students from Pohnpei take a break from their project on the Xavier campus to smile for the camera

## Australia's aid program receives OECD accolades

In Australia we have a deeply entrenched tradition of giving someone 'a fair go.' This means helping people who struggle in difficult circumstances not of their making. As Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, I am proud that this tradition of generosity extends through our overseas aid program to people living in extreme poverty in the developing world.

Delivering a well targeted, successful aid program requires considerable skill. There are competing interests and difficult choices to be made. But despite the difficulties, a stringent review of Australia's bilateral aid program by the OECD has given us a very favourable report card. The review was conducted by peers through the OECD's Development Assistance Committee. Since peers are often the harshest critics, it is reassuring that others have confidence

in the type of aid we provide and the way we provide it.

The Development Assistance Committee has commended us for placing poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals at the centre of the Australian aid program. It welcomes our decision to increase our aid budget to 0.5 per cent of our gross national income by 2015. This increase will go ahead despite the turbulent global economic environment. The review argues, as do we, that our aid will help support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It will promote economic growth and development, which in turn underpins wider prosperity and importantly, stability. Withdrawing aid would only create more problems in the long-run.

The review supports our decision to untie our aid and to work more closely with multilateral organisations to provide humanitarian assistance and deal with complex issues such as climate change and peace-building. About half of Australia's aid goes to states that are socially and economically fragile, or simply very small. The review has acknowledged our success in working in these contexts and has encouraged us to share our experience with other donors.

It has also reaffirmed our aid focus on Asia and the Pacific, where at least 640 million people live in extreme poverty. In recent months, Australia and four Pacific island nations have agreed to new development partnerships that will improve the way we work together. We have also elevated our aid status with Indonesia which is the largest recipient of our aid and intend scal-

ing up our assistance to Africa. In all our aid programs we draw on the resources of many of our government departments to help partner countries build capacity for the long-term. Short-term fixes rarely work.

Australia's efforts to promote better, more effective aid have also been recognised and applauded. To make sure we have a program which is delivering on our expectations, Australia undertakes its own annual independent review of our aid program. However we very much welcome the close scrutiny of the DAC. Opening ourselves up to such close examination can be confronting but it will help ensure we provide the quality aid that Australians expect of their government. It also means we can be sure that Australia's reputation as a good international citizen stands untarnished.

Stephen Smith MP  
Minister for Foreign Affairs Australia

**K-Press Perspective****In the dark in Chuuk?  
What is absolute power?**

"I cannot accept your canon that we are to judge Pope and King unlike other men, with a favorable presumption that they did not wrong. If there is any presumption it is the other way against holders of power, increasing as the power increases. Historic responsibility has to make up for the want of legal responsibility. All power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men, even when they exercise influence and not authority..." Though John Emerich Edward Dalberg-Acton, the Baron of Acton II wrote these words in 1878 the impact of his words has not been diminished by time.

As a modern day example of Dalberg-Acton's words I invite you to look at the recent and continuing world market melt down. Relatively speaking, a handful of powerful financial brokers had unchecked power, absolute power if you will, and while they and their friends became rich beyond most people's wildest dreams the rest of the world has suffered. The average mortgage holder or stock market dabbler didn't have the slightest clue that their financial world was on the verge of meltdown until, like Vesuvius, Wall Street blew its top taking with it the financial futures of the villagers below.

The villagers, like the hooded serfs and peasants of medieval antiquity trusted their castle dwelling landlords, the barons, to make their lives livable. Trust is a good thing when it is well placed but serfs didn't have much choice about who led them. It was their lot in life to plant and toil and it was the barons' lot in life to enjoy the fruits of their labor.

It was all a matter of heredity and property. Those who had the property because they had inherited it ruled; simple as that. Though there were good and benevolent land barons, a great majority of them enriched both themselves and their cronies at the expense of those who occupied the land and who paid the landlord from the fruits of their labor. It is...I mean...it was a fact of life.

Under the democratic system upon which the FSM was founded, the serfs, the common people, get to choose who the majority of them think that they can trust to represent their interests. Heredity is not supposed to play a part in a democratic system. All too often it still does.

Democracy is a good system when it works but it only works when the people who make the choices about who will lead them are educated on the issues that affect their lives.

That's the rub. Are people in Chuuk educated about the issues that affect their lives?

Now, before the citizens of Chuuk get upset with me for saying that they are stupid, please allow me to say that there is a vast chasm separating the stupid from the uninformed. A smart person fed no information is uninformed and can't use his or her intelligence to make an intelligent choice. A stupid person can be spoon fed piles of good information and that person will still make stupid choices.

Chuukese people are not stupid. However, many of them have been completely uninformed. The end result of their decisions could be the same as if they were stupid when in fact they are intelligent but uninformed. See the difference?

There is little to no media in Chuuk.

The state sponsored radio station is rarely on the air partly because they face the same power problems that the people of Weno face on a daily basis. Of course, Weno is supposed to have power. The inhabitants of the many other islands of Chuuk are not as "lucky" as the people of Weno. People of Chuuk that have power and access to a radio often don't know when to tune the radio station in because they know they can no longer count on it. Many times when the radio station is transmitting, it is transmitting to the handful of people in Chuuk lucky enough to have accidentally dialed the station in at just the right time.

The fact that the erratic radio station in Chuuk is "state sponsored," seems to be less of a concern than that it has ceased to be a factor in people's daily lives to help them to make informed choices when they vote. It will only be when the radio station is back on the air on a regular basis that people of Chuuk will have to be concerned with the fact that the people in power are feeding them the information that their chosen leaders want them to hear.

Right now, nearly any reliable information in Chuuk will be better than the nothing they are currently getting. In Pohnpei, the people say "Mwahu san sohte," or, "Better than nothing".

The Kaselehlie Press regularly sends papers to Chuuk. Through the generosity of Bill Stinnett and the United States Embassy, the previous issue that covered the Solutions Forum was circulated for free in the State of Chuuk. We increased circulation by 500% for that issue and no one in Chuuk was charged for a single newspaper.

The Kaselehlie Press can only do so much when it has no reliable reporter on the ground in Chuuk. We report what we know to be true but how much can we verify as accurate information? Only as much as leaders are willing to document.

While I was in Chuuk to cover the recent

deba...I mean, Solutions Forum, I participated in many conversations with locals who convinced me that some of the leaders there prefer things exactly the way they are. Those leaders want their people in the dark.

I'm pretty sure that the only leaders in Chuuk that will be personally offended by that statement are the ones who least want their constituents to know what they are doing. If you as a leader agree that the people need to be informed about the goings on in Chuuk State government then you are probably the leader that the people most need and you need not take offense. I don't need to tell you that. You, as a good leader, already know it.

Another Dalberg-Acton quote caught my eye, "There is no worse heresy than that the office sanctifies the holder of it."

It leads to another question. How does one become "The Honorable" anything?

One of the world's great leaders, Abraham Lincoln, received a letter written by his aunt who addressed him as "The Honorable President Abraham Lincoln." Lincoln replied that the fact that he had won the election that made him the President of the United States did not make him honorable. He said that he hoped that his aunt would

give him some time in office to prove that he was in fact honorable and that she would not grant him that title until he had proved that it was so.

Leaders are not honorable just because the printed programs at events where they speak say that they are. It is only by those leaders' actions that they prove themselves to be so.

Leaders who function in an environment where their constituents can only guess at what they are doing can get away with nearly anything.

The temptation for Chuuk leaders to operate for personal and family gain must be huge but the price is bigger for the people of Chuuk who must always live with the decisions that are made by the leaders they have selected.

It is so wherever leaders are chosen.

It is my sincere hope that the people Chuuk have chosen well and wisely. You will live with your choice.

*Bill Jaynes*  
*Managing Editor*  
*The Kaselehlie Press*  
*February 26, 2009*



[WWW.ChuukReform.org](http://WWW.ChuukReform.org)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

ATTENTION: ALL CORPORATIONS REGISTERED UNDER THE FSM NATIONAL REGISTRAR OF CORPORATIONS.

PERSUANT TO TITLE 37 (5.4 & 5.5) OF THE FSM CORPORATE REGULATIONS, EVERY CORPORATION REGISTERED WITH THE FSM NATIONAL REGISTRAR OF CORPORATIONS REQUIRES TO FILE AN ANNUAL EXHIBIT OR ANNUAL REPORT TO THE OFFICE OF THE FSM REGISTRAR OF CORPORATIONS NO LATER THAN APRIL 01 OF EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR. HOWEVER, IF A CORPORATION HAS ADOPTED A FISCAL YEAR BASIS, SUCH COMPANY MAY FILE ITS REPORT WITHIN 90 DAYS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR.

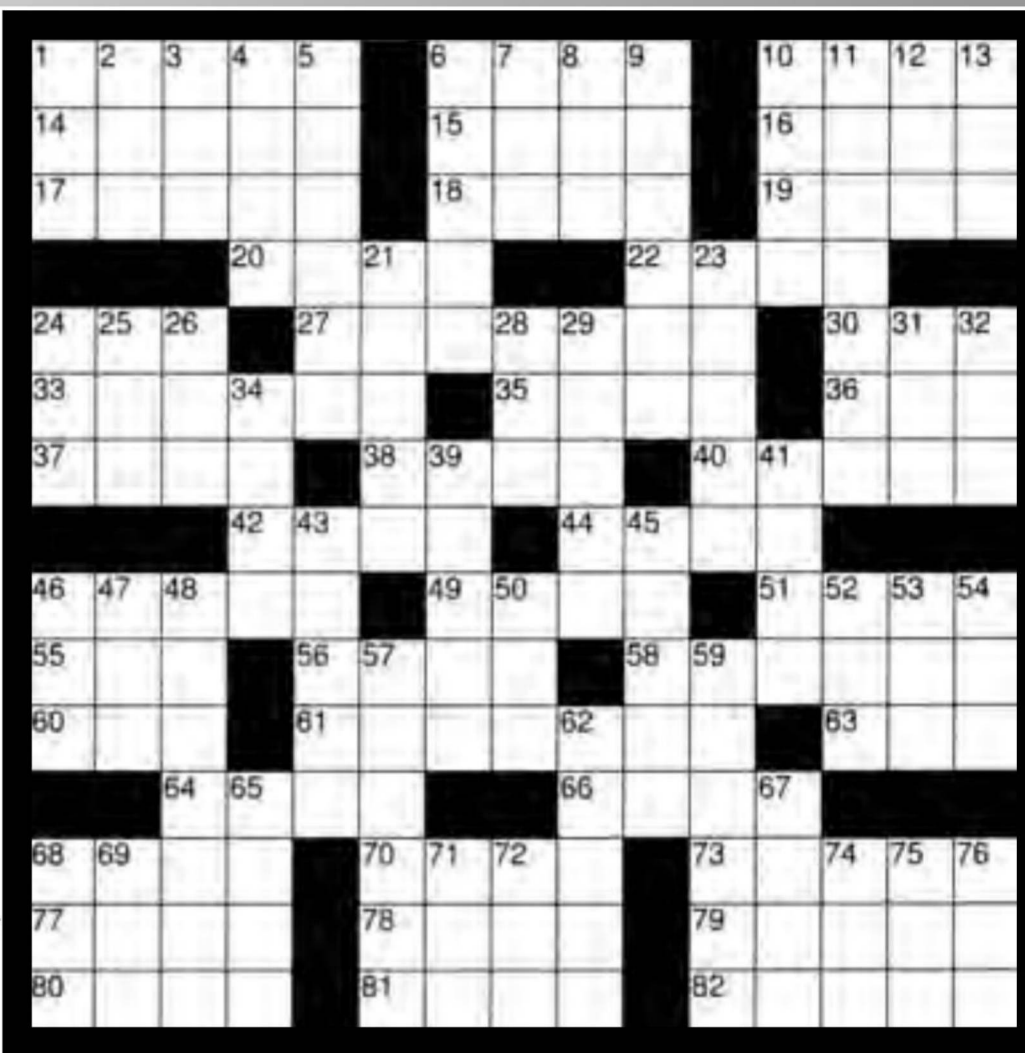
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ANNUAL EXHIBIT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL REGISTRAR OF CORPORATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, PALIKIR POHNPEI, FSM 96941. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 320-8089 OR 320-2608 OR WRITE TO THE OFFICE REGISTRAR OF CORPORATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, P.O. BOX PS-105, PALIKIR POHNPEI FSM 96941.

SAMARI W. SUTA  
NATIONAL REGISTRAR OF CORPORATIONS

# Crossword - T V / F i l m 5

- ACROSS**
1. TV talk show host Lake
  6. Rio Lobo actor
  10. Hagman costar
  14. Actor Phillips of Benson
  15. TV talk host
  16. Damn Yankees role
  17. Dead \_\_\_ Society
  18. Leaving Las Vegas star
  19. Actor Pickens
  20. Actress Louise
  22. TVs The \_\_\_ Maxwell Story
  24. Edit a foreign film
  27. Actress Lamour
  30. Movie computer
  33. She played Wheezy
  35. Actress Cannon
  36. \_\_\_ Pirates
  37. Wings role
  38. Roger or Jessica Rabbit
  40. Gremlins director
  42. Remote Control host
  44. '56 role for Peck
  46. Parker Stevenson TV show
  49. Sean Connery's first outing as Bond
  51. Cleopatra portrayer in '17
  55. Actor Mineo
  56. Pearl, of TV's Pearl
  58. National Velvet star
  60. Star Wars: The Phantom Menace boy
  61. Marilyn's role in Gentlemen Prefer Blondes
  63. Cable TV choice
  64. Pay-Per-\_\_\_
  66. Obi-Wan portrayer
  68. You've Got \_\_\_
  70. Good Will Hunting director Gus Van \_\_\_
  73. DeVito's Taxi role
  77. Animated Xmas special actor
  78. Actor Estrada
  79. Cobb portrayal
  80. Steed's partner after Emma
  81. Sofer of General Hospital
  82. He played Chan
- DOWN**
1. Actor's agt.
  2. Quincy actor
  3. Evita role
  4. Actor William of Carrie
  5. TV's \_\_\_ Edition
  6. MacGyver actor
  7. He played an X-Files villain
  8. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon director Lee
  9. Hit show for Brandy
  10. Movie lioness
  11. Ace Ventura's first quarry
  12. Actor Mintz
  13. Platoon setting
  21. 48 HRS costar with Murphy
  23. Actress Carter
  24. \_\_\_ Hard (Willis film)
  25. Monk airer
  26. Archie Bunker's place
  28. Rene Auberjonois role
  29. 1979 Alda role
  31. Play a role
  32. Actor Tommy \_\_\_ Jones
  34. Film monster of 1958 and 1988
  39. TV's Law and \_\_\_
  41. ER role
  43. Mr. Television
  45. Brolin/Sellecca TV show
  46. "The Bicentennial Minute," for instance
  47. Kurosawa epic film
  48. Noted Richard III portrayer
  50. Thomas Chong's actress daughter
  52. Model/actress Carol \_\_\_
  53. Actor Glass of Barney Miller
  54. Lily's costar in The Late Show
  57. TV's Doogie. \_\_\_, M.D.
  59. Do the Right Thing actor
  62. Simka's hubby
  65. Role for Ingrid
  67. \_\_\_ Hand Luke (Newman film)
  68. Good Will Hunting setting
  69. Actress Gardner
  71. Butterflies \_\_\_ Free
  72. Henry and June role
  74. John's Pulp Fiction costar
  75. Big Night villain actor HoIm
  76. Reynolds film, with The



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



## TANGLEWORDS

Tanglewords is a word search in reverse. The grid has squares in which you write the missing letters, completing the diagram as you fit in the 46 listed words. Circled letters already entered are starting letters for one or more words listed below. Beginning with a circled letter, fill in each word in a straight horizontal, vertical, or diagonal unbroken line reading forward or backward. Letters may be part of more than one word, and may cross in any direction. When you're finished, each white square will contain a letter. PALED has been filled in to start you off.

- |          |          |        |        |        |
|----------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| ALLIED   | CATNIPS  | GADGET | MAGNET | SABER  |
| ALOOF    | CHEMICAL | GAMER  | MALLET | SADDEN |
| ALTHOUGH | DARED    | GANDER | PACING | SAFARI |
| ATTENDEE | DEFEAT   | HALEST | PADDLE | SAILOR |
| BABOON   | EAGLET   | HANDS  | PAGERS | TABOOS |
| BACON    | EDIT     | LABOR  | PALED  | TAGGED |
| BOASTERS | FACTOR   | LADIES | RACKET | TALENT |
| BULLDOZE | FALCON   | LAGERS | RADIAL | TAWNY  |
| CABLED   | FAUCET   | MADDER | RAIDED | WADDED |
| CAMP     |          |        |        |        |

**Solutions in Next Issue - Solutions in Next Issue - Previous Solution on Next Page**

## VACANCY

VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM (VMS)  
OPERATIONS OFFICER  
SUPPORT LEVEL POSITION



The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) invites applications from suitably experienced and qualified individuals for the Support Staff post of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Operations Officer to be based at its headquarters at Kolonia, Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia. Information about the WCPFC is available at [www.wcpfc.int](http://www.wcpfc.int). Working as a member of a small, multi-national team in a challenging environment, the successful candidate, who will report to the VMS Manager, will share responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Commission VMS. This includes monitoring the operation of the Secretariat-based Commission VMS hardware and software, and providing regular reports to the VMS Manager on these matters. The VMS is a computer/GIS satellite-based interactive system that receives and processes information about the positions of authorized fishing vessels in high seas in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.

The starting salary for this position will be about USD14,000 a year together with the other benefits available to Commission staff including health insurance. A four-year contract with options for renewals is available after a successful probation period. The appointee will be expected to commence duties in April 2009. The suitable applicants will have:

- an Associate Degree in computer studies or equivalent tertiary qualification and/or at least three (3) years relevant practical experience;
- good working knowledge of Microsoft Excel and Word. Knowledge of database applications would be an advantage;
- good English and report writing skills;
- good experience with a networked computer environment;
- good interpersonal skills;
- demonstrated initiative and problem solving skills;
- demonstrated team skills and be able to demonstrate adherence to the Commission's information security policy;
- an ability to work with limited supervision once fully trained.

Additional information, including terms of reference, qualifications and experience requirements and conditions of employment, are available on request from Mr Albert Carlot, VMS Manager, WCPFC Secretariat ([albert.carlot@wcpfc.int](mailto:albert.carlot@wcpfc.int) or telephone +691 320 1992). Applications, which close on 6 March 2009, should be addressed to the Executive Director, WCPFC Secretariat, P.O. Box 2356, Kolonia, Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia 96941, and clearly identified as an application for the post of VMS Operations Officer. Applications delivered via e-mail or hand delivered will be accepted.

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

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



Embassy of the United States of America  
Kolonia, Federated States of Micronesia

### Change in Operating Hours

Starting March 16, 2009, the Consular Section at the United States Embassy in Kolonia, Pohnpei will have new operating hours.

The Consular Section will be open for American Citizen Services, including passport and notarial services, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:30am to 12:00pm.

The Consular Section will be open for Visa Services on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2:00pm to 4:00pm by appointment only.

### Questions?

For additional information on scheduling appointments or other consular issues, please call the U.S. Embassy at (691) 320-2187.

Telephone: [691] 320-2187  
Fax: [691] 320-2186  
E-mail: [USEmbassy@mail.fm](mailto:USEmbassy@mail.fm)



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P.O. Box 339  
Kolonia Pohnpei,  
FM 96941

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

P. O. Box 2222  
Pohnpei, FM 96941

phone to: (691) 320-6547  
email to: [kpress@mail.fm](mailto:kpress@mail.fm)

## ANOTHER CLASSIC LIMERICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY TRASHBUSTERS

An exceedingly fat friend of mine,  
When asked at what hour he'd dine,  
Replied, "At eleven,  
At three, five, and seven,  
And eight and a quarter past nine

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# Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap assess impact of rising food and fuel prices

By *Dr. Lois Englberger*

We are happy to share with you about the data collection in Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) on impact of the rising food and fuel prices, an AusAID/Asian Development Bank (ADB) Initiative and NZAID/UNICEF Partnership. This project is to help identify vulnerable groups and plan activities and projects that might help mitigate problems arising from the high prices. In each of the four states of the Federated States of Micronesia, communities are being selected on the basis of access to services and possible hardships. These included:

Pohnpei: Salapwuk, Kapingamarangi, and Mand: in total 84 households in the 4-day pilot study period

Chuuk: Romanum, Fefan, and Weno: in total 45 households surveyed on three separate islands in a 2-day period

Yap: Gitam, Gargey, and Ru/Daboch: in total 30 households surveyed on Yap Proper in a 1-day period

One outcome of the workshops and surveys

is that there is interest in further discussion of the problems related to food and fuel prices, and how help may be extended to those groups of people who have difficulty coping with their present plights. One workshop participant pointed out that with cooperative efforts there is sincere hope for improving conditions. Survey participants expressed particular concern about alcohol abuse, and issues related to the outer islands with sea surges and damage to taro patches due to sea water intrusion. A positive finding is that many families are turning back to more local foods, which will have positive impacts for health.

We would like to thank all those involved in the organization of the workshops and surveys, and the communities who welcomed us, in particular FSM National Government, Pohnpei State Office of Economic Affairs, College of Micronesia-FSM Cooperative Extension Service, Pohnpei State Department of Health, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, Chuuk Agriculture, Peace Corps Micronesia, Yap Agriculture of the Department of Resources and Development, Yap Inter-agency Nutrition Education Council (YINEC) and all communities. Special thanks are extended to Valerio Hallens, Adelino Lorens, Innocente Penno, Imauo Mathew, and Tamdad Sulog for their organizational work in Pohnpei, Chuuk and

Yap, respectively.

The studies in Kosrae, Kiribati, Marshall Islands are still to be conducted. Separately Dr. Steve Ratuva is working on a joint study in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and

Fiji. The overall project is being guided by Dr. Sakiko Tanaka, ADB. The draft report is expected to be completed by the end of March 2009, after which we will share the results. Again thank you to all those involved.



Pohnpei



Yap



Chuuk

<b>Astronomical Tide Prediction</b>					
<b>March 4 - March 17, 2009</b>					
		<b>Pohnpei</b>		<b>Chuuk</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	03/04	03/11	03/04	03/11	
	07:22AM 3.3 11:25PM 1.4	03:29AM 3.8 09:24AM 0.5 03:38PM 4.4 09:52PM 0.4	05:39AM 1.8 08:50PM -0.3	03:00AM 1.3 08:17AM 0.4 02:38PM 1.9 09:10PM 0.2	
<b>Thursday</b>	03/05	03/12	03/05	03/12	
	09:46AM 3.1 08:24PM 1.4	03:55AM 4.1 09:58AM 0.5 04:06PM 4.2 10:13PM 0.5	06:45AM 1.6 08:46PM -0.4	03:09AM 1.6 08:54AM 0.4 02:55PM 1.7 09:07PM 0.2	
<b>Friday</b>	03/06	03/13	03/06	03/13	
	12:21PM 3.4 08:11PM 1.0	04:22AM 4.2 10:30AM 0.6 04:31PM 3.9 10:33PM 0.6	12:02PM 1.8 08:51PM -0.4	03:23AM 1.8 09:29AM 0.4 03:05PM 1.4 09:02PM 0.2	
<b>Saturday</b>	03/07	03/14	03/07	03/14	
	02:18AM 2.2 06:34AM 1.8 01:20PM 3.8 08:26PM 0.8	04:48AM 4.2 11:02AM 0.8 04:53PM 3.5 10:50PM 0.7	12:46PM 2.0 08:58PM -0.4	03:40AM 2.0 10:01AM 0.5 03:06PM 1.2 08:56PM 0.2	
<b>Sunday</b>	03/08	03/15	03/08	03/15	
	01:23AM 2.6 07:31AM 1.3 02:00PM 4.1 08:46PM 0.6	05:14AM 4.1 11:33AM 1.1 05:11PM 3.1 11:04PM 0.9	01:21PM 2.2 09:04PM -0.3	03:58AM 2.0 10:32AM 0.6 02:57PM 1.0 08:49PM 0.1	
<b>Monday</b>	03/09	03/16	03/09	03/16	
	02:41AM 3.1 08:13AM 1.0 02:36PM 4.4 09:08PM 0.4	05:40AM 3.9 12:03PM 1.4 05:21PM 2.7 11:12PM 1.1	03:23AM 0.9 06:51AM 0.7 01:51PM 2.2 09:08PM -0.1	04:16AM 2.0 11:00AM 0.7 02:34PM 0.9 08:45PM 0.0	
<b>Tuesday</b>	03/10	03/17	03/10	03/17	
	03:04AM 3.5 08:50AM 0.7 03:08PM 4.5 09:30PM 0.4	06:05AM 3.6 12:37PM 1.8 05:16PM 2.4 11:11PM 1.3	03:01AM 1.1 07:37AM 0.5 02:17PM 2.1 09:10PM 0.1	04:34AM 1.9 11:28AM 0.8 01:57PM 0.9 08:46PM -0.1	

## 12th Pohnpei 5K Fun Walk/ Run Winners

By **Jim Tobin**

The 12th annual Pohnpei 5k Fun Walk/Run was held the morning of Saturday, February 28 at the Palm Terrace Shopping Centre. Over 250 people of all ages walked and ran the 3.1 mile course starting at Palm Terrace around the PICS High School loop, down Main Street and returning to the finish at Palm Terrace. The overall male and female winners were Tim Smith, with a record setting time of 15 minutes and 53 seconds (31 seconds faster than his winning time last year), and Meghan Orgeman with another record setting time of 20:15.

The other division winners were: youth division – Stinson Lickie (25:40) and Serey Leeling (40:30), 18 years and under division – Jordan Panuelo (24:52) and Amanda Hawkins (52.00) and master division – Gary Bloom (34.18) and Jean Ranahan (1.08.00). Special recognition was given to Vic Hobson with a time of 38.30. Also receiving awards were the top 10 finishers: 1st - Tim Smith (15.53), 2nd – Maghan Orgeman

20.15), 3rd – Texter Rain (21.18), 4th – Michaela Corr (21.30), 5th – Anthony Castor (21.45), 6th – John Cangallsi (21.51), 7th - Koichy Sakamoto (22.13), 8th – Ganong Tareg (22.59), 9th – Dionisio Augustine (23.42) and 10th – Brian Gabriell (24.15).

The major sponsors of the event were Ambros Inc. (Guam) and Shimbros Inc. Other sponsors were Palm Terrace Shopping Centre, FSM National Olympic Committee, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, Bank of Guam, Moylan’s Insurance, Pohnpei State Police Department, K Press and the USA Embassy. A special thank you to the Island Food Community of Pohnpei for providing healthy foodstuffs (coconuts and bananas) for the participants to eat and drink after the walk/run. The event was organized by the Rotary Club of Pohnpei as a fundraiser for its scholarship program and various community service projects.

The walk/run was the first of six scheduled walk/run races, with the 5th annual Women and Sport 5k on April 18, 13th annual COM-FSM 5K on May 2, 4th annual STAP 5k on May 23, 13th annual Olympic Day

Run on June 13 and FSM National Fitness Walk/Run tentatively scheduled for September. All of the walk/runs are open to the general public. Our goal is to improve the fitness of our community. For more information contact the FSM National Olympic Committee office.



*Fun Run over-all champion Tim Smith finishing with a record time of 15:53*

Photo by Jim Tobin

## A New School Year Begins for Australian Scholarship Awardees

After a nearly a year-long, rigorous application process, on 30 January six scholarship awardees from Pohnpei bid a fond farewell to the FSM, and said “Bula Vinaka!” to Fiji to commence their first school year of ter-

tiary education under the AusAID funded Australian Regional Development Scholarships (ARDS) program. They were part of a group of 12 students from Yap, Pohnpei and Kosrae traveling on the flight to Honolulu and then on to Fiji. A total of 18 students from FSM were awarded scholarships for 2009 to study in a range of areas including: Health, Medicine, Dentistry, Accounting and Financial Management, Business Management, Information Technology, Legal Studies, and Engineering, to just name a few.

Below is a list of the 2009 ARDS awardees



*Above L-R: Mens masters champion Gary Bloom, Boys Jr champ Jordan Panuelo, Girls Jr. Champ Amanda Hawkins, Over-all Champion Tim Smith, Women’s Over-all Champion Maghan Orgeman and Youth champ Stinson Lickie*

## Non-combat Related Incident Takes Life of FSM Soldier in the US Army

*FSM Information Services*

February 23, 2009

The FSM National Government was informed today that one of its citizens, 19-year-old Cwislyn K. Walter of Chuuk, was killed in a vehicle accident on February 19th, in Kuwait City, Kuwait, of injuries sustained from a non-combat related incident. PFC Walter was assigned to the 29th Special Troops Battalion, 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Hawaii National Guard and was support Operation Iraqi Freedom. The US Department of Defense is investigating the accident. Three other Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers

were seriously injured in the accident. An article in the Hawaii Star Bulletin mentioned that her parents, who are living in Hawaii, were notified Thursday night of the accident. The article mentioned that her parents stated that they are “very proud of their daughter’s service to her country” and they thanked the Guard and community for their support.

The US Ambassador to the FSM paid a visit to Palikir today and met with President Mori to give more details about the incident and the upcoming funeral possibilities. Both the US military and the FSM National Government are prepared to assist with the funeral arrangements once the family has made a decision on where it will take place.

First Name	Last Name	Country / State	Field of Study	Institution
Ken	Uehara	Chuuk	Law	USP Emalus Vanuatu
Joseph	Joseph	Kosrae	Electronics	Fiji Inst Technology
Tinus	Mongkeya	Kosrae	Dip Anesthetic Science	UPNG
Tulpe	Kephas	Kosrae	Nutrition	USP Laucala Fiji
Dizon	Kephas	Kosrae	Environmental Science	USP Laucala Fiji
Wefonne	Billen	Pohnpei	Public Health	Fiji School Medicine
Alan	Semens	Pohnpei	Commerce	USP Laucala Fiji
Angelina	Tretnoff	Pohnpei	Medicine	Fiji School Medicine
Rosadelima	Alfons	Pohnpei	Information Systems	USP Laucala Fiji
Adelino	Paul	Pohnpei	BTech Engineering Electronics	USP Laucala Fiji
Steezia	Aldis	Pohnpei	Business Admin/Mgt	USP Laucala Fiji
Josephine	Joseph	Pohnpei	Law	USP Emalus Vanuatu
Mihne	Pretrick	Pohnpei	Community Education	CETC Suva
Pejay	Togolmaoiu	YAP	Engineering	Fiji Inst Technology
Lisamarie	Yagruw	YAP	Information Systems	USP Laucala Fiji
Davis	Dabey	YAP	Business Management Admin	USP Laucala Fiji
Raymond	Guwaathag	YAP	Dentistry	Fiji School Medicine
Ruth	Lema	YAP	Information Systems	USP Laucala Fiji

Photo by Jim Tobin