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FSM citizens indicted on US forced labor charges in Washington State

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

April 12, 2011

Longview, Washington, USA—On March 24, 2011 a federal grand jury in the Western District of Washington State handed down an indictment for forced labor and attempted forced labor against two citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia currently residing in Longview, Washington.

Edk Kenit, 29, and Choimina Lukas, 31, who are “boyfriend and girlfriend” were arrested on charges that they compelled by threats of “serious harm,” a 19-year-old young woman, known only in court documents as “S.S.,” to provide domestic service and manual labor in their home without compensation. “S.S.” is also a citizen of the FSM.

Kenit and Lukas each face one count of Forced Labor and Attempted Forced Labor

They also face an allegation of forfeiture that would allow the US government to seize any of the couple’s assets that were “obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of the offense of which the defendants are convicted,” if they are convicted.

A person in the U.S. can offer to help out around the house of friends or family on a casual basis. But when a person is forced to work and is denied freedoms, a line is crossed not only in the U.S. but in many other countries that enforce human trafficking laws. U.S. law stringently protects the rights of individuals within its borders who are forced by cogent threats of violence, intimidation, or, as has also been alleged in this case, sexual assault, to provide services of any kind.

“No one should be forced to live in a world of isolation and servitude,

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Cabinet Public Relations Office



Naoto Kan, Prime Minister of Japan

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Donors giving all that they can at the benefit concert for Japan

Benefit concert in Pohnpei unites people of all ages in support of Japan



A visiting Japanese student teacher poses with her students at the benefit event

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Inmates GO LOCAL!



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U.S. breaks ground for new weather station in Pohnpei

Embassy of the United States of America

On April 11, the Pohnpei Weather Service Office held a ground breaking ceremony for a new facility in Kolonia Town. The four million dollar U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency National Weather Service (NOAA- NWS) initiative includes building design, environmental impact survey, and construction and project management services. Attending Monday's event was U.S. Ambassador to the F.S.M. Peter A. Prahar, Pohnpei State Governor John Ehsa, F.S.M. Department of Foreign Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary Berlino Martin, Kolonia Town Mayor Marcelo Peterson, NWS Pacific Region Representation Derek Leloy, Pohnpei Weather Station Official in Charge and F.S.M. Weather Service Coordinator (OIC/FSM WSC) Eden Skilling, U.S. Naval Facilities (NAVFAC) Engineering Command Marianas Ensign John Pouliot, Technicon Incorporated President Nixon Merekato, and Orion Construction Corporation Representative Mr. Miquel of Guam.

During his opening remarks, OIC/FSM WSC Skilling explained that the project will modernize and expand the Weather Service Office's capacity to capture meteorological data in the digital age. According to Skilling, "the outmoded equipment [utilized] today is being replaced with state-of-the-art equipment that requires additional space and better environmental control [by employing] materials that have a lot of recycled content, do not outgas toxic compounds, and use less energy."

For his part, Governor Ehsa thanked the U.S. Government for its continued assistance through the Weather Service. He highlighted the increased capacity for prompt disaster response with the recent move of the Micronesia Red Cross closer to the Weather Service Office. Ehsa also thanked the U.S. for the meteorologist scholarship extended to qualified and dedicated F.S.M. citizens who will return to work in the F.S.M.

Mentioning the recent tsunami alert from Japan, Ambassador Prahar highlighted "the vital role the Weather Service Office plays in protecting life and property.... [through its] warnings for tsunami, typhoons, floods, and mudslides." Noting the importance of the science education required to succeed in meteorological studies, Ambassador Prahar explained the necessity "to inspire and encourage young people to investigate, explore, and absorb knowledge about the world. Teaching youth to empower themselves with knowledge opens doors and motivates them to get the best education possible so they will have the best futures possible."

The Weather Service Office (WSO) in Pohnpei has been in operation since 1956. First part of the U.S. Weather Bureau, then part of the U.S National Weather Service, it is now the Weather Service Office of Pohnpei State, FSM, in partnership with the U.S. National Weather Service. It is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and is manned by twelve F.S.M. citizens.

Under the U.S. Department of Commerce, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency National Weather Service provides weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy. NWS data and products form a national information database and infrastructure which can be used by other governmental agencies, the private sector, the public, and the global community.



OIC/FSM WSC Eden Skilling who has worked for the weather service since 1967, provided opening remarks at the ground breaking ceremony for the new Weather Service Office

JEMCO Adopts Seven Resolutions at Midyear Policy Meeting

FSM Office of SBOC

April 7, 2011

Palikir, Pohnpei—The Joint Economic and Management Committee (JEMCO) met on March 24-25, 2011 in San Francisco, California for its 2011 Midyear Policy Meeting. While midyear meetings have been called in previous years, this was the first ever policy-oriented midyear meeting. The outcome of the Midyear Meeting includes a series of seven unanimous resolutions addressing various issues, ranging from guidelines for unallocated funds to better aligned and necessary improvements in the education sector and the creation of a sector grant for enhanced reporting and accountability.

Chairman Nikolao Pula noted in his opening remarks that a third of the Amended Compact's funding period is over and called on JEMCO to assess performance over the past seven years. "I'd like us to ask ourselves questions that jog our minds in new and creative directions. For example, have our actions thus far served the best interests of the Amended Compact agreement between the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States? Have we done what we can to assist the country's goals to improve education services and facilities, and to move toward budgetary self-sufficiency?"

In his opening remarks, Vice Chairman Lorin S. Robert similarly encouraged JEMCO to think creatively about how to increase the effectiveness of Compact funds. "We need to work on 'spending smarter' as opposed to 'spending more.' Simply throwing money at problems will not fix them."

At the end of the meeting, both Chairman Pula and Vice Chairman Robert noted that the meeting had an overall positive tone that produced a tangible outcome document, encapsulating the collaborative nature of the bilateral relationship between the FSM and the US.

Among the issues discussed was the creation of a "seventh sector" under the Amended Compact, which was first proposed and endorsed in March 2010 by the State and National Leadership Conference. The new sector is envisioned as an attempt to improve the financial and performance requirements under the Amended Compact.

In letters sent to the four States after the meeting, President Mori thanked the Governors and their key staff for their contributions to the satisfactory outcome of the meeting and indicated his hope that the same type of collaborative efforts and support will become the standard for all future JEMCO Meetings.

To request Chairman Pula and/or Vice Chairman Robert's Opening Re-

See "JEMCO" on page 11

The Kaselehlie Press

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P.O. Box 2222 Pohnpei, FM 96941
ph:(691) 320-6547
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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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FSM placed on U.S. Department of State watch list for human trafficking

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

April 13, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—Some Pacific Island nations including the Federated States of Micronesia have been included on a watch list compiled by the United States in its annual human trafficking report conducted by the Department of State (DOS). It is the second time in a row for the FSM to be placed on the watch list.

The 2010 DOS Trafficking in Persons report measures worldwide law enforcement and other efforts against the crime of human trafficking on a country by country basis during the 2009 calendar year. While the report was unveiled on June 8, 2010 in an apparently overcrowded Washington D.C. ceremony where Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was the principal speaker, the website for the report only began to generate Internet alerts within the last week. The full report can be found on the Internet at www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/.

The report evaluated 176 countries and also Netherlands Antilles as if it were a country rather than a semi-autonomous entity within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The countries were evaluated on a four tiered system.

The US State Department put the FSM on the tier two Watch List which includes those countries "whose governments do not fully comply with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards, AND: a) the absolute number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing; b) there is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year; or, c) the determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take additional future steps over the next year."

The TVPA defines "severe forms of trafficking" as:

- a. Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- b. the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

A victim need not be physically transported from one location to another in order for the crime to fall within these definitions.

DOS assigned 58 of the countries of the 177 it evaluated (33 percent) to the second tier watch list. On that list the FSM is in the company of such countries as Afghanistan, the People's Republic of China, Fiji, Iraq, Kiribati, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and many others.

For unexplained reasons the Republic of the Marshall Islands was not one of the countries DOS evaluated.

The U.S. State Department report says that the FSM is a source country for women subjected to trafficking in persons, specifically forced prostitution in the United States and the U.S. territory of Guam, and has reportedly been a destination for women from China forced

into commercial sexual exploitation. The FSM may be a destination country for a few men and women from other Pacific nations who are subjected to conditions of forced labor.

"Evidence and anecdotal reports suggest that the current number of internal or transnational trafficking victims is low; the government's limited resources were thus often directed to meet more emergent priorities."

The report mentions the recently concluded trial in Guam of Song Wa Cha who was convicted of human trafficking offenses involving 10 young women who were recruited from Chuuk by a Micronesian recruiter. The court found that the girls had been lured to Guam under false pretenses and promises of legitimate work and then were forced into prostitution instead. The Micronesian recruiter was never charged with any crime by FSM law enforcement officers though the FSM's Attorney General Maketo Robert said that the former National Police Chief Pius Roby told him after charges were filed in Guam that he was in the process of conducting an investigation into the matter. No charges were ever filed and no arrests were made.

The Kaselehlie Press published a news article in April of 2008 saying that then FSM Assistant Attorney General Kembo Mida was conducting an investigation to see if charges needed to be filed against the then unknown Micronesian recruiter by the FSM Department of Justice. The Department of Justice made a public plea for information on the matter in the newspaper and in the popular MicSem forum, an online chat resource frequented by Micronesians. The investigation apparently collapsed after Mr. Mida resigned from the office. No charges were ever filed in the FSM.

The report also said that a physically and mentally disabled young woman from Chuuk was rescued from forced prostitution in Hawaii during 2009.

"In May 2009, the former FSM Ambassador to the United States was convicted of selling sample FSM passports maintained at the Embassy in Washington D.C. for personal financial gain, and sentenced to 30 months' imprisonment and a fine. Although authorities have not yet shown that the case clearly involved the transnational movement of trafficking victims, the former Ambassador was facilitating the illegal cross-border movement of irregular migrants from populations throughout the region that are consistently identified as trafficking victims. FSM supports no anti-trafficking task forces or working groups. The government conducted no campaigns aimed at reducing the demand for commercial sex acts. Micronesia is not a party to the 2000 UN TIP (Trafficking in Persons) Protocol."

It said that very little data on human trafficking in FSM is available as the government made no effort to proactively identify victims despite its history as a source country for victims. The government had not concluded any inquiries, investigations, studies or surveys on human trafficking.

While the FSM does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking it is making significant efforts to do so. The FSM did provide some police and immigration officials with trafficking awareness training. Upper level managers at the Division of Labor and Immigration attended seminars that discussed trafficking and the Division claims to look for evidence of trafficking at ports of entry into the FSM.

The Police Academy conducted in Pohnpei involving officers from all the State and National governments

provided training on recognizing trafficking victims, as well as the difference between human trafficking and alien smuggling. It also discussed trafficking interdiction techniques. However, the report said, no formal plan to act on the training is currently in place.

FSM National Police would have jurisdiction over transnational trafficking crimes. Currently there are no specific or comprehensive national laws that prohibit forms of human trafficking such as slavery, forced labor, or forced prostitution. There are related laws that would allow the States to prosecute trafficking offenses and the penalties for trafficking offenses under those laws "are sufficiently stringent," with provisions for five to 10 years' imprisonment for violations.

FSM law enforcement agencies operated under significant resource, personnel, and capacity constraints, the report said.

US DOS recommended that the FSM should educate officials and the general public on the nature of trafficking crimes and the ways in which these crimes affect the FSM; develop and implement a comprehensive anti-trafficking law that would be applicable in all four States; create or support prevention campaigns and investigate recruiters who may be engaged in fraudulent recruiting that leads to trafficking; and develop an internal structure which ensures victims' access to protective services.

Indonesia, Palau and Timor-Leste were three of the 74 countries (42% of the 177 countries evaluated) assigned a tier two rank. Countries on the tier two list are "countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards."

13 countries of the 177 evaluated (7%) were assigned to the Tier three list. Countries evaluated as belonging to tier three are "countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so." Papua New Guinea was one of the countries with a tier three ranking.

Only 30 of the 177 countries evaluated (17 percent) including Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States were evaluated as belonging to the first tier. A first tier ranking means that those countries fully comply with the TVPA minimum standards.

This was the first year that the United States also evaluated its own efforts. While the country is meeting minimum standards of effort in terms of human trafficking issues which placed the country on the tier one list, the DOS report had a substantial number of recommendations for improvements.

The State Department estimates that globally, 12.3 million adults and children are in situations of forced labor, bonded labor, and forced prostitution around the world. It says that in 2009 there were 4,199 successful trafficking prosecutions around the world. 335 of those were related to forced labor. 62 countries have yet to convict a trafficker under laws in compliance with the Palermo Protocol and 104 countries have no laws, policies, or regulations to prevent victims' deportation.

It says that globally 1.8 people out of every 1000 are victims of human trafficking. In the Asia and Pacific region that ratio increases to 3 out of every 1000 inhabitants.

FSM Congress special session adjourns after passage of Tax Authority Act

FSM Congress

PALIKIR, POHNPEI—The Sixth Special Session of the Sixteenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia adjourned right after passage of Congressional Act 16-78, a measure to establish for the nation a Unified Revenue Authority (URA).

Congressional Act 16-78, is one of five bills currently pending before congress for the tax reform initiative underway for the FSM for which the authority would be its foundation. The Authority, as proposed, would be the central unit for collections of both national and state taxes pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement to be entered into between the five governments and the laws enacted to endorse the agreement.

In addition to the measure on Unified Revenue Authority, Congress passed seven other Congressional Acts during the Sixth Special Session, and they include:

CA 16-71, a measure to modify the use of certain funds previously appropriated to fund public projects and social programs in the States of Kosrae and Pohnpei;

CA 16-72, a measure to delay to October 1 2011, any revenue deposits toward the

Maritime Surveillance Revolving Fund;

CA 16-73, a measure to modify the use of certain funds previously appropriated to fund public projects and social programs in Pohnpei State;

CA 16-74, a measure to eliminate certain restrictions on a captive insurance company loans to or investments in its parent company or affiliates;

CA 16-75, a measure to modify the use of certain funds previously appropriated to fund public projects and social programs in the states of Chuuk and Pohnpei;

CA 16-76, a measure to appropriate 180,000 through the Micronesian Red Cross Society as FSM's donation towards international relief efforts for the recent disasters in Japan, Australia and New Zealand; and

CA 16-77, a measure to change the use of 75,000 appropriated for Merit Scholarship to instead be directed instead to the National Scholarship Fund.

All the legislative measures have been transmitted to the Office of the President for action.

Along with eight Congressional Acts, Congress also adopted 10 resolutions

during the special session. Of note is Congressional Resolution (CR) 16-171, requesting the President to 'give notice' of FSM's withdrawal from the Third Implementing Arrangement to the Nauru Agreement unless the arrangement is ratified and implemented by all parties without delay.

The remaining congressional resolutions include:

CR 16-163, which expressed sincere sadness and condolences of the Congress to the people of Japan for the suffering and destruction caused by the earthquake and tsunami of March 11, 2011;

CR 16-164, which expressed sadness and condolences of the Congress for the passing of former Congressman Sasao H. Goulard;

CR 16-166, which extended the Sixth Special Session for another four days;

CR 16-167, which set the budget ceiling at 45,376,574 estimated to be available for appropriation during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011;

CR 16-168, which endorsed a substantially amended budget for FY-11 operations of the Project Management Unit;

CR 16-169, which expressed condolenc-

es of the Congress to the people of Australia for the loss of life and destruction of property caused by the recent floods in the country;

CR 16-170, which expresses condolences of the Congress to the people of New Zealand for the loss of life and destruction of property caused by the recent earthquake in Christchurch;

CR 16-172, which approved a foreign fishing agreement between NORMA and Luen Thai Fishing Ventures, LTD for the purpose of licensing up to 120 Long Line fishing vessels to be based throughout the four states for 10 years; and finally

CR 16-174, a resolution which extended the Sixth Special Session of the 16th CFSM for one more day which altogether was an 11-day special session.

The Sixth Special Session of the 16th Congress of the FSM convened on Monday March 21 and adjourned sine-die on March 31, 2011.

The next Regular Session of Congress will be on May 11 2011, to seat members of the new Seventeenth Congress of the FSM and also reorganize the leadership of both the Legislative and Executive Branches of the National Government.



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

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

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

TEXT TO DONATE



Donate to Japan NOW. Here's how:

1. Create new SMS message
2. Enter the dollar amount (Ex: 5)
3. Send SMS to 52726 or JAPAN

You can donate up to \$100 at once or as many times as you like by texting in again. Donations will be deducted from your Mobile Prepaid Account.

Call your local FSM Telecom office for details.



Antibiotics may lose their power to cure disease, WHO warns

MANILA, 7 April 2011—The World Health Organization (WHO) today warned of a possible return to the days before antibiotics were developed unless global action is taken urgently to combat the growing problem of drug resistance.

WHO cautioned that the misuse and irrational use of drugs are weakening the fight against diseases, such as tuberculosis and malaria, that should have been contained decades ago. At the same time, other age-old diseases are on the rise, with the possibility of no cure.

The rallying cry of this year's World Health Day, observed on 7 April is "Combat drug resistance! No action today, no cure tomorrow." It seeks to raise awareness about what drives antimicrobial resistance and how to halt it.

"Antimicrobial drug resistance is a complex problem, and it requires a comprehensive response among and between Member States across different sectors," said Dr Shin Young-soo, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific.

WHO will launch on World Health Day a six-point policy package for countries in an effort to fight drug resistance. The six points are:

- (1) committing to a comprehensive, financed national plan with lines of accountability and community engagement;
- (2) strengthening surveillance and laboratory capacity;
- (3) ensuring a regular supply of good-quality medicines;
- (4) regulating and promoting rational use of medicines and proper patient care;
- (5) enhancing infection prevention and

control in health settings; and (6) fostering innovation, research and development.


WHO said antimicrobial resistance is a global concern not only because it kills but because it increases health costs and threatens patient care. The problems include:

- (1) An estimated 440 000 new multidrug resistant-TB cases around the world annually, with extensively drug resistant-TB, identified in 58 countries to date.
- (2) The fight against malaria is hampered by the emergence of resistance to the frontline drug, artemisinin.
- (3) Treatment for gonorrhoea is threatened by growing resistance to the last-line treatment for this sexually transmitted infection.
- (4) The emergence of hospital-acquired

"superbugs", resistant to major antibiotics, is becoming increasingly frequent.

In response to the threat of antimicrobial resistance, WHO developed the first Global Strategy for Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance in 2001, but strategies for containment have not been widely implemented, WHO said. While action is needed, commitment, implementation and accountability have lagged behind. The newly launched six-point package will engage all WHO's 193 Member States and the global health community to foster action for change.

The World Health Day' message will target health ministers, other policy-makers and health leaders; the public, patients and civil society; the pharmaceutical industry, health institutions, prescribers and dispensers; and the media.



FSM PETROLEUM CORPORATION

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

LICENSED DEALERS / RESELLERS IN POHNPEI STATE

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

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

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

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

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

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

All proposals are to be sealed and marked "**Licensed Dealer / Reseller Business Opportunity**" and hand delivered to Pohnpei Terminal facility addressed to:
Chief Executive Officer
FSM Petroleum Corporation
P.O. Box 1762
Pohnpei FM 96941.

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

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



FSM PETROLEUM CORPORATION

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS

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

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

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

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

All proposals are to be sealed and marked "**Authorized Distributor Business Opportunity**" and hand delivered to our fuel Terminal facility in each State addressed to:
Chief Executive Officer
FSM Petroleum Corporation
P.O. Box 1762
Pohnpei FM 96941.

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

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

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Prolonged Middle East conflicts affect regional energy prices

Civil unrest in major oil producing countries in the middle east, and threats on disruptions to oil supply chains continue to negatively affect energy prices across the region.

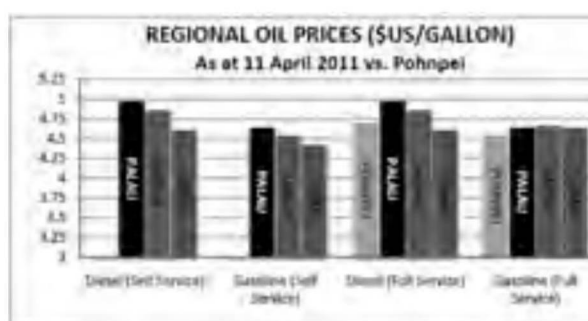
For a third consecutive quarter, international oil prices have continued a sharp and consistent rise. Oil prices at the refineries have increased approximately \$15 per barrel (36 cents per gallon) since mid-February.

“These trends have happened before. When there is concern over the availability of oil in the market, market prices rise in response. The prolonged unrest in Libya and other North African and Middle Eastern countries have driven diesel prices to its highest point in two years, and our oil market analysts indicate that prices will continue to rise through the summer and exceed the current high of \$130/bbl” says Mr. Jared Morris, the Chief Executive Officer of the FSMPC.

To accommodate for the higher costs of purchasing oil products from refineries in Singapore, the FSM Petroleum Corporation have had no alternative but to recover these costs through increases in diesel and kerosene of approximately 30 cents per gallon throughout the nation. The price of gasoline remains unchanged but if prices continue to rise internationally, increases are expected to happen in time.

The increases in the FSM are consistent with price movements around the region of around 35 cents per gallon for diesel and 30 cents for gasoline over the period. Shell, Mobil and 76 have continued to increase prices at the pump, and in Guam regular gasoline sells for \$4.43 for self service, \$4.65 for full service, and diesel for \$4.62. In Saipan, regular gasoline is retailed at the pump at \$4.55 for self-service, \$4.69 for full service and diesel for \$4.87 per gallon.

“Our purchase price ex-Singapore has increased by over \$75/bbl (\$1-75 /gallon) since 2009. We have not increased domestic prices anywhere near that level, and have continued to look for ways to absorb these cost increases. We have been fortunate to be able to cushion the price spikes, but when we are faced with a situation where the average cost of purchasing fuel has increased, with no indication that it will fall again in the near future, we are left with no alternative but to recover this from the market. If we didn’t, we may not be in a position to afford our future cargos of fuel that are now expected to exceed \$4.5million per month.” says Mr. Mathias Lawrence, the Chief Financial Officer of FSMPC.



Prices in the FSM have remained relatively stable, with domestic price increases at service stations in February this year of about 30 cents per gallon.

“We continually check our prices against those in the region. When you compare full service fuel prices, that is, at stations where pump attendants fill your car for you, consumers in the FSM pay less than Saipan and Palau, and not significantly more than Guam” says Mr. Morris.

...Forced Labor

Continued from front page

particularly in this country where we take pride in our individual and collective freedoms,” said Leigh Winchell, Special Agent in Charge of Washington State’s Office of Homeland Securities. “This indictment sends a strong message to those who falsely believe they can hold people against their will and act with impunity.”

As is true for anyone accused of a crime in the United States, charges in the indictment documents against Kenit and Lukas are only allegations. A person is presumed innocent unless and until he or she is proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

According to a report from TDN.com, a daily news website delivering news to the Lower Columbia area of Washington, both Lukas and Kenit have had problems with the law before. According to that news source, Kenit served a three day sentence for drunk driving in 2008 and Lukas worked off a \$300 fine for a charge of fourth degree assault (domestic violence) charge in 2009.

A detention motion filed by United States attorneys argued that both Kenit and Lukas should be jailed until trial for several reasons including a “serious risk that defendants will flee,” as well as a “serious risk of obstruction of justice, including intimidation of a prospective witness or juror.”

In support of their motion prosecutors added that Kenit is alleged to have sexually assaulted “S.S.” on multiple occasions during the 11 months that the victim provided labor and services for the couple. After “S.S.” escaped from the defendants’ home, Kenit allegedly “made efforts to locate her when she was attempting to obtain assistance to flee from the defendants, and after she escaped from the defendant’s home.”

Emily Langlie, Public Affairs Officer for the US Attorney’s Office in the Western District of Washington said in an email that local law enforcement agencies (LEA’s) could file charges for sexual assault against Kenit. “Generally they wait to file charges until the federal prosecution is complete. They may evaluate whether an additional State prosecution makes sense based upon the outcome of the federal case.”

Arguing for detention of Lukas, US attorneys said that she “is alleged to have obstructed justice by removing and attempting to remove S.S. from a shelter to conceal her from law enforcement and to compel S.S. to continue providing labor and services for the defendants. Defendant Lukas held S.S.’s passport and social security card to prevent S.S. from leaving and to compel and cause S.S. to continue to provide labor and services. Defendant Lukas has also made several efforts to locate S.S. since S.S.’s escape from the defendants’ residence.”

As the first argument on the motion for detention for both defendants, U.S. prosecutors argued that Kenit and Lukas are citizens of the FSM and that an ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainer had been placed against both of them.

“An immigration detainer,” according to the website of the Immigration Policy Center (IPC), “is a tool used by ICE and other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials to identify potentially deportable individuals who are housed in jails or prisons nationwide. An immigration detainer is an official request from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to another law enforcement agency—such as a state or local jail—that the LEA notify ICE prior to releasing an individual from local custody so that ICE can arrange to take over custody.”

The IPC website says that ICE detainers are an “often misunderstood immigration enforcement tool,” and that ICE detainers “are requests, not commands.” According to the ICP website, an ICE detainer simply “allows the LEA to retain custody for an additional 48 hours—excluding weekends and holidays—after local jurisdiction ends.”

The IPC website says that just because an ICE detainer has been issued does not mean that the subject is an illegal immigrant or is deportable. “...ICE could erroneously issue a detainer for a U.S. citizen if there is an error in its database or if the individual’s name is similar to someone else who is in the database,” the website says.

Some other websites that appear to be designed specifically to sell the services of law firms that specialize in immigrant criminal matters say that some LEA’s go so far as to include in their reports to ICE, recent arrests of people merely because they have “foreign sounding names.”

The presence of an ICE detainer does not indicate anything except that the arrested individual may or may not be a national of a country other than the United States and that ICE may or may not have an immigration issue that they may or may not choose to pursue regarding the arrested individual(s).

But some courts have upheld the decisions of judges who based bail amounts or detention orders at least partially on the fact that a defendant has and ICE detainer against them.

Certainly, in the case of Lukas and Kenit, more information was presented by the prosecutors to the court than just the issuance of an ICE detainer. Lukas and Kenit have been detained at the Federal Detention Center at SeaTac pending trial which is set to begin on May 23, 2011.

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Survey on tsunami awareness shows improvements needed

60 percent of respondents received notice — 76 percent of those took no action

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlle Press

April 8, 2011

Pohnpei, FSM—On March 11, residents of Pohnpei fortunate enough to be within the small and most densely populated service area of the local cable television station crowded around television screens to watch news footage of thousands of residents of Japan whose lives were taken in that afternoon's incomprehensible earthquake and tsunami. While some of the spectators undoubtedly thought, "There but for the grace of God, go I," a survey conducted by the International Organization for Migration and the Micronesia Red Cross Society showed that very few residents of Pohnpei took any action at all; actions that, if the tsunami had actually plowed inward from Pohnpei's shores as it did in Japan, would have saved lives; quite possibly their own.

This time Pohnpei, and the rest of the FSM was lucky; some would say "spared." In Pohnpei, tsunami wave action caused only a rapid swell in tide levels that were only a bit higher than any other high tide. Water levels were erratic for the next several hours and that was the extent of the tsunami event in Pohnpei. Probably because no one can remember a tsunami ever reaching Pohnpei's shores there seems to have developed a sense among residents of Pohnpei big island that Pohnpei is immune. That attitude could one day cost hundreds if not thousands of lives here and elsewhere in the FSM.

Local and national disaster management officials met at the offices of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to hear the results of a community wide survey on tsunami awareness and to discuss ideas to mitigate the effects of possible disaster. Disaster management officials were also joined by members of the Diplomatic Corps. Representatives from the Micronesia Red Cross Society were unable to attend because they were providing disaster training in one of the local communities at the time of the meeting.

Ashley Carl, Country Officer for IOM opened the review by commenting that while some issues of tsunami preparedness and notification in Pohnpei were better during the March 11 tsunami warning than they were during the last tsunami warning which was spawned by an earthquake in South America, there is still much to be done.

Representatives from IOM and from the Microne-

sia Red Cross Society conducted 278 surveys at households in low lying coastal areas of Pohnpei. They covered as much of the geographic area of Pohnpei's big island as they could. Carl said that the survey could have benefited by including residents of Pohnpei's outer islands but that there had been no time to extend it that far yet.

The survey was short and included only just a few questions. The first question was whether or not a person was willing to participate in the survey. Carl said that only a very small number of people were unwilling to participate in the survey.

It asked whether the subject knew what a tsunami is. It asked if they knew about the March 11 tsunami warning in time to take action and if so, at what time did the participant hear about the warning. It wanted to know how participants received the warning and what they did after they learned of it. It asked whether or not the community had a disaster preparation plan, and also wanted to know if the participants were aware of various disaster coordinating agencies in Pohnpei.

Of the 287 respondents 60 percent received warning of a potential tsunami within two hours of the predicted landing of the tsunami. 11 percent received no warning at all. 40 percent received the warning but either didn't receive it in time to take action or they heard about it after the announced arrival of the tsunami had already passed. 82 percent of respondents said that either their community had no disaster preparedness plan or if it did they were unaware of it.

Apparently FSM Telecommunications Corporation tried to send a mass text message to its customers with cell phones warning of a possible impending tsunami but the attempt failed. None of the respondents surveyed received notification from that source. Nine percent of respondents received warning from the cable television station, ICTV which covers only a small portion of the island. 26 percent heard of the warning on V6AH, Pohnpei's State radio station. Commercial or non-profit radio stations were not notified by disaster officials. It was not known if any of those other radio stations issued warnings to its listeners, but it is known that some did not. 21 percent of respondents heard about the impending tsunami from police officers. The largest number of survey respondents heard about it from family or friends.

Nine percent of respondents said that when they received notice of the tsunami warning they tuned into the State radio station to listen for more information. 20 percent notified friends and family. Two percent called at least one government office for confirmation of the report. 33 percent moved to higher ground. 54 percent did nothing at all.

The tsunami warning came during the time of day on that Friday afternoon during which many people in Pohnpei top off their day with sakau. Carl said that some respondents said that they heard about the warning but chose to continue to enjoy their sakau right where they were rather

than moving the end of day celebration to higher ground.

Of the 60 percent of respondents who said they received notice of the tsunami warning in time do something about it 76 percent took no action at all.

Participants in today's meeting from FSM's Office of Environment and Emergency Management said that while the goal is for 100% notification of all FSM residents most of the mechanisms for notification are in the hands of public safety offices at the State level. They also said that OEEM currently has no disaster procedures to deal with tsunami warnings. They said they are working on that now.

Representatives from Pohnpei's Department of Public Safety said that March 11 tsunami warning and how Pohnpei responded to it demonstrated where the gaps were and that disaster management actors had learned several important lessons.

When the IOM presentation of survey results was completed disaster management actors participated in a "brain storming" session. The Kaselehlle Press chose to opt out of that discussion in order to allow participants the opportunity to speak freely and frankly without having to self edit because of the presence of the press.

Mr. Carl later shared the outcomes of that session via email with all of the participants including The Kaselehlle Press.

"The main suggestions that stemmed from the discussion were as follows:

1. "All radio stations should broadcast hazard warnings;
2. Strategies should be developed for investing in the broadening of existing radio coverage;
3. Radio operators need to be trained in making announcements (ie lesson learned from Majuro);
4. Community based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) activities need to be implemented (and could be piloted in Pohnpei);
5. Agencies can and should work together on community empowerment activities related to Disaster Risk Reduction & Management (DRR/DRM);
6. The installation of alert sirens for multi-hazard purposes should be further investigated;
7. The utilization of existing funding mechanisms for Early Warning Systems (EWS) - e.g. EU funding through SPC/SOPAC & OEEM
8. The utilization of existing systems for EWS (e.g. sat phones, chatty beetles, Pacific Rural Internet Connectivity);
9. Exploring the possibility of harnessing further financial and technical resources

"Discussions were of a broad nature and while most suggestions were good, there appears to be a need to 'drill down' further into each of the recommendations.

"Moreover, a better understanding of what stakeholders are doing in relation to DRR/DRM would seem advantageous (ie who, what, where) in planning a way forward.

"OEEM and PNI DPS have agreed to a tentative inaugural Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Partners meeting" before the end of this month.



Disaster management officials meet at the office of IOM to review survey results



IOM and MRCs participated in conducting the survey

Benefit concert in Pohnpei unites people of all ages in support of Japan

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

Pohnpei, FSM--On March 11, people around the world watched with feelings of hopeless helplessness, video images on television and Internet news resources of the earthquake spawned tragedy that took the lives of thousands of Japanese citizens and left more than a hundred thousand homeless and destitute.

One student of the National Campus of the College of Micronesia in the Federated States of Micronesia (COM-FSM) spent a great deal of time over the weekend wondering if he could do something to help. Mori M. Mori approached Japanese language instructor, Yoriko Tanigawa on Monday, the very next day of classes. He told his former Japanese language instructor that he wanted to do something for Japan.

Mori is one of many students Tanigawa has taught during her years at COM-FSM and elsewhere.



Tanigawa was the right person to contact and between the two of them they built an impressive network of local and international contacts for a benefit concert for Japan that was held at the gymnasium of the COM Pohnpei Campus on March 30. 86 people performed at the concert. Performances included local dance and musical performances and also featured performances by Japanese performers as well as COM students who performed songs in the Japanese language. The concert took place between 4:00 and 7:30 on that evening.

Mori said that over 400 people, including the performers attended the event.

The event and the network that Mori and Tanigawa put together attracted messages of support from people living in such far flung places as Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and from other locations around the world. Most, if not all of them, had at one time or another been Tanigawa's students. Tanigawa is extraordinarily organized and diagrammed for us, a network map to show the contacts that Mori and she made in order to arrange the event.

Sally Spedding who lives in Auckland, New Zealand registered her support for the event in a letter. "...we also have been struck with a terrible earthquake in Christchurch. We all know how important it is to help raise funds for these poor victims. So I believe you are doing a wonderful job."

"As I'm currently studying Japanese, I share your feelings of sorrow for the Japanese people and can understand your wish to do something," Liesbeth Helwig who is currently living in Italy wrote. "I know your Japanese teacher Ms. Yoriko Tanigawa very well from when I was still living in Tokyo. During that period I have also visited Pohnpei and have attended a lesson of Ms. Tanigawa at the Micronesia College Campus in Campus in Kolonia...I'm sure that many people in Japan will feel comforted when they learn about your initiatives."

Other letters came in from other countries but they were written in languages using alphabets with which we were not familiar.

Mori and Tanigawa decided early on in the process of arranging for the benefit concert not to charge admission for the event. Instead, participants and spectators were invited to donate at a table specifically set up for that purpose; and they did. The event raised \$609.

"The money wasn't the big thing," Mori said. "We don't have much but we wanted to send the message that the people of Micronesia really care about the people of Japan. We wanted to do it. It was something we could do."

Yoriko Tanigawa said that the event was also something the Japanese residents currently living in Pohnpei could do for their people and they were glad for the opportunity.

"I was glad that a lot of older people showed up, both local and Japanese people," Mori said.

All of the money collected was turned over to the Micronesia Red Cross Society headquartered in Pohnpei for distribution for the purposes of relief for the people of Japan. An MRCS representative was just one of the guest speakers who spoke during the event.

By the time this newspaper is published, yet another benefit event will have happened at the Sei Restaurant on Sunday, April 17 in Kolonia, Pohnpei. That event was scheduled to begin at 1:00 on that afternoon.

Yap State Legislature Requests Hearing for Public Law 15-73

By *FSM Social Security Administration*

On February 16, 2011, the Yap State Legislature held a hearing in their chambers on a proposed resolution for the FSM Congress to repeal two provisions from Public Law 15-73.

The first provision raised the tax rate from 6% to 7% while the second provision allowed retirees to receive 50% of their benefit from age 60 to 64 while they continued to work with 100% to be received once they reach age 65.

The effective dates of the provisions had already been delayed once before by congress to allow for the states and FSMSSA to come up with other solutions. As there were none that were proposed, the provisions finally went into effect. The Yap State Legislature wished for congress to repeal the provisions and to look to income from fishing fees and captive insurance to fund the program's shortfalls.

During the hearing, which began at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, the Administrator of the FSMSSA, Alexander R. Narruhn, reiterated his support of the provisions saying that they were the only sure way of ensuring the viability of the program in the long run.

In his statement to the legislature, he said, "I've always been a believer that the work of leaders is change. And all changes require that leaders actively seek ways to make things better, to grow, innovate and improve. To search for opportunities to get extraordinary things done. At times, change may not be popular amongst our citizens but that is the responsibility that we all have to work for our citizens in en-

suring that we have a sustainable social security system."

Isaac Figir, Speaker of the FSM Congress, was also invited to witness the hearing. He said that all parties were given ample time to propose better alternatives to the provisions and the fact that none were proposed was indication that amending the law was the only viable solution.

Both Narruhn and Figir agreed that although injecting funds into the system was most desirable, it was a temporary solution with no guarantees of perpetuity. Changing the law ensured the balance of the system which is crucial for a defined benefit program such as the FSMSSA.

Discussions went into the possibility of switching from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. Administrator Narruhn revealed that a switch to a defined contribution structure was a monumental undertaking that cannot be afforded at this time. He said that there was already a defined benefit plan in place which needed tending hence the provisions.

One member asked about the possibility of Yap State coming up with its own pension plan and Narruhn recommended for a separate pension plan that would supplement retirees from age 60 to 64 during the time in which they shall be receiving 50% from social security.

Narruhn revealed that Kosrae State already lifted their mandatory retirement age from 60 to 65 and urged the other states to adopt the same change for better compatibility with the new provision.

The hearing ended at 3:00 p.m.

Prime Minister Kan thanks the global community for its continuing assistance



*Kizuna –
the bonds
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Thank you for the Kizuna.

One month has passed since an earthquake of unprecedented scale struck Japan taking thousands of precious lives. Even today, evacuation shelters are still the only refuge for more than 150,000 people.

In the tsunami-devastated regions there was no food, no water, no electricity and the survivors had no communications. At that desperate time people from around the world rallied to our side bringing hope and inspiring courage.

Every blanket and every cup of hot soup brought warmth and strength to the cold and exhausted who had lost everything. Rescue teams heroically searched for survivors in the heaps of broken rubble, while medical teams worked tirelessly caring for the injured.

We are still receiving a tremendous outpouring of encouragement, prayers and support from people worldwide. We deeply appreciate the Kizuna our friends around the world have shown and I want to thank every nation, entity, and you personally, from the bottom of my heart.

Reconstruction has already begun and we are putting every effort into stabilizing the situation at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

Through our own efforts and with the help of the global community, Japan will recover and come back even stronger. We will then repay you for your generous aid.

With this in our hearts, we now stand together dedicated to rebuilding the nation.

As our feelings of deep gratitude to you grow into feelings of hope, we, the people of Japan, express our sincere thanks to you all.

菅 直人

Naoto Kan
Prime Minister of Japan

A Friend In Need Is A Friend Indeed.

How Japan is Acting to Ensure Safety of Farm Produce Exports Providing Accurate Information; No Need for Curbs on Travel to Japan

Embassy of Japan, Kolonia Pohnpei

In response to global concerns about the safety of Japanese products triggered by damage to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, the Government of Japan has taken every possible measure to make sure no contaminated farm product will be sold at home or abroad.

However, an increasing number of countries and regions are moving to screen imports from Japan by introducing tests related to radiation levels. "We take it seriously," Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Tetsuro Fukuyama said during a press briefing on March 31 following a meeting at the State Secretary level called to discuss steps to be taken towards import restrictions. "We will keep a close watch on import curbs and take necessary action in liaison with this meeting," he added.

Measures Taken by MOFA

Reiterating these remarks, Minister for Foreign Affairs Takeaki Matsumoto told a press conference on April 1 that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has been gathering information through diplomatic missions abroad while providing foreign embassies and international organizations in Tokyo with information and explanations. "We are approaching countries that seem to be taking excessive measures for corrective actions," he added. Upon the request of the European Union, Japan is preparing to issue certificate of origin as one of the measures to ease its concerns, Minister Matsumoto said, citing remarks at the State Secretary-level meeting. "MOFA will continue providing each country with sufficient information on the latest state of the nuclear power plant, and will work in close cooperation with the ministries and agencies concerned in order to prevent excessive reaction or unreasonable import bans overseas," he said.

Japan has requested countries and regions concerned not to overreact to the nuclear incident by imposing unjustifiable import regulations and restrictions. According to MOFA Press Secretary Satoru Satoh, the move is an effort to avoid unfounded rumors and ensure smooth economic activities, including foreign trade. As part of the effort, a Japanese envoy called on World Trade Organization (WTO) members to abide by the WTO rule that bans trade restrictions not based on scientific grounds. At the informal sessions of the WTO Trade Negotiations Committee on March 29 and SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary) Committee on March 30, Ambassador Yoichi Otabe at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Geneva said Japan will "continue to try to provide accurate information for the international community as quickly as possible with a view to ensuring maximum transparency." He requested WTO members "not to overreact by implementing unjustifiable import regulations and restrictions."

ICAO: "No Restrictions on Travel to Japan"

During his March 31 briefing, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Fukuyama cited a report from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) showing there are no international restrictions on travel to Japan. The report is based on a statement issued on March 18 by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other U.N. agencies. "International flight and maritime operations can continue normally into and out of Japan's major airports and seaports, excluding those damaged by the tsunami," according to the statement shared with the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

"No Need for Radiation Tests on Passengers from Japan"

ICAO and IMO also posted the following information on April 1 stating that there is no need for radiation screening tests on passengers arriving from Japan.

"Radioactive material from the damaged Fukushima Daiichi plant is gradually spreading outside Japan into the global atmosphere but at extremely low concentrations that do not present health or transportation safety hazards, according to the U.N. organizations closely monitoring the situation".

"Japanese authorities confirm that all airports in the country, with the exception of Sendai which was affected by the tsunami of March 11, continue to operate normally for both international and domestic operations. Continuous monitoring around these airports confirms that radiation levels are well within safe limits from a health perspective".

"Japanese authorities also confirm that all international seaports not damaged by the earthquake and tsunami are operating normally and that no health risk has been detected around the ports, based on the results of measurements of radiation levels by local governments".

"Screening for radiation of passengers arriving from Japan is currently considered unnecessary at airports around the world."

Daily Government Briefing

To help convey accurate information globally, the Government of Japan is conducting a daily briefing for foreign media in Tokyo. Officials from MOFA and other ministries and agencies concerned participate in the briefing conducted at the Prime Minister's Office each evening to provide detailed information such as radiation levels measured daily at selected points in areas surrounding the Fukushima plant, the outcome of work dedicated to ensuring the safety of the plant and the condition of each reactor.

U.S. addresses manure management in Pohnpei

Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia



(L-R) USDA-NRCS Boyd, Wheaton, and Field Office Soil Conservationist Gibson Santos conduct an engineering assessment of a piggery in Enpein Powe, Kitti March 30.

On March 28 to April 2, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) State Conservation Engineer Jeff Wheaton (GUAM) and Manure Management Team Leader William "Bill" Boyd (North Carolina) visited Pohnpei. During their visit, Wheaton and Boyd assisted local NRCS Field Office partners and stakeholders to address natural resource concerns and opportunities associated with piggeries. The NRCS team surveyed anaerobic digesters, which produce a methane-rich biogas that can be used for fuel similar to natural gas.

On March 28, Wheaton, Boyd, and the NRCS Field Office Team met with College of Micronesia-FSM Agriculture Professor Kiyoshi Phillip and toured the COM-FSM piggery and composting facility. The following day, the NRCS delegation visited anaerobic digesters at Ohwa Christian Academy and in Pohnlangas, Madolenihmw. To support the creation of a "standard" anaerobic digester design for Pohnpei, they also conducted engineering assessments of private piggeries throughout Pohnpei.

On March 30, Boyd conducted a presentation entitled "Manure is not a Waste Unless it is Wasted" at the College of Micronesia-FSM (COM-FSM) National Campus in Palikir. The presentation was part of the U.S. Embassy/COM-FSM Forum Lecture Series, which provides U.S. Government professionals as guest speakers for COM-FSM students, faculty, staff, and interested community members. During the lecture, Boyd detailed how plan manure management systems to utilize manure as a source of energy and nutrients for agro-forestry systems.

On April 1, the NRCS team led a forum titled "Piggeries, Health and the Environment, and Anaerobic (Biogas) Discussion" at the Pohnpei State Administration Building in Kolonia. The event included government officials, environmental NGO representatives, members of the diplomatic corps, and other agricultural, health, and environmental stakeholders. The discus-

See "Management" on next page

Education, health leaders and development partners gather in Palau to address regional disease crisis in the US-Affiliated Pacific

Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA)

The United States Affiliated Pacific Islands are in a regional state of emergency due to the onslaught of diabetes, cancer, heart disease and respiratory disease, according to participants in the 50th Meeting of the Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA). More than ninety representatives from the health, education and other sectors gathered in the Republic of Palau on April 4th through 8th to address the disease crisis.

If unchecked, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) will swamp national budgets, cut productivity, and threaten the survival of Pacific people within just a few generations. Of all the nations of the world, Pacific Island countries and territories have among very highest rates of NCDs and NCD-risk factors, including obesity, alcohol, tobacco, poor diet, and physical inactivity.

"It's bad now. But this is just the beginning. Our children are more obese and less active than in any other generation. We've had the earthquake, but the Tsunami has yet to hit. Where is the warning system? Why aren't the alarms going off?" said Dr. Stevenson Kuartei, PIHOA President and Minister of Health of the Republic of Palau. "This is an emergency, let's treat it like one. This was one of the loudest recommendations from meeting participants."

NCDs cause tremendous suffering among Pacific peoples and consume the largest part of USAPI health budgets. The current and future impact of NCDs on other sectors such as education, agriculture, trade, and fisheries, has yet to be measured, but is likely to be significant, effecting school absenteeism, learning capacity, worker productivity, national security and GDP. "We're sounding the alarm at the regional level, but it will only have meaning if the same urgency guides work at the national level," said Dr. Kuartei.

The purpose of the meeting was mobilization: To help all partners develop and strengthen their individual and collective responses to the crisis. Participants in the meeting included the Regional Director of the Western Pacific Regional Organization, World Health Organization; Deputy Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Dean of the Fiji School of Medicine; President of Palau Community College; the President of the Association of Pacific Islands Legislatures; and the Ministers, Directors and Secretaries of Health of the USAPI, along with leadership from seven universities

and colleges, ten USAPI regional associations, and ten US and international agencies, as well as representatives from community groups and K-12 education.

"We've got to get past this idea that the NCD problem belongs to the health sector. We'll never solve it that way. It belongs to all of you, to the whole of society. Every sector and every community needs to have an NCD plan. What does trade need to do to help solve this? How about agriculture, fisheries, traditional leadership, our village councils, our schools and colleges? The people of the Pacific are dying and will die at much younger and higher rates in the future if we don't act now," continued Dr. Kuartei.

Outcomes of the meeting included draft recommendations from all meeting participants and work plans designed to improve coordination, increase resources, and address gaps among development partners, educational partners, regional associations, and the PIHOA directors. The final meeting product will be ratified at the 51st PIHOA meeting in the fall, but the work begins now, with firm commitments by meeting participants

to strengthen and implement activities and expand participation by other sectors between now and the 51st PIHOA meeting.

The Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA) is a non-profit organization led by the Ministers, Secretaries, and Directors of Health of the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI). The USAPI include the three U.S. Flag Territories of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa, and the three Freely Associated States (independent nations in a special compact relationship with the United States) of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia (Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk, and Yap). The USAPI are populated by more than 500,000 people who live on hundreds of islands and atolls spanning millions of square miles of ocean and crossing five Pacific time zones. PIHOA's mission is to improve the health and well-being of USAPI communities by providing, through consensus, a unified credible voice on health issues of regional significance.

...Management

Continued from previous page

sion began with opening remarks by U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Lori Dando, followed by Pohnpei State Lieutenant Governor Churchill Edward. The agenda included remarks by NRCS Resources Conservationist Paul Lake, Pohnpei State Public Health Chief Dr. Rally Jim, Pohnpei Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Educator Francis Celestine. The second portion of the discussion included an anaerobic digester summary and the initial NRCS design, an overview of the Chinese biogas project by Chinese Embassy First Secretary Ouyang Xiaohong, and grant funding opportunities through GEF Micronesia Small Grants Programme and USDA Rural Development.



Participants of the "Piggeries, Health and the Environment, and Anaerobic Digester (Biogas) Discussion" in the Pohnpei State Administration Building April 1



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Continued from page 2

marks or for further information, please contact the Division of Compact Management at the Office of Statistics, Budget and Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance & Compact Management (SBOC) at (691) 320-6260 or email slowe@sboc.fm.

The adopted resolutions follow:

RESOLUTION JEMCO-MT-2011-1

Continuation of FY 2011 Chuuk Education Sector Grant Award

JEMCO resolves that the second half of Fiscal Year 2011 funding for Chuuk State Education Department be released contingent upon the following special grant terms and conditions:

(1) No sector grant or Supplemental Education Grant funding shall be provided for unqualified departmental employees (teachers who lack associate degrees and are not enrolled in DOE-approved individual degree plans) after June 30, 2011.

(2) If teachers who are currently enrolled in DOE-approved professional development programs do not complete their associate degrees by September 30, 2015, no sector grant or Supplemental Education Grant funding shall be provided to pay their salaries beginning in FY 2016 and onward.

RESOLUTION JEMCO-MT-2011-2 Performance Standards, Sector Evaluations, and Incentives

JEMCO resolves that the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) and Office of SBOC shall jointly develop sector-specific options for creating appropriate incentives to improve performance under the Amended Compact, recognizing that the collection of performance data must improve for such options to work.

JEMCO further resolves that these options shall be presented to JEMCO for its consideration at the next Mid-Term JEMCO meeting or as otherwise mutually agreed. An update on progress shall be presented at the next annual JEMCO meeting.

RESOLUTION JEMCO-MT-2011-3 Creating a Seventh Sector: Enhanced Reporting and Accountability

JEMCO resolves that it supports the FSM's proposal, subject to the required "mutual agreement" being put into effect pursuant to the terms of section 211(a) of the Compact, as amended.

JEMCO further resolves that, pursuant to section 101(f) of the Compact, as amended, Article II of the Fiscal Procedures Agreement should be amended as follows:

Article II(1)(g). Enhanced Reporting and Ac-

countability - United States grant assistance shall be made available to support the efforts of the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia to address the additional complexities and costs of compliance inherent in the Compact, as amended, specifically those related to budgeting, financial accountability, and expanded financial and performance reporting requirements.

Priorities should be given to achieving and maintaining full and timely compliance with Articles V and VI of this Agreement, including the development and operation of a Financial Management Information System that is capable of accurately and efficiently accounting for and reporting on the use of Compact and all other funds available to the national and state governments of the Federated States of Micronesia; the development and operation of a performance-based budgeting and reporting system for the planned use and expenditure of Compact and all other funds available to each of the national and state governments of the Federated States of Micronesia; and the development and operation of financial management procedures, practices and internal controls that ensure timely revenue collections, accurate and timely payments, and accurate and timely submission of all required quarterly and annual reports by each of the national and state governments of the Federated States of Micronesia.

JEMCO further resolves to consider allocations subject to the following two restrictions:

1. The allocated amount for the sector grant for Enhanced Reporting and Accountability shall not exceed two percent of total section 211(a) grants, as adjusted for inflation under section 217 of the US-FSM Compact; and

2. The sector grant for Enhanced Reporting and Accountability shall be made available for FY2012 and thereafter annually for the remainder of the period identified in section 211(a) of the Compact, as amended.

(It is noted that, pursuant to section 101(f) of the Compact, as amended, there is a clear requirement of "prior notification" of the U.S. Congress; therefore the provisions above will only become effective ninety (90) days after such notice has been transmitted. To the extent possible, accommodations to enable usage of funds for the purposes anticipated under this additional sector grant shall be made available for FY2012, notwithstanding reasonable delays that may result from the requirements under section 101(f).)

RESOLUTION JEMCO-MT-2011-4 Application of Eminent Domain in Chuuk/Construction of Education and Health Facilities on Land Use with Clear Title

JEMCO resolves that it supports the concept of private land acquisition in Chuuk State with Compact Public Sector Infrastructure funds, through the process of eminent domain, at fair market value, in line with the process set forth in the 'Chuuk State Land Acquisition Proposal'. Acquisitions shall be considered, on a case by case basis, if the acquisition of private land is a necessary component of a complete and comprehensive construction proposal.

JEMCO further resolves that the FSM submit to the Office of Insular Affairs full project proposals for sites that already have secured certificates of land ownership and for which a clearly demonstrated need exists for a new facility.

JEMCO further resolves that the FSM submit a master plan for Chuuk school facility repair and construction in Chuuk State that is complementary to the Chuuk Department of Education's improvement plan and consistent with demographic trends, teacher availability and sustainable financial projections.

RESOLUTION JEMCO-MT-2011-5 Unallocated Compact Funds and Requirements of Award

JEMCO resolves that guidelines for the use of previously unallocated funds are necessary. Unless otherwise modified by JEMCO resolution, budget requests from the FSM for the use of previously unallocated funds should be:

- a) non-recurrent in nature to avoid unsustainable increases in personnel or non-personnel operating budgets;
- b) allocable to any of the Compact sector grants;
- c) presented in the prevailing "project-based proposal" format, or in the case of purchase of fixed assets or equipment, with a rationale and linkage to the relevant sector priorities.

RESOLUTION JEMCO-MT-2011-6 Use of "Personnel Savings" Prohibited to Meet Unanticipated Expenses

JEMCO resolves that a written request will be sent to the chief executives of all FSM governments and to the presiding officers of all five legislatures to amend their respective appropriation laws to exempt Compact-supported personnel budgets from legislative reprogramming restrictions, concurrent with the Chairman of JEMCO sending a senior representative to the jurisdictions of the FSM to discuss the merits of such amendments.

RESOLUTION JEMCO-MT-2011-7 The Role of the Compact Funds Control Commission (CFCC)

JEMCO resolves that a working group of appropriate officials from the Governments of the FSM and the US shall undertake a review of Chuuk's budget and finance operations and those of the CFCC by February 29, 2012. The review should cover the following: (1) whether Chuuk is able to reassume certain finance and budget functions; (2) whether additional steps are necessary to prevent the recurrence of financial management and accountability problems; (3) recommended changes to the CFCC's role and responsibilities; (4) the timeline for when and how a transfer of function(s) would be appropriate; and (5) recommended Chuuk State executive and legislative actions to ensure that any JEMCO decisions to ease restrictions and shift functions back to Chuuk State control would likely be consistent with any changes in roles and responsibilities and would be supported by required legislative amendments at the state level. The working group should be prepared to present a preliminary update at the JEMCO meeting in August 2011.

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

DONATE TO JAPAN

① ② ③



Donate to Japan NOW. Here's how:

1. Create new SMS message
2. Enter the dollar amount (Ex: 5)
3. Send SMS to 52726 or JAPAN

You can donate up to \$100 and as many times as you like. Donations will be deducted from your Mobile Prepaid Account. Call your local FSM Telecom office for details.



Guest Perspective

Remain Invisible in Silence

By Nihandini Santi

“I sat back and looked at my life, thinking of all the abuse and violence I was experiencing, without saying anything about it and without my family saying anything about it. I thought, ‘I can’t make my own decisions and I’m living in fear in my own country’. I listened to other women and heard their stories. The Indian and Thai women really impressed me. They had all this energy and when they talked, they went on and on, and I thought, ‘I want to be like them and go out there and talk strongly. I can be like them. I’m not going to give up’”

Maura, woman living with HIV from Papua New Guinea

We should look more clearly at the everyday lives of women: at those silent housewives behind the “breadwinners”, at those female labours working in the factories, at those women living with HIV and at women refugees. They produce a reflection; albeit not through a perfectly transparent lens, on women discrimination in many societies in different parts of the world, and perhaps, in our society. Discrimination towards women continues to be a global epidemic that cause violence towards them— physically, psychologically, sexually and economically. It’s presence is ubiquitous, crossing social boundaries such as culture, class, ethnicity and age.

The ugly truth tells us that we live in a world where women mostly do not have power as a “free agent” nor basic control over their physical being. According to the Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPPF), one in every three women in the world has experienced sexual, physical, emotional or other abuse in her lifetime. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that every year, about 5,000 women are murdered by family members in the name of honour each year worldwide. Women and girls are the main target of human trafficking for forced labour and sex-- as often they are the most vulnerable. Women are disadvantaged and marginalized from unequal social and economic development; women work 67% of the world’s working hours, and produce 50% of the world’s food, yet they earn only 10% of the world’s income and own less than 1% of the world’s property. Alas despite the prevalence of discrimination against women, these horrible stories are often left untold. Research studies have consistently confirmed that women remain silent about discriminatory and abusive treatment before they finally tell someone. Others remain silent for ever. If there are valid explanations for this silence, what can we do to stop it?

Just as the phrase “violence against women” has been missing from public conversations, far too often the roles and position of women in the society are hidden from critical examination. This phenomenon is a reflection of the persistence of discrimination that women continue to face. Thus, it can only be

eliminated by addressing the problem at its source, which emerges from gender inequality: the disparity of positions, roles, and behaviours between men and women due to gender. Unlike sex, which is a biological concept, gender is a social construct identifying the socially and culturally prescribed roles that

men and women are to follow. At the foundational level, power relations between men and women are inherent in the traditional dichotomy of ‘masculinity’ and ‘femininity’, which includes the expectations of men’s roles as ‘breadwinner’ and women’s roles as mother and wife. Burdened with full responsibilities for housework and childcare, women lack opportunities for professional and political life. In the past two decades women held only 16 per cent of seats in parliament worldwide and over 60 per cent of unpaid people working in family enterprises are women. In the home, women spend about 70 percent of their time caring for family members, a contribution to the global economy that remains invisible. Should they attempt to enter the workforce, they often face great obstacles from family members, sexual harassment, and discrimination in employment. According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), women represent the majority of the working poor in all regions; out of the 550 million working poor in the world, an estimated 330 million, or 60 per cent, are women. The main contributing factors to this situation are women’s irregular career paths and the undervaluation of women’s work due to their role as caregivers in the family and the need to balance work and family life. As they are perceived as the ‘weaker sex’, this misperception has placed them in an inferior category and therefore increases their risk and vulnerability to domestic violence: “the range of sexually, psychologically and physically coercive acts or arbitrary deprivation of liberty used against adult and adolescent women by current or former male intimate partners” (WHO). Gender inequality and gender power imbalance by all means has created women’s dependency upon their partners. Fear to be punished, as well as, the shame of what others might think often guides their decision to honour the ‘silent secret’ of domestic violence. Consequently, when discriminatory and abusive treatments occur, leaving the situation is not a viable option. Many women have little choice but to remain silent. In contrast to the Statue of Liberty, the Statue of Marianne and other female representations which exude the idealization of freedom and equality, the truth is merely a hypocrisy; many women around the world are still chained in their own homes.

Violence perpetrated against women is arguably the worst manifestation of gender inequality in the Pacific. Women were made specific targets of sexual violence and rape in conflict zones such as Solomon Islands, Bougainville and Fiji in the context of retribution or simply ethnic hatred. The way in which the issues have been relegated to the private sphere – often dispelled under the cloak of cultural values and norms -- has exacerbated the misrepresentation of the problems in the public discourse. Following the two recent cases of wife beating in 1994, which resulted in death in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), women leaders argued in the Micronesian Seminar (MicSem Forums) that despite the attention given to the negative impacts of domestic violence on women, it was not generally acknowledged as a community problem. A statement echoed by many victims of domestic violence was pointed out by one of the women in The Seminar: “We live with domestic violence every day in the FSM, but people’s general response is silent acceptance”. Domestic violence is viewed through the lens of other women as “a hidden problem, a shameful secret.”

Another constraint in addressing violence against women is the lack of available research and statistics in order to measure the exact figure of the frequency or the gravity of the issue. According to Tina Takashy, the head of the Domestic Violence Program, there were ten cases reported each month on Pohnpei and it was estimated that another 20 remain unreported. She also indicated that the figure did not represent the real index of the frequency or seriousness of the problem. In addition, one of the female counsellors estimated that “about 40 or 50 percent of all married Micronesian women are slapped around at least occasionally by their husbands”. There was an uncertain agreement, however, whether such conduct should be seen as domestic violence or justified as “means of discipline”.

The solutions for violence against women rely upon how to challenge the popular misconception associated with gender inequality

in both domestic and public spheres. Legislation is considered to be one effective solution to stop the violence. This has been reaffirmed by the Vienna Declaration which noted that: ‘the human rights of women and of the girl-child are inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights’. As any form of domestic violence is a violation towards human rights of women, it should be handled as a national priority as opposed to a personal or household issue; that is, nation states should honour international commitments to prevent violence and bring perpetrators to justice through the legitimacy of law. Especially in the absence of any legal definition of what constitutes domestic violence in the FSM, the elimination of violence against women will remain an ongoing challenge.

The lack of women’s voice in political and public discourse in the FSM, however, makes it difficult to establish laws against domestic violence. Women represent less than one percent in the state legislatures and there are no women in Congress, which places the country as one of the lowest rank in the world, together with other Pacific Island countries and Arab states. The representation of women in politics will advance gender equality through acts that improve the equal rights for women and men in general, which consequently leads to attitudinal changes in gender bias. These actions are critical for women’s empowerment and an important step for democratic strengthening, as genuine democracy cannot exist without the equal participation of men and women in politics. In conclusion, perhaps, it is wise to reiterate the words of Mose Tjitendero, former chair of the IPU Gender Partnership Group and speaker of the National Assembly of Namibia:

‘We believe that true equality between the sexes can only be achieved if both women and men pull forces together to break the barriers of age-old belief that women and men have different roles to play and therefore have an unequal stand in society ... A man of quality should not fear women who seek equality’

Story Hour at the Library!



Thursdays from
3:30 - 5 pm

Across the street from
Nihco Company near
the Botanical Gardens
Questions?

Call 320-2423

Crossword - 4 Letter Words

- ACROSS**
1. Rate
 4. Test
 7. Limb
 10. Chum
 13. Tree
 14. Joey
 15. Copy
 16. Time
 17. Fuss
 18. Deer
 19. Hole
 20. Feat
 21. Pair
 22. Lack
 24. Hate
 26. Step
 28. Duds
 30. Tint
 32. Haul
 33. Veto
 37. Nail
 40. Soil
 42. Pair
 43. Grub
 44. Flub
 46. Blab
 47. Past
 48. Slog
 49. Drag
 50. Note
 52. Dear
 53. Mold
 55. Cask
 58. Mean
 62. Meal
 65. Pact
 67. Guys
 68. Rage
 69. Beak
 71. Live
 72. Rear
 73. Spot
 74. Hire
 75. Pose
 76. Thou

77. Iota
 78. Rent
 79. Owns
 80. Flub
- DOWN**
1. Dine
 2. Bush
 3. Gush
 4. Chic
 5. Part
 6. Rube
 7. Lick
 8. Coda
 9. Fare
 10. Turf
 11. Bend
 12. Slow
 23. Blew
 25. Pose
 27. Sums
 29. Soft
 31. Fade
 34. Plan
 35. Find
 36. Laze
 37. Grin
 38. Fury
 39. Iota
 41. Drop
 45. Rosy
 46. Next
 51. Sash
 52. Laud
 54. Keys
 56. Void
 57. Rein
 59. Icon
 60. Stay
 61. Join
 62. Duke
 63. Zone
 64. Cane
 66. Solo
 70. Ante

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			55	56				57		58		59	60	61	
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73					74				75				76		
77					78				79				80		

songs of summer

There's something about summer that inspires people, which explains why there are so many songs with "summer" in their titles. The puzzle below contains 37 song titles in which "summer" appears.

OOSTKNEDTCMPOH
 TRMNHINSIAMCAW
 FSOOLASTEGRILO
 OWBOCRTROUVALI
 SBVIDSDNEHLWIN
 TERWOAELXMGBHB
 IFSEVEYROMANCE
 AKFOEDISREHTOR
 RRORSRZTXOSGYL
 TGSATFERINYPGI
 RTYMHHOLODGAXN
 OYOBEBGSGLNRDY
 PCBAINDIANLIZB
 CTEREHS DNUOSWZ

- ... SUMMER**
1. AFRICAN
 2. ALMOST
 3. BOYS OF
 4. CRUEL
 5. ENGLISH
 6. INDIAN
 7. LAST
 8. LONG HOT
 9. OTHER SIDE OF
 10. OVER THE
 11. PARIS
 12. PORTRAITS OF
 13. THAT

- SUMMER....**
14. BOY
 15. BREEZE
 16. CHILL
 17. DAYS
 18. IN BERLIN
 19. IN DIXIE
 20. IN SIAM
 21. KNOWS
 22. LOVE
 23. NIGHTS
 24. OF ROSES
 25. RAIN
 26. ROMANCE
 27. SAMBA
 28. SOFT
 29. SONG
 30. SOUNDS
 31. WIND

- SUMMER'S...**
32. DAY SONG
 33. GONE
 34. HERE

- SUMMERTIME...**
35. BLUES
 36. DREAM
 37. ROLLS

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

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

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

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

Australian Embassy Grant Program benefits Pohnpei Public Library


By Lester Ezekias

Pohnpei Public Library recently received a grant from the Direct Aid Program (DAP) totaling \$8,829.80, an Australian Embassy initiative to address humanitarian hardships in developing countries. The grant, titled "Technology Upgrade", will provide 4 new desktop computers, 4 back-up batteries, and a copy of the Destiny Library Manager Program, an updated electronic cataloguing software.

In addition, community members will have increased access to resources and will be able to search materials within the database. Moreover, teachers throughout Pohnpei will be able to integrate technology-based lessons into their curriculum to expose students to valuable computer literacy and research skills. More importantly, the technology upgrade will result in propelling Pohnpei and its people into the modern and technologically advanced world.

This project meets several imperative goals for the Pohnpei Public Library. First, less time will be required to enter data, perform reports, and to update the cataloguing program; thereby, providing more time for the staff to interact with patrons and provide exemplary ser-

The Friends of the Pohnpei Public Library Board of Directors and Pohnpei Public Library staff and volunteers are very grateful to the Australian Embassy for their generous donation.



Pohnpei Public Library launches the SUMMER READING PROGRAM!

Readers of all ages will travel the globe this summer as the Pohnpei Public Library presents "One World, Many Stories" during their summer reading program. Children will explore places from Oceania to Russia through stories, crafts, music, dance, and other activities. The 2011 Summer Reading Program is open to young people, first grade through eighth grade, with programs, prize drawing, story hours, a reading club and more.

Registration for "One World, Many Stories" begins on May 9 and ends May 31. Total price is only \$3.50. For more information, call the library at 320-2423.

Astronomical Tide Prediction April 18, 2011 - May 1, 2011

	Pohnpei				Chuuk							
Monday	04/18	03:06AM	4.6	04/25	08:01AM	3.3	04/18	02:22AM	2.2	04/25	04:49AM	1.8
		09:31AM	0.5		05:07PM	1.7		09:23AM	0.2		07:44PM	0.2
Tuesday	04/19	03:39AM	4.8	04/26	10:18AM	3.1	04/19	02:44AM	2.4	04/26	04:31AM	1.6
		10:11AM	0.5		06:10PM	1.6		10:07AM	0.2		07:41PM	0.3
Wednesday	04/20	04:13AM	4.8	04/27	01:06AM	2.8	04/20	03:09AM	2.5	04/27	03:37AM	1.4
		10:51AM	0.6		06:09AM	2.3		10:54AM	0.2		08:38AM	1.2
Thursday	04/21	04:48AM	4.6	04/28	01:18AM	3.1	04/21	03:34AM	2.5	04/28	02:40AM	1.4
		11:34AM	0.9		07:03AM	2.0		11:50AM	0.3		07:53AM	1.0
Friday	04/22	05:25AM	4.4	04/29	01:35AM	3.5	04/22	03:59AM	2.4	04/29	02:00AM	1.5
		12:21PM	1.2		07:39AM	1.7		07:21PM	0.0		07:56AM	0.9
Saturday	04/23	06:03AM	4.0	04/30	01:54AM	3.8	04/23	04:22AM	2.2	04/30	01:40AM	1.6
		01:19PM	1.5		08:08AM	1.5		07:28PM	0.0		08:12AM	0.7
Sunday	04/24	06:49AM	3.6	05/01	02:14AM	4.0	04/24	04:41AM	2.0	05/01	01:37AM	1.8
		02:52PM	1.7		08:36AM	1.3		07:38PM	0.1		08:33AM	0.5

ANOTHER CLASSIC LIMERICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY **TRASHBUSTERS**

**Centipedes never should try to play
Baseball at all they should stay away
For they're always late
To get to the plate
For tying their shoes can take all day.**

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CALL ☎ 320-3868 or 320-5058

Please Join the Island Food Community of Pohnpei to Help Promote Island Food

By Dr. Lois Englberger

The Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) has started its Membership Campaign for 2011 and would like to invite you to join in order to help the GO LOCAL work to promote local food for their CHEEF benefits: Culture, Health, Environment, Economics and Food security.

In 2009 over 150 people joined for regular and student memberships. In 2010, the membership reached over 200. In 2010, we received our first life-time membership, \$1000, as contributed by AVRDC, The World Vegetable Center.

This year IFCP received its first annual institutional membership, as contributed by the Yap Division of Agriculture and Forestry of the Department of Resources and Development. This contribution shows Yap's strong commitment to work together on this topic.

The benefits of membership include the opportunity to help fight against the present health crisis, the epidemic of non-communicable diseases (NCD), such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer. Now one in three Pohnpei adults are diabetic, which can lead to other serious health problems, amputations of toes, feet and legs, kidney failure and even death.

Two things can help greatly in preventing and controlling diabetes, and these also help protect against heart disease and certain cancers as well:

- 1) Improved diet with increased fiber, beta-carotene and other carotenoids, and essential vitamins and minerals, such as is found in local food;
- 2) Increased physical activity, including that involved in planting, cultivating, har-

vesting and preparing local foods.

In 1948 to 1951, a large ship of the US Navy came to Pohnpei and other islands associated with the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and carried out a large health study. No diabetes was documented at all during that study. At that time, people were walking more, working more on the land, and eating more local food.

Our organization was established in 2004 with the sole aim to promote and research island foods. We have had success in two target communities in increasing the consumption of local foods and improving attitudes in the community toward local food. We have also worked with communities and government groups to establish local food policies. This includes Mand Community and the Pinglelap Peoples' Organization Inc. (PPOI), who banned the use of unhealthy soft drinks at their community events in order to help their community's health.

Annual regular membership fees are \$10 and students \$5; institution membership fees are \$100. Please contact Mona J. Tara, Office Manager, at IFCP's telephone number 320-3259, for details on membership for you, your family or institution.

The IFCP does not receive money from the government and survives by grants from outside agencies, along with incoming funds from memberships and sales of some island food promotional materials.

Please help the overall movement to preserve and protect island foods, thereby protecting Micronesia's culture, health, environment, economics, and food security.

For more information, check our website at www.islandfood.org. Thank you!

Aramas Kapw Trains Inmates of the Division of Correction and Rehabilitation with IFCP GO LOCAL

By Mona J. Tara

Island Food Community of Pohnpei
The Island Food Community of Pohnpei visited the Pohnpei State Department of Public Safety, Division of Correction and Rehabilitation on March 11, 2011, for an awareness talk on the nutritional value of our own local food. This program was made in partnership with the Aramas Kapw program in Pohnpei State.

Ms. Emihner Johnson, the local food educator talked to 17 inmates and explained the importance of eating our own local food, not just for health benefits, but for the CHEEF benefits... C for Culture, H for Health, E for Environment, E for Economy and F for Food Security. She stressed that taro is not just starch but is rich in fiber, minerals, vitamins and protects against diabetes, heart disease, cancer, weak blood and other health problems.

The inmates showed interest and one of them even made a comment saying "we used to eat taro and other local food before, but not anymore".

The Graduation Program was held on April 1, 2011 at the Division of Correction and Rehabilitation with all the inmates using the Aramas Kapw T-Shirts and receiving their certificate of completion for the Aramas Kapw training program.

Mr. Yasuo I. Yamada, Aramas Kapw Executive Director, and Mr. Benito Cantero, Aramas Kapw Board Director Member and Treasurer of the Board, gave the inmates words of en-

couragement and challenged them to be a more community/family oriented or responsible person when they leave the correction facility.

Wayne Diaz, one of the inmates, spoke movingly about what he had learned from the training, including four points for a happy life. He said this: "1) Stay away from unprotected sex; 2) Eat healthy and more LOCAL FOOD; 3) Stay away from alcohol and other drugs because I think this is what got everyone of us in this situation where we are now; and 4) Live a productive life."

Another inmate, Mr. Herter Daniel, composed an inspirational "Let's go Local song" and sang it during the graduation ceremony.

Words of appreciation and thanks is being given to US Forest Services for funding, Pohnpei State Department of Safety, Division of Correction and Rehabilitation also to the Micronesia Bound, Inc. also known as Aramas Kapw Program. Special thanks are given to Yasuo Yamada for extending the invitation and his interest in Go Local.



Inmates of the Division of Correction and Rehabilitation happily wear their Aramas Kapw t-shirts and pose with Aramas Kapw Director, Yasuo Yamada.

K.P. Crazy Corner

Island Inspiration
Math 101:
think about it:

Don't insult the eels until you get out of the water

According to my calculations, this problem does not exist

You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can be wrong.

Me Time:
I get enough exercise just by pushing my luck

Mama Says:
i'm young at heart, but slightly older in other places

Daffy Middle Age:
Definition: When your age starts to show around your middle

Computer 101:
The information went data way...



Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia

Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia Statements of Condition December 31, 2010 and 2009

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Cash and due from banks	\$18,843,502	\$10,037,263
Federal Funds Sold	1,935,000	500,000
Interest-bearing deposits in banks	683,555	335,545
Cash and cash equivalents	21,462,057	10,872,808
Interest bearing deposits in banks	7,356,000	9,566,000
Short-term investment in money market funds	861,183	804,546
Securities available for sale	19,485,414	23,646,842
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses	39,828,077	36,219,254
Accrued Interest receivable	454,914	456,356
Premises and equipment, net	3,269,716	3,303,374
Prepaid expenses and other assets	258,177	322,960
Total Assets	\$92,975,538	\$85,192,140
 <u>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</u>		
Liabilities:		
Deposits:		
Noninterest-bearing	21,541,292	18,781,588
Interest-bearing	53,344,289	49,166,967
Total deposits	74,885,581	67,948,555
Accrued interest payable	39,327	40,871
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	668,944	643,331
Total liabilities	75,593,852	68,632,757
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common Stock	4,671,740	4,671,740
Additional paid-in capital	4,663,576	4,663,576
Retained earnings	7,345,779	6,478,890
Accumulated other comprehensive income	700,591	745,177
Total stockholders' equity	17,381,686	16,559,383
Total Liabilities & Stockholder's Equity	\$92,975,538	\$85,192,140

Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia Statements of Income Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Interest income:		
Loans	4,329,894	3,296,389
Investment securities and due from banks	932,554	1,287,946
Federal funds sold	2,936	2,864
Total interest income	5,265,384	4,587,199
Interest expense:		
Time deposits, \$100,000 and over	207,980	207,956
Savings	180,763	161,962
Other time deposits	57,901	61,367
Total interest expense	446,644	431,285
Net interest income	4,818,740	4,155,914
Provision for (recovery of) loan losses	90,000	(100,000)
Net Interest Income, after loan losses	4,728,740	4,255,914
Non-interest income:		
Service charges on deposit accounts	198,770	211,309
Loan fee income	245,644	207,071
Other	275,000	424,792
Total Non-interest Income	719,414	843,172
Non-interest expense:		
Salaries and wages	1,553,916	1,463,905
Occupancy	341,992	333,840
Employee benefits	293,239	274,873
Professional fees	239,341	230,328
Data processing	216,931	244,459
Furniture and equipment	208,462	202,028
Telephone	176,740	170,726
Travel	155,763	136,431
Correspondent bank fees	148,955	139,676
Gross Receipts and use taxes	146,286	164,894
Stationary and supplies	97,368	130,928
FDIC deposit insurance	93,064	88,273
Director and shareholder	57,220	46,703
Insurance	55,956	55,824
Teller and operating losses	29,899	40,108
Credit and collection	28,306	22,165
Postage	20,114	21,804
Business development	18,240	23,208
Miscellaneous	64,116	33,090
Total Non-Interest Expense	3,945,908	3,823,263
Net Income	1,502,246	1,275,823
Earnings per share	\$1.61	\$1.37

