

# The KASELEHLIE PRESS

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PO Box 2222 Kolonia, Pohnpei, FM 96941 Phone 691-320-6547 Kpress@mail.fm www.kpress.info

## Pohnpei State Mourns and Honors Dr. Lois Englberger

By Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP)

Dr. Lois Engelberger, nutritionist and public health advocate, died on September 29th, 2011 at Pasco, Washington, having succumbed to ovarian cancer, which had been diagnosed the previous year. Lois was widely known in nutrition circles as a passionate, informed activist promoting the value of healthy local foods for people's cultures, health, environments, economies and food security. Her academic accomplishments were most significant in the area of food composition sampling and analysis, particularly in addressing the problem of vitamin A deficiency in children. She was a regular contributor to the Journal of Food Composition and Analysis.

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Disaster reduction in the FSM



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Through her research, Lois developed the scientific credibility for her grassroots advocacy for nutritious local food. Since 1997, she lived in Pohnpei, in the Federated States of Micronesia, where she co-founded the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP), together with local Indigenous partners. At that time, people were switching their diet away from local crops towards imported processed foods, and IFCP aimed to help reverse this trend. A brilliant communicator, through IFCP, Lois was able to develop a "Let's go Local!" campaign featuring the revitalization of the Karat banana, a local variety rich in beta-carotene, other carotenoids and other

nutrients, including riboflavin. She reported, for the first time, the nutrient composition of Karat banana, other banana cultivars, and other local foods of Pohnpei, including Pandanus and giant swamp taro.

Born in Missouri, Lois grew up with an interest in farming and food production. She completed her BS at the University of Missouri (1970), her MS under the direction of Michael Latham at Cornell (1974), and her Ph.D. from the University of Queensland (2003), being mentored by Geoff Marks. She was truly a global citizen, having lived for significant periods of time in India, Yemen, Tonga and Australia, as well as Pohnpei. She published more than 75 peer-reviewed articles, 60 other papers, more than 100 newspaper articles, and 20 nutrition education briefs. She also gave over 45 oral presentations at various conferences and venues, including United Nations symposia.



Lois was a founding member of the World Public Health Nutrition Association and served as a Council Member in that organization. She also participated in the global network of McGill University's Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment (CINE), through the Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems for Health program. She was also on the steering committee of the Traditional, Indigenous and Cultural Food and Nutrition Task Force of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences.

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KBP Medical outreach



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## FSM Congress has not considered a resolution requesting the end of U.S. Compact

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 13, 2011

**Palikir, Pohnpei, FSM**—A resolution (17-60) introduced by veteran FSM Senator Peter Christian who was the FSM's chief negotiator for the terms of the Amended Compact of Free Association with the United States has spawned what one FSM Congress staff member described as an international media "feeding frenzy."

"Even US representatives are calling Congress to find out what's going on," the staff member said.

Senator Peter Christian introduced an eight paragraph resolution requesting FSM President Mori to terminate the Compact no later than 2018.

The Compact's financial arrangements are set to expire in 2023 but the treaty between the two nations has no expiration date.

The dozens of news stories we read online from news agencies as far away as Israel or in what was likely first publication of the news item that appeared in the Marianas Variety in Guam left out some important facts. At the time of first publication of the news story not only had the resolution seen NO vote or consideration by the full body of the 17th Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia, it hadn't even yet been assigned to a standing committee.

None of the articles mentioned that if President Mori wanted to cancel the Compact treaty he wouldn't have sole authority to do so though it is his constitutional duty to manage FSM's foreign affairs.

International news sources also didn't say that the Amended Compact of Free Association with the United States is a treaty that under the Constitution cannot be dissolved by Congressional whim.

A problem with the FSM Congress website (www.fsmcongress.fm) that is currently being resolved may have caused international media representatives to think that the resolution had been adopted by the FSM Congress. Before Congress switched to new and improved software for handling its website, each listed resolution or bill included the date of passage or the date that it was defeated in Congress. It was previously clear on the website that resolutions or bills that carried no date of passage or defeat had not been considered by Congress.

On the previous website one could find that many introduced bills and resolutions were never voted on by the assembled Congress.

Despite the international media attention, the resolution is currently only one Senator's idea presented for Congress discussion and consideration. Even if the resolution is eventually passed by the full body of the 17th Congress it would still only be a request for the President of the FSM to consider and would ultimately serve only to open the doors for further discussion on what can be done about the source of the current tensions between the two nations.

Senator Christian's widely debated resolution says that the Compact was agreed upon by the two sovereign nations "with the intent of maintaining a close and mutually beneficial relationship between our two nations," and that the U.S. derives many benefits from the

See "Compact" on page 8

Keeping Paradise Clean



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# Governor Ehsa vetoes plebiscite bill to ask voters whether the State should remain a part of the FSM

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 12, 2011—Saying that a bill passed by the Pohnpei State Legislature (PSL) “is not a responsible piece of legislation,” Governor John Ehsa vetoed a bill that would have asked Pohnpei voters whether the State should continue to be a part of the Federated States of Micronesia.

He returned the bill to the PSL on Monday.

The bill cited as Legislative findings, evidence of “feelings of animosity in Pohnpei towards the political structures of both the Executive and Legislative Branches of the FSM National Government...” It said that “there have been numerous suggestions from the Pohnpei Government Officials, Traditional Leaders, and the populace to establish a separate political status for Pohnpei to be separate from the FSM National Government based on the feeling that the FSM National Government has

become an oligarchy.”

Webster’s dictionary defines oligarchy as “government by a few, especially by a small group or class.”

Governor Ehsa said in his letter regarding his veto, “The bill begins by referring to the referendum to adopt the FSM Constitution in 1978 and then ends by calling for a plebiscite or special referendum asking voters whether Pohnpei should remain part of the FSM. Nothing in the bill indicates that the contemplated plebiscite (a direct vote by an electorate on an important issue or proposal) will be non-binding or advisory, or even explains what happens after the vote.

“To registered Pohnpei voters, and to national and international observers, this is likely to be interpreted as a secession referendum. While I personally do not believe this is the Legislature’s intent, this risk of misinterpretation is potentially so serious that I feel a veto is the only responsible course of action,”

he wrote.

Indeed, the bill leads a reader to assume that the plebiscite would mean that Pohnpei would secede if the voters indicated a desire to do so by their vote, a vote that would have required only a simple majority of the votes of those people who showed up to cast a vote.

“It is the sense of the Pohnpei Legislature that separation of Pohnpei State from the Federation is a very important subject which needs to be decided (emphasis added) upon by the genuine wishes of the registered voters of Pohnpei and should not be decided by the Pohnpei Leadership,” the bill said.

The Justice and Governmental Operations Committee (J&GO) report on the bill said in its report, “The fact that the question, as written in the context of the bill could confuse some of the voters of Pohnpei; public education is needed before the bill becomes effective.” (sic)

Witnesses had told the committee that while they were in support of the bill they were concerned that there was not enough time to educate Pohnpei voters.

PSL adopted the committee’s proposed amendment to put the question on the ballots of “the” runoff election which will take place, if it is needed, 28 days after the General Election.

The General Election is constitutionally set for November 8, the second Tuesday of November, less than a month from now.

According to 10 PC 6-103 of the Pohnpei State Code a runoff election is only required if no candidate for the position of Governor or Lt. Governor receives a majority of the votes. If one candidate for each office gets 50 percent or more of the votes then a Runoff election is not required.

The J&GO committee did not suggest an amendment that would have removed or changed the confusing words in the bill. It did not suggest an amendment that would have cleared up the confusion it mentioned in the report. It simply gave the Election Commissioner 28 more days for public education by attaching the ballot issue to “the” runoff election.

The bill “is an attempt to avoid the hard work that real leadership requires,” wrote Governor Ehsa in his veto letter. The bill is “not designed to determine the wishes of the voters, because a runoff election generally has a much lower turn-out than a general election and because it would be impossible to properly educate the voters of Pohnpei in the short time between now and the election.”

“Are people really to vote on something when even the leadership doesn’t understand what is being proposed?”

he asked rhetorically and followed with another rhetorical question. “Does the Pohnpei Leadership not have an obligation to find out what the possible consequences of L.B. No. 391 - 11 would be?

“For example, has the National Government been consulted as to whether the bill is consistent with the FSM Constitution and what would be the possible impact of the legislation in terms of FSM’s and Pohnpei’s foreign relations? Would Pohnpei still be eligible for (U.S) Compact economic aid, or even for noneconomic benefits of the Compact such as the right to travel to and work in the United States? Would foreign investors, banks, and international non-governmental organizations flee Pohnpei out of fear of political instability?

“Has an economic impact analysis been conducted to see if Pohnpei’s economy would crash? Is there a risk of civil unrest? The registered voters of Pohnpei deserve answers to all of these questions,” Governor Ehsa wrote.

Bills submitted to any legislative body are always subject to change before they become a finalized Bill for an Act. Before L.B. 391-11 arrived on the Governor’s desk it had two amendments and still was not technically perfect.

The first amendment to the bill was to remove the requirement that the question be posed of Pohnpei voters during the November 8 election and instead to ask the question during “the” runoff election.

Senator Naiten Phillip introduced another floor amendment, the intent of which was to deal with the possibility that runoff election will not be required. Phillip’s amendment added language to provide for a deadline for the Governor to call a special referendum with the question by no later than March 1, 2012 if no “Run-off” election is required.

His amendment did not correct the language in the title of the bill. By the time the bill hit the Governor’s desk it still said, “A bill for an act authorizing and directing the Pohnpei Election Commissioner to include a plebiscite for the registered voters of Pohnpei during the Pohnpei State Run-off Election of 2011 with the following question: ‘Should Pohnpei remain part of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)? Yes \_\_\_ or No \_\_\_.’”

Phillip’s amendment also didn’t correct the words “prior to the run-off election” in the paragraph of the two page bill that assigned a deadline for the Election Commissioner to complete public education on the issue.

Both of those matters were technical in nature and were not the reason for the Governor’s veto.

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The Kaselehlie Press  
Your Newspaper for Today and Tomorrow

P.O. Box 2222 Pohnpei, FM 96941  
ph:(691) 320-6547  
email: [Kpress@mail.fm](mailto:Kpress@mail.fm)

**Bill Jaynes**  
Managing Editor

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# Kolonia Mayor and local radio station clean up

By *William Hoffman*

October 13, 2011

**Kolonia, Pohnpei**—In partnership with Paradise Radio (FM 89.5), Marcello Peterson, Mayor of Kolonia town is adding attractively decorated barrels to help keep the streets of Kolonia clean.

Paradise radio intends to donate 15 to 20 attractively decorated barrels before the end of the month. They started with an initial donation of four barrels as prototypes. The non-profit radio station hopes to eventually donate even more.

“I believe in creating a clean and healthy environment for this generation and the next generation,” Mayor Peterson said.

“We rely on partnerships with nonprofit corporations and media outlets to get the message out about these programs so citizens can help in our shared efforts to keep the city clean,” Mayor Peterson said.

According to the Mayor, the Japanese Government donated

two new trash collection trucks to collect trash on a more regular basis that will arrive next month. The mayor has also been working to increase recycling in the community. Major legislation to aid that

effort on an island wide basis is in the works at the Pohnpei Legislature.

Paradise Radio (FM 89.5) is a part of Paradise Media Pohnpei, a nonprofit

corporation in Pohnpei State which has been in existence since 2007. They currently run one FM radio station located atop the Apsco building in Kolonia, but have plans to expand their operation.



Posing in front of drums donated by Paradise Radio and PUC, a Kolonia town worker, Paradise Radio Manager Nigel Jaynes, Station Assistant Manager, Ryan Kuor and Marcello Peterson, Mayor of Kolonia town

“Pohnpei needs a stronger media presence and we intend to do our best to serve the people of Pohnpei with support from the community,” Vice President of the Board Toshio Akinaga said.

The cans were donated by PUC. Volunteers from the radio station painted the cans with their station colors: Red, Yellow and Green.

“This is our goal as an organization. We want to help the community and let the people know we are here to help,” station volunteer Terrance Yamada said. The organization has close to 20 members all of whom are volunteers.

“We plan to be a real community radio station and we will continue to work on projects like this which benefit the community,” Akinaga added.

**KAMAGAR!**

**KINISOU CHAPUR!**

**KALAHNGAN!**

**KULO MA LULAP!**

**Mahalo!**

**LY\*STAR\*N**

Founder Frank Lyon mapping the Trust Territories in 1975...

...for the privilege of “Improving Island Life” since 1961...


Patrick B. Wichilmel

Words will never adequately express our deepest appreciation and gratitude for all those who mourned and grieved with us the untimely loss of our dear Clement B. Wichilmel. We know we can never thank everyone of you enough and because there are so many of you including those who wished to be anonymous we may not be able to mention all of you by name, but please be assured that your support and generosity will forever be remembered.

We would like to acknowledge His Excellency Honorable President Manny Mori, His Honorable Speaker Isaac Figir, His Honorable Senator Joseph Urusemal and all members of FSM Congress, and Mr. Moses Nelson for ensuring that the remains of our loved one along with members of his immediate family returned home to Yap on the first available flight out of Pohnpei. We are very grateful to Mr. Patrick McKenzie, Clement's immediate supervisor and the executive director of NORMA, for taking time out of his busy schedule to accompany and deliver our loved one's remains to us. We thank all of Clement's friends, his colleagues at NORMA, his classmates and all the Yapese students at College of Micronesia, Mathias Mangmog, Joseph Habuchmai, Francis Itimai, Joey Sapelalut, Eddy Haleyalig, Santus Talugmai, Stanis Dungawin and all his family and relatives, all those who were at Clement's viewing, all our relatives both in the state of Hawaii and the US mainland for all their support and prayers. We also thank Fr. Moses, Mr. & Mrs. Dominic Tafleicheng, all our sawei in Yap and the chiefs of Gagil as well as all our other relatives here in Yap. We apologize if we inadvertently left out anyone, but we would like for you to know that your support and prayers has given us the strength during this difficult time in our family.

Thank you very much and God Bless.

Sincerely,  
Patrick B. Wichilmel and Family



2011 Pohnpei  
Green Steps 5K Fun Walk

7:00a.m., Saturday,  
November 19

Help cleanup PICS area  
and Kolonia Town  
(Bring your own  
trash bag)

NRCS and volunteers  
will plant seedlings

Start and finish at PICS  
Track and Field

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

Contact: FSMNOC  
(320-8914)

## ...Veto

Continued from page 2

"The current direction of the FSM National Government is indeed a serious problem for the people of Pohnpei, but it needs to be addressed in an equally serious manner rather than as a last-minute addition to a run-off election," Governor Ehsa wrote. "As the leaders of Pohnpei State, we have a duty to promote peace and prosperity through responsible, transparent, and accountable government. We must maintain political stability, and we need to show respect for the rule of law."

"Because L.B. No. 391 - 11 does not reflect these fundamental values, I must disapprove it."

High School students at this year's FSM Law Day debate in Yap on July 12, passionately argued the pros and cons of the statement, "BE IT RESOLVED that the Federated States of Micronesia Constitution should be amended to allow a state to secede from the Federated States of Micronesia." When it comes right down to it the subject was as moot then as it is now according the FSM Constitution. While the FSM Constitution does define the mechanism for entry as an FSM State, no where does the Constitution bar an FSM State from withdrawing from the Federation.

Yap voters successfully added an

amendment to their Constitution in November of last year during the State's General Election. Voters passed the amendment by a vote of 2,523 in favor of the amendment and 1,461 against. Unlike the PSL's vetoed bill the Yap State Legislature did not ask its voters to decide whether they should secede but instead set up a mechanism within their own constitution by which the voters could be asked whether or not they want the legislature to review the political status of the State and what the results would be if any future referendum on the matter was passed by 2/3 of the voters.

As a result of the successful constitution referendum the Yap State Constitution has a new section under Article XIV General provisions:

"Section 11: The Legislature, by two-thirds vote, shall present to the people on a ballot during an election the question: "Shall the State of Yap commence a review of its political status?" If two third of ballots cast upon the question is in the affirmative, the Legislature shall prescribe by law the manner for the review of the political status of Yap State within six months after the referendum."

Yesterday in Pohnpei, a motion to overturn the Governor's veto of the PSL plebiscite bill did not garner sufficient votes.

It was the last day of PSL's regular session.

# TARIFF CHANGES

## ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The Board of Directors and Management for the FSM Telecommunications Corporation wishes to inform the general public and its valuable customers that the tariff changes as proposed and posted on July 14, 2011, have been approved in its entirety in our meeting of September 16, 2011. The tariff will be implemented in two phases. The Board is proposing the following implementation schedule:

Phase I of the schedule will take effect on November 1, 2011. Phase II will commence on October 1, 2012.

Service	Phase I (Nov. 1, 2011)	Phase II (Oct. 1, 2012)
*PSTN Residential.....	\$10 per month.....	\$12 per month
PSTN Business.....	\$20 per month.....	\$24 per month
Calling 411 from Landline.....	\$0.15 per call.....	\$0.25 per call
Calling 411 from Mobile.....	\$0.15 per minute.....	\$0.25 per minute
Cell Calls Voice.....	\$0.15 per minute.....	\$0.15 per minute
Cell SMS (Text).....	\$0.06 per message.....	\$0.10 per message

\*Caller ID Features will be available to customers (both residential and business) free of charge during Phase I. For Phase II all the Value Added Services (VAS) features (call waiting, call forwarding, speed dialing, etc) will be available to customers free as part of the basic PSTN service.

Should there be any questions or comments regarding this public announcement, please do not hesitate to contact any of your local FSMTC office. Thank you.



## IMF issues preliminary findings on FSM economy

By *Bill Jaynes*  
The Kaselehlie Press

October 13, 2011

**Pohnpei, FSM**—A delegation of economists from the International Monetary Fund paid an interim visit to the Federated States of Micronesia this week. The FSM is one of the 186 member nations that are members of the International Monetary Fund. The IMF performs economic analyses for each of its member countries annually or bi-annually, depending on the circumstances.

Mission Chief Akihiko Yoshida said that due to the difficulty of travel to the FSM it is on a biannual schedule for complete economic analyses. The last complete analysis was done in 2010 and was released sometime early this year. It is posted on the IMF website at [www.imf.com](http://www.imf.com).

During the current visit the IMF economists met with government officials, political leaders, donors, and private sector representatives in Pohnpei from October 10-12. They prepared a much smaller interim report on the FSM economy and held a press conference at the Centerpoint conference room on the last day of their visit in order to share their preliminary findings with the press. We were the only representative at that conference. Their four page interim will also be posted on their website.

“The discussions focused on policies to strengthen fiscal management, assess progress of infrastructure grants utilization, and promote the private sector,” the preliminary report said. “The economic recovery is expected to continue in the near term supported by ongoing construction activities and expansion and fisheries sector, but faces headwinds over the medium-term from the scheduled declines in Compact sector grants. Continued efforts to advance tax reforms, targeted expenditure cuts, and structural reforms to nourish private sector growth are essential to secure long-term fiscal and economic sustainability.”

The report says that the FSM economy has continued to expand but that expansion is not likely to continue. It says that in 2010 the economy grew by 3.1 percent. Private sector employment grew by 8 percent that year but that growth was fueled mostly by construction projects financed by foreign grants or public funds. The economy still remains largely dependent on large public sector.

Yoshida said during the press conference that the FSM’s percentage of public sector compared to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is one of the highest, if not the highest in the entire Pacific region. He said that the FSM’s GDP is nearly \$300 million.

The report said that as a result of moderating food and fuel prices in the



*The International Monetary fund mission at their closing press conference*

FSM, inflation subsided to 4.3 percent in 2010, after reaching 8.2 percent in 2009.

The team said that growth in 2011 has already slowed and is estimated to be at approximately 1.4 percent still supported by the expedition of construction projects from the unused infrastructure grants. They said that the near term is hindered by sluggish private sector growth. Because of the annual decrements built into Compact financing of the FSM the team expects growth to stay at about 0.6 percent in the medium term. They expect that inflation will rise following the significant increase in commodity prices in early 2011 but is projected to moderate gradually over the medium term.

“The economy could face headwinds if the current global slowdown proves to be more severe and prolonged than expected. While the release of unused infrastructure grants is expected to stimulate the economy, structural impediment to private sector development and volatile commodity prices could hold back the recovery. Long-term risks include acceleration of outward migration and loss of farmland from climate change,” the report said under the heading “Risks to the outlook are on the downside.”

It said that the FSM’s general tax revenue has improved owing to the recovery of the economy and better tax administration. The FSM’s overall consolidated 2010 surplus was \$3.4 million, the second consecutive year of surplus however, the gap among State finances has widened. Chuuk slipped to deficit again in 2010 and is still struggling over its significant debt (\$28.9 million at the end of 2010). Pohnpei also remained in deficits and had to draw down on its reserves. Yap, however, recorded its first surplus in six years. The State had a surplus of about \$1.5 million in 2010 which they achieved by reducing direct subsidies to public enterprise. The IMF representatives said that Yap’s tax revenues are likely to decline in FY2011. Kosrae also had a small surplus in 2009-2010. Overall, a modest consolidated surplus is expected in 2011 with the gain in tax collections somewhat offset by higher current expenditures.

When the Compact of Free Association’s sector grants expire in 2023 the Compact Trust Fund is designed to replace those grants. Under current policies the IMF projects that it will fall significantly short of that goal. At the end of 2010 the market value of the Compact Trust Fund stood at about \$177 million but is likely to suffer investment losses following the sharp fall in global equities.

It recommended that the FSM should increase the fiscal surplus by about 1¼ percent during each of the next four years to 5¼ percent and then maintain the surplus at that level until 2023 before returning to a small surplus budget. 2010’s \$3.4 million surplus was 1.1 percent of GDP. Under the FSM’s national government structure each state would need to contribute its own fiscal savings. “The mission urges the authorities to start the adjustment immediately, as further delay would only increase the cost of adjustment.”

Mission economist Waikai Raphael Lam said during the press conference that the FSM needs to put away at least \$15 million annually. “There are only two ways to get a bigger surplus,” he said, “decrease expenses or increase revenues. ‘Both’ is better.”

While annual compact sector grants are on an annually declining scale, the mission noted that public sector payroll has increased rather than decreased. Further, the gap between public sector salaries and private sector salaries has “widened and remained large at about 2.3 time on average.”

As it has done for many years the mission recommended that the planned tax reform should be swiftly implemented. While the enactment of the United Revenue Authority act in April of 2011 set the stage for the legislative process to implement the tax reforms the State governments are slow to take actions to implement the URA law, leaving the prospects for tax reform implementation uncertain at best.

The mission noted that FSM audits currently to cover general operations financed by local revenues as well as

### Deadline

Submissions of articles, advertisements, community service items and other items for the next issue of The Kaselehlie Press is:

**Oct. 26,  
2011**

Compact-funded expenditures. They suggested that consideration should be given to the possibility of developing an independent prosecuting attorney in order to build in the right incentive into public financial management in order to “secure fiscal discipline over the medium term.”

The IMF mission team said that “the private sector of the FSM is stagnant and contributes little to growth—the share of private sector has remained unchanged at about 25 percent over the past 20 years, even after the considerable decline of government services and public sector enterprises. While some key infrastructure projects are underway, the government could further support private sector growth by providing and enabling environment. In this regard, the authorities would need to address the restrictive legislations on investment, lack of skilled labor and inadequate infrastructure.”

Lastly, the IMF mission said that strengthening the regulatory framework for financial institutions would help safeguard the financial stability. It said that the overall banking system remains profitable, liquid, and well-capitalized but the mission still made some recommendations.

It said that the FSM should step up the efforts in supervising properly the Development Bank and other nonbank lending institutions like credit unions. “Risk exposure in the FSM Development Bank remains high and credit risk could rise in the event of an economic downturn.

It recommended that the FSM should “strengthen insurance sector supervision, particularly in the area of captive insurance given its increasing activities and very limited capacity of the Insurance Board.”



## NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

Pursuant to the orders of the FSM Supreme Court entered on May 13, 2011 and June 8, 2011, public notice is hereby given that the parcels described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

Parcel no. 045-E-30, situated in Lohd-powe section, Madolenihmw Municipality, Pohnpei State, with an approximate area of 7,608 square meters, as described in the Certificate of Title issued on June 2, 2005 and registered as Document No. 20533 at the Registrar, Pohnpei Court of Land Tenure and as further described in cadastral plat no. 045-E-04.

Parcel no. 106-A-02, situated in Lukunot section, Sokehs Municipality, Pohnpei State, with an approximate area of 12,562 square meters, as described in the Certificate of Title issued on August 24, 1995 and registered as Document No. 14476 at the Registrar, Pohnpei Court of Land Tenure and as further described in cadastral plat no. 106-A-00.

- Bids may be submitted for one or both of the parcels.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "December 8, 2011 Land Auction" by personal delivery to Mr Ricky Jano at the front entrance area of the FSM Supreme Court courthouse in Palikir, Pohnpei on Thursday, December 8, 2011 between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2011.
- The winning bidder shall be conveyed title through a duly issued Court order transferring title to the land, including all improvements on the land, if any, upon delivery of a cashier's check in the full amount of the bid payable to the "FSM Development Bank" no later than ten (10) days after notice is given.

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

Parcel no. 009-F-12, land known as "Thilinebut", situated in Keng Village, Weloy Municipality, Yap State, with an approximate area of 614 square meters, as described in the Certificate of Title issued on August 31, 2011 and registered as Document no. 5614 at the Registrar, Yap State Land Resources and as further described in cadastral plat no. 009-F-00.

- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "December 8, 2011 Land Auction" by personal delivery to Ms Katherine Gisog at the FSM Development Bank Yap branch office, Colonia, Yap on Thursday, December 8, 2011 between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2011.
- The winning bidder shall be conveyed title through a deed of conveyance transferring title to the parcel, including all improvements on the land, if any, upon delivery of a cashier's check in the full amount of the bid payable to the "FSM Development Bank" no later than ten (10) days after notice is given.

- There is no minimum bid amount for any of the parcels.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the bid.
- All bid submissions must clearly state the bid amount for each parcel.
- The winning bidder must be eligible to hold title to land in the Federated States of Micronesia.
- If the winning bidder fails to remit payment within the required time, the award will be granted to the next highest bidder and the same conditions will apply.
- The parcels and any improvements thereon, are offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to their condition whatsoever.

Questions concerning this auction may be directed to Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel, email: [noras@fsmdb.fm](mailto:noras@fsmdb.fm), FSM Development Bank, PO Box M, Pohnpei, FM 96941, phone no. 691-320-2840, fax no. 691-320-6533, website: [www.fsmdb.fm](http://www.fsmdb.fm)

## ...Englberger

*Continued from front page*

Through their tireless advocacy work and interventions, particularly in the areas of women's and children's health and nutrition, she and her IFCP colleagues have been a positive influence on decision makers and policy makers in both national and international arenas. The "Let's Go Local" movement has inspired other grassroots movements, as well as numerous public and government institutions. The idea of using postage stamps (including one with the now famous karat banana), slogans and songs to educate people about the importance of healthy diet and nutritious local food has drawn the attention of communities and politicians worldwide.

Aside from the above global recognitions of Karat bananas and other local crops and promotions of local Food, she also made tremendous impact accomplishments and success to the people of Pohnpei as well as FSM since her arrival in Pohnpei in 1998:

- Established and chartered Island Food Community of Pohnpei
- Improved diets and attitudes toward local food in two target communities, Mand Community and Pohnrakiet
- Developed local food policies-that led to:
- Presidential Proclamation to utilize local food during all government sponsored functions
- Some schools developed local food policies including CCA local food policy where Wednesday and Friday is local food day
- Increased the availability of local food take-outs and local foods at markets on a daily basis

- Helped to build a momentum for increasing local food use in traditional community events, church activities, and during conferences and workshops.
- Community fundraising utilizing local products
- The work of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei has expanded to all four FSM states.
- The Go Local Campaign has attracted regional and international attention and there is interest to replicate this approach elsewhere
- Raised awareness through mass media : Kaselehlie Press article page, radio programs and radio press releases (over 200 KP articles, 30 radio programs, 150 radio press releases)
- The message of the benefits of Local Food has been heard by 11,679 people and likely many, many more
- She was instrumental in Pohnpei's decision to join global partners in a celebration of World Food Day on October 16th annually

Lois is survived by her two daughters, Katrina and Tanja, her husband Konrad, her mother Doris and sister Barbara. Her personal autobiography can be viewed at the World Public Health Nutrition Association website (October 2011) [http://www.wphna.org/members\\_profilesLR.htm](http://www.wphna.org/members_profilesLR.htm), and a tribute by the WPHNA can be viewed at <http://www.wphna.org/> (November 2011). The website of CINE also has a tribute to Lois and her many contributions <http://www.mcgill.ca/cine/research/global>.

IFCP partners intend to carry on her legacy to promote local food resources for the CHEEF benefits. (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy and Food security)

## Pohnpei State set to hold World Food Day Celebration

### *World Food Day Planning Committee*

Pohnpei State Agriculture, in partnership with several other agencies in Pohnpei, is set to hold the 2011 World Food Day (WFD) Celebration this year from October 19th through 21st at the agriculture compound in the botanical garden (bunzo). This year, instead of a one day event, the celebration of local food production and food security goes for three days. This is due to an increase in the number of activities going on compared to past years. The theme for this year is "Food Prices: From crisis to stability."

According to Kadalino Lorens, chairman of the WFD planning committee, "This year, we will have fishing and aquaculture contests, yam diversity and processed food exhibits, in addition to the crop and livestock exhibits and the cooking contest. Our registration process for farmers has improved, and we are looking forward to more participants and exhibits than

last year." Last year, World Food Day had 966 exhibits and 390 participants.

Prizes again will be awarded for each exhibit type and there will be a speech contest.

Wednesday, October 19th will be the day for the exhibition of all livestock, produce, crops and processed foods, and it will also see the cooking contest, the speech contest, and the fishing contest. Information booths will be set up by several agencies such as COM FSM CES, USDA NRCS, Forestry. Health screenings will be done by Public Health.

Thursday, October 20th will be a continuation of the exhibits and Friday, October 21st will be the official program for WFD and the awarding of prizes.

The public is invited to attend all three days of activities.

## Congress confirms 17 nominations and defeats four

**PALIKIR, POHNPEI. October 6, 2011** – Today the Seventeenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia wrapped up the remaining nominations by President Emanuel ‘Manny’ Mori for his Cabinet positions, Heads of Agencies and Offices of the FSM National Government.

Earlier in the week Congress had taken up all 21 nominations, but defeated 11. During this morning’s session, Congress agreed to place 10 of the defeated nominations on the calendar for reconsideration. Following the lengthy procedures of reconsideration and confirmation, Congress adopted seven of the previously defeated nominations totaling the number of confirmed nominations at 17.

Congress adopted the below listed Congressional Resolution as confirmation of the following nominations:

Congressional Resolution 17-16, confirmed the nomination of Jane Jimmy Chigiyal to the position of FSM’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations for which she becomes the first woman Ambassador of the Federated States of Micronesia;

Congressional Resolution 17-17, confirmed the nomination of Lorin S. Robert to the position of Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the FSM National Government;

Congressional Resolution 17-18, confirmed the nomination of Vita A. Skilling to the position of Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Affairs of the FSM National Government;

Congressional Resolution 17-20, confirmed the nomination of Francis Itimai to the position of Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure of the FSM National Government;

Congressional Resolution 17-21, confirmed the nomination of Andrew Yatilman to the position of Director of the Office of Environment and Emergency Management of the Federated States of Micronesia;

Congressional Resolution 17-22, confirmed the nomination of Julius Joey Sapelalut to the position of Director of the Office of the FSM Public Defender;

Congressional Resolution 17-23, confirmed the nomination of Marion Henry to the position of Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development of the FSM National Government;

Congressional Resolution 17-25, confirmed the nomination of Robert Ruecho to the position of FSM Consul General in Guam;

Congressional Resolution 17-27, confirmed the nomination of Dr. Rufino Mauricio to the position of Secretary of the Department of Education of the FSM National Government;

Congressional Resolution 17-28, confirmed the nomination of Albert T. Welly to the position of FSM National Election Director;

Congressional Resolution 17-29, confirmed the nomination of Haser Hainrick to the position of Public Auditor of the Federated States of Micronesia;

Congressional Resolution 17-30, confirmed the nomination of Ginger Porter Mida, to the position of FSM Postmaster General;

Congressional Resolution 17-31, confirmed the nomination of Samson Pretrick to the position of Deputy Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the FSM National Government;

Congressional Resolution 17-32 confirmed the nomination of Gerson Jackson to the position of FSM Ambassador to Fiji;

Congressional Resolution 17-33, confirmed the nomination of Akillino H. Susaia to the position of FSM Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China;

Congressional Resolution 17-34, confirmed the nomination of Evelyn Dolph to the position of Director of the Office of Statistics, Budget, Overseas Development Assistance and COMPACT Management (SBOC) of the FSM National Government; and

Congressional Resolution 17-35, confirmed the nomination of John Fritz, to the position of FSM Ambassador Plenipotentiary to Japan.

The four remaining nominations that did not garner the required number of votes for confirmation are in the following congressional resolutions which were defeated by the 17th FSM Congress:

Congressional Resolution 17-19, for the nomination of Maketo L. Robert to the position of Secretary for the Department of Justice for the FSM National Government;

Congressional Resolution 17-24, for the nomination of Ismael Dobich to the position of FSM Consul General in the State of Hawaii;

Congressional Resolution 17-26, for the nomination of Tiser Reynold to the position of Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the FSM National Government; and

Congressional Resolution 17-36, for the nomination of Asterio R. Takesy to the position of FSM Ambassador to the United States of America in Washington.

The Congressional Resolutions for the confirmed nominations are currently in the engrossing process for transmission to the Office of the President.

(Editor’s note: Before the nominations had been engrossed and sent to the President’s office he had sworn his nominee’s into service.)

## Hand-over for “Virgin Coconut Oil Production in Pingelap”

*The Embassy of Japan*

The municipal government of Pingelap was the fortunate recipient of a grant in the amount of \$US62,269 through Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project on October 11, 2011. The funds will be utilized to purchase necessary equipments for producing virgin coconut oil and particularly to offer more job opportunities for the people of Pingelap as one of the serious problems for Pingelapese is population drain deriving from the lack of job opportunities.

There are high hopes for the success of this project as the coconut is familiar to every household and targeting this resource can help all the people in Pingelap to benefit from this project. Pingelap has rich coconut resources but it has not been able to fully realize its potential for contributing to the development of Pingelap due to its distance

from the main island of Pohnpei where there are more chances of vending these resources and because of the insufficiency of equipments and techniques.

According to Ambassador Suzuki, “the success of this project will be milestone for the development of Pingelap...” and also voiced that he is optimistic that the provision of eco-friendly equipment and self-sufficient methods for the people of Pingelap will secure the way for accessing more income. The realization of this project will be a perfect advocate to the other outer islands of Pohnpei to adopt such a project. The check was received by Mr. Makir Keller, Mayor of Pingelap Municipal and representing the Government of Japan was Ambassador Eiichi Suzuki. The signing ceremony coincided with the celebration of Pingelap 26th Constitution Day and a big crowd of Pingelapese were present to eye-witness this ceremony as well high-ranking officials of the government.



*Ambassador Suzuki presents a very large check to Makir Keller, Mayor of Pingelap*

## Senator Frank Blas Jr. doesn’t blame FSM Congressman Christian for wanting termination of compact with U.S.

*(Pacific News Center)* — Senator Frank Blas Jr. says he’s not at all surprised by FSM Congressman Peter Christian’s resolution that calls for the termination of the FSM’s compact of free association with the United States.

Christian cites the recent words and deeds of the United States which suggest that they view the compact as an act of charity rather than a treaty between 2 nations. He also highlights a proposal made by Hawaiian Senator Daniel Inouye in the U.S. senate now which calls for a pre-screening process and advance permission for FSM citizens who want to go to the United States. Both leaders from Hawaii and Guam have complained that the compact impact reimbursements that the federal government gives are not adequate. Guam Senator Frank Blas Jr. has been

adamant that the U.S. government owes the island of Guam hundreds of millions of dollars in compact impact reimbursements for the government services it provides FSM migrants.

“It’s not Guam’s problem nor the Federated States of Micronesia’s problem that the federal government failed in its responsibility to fund it or much less do it it’s their responsibility they should’ve done it and now it’s led to this and I don’t blame Congressman Christian for taking that position,” said Senator Blas.

The compact of free association is a treaty between the U.S. federal government and the Federated States of Micronesia that allows its citizens to migrate freely to the U.S.

# Filipino organization KBP conducts annual medical outreach at Awak

*KBP Press Release*

*September 30, 2010*

The Filipino organization Katalingbang Bisaya sa Pohnpei (KBP) and the Medpharm Group of Companies conducted a medical mission last September 25, 2011 at Awak Elementary School in U, Pohnpei. The team was assisted by FSM / Pohnpei Health Services HIV Program.

Over 200 people showed up for the outreach where they received free medical and eye checkups as well as medicines. Doctors, nurses and staff from Medpharm and FSM / Pohnpei State Hospital and Public Health join forces to provide enough manpower to treat the large volume of patients that showed up. KBP members and friends were also assisting to make this mission successful.

According to KBP President, Roselyn Reyes, the organization has been conducting medical missions in different parts of Pohnpei since 1998 and has no plans to discontinue the program. Reyes said that the organization will continue its annual medical outreach mission every year to provide medical assistance to the people of Pohnpei.

The SDA student missionaries also volunteered to assist the medical mission headed by their Coordinator Ms. Joy Nugent



## ...Compact

*Continued from front page*

relationship “not the least of which is its exclusive control over the military use of the Federated States of Micronesia’s extensive territorial waters and airspace.”

“Recent words and deeds of United States policymakers suggest they view the Amended Compact as an act of charity by the United States rather than a treaty between two sovereign nations,” the resolution said.

It said that the U.S. “has abused its majority position in the US-FSM Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO) to force through resolutions that are contrary to the interests of the Federated States of Micronesia.”

As one example of abuse, the Senator’s resolution pointed out that most recently the U.S. members of JEMCO unilaterally made drastic cuts to the funding of the

College of Micronesia-FSM without prior discussion or consultation with the FSM.

Senator Inouye’s U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations recommendation that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security pre-screen and require advance permission for prospective travelers from the FSM and other Freely Associated States before they can enter the United States figured prominently in the resolution.

Despite the hundreds of responses both pro and con on the subject of Senator Christian’s “bold move to cut ties with the U.S. on the Micronesia Seminar Discussion Forum ([www.micsem.org](http://www.micsem.org)) there is currently no official move to terminate the treaty between the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States.

“The resolution has been introduced and assigned to the Committee on External Affairs and at this point in time, nothing has been done with it,” Lynn Narruhn wrote in an email at press time for The Kaselehlie Press. Narruhn is the Protocol and Public Information Officer for the FSM Congress.

# The inaugural International Day for Disaster Reduction in the FSM

## International Organization for Migration

The inaugural International Day for Disaster Reduction in the FSM was recognized in Pohnpei on Thursday, October 13. The event was the first collective effort of the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Network, a collection of state and national government agencies, official missions, international, regional and local organizations. Co-chaired by the Office of Environment and Emergency Management (OEEM) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the DRM Network's mission is to assist in making communities more resilient and more prepared for disasters, when (not if) they occur in the FSM.

The Exhibition was opened with an official welcoming from the Governor of Pohnpei, Hon. John Ehsa, U.S. Ambassador, Peter A. Prahar, Director Andrew Yatilman, OEEM and Mr Amena Yauvoli, Manager, SPC, North Pacific Regional Office. The Master of Ceremony then welcomed Mr Ashley Carl, Country Officer, IOM, Mr Rick Herman, Emergency Medicine Trainer, Pohnpei State Department of Public Safety and Mr Iakop Iaconis to the stage. This introduction quickly developed into quite a performance, when Mr Iaconis collapsed on the stage holding his chest and complaining of chest pain. After a brief dialogue between Mr Carl and Mr Herman about locating the emergency response numbers, a volunteer from the crowd came to the stage with a large placard emblazoned with the emergency number for Pohnpei: 320 2221.

Following a brief call to the emergency number the new Pohnpei State ambulance pulled into the driveway with sirens blaring and lights flashing. Two uniformed police officers attended to the victim: equipped with oxygen, first aid equipment and a gurney. During the course of this event, the speakers mentioned that this was only a demonstration and used the opportunity to publicize the new emergency services and explain emergency medical response. This led into a speech by Mr Carl aimed specifically at the students, explaining terms such as hazards and disasters and how to prepare for them. He also announced the official launch of the Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk Education (CADRE) project which aims to build the resilience of schools and communities in Pohnpei.

While the IOM coordinated the event, it would not have been possible without the members of the DRM Partner Network: The event was primarily funded through the generous support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and a significant

financial contribution from the Secretariat of Pacific Community (SPC). The Embassy of Japan also made a monetary donation and the U.S. Embassy and College of Micronesia - FSM provided staging, sound and equipment for the event. All other partners contributed in some way, including the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP), Gear-Up Program, Island Research & Education Initiative (IREI), Micronesian Red Cross Society (MRCS), the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). The Island Food Community of Pohnpei provided catering for the day.

Many members of the public dropped into the Pohn Umpomp compound during the course of the day, including representatives from Pohnpei State and National Government, members of the international community, church groups, principals, teachers and notably over 150 students. This truly was a collaborative effort and demonstrated the power of coordination between disaster risk management stakeholders in making communities resilient; and helping communities get ready!

For further information on how your organization can get involved in the Network, please contact the OEEM on 320 8814/15 or the IOM on 320 8735/95 or visit IOM Micronesia on Facebook.

- Office of Environment and Emergency Management & International Organization for Migration (IOM), Co-Chairs of the DRM Network.





## Request for Proposal For Air Transportation Services

### I. BACKGROUND

The FSM National Government who holds exclusive rights for airspace and air service granting authorization wishes to invite proposals from qualified airlines interested in providing air service within and beyond the FSM.

Air service is a vital and important part of the FSM's economy and quality of life. Over the past several years, the four international airports have undergone many changes and are continuing to evolve to meet the ever growing demand for aviation services.

The four international airports in the FSM are Yap Airport, Chuuk Airport, Pohnpei Airport and Kosrae Airport.

#### Yap Airport

The runway is 6000 feet in length by 100 feet wide with PAPI and REIL. It is 1,120 miles west of the Philippines, 530 miles east of Guam and 850 miles from Chuuk.

#### Chuuk Airport

The runway is 6000 feet in length by 100 feet wide with PAPI and PEIL. It is 660 miles west of Guam and 398 miles east of Pohnpei.

#### Pohnpei Airport

The runway is 6000 feet in length by 100 feet wide with PAPI and PEIL. A new runway extension will be commissioned by the middle of 2012 with an additional length of 800 feet and the new runway width is 150 feet. Pohnpei is 398 miles east of Chuuk and 300 miles west of Kosrae.

#### Kosrae Airport

The runway is 6000 feet in length by 100 feet wide with PAPI and PREIL. It is 440 miles from Kwajelin atoll in the Marshall Islands and 2,843 miles from Honolulu.

All the airports are Index B with Index C firefighting capability. Airport operation is dependent on airline schedules and meet ICAO's safety and security requirements.

Any question concerning the RFP may contact the FSM Department of Transportation, Communications & Infrastructure, Mr. Francis Itimai, Secretary, at 691-320-2865 or [ItimaiF@mail.fm](mailto:ItimaiF@mail.fm)

### II. SCOPE OF SERVICE

The scope of services may include the following:

- Provide a minimum of 1 daily flight for passenger and cargo between the FSM states and no less than 3 flights for passenger and cargo per week to and from Guam and Honolulu;
- Provide computer reservation system services;
- Provide ground services with equipment;
- Provide marketing and advertising plans;
- Provide passenger handling services at airports;
- Provide passenger screening services;
- Provide own office and equipment space;
- Develop safety and security manuals for this operation that will be approved by the US FAA and TSA for entry in Guam and Hawaii.

### III. TERMS OF CONTRACT

The Contract awarded in response to this RFP will be effective upon final approval by the FSM National Government and the term will be upon mutual agreement of the parties and approval by the FSM National Government. The term of agreement will be 10 years with an option to renew subject to performance and at the discretion of the FSM National Government.

### VI. PROPSAL REQUIREMENTS

Respondent's submission must include the following items:

#### A. PROPOSED PLANS: Prepare and submit narrative responses to address the following items.

1. Staffing Plan- List the names of each member of the designated management team to be assigned to the operation. For each team member listed, describe their specific role on the operation at each four states. Identify which of the team members will be the Station Manager and have primary responsibility for implementing your Company Operation Manual and other duties. Provide complete contact information including all business telephone numbers (main office, direct line, cellular, etc.) and the email address for the identified primary contact person. Provide an organizational chart reflecting the proposed staffing plan. Describe circumstances under which the Respondent might be required to make changes to the proposed team over the term of the contract and indicate how the Respondent would work with the FSM National Government to assure its satisfaction with any such required changes to the team.

2. Technical and Operation Manuals- Respondents are to submit Manuals and other safety and security programs and manuals, airmen certificates and other documents relevant to its technical and operation procedures.

#### B. EXPERIENCE, BACKGROUND, QUALIFICATIONS: Prepare and submit narrative responses to address the following items.

1. Describe the professional qualifications of staff to be assigned to the service. Include their relevant experience on service of similar size and scope.

2. RESUME: Attach resumes for the staff listed in Item -A1 above

#### C. LIST OF AIRCRAFTS TO BE USED IN THIS SERVICE

1. Provide list of aircrafts to be used in this service

### VII. Submitting the Proposal

Respondent shall submit FIVE (5) copies of the Proposal, in a sealed carton, clearly marked on the front: "Air Transportation Services". All Proposals must be in the FSM Department of Transportation, Communications & Infrastructure Office no later than 4:00 p.m., MONDAY OCTOBER 31, 2011 at the address below.

Any Proposal received after this time shall not be considered. Any questions concerning this RFP may be addressed to Mr. Francis Itimai at 691-320-2865 or in writing or email [itimaiF@gmail.com](mailto:itimaiF@gmail.com).

#### Mailing Address:

FSM Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure  
P.O.Box PS-2  
PALIKIR, POHNPEI FSM 96941

#### Physical Address:

FSM Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure  
2nd Floor, Kaselehlia Bldg.  
PALIKIR, POHNPEI FSM 96941

Proposals sent by facsimile or email will not be accepted.

## Director of Public Works Sworn in

Yap Department of Youth and Civil Affairs



The nomination of Vincent Figir for Director of Public Works and Transportation was confirmed by the Legislature last Friday, October 07, 2011. At 11:30 AM today, Governor Sebastian L. Anefal administered the oath to his newest Cabinet member.

Governor Anefal in his brief opening noted that the Cabinet is nearly complete, with only the directorship of the state DOE remaining. The nomination of Parren for Director of Education did not pass during the last session of the Legislature.

Attending the ceremony were the current Cabinet members: Attorney General Mike Nigrey, Director of Administrative Services Maria Laaw, Director of Planning & Budget Kensley Ikosia, Director of Youth & Civic Affairs Ruotpong Pongliyab, and Director of Health Services James Gilmar, among others. Deputy Director John Sohlith came in place of the Director of Resources & Development.

The short ceremony formally concluded just before 12:00 PM, and the present attendees had lunch at the Cabinet Room, as it was past lunch time.

## Pacific's PNA tuna conservation efforts working well

*(Radio Australia)* — Scientists say overfishing of the most threatened tuna species in the Pacific is decreasing.

A report presented to the annual compliance meeting of the tuna commission says current management measures are proving successful in protecting Bigeye tuna populations.

The Parties to the Nauru Agreement has introduced these conservation efforts together with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

The eight PNA countries are the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.

## FSS Micronesia completes first of annual Coastwatch patrols

### Royal Australian Navy Advisors

The FSM's National Police Maritime Wing patrol boat FSS Micronesia has just returned to Pohnpei following the first in a series of annual Coastwatch patrols. This patrol, which included visits to remote communities in Pohnpei, Chuuk, and Yap will be supplemented with another Coastwatch patrol to remote Kosrae and Pohnpei communities planned for later this year.

The aim of the Coastwatch patrols, which are undertaken with support from Australia and the U.S. Coast Guard, is to give maritime security and safety presentations, and boating safety equipment to remote and outlying islands and communities.

Visiting many communities, including Nomoi, Euaropik, Woleai, Nomon Weito Atoll and Mokila, officers from the FSS MICRONESIA and USCG provided communities with boating safety and survival equipment which will help to increase the chances of survival if they are lost at sea. In an effort to increase

boating safety, the officers also provided detailed briefings on FSM and US Coast Guard Search and Rescue procedures and strategies.

In addition to the boating safety issues, officers also briefed community leaders on the need to report any unusual or suspicious activity by foreign fishing vessels direct to the National Police or Maritime Wing. The success of this initiative has already been demonstrated with outlying communities providing several reports of illegal fishing activities in their communities.

With further Coastwatch patrols planned, the FSM Maritime Wing will continue in their efforts to protect the FSM's natural resources. These efforts will continue to be supported by the Australian Government through the Defence Cooperation Programme and Australian Navy personnel based in Pohnpei.

Any reports of suspicious activity should be forwarded to the National Police at 320-2628 or Maritime Wing on 320-2384.

## Grounded vessel in Eauripik

*Yap Department of Youth and Civil Affairs* they meet in their fishing ground.

The FSM Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure thru the Yap State Government has advised the public regarding the Super long line fishing vessel which was grounded in Eauripik Atoll on the 28th of August 2011.

The Department of TC&I is requesting the State Government agencies or anyone who are involved in the matter to direct any further questions or concerns to that Office at P.O. Box PS-2, Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941 or call Tel: No. 320-2865.

The Teraka No. 168, a Taiwanese Fishing Vessel, has a total of 40 crewmen on board at the time of the incident. Twenty-seven of the 40 fishermen were the crew of the vessel while 13 were fishermen for the same fishing company who were to be transferred to the other sister ships when

The vessel is 53.30 meters or about 174 feet long and was flying the Kiribati flag with Registry in the country of Kiribati.

The Master of the Longliner was brought into the State Center for questioning by the FSM Surveillance vessel, the FSS Micronesia, which was dispatched to the scene at the time of the incident.

The Ship Master was then returned to his vessel after he had gone through all the legal requirements and procedures with appropriate officials of the State Government. He was accompanied by Quarantine and Immigration Officials who also traveled to Eauripik after the incident to clear both the grounded vessel and the Tug Boat dispatched from Manila to help free the vessel from the reef.

## Damarlane makes Coast Guard Academy's Dean's List

By *Bill Jaynes*  
*The Kaselehlie Press*

*Pohnpei, FSM—* According to a news clipping from the Corvallis Gazette-Times in Corvallis, Oregon, Pohnpei's own, Margaret Damarlane has once again earned a place on the dean's list at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.



*Damarlane 2nd from right*

The news clipping says that Damarlane also again qualified for the National Merit Scholarship awarded by the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Damarlane is a second-year student at the Coast Guard Academy and has decided to major in civil engineering.

Damarlane is the daughter of Mary Berman and Kadalino Damarlane.

## Letter to the Editor

### Chuuk: Good FSM partners?

Dear Editor,

I know that you have no personal or philosophical preferences amongst the Chuuk State Gubernatorial Candidates. I know that the K-Press does not make political endorsements of any kind, and that you are neither from Chuuk, or Pohnpei. I find it interesting that as a decent man you still find the alleged Chuuk State election wrongdoings "appalling" and an example of wanton disregard of humanitarian and democratic principles. If it means so much to you it should mean even more to us!

Reading your article and that of Mr. Narruhn reminds me of election frauds from far flung countries; countries not remotely connected to my own. Then I pause and am reminded that Chuuk State is in my backyard. Chuuk State is, shall I say, my "partner," a partner through the FSM's Constitution and its preamble and laws.

Time and time again, Chuuk State election results are contested by its own citizens, yet nothing positive has ever come out of any of those appeals. Nothing has ever really changed.

Whether or not it is true, it seems to me that the people of Chuuk are not concerned that their voting rights are being violated because very few of them seem to be saying much about it. Similarly when their

rights to good governance are violated by rampant law breaking of all sorts they seem not to be standing up for their very own rights. Quite possibly this is due to an environment of intimidation and outright fear.

The Federated States of Micronesia was formed from islands with some similarities but also some significant differences. Our country is formed of disparate parts. The framers of the FSM Constitution pointed out that the seas that divide us also unite us and I believe that meant that though we are of different backgrounds and cultures we were to be united in purpose and in motivation particularly where rule of law is concerned.

I am of the belief that people of shared values respect the principles and thus make better partners.

Chuuk State should treat the alleged election wrong-doings seriously and show their other partners of the union that they are worthy partners.

To deny someone the right to vote by intimidation, veiled or not, coercion or any other means and to hamper or mishandle the electoral process of any country should be news from far flung countries not from someplace that purports to share the same moral principles of good governance as do the rest of us.

*Johnson Sepeti*

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## Guest Perspective

### Stairway to Ecological Utopia

By: Nihandini Santi

It has been almost two decades since we started our war on climate change; an issue that is so profound and far-reaching that it has become a threat to our lives. Its effects are ubiquitous, affecting every aspect of our economies and societies. Started at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro and then extended in Kyoto and Copenhagen, the international community has been 'spinning wheels'



in attempting to reach a consensus to solve global warming. Presently, the commonly accepted approach to stop global warming is to reduce carbon emissions speedily and rapidly. A corollary to the climate change negotiations is the global institutionalization of 'sustainable development': "development that meets the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (World Commission on Environment and Development). The general acceptance of this concept has allowed developing countries to acquire technologies and financial resources from developed countries. Nonetheless, despite the recognition and widespread endorsement of sustainable development within the international community over the past twenty years, the implementation of sustainable development remains slow and fluid. As different stakeholders tend to adapt this concept to their own agenda, various interpretations have led to confusion in its implementation. Another constraint is the clash of the dominant views between those who consider sustainable development as continued economic growth and others who view sustainable development as a separate act between economy and environment; the former of which breaks the link between poverty and environmental degradation. Due to the debates on the root causes of climate change and its consequences, a war on climate change has been decelerated by a war on dichotomies between economic growth and environmental sustainability, 'winners' and 'losers', as well as, theory and practice.

If we are to understand climate change, there are two important terms we need to appreciate: green house gases and global warming. The greenhouse gases are specific type of gases including, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), most of which result from fossil fuel burning. The rise of these gases can trap heat from the sun. As the heat accumulates in the atmosphere, the extra heat has led to the greenhouse effect, resulting in climate change. Global warming (increases in average global temperature) is one of the main characteristics of climate change and is mostly generated by man-made emissions of greenhouse gases; particularly, CO<sub>2</sub>. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report (IPCC),

the projections for the 21st century show that global warming will continue to accelerate. In order to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change, we need to make appropriate adjustment and changes, also known as "adaptation". The grand promise on the road from Rio to Copenhagen has enabled one step forward to support this effort, yet its implementation has been largely unsuccessful. Unfortunately, while the

international community makes slow progress in climate change negotiations, the global climate is approaching a 'tipping point'. It is predicted that billions of people, particularly in developing countries face greater risks to health and life as a result of climate change in the next few decades, vis-a-vis, shortages of food and water. According to three reports produced by the IPCC in 2007, the rise in global temperature caused by greenhouse gas emission will have serious effects in tropical areas including "the increased risk of hunger, the spread of climate sensitive diseases and an increased risk of extinction of 20 to 30 per cent of all plant and animal species". Some island countries will possibly face complete inundation as a result of sea level rise. With the increased severity and frequency of typhoons, people in small island countries are likely to live under a constant threat of natural disasters, which lead to risks to lives and livelihoods.

Developing countries are expected to be the most vulnerable to climate change impacts due to limited resources for adaptation efforts: socially, technologically and financially. As the rate of mean sea-level rise has doubled globally since 1990, sovereign atoll countries such as Kiribati, Tuvalu and Marshall Islands are the ones that are affected the most by climate change. Other Pacific islands countries, such as Vanuatu are already experiencing the effects of global warming. The SCPRP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme) Report states that the most substantial impacts of climate change in the Pacific region can be readily observed by "the losses of coastal infrastructure and land, more intense cyclones [typhoons] and droughts, failure of subsistence crops and coastal fisheries, losses of coral reefs and mangroves, and the spread of certain diseases". Furthermore, the impacts of extreme natural hazards such as typhoons may be cumulative, resulting in high-cost damages to social and economic structures. According to the World Bank, the average costs relating to damage caused per cyclone/typhoon in the Pacific islands between 1950 and 2004 stands at USD 75.7 million (in 2004 value). The FSM report entitled Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change indicates that the frequency of drought has increased markedly since the 1950s and it is expected

to be at higher levels in the FSM. The western region of the FSM (Yap and western Chuuk) is also subject to severe tropical cyclones (typhoons). As approximately 70 per cent of Micronesia's population and infrastructure are located in the coastal area, their vulnerability to climate change and sea-level rise is exacerbated. A high level of hazard exposure together with the impacts of climate change in the FSM, therefore, increase the vulnerability of the Micronesian community to manage exogenous shocks, resulting in a low level of resilience. It is of paramount importance to understand that sustainable development is one of the most prominent solutions to combat climate change. As stated by the IPCC, the next challenge in addressing climate change is: ".no longer a question of whether climate change policy should be understood in the context of sustainable development goals; it is a question of how."

In the pursuit of international sustainable development, it is important to consider the concept of Ecological Utopia, also known as Utopia of Sufficiency: the idea of a society that is characterized by sufficiency of goods, ecological integration and self-restraint, rather than material abundance and overconsumption (Marius de Geus, 1999). Finding the nexus between satisfaction of moderate human needs and harmonious socio-ecological relations is the *raison d'être* (driving force) of this ideal society, which consequently leads to the attainment of a high quality of life. Utopia of Sufficiency is contrasted to Utopia of Abundance and is characterized by overconsumption, which arguably reflects the current economic reality. In other words, the formidable barriers to the attainment of sustainable development have been largely manufactured by a framework within which economic growth is the primary defining feature of development. This approach has been used by developed countries in pursuing their unprecedented wealth and thus, stimulated major developing economies to follow the same path. As a consequence, the imbalance between human impact and nature has created an imminent threat to the Earth's equilibrium, both in supply and quality. Therefore, the gap between multilateral discourse and tangible action on climate change can be bridged through mutual understanding and corporation, as well as, robust structural changes in multilateral institutions and the implementation of sustainable economy; without which the vision of a sustainable society that preserves social and ecological transformation will remain unrealistic. Unfortunately, these desired changes will take a considerable time. With a slow awakening at the multilateral level, it is vital that each one of us takes responsibility. That is, climate change is an issue for everyone, not merely international and national policy makers.

The first steps on the stairway to Ecological Utopia, we need to create harmonious economic, social and ecological relations through vigorous changes in lifestyle and consumption. If we wish to make a real contribution to combating climate change, it

is the responsibility of each of us to reduce our own emissions. While it is inevitable that most of us cannot avoid burning fossil fuels for transportation purposes, we can significantly reduce the use. A good rule of thumb is to buy the smallest vehicle that is capable of providing the basic services that you require. Trading your SUV for a small-sized car, for example, will automatically cut your personal emissions due to transportation. Further action to reduce the impact of climate change is to limit the use of air-conditioning and refrigeration. If you wish to be more proactive, the installation of solar panels is the best way to reduce your impact even further. In addition, with the expensive cost of electricity in the Federated States of Micronesia, we can save money for other life necessities. In the case of natural hazards, reducing water use in times of drought, developing evacuation plans and early warning systems for extreme natural hazard, as well as, improving coastal zone management to protect and restore coastal and marine resources are also imperative. By taking public action in your community, such as supporting local NGOs to fight climate change and advocating the community on what can be done and should be done, you will be surprised that such efforts will have a significant impact. The slow action at the multilateral level should not be used as an excuse for our inaction. Start your march up the stairway to Ecological Utopia immediately through acting wisely today!



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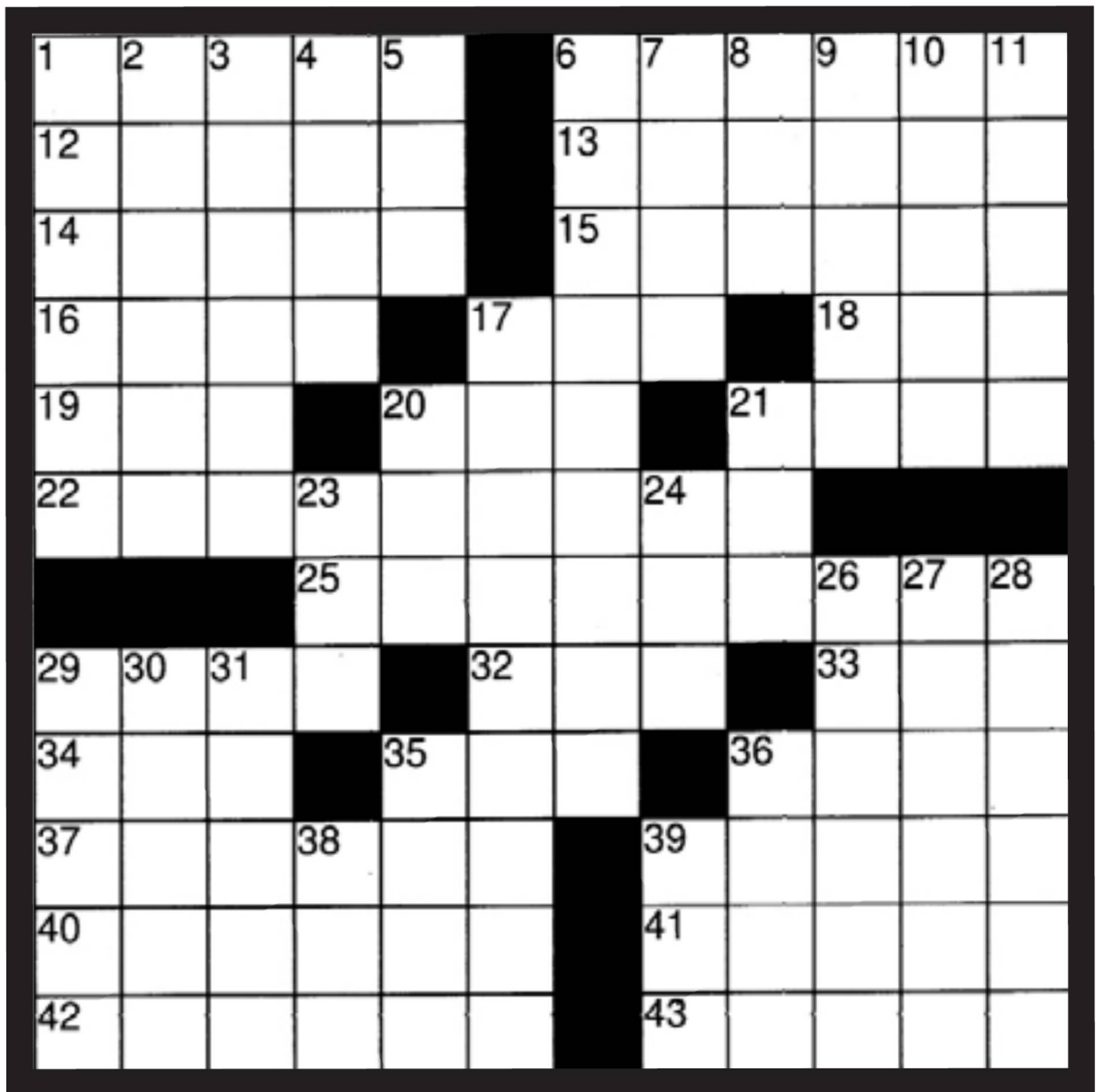
# Crossword - Round

## ACROSS

1. Like some vines
6. The \_\_\_ Game
12. Lunar lander
13. Got away from
14. Perk
15. Go around
16. Bush appointee of 2002
17. Busy one
18. Generation \_\_\_
19. Toothpaste form
20. Reading spot
21. Bombard
22. Local law
25. Change
29. Seek guidance
32. Dapper fellow
33. Cry about
34. Little boy
35. I will, shortly
36. Here or there
37. Broken apart
39. Played freeze tag
40. Maneuvers
41. More than good
42. Multitudes
43. Artificial

## DOWN

1. Unhands
2. Hard worker
3. Ancient
4. Mistake
5. Thus far
6. Flower type
7. Red ender
8. Overhang
9. Maxim
10. Cold spot to not lick
11. Capable
17. Like the good Spock
20. Trial test?
21. caress
23. Creepy me
24. Knows how
26. Van Gogh work
27. Beat at the buffet
28. Record player
29. Opulent
30. Totaled
31. Type of snake
35. About
36. Tab, for one
38. Big reference, for short
39. Gladys Knight associate



K Press Puzzle Pleasure - K Press Puzzle Pleasure



## HOT...!

Here's a puzzle to cool your heels with while you sit at the picnic table and munch on a HOT DOG or HAMBURGER. Each of the 34 words hidden in the puzzle below is the name of a food or beverage that is consumed hot.

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

- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| APPLE PIE  | PANCAKE  |
| BACON      | PEPPER   |
| BROTH      | PIZZA    |
| BURRITO    | POTATO   |
| CALZONE    | ROAST    |
| CHICKEN    | SAUSAGE  |
| CHILI      | SOUP     |
| COCOA      | STEW     |
| COFFEE     | STIR FRY |
| FRENCH FRY | STUFFING |
| GRAVY      | TACO     |
| HAMBURGER  | TAMMALE  |
| HOT DOG    | TEA      |
| LASAGNA    | TOAST    |
| OATMEAL    | TODDY    |
| OMELET     | WAFFLE   |
| ONION RING | WINGS    |

## 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: kpress@mail.fm

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome.
- 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

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## Astronomical Tide Prediction October 17 - 30, 2011

	Pohnpei				Chuuk			
Monday	10/17		10/24		10/17		10/24	
	04:54AM	2.9	01:06AM	3.9	02:53AM	0.5	12:39AM	1.3
	10:22AM	1.5	07:21AM	1.2	08:03AM	0.0	07:01AM	0.1
	05:19PM	4.3	01:41PM	4.2	03:51PM	2.0	01:31PM	1.6
Tuesday	10/18		10/25		10/18		10/25	
	12:18AM	1.7	01:48AM	4.0	07:55AM	0.0	01:21AM	1.2
	05:24AM	2.6	07:51AM	1.0	04:18PM	1.9	07:07AM	0.2
	10:39AM	1.7	02:11PM	4.6			01:42PM	1.9
Wednesday	10/19		10/26		10/19		10/26	
	01:26AM	1.9	02:27AM	4.0	07:33AM	0.0	01:59AM	1.0
	06:09AM	2.4	08:20AM	0.9	04:46PM	1.7	07:11AM	0.2
	10:50AM	2.0	02:44PM	4.9			02:00PM	2.1
Thursday	10/20		10/27		10/20		10/27	
	03:50AM	2.0	03:04AM	3.8	07:03AM	0.0	02:31AM	0.7
	08:47PM	3.5	08:50AM	0.9	05:16PM	1.5	07:11AM	0.2
			03:17PM	5.1			02:23PM	2.3
Friday	10/21		10/28		10/21		10/28	
	05:37AM	1.8	03:41AM	3.6	06:49AM	0.0	02:55AM	0.5
	12:44PM	2.8	09:19AM	1.0	10:16PM	1.3	07:06AM	0.1
	04:38PM	2.6	03:52PM	5.1			02:49PM	2.4
Saturday	10/22		10/29		10/22		10/29	
	06:18AM	1.6	04:17AM	3.4	06:49AM	0.0	03:03AM	0.2
	12:49PM	3.3	09:48AM	1.1	02:19PM	1.2	06:57AM	0.0
	06:16PM	2.2	04:27PM	5.0	06:33PM	1.0	03:15PM	2.4
Sunday	10/23		10/30		10/23		10/30	
	12:16AM	3.7	04:54AM	3.0	06:54AM	0.1	02:36AM	0.1
	06:51AM	1.4	10:16AM	1.3	01:35PM	1.3	06:47AM	-0.1
	01:13PM	3.7	05:04PM	4.8	07:09PM	0.7	03:42PM	2.3

## Banana Characterization



Banana varieties after drying

By Chizuru Seki (JICA)  
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

As documented in Pohnpei bananas by Dr. Lois Englberger and Adelino Lorens, there were 42 banana cultivars in Pohnpei as of October 2003. Now nearly 50 banana cultivars have been identified; about 25 of them are yellow-orange flesh. One of the biggest messages from Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) has been to plant and consume more yellow or orange flesh bananas, which is scientifically proven to contain high amounts of carotenoid, which protect our body against vitamin A deficiency, anemia, diabetes, heart disease, and certain cancers.

When there is such nutritious food on this island, why are many people suffering from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease? More than 50% of children under 5 years old in Pohnpei are moderately or severely vitamin A deficient (Pohnpei State Health Survey 2000). Furthermore, one in three Pohnpeian adults has diabetes (STEP 2000).

One of the reasons for this health crisis in Pohnpei is the trend away from "going local." Pohnpeian's food choices are more likely to favor imported food rather than locally grown crops such as banana, taro, yam and breadfruit. This trend leads people to pay less respect on their traditional food and less interest to know about it. Even though traditional food is now being sold at some local markets and eaten widely, they lack in varieties, especially bananas. Only certain varieties of bananas are sold in the market: Akadah, Karat, Inahsio, Kaimana, Taiwang, Utin Menihle, Utin Pihsi and Utin Ruk.

People often choose to have those bananas grow faster, bear more fruits, and do not require much care than others. As a

result, some of bananas have become rare and been on the verge of extinction. It is understandable that those bananas which bear more fruits are preferred due to the increased numbers of family members. However, tendency to plant only certain varieties of bananas is making people forget names of bananas and lose their knowledge of cultivation of their own food.

Now, IFCP is working on characterization of Pohnpei bananas, which will help differentiating the banana varieties and also finding new varieties. The characterization of bananas could take an important role in biological diversity in banana production systems. It will also help to enhance health, nutrition and food security by promoting nutrient diversity and preserving gene bank.

From health and nutritional point of view, those varieties of bananas you often see in the markets do contain carotenoids; however, you rarely see much high carotenoid content yellow or orange flesh bananas like: Utin Iap, Utinmwas, karat Pako, Karat Pwehu, Mangat en Seipahn, Ihpali and others. Have you ever eaten these varieties of bananas? Having an ability to distinguish banana varieties help us to plant and grow nutritionally desirable varieties before we see the fruits.

Protecting and using the diversity of bananas is also important to develop a solution to pest and disease problems and the stresses caused by a climate change.

Through the banana characterization project, many local people are introduced to new or rare varieties of bananas and having a great opportunity to try to bananas they have never tasted before. Many of them are yellow-orange flesh, which have full of health benefit. If you are interested in more banana varieties, contact the Island Food Community of Pohnpei at 691(320)3259.

## Agroforestry Evaluation Survey in Mwoakilloa

By Emihner Johnson, Acting Director/Local Food Educator and Chizuru Seki (JICA)  
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) visited Mwoakilloa atoll from September 7th to 16th, 2011. The purposes of visit were to conduct the evaluation survey for its Go Local Agroforestry project and Pandanus Characterization project.

During this visit, IFCP had the opportunity to do school workshop and more community workshops. In these workshops, Mrs. Emihner Johnson, IFCP Acting Director/Local Food Educator, talked about the need and importance of "Going Local (plant, maintain, grow, harvest, cook and eat more local food)."

In the afternoon of September 9th, 2011, over 40 people gathered together at the church. IFCP Local Food Educator emphasized the need and encouraged them to grow and consume more local foods to gain the CHEEF (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy, Food Security) benefits. Last year, participants were only women and young men. However, participants in this year's workshop also included community leaders and elderly men, which might indicate the increasing interest in local food among the community.

During the workshop, Go Local Agroforestry evaluation survey was also distributed to each household. IFCP staff visited each household and collected the survey before leaving Mwoakilloa. IFCP was able to collect evaluation survey from nearly all target participants.

At the meeting, Mrs. Johnson also requested participants to bring edible and rare varieties of pandanus cuttings from their land on Monday, September 12, 2011 to school to distribute them among the community.

Island Food Community of Pohnpei would like to thank the Mwoakilloa Community for their active support and involvement in this project. Acknowledgements are made to the SPC CePacT, US Forsest Services for funding assistance and Pohnpei State Department of Education for allowing IFCP to use their Mwoakilloa Elementary School facility.



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# Pohnpei State first ever certified Emergency Medical Technicians graduate

## Department of Public Safety

On September 23, 2011, ten members of the Pohnpei State Department of Public Safety Division of Police & Security Police Officers and eight members of the Pohnpei Port Authority Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Division graduated from the first ever Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training in Pohnpei State and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Officers of the Pohnpei State Police started Emergency Medical training in March 2011 when participants went through the basic life support treatments for patients; patients care analysis as part of a Certificate in Health Care Providers (CPR & AED) from the American Heart Association. They underwent 120 hours of classroom training and then undertook 40 hours of practical training at the Pohnpei State Hospital Emergency Room and Genesis Family Clinic where they took part in actual medical care and patient care analysis for patients admitted to the emergency room. With passing grades in final written and practical examinations, participants achieved the skills and knowledge required and graduated from the EMT training at the Governor's conference room at Peilapalap, Kolonia.

Present at the graduation are Governor of Pohnpei State the Honorable John Ehsa, the Director of Public Safety Mr. Lucas Carlos, General Manager of Pohnpei Port Authority Mr. Nelperson Etse, Acting President of the College of Micronesia Mr. Jim Currie and representative from the FSM Health and Social Affairs

Secretary Dr. Vida Skilling, Jean Thoulag from the College of Micronesia Area of Health and Training Center, Chief of Police Joseph Roby, family members and friends of the EMT graduates.

During the graduation the Governor of Pohnpei State the Honorable John Ehsa highlighted the importance of the Emergency Medical Technicians responsibilities and the amended Pohnpei Code Legislature Bill No 291-10 that was passed by the Pohnpei Legislature on 15th December 2010 and approved and signed by the Governor John Ehsa himself on the 14th of January 2011 which is now the State Law No. 7L-80-11.

The Governor commented on the importance of having medical technicians available in the ambulance in times of emergency, saying, "There have been times when people have lost their lives because no medical technicians were present in the ambulance to administer medical treatments to the patient when they are rushed to the hospital. Today I thank the participants of the first Emergency Medical Technicians, the instructor of the training Mr. Rick Herman of the Emergency Services Unit for the Pohnpei State Government, the Pohnpei Port Authority, the Department of Public Safety, College of Micronesia and the MAHI International Group for the hard work in arranging the training, commitments and support to make this vision a success. Now, with the certified Emergency Medical Technicians and the appropriate legislation in place, the people of Pohnpei will be confident that every emergency call there will be certified medical technicians loaded with

medical equipments in the ambulance to serve the general public's needs in every emergency situation that are to occur" Governor Ehsa said.

Amended Pohnpei Code Legislature Bill No. 291-10 §3-101 S.L. No. 7L-80-11 coded that there shall be an Emergency Services Unit attached to the Office of the Director of Public Safety.

The responsibilities of the Emergency Services Unit includes the professional training within the Department of Public Safety to existing officers so they can act as first responders in cases of fire, rescue, disaster and medical emergency.

The Department shall coordinate and conduct search and rescue operations, and cooperate with established search and rescue agencies of other states, the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Government of the United States of America and its agencies, and any other regional governments or search and rescue agencies, in developing plans and programs, and mutual aid agreements for search and rescue activities within the state of Pohnpei.

It is also legislated that the Department of Public Safety is authorized and directed to provide, in coordination with other agencies of the FSM National Government, Pohnpei State, and the Local Governments, first response services to fire emergencies and disaster. The Department of Public Safety may enter into contracts with the Department of Health Services to provide qualified staffing for ambulances and other first response services.

Representative from the FSM Health and Social Affairs Dr. Skilling, told the graduates that this is not the end of the training.

"It is the beginning of the knowledge and skills that you have learned. You will experience many skills and gain knowledge as you start with your new task of treating patients either at the scene or in the emergency ambulance on your way to the hospital" she said.

Emergency Medical Technician graduate, Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Chief Paulino Samuel, represented the graduates and thanking everyone especially the instructor Mr. Rick Herman with the support and the confidence that made this training very successful and that let this training and the graduates be a role model to the younger generation as it is the first step that Pohnpei State has taken for the safety and well being of all people in Pohnpei.

"I am very proud that this day has come, the hard commitments that the graduates have proved to themselves and to the people of Pohnpei. It is a new training regime that has ever been made to Pohnpei State and Police Officers and Fire Fighters acting as Medical Technicians, being the first responders to all medical emergencies that occur." Rick Herman said.

Rick Herman thanked all the participants and everyone that the supported the program for the Emergency Medical Technicians and he will be looking forward in working with these dedicated graduates as they will begin their new task in serving the people of Pohnpei State.

Emergency Medical Technicians:



1. Rick Herman - EMT Instructor, Pohnpei State Government
2. Paulino Samuel - Chief ARFF
3. Vincent Wichep - DPS
4. Benjamin Rosario - DPS
5. Willie Mauricio - ARFF
6. Kelsin Pelep - ARFF
7. Valerio Panuelo - ARFF
8. Wendolin Lainos - DPS
9. Yuki Suzaia - ARFF
10. Ryan Donre - ARFF
11. Alvin Martin - DPS
12. Jason H. Ringlen - DPS
13. Fred Mudong - DPS
14. Joseph Ainstain - DPS
15. JD Hallens - DPS
16. Whysler Moses - ARFF
17. Max Eliam - ARFF
18. Bronson Martin - DPS

Authorized: Chief of Police Joseph Roby