

# The *This bi-weekly publication is only \$1.00* KASELEHLIE PRESS

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## FSM fuel prices compare favorably to several cities in the United States



A comparison of fuel prices between one gas station in Washington D.C, the capital of the United States and Pohnpei, the capital of the Federated States of Micronesia shows something we may have never seen before.

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Executives at Micronesia Petroleum Company, also known as PetroCorp have said over and over again that they constantly compare the average price of fuel in Guam as a performance bench mark for their pricing structures in the FSM. These days, perhaps it is a good thing that they didn't choose to compare their prices to those of Pennsylvania or Washington D.C. or worse still, Darwin, Australia. Currently some places in the United States have fuel prices that are actually higher than in Pohnpei.

I conducted a very informal, completely nonscientific, and accidental survey of friends living in various cities in the United States and in Australia in which I asked what they are currently paying for gasoline. Friends from many cities responded.

The lowest price of those I received was in Austin, Texas, USA where that friend is currently paying \$3.67 per gallon. In Lombard, Illinois, USA the price was \$4.28. My brother, who lives in South Central Pennsylvania, said that he is currently pay-

ing 30 cents more per gallon than we are paying in Pohnpei at \$4.85 per gallon. South Central Washington State reported prices of \$3.73 to \$4.01 per gallon. Of course there's the picture of the gas station sign (above left) from one service station in the capital city of Washington D.C. that shows the price at \$4.99. None of my friends from D.C. responded to my little informal survey and in fact a gas price comparison website showed that fuel can be purchased in the Washington D.C. area for less than Pohnpei's price at press time.

Another friend reported that he heard on the news that one gas station near the airport in Orlando, Florida was charging \$5.69 per gallon and that takes us up to the price level of the two respondents living in the wide open spaces of Australia. Tasmania reported prices of \$1.49 per liter which at today's exchange rate is \$6.11 USD per gallon. Darwin reported prices of \$1.51 per liter or \$6.20 USD per gallon.

See "Fuel" on page 4

## Emboldened Pohnpei burglars bet police won't catch them

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

April 27, 2011

**Pohnpei, FSM**— While for the last several months the Pohnpei State Police department has been compiling crime report statistics that may or may not show that instances of burglary are on the rise, criminals, who don't care a whit for statistics or even for the Pohnpei State Police have been knocking off businesses and homes one after another.

Since the beginning of 2011, burglars in Pohnpei have exhibited a new brazenness in the commission of their crimes.

See "Thieves" on page 6



## Pohnpei Legislature passes Casino Bill

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

May 29, 2011

**Pohnpei, FSM**—In a very late breaking news story, Salter Lohn, Information Officer for the Pohnpei State Legislature reported that the Pohnpei State Legislature today passed the highly controversial Micronesian Tourism Complex Development Act. The act is an omnibus bill that would allow for the establishment of a Resort hotel and casino in Lukop, Madolenihmw. It doesn't mean that development is imminent. It is unclear whether any developers will be interested in the now changed terms of a hotel casino in Pohnpei.

A previous incarnation of the bill was thoroughly outlined in the December 27, 2010 issue of The Kaselehlie Press. Lohn was unable to say whether or not the bill has changed from that amended version. He did say that the Bill was significantly different from the one sent across from Governor Ehsa's office.

Lohn said that the vote was 14 to 7 in favor of passage.

Because of the late breaking nature of this news story, The Kaselehlie Press is not currently in possession of a copy of the Bill and will be thoroughly outlining it once more in the May 16 issue of the newspaper.

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100  
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to receive donation



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# APIL will gather in Palau to discuss issues on: "The Blue Continent: Communications Infrastructure and the Health of Our People"



**Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL)**

Members of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) will meet in the Republic of Palau, June 15-17, 2011, for its 30th General Assembly, to discuss issues on Communications Infrastructure and the Health of Our People.

"As the international community and the APIL member region continue to gain economic and social advantages from internet-based technologies, this conference will discuss the unique challenges and opportunities facing our Pacific region", stated Walden Weilbacher, APIL Executive Director.

He further stated that at this conference, the APIL will focus on gaining the international support needed to improve communications infrastructure throughout our Island communities and the key social and economic priorities

that we need to target from this effort.

Representatives from regional telecommunications organizations from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), the Republic of Palau, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI), and the State of Hawaii will represent a panel of experts, who will discuss their current plans for the regions telecommunications infrastructure, services and priorities.

"The concept of the 'Blue Continent' is relevant when referring to the vast amount of ocean that connects our Islands, similar to the internet-based technologies that connect us within our communities. However, there are still those island communities that are left out and do not have the access to this extraordinary resource. That is the challenge of our focus at this Conference", stated Mr. Weilbacher.

The second topic of the APIL Conference will be aimed at issues relating to the Health of the residents of the Blue Continent. Pacific Islands Health Of-

ficers Association (PIHOA), a well respected regional body of health care representatives, will discuss issues pertaining to Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). According to a release from PIHOA, if these diseases go unchecked, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) will swamp national budgets, cut productivity and threaten the survival of the Pacific people within a few generations. Of all the nations of the world, Pacific Island countries and territories have among the highest rates of NCDs and NCD-risk factors, including obesity, alcohol, tobacco, poor diet, and physical inactivity. "It's bad now, but this is just the beginning. Our children are more obese and less active than in any other generation. We've had the earthquake, but the Tsunami has yet to hit", said Dr. Stevenson Kuartei, PIHOA President and Minister of Health for the Republic of Palau.

Members of APIL supported PIHOA by adopting a resolution endorsing the NCD emergency declaration during its board Meeting in the FSM State of Yap, December, 2010. "As policymakers within the Pacific region, we will ad-

vocate for and direct policies that will help reduce the high rate of NCDs in our communities. As Legislatures, we control the purse string for each of our governments and this will be an opportunity for us to show our communities, our commitment to the seriousness of the high rates of NCDs in our region. We may have to increase resources and funding for programs that encourage physical activities within our schools curriculum. Another approach that may be immediate is to increase taxes on certain imported food items that contribute to people's unhealthy lifestyle", stated Pohnpei State Senator Fernando Scaliem, Chairman of the APIL Committee on Health and Environment.

Members of APIL are legislative assemblies of American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, FSM State of Chuuk, FSM State of Kosrae, FSM State of Pohnpei, FSM State of Yap, Island of Guam, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Nauru, Republic of Palau and the State of Hawaii. (www.apilpacific.com)

# Micronesians develop strategies to strengthen public policy

**Pacific Institute of Public Policy**

A cross-section of leaders from Palau, Micronesia and the Marshall Islands gathered in Pohnpei on 7 April to discuss and develop strategies for strengthening public policy processes in their countries. Participants included representatives from legislatures, the media, NGOs, and other sectors.

The meeting was held as part of a pilot study that examined public policy processes in the north Pacific, facilitated by the Pacific Institute of Public Policy (PiPP).

A number of strategies were identified for strengthening core policy processes, including policy design, monitoring and evaluation, and accountability functions. Specific strategies proposed called for strengthening in-country policy research and analysis, performance reviews, and legislative oversight capacities. Several participants also proposed the idea of establishing local 'think tanks' as a potential way of encouraging more homegrown policy analysis and public engagement capacities.

Frederick Muller, a Senator in the RMI Nitijela (parliament) who participated in the meeting commented that, "in think-

ing about the public policy processes, the workshop could not have come at a better time."

"This pilot exercise has reaffirmed and suggested further strategies towards improving oversight, evaluation, and review functions (performance review and audit functions) both for the Public Account Committee (PAC) and the Auditor General Office. This strategy session on public policy processes was very useful and I support this inter-disciplinary approach and I think that similar establishment like that of the Pacific Institute of Public Policy (PiPP) based in Vanuatu can really make a difference in shaping and influencing public policy in Micronesia."

Lawyer Marstella Jack who also attended the workshop said "that the participation of the legislative bodies was integral as many of the discussions were looking at improving the law."

"I think it was the most useful one I've attended. I hope we can move from here to the next stage of sharing these strategies with the powers that be. I feel that building an environment where information flows freely is the best public service we can offer our citizens."

Participants in the study will make up what is to be a new 'policy network' for the north Pacific countries. The policy network will be supported and facilitated by PiPP.

The Kaselehlie Press  
Your Newspaper for Today and Tomorrow

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**Bill Jaynes**  
Managing Editor

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## Private gets seven years for attack on elderly Korean couple

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

April 26, 2011

**Pohnpei, FSM**—According to a news report of the “Stars and Stripes,” an online news service that delivers news of interest to US armed forces personnel, a U.S. Army soldier was sentenced in Uijeongbu, South Korea on Friday, April 22 for breaking into a home in late February and assaulting an elderly Korean couple.

U.S. Army Private Lloyd Daniel, who is 19 years old, was inducted into the U.S. Army on June 17, 2010, along with 21 other recruits from Pohnpei and seven others from Kosrae in a ceremony held at the U.S. Embassy to the FSM in Pohnpei.

Unless he appeals his case and wins any appeal, Daniel will spend the next seven years in a Uijeongbu prison for breaking into the Camp Casey area home in Dongducheon on February 26. After he broke into the home he beat the elderly couple with a piece of lumber and attempted to rape the 63 year old woman.

The couple spent several weeks in the hospital before they were released earlier this month. The woman’s injuries included a broken nose. The 70 year old man suffered facial fractures of the skull around the eye that may require additional surgery, police told Stars and Stripes reporters.

Daniel was drunk at the time of the attack. US military rules do not allow a person under the age of 21 to consume alcohol.

Daniel stole the woman’s cell phone before he left the couple’s house and also dropped his wallet and identification card near the home when he fled. He was caught and arrested by South Korean police a few hours later. When police took him into custody he had blood on his socks and shoes.

Daniel was charged with attempted robbery and rape, robbery, injury resulting from attempted rape, and bodily injury resulting from robber and larceny, American and South Korean officials told the Stars and Stripes reporters.

He was tried by a panel of three judges of the Uijeongbu District Court. Before handing down the sentence Chief Judge Park In-sik told Daniel that he would not be given any harsher treatment than would Korean defendant charged with the same crimes.

“This kind of crime is very serious in Korea,” the judge said. “(I know) this kind of crime is also very serious in your country,” Stars and Stripes reported In-sik as having said.

Uijeongbu District Court officials said that Daniel admitted to committing the crime at a previous court hearing. Based on that admission along with the evidence and the statements of the victims the three judge panel found him guilty of all charges.

A US military blogger in South Korea who follows the activities of the military in the area said “One thing that Stars and Stripes did not mention is that in Uijeongbu District Court on 16 February 2011, PVT Lloyd A. Daniel, C Troop, 4/7th Cavalry, USAG-Casey, was convicted of ‘intrusion upon a human habitation.’ His adjudged sentence was a 500,000 Won fine which is roughly about \$450.00.”

The U.S. military made a payment to the couple to cover medical expenses, Lt. Colonel Joseph Scrocca, a 2nd Infantry Division spokesman told Stars and Stripes reporters. He declined to release the amount of that payment “out of respect for the family’s wishes to keep all matters involving them private.”

After Daniel was charged in March Scrocca said that the military was not conducting a separate investigation into the incident.

Scrocca said that any U.S military action against Daniel will have to wait until after the final disposition of his South Korean criminal court proceedings. He said that Daniel would continue on active duty without pay while he is incarcerated and then be discharged from the service upon his release.

Amy Delyla Ulm, current World Teach Coordinator in Pohnpei was one of Daniel’s teachers at PICS High School. Daniel was in her English 12 class last year during his senior year at the High School. Ulm sucked breath when she heard the news. “No,” she exclaimed! “I can’t imagine it! I don’t always remember all of my students but I remember him really well,” she said. “He was always bright, and friendly and charismatic. He was always happy!”

When Tony Azios, a fellow World Teach volunteer was preparing to write an article for the Christian Science Monitor, Ulm suggested that Azios interview Daniel. He was the only recruit Azios interviewed for that article. “In our interview at PICS, Lloyd came off as nothing but kind, sincere, and gentle. He was surrounded by friends, and he came off as confident and determined to use the military as a career stepping stone,” Azios wrote in an email.

Azios wrote about that “career stepping stone” motivation in the Christian Science Monitor article that appeared on May 5, 2010. He said that Daniel felt a sense of debt to America, “The US has been here helping out our island in many ways, so I feel that we, as Micronesians, must return the favor.”

## Slow pitch softball season in full swing in Pohnpei

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

April 25, 2011

**Pohnpei, FSM**—The Pohnpei slow pitch softball season is in full swing with its first three games played tonight at the Spanish Wall ball park beginning at 6:00. The teams registered for three different leagues, the Nutrena League that has 32 teams, the Department League which has 10 teams and the Women’s Open League which is fielding 16 teams for a total of 58 teams. The Nutrena and Women’s Open League were divided into two pools each and team captains began to draw lots at 5:00 for pool assignments.

The teams that played on that evening didn’t know for sure that they would be playing but were asked to show up “just in case.” All 1027 participants from 58 teams were scheduled to show up in case their team drew a lot that said they would play one of the first three games that night.

Because of the uncertainty regarding whether or not they would be playing it could well be that the outcomes of the first night were not at all indicative of what the competitive future of those teams might be.

Leon Panuelo, Jr., President of the Softball Association of Pohnpei said that not all of the teams or team members showed up.

Selected for the first game of the season from the Nutrena League were “Black Sand” and “Try Luck.” “Black Sand” beat “Try Luck” with a comfortable end score of 9 to 7 in that game.

The Women’s Open League played next and team “COM Babes” slipped by team “Ain-okea” in a close 5 to 4 game.

The Department League finished up the evening with the “Nett District Government” team completely dominating “PATSCO” with a final score of 14 to 7.

Three games are scheduled for each Monday through Friday evening beginning at 5:30. Nine games are scheduled to begin at noon on each Sunday.

Rules have been modified from traditional softball rules to allow for streamlined play in order to accommodate the large number of players and the fact that there is only one venue where games will be played. For example, batters come to the plate with the count already at 1 and 1, one ball and one



strike. Also, the rule that says that a player cannot “strike out” with a foul ball was changed and several batters we watched on opening night were retired to the bench with a foul ball as their third strike. (Complete rules can be viewed at [www.isf.com](http://www.isf.com).)

Though on the first night, most players did not have uniforms all team members are required to have uniforms by their second game. The league is operating on a “no pay no play” policy. All teams are required to have paid their fees by their second game. For the Nutrena league the team fee is \$150. The Department league carries a \$200 fee, and the Women’s Open League requires a fee of \$100.



The Softball Association of Pohnpei in conjunction with the Pohnpei Sports Development Office is coordinating the slow pitch softball tournament. Nutrena is the major sponsor of the tournaments.

Members of the Softball Association of Pohnpei include Leon Panuelo, Jr., Jose Joab, Trevane Eisiel, Daisy Nanpei-Cantero, Fritz Mendiola, Patterson Anson, and Edgar Edgar.

## ...Fuel

*Continued from front page*

What my little informal survey didn't take into account was per capita income compared to fuel prices which in every case is several thousand dollars annually above the per capita income of the FSM.

Allois Malfitani who runs the Pohnpei Surf Camp in Pohnpei wrote in an email, "Fuel in Pohnpei is not expensive, that is compared to other places. I am from Brazil. We produce all our fuel and it is more expensive than in Pohnpei which burn(s) only as much fuel as one small American town (really small). In Australia around the same, or more some times...In Hawaii, just around the same price. If you think of all the logistics of getting the fuel here plus the small amount of fuel we buy compared to anywhere else, not bad.

"Still, it really hurts my pocket as fuel is the number one expense for a tour operator like me, and when the price comes up I never go to the gas station for less than \$200 in gasoline!!!"

Interestingly, a friend living in Hawaii said that the last time he bought fuel it cost the same amount as it currently does in Pohnpei although PetroCorp has already announced that price will soon need to go up. My friend in Hawaii paid \$4.55 per gallon and probably didn't get full service.

## FSM joins the Inter-Parliamentary Union

*FSM Congress*

**PALIKIR, POHNPEI.** – The Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia has been admitted as a member of the international parliament organization called the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

On April 16, 2011, the Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union adopted in Panama a resolution to admit the FSM Congress as a member of the international body.

The FSM's consideration for IPU membership began years earlier through Congress participation in various IPU sponsored or affiliated events. Over the years, Congress has come to understand and appreciate the values subscribed to by the IPU and the ideals for which it stands and thus began FSM's approval process.

During the Fifth Regular Session of the 16th Congress, Vice Speaker Fredrico O. Primo introduced a resolution to seek Congress approval for FSM's membership in the IPU and on November 24, 2010, Congress approved and adopted Congressional Resolution 16-114.

Vice Speaker Primo attended the 124th General Assembly of the IPU in Panama where he submitted to the IPU's Governing Council FSM's request for membership.

He expressed appreciation to the Governing Council for accepting FSM's membership and highlighted that FSM believes in "the ideals of IPU, and subscribe to the noble values advocated by the IPU in the areas of promoting peace."

Vice Speaker also noted that FSM recognized the importance IPU placed on institutional promotion and visibility, and therefore it looked forward to establishing inter-parliamentary contacts and cooperation with parliaments and parliamentarians around the world to "strengthen our institution at the regional and international levels."

The small delegation from the FSM to the IPU General Assembly in Panama was headed by Vice Speaker Primo with Mrs. Primo and Congress Chief Clerk Liwiana R. Ioanis.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union was created in 1889 as the first permanent forum for political multilateral negotiations. Promoting the concepts of peace

and international arbitration, the IPU provided the origins for today's form of institutionalized multilateral co-operation and advocated the establishment of corresponding institutions at the inter-governmental level -- which eventually came into being as the United Nations.

The IPU has transformed itself into the international organization of the Parliaments of sovereign States. It is the center for dialogue and parliamentary diplomacy among legislators representing every political system and all the main political leanings in the world -- constituting a unique platform for observing political opinions and trends around the world.

Its statutory Assemblies and specialized meetings serve as a testing ground for new ideas and initiatives leading to important breakthroughs in the search for peace and advancing international co-operation.

Along with the FSM, the Pacific island nation members of the IPU include Australia, New Zealand, the Republic of Palau and Samoa. With FSM's membership the Inter-Parliamentary Union based in Switzerland now has 157 member Parliaments.



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

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

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

### TEXT TO DONATE



Donate to Japan NOW. Here's how:

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

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

Call your local FSM Telecom office for details.



## Donated goods head for Western Pacific

*Honolulu Star Advertiser*

Bookshelves languishing in a basement at the University of Hawaii were given a new life yesterday as they were packed into Matson containers destined for islands in the western Pacific.

A local nonprofit hopes the donations will improve the communities in Micronesia and the Northern Marianas and eventually reduce the surge of migrants from those areas to Hawaii, which already spends about \$120 million a year on services for migrants from Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Palau, according to the state.

The nonprofit Reach Out Pacific received help from professional movers to load office furniture, commercial book shelves, textbooks and medical supplies into four 40-foot containers.

About 250 boxes containing thousands of textbooks from Baldwin High School and Konawaena High School were loaded, as well as medical examining tables and a dozen poles to support intravenous lines. Matson will ship the items at no cost, saving the nonprofit about \$32,000.

Glenn Wakai, president of REPAC, says there is an exodus of brainpower from Micronesia and the Northern Mariana Islands because of the lack of economic opportunities and adequate health care. He believes increasing resources for schools and libraries will encourage people to stay and improve their home islands.

"It gets to the root of the reason for the exodus," he said. If residents have better schools and libraries, he said, "things are going to get better for them."

REPAC has been shipping educational and medical supplies to islands in the western Pacific for six years. It ships only items that are in good shape but no longer needed.

UH donated most of the shelves. Melissa Arakawa, a UH supervisor involved in the donation, said the shelves were no longer needed and would have been thrown away.

Wakai, a state senator who worked as a television reporter in Saipan in the early 1990s, said the hospitals and schools in the Mariana Islands are in dire condition.

Hospital patients are asked to bring their own bed linens or gowns, and in some schools different classes have to share books, he said.

Some of UH's bookshelves will furnish a new public library on the island of Rota that doesn't have any bookshelves, said Victoria Guerrero, who works in the Mariana Islands governor's office.

She said she hopes the donated furniture will help officials open children's centers around the island of Saipan in time for summer.

"Most of the youth centers have nothing in them," she said by telephone. "We just have one bowling alley that's open, one movie theater. There's not much that the kids can do. If we revive these youth centers their time will be spent there."

She said that a few months ago, REPAC sent more than 1,000 gowns for the hospital, which had mostly torn garments for patients.

"It's a tremendous help for us here," she said.

The bulk of yesterday's donated items will go to Northern Marianas College in Saipan and the Pohnpei Public Library, both of which are struggling with a lack of resources.



*Winson Maluyo, left, and Junior Dasalla pushed a load of bookshelves from the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Hamilton Library to be loaded up in one of four cargo containers of educational materials bound for Micronesia*

## NOTICE OF LAND SALE BY AUCTION

Pursuant to the order of the FSM Supreme Court entered on April 20, 2011, public notice is hereby given that the parcel described below will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

Lot No. 61618, land known as "Winipon", situated in Sapuk Village, Weno Municipality, Chuuk State, with an approximate area of 3,337.25 square meters, as described in the Certificate of Title issued on November 11, 1995 and registered as Doc. No. 43234 at the Office of the Registrar, Chuuk State Land Commission and as further described in Drawing P.I. 5, registered as Doc. No. 4323.

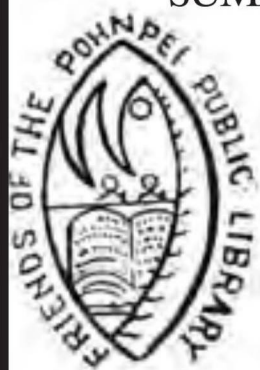
- There is no minimum bid amount for the parcel.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "June 30, 2011 Land Auction" by personal delivery to Ms Janet Sisam at the front entrance area of the FSM Supreme Court courthouse in Weno, Chuuk on Thursday, June 30, 2011 between 2 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 pm, Thursday, June 30, 2011.
- 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.
- The winning bidder shall be conveyed title through a duly issued Court order transferring title to the land, including all buildings, fixtures, equipment, and other improvements on the land, 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 of award is given. 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 parcel is offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to its 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)

### Pohnpei Public Library launches the SUMMER READING PROGRAM!

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

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



## ...Thieves

*Continued from front page*

The criminals don't seem to be going for items they think they might be able to sell for cash, although some are still doing that. They're going for the real thing—cold, hard cash.

"They didn't touch any of the electronic toys and gadgets in my office," said Bob McGrath of Visual Impact.

Visual Impact is directly across from the Pohnpei State Government Complex on the main street in Kolonia. The store was burglarized more than a month ago when thieves boldly broke through the glass front door that faces the street and then had their destructive way with the place.

Criminals broke the cash register but found nothing in it but a few coins. "It's all we ever keep in there at the end of the day," McGrath said.

The burglars ransacked office drawers in their effort to find cash. They apparently tried to get into the safe but were unsuccessful in that attempt.

"They made a mess! It took us about four hours to clean up," McGrath said.

Visual Impact has since installed an external video camera.

Though burglars don't seem to know it, smart businesses don't keep cash lying around their offices at the close of a business day. While cash losses have been relatively low, damages for business owners have been high and costly.

Pohnpei Transfer and Storage (PT&S) was an early victim of the crime spree that seems to have started early this year. On January 30, criminals scaled the twelve foot chain link fence topped with barbed wire. Once inside the perimeter the thieves broke the one window on the building that didn't have security bars and entered an empty inside office with a locked door. The thieves broke that door down.

"After that, they did what they wanted to do. They had access to the whole place," said PT&S Manager Joe Vitt.

"They kicked down the (PT&S) office door and my office door," he said, "and they went through all the desks." Burglars in that incident trashed the office and walked away with approximately \$55 of petty cash for their efforts.

Vitt said PT&S spent approximately \$1000 to repair the damages.

And if other burglaries are any indication even security bars serve only as a short term impediment. Burglars have simply pried them from the walls and set them aside before breaking a window to force entry.

Neither Vitt nor McGrath has heard any-

thing from the Pohnpei State Police about any suspects in the crime. As far as they know, no arrests have been made.

But then they might not have heard anything from tight lipped law enforcement officers.

An arrest was made in the case of the Mesenieng Credit Union burglary that happened late last Sunday night. Manager Albert Johnny could not get police officials to tell him who it was that they had arrested though it was through Mesenieng's own efforts that an arrest was made.

Like other smart businesses, Mesenieng has a policy that requires them to keep no cash in house over night. Thieves did steal blank checks belonging to some of Mesenieng's customers.

Johnny said that on Monday the Credit Union immediately notified businesses around Pohnpei to be on the lookout for anyone trying to cash any of the stolen checks.

It didn't take long before one person did try to cash a stolen and forged check at the Amcres gas station in Kolonia. Police were notified and that one person was arrested.

Certainly, in the case of the Credit Union, burglars could not have acted alone.

"They're not kids," Johnny said. "They had to be full grown adults. They pushed in an aircon (for entrance to the building) and they dragged the safe away." He said that would have taken at least two or three strong men.

Johnny said that in order to get out of the building the criminals broke the inside glass door and kicked open the outside door.

There was nothing of any cash or commercial value in the safe.

Mesenieng normally has 24 hour security but Johnny said the contract with the security agency expired one week before the break in and they were set to renew the contract this week.

"They (the burglars) were watching and they knew we didn't have security. That's when they broke in," Johnny said.

Sunday's break in was the second time that the Mesenieng Credit Union has been burglarized. Thieves got nothing of value during either incident but they did create an expensive mess.

Every victim of burglary at businesses we interviewed said that they knew of other victims of the crime.

Vitt said that the office of the Coconut Development Authority was "hit" on the same night as DHL. We were unable to contact the Coconut Development Authority for confirmation but we did contact DHL.



Logan Halverson of DHL said that on Friday night two weeks ago burglars jumped the fence, broke the front door and absconded with his laptop and approximately \$120 in cash.

Napa Auto Parts was hit last Wednesday. Yvonne Hawkins said that burglars jacked up the bay door of the service area until it was "off the track." Once they were inside the burglars kicked down interior doors.

"They were looking for cash," Hawkins concluded. She said that every desk drawer that was locked had the lock broken and were standing open. They didn't get any cash but they did take some Napa checks and a digital camera. She said that some small items were stacked next to the bay door as if the burglars decided to take a consolation prize for their efforts.



Hawkins said that unless Napa takes a complete inventory they will never know for sure what merchandise might be missing.

Hawkins named her own list of purported crime victims including Neime Enterprises, A-One Fashion, a store owned by Senator Nakasone and several others.

We could not reach any representative of any of the companies she mentioned and at press time it was unclear if any of them were actually victims of burglary.

We were able to verify that the offices of the Postmaster General were burglarized just a few days ago but no one from that office that was authorized to speak about the incident returned our phone calls.

While business break-ins are high profile because they are essentially public places there is a public perception that home burglaries also appear to be on the rise. One man slipped through an open window at one of Nihco's bungalows over the weekend while the occupants were at home. He escaped without being identified and is still at large.

A representative of the FSM Executive Branch said in passing that at least two of the four Embassies headquartered in Pohnpei; the U.S. Embassy and the Embassy of Japan have registered strong displeasure with the apparent lack of law enforcement in Pohnpei.



In January of this year, Chief Joe Roby agreed to provide crime report statistics that would help us to write a news story that he agreed might have resulted in greater diligence amongst Pohnpei residents. In the several conversations we have had since that time he has said on each occasion that he

was "still working on it." Two days before this press deadline we wrote him a strongly worded request for a statement about the crime situation. On the day of the press deadline he said that the statistics were nearly complete and that we should "stand by." On the day after the press deadline he wrote another email saying that he was meeting with Police officers about the burglary situation and that we should continue to "stand by."

No one from the Police Department has made any comment on the issue. Though there is a finger printing system in place that process is still in its infancy and police have not commented on whether it has been an effective tool to help combat the problem of burglary.

## Pohnpei breaks ground for renovation of an Emergency Operation Center

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlie Press

April 18, 2011

**Pohnpei, FSM**—Dignitaries gathered on Monday, April 18, for a ground breaking ceremony for the renovation of the Pohnpei State Emergency Operation Center. The \$117,979.25 project is actually already underway and the former police department is currently completely gutted.

The project was funded by a grant from the European Union through the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the FSM National Government. Speakers at the ceremony indicated that the renovation of the building is the first stage in the grant process and that after it is completed a second phase will begin in which it will be fully equipped to serve any potential disaster needs that Pohnpei might have.

The invocation was given by Deacon Ioanis followed by the State Anthem sung by Marson Carl. Lucas Carl, Director of the Department of Public Safety gave welcoming remarks.

A highlight of the ceremony was the performance by Pohnpei State Police officers of a story song written in Pohnpeian by one of the officers. The story was of a young man asking his father about his life decision to be a police officer and the father's advice to him to be ethical and diligent.

Governor John Ehsa gave the keynote address followed by a speech by Andrew Yatilman of the FSM Office of Envi-

ronment and Emergency Management (OEEM).

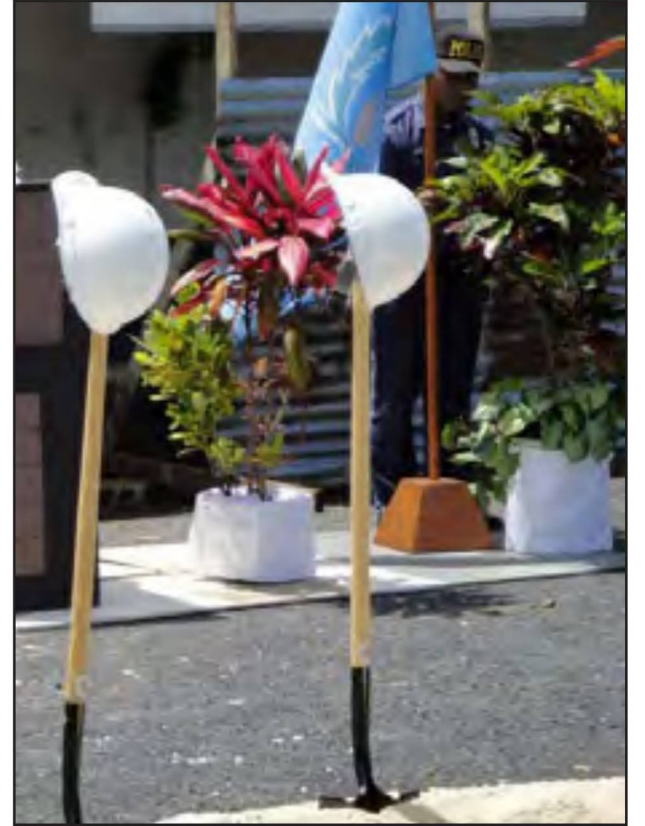
The renovation is being done by Pacific Landscaping, Engineering, and Construction, Incorporated (PLEC). The contractor also spoke at the ceremony. When he had completed his speech, the contractor, DPS Director Lucas Carlos, OEEM Director Andrew Yatilman, Kolonia Town Governor Marcello Peterson, Pohnpei Legislature Speaker Nelson Pelep, and Governor John Ehsa wielded the shovels for the ground breaking.

Deacon Ioanis delivered the benediction.

After the benediction a SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactical) team demonstration was staged for the participants with the scenario of a dangerous "pull over" by a police officer. The newly donated ambulance pulled into the parking lot followed by a police car with lights flashing. An actor in the scenario pointed a weapon out the back door of the van after which the action stopped for a long period of time as sirens wailed from somewhere down the street.

Meanwhile the master of ceremonies told the crowd about the procedure for possible situations such as was being displayed. He said that the SWAT team can only be mobilized with the authorization of the Chief of Police.

Shots rang out and we were to believe that the driver of the van had just been immobilized by a sniper after which Kevlar jacketed SWAT team members approached and encircled the vehicle in order to secure it. Team members pulled the



weapon wielding actor from the back of the vehicle and cuffed him.

PLEC is expected to finish the renovations of the Emergency Operation Center within 180 days.

## FSM Environment Conference concluded in Yap

FSM Information Services

April 20, 2011

The 3rd National Environment Conference has concluded today with the signing of a resolution by the Directors of EPA and KIRMA requesting representatives and leaders of the FSM to fully achieve sustainable access to safe drinking water and dependable supplies of drinking water to the people of the FSM. Many issues were discussed over the five-day Conference and resulted in adoption of recommendations calling for revitalization of efforts, enactment of laws, better coordination and partnerships,

The Conference was held Yap from April 11-15, 2011, is held every two years and assembles all environment officials from the National Government and the f states along with relevant partner agencies, NGOs, regional organizations, and international and local partners.

The objectives of the conference under the theme of "Bridging the Gaps for a Healthy and Sustainable Environment, include a) coordination of national and state activities related to the environment and resource management, b) review of recent developments and prioritizing of areas of intervention under the multilateral environment agreements over the next 2-4 years, and c) review and update of state's and national's environment laws and regulations.

The conference was kicked off on April 11th, 2011 with remarks made by the Honorable Governor Sebastian Anefal and followed by

Vice President Alik Alik during an opening ceremony held at the Small Business Development Center.

In his brief welcoming remarks, Governor Sebastian Anefal thanked Vice President Alik, members of the 16th FSM Congress and Representatives from the Regional and International Partners for their continued support and for availing their time to be part of the very important undertaking. Governor Anefal also extended his peoples warm welcome to all the participants and thanked them for their efforts and hoped that the conference produce meaningful outcomes that will benefit the people of the whole nation. He expressed concerns on the issue of toxic materials leaked into the Pacific due to damage on Japan's Nuclear Reactor caused by the recent earthquake and tsunami catastrophes in Japan.

Vice President Alik Alik delivered the key note address and echoed the statements made by Governor Anefal. He challenged the Conference to, "...consider all options available and see how these could address the issues and challenges at hand" such as climate change which "are real to our islands". He highlighted the need to focus support to FSM's most vulnerable people who rely on the environment and natural resources.

Attending the meeting also were FSM Congress Senator Roger Mori of Chuuk along with Senators Peter Christian and Dohsis Halbert both from the State of Pohnpei. State Senators John Mooteb of Yap and Josiah Waguk of Kosrae joined along with Mayor of Tafunsak, Mr. Jacob George.

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## Kitti man pleads “Not guilty” to murder charge

By **Bill Jaynes**  
The Kaselehlle Press

**April 27, 2011**  
**Pohnpei, FSM**—Raynard Une Anson of Kitti was arraigned yesterday at the Pohnpei State Supreme Court on charges related to the death of recently retired Pohnpei State Police Captain Joseph Abraham.

Anson's attorney entered a plea of not guilty on his client's behalf.

The prosecuting attorney moved to deny bail for Anson. Since Anson was arrested on April 8 he has been held at the Pohnpei State Correctional Facility. Prosecutor Jack Harris said that he expects that there will be a ruling on the matter of bail by this Friday.

On March 2 of this year, the body of Joseph Abraham was found in a river in Kitti near the Nanpei Memorial High School. He had suffered multiple head wounds. Police suspected that Abraham had not been the victim of an accident of falling as they had been told but that he had been murdered. A source close to the investi-

gation said that the wounds were not consistent with a falling accident.

Police could not immediately prove their suspicions and conducted a forensic investigation of physical evidence.

Another spokesperson at the Office of the Attorney General said that a witness who had been silent for a month and a half came forward and spoke to Police about the matter. Harris did not say what the witness told police and also would not say whether or not the physical evidence corroborated the statement of the tardy witness.

He did say that Anson is accused of having beaten the victim to death with a piece of lumber.

The collected evidence was enough to convince prosecutors that charges should be filed against Anson who now faces charges of murder, manslaughter, assault and battery with a deadly weapon, and negligent homicide.

Anson is assumed to be innocent unless he is proven beyond a reasonable doubt to be guilty of the charges.

## Chairman of PATA-Micronesia Chapter visits Beijing to Promote Tourism

FSM Information Services

**April 7, 2011 (FSM Embassy, Beijing)** Mr. Grant Ismael, Chairman of the Pacific Asia Travel Association-Micronesia Chapter (PATA), who is also the Administrator of the Kosrae Visitor's Bureau arrived Beijing, China on April 6 to represent the Micronesia chapter at the 60th Anniversary conference scheduled to be held at the China World Hotel from 8-12 April 2011. The Conference is expected to tackle issues concerning the future development of travel and tourism in the Asia Pacific region – the world's fastest growing market.

Taking advantage of the visit to China by the Chairman of the PATA-Micronesia Chapter, the FSM Embassy arranged a meeting with the representatives of the Pacific Islands Forum Trade Office (PIFTO) in Beijing to discuss possible cooperation and partnership in the area of tourism. PIFTO is a subsidiary of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat whose mission in Bei-

jing is to promote trade and business opportunities between Pacific island countries and China.

His Excellency Ambassador Akillino H. Susaia and Chairman Ismael received and met with Mr. Sam Savou and his staff Ms. Vivienne Song, Tourism Development Officer of PIFTO. The meeting with the PIFTO officials resulted in the interest to cooperate and organize a familiarization tour (FAM tour) to the FSM.

The tour would bring in travel wholesalers, media, and other respective travel agents and tour operators from China to experience firsthand what the FSM has to offer. Chairman Ismael, Ambassador Susaia, and Mr. Savou all agreed to the positive promotion that the FAM tour will bring to the FSM and all have agreed to work together to support the FAM tour proposal. The first tour is being planned and hoped to be carried out by June 2011 to visit Kosrae.

Staffing Ambassador Susaia in the meeting with PIFTO were Deputy Chief of Mission Carl D. Apis, and First Secretary Vincent Sivas.

### Notable Quotable

Some humans would do anything to see if it was possible to do it. If you put a large switch in some cave somewhere, with a sign on it saying 'End-of-the-World Switch. PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH', the paint wouldn't even have time to dry. -Terry Pratchett, novelist (b. 1948)

### SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY (SPC)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the position of Observer Data Entry Technicians (two positions) to be based at the office of SPC in Pohnpei, FSM.



#### Duties and Responsibilities:

The Observer Data Control Technician positions provides a fundamental service of processing and quality control of national tuna fishery observer data, such data being critical for national and regional stock assessment and fishery management. Key Result Areas are covered by the following categories: data management, data processing, data quality control, and other duties.

#### Qualifications and Experience:

- High School diploma
- Secretarial skills and high-speed accurate typing
- Competency in performing basic calculations
- Working knowledge of computer
- Excellent oral and written communication and interpersonal skills

#### Salary, Terms, & Conditions:

- Salary will commensurate at \$318.26 bi-weekly depending on qualification and experience with Social Security and medical insurance benefits.
- Cover letter, curriculum vitae, names and contact details of at least two references must arrive by 17 May, 2011 to :  
The Manager,  
Secretariat of the Pacific Community,  
Pohnpei Regional Office,  
P.O. Box Q,  
Kolonia, Pohnpei  
and may be submitted by fax +691 3202725  
or email: johnp@spc.int.

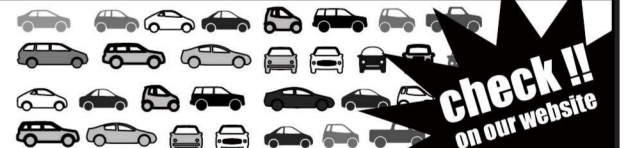
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## Kosrae State Leaders endorse fiscal and institutional reforms

FSM Information Services

April 20, 2011

**Tofol, Kosrae**— Leaders of Kosrae State, Federated States of Micronesia, have concluded a three-day high-level conference of leaders to address ongoing financial challenges and identify necessary structural and institutional reforms to ensure long-term stability of Kosrae State.

The Kosrae Leadership Conference, convened by incoming Governor, the Honorable Lyndon H. Jackson, ended Friday with the signing of a communiqué and a series of reform resolutions.

With the theme, "Working Together to Move Kosrae Forward," the conference gathered leaders from the three branches of the Kosrae State Government, the Congress of the FSM, Kosrae municipal governments, the private sector, civil society, and churches.

Opening the conference, Governor Jackson remarked, "The purpose of this conference is to discuss and agree on a workable plan – a set of actions – the state government must take to address and hopefully resolve the fiscal challenges we continue to face." This includes the significant challenge of adjusting to declining financial support from the United States under the Compact of Free Association, as Amended.

In addition to immediate and shorter-term fiscal adjustment measures, leaders also discussed longer-term institutional reforms, including options for reorganizing the State Government architecture. "We must also look at the structure and individual functions of our government," the Governor remarked, "and ask ourselves whether the level of services provided justify the costs. Let us look more at the cost of doing things and determine if we can afford the bill, instead of forging ahead with services we cannot sustain".

Echoing Governor Jackson's sentiments, the Honorable Lyndon P. Abraham, Speaker of the Kosrae State Legislature, stated, "It is very clear that our needs are much more than what we can afford. For this reason, we need to prioritize our needs and do institutional and structural reforms to avoid unnecessary spending."

After days of deliberations and debate, the Kosraean leadership finalized an extensive range of actions and measures, from immediate expenditure compression efforts to potential Constitutional amendments that will restructure and improve the efficiency of the government.

## First defendant to be tried in Marshalls fraud Mantiera charged with stealing government funds

By Giff Johnson  
Marshall Islands Journal

MAJURO, Marshall Islands – The first of 11 people charged with participating in the theft of more than US\$500,000 of United States federal grants to the Marshall Islands, is heading to trial after a judge found on Wednesday there was adequate evidence to proceed with the case.

After months of multiple criminal counts and cases being filed in the Marshall Islands High Court by Chief Prosecutor, Tubosoye Brown, he said the judge's decision confirms the government will be able to successfully prosecute the widespread fraud that has permeated the Ministries of Finance and Health.

Judge James Plasman ruled that in two separate cases against Ministry of Finance worker Allister Mantiera there is "good cause" to believe the defendant committed the crimes alleged. He set trials for August and October in the two separate cases.

The development steps up the tempo of the attorney general's action against a growing group of people charged with defrauding the government of U.S. grant funding.

Nine charges against Mantiera regarding his participation in the theft of US\$80,350 through government checks issued to local business Home Special Supply will go to trial August 9. Another set of seven charges for Mantiera's participation in a scheme to defraud the

government of US\$42,195 by issuing checks to local auto repair business known as MGAS is to go to trial on October 4. Police investigators said the government received no services for these funds. Both cases will be heard by jury trials.

"The court finds good cause to believe the (nine) offenses charged occurred and that defendant committed them," said Judge Plasman in his ruling on the Home Special Supply case.

In the MGAS-related case, the judge also found "good cause" to proceed on the seven counts charged. In both cases, Brown dismissed one of the originally filed charges.

Plasman pointed out that Mantiera, who is represented by assistant public defender Karotu Tiba, argued that the "grand larceny" charges were incorrect since he did not actually steal, take or carry away the money charged in each count. But, said Plasman, "defendant's liability may be found based upon his participation in a conspiracy, as an aider and abettor, or as an accessory. Ample evidence from the testimony of Lt. Parker Wilson and government 'exhibit one' established the existence of a conspiracy for the purposes of a preliminary hearing."

In the 15-page ruling in the MGAS-related case, Plasman discussed at length the issue of "good cause" and the acceptable standard for evidence presented at a preliminary hearing, which is lower than required at trial.

Plasman observed that the defense did not object to admission of various documents by Brown and witness statements. "Defendant was, of course, under no obligation to object to the admission of evidence, Plasman said. Objection could potentially bring attention to weakness in the prosecution case that defendant intends to exploit at trial."

Plasman said the government's case met the requirement for determining "good cause" at a preliminary hearing. "While the government's case was built largely on circumstantial evidence and hearsay, the court believes that, taking reasonable inferences in favor of the government, good cause' has been shown that the offense charged was committed and that defendant committed it," Plasman said.



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# Kosrae's free water system could carry health costs

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Tofol, Kosrae**—"Among the four FSM States, only Kosrae is not able to provide safe drinking water from Improved Water Systems to date." So says a recently released performance audit of Kosrae State's access to safe drinking water conducted by the office of the Kosrae State Auditor.

"During heavy rains or rainy seasons, the water system will be flooded with all kinds of organic materials running on the system. Aside from being unsafe to drink, people have no choice but to use the muddy and dirty water for cooking, washing, bathing and others but not for drinking," said Utwa Mayor, A. Livaie. The Utwa municipality is responsible for 181 households.

Mayor M. Kilafwasru of Malem said, "Safe drinking water is in the hands of individual households." Kilafwasru administration serves 236 Kosrae households

The design of a new water system for Lelu is currently out for bid but it will cover only 31 percent of the 1068 households in Kosrae when it is completed sometime in 2012.

It seems that one of the biggest impediments to establishing facilities for State wide safe drinking water is that the people of Kosrae don't seem to want it or more pointedly, they don't want to pay for it.

An ADB survey conducted in 2003 said that 88% of Kosrae's residents think they have acceptable drinking water through use of water catchments and through boiling water coming from public piped water. "This belief has led to strong resistance to potential improvement on water supply and eventual requirement for residents to start paying for their water," the Kosrae audit said.

Not only is Kosrae the only FSM State that in the auditors' estimation is unable to provide safe drinking water it is also the only State that charges nothing for water that is provided.

Auditors provided a chart of FSM wide water prices per 1000 gallons. The chart shows that Yap's price is the lowest above Kosrae's cost of nothing. Yap charges \$1.00 per 1000 gallons. Pohnpei is next at \$1.90. Auditors were not clear whether or not the prices they quoted for water in Chuuk were for its capital, Weno but that State had the highest auditor charted water prices at \$5 per 1000 gallons of provided water. Residents of Weno generally know not to drink tap water and some of its hotels provide purified drinking water for the use of their patrons.

Safe drinking water is very different from "piped" water. Currently 98% of Kosrae's households have piped water but the audit

says that none of the piped water is safe. "The majority of these systems were built during the US Trusteeship and several date back to the pre-war Japanese administration. Most are in poor condition and people know it is unsafe to drink water from piped sources," the audit said. Auditors underlined the latter sentence.

The audit boldly proclaimed that all households have access to more than one water source.

"During dry seasons the people will go up in the upper lands to get water from the available spring water," said Lelu Mayor W. Sigrah, whose municipality includes 334 households

60% of households have their own water catchments that range from "rudimentary roof catchments and 40 gallon drums or makeshift tanks, to a good quality roof catchment with proper gutters and pipes feeding ferro-cement or fiber glass tanks.

"They put up their catchments in any most affordable ways, as long as they have water in these containers it doesn't matter... Someday I would like to see my people get their drinking water from piped water" said Tafunksak Mayor J. Taulung, Tafunksak who governs the municipality that includes 317 households.

The majority of Kosrae houses also have toilets that are supplied by piped water, one of the few safe uses for water carried by pipes in Kosrae.

Kosrae Health services reported that in 2010, 896 people sought treatment for water borne diseases or ailments including diarrhea or gastroenteritis, intestinal parasitism, leptospirosis, impetigo (a contagious skin disease), contact dermatitis, and skin ulcers; 135 people for every 1000 in population (13.5 percent.)

The audit says that the data provided may be "under-enumerated" because not all residents seek medical treatment when they are experiencing diarrhea or other possible water borne illness symptoms.

SOPAC (Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission) data from 2008 showed that Pacific Island countries have a rate of diarrhoeal diseases 20% greater than the world average and over four times higher than developed countries such as Australia and New Zealand.

While the FSM's Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and its Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP) showed planned investments of \$135.4 million for "Education" between 2004 and 2023, the FSM planned for \$141.9 million for "Water Supply/Wastewater" for the same period of time, the highest amount of any of the planned investments.

By comparison, planned expenditures for "Electric Power" were for \$81.1 million. "Health" was the third lowest planned investment of the categories of the SDP at \$32.5 million above "Government Buildings" and "Program Management"

The audit provided a table of "Priority Projects from National Government Perspective" based on the FSM IDP. Kosrae Water Supply was fourth from the top of that list at a cost of \$9.8 million. That project followed only the Weno Power Supply, Pohnpei Airport Runway Rehabilitation, and Weno Water Supply projects.

According to the FSM IDP, the Kosrae Water Supplies project was to have taken place between 2004 and 2007 but the Lelu water project didn't go out to bid until this month went and when it is completed it will service only 31% of Kosrae households.

Kosrae auditors found:

1. There were neither laws nor adequate policy framework to ensure access to safe drinking water for the public;
2. The implementation of existing policy framework to ensure access to safe drinking water has been delayed. Improvements planned to the existing water system in Kosrae have been stalled for several years...
3. The existing policy framework towards access to safe drinking water has not been fully complied (with). There has been no progress on water system improvements to serve the three remaining systems to serve Tafunksak, Malem and Utwe Municipalities. Further, there is a need to reinforce the capability of the State to strengthen its capacity" for water testing and analysis and dissemination of water quality reports. It said that the State should also be proactive in educating the public about the importance of drinking water.

The audit says that the Kosrae Legislature is currently considering a "Safe Drinking Water Act of 2010" (LB 9-268).

A response to the audit from Robert H. Jackson, Executive Director of Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA) says that if the bill passes it would authorize "KIRMA to establish drinking water standards for PUBLIC water systems." KIRMA would, if the bill passes, "establish regulations to prevent or further protect the PUBLIC water supply for all consumers. The bill itself is very straight forward it would prohibit the use of lead in any pipes or fittings in any public or private water supply that provides water for human consumption."

"Second," Jackson continued, "the bill would provide enforcement authority to KIRMA to inspect PUBLIC water supplies, issue orders and address violations through administrative or civil proceedings."

The audit says that KIRMA already has the power to create regulations to establish standards for drinking water provided to it by Kosrae State Code Section 7.402 but that KIRMA has not to date established any. KIRMA officials told auditors that the regulations KIR-

MA could establish under the current code are only intended for PUBLIC water systems.

We have not seen the proposed legislation but Jackson's response to the audit seems to indicate that the same would be true if the new bill passes.

KIRMA officials also told auditors that "piped water systems in the State are not intended for drinking (and that) promulgation (the putting into effect) of such regulation(s) will not be necessary."

Auditors pointed out that private businesses providing bottled drinking water to the public at an average price of \$3.50 per five gallon container have been in operation for several years but that "in the absence of regulations, it appears that these sellers were not regulated and checked (for) compliance with drinking water standards."

Further, the audit says that that Kosrae's Health and Sanitation Unit which could check both public and private water supplies only has the capability to test for the presence of coliforms. The presence of coliforms, the audit said, is not a health threat alone. The test is used to indicate whether other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

The Health and Sanitation Unit is not able to test for water borne microorganisms or contaminants such as cryptosporidium, giardia lamblia, or enteric viruses, all of which cause gastrointestinal illness distress like diarrhea, vomiting, or cramps. It also cannot test for Legionella which could cause Legionnaire's disease, a type of pneumonia.

The audit did not say that Kosrae's water had tested for the presence of any of those microorganisms or contaminants. It said that it is not in the power of any public entity in Kosrae to test for them.

Access to safe drinking water is just one of the International Millennium Development Goals (MDG) that fall under eight broad headings all of which deal with issues global human security. The goals were adopted in 2000 by the 192 member nations of the United Nations and by at least 23 international organizations. The headings for those goals include: 1) ending poverty and hunger, 2) universal education, 3) gender equality, 4) child health, 5) maternal health, 6) combating HIV/AIDS, 7) environmental sustainability, and 8) development of a global partnership.

The MDG having to do with access to safe drinking water is under the heading of environmental sustainability.

The email address for the Kosrae public auditor was not functioning when we tried to contact them but the audit report lists the following information as a source where a copy of the audit might be obtained:

GOVERNMENT OF KOSRAE  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR  
Post Office Box 727  
Kosrae State Federated States of Micronesia  
96944  
Telephone: 691-370-3440; or 691-370-3766  
Facsimile: 691-370-3443

## K Press Perspective

### The people or the people's people?

As this issue of The Kaselehlie Press is being delivered to news stands in Pohnpei, Senators elect will be arriving on island for a first of its kind "induction workshop" in Palikir. They'll be participating in that workshop but they'll also be jockeying for position in the structure of the FSM National Government as they've been doing even before the election in March.

If Senators-elect don't already know who will be the Chairmen of the Ways and Means, the Justice and Governmental Operations, Foreign Relations, Health and Education, or the Resources and Development Committees they will likely cement their decision for those positions before they ever arrive in the Chamber on May 11.

Decisions will also likely be cemented for the positions of Floor Leader, Vice Speaker and the position that some have called the most powerful seat in the FSM government; the Speaker of what will be the 17th Congress.

When all is said and done in the Congress chamber on May 11 after Congress returns from its soundproof back room, two of the Congress chairs will be vacant, their former occupants shuffled off to the Executive Branch to perform their duties as President and Vice President. A special election will be held in the two States that are left with a vacant seat in the 17th Congress. No matter who or what we think we might know, none of us know for sure who will fill the top spots and we won't absolutely know anything at all until Senators actually cast their votes on the floor on that morning.

As all FSM voters know, citizens of the FSM don't directly choose their own President or Vice President. Instead they vote for the people who then choose the President or Vice President. It has been said that part of the reason for that method is because of the imbalance of population amongst the FSM States. Because Chuuk is the most populous State the argument goes, the President would always be from Chuuk which of course presupposes that everyone in Chuuk would always vote for a candidate from Chuuk which is probably true just as it would probably be true for any other State. Pohnpeians would vote for a Pohnpeian, Kosraeans for a Kosraean, and Yapese for a Yapese. Kosrae, Yap, or Pohnpei would never be able to put a President or a Vice President into office just by virtue of population. Of course that stands to reason because there is no real sense of *national* identity in the FSM and because a good number of FSM voters don't vote on issues or platforms. They vote for family or clan or based on other reasons unrelated to whether or not a candidate is qualified for the office for which they are running. I would venture to guess that part of the reason behind that situation of voting is the vast separation of FSM States both geographically and culturally and the lack of any real workable mechanism of national communication such as television or nation-

al radio (or for that matter, a newspaper that uses the Pohnpeian greeting as its name) to get issues and platforms to the public.

Now before anyone goes and gets uptight here let me say that I do truly believe that politics takes a level of human understanding and leadership skills that completely eludes me and requires a kind of intelligence that is well beyond my grasp. There are good ones and there are not so good ones but just the fact that a politician has been able to reach any office indicates some level of qualification and constituent support. So I am **not at all** saying that because of the habits of FSM voters all public offices are filled with driving idiots.

Some say that there are ways to limit the impact of population imbalance on the results of a nation wide election and they point to the Electoral College system of the United States as one example. But, though it took a civil war and more than a hundred years to finally develop, and though a Texan will still always be a Texan, a Virginian a Virginian, and so on for each of the 50 States, the millions of citizens in the United States are to varying degrees first and foremost Americans. They have a national identity whereas in the FSM, try though we might there still is no national identity, so much so that thoughts of secession seem always to be in the back of some citizens' minds ready to trip off their tongue at the slightest provocation.

Also the cultures of each FSM State are remarkably different as compared to U.S. States. Certainly there is a Rhode Island culture, for example but that culture is not so remarkably different from that of Washington State that the citizens speak entirely different languages and have entirely different sets of traditions. Once again, I'm **not at all** saying that this is something wrong with the FSM, just something unique and challenging.

I'm just guessing here and that's why this is an opinion piece but even the name of the nation makes it difficult to know what to uniquely call a citizen of the nation an contributes to a lack of national identity. "Micronesian" doesn't cut it because the same could be said of any citizen of Palau or any number of other Micronesian nations or territories.

It's all just the stuff that would make a U.S. system of popular election for the President essentially unworkable in my opinion.

And so we have the FSM system that while a bit unusual does seem to work. While there is still an imbalance of population in terms of the number of representatives on the floor of Congress there is a great sense and a spirit of nationalism in Congress.

Now don't get me wrong here. I don't mean that Senators do not work on the behalf of their own States. They most certainly do

that and of course that's part of their job. But because Senators from different States are thrust into a situation in which they must interface with Senators of other States and must operate in a give and take fashion, the system seems to work for the good of the nation to varying degrees.

People do constantly refer to the gentlemen's agreement of Congress that said that the office of President and Vice President will rotate amongst the States and they complain that it's not fair that things haven't really worked out that way. In my opinion, the fact that it has not worked out that way proves that Senators have been giving the positions to the best negotiators, the best deal makers. That's not necessarily a bad thing. The nation needs a President and Vice President who can unite disparate factions for a united purpose and that certainly is in the national interest so the system seems to be working. What would be truly unfair would be if a less qualified President or Vice President was selected just because it was that State's turn.

It takes a minimum of 8 Congress votes to fill any of the spots and Chuuk has six Senators, **not at all** to demonize Chuuk's representatives. I'm only trying to say that no one State can completely dominate the proceedings and Senators must work together; majority vote, majority national good. It's a good sign though. Because I am from that place of the Electoral College and the FSM system has always seemed just a bit odd to me because I haven't been used to it, I have only just very recently come to that conclusion. In fact it might have been while I was writing this editorial.

And so on May 11, at 10:00 in the morning the Temporary Speaker, Peter Christian will gavel the 17th Congress to order just as he did 33 years ago on May 10, 1979 on the first day of the first Congress and the process will begin. Christian will be the temporary Speaker because Congress rules provide that the eldest Senator with the most years in Congress shall be the temporary Speaker. In 1979 he was the Speaker because the rules were different then and he was the most junior member of Congress.

He will be the Speaker only until Congress selects a permanent Speaker. In 1979 it was Bethwel Henry. Jacob Sigrah was selected as the Vice Speaker and Luke Tman as the Floor Leader. Tosiwo Nakayama was selected as the FSM's first President and Petrus Tun was the first Vice President.

No matter what anyone says no one really knows for certain who will relieve the temporary Speaker on May 11, 2011. No one knows for certain whose name will be on the list after the five top spots are filled but I'm reasonably confident that the system that put them there is a workable idea. I am very surprised to hear myself saying that letting the people's people handle it really does seem to work.

*Bill Jaynes*  
Managing Editor

### Is a shark worth more alive, with its fin cutting through the ocean water, or dead, with its fin used as the base for soup?

*Communications, Inc.*

A new study by the Australian Institute of Marine Science concludes that sharks are worth far more alive and swimming. In Palau, the Pacific Island nation that declared its waters a sanctuary free of shark fishing, "million-dollar sharks" provide a lynchpin for the tourism industry.

The analysis quantified the economic benefits of Palau's shark-diving industry and found that its worth far exceeded that of shark fishing. The Pew Environment Group, which commissioned this study, will be issuing the report on Thursday, 28 April. We wanted to reach out in advance to see how you might want to cover this release.

Globally, up to 73 million sharks are killed every year primarily for their fins, which are used in the Asian delicacy shark fin soup. This unsustainable rate has driven shark populations into a global decline. In general, sharks grow slowly, mature late and produce few young over long lifetimes, leaving them exceptionally vulnerable to overexploitation and slow to recover from depletion.

The Pacific Island States have been among the first to recognize the danger of this unsustainable shark fishing. In 2009, President Toribiong declared Palauan waters to be a shark sanctuary in his address to the United Nations General Assembly. Since then, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the Marshall Islands all have prohibited the possession, sale or distribution of shark fins.

While shark tourism can be a viable economic engine, we can only hope that it will be the engine of change that will keep the species on our planet. Overfishing has resulted in 30 percent of the world's species being threatened or near-threatened with extinction. For an additional 47 percent, scientists lack enough data to even properly assess the health of their populations.

In the face of these declining population numbers, Palau's story provides a compelling case that can convince more countries to turn the tide, to embrace these animals both for their benefit to the ocean and their value to a country's financial well-being.

## Guest Perspective

## International Visitors Leadership Program

By Christina "Kiki" Stinnett

March 7 - 25, 2011

March 8th is International Women's Day and this year, 2011, marks the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day. To honor this event, the U.S. State Department identified 100 women worldwide and brought them together for an International Visitor's Leadership Program (IVLP). I was fortunate to have been selected to participate in this program representing the area of East Asia & Pacific Region.

Over a 21-day period I traveled to Washington D.C. New York, Montana, and California with other women in this program and will be forever changed by this experience, mostly because of the opportunity to meet, listen, and share with other women leaders from around the world. Following is information about some of the meetings I attended, people I was fortunate to interact with, and events we shared together.

We spent 5 days in Washington D.C. and the highlight of this stop for me was attending a formal program celebrating the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day, part of which included the 2011 International Women's of Courage Awards Ceremony.

There were Ten (10) women Honorees from Afghanistan, Belarus, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Hungary, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, and Pakistan being recognized for courage in their respective countries. The two guest speakers I enjoyed most at this event were U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Rodham Clinton, and First Lady Michelle Obama, both of whom officially recognized the attendance of our IVLP group.

We traveled by bus from D.C. to New York where we spent 5 days attending meetings and touring the city. The highlight of this stop was a visit to the U.N. Headquarters and attending meetings with the organiza-

tion of United Nations Women. We also toured Ground Zero, Central Park, and saw a Broadway Play.

After New York, the East Asia & Pacific Region group of 16 women flew off to Bozeman, Montana, where we spent 5 days meeting with local government leaders and learning about their city council. We also met with NGO's, women civic leaders, local school educators. Three of the women in my group participated in a Host Family evening where we had dinner and the opportunity to visit with local women leaders in this community. Our host family was 2 single ladies, one of whom was a board member on their local library and the other owned a bookstore and volunteered at their local hospital. During our stop in Montana we visited Yellowstone National Park and enjoyed snow and watching wild Bison walk down the middle of the road.

Our next stop after Bozeman was Sacramento, California, where we spent 2 days. The highlight of this stop was our visit to the State Capitol where we visited the Senate Chamber and were introduced to senate members by Majority Leader Ellen Corbett. Senator Corbett also hosted our luncheon reception for that day and we were able to visit with other women leaders from California. We met with staff at the Sacramento Bee and discussed transparency in the media and particularly state politics.

We traveled from Sacramento to San Francisco by bus and spent 3 days there closing out our program. In San Francisco we visited a private school, toured a women's



interest facility and had several workshops on listening, speaking, and making verbal presentations. We also evaluated this program.

It is impossible to articulate all the positive aspects of this program and talking with many of my fellow participants it was clear that we all got different things from it. However, one topic that was shared by all was the value of education and how the future of our Countries is shaped by how we educate our youth. What I learned while listening to the other women in our group was how little emphasis they placed on the role of formal education and how much emphasis they placed on the responsibility of parents to ensure that the formal education being provided was the best possible for their children. These women didn't just assume that the school was providing the education their children needed but involved themselves in the quality of the education product being taught and the abilities of their teachers. Students and teachers entered into contracts to attain certain levels of education, parents attended PTA meetings and involved themselves in school activities.

Since returning from this program the Chuuk Women's Council has proposed an "Adopt a School Project" and is intent on monitoring teacher and student attendance, social behavior of students, and trying to introduce health lifestyle, healthy diet, and physical fitness in our schools through our outreach and peer education programs.

Several other key observations that were consistent within our group were the need for greater accountability and transparency within governments and the importance

of participation and involvement in policy process at every level of government and community. As I traveled around the country and met with government and civic leaders the level and degree of volunteerism was amazing. I found volunteers that were extremely professional and dedicated to a wide range of causes that improved their communities in so many ways.

I returned home encouraged and motivated to be more pro-active in my role as a civic leader and a member of my community and to be more involved in women's issues, policy making, education of our youth, and maintaining relationships I established during this program.

I plan to do this in a number of ways that include identifying specific elected and appointed leaders within our community and establishing a fixed, monthly schedule to meet and discuss issues relating to laws that promote social wellbeing and the physical health of women and children. I intend to direct our women's organizations to continue our outreach programs and extend the topics and issues they discuss to include good governance, women in politics, domestic violence against women and children, and address the importance of family unity.



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# Crossword - Bible Words

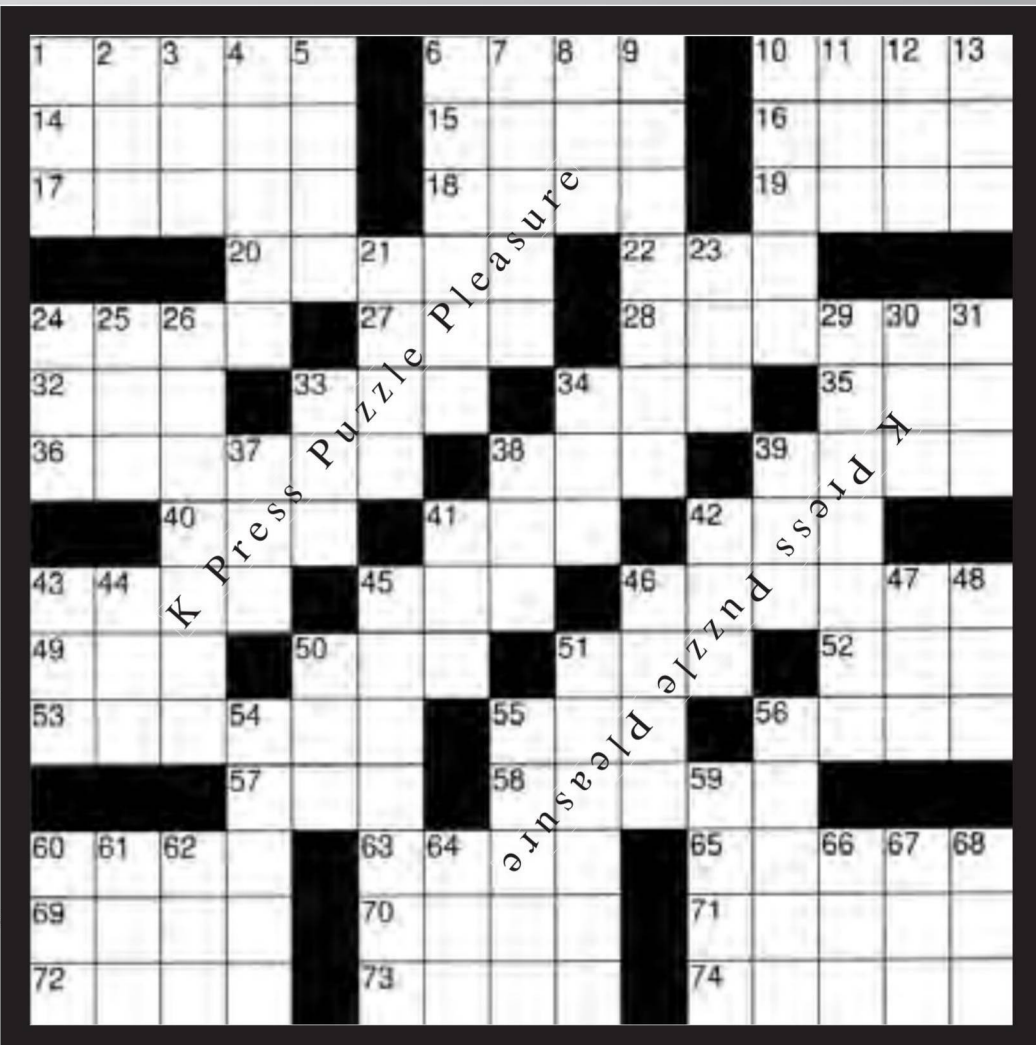
**ACROSS**

1. "in the days when the judges...": Ruth 1:1
6. "he had \_\_\_ himself with a new garment": 1 Kings
10. "A \_\_\_ answer turneth away wrath": Proverbs 15:1
14. "And Moses said, I will now turn \_\_\_": Exodus 3:3
15. "talents of silver to \_\_\_ them chariots": I Chron. 19:6
16. Biblical weed
17. "and the garment, and the \_\_\_ of gold": Joshua 7:24
18. About whom was said "Am I my brother's keeper?"
19. "out of the \_\_\_ furnace, even out of Egypt": Deu. 4:20
20. "comfort yourselves together, and \_\_\_ one another": The. 5:11
22. "bore his ear through with an \_\_\_": Exodus 21:6
24. "and he \_\_\_ his birthright unto Jacob": Gen. 25:33
27. "took away the locusts, and cast them into the Red \_\_\_": Exodus 10:19
28. "The young lions roared upon him, and \_\_\_": Jer. 2:15
32. "Stand in \_\_\_, and sin not": Psalms 4:4
33. "buried in a good \_\_\_ age": Gen. 15:15
34. "when \_\_\_ began to multiply": (Ien. 6:1
35. "Give, \_\_\_ O ye heavens, and I will speak": Deu. 32:1
36. "Yet will I bring one \_\_\_ more upon Pharaoh": Exodus 11:11
38. "Why is thy spirit so \_\_\_ that thou eatest no bread?": I Kings 21:5
39. "Nineveh, and the \_\_\_ Rehoboth": Gen. 10:11
40. "when she lay down, \_\_\_ when she arose": Gen. 19:35
41. "And Jacob \_\_\_ pottage": Gen. 25:29
42. "Whereas thou \_\_\_ been forsaken": Isaiah 60:15
43. "And Samuel told him every \_\_\_": 1 Samuel 3:18
45. "And she fastened it with the \_\_\_": Judges 16:14
46. "but the talk of the lips tendeth only to \_\_\_": Pro. 14:23
49. "even as a \_\_\_ gathereth her chickens": Matt. 23:37
50. Fowl's place
51. "\_\_\_ that it was good": Gen. 1:18
52. "ye tithe mint and \_\_\_": Luke 11:42
53. "stringed instruments and \_\_\_": Psalms 150:4
55. "shut the doors, and \_\_\_

- them": Neh. 7:3
56. "he hath \_\_\_ his bow": Psalms 7:12
57. "That which groweth of \_\_\_ own accord": Lev. 25:5
58. "And Noah builded an \_\_\_ unto the LORD": Gen. 8:20
60. "Therefore I will \_\_\_ and howl": Micah 1:8
63. "the land of Nod, on the \_\_\_ of Eden": Gen. 4:16
65. "that it may give seed to the \_\_\_": Isaiah 55:10
69. "for all their sins \_\_\_ a year": Lev. 16:34
70. "Who told \_\_\_ that thou were naked?": Gen. 3:11
71. "they look and \_\_\_ upon me": Psalms 22:17
72. "And Saul \_\_\_ David from that day and forward": I Samuel 18:9
73. "and Rachel travailed, and she had \_\_\_ labor": Gen. 35:16
74. "came and \_\_\_ them into the pot": 2 Kings 4:39

- DOWN**
1. "for the \_\_\_ flesh is unclean": Lev 13:15
  2. "neither shall ye \_\_\_ enchantment": Lev. 19:26
  3. "took a chest, and bored a hole in the \_\_\_": 2 Kings 12:9
  4. "sharp as a two-\_\_\_ sword": Psalms 149:6
  5. "What \_\_\_ is this that ye have done?": Gen. 44:15
  6. "and they be \_\_\_ in their minds": 2 Samuel 17:8
  7. "Persia, Ethiopia, and \_\_\_ with them": Eze. 38:5
  8. "These \_\_\_ the three sons of Noah": Gen. 9:19
  9. "I made haste, and \_\_\_ not": Psalms 119:60
  10. "Stand \_\_\_, and I will hear what the LORD": Num. 9:8
  11. "And all that handle the \_\_\_ the mariners": Eze. 27:29
  12. "going to and \_\_\_ in the earth": Job 1:7
  13. Commandment count
  21. "And the inhabitant of this \_\_\_ shall say in that day": Isaiah 20:6
  23. "maimed, or having a \_\_\_": Lev. 22:22
  24. "The trees . . . are full of \_\_\_": Psalms 104:16
  25. "the screech \_\_\_ also shall rest there": Isaiah 34:14
  26. "\_\_\_ upon the top of his staff": Heb. 11:21
  29. "they had no \_\_\_ so much as to eat": Mark 6:31
  30. "But of the tree . . . thou

- shalt not \_\_\_ of it": Gen. 2:17
31. "called the \_\_\_ land Earth": Gen. 1:10
33. "Let us make man in \_\_\_ image": Gen. 1:26
34. "Surely oppression maketh a wise man \_\_\_": Ecc. 7:7
37. "which he had \_\_\_ in the land of Canaan": Gen. 36:6
38. "And Abraham said, My \_\_\_ will provide himself a Lamb": Gen. 22:8
39. "My punishment is greater than I \_\_\_ bear": Gen. 4:13
41. "The nobleman saith unto him, \_\_\_, come down ere my child die": John 4:49
42. "\_\_\_ thee two tables of stone": Exodus 34:1
43. "\_\_\_ dwelt in Sodom": Gen. 14:12
44. "Then Bathsheba bowed with \_\_\_ face to the earth": 1 Kings 1:31
45. "any that \_\_\_ against the wall": I Samuel 25:22
46. "Thou shalt \_\_\_ it in pieces": Lev. 2:6
47. "\_\_\_ now, I pray thee, to meet her": 2 Kings 4:26
48. "And he stayed \_\_\_ another seven days": Gen. 8:10
50. "Go to the \_\_\_, thou sluggard": Pro. 6:6
51. "savour, wherewithal shall it be \_\_\_?": Matt. 5:13
54. "What \_\_\_ thee that thou fleddest?": Psalms 114:5
55. "fellows of the \_\_\_ sort": Acts 17:5
56. "and pour out the \_\_\_": Judges 6:20
59. "until an \_\_\_ head was sold": 2 Kings 6:25
60. "\_\_\_ unto us!": I Samuel 4:8
61. "lest \_\_\_ find him should kill him": Gen. 4:15
62. "\_\_\_, and wherein the snow is hid": Job 6:16
64. "\_\_\_, our eye hath seen it": Psalms 35:21
66. "The LORD is a man of \_\_\_": Exodus 15:3
67. "and how long will it be \_\_\_ they believe me": Num. 14:11
68. "His eyes shall be \_\_\_ with wine": Gen. 49:12



## numbers of a hidden nature

Did you know that there are around 100,000 hairs on the human head? Each day the average person can lose up to 125 hairs, which are replaced by new ones.

1	7	7	3	0	2	5	1	8	6	5	4	5	8
6	4	7	8	3	6	6	4	5	4	5	0	9	5
7	5	6	0	5	7	1	1	0	2	0	5	9	9
1	4	1	7	3	7	3	2	3	1	7	4	7	1
2	0	7	1	6	4	9	3	3	4	2	2	3	3
2	7	6	2	9	5	8	1	8	6	2	7	3	9
3	9	2	6	5	1	3	3	8	5	5	0	9	3
7	7	0	8	1	8	8	7	4	4	2	9	7	6
6	6	5	4	8	6	4	5	3	9	1	8	0	9
1	2	7	0	2	9	1	7	2	0	4	6	2	4
8	9	6	2	6	0	8	4	0	0	2	0	8	3
1	1	9	0	1	2	8	1	3	1	4	6	6	3
5	7	3	0	4	6	5	1	8	0	1	6	9	6
4	3	5	0	1	9	5	7	8	3	5	8	0	1

01009	19741	43501	75260
01015	20103	47598	75910
01281	33029	48197	77565
04547	34573	51869	78818
04624	37338	59139	86066
05583	37824	60573	88272
11475	38528	60621	93342
13100	40200	65119	95783
13496	42709	67653	97629
15629			

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

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

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

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

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## Astronomical Tide Prediction May 2, 2011 - May 15, 2011

	Pohnpei				Chuuk			
Monday	05/02		05/09		05/02		05/09	
	02:37AM	4.2	06:20AM	3.9	01:45AM	2.0	04:37AM	2.1
	09:05AM	1.1	01:49PM	1.5	08:58AM	0.3	05:58PM	0.2
	02:48PM	3.3	07:34PM	2.3	02:02PM	1.0		
Tuesday	05/03		05/10		05/03		05/10	
	03:01AM	4.4	12:02AM	1.9	02:01AM	2.2	05:03AM	1.9
	09:34AM	0.9	07:23AM	3.5	09:26AM	0.2	05:48PM	0.2
	03:17PM	3.2	03:14PM	1.6	02:27PM	0.9		
Wednesday	05/04		05/11		05/04		05/11	
	03:27AM	4.5	01:56AM	2.2	02:22AM	2.3	05:18AM	1.7
	10:05AM	0.9	09:01AM	3.3	09:59AM	0.2	05:54PM	0.3
	03:46PM	3.1	04:39PM	1.6	02:52PM	0.7		
Thursday	05/05		05/12		05/05		05/12	
	03:55AM	4.5	04:45AM	2.1	02:46AM	2.4	03:40AM	1.4
	10:39AM	0.9	10:50AM	3.2	10:36AM	0.2	06:01PM	0.4
	04:17PM	2.9	05:38PM	1.4	03:17PM	0.6		
Friday	05/06		05/13		05/06		05/13	
	04:25AM	4.5	12:14AM	3.2	03:12AM	2.4	01:31AM	1.5
	11:15AM	0.9	06:16AM	1.8	11:21AM	0.2	07:55AM	1.0
	04:50PM	2.8	12:08PM	3.2	03:39PM	0.5	11:46AM	1.1
Saturday	05/07		05/14		05/07		05/14	
	04:58AM	4.4	12:54AM	3.7	03:39AM	2.4	01:09AM	1.7
	11:56AM	1.1	07:15AM	1.4	12:25PM	0.3	08:15AM	0.6
	05:28PM	2.6	01:06PM	3.2	03:52PM	0.4	01:01PM	1.0
Sunday	05/08		05/15		05/08		05/15	
	05:35AM	4.1	01:31AM	4.1	04:08AM	2.3	01:15AM	2.0
	12:46PM	1.3	08:03AM	1.0	07:06PM	0.2	08:48AM	0.3
	06:17PM	2.4	01:53PM	3.2			01:55PM	0.8
		11:13PM	1.6	07:37PM	1.0		06:10PM	0.5

## Kosrae Kolonia Congregational Church bans soft drinks at their events

By Lois Englberger

Soft drinks, with their high content of sugars, are the only food or drink item that has been associated with weight gain, which is a risk factor for many diseases, including diabetes, cancer and heart disease. This information is provided at [www.cspinet.org/liquidcandy/whytax.html](http://www.cspinet.org/liquidcandy/whytax.html) by the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

In 2009, the Kosrae Kolonia Congregational Church, banned soft drinks from their church events. What a big step forward!

The pastor in charge, Pastor Eden Skilling, explained that he had asked church members to follow this practice in order to improve health and to provide a good example to their children. He said to his adult members, "You don't want to give this bad example to your children that you support soft drinks, do you?"

He reported that on the whole, members agree to the policy but that every once in a while, some soft drinks appear at their events. He explained that people often do not want to show that they were involved, indicating that they do understand that the provision of soft drinks is no longer acceptable.

On discussions about putting this in the media, Pastor Skilling totally agreed, as it passes on the idea to others. He said "Wouldn't it be great if the other churches would follow?"



Pastor Eden Skilling (standing, far left) and other Kosrae Kolonia Congregational Church members in support for the ban on soft drinks at their church events

## Why are soft drinks a health problem?

By Dr. Lois Englberger, PhD

As mentioned in our other article in this column, soft drinks are the only food or beverage item that has been shown to increase the risk of overweight and obesity. Weight gain is a major risk factor in causing diabetes, heart attacks, strokes and cancer and can cause low esteem and low productivity.

In addition, studies show that frequent consumption of soft drinks can lead to these health problems:

- Osteoporosis (weak bones that break more easily)
- Pancreatic cancer
- Tooth decay
- Dental erosion

Thanks are extended to our funding agencies making it possible to share this information with you. These are: US Forestry, Secretariat of the Pacific Community Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees, and the Australian Government AusAID Small Grants Scheme.

## Pohnpei Agriculture adopts local food policy for their offices and conference room

By Lois Englberger, Island Food Community of Pohnpei

Pohnpei Agriculture of the Office of Economic Affairs has this year demonstrated their strong support of local food with a new policy that only local food can be consumed in their offices and conference room.

This is to help promote local foods for all their CHEEF benefits, Culture, Health, Economics, Environment and Food security and to support the Go Local campaign, as led by the Island Food Community of Pohnpei.

As one senior Agriculture staff put it, "We have now a doughnut free zone!"

If any staff members wish to consume any imported foods or drinks, they must consume these in the outside naahs.

Pohnpei Agriculture established this local food policy in January 2011. They report that it has not always been easy to enforce the policy but that their staff understand the policy's importance. Another Agriculture officer stated that he hoped that their policy might give other government offices an encouragement to establish similar policies to further support the promotion of local food for its many benefits.

## Health Advisory #2 for Pacific island countries and territories concerning radiation from Japanese nuclear facilities

World Health Organization

Since the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami in Japan on 11 March, the World Health Organization (WHO) has worked closely with the government of Japan, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and has liaised with other technical authorities, including US federal agencies.

While the situation at the troubled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactors continues to be volatile, it remains unlikely at this time that radiation will seriously affect areas outside of Japan. Monitoring of air and seawater is ongoing, including through US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) air quality monitoring points in the northern Pacific.

Based on available information, it does not appear likely that radiation through air, food or seawater contamination will impact significantly on public health in the Pacific island countries or territories. There is therefore currently very little public health risk for Pacific island countries and territories from air or ocean contamination by radiation due to the considerable distances involved, even for the Pacific countries and territories nearest to Japan.

Therefore, WHO does not currently recommend any special measures for persons outside of Japan (including the Pacific island countries and territories) and advises members of the public to continue with their normal activities.

Both WHO and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have provided guidance for the Pacific countries and territories on potential concerns for foods imported from Japan. It is the decision of each country and territory whether to implement testing or certification requirements on imported food from Japan. That decision will be based on the volume of their imports, what they are importing, their capacity to test and their confidence in the controls in place in Japan. Countries and areas should refer to the Codex guidelines to assess foods coming into their country. Additional guidance on food safety including the Codex guidelines may be found on the WHO website below.

WHO also reminds the public that potassium iodide tablets are recommended only for people with very high exposure to radiation and should not be taken unless prescribed by a doctor. There have been reports from some national poison centers of toxicity occurring in frightened people who are self medicating.

WHO will continue to closely monitor developments with the government of Japan. For more health information and regular situation reports including updates on air, seawater and food monitoring see the WHO website: [http://www.wpro.who.int/sites/eha/disasters/2011/jpn\\_earthquake/list.htm](http://www.wpro.who.int/sites/eha/disasters/2011/jpn_earthquake/list.htm)

For food: [http://www.wpro.who.int/media\\_centre/jpn\\_earthquake/FAQs/faqs\\_food-contamination.htm](http://www.wpro.who.int/media_centre/jpn_earthquake/FAQs/faqs_food-contamination.htm) Other relevant documents may be found on: <http://www.who.int/hac/crises/jpn/en/index.html>

# New JICA volunteers dispatched to all four states of the FSM

*Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)*

JICA Micronesia has welcomed seven new JICA Volunteers into the Federated States of Micronesia. With the newly arrived volunteers, the total number of dispatched JICA volunteers into the FSM exceeds over 30 members. Agricultural and Tourism development sectors have been intensified greatly, as with the Education sector. Now all four States of the FSM is receiving technical cooperation of a JICA Volunteer in the field of Tourism and extending assistance in the field of Science and Math in Education Sector.

JICA is expecting the newly arrived volunteers to soon adapt themselves to their new working conditions and exert themselves in their respective posts throughout the Federated States of Micronesia.

The new JICA Volunteers arrived on March 30, 2011. Their names, technical fields and posts are as follows:

1. Mr. Daisuke Yuasa	Science & Math Education	Saramen Chuuk Academy	Chuuk State
2. Mr. Tatsuro Murayama	Tourism	Kosrae Visitors Bureau	Kosrae State
3. Ms. Chizuru Seki	Rural Community Development	Island Food Community-NGO	Pohnpei State
4. Mr. Keisuke Nonume	Elementary Education	Gilman Comm. School	Yap State
5. Mr. Katsuhiko Nishikawa	Farmer's Co-operatives	Kosrae State Governemtn,DREA	Kosrae State
6. Mr. Hideo Takahashi	Tourism	FSM Tourism Unit, National	Pohnpei State
7. Mr. Hideaki Nakamura	Tourism	Yap Visitors Bureau	Yap State



*New JICA Volunteers welcomed into the FSM by Mr. Brendy Carl, Asian Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs, Federated States of Micronesia.*

The Volunteers have been dispatched to their respective posts throughout the FSM states during the first week of April, 2011.

# College notifies 17 staff members they will be laid off

*COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM*

Supervisors throughout the college served layoff notices to all employees whose positions were selected for elimination through the job audit and streamlining study on April 6, 2011. A total of 17 fulltime staff positions and 7 part time staff positions will be eliminated.

The employees, who submitted their applications for any of the vacant positions, will be notified whether they are accepted or not. All employees who are accepted will be transferred to the new positions by June 6, 2011. The remaining employees will be presented a severance package. The severance package contains the remaining salary for the current fiscal year from June 6 – September 30, 2011, plus 240 hours of accumulated leave time.

June 6, 2011, is the effective date for the termination of employment for all 17 employees whose positions were identified in the study. Affected employees who are on special contracts were informed that their contracts will not be renewed. All of these employees are from the National, Pohnpei and Chuuk campuses. Thirteen out of the 17 are from Pohnpei and National campuses and the other four are from Chuuk Campus.

As part of the layoff notices that were served to the affected employees, a list of nonteaching vacant positions was also provided. From April 7 to April 21, the affected employees are given the opportunity to apply for any of these positions, for which they qualify. Ad hoc committee screening of the applications by the employees will commence on April 22 and end by April 29.

The Human Resources Office is scheduling workshops on resume and job interview skills for these employees. The college is utilizing the services of Pohnpei Business Development Center in providing training on how to run small businesses.



**The Rotary Club of Pohnpei announces that its annual scholarship application forms are available.**

The Rotary Club awards scholarships to college students, either already enrolled or starting next fall, in an amount up to \$1,000.00 for one year.

*Scholarships are limited to only FSM citizens.*

For scholarship application forms, contact Steve Finnen, at finnen@mail.fm, Noel Boylan at noelboylan@mail.fm or any Rotary Club member.

*The application deadline is July 1, 2011.*

Deadline

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

*May 11, 2011*

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