

More ROP Employees Join Endowment Fund Club!

The extended Endowment Fund Contributors' Club Membership Drive continues to bring in new members. It has been a little over one year since the drive began and we continue to see new members with each passing week. This show of support by local individuals to the cause of higher education is unprecedented and we at PCC are excited to be part of this experience.

This week, we proudly add new members to our growing PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club. As always reported in this paper, by joining the club, these individuals donate a certain sum directly out of their paychecks to the PCC Endowment Fund. At the end of the year, PCC will help them apply for and receive refunds for their donations! In other words, they donate to a very good cause and in the end, get their money back.

From our friends at the Ministry of Health, we proudly welcome seven (7) brand new members, **Nora Oiwil, Juanita Marciel, Sari Adelbai, Lorraine Beketaut, Sharmila Thomson, Frannie Ngiltii, and Joyce Naruo.** Over at the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs' State Agency on Aging, we proudly welcome one (1) new member, **Camilus Ngirmeriil.** From the Ministry of Justice, we excitedly welcome three (3) new members, **Ismael N. Aguon, Florence Salvador, and Douglas Tkel.** At the Ngiwal State Government, we welcome one (1) new member, **Olive Mellil.** And, in the

Ngaraard State Government, we also welcome two (2) new members, **Jessica Blailes and Melvin Olkeriil.**

Once again, we welcome these new members as they showcase their commitment to support PCC's continued efforts to providing quality educational and training opportunities to Palau's and the Micronesian region's students. If you would like to join the PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club, please call Hulda, Dilubch, Swayze or Jay at PCC telephone number 488-2470/2471, extension 253. **As Always, they will be very happy to assist you!**



Nora Oiwil



Juanita Marciel



Sari Adelbai



Joyce Naruo



Sharmila Thomson



Lorraine Beketaut



Camilus Ngirmeriil



Ismael N. Aguon



Florence Salvador



Douglas Tkel



Olive Mellil



Jessica Blailes



Melvin Olkeriil

Donor Increases Allotment!

...And the trend goes on! Another generous bi-weekly donor has decided to increase her donation to the PCC Endowment Fund. This person is **Mahelany D. Oseked.** Wow, now her donation is bigger, so her refund next year will be bigger!!! **Thank you very much!**

Celebrating Birthdays

Bruce Rimirch March 19
Keith Ignacio March 20
Fidelia Tengoll March 24
Angelio Anthonio March 25

Happy Birthday To You!!!

Meseki's News
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Palau Community College MESEKIU'S NEWS

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Friday, March 19, 2004

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 12

Upcoming CRE Youth Education Programs

The PCC Cooperative Research and Extension Department will be offering many exciting education programs starting this April through August for students entering the second grade to graduating high school seniors. All programs are free and strive to make learning fun by having the participants conduct many hands-on activities. Some of the classes even include field trips. Here is a brief overview of the programs CRE has planned:

YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALIST (see article in this issue of the Meseki) April 19 - April 30, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. **For Students In Grades 5-7.** In honor of Earth Day (April 22), this class is designed to show students what they can do to help protect and preserve our environment.

AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP

May 30 - August 6, all day

For Students Entering Grades 11 or 12 or Graduating Seniors. An intense 10-week program designed for students interested in pursuing a career in Agriculture. There are 4 openings with each participant earning \$500 upon completion of the program.

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS

June 14 - June 18, all day

Open to Students Entering Grades 9-12.

A weeklong program introducing students to the diverse field of Agriculture.

TIDEPOL GROUPERS

June 28 - July 2, depending on interest, there will be a morning group that meets from 8 am till 12 noon, then an afternoon group from 1 pm till 5 pm.

For Students Entering Grades 5 - 7.

This is a weeklong class that will expose students to the marine environment.

LITTLE MINNOWS

July 12 - July 6, depending on interest there will be a morning group that meets from 8 am till 12 noon, then an afternoon group from 1 pm till 5 pm. **For Students Entering Grades 2 - 4.** A class designed to teach younger students about the complex marine world.

GECKOS

August 2 - August 8, depending on interest there will be a morning group that meets from 8 am till 12 noon, then an afternoon group from 1 pm till 5 pm. **For Students Entering Grades 2 - 4.** A compliment to the Little Minnow class, however this program will focus on the terrestrial world.

In future issues of the **MESEKIU'S NEWS**, more will be given on registration deadlines and topics covered during each of the individual programs. Additional information about these upcoming CRE educational programs is available right now at the CRE Office. Please feel free to contact Kris Lloyd at the CRE Office at 488-4983 or klloyd_cre@yahoo.com with any questions.

UB Students Make Thatched Roofs!

What is your favorite thing to do on a Saturday morning, especially if you are a high school student? Sure, you would probably prefer to sleep in until



whenever and then wake up to do whatever. Well, it probably might surprise you to find out that just the opposite is true for student participants of the Upward Bound Program (UBP) at PCC.

These students happily attended an eventful morning workshop last Saturday, March 13, 2004 at the Bai Ra Meseki on the PCC campus. **PCC President Patrick U. Tellei** was the guest speaker for the hands-on workshop and his presentation coupled team-building skills in conjunction with cultural awareness exercises. President Tellei started the workshop by taking the students through the basic components of building a traditional Palauan Bai, using the Bai Ra Meseki as a visual aid.

The presentation took the students through step-by-step method of a construction of a traditional Palauan Bai, pointing out where the construction of the Bai starts and where it ends, and identifying the local and traditional materials used. He especially interested the students when he took the time to explain all the elaborate artwork and Palauan legend depictions that adorned the exterior and the interior of the Bai, making sure that the students

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In His 2005 Budget, Bush Proposes Few Increases in Student Aid

The following article was taken from *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 13, 2004 issue, Volume L, Number 23

In a Year when tuition increases at public colleges rose to record levels, President Bush has asked for little new money for the federal financial-aid programs that help low income students. In the 2005 budget request that he sent to Congress last week, the president did, however, call on lawmakers to allow college freshmen to take out larger student loans.

Under the president's proposal, the maximum Pell Grant would remain at \$4,050 for the third year in a row. Now new money is included to reduce a \$3.7-billion shortfall in the program's budget.

The president's budget request would leave College Work-Study and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, which augment Pell Grants for needy students, at their 2004 levels. It would do the same for the TRIO programs for disadvantaged students, and Gear Up, which helps prepare middle-school students from low-income families for college.

Mr. Bush's proposal would not provide any new funds for the Perkins Loan Program, which provides low-interest loans that go predominantly to students from low-income families. The budget would eliminate the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships program, which matches each dollar that states commit to need-based aid.

College lobbyists and student advocates said they were deeply disappointed with the request. "This is a budget that leaves college students behind," said Becky Timmons, director of government relations at the American Council on Education. "It completely fails to recognize that this country's economics future depends on providing hope and opportunity to all students qualified to attend college."

The president did include \$33 million for a pilot program that would reward low-income students who take specific college-preparatory courses in high school with an additional \$1,000 in Pell Grants for their first year of college. Students eligible to receive those funds must take part in State Scholars programs, which currently operate in 14 states.

Those programs provide college scholarships to high-school students who take three years of mathematics and science, four years of English and social studies, and courses in foreign languages. The president's budget includes an additional \$12-million to encourage more states to start those programs.

Administration officials said last week that the additional Pell Grant funds would help better prepare low-income students for college. "We know students who complete a rigorous curriculum are more likely to pursue and succeed in postsecondary education," Education Secretary Roderick R. Paige said at a news conference.

The budget proposal would also increase spending on historically black colleges and on institutions that educate many Hispanic students. Under the president's plan, historically black colleges would receive \$241-million, an increase of 8.1 percent, and Hispanic-serving institutions would get \$96-million, an increase of 2.1 percent.

With those budget proposals, administration officials said, the president would fulfill his 2000 campaign pledge to increase spending on historically black colleges and Hispanic-serving institutions by 30 percent by 2005.

Mr. Bush also proposed forgiving as much as \$17,500 in student loans taken out by graduates who agree to teach mathematics or science or serve as special-education teachers in schools with large numbers of disadvantaged students. Currently, the government forgives up to \$5,000 in loans for such borrowers.

RAISING LOANS LIMITS

Besides setting spending levels for student-aid and other higher education programs, the president's budget proposal provides the first glimpse of the administration's priorities for the impending renewal of the Higher Education Act, the

Two Weeks Till Charter Day Softball Tourney!

The 6th Annual Charter Day Softball Tournament Fundraiser for the PCC Endowment Fund is only two weeks away! As predicted, all sixteen slots for the tournament will likely be filled out as the various teams compete their way to the championship. **The tournament will take place the weekend of April 2-4, 2004 at the Meyuns Ballfield.**

In the tournament's tradition, there will be 16 slots for co-ed teams playing in a double-elimination format. As always, the registration fee of \$200 will be deposited directly into the PCC Endowment Fund. With only a few slots left open, any interested team ought to call and secure their slot.

To register your team, simply call PCC telephone 488-2471 and speak to Todd, Dilubch, Hulda, or Jay. They will be very happy to assist you. Register your team today, ensuring your spot in the tournament. Join us for a weekend of fun competition while at the same time we help build the PCC Endowment Fund!

law that governs most federal student-aid programs. Members of congress hope to complete their work to renew the act, a process called reauthorization, this year.

Lenders and college leaders were pleased that Mr. Bush included among his reauthorization recommendations a proposal to increase the borrowing limits for first-year students. For many colleges, raising the loan limits is the most important student-aid issue congress will face as it works on the legislation.

The current ceiling on what students may borrow from the government - \$2,625 for a first-year student, \$3,500 in all - was set more than a decade ago and lags far behind the needs of today's students, many college officials say. Under the administration's plan, the freshman limit would grow from \$2,625 to \$3,000, but the overall limit would remain at \$23,000.

The Chronicle of Higher Education is available at your PCC Library.

The Library also carries numerous periodicals, magazines, and other publications for our readers' convenience. Check out your PCC Library!

BITS AND PIECES... Campus Empty This week!

If you noticed the PCC campus as somewhat empty, it is because this week was spring break. Our 632 students deserve to take a break, especially after last week's midterm exams! As one student put it, "I will need more than a week to recuperate from my midterms, especially Mr. Chilton's grueling test!" The College, however, believes that one week is sufficient, as we are confident in our students' abilities!

CATALOG Reminder

To expedite the updating of the PCC General Catalog, all departments of the College, including faculty and staff, are hereby REMINDED and strongly encouraged to provide their input in writing to Vincent Ito or Mane Mesengei at the Academic Affairs, no later than March 31st.

Your written input should take into account results of your consultations or validation of your program with relevant expertise in the industry and how it affects your recommendation for changes or, lack of changes in terms of the future prospect of your program. This will ensure expeditious review with no program overlooked. Once again, we would like to thank those individuals who have already provided their input. Thank you very much!

Celebrate Earth Day at CRE

Know a young student interested in saving the environment? Sign them up for PCC Cooperative Research and Extension's Young Environmentalist Class. This program for students in grades 5-7 will highlight ways youth can help protect and preserve our precious environment by conducting experiments and participating in educational but fun activities. Students will learn about the benefits of recycling, the endangered animals in Palau, and the many types of pollution. The class is free and will be held from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from April 19th till April 30th at the CRE office. To register or for more information please contact Kris Lloyd at the CRE office at 488-4983 or klloyd_cre@yahoo.com.

When was the Last Time You Visited the PCC Library?

This article was written by PCC Library Technician Ms. Imengel Mad

As your only community library, we encourage each and everyone of our valued patrons to pay us a visit. We are working hard trying to meet every patron's needs with his or her research as well as fun reading. PCC Library proudly announces that during the month of April, from **April 5 through April 16, 2004 will be a "wave a fine week"**. All patrons who have library fines will have their fines waved just by visiting PCC library and showing your library card. All patrons who have any materials checked out are encouraged to return them and have their fines waved. Patrons who have lost their library can bring a picture ID card and have their library cards replaced for \$1.00. The library serves as a community resource, open to everyone in Palau. With this in mind, the library staff make every effort to meet our patrons' needs with regard to their research or reading enjoyment. We encourage every patron to make use of the available resources in our library and to ask any of our friendly staff for any assistance. If you have any questions, please call PCC Library @ 488-3540 or 488-2471 ext. 261.



Check Out PCC Library With Your Students....

The PCC Library encourages all teachers to bring in their students for orientation and let us show them the resources we have available for your students' research needs. You may call 488-3540 or 488-2471 to set up a date for your visit. We highly recommend that teachers escort their students when visiting the library. The PCC Library exists to serve and strive to meet the needs of our students, community and everyone. We welcome any suggestions and inputs on areas where we need to expand our resources or services and help us to keep improving our services.

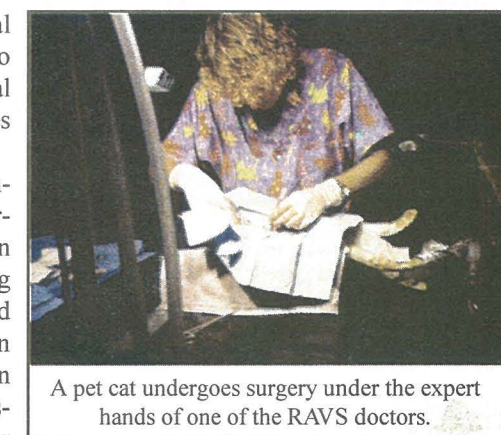
Reminders to all PCC students....

The PCC Library would like to take this opportunity and commend all PCC students who are making use of PCC Library materials and resources for their research, reading enjoyment, study or emails. We would like to remind everyone to have their PCC student ID card or current class schedule available when signing up for Internet or email. Students and all patrons should have their library card when checking out materials. Thank you so much for your patronage and continued support. If you have any questions, please stop by at the circulation desk and we will gladly assist you.

PAWS Treats Pets at PCC

Once again, the Palau Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) has come to the PCC Campus as part of its annual program providing free medical services for Palau's pets and their owners.

This time PAWS was on campus for a number of five days and performed over 100 surgical procedures on local pets (cats and dogs). According to Lori Colin, a local resident and PAWS member, the organization began in 2001 performing medical services on pets. This year, their effort is made possible thru a joint mission between Koror State Government and PAWS. The doctors who performed on the pets come from RAVS, the Rural Area Veterinarian Services, and have been providing such services in Palau for the past four years. They also work in Central America as well. The local pet owners, and their pets, are very appreciative of the services provided by PAWS and Koror State Government. They also thank PCC for providing free access to the College's Science Lab where the surgical procedures were performed. For information about PAWS, contact Lori Colin at tel. 488-5123 or e-mail her at paws@palauet.com.



A pet cat undergoes surgery under the expert hands of one of the RAVS doctors.