

11 New Members Join Endowment Fund

Palau Community College is excited that the flow of new bi-weekly donors to the PCC Endowment Fund continues into this week. Today, we are excited to see employees from various sectors of the national government join us in supporting Palau's only college, PCC. From the Ministry of Education, we welcome five (5) new members, **Alfonsa Blesoch, Faith Kloulubak, Sngebard Delong, Dean Terry, and Clara Maile Andreas.** In the Ministry of Commerce and Trade, welcome four (4) new members, **Edmund Nakamura, Rayna Bailas, William Metes and Minor Rebluud.** In the Ministry of Health, we welcome two (2) members, **Akilina Tewid and Joseph Wachi.** PCC welcomes everyone to the PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club. Thank you for showcasing your commitment to the continued existence of Palau's only college. Together, let us ensure that future generations have the same opportunity and access to higher learning as presently provided by our college, Palau Community College!



Clara Maile Andreas, Alfonsa Blesoch, Faith Kloulubak



Sngebard Delong



Dean Terry



Rayna Bailas



Joseph Wachi



William Metes

Adora: continued from page 3

University from April 1998 until November 2003. Upon relocating to Palau in December, Adora recently tied the knot on February 29, 2004 to Mr. Roger Olkeriil Andreas, son of Mr. Tadao Andreas and Sechedui Mariur Andreas. Adora completed her high school years at Guam Adventist Academy and immediately started college at Walla Walla College in the summer of 1992. During a 14-month break, from June 1994 to August 1995, Adora taught English to Japanese students at an English school in Himeji Japan. Returning back to Walla Walla College, she proceeded to complete her degree in Social Work in the summer of 1997. Upon completing at Walla Walla College, she moved back to Guam where she found a job with the University. Welcome aboard Adora!

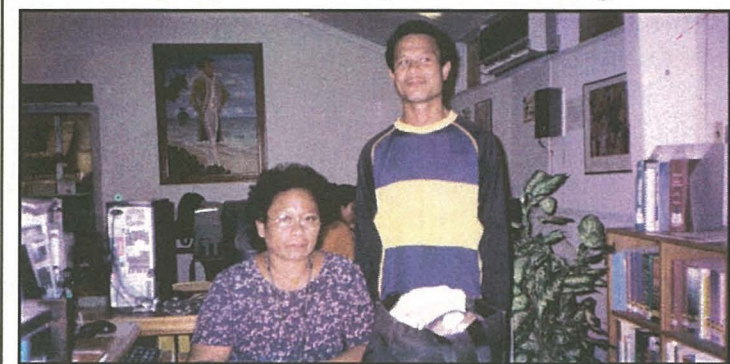
Celebrating Birthdays

Kazue Melphy April-25
Virginia Ikeya April-27

Happy Birthday To You!!!

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Mirriam Kual, Library Technician and Intern Magellan Bemert

What's New in the PCC Library

Written by Imengel Mad, PCC Library Technician

A Micronesian Seminar production: *Suicide in Micronesia: Finding a Better Way Out*, is now available in the Micro-P Collection. This production on videocassette researches the issue of suicide in Micronesia and its impact on society. Suicide in Micronesia today has become a costly epidemic, with one death leading to another, with nearly every Micronesian family being touched by this social problem. Just forty years ago, however, this was not the case. The Micronesian suicide rate is now one of the highest in the world. Why are so many young people turning to this option?

Is there more tension in the family today than there used to be? Are young people more hurt by their families today than the previous generations? Or are there are other issues involved. This video examines the problem of suicide in the hope that it will lead people to discuss suicide more openly and find ways to deal with this issue. PCC Library has TV/VCR player available to anyone who is interested in viewing this or our wide selection of videocassettes. Patrons are encouraged to use our video collection as part of their research. If you are interested, please see Ms. Pioria W. Faungy for more details.

In other Library news, on behalf of PCC Library, we would like to acknowledge our appreciation to the following student who has continued to volunteer his free hours. Mr. Magellan I. Bemert has continuously worked for the Library after exhausting his Internship hours. His services have tremendously helped the ensure the smooth and efficient operation of the Library. Ke kmal mesulang.



PALAU
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

Palau Community College MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE COPY



Friday, April 23, 2004

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 17

11th Mechesil Belau Conference



Chairperson, Bilung Gloria G. Salii and Honored Guests

The 11th Mechesil Belau Conference opened this year with choir music from students of the Seventh Day Adventist Elementary School and Palau Mission Academy's Nelson Sisor singing our National anthem. Bilung Gloria G. Salii opened the ceremony with welcome remarks to the women of Palau for partaking in the two-day dialogue and exchange of ideas with leaders from key government and non-government agencies. Among the opening ceremony guest speakers were High Chief Ibedul Yutaka M. Gibbons, High Chief Reklai Rafael B. Ngirmang, President Tommy E. Remengesau Jr., Senate President Seit Andres, and House Speaker Antonio Bells. The conference was held at the PCC Cafeteria.

The two-day conference touched on various societal issues including a constitutional amendment to empower our traditional leaders; health related issues such as AIDS; environment related issues such as the use of fertilizer; law enforcement issues such as curfews; concerns regarding generated power and alternate sources of power; foreign labor issues as it affects the local economy; educational concerns on retention and affects of drugs; and ending with a discussion on the highly anticipated 9th Festival of Pacific Arts.

PCC Student Recieves Scholarship

The Palau Community College is proud to announce that one of its own students, Lekelong Secharaimul, has been awarded the First President Remengesau Scholarship to attend the Grand Valley State University (GVSU). Mr. Jim Crawley, Associate



Lekelong Secharaimul

Director for International Recruitment, GVSU, stated: "Lekelong is an excellent representative of the Palau Community College and the Republic of Palau. He has an excellent academic record and we will be pleased to welcome him to GVSU in August." This scholarship was created in honor of President Tommy E.

Continued on Page 2

PCC SOLICITS DONATION FOR YAP

PCC President Patrick U. Tellei on behalf of the College would like to invite everyone to donate supplies of non-perishable food items such as canned goods, rice, bottled water and essential items such as blankets, batteries, flash lights, clothes, monetary assistance and other essential goods for the islands of Yap State (FSM) to assist them as they recover from the devastating effects of Typhoon Sudal. The items should be brought to the receptionist's desk of the PCC Administration. The items may be dropped off anytime during the workday beginning on April 15th to April 30th. The donations will be sorted and delivered to the Ministry of Education where they will be shipped to Yap.

PCC President Patrick U. Tellei stated, "In the community spirit, let us all donate what we can, and pray for the well being of our friends and neighbors from Yap for speedy and healthy recovery from the effects of Typhoon Sudal."

Tellei added, "I thank everyone for your support and generous donations."

For more information on how to donate, contact Temmy Temengil at PCC telephone number 488-2470/2471, ext. 252.

Continued on Page 2

Remengesau Jr. as graduate of GVSU and also as a tribute to his success and contributions to the Republic of Palau. The scholarship awards the recipient an amount equivalent to the difference between resident and non-resident tuition, which is approximately \$7,000. Recipients are chosen based primarily on their academic excellence, but also on their potential leadership and involvement while studying at GVSU. There are a maximum of three scholarships each year. Interested students are encouraged to contact Mr. Jim Crawley, Associate Director for International Recruitment, GVSU at crawley@gvsu.edu For more information on Grand Valley State University log on to <http://www.gvsu.edu>

PCC Adult High Assists Palau RED CROSS



PCC Adult High Students Pose with Palau Red Cross Director Miriam Chin

PCC Adult High School students offered a helping hand by volunteering their time at the Palau Red Cross on the first day of the relief efforts for Yap which was heavily damaged by Typhoon Sudal. The students worked side by side with other volunteers sorting, packing and moving items to be sent to Yap. The students helped pack over 1,000 water containers into Continental transport bags. According to Miriam Chin, the Director of the Palau Red Cross, around 90% of the islands of Yap were damaged, so the main focus is on food, water and shelter.

Debra Omengabar, Adult High School Instructor stated: "Our volunteer efforts will be on-going throughout the 2-week drive. Many donations are coming in daily and I'm sure my students will be back again to help after their exams this week."

Omengabar added: "I thank my students for donating their time and together, we hope and pray for the welfare of the people of Yap."

CRE HOLDS SEWING CLASS AT BETHANIA HIGH SCHOOL

Seventeen Students (Sophomore Class) and their Instructor from Bethania High School recently completed 15 class hours of the Personal Sewing Program sponsored by PCC's CRE Development. Participants were taught basic sewing techniques and pattern making. In addition, the students were given technical training on basic operations, functions and maintenance of sewing machine. Sewing machine problems and solutions were the focus of the program. Classes began in March and ended in April. After the

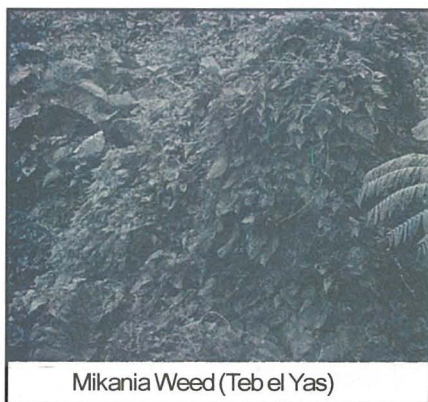
completion of the program, each participant received a certificate of completion.



Bethania HS Participants

Clean Up of the Dreaded Mikania Plant at PCC

In PCC's continued effort to protect Palau's environment against invasive plants, PCC President Patrick U. Tellei asks everyone to volunteer their time and join PCC, in the 4th Annual Mikania Clean Up sponsored by the Bureau of Agriculture, Koror State Government, the Palau Conservation Society, the Office of Environmental Coordination and Response (OERC) and PCC. The goal of the event is to rid the PCC campus of the (*Mikania micrantha*, *Teb el Yas*, or "Mile-a-Minute") which has spread throughout the surrounding forest area of the campus. The clean up will begin behind the National Track and Field and continue all the way up to the Auto Shop area. The project will commence on May 1st at 8:00 a.m. and lunch will be provided to all volunteers. In addition, all those who participate in the clean up will receive a commemorative T-shirt. The Bureau of Agriculture, OERC, with the assistance of the Palau Community College helped coordinate the event.



Mikania Weed (Teb el Yas)

DESCRIPTION: A very fast growing vine which twines around stems and leaves of plants. The leaves are arrowhead shaped, and are always produced opposite each other on the stem. The flowers are small and white, and are produced in clusters of dozens to hundreds of flowers. Flowering occurs from October to March in Palau. The seeds are tiny, with feathery extensions which can catch on animals or clothing, or fly long distances on the wind. This plant will grow in almost any soil, including taro patches, farms, and rock islands, and it can grow in full sun or in shade. Mikania grows from seeds, but it can also grow from small pieces of vine which fall on the ground.

THREAT: Mikania can completely cover trees, smothering and killing large areas of native forest. The death of trees can result in less food for native birds. Loss of forest can also increase soil erosion, leading to increased sedimentation and death of coral reefs. Mikania is also a threat to farms. It is rapidly becoming the worst weed problem in taro patches in Koror and Peleliu, and can also overtake banana plantations.

CURRENT STATUS: Mikania is the target of an eradication campaign by the Bureau of Agriculture and the Palau Natural Resource Council, with the support of several other organizations and agencies. The campaign has reduced the number and size of infestations. However, new infestations continue to be found.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The public is requested to report any sightings of Mikania to Joseph Tiobech, the Invasive Weeds Control Officer, at the Bureau of Agriculture, telephone number 488-2504.

PCC WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBER



The Palau Community College welcomes Adora Nobuo-Andreas as the new Counselor for Project Beacon. Born to Pastor Willy Nobuo and Hatsumi Tellei Nobuo, Adora comes to Palau Community College from the University of Guam, where she worked in the Admissions & Records Office as a Records & Registration Technician and recruiter for the

Continued on Page 4 BITS AND PIECES...

Summer Interns Wanted...

Internship candidates for Summer Session 2004 are reminded that applications for Summer Internship placement are now being accepted at the Extension Program Office located upstairs in the TEMEKAI building. The deadline for processing the applications is May 14, 2004. Please see Mr. Vincent Ito right away so that you may be able to complete your forms and submit them on time. Internship is provided as a final requirement for students who have completed all their course requirements. Internships allow students to be placed on the job in their respective field of training while working on a full-time basis as an intern or trainee. The practical experience gained from their internship will be counted as credits required for students to graduate.

Reminder: Securing Offices after working hours

This is to remind everyone to make sure that after working hours, all air conditions (with exception of Computer room) and lights must be turned off and doors must be locked before retiring for the day. Additionally, those office that have a deadbolt on their doors are to make sure to use it. This is to ensure that we save energy as well as properly secure our property for the night. Thank you!

CE Summer Program Offerings

The Palau Community College Continuing Education Office announces to all parents and guardians that PCC will be offering summer courses for elementary students. These courses are designed to provide our children some form of activities for them to do during the summer while learning new skills to enhance their knowledge, which may help them to improve their grades and become better students. The courses to be offered are in the following area:

- 1) MATHEMATICS
- 2) ENGLISH READING
- 3) ENGLISH WRITING
- 4) SUMMER CAMP (6th to 8th graders)

Mathematics, English Reading and Writing classes are scheduled for May 24 to June 18, 2004 while the Summer Camp is scheduled for June 28 to July 3, 2004 and is only for sixth and eighth graders only. The fee is \$50 for each class. Space is limited and payment is necessary to ensure a place for your child. If you are interested in registering your children in any of these courses, or if you want to know more information about these summer courses, please call Ms. Eileen Babauta or Ms. Taruu Nakamura at PCC Continuing Education at telephone number 488-2471/6223.

Criminal Justice Students Paint Parking Stall Lines

This past Saturday over twenty students from the Criminal Justice Club (CJ Club) donated their time in beautifying the PCC Campus. The students repainted the parking lot dividers and parking signs. Despite the really hot weather the students persevered with their paintbrushes and proceeded to repaint the entire parking stall white. The effort took the whole day, and despite the baking heat, the students maintained their composure and commitment and did an excellent job. The Faculty Advisors for the CJ Club are Instructors Joan Philip and Marcus Hangaripaii. CJ Advisor Joan Philip thanked the students for donating their time. In addition, last March, members of the CJ Club, donated their time by picking up trash and cleaning up the back of the Upward Bound Offices, which was overgrown with weeds.

Philip stated, "I would like to thank CJ Club president, Mc Ann Ngircheungel, and CJ Club vice president, JR Sikyang and the rest of the CJ Club members for their hard work and commitment in beautifying the College. You have made the Criminal Justice Program very proud of your efforts and you are greatly appreciated."



Criminal Justice Students Painting with Pride